

APRIL 1959 50c

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

Guns

HUNTING • SHOOTING • ADVENTURE



THE ARMY'S
SHOOTIN'EST OUTFIT

"TAKE YOUR TIME —
FAST!"



**GUN
MANNERS
FOR
TEEN-AGERS**

— Page 36

SHOOTING BEAR WITH A PISTOL

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ALL GAME!

B&L BALvar 8 Variable Power 2½x to 8x

It's the most wanted scope on the market—the *only* multi-purpose scope of its kind providing year 'round hunting through an excellent choice of low powers for big game and high powers (up to 8X) for varmints. And there's *no change in reticle size, eye relief, focus or point of impact* as power is changed! BALvar 8 is rugged . . . designed and built to take hard punishment during hunting trips. All adjustments are made externally in the mount—no delicate internal parts to jar loose. With its lifetime guarantee, the BALvar 8 is your best buy . . . it's several scopes in one for *all* hunters! Price \$99.50.

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Walnut stocks, \$5 extra.

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SEE YOUR REGISTERED COLT DEALER OR FILL
IN COUPON BELOW FOR FULL DETAILS

G-4

Colt's Patent Fire Arms, Hartford 15, Conn.

Sirs: Please send complete details on your new Colt Buntline Scout, and name of nearest dealer.

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By JOHN LAWRENCE

African White Hunter

About 12 years ago I started a professional hunting in East Africa and, as a gun for heavy game, used the .416 Rigby. This, with its 5100 foot pounds of energy, has served me well for years. Some four or five years ago I managed to get a twin to this gun just in case anything should happen to one. As you know, they were about the only heavy rifle using the steel jacketed bullet, and for African heavy game this is a first rate rifle. I have carried no other gun as I am not used to the double barrel, and until the coming of the .458 Winchester there has been no better magazine gun. In fact, even now, this can do any job the .458 can.

MY FAVORITE GUN

By STAN SPRAGUE

*Secretary,
U.S. Revolver Association*

Since I am associated with a handgun shooting organization I feel it would be "impolite" for me to choose one of the major makes as a favorite, although I have one of each in my shooting kit. I do my slow fire stuff with a U S R A Model Harrington & Richardson .22 single shot, my National Match Course shooting with a Hi Standard, and my centerfire with a Smith & Wesson. I use most of my guns and enjoy them all. Actually, I hold a lot of sentiment for an old .44 cap and ball Remington that has been in the family for many years.

My dad used to shoot it and his father before him. I get a kick out of shooting it, just as they did. I also have a lot of fun with my .243 Varminter during the woodchuck season and for the shorter shots I use a beautiful little Hi Side wall .22 Hornet. This latter gun is one that I can't buy from my friend, exhibition shooter Ernie Lind, but he does let me borrow it each year. I have tried to catch him in an unguarded moment and make a deal for it, but he will never part with this fine shooting little beauty. At the moment I have a Hi Side action being worked on and fitted with a .218 Bee barrel, and hope to make it an exact duplicate of Lind's Hornet.



TRIGGER TALK

WHEN TRIGGER TALK time rolls around at Ye Editorial Deske, we are faced each month with the contest problem: to tell you, in about 70 lines more or less, why you will like GUNS. So here goes. You'll like the Alaskan Brown Bear story (page 14) partly because it shows that simple, low cost equipment can be used for major big American game, effectively. Use of a pistol places a premium on sportsmanship—or in this case, sportswomanship. Even in our 49th state where everybody carries a gun, safe skill with a handgun like this is outstanding. More stories from Alaska later on hunting in this great game land.

Gun manners for kids (page 36) may seem "juvenile" for GUNS, but it sort of puts the *pro* in propaganda. We like that word, because it really means we're *for* something: for safe gun handling and more enjoyment of the shooting sport. That's our aim, with GUNS.

More gun safety—can we ever have too much?—is the theme of westerner Rogers' fast draw story, "Take Your Time: Fast" (page 20). Leather slapping fans will learn an efficient draw by studying Rogers' Ranger-style technique.

Dogs, they say, are man's best friend. But not all hunters can afford to keep a dog 12 months, to take afield once or twice a year. By studying Bert Popowski's unusual story on page 16, you can be your own "bird dog." Smallbore time is rolling around, and crack rifleman Larry Moore's tips on choosing a match rifle will help you select more wisely.

Two stories we present this issue are "firsts" in their field. Ordnance Captain Nonte's essay on liquid and combustible cartridges foretells a whole new era of firearms designing. He has loaded and fired liquid propellant, and recent inventions in the field plus continuing research by some of our Industry's leaders will bring you new and better guns for sport and defense in the next few years.

The second story is a thoughtful one, demanded by the temper of the times, and by you GUNS readers. Starting on page 38 is "The Rifleman in Civilian Defense," by IMSU leader David Soule whose earlier story "Where Are Tomorrow's Minutemen" sparked a storm of letters on civil defense. How you can form a local corps of volunteer riflemen for integration into your county or city Civil Defense administration is the important, timely—even urgent—message of this article.

From militant civilians we switch to military shooters acting like civilians: the Army's top rifle and pistolmen who shoot not only in Army matches but in civilian-sponsored matches around the world. The story of the Army Advanced Marksmanship Unit reflects credit on the dedicated shooters and the far-seeing top officers who have made such a program possible. All civilians will want to read this one, on how the Army represents American shooters at matches here and abroad.



THE COVER

Lots of people do lots of talking about a thing they like to call juvenile delinquency. We don't think today's kids are bad; they just have too much spare time. This cover, and the article on page 36, suggest one way to make kids "straight shooters" in more than one sense of the words.

Guns

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

APRIL, 1959

VOL. V, 4-52

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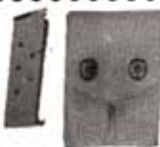
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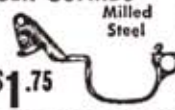


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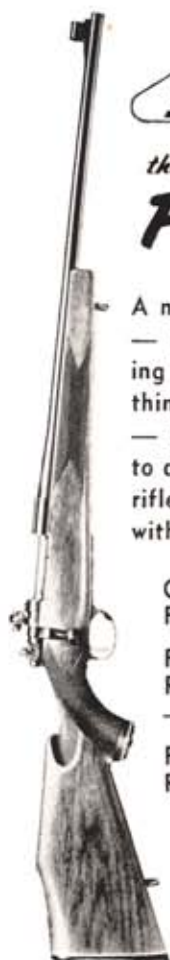
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The Dirks-Beath Co. Inc. of 115 North Liberty St., Visalia, California, furnish excellent reloads in standard and wad-cutter types of both .38 Special and .45 auto for police training work. They are available at \$35.75 without tax in .38 Spl., and \$47.75 without tax in .45 auto. These reloads are put together on fully automatic reloading machines of best quality, and offer a great saving to police departments and individuals. Recently this firm sent me samples of their bullet lubricant for test and it proved excellent in every respect.

Circassian Walnut Blanks

Circassian walnut of good quality and figure has long been recognized as the finest of all woods for gun stocking. It has also been off the market or in very short supply for a great many years. Flaig Brothers of Millvale, Pennsylvania, now can again furnish this fine wood in shaped blanks in either plain or finest fancy grades for that fine rifle or shotgun you wish to restock.

New Bushnell Sentry 50 mm Spotter

Dave Bushnell has added another spotting scope of exceptional quality to his fine line of optical goods. The new spotting scope, known as the Sentry, is just under 13" in length and is of prismatic type, offering a very wide, clear field and great resolving power. It is equipped with sunshade and threaded for the stud of standard camera tripods.

Its short length and small size even in 50 mm, and the fact it will mount on any camera tripod, make it the ideal spotting scope for the big game hunter who wants to study heads at long range. It is also ideal for the match pistol shooter; will fit neatly inside his pistol case and mount easily on a standard camera stud on the back or lid of the case. The little glass is also very good on the rifle range. In use, it compares very favorably with the best in much larger and more expensive scopes.

In addition to its sun shade, it is provided with dust caps for both lenses and comes in an attractive olive drab color, called Beige-brown. Weight is just 24 ounces, something to be considered by the big game hunter as well as the pistol shooter who has to lug a lot of equipment around. Having lugged much heavier spotting scopes many a day in my pack sack while guiding big game hunters for the study of heads across canyons at long range, I can appreciate this scope and am very enthusiastic about it. It comes with 20X eyepiece as standard, but 12, 16, 32, and 48X

eyepieces may also be had at \$15.00 each. This fine modern spotting scope sells for just \$54.50 with a 20 year guarantee. Ask your dealer, or write D. P. Bushnell Co., 442 Bushnell Bldg., Pasadena, Calif.

Bullet Expansion vs. Land Depth

Very few hunters realize what a vast difference the depth of the grooves of his rifle (in other words, the height of the lands) can make in bullet expansion on game. The shallower the grooves and the lower the lands, the less the lands cut into the bullet jacket. The cutting in of the lands of a rifle barrel naturally weakens the jacket of the bullet and causes the bullet jacket to split on the lines of the land engraving. Bullets from barrels with shallow lands will show less expansion and breakup than bullets from a rifle with high lands and deep land engraving of the bullet jacket. Take the 1917 Enfield with its five wide, heavy, and deep lands as an illustration. Enfield lands are often .005" in height. They cut deeply into the bullet and the expanding bullet will usually rupture on the lines of land engraving.

I once had a .333 OKH rifle with very shallow grooves and flat low lands. It was very accurate and penetrated well in Alaskan brownies, Idaho elk, and other big game, using the Kynoch 300 grain bullet. With the same identical load (60 grains 4350 and the same Kynoch 300 grain soft point steel jacket bullet) in another .333 OKH rifle with an Ashurst barrel with six narrow but deep lands, these 300 grain British soft points blew up badly on all big game, with insufficient penetration. This shows clearly the difference in bullet expansion caused by the height of the lands in the two barrels. The deeper the land cuts on any expanding bullet, the sooner will its jacket rupture under impact with game.

I am convinced, after much experimenting, that this is one of the main reasons for the widely divergent opinions of the same cartridge when used on big game in different makes of rifles. I am further convinced that land depth is one of the main reasons why the same cartridge can produce such a wide variation in both penetration and expansion when fired at identical game animals at identical ranges but from different rifles. When you stop to think the matter over, it is simple. The deep lands of new barrels cut deeply into the jacket metal. Then, as the soft point, hollow point, or other type of expanding point, starts to expand on impact, the jacket naturally ruptures at the cuts made by the lands. The deeper the lands, the deeper the cuts and the more the bullet jacket is weakened and the faster that bullet will expand. The more it expands, the less

it penetrates. Rifles with barrels half shot out, with lands worn down to half their original height, will of course not weaken a bullet jacket as much as new barrels with high sharp lands. Hence the older barrel may penetrate deeper with less bullet expansion than the new barrel with the same cartridges from the same box.

As a further and still more convincing proof of my contention, take the experience of Capt. L. E. Wadman of Mill Valley, California, and I in Africa. We both carried Westley Richards .476 double barrel rifles with 26" barrels. Capt. Wadman was out with Pat Hemingway, then white hunter for Tanganyika Tours, while I was out with John Lawrence, white hunter of White Hunters Ltd. Pat and Capt. Wadman stopped at our camp to compare notes. I told Capt. Wadman of having shot an American bison bull with my .476 with the factory 520 grain solids with cupro nickel jacket, and having the bullets break up, half shed their jackets, and mushroom badly even when only ribs were hit in addition to the heavy muscles. Wadman said he had taken a buffalo on the shoulder (which it broke) and the bullet—a 520 grain solid—had gone clear back into a hip and was still in perfect shape except for land engraving. . . . He shot his lion, a fine old black mane, at about 30 yards through both shoulders. The big lion went down, jumped up, and presented the other side. Wadman drilled him again through both shoulders from the opposite side with another 520 grain .476 soft nose. That finished the lion, but both bullets went through and out of the beast and at 30 yards. I shot my lion, another big old black mane, at an even 100 yards. Took him square through the heart as he lay broadside on, and my 520 grain soft point ruined his heart and lay perfectly expanded under the skin on the off side of the rib cage, never touching either shoulder. . . . Capt. Wadman had excellent penetration with no breakup of his 520 grain solids on rhino. I hit my rhino first in the end of the nose with an identical 520 grain solid as he came for me, and the bullet disintegrated after shattering all the upper teeth on the left side. My next shot hit his shoulder broadside on and broke both shoulder and spine. The core held together but the jacket was torn completely away and the big ball of lead stopped in the off shoulder.

I examined Capt. Wadman's rifle carefully, and the lands were worn down to less than half the height of those in my new barrels. Capt. Wadman gave me a box of his solids and advised my using them on my buffalo, which I still had to get. On reaching camp, I compared them with my own solid ammunition and they were from the same identical lot by Kynoch. I used them a few days later in killing my buffalo. First shot, at 63 yards broadside through the heart, touched no heavy bones other than ribs but bullet mushroomed and shed jacket and the lead ball was found in the meat of the off shoulder. The second 520 grain solid hit center of shoulder and broke both shoulder and spine, killing instantly; but the bullet also broke up so badly that we only found pieces of jacket and the expanded ball of lead. My rifle has perfect new barrels with very deep grooves and high lands that must stand up from bottom of grooves about .006 to .007" each land. Wadman's were worn down to possibly .003" high. Same length barrels.

(Continued on page 61)

TREND-SETTERS in STYLE

The Hi-Standard Supermatic will make history and break records in 1959 as it did in the year preceding. This superb target handgun, new in style, revolutionary in design, is already proved in the fire of top-flight competition. This Choice of the Champions was the leading contender in the Moscow Matches—the top gun in its class at Camp Perry, in Regional and other Championship Matches.



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The Supermatic has all the precision, the finish, the unerring performance expected in a fine instrument. Here is the left, the superlative balance, the built-in accuracy which champions rely and insist on. Here are all the qualities which will make this sensational design the performance sensation of the year. Ask your dealer to show you this new generation of .22 target handguns. And be sure to see and price these other superb Hi-Standards:



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THE SPORT-KING, FLITE-KING, DURAMATIC: all these 10-shot .22 autoloaders feature smooth-action, remarkable accuracy, and all are economically priced. Shown is the Sport-King.

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CROSSFIRE

Criminal?

I simply cannot understand how a magazine, supposedly directed toward the shooting and hunting public, could allow certain information as contained in your February issue, "Drop That Moose," to be printed.

The idea of listing and, in effect, endorsing, such calibers as the .351 Winchester, and the .44-40 Winchester as suitable cartridges for moose, not only indicates a gross lack of gun "know-how" on the part of the editorial staff but, to my way of thinking, is criminal.

R. F. Muske
Gun Club Chief Instructor
Atlanta, Ga.

This is like saying that the WCTU endorses alcoholism because it discusses the experiences of alcoholics. Reread the article, Mr. Muske, and you will see that we did not "endorse" the .44-40 for moose; we simply printed the statement of a Canadian hunter that certain Canadian hunters kill moose with it. A good hunter-marksman who can get close to game and can place his bullets can kill almost anything that moves, with almost any firearm. I know a USAF officer who killed a heavily armed enemy soldier with one slug from a .22 Colt Match Target Woodsman pistol; but please don't misquote this as a recommendation that all military weapons be replaced by .22 caliber pistols.

—Editor.

We Aim To Please

I think your magazine is the greatest in the firearms field. I saw your terrific offer yesterday and I am inclosing a 5 dollar bill. Please start my subscription with your February issue of GUNS.

I would be grateful if you could tell me where I could buy some 7.5 mm Swiss rifle ammunition. I am sending a self-addressed stamped envelope and waiting for your gracious reply.

Joseph M. Johnson, Jr.
Chicago, Illinois

Try Golden State Arms Co. or Martin B. Retting & Co. in California, or Phil Medicus or Hudson's Sporting Goods Co. in New York City—Editors.

Top Rating Is OK With Us

Although I haven't been taking your magazine too long I would like to say that I rate it higher than the other gun magazines for variety of articles. I get darn fed up with the things they are putting in other magazines; very little about reloading, much about stock carving or something else that doesn't mean a lot to the average shooter.

I liked your article on the great "Buffalo Bill," and the one about the big shoot in Switzerland. I had the opportunity while

stationed in Germany 1955-1956 to go there, and they are wonderful people. I also enjoy the pictures that go with the stories. They help a lot to make the good magazine that you have.

S/Sgt. Ted Hoskins, Jr.
North Las Vegas, Nevada

Truth Will Prevail

Karl Hess's article on "Should You Own a Gun" was a swell piece of writing all the way around; but then I'm prejudiced because I like my freedom. I just wish there were some way to alert all Americans to Hess's article.

Every time I have an argument with someone who doesn't think civilians should own guns, I just show them one of your articles on the subject. So far I haven't lost an argument.

Jim Crewse, Jr.
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Kudos To De Haas

Allow me to express my appreciation for the pleasure I have had in reading your magazine which I buy on the newsstand.

The two articles you recently published by Frank De Haas concerning the Savage 99 and the 28 gauge shotgun were highlights in my reading pleasure.

S. John De Woon
Orange City, Iowa

You're Welcome, Bob

Thank you very much for the excellent magazine you publish. I am only 14 years old but your magazine has given me almost all the information on firearms that I have, with the exception of what I learned from Mr. L. E. Hack from whom I took a course in firearms safety that saved my life.

I would also like you to convey my thanks to Mr. Elmer Keith who helped me get my first rifle, a British jungle carbine.

Without your magazine I do not think that my interest in guns would have continued. Neither of my parents shoot or are very interested in guns, so I am alone in my love for firearms.

Again, thank you for your wonderful magazine.

Bob Campbell
West Hartford, Conn.

Gift To A Rifleman

I am subscribing to GUNS as a late Christmas gift for one of my uncles in South Dakota. I know he will enjoy the magazine as he is a collector in a small way. In his collection is a .36 cal. "Kentucky Rifle" manufactured by Henry Pifer; a family heirloom. He also has a Meridan .22 repeating rifle in very good condition.

I have always wondered who made the Meridan rifle and where the factory was

located. Your excellent article, "The Come-back of the Colt Rifle," gave some information on this. I also enjoyed the story on the "Man Rifle Weapon in Atomic War."

Thomas R. Mills
Saratoga, Wyoming

Sharp Eyes

I have been reading the February issue of GUNS and am very interested in the article about "Guns of the Wild West Show". I had the privilege of seeing some of Buffalo Bill's fancy shooting when I was a boy.

I wish to call your attention to the picture in the upper right corner of page 19. What is described as a "Colt Army Model 1894" looks like my old "Remington .44 Cap and Ball."

Mr. O. J. Lien
Great Falls, Montana

Correct. We caught it too, and changed the caption—but only after a few thousand copies were printed.—Editors.

Those Civilian Defense Articles

I have been reading your magazine every month for the past three years, and in my opinion it is the finest of its kind. Guns have been my hobby since I was a small boy and it is good to hear from others like me across the country.

The article, "22's For Survival," by Alfred J. Goerg was tremendous, as was "Where Are Tomorrow's Minutemen?" by David F. Soule. These articles are heroic openers of a much needed-to-be-talked-about subject. Please do not let it end now; keep such articles coming, and more often. Our country needs to hear these voices.

George R. Sherwood
Springfield, Mass.

David Soule's "Where Are Tomorrow's Minutemen" in the January issue was a very striking article and should not be taken too lightly. He has brought out some very fine points which all Americans should give serious thought.

But . . . we must think also of how we can evacuate our families to a well protected area to prevent retaliation by the enemy for damages inflicted by guerilla activity.

There should be more articles on this subject and we, "Tomorrow's Minutemen" should not only read each one with an open mind but heed the warning and prepare.

Allen D. Matthews
Okanogan, Washington

Certainly enjoyed Jan. issue, especially "Where Are Tomorrow's Minutemen?" David Soule's views are the same as mine and I've been working along those lines he was writing about, especially survival. Would like David's address so I could exchange ideas.

Bill Johnston
Santa Rosa, Calif.

I agree with Soule. I wish someone would start some things like the "Minuteman" idea in Tucson.

Mr. Patrick L. Turner
Tucson, Arizona

These are only a few of the veritable flood of letters we have received about these two articles. To all the others who have written us—thanks, and we are only sorry we haven't space for all of them. Editors.

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GUN RACK



GUNS Technical Staff

Gun Law Alert

Rhode Island state rep. Wm. J. Champion, Jr., is championing a bill in the General Assembly, House Bill No. 1054, which would yield the citizen's right to keep and bear arms to the say-so of the community police chief or "the next top police authority." We presume this means the local Political Commissar or *Gauleiter*. Fee of \$1 would be prescribed, and the citizen desiring to purchase or possess firearms of any kind, obtained from any source, would have to seek high and low to find out what Representative Champion means when he says to get permit from "the highest police authority in his own area." Who is Champion a champion of? He comes from Newport, District #2. Any of you Newport, R.I. shooters have anything to say on this deal?

Same joker legislation is brewing in Pennsylvania. Pennsy shooters: write your State Reps right now for full details on proposed "Sullivan-type law" which is to be introduced in Harrisburg this season. Kill it now in Committee.

national Match Free Pistols. The Schultz & Larsen was listed and illustrated. These have not been made since 1954. Our requirements at the factory have made production impossible. A letter just received from the factory states that the Free Pistol has not been returned to production, and will not be in the foreseeable future."

Sharpe adds that over 95% of factory production is now in the Model 60 sporting rifle in 7x61 Sharpe & Hart caliber. It is expected to remain that way through 1959.

"Minute Man" Practice Rifle or Plinker's Joy

The new Beretta *Silver Gyrfalcon* is really a "bird" when it comes to spitting out slugs. Basically similar in design to the .22 Beretta autoloader which was briefly marketed in the U.S. several years ago by a California firm, the new model .22 exclusively sold by J. L. Galef & Sons dealers from coast to coast is a major improvement in detail design. The gun is a straight blow back semi-automatic clip magazine .22 caliber Long Rifle repeater,



Fully adjustable buttplate assembly heads list of changes on Schultz & Larsen M47 (.22) and M54 rifles.

Sharpe Rifles for Sharpshooting

Word has just been received from Phil Sharpe, Manager of The Sharpe & Hart Associates, Inc., of Emmitsburg, Maryland, that numerous changes have been made in various fixtures for the Schultz & Larsen Free Rifles, both the Model 47 in .22 rimfire, and the Model 54 in centerfire. Chief change is in the buttplate assembly which is now fully adjustable in length and angle by thumb action, without using a screwdriver. A larger forearm is fitted containing a new handrail with an improved full-grip palm rest, sling hand-stop, and front sling swivel—all adjustable for position without the use of tools. Each model of rifle comes with two buttplates, hooked offhand type and a prongless one for prone shooting. While the standard rifles are equipped with the regular 4 to 14 ounce adjustable "set" trigger, an interchangeable assembly is available adjustable from 3 to 4 pounds. This is approved by the National Rifle Association, admitting the rifle to all matches.

Since these rifles are more or less order, with a choice of various fixtures, they are now available only to order from the factory with approximately 90-day delivery. For a slight added charge, left-hand stocks can be supplied.

A paragraph in Sharpe's report is significant. "An article by one of our noted pistol boys appeared in the Fall of 1958 in one of the national magazines covering Inter-

very prettily finished. The stock has a schnabel forend tip which really is meaningful in grasping and firing this rifle, and is flattened on the checkered p.g. to give it that "American" look. Stock is Italian walnut, finished a rich, dark, mahogany tone and varnished. Sling swivels are fitted but too small for my liking, about 1/2" which is not much more than a string for carrying. But this is not a rifle for steady sling work, though it has won smallbore competitions in Europe—it is a fast-handling rifle for the rabbit or squirrel hunter, or something to shoot at shadows with on the ranch or big farm. The bottom of the trigger guard is grooved for a thumb anti-slip surface in shooting off the hip, but the gun is principally a bullet squirter and the acme of snap-bang enjoyment.

Mechanically, the bolt has a fixed cocking handle shaped like that on the M1 Carbine, or our new M14 auto rifle. Takedown is clever and reflects typical Beretta ingenuity in making chatter guns. Just retract the bolt, depress the bar on top of the receiver hood rear (shown as a half-moon cut) and it locks the bolt back. Then depress the grooved thumb button at the back of the gun above the small of the grip, push forward, and lift the entire bolt—receiver hood assembly off. The bolt, springs and hood can then be separated, for cleaning. This routine is important because, using waxed cartridges, the gun will foul up at what seems to be a

"faster rate" than, say, a single shot .22. But the shooter then just looks at the heap of green or yellow empty .22 boxes at his elbow, and he knows he has shot up half a carton of ammo in about the time it takes to say "Olin Mathieson." This receiver hood on the new Silver Gyrfalcon is definitely a stronger, more solid piece of forged and welded assembly, and the whole gun is beefier than its predecessor. This may in part account for the popularity of this gun abroad for matches. Sights are logically fixed to the receiver ring into which the barrel fits. The folding leafs are marked for 50 and 75, presumably meters, not too far off from yards to be right for most shooting. Finish, incidentally, is extremely good, well polished and the "striking up" done by the filers at Beretta in final assembly before bluing is evenly cut and the whole gun when disassembled is a joy to the

shot clips, should definitely be in each police armory as a training rifle. Manipulation of the gun, inserting clips, cocking (it has a separate sure-fire inside hammer and floating firing pin) and firing are exactly like the full caliber weapons but without the chomping around of heavy machinery which makes many younger officers "gun shy."

Second thing worth noting was that the rimmed shells, in order to stack more or less horizontally and avoid rim hang-up, lay right and left at the back of the clip. In loading, it was possible to ease the follower down and insert shells one by one. If carefully done, the entire clip could be fired without jamming once. If improperly done, it was easy to see because the big cut-outs give the shooter instant view of how the ammo stacks, and allow him to correct while charging the magazine. Galef sent us four



New Beretta "Silver Gyrfalcon" .22 auto rifle comes with 8-shot clip, but a 20-shot clip is available which, with minor filing, will also fit Walther PPK.

gun craftsman's eye. It isn't a fine shotgun, no, and no pretense to ultra super quality is claimed. But it is a darn fine little gun for its type.

Surprise to this Crackerjack package is a special clip magazine sold by Galef as an accessory. (In Midwest from MARS, 3318 W. Devon, Chicago 45; \$5.95 p.p.) Holding 20 cartridges caliber .22 LR, the clip will fit both models of Beretta smallbore autoloader, but will also fit at least one gun of another make. By doing a little filing—nothing difficult to do if you have the clip before you but difficult to describe—I was able to fit the clip to my Walther PPK .22 autopistol. Once adjusted, the clip fed perfectly all shells, as rapidly as I triggered the Walther. The clip may also fit Beretta .22 pistols. For an afternoon of fun rolling tin cans or just blazing away with ammo, this accessory is guaranteed to please everybody—Beretta, Galef, the ammo makers, and the lad who has one. Price from Galef or from your local dealer is \$5.95 for the 20-shot clip. Price from Galef or your dealer (ask locally first) is \$69.95 for the Silver Gyrfalcon with one 8-shot clip.

In firing the 20-shot clip on our Deerfield police range, several things were noticed. First was the enthusiasm of police firearms instructor John Pichietti, of the Lake County Sheriff's Department, over the gun as a rapid-fire trainer. In teaching the use of "siege" weapons as submachine guns, rifles and riot guns are called, to police, a sensible use of the firepower at their command is difficult to instill. Since there is no U.S. Army doctrine on use of rapid fire individual weapons, and no literature in police circles on their employment, the law enforcement instructor is pretty much at sea and must "play it by ear." The little Beretta, with its light report and no kick, with a plentiful supply of 20

of these stick clips, and we poured 80 shots through the gun without a malfunction as rapidly as we could pull the trigger. At moving floating wood chunks, shooting into a pond from a steep angle which absolutely prevented ricochets, the bullet splash revealed close grouping at about 75 yards. A Beretta scope mount can be fitted, carrying say the ever popular Weaver B4, for woods use. As a hunting rifle, super-grade plinker, combination outdoor and indoor range rifle, and police and military subcaliber trainer, the Beretta Silver Gyrfalcon from Galef rates "GUNS Magazine Recommended" from here.

New Remington Auto Shotgun

The Model 878 "Automaster" is a new gas-op autoloader offered as a dependable general purpose field gun at a popular price by Remington Arms, Bridgeport, Conn. Retail is \$109.95. The 7-pound M878 in 12 gauge has an easy take-down and quick-change barrels of length and choke to meet



every field requirement are available. Un-screw the magazine cap, lift off the barrel, replace with another—all without using tools. Trigger group is removed by pressing out two spring-retained cross-pins. Remington says the gun is dependable under extreme conditions, and has been tested in the labs in temperatures and humidities from arctic to tropic. The gun's performance was good. High speed cameras showed the moving parts of the M878 are perfectly synchronized, engineers reported. The gun is quickly loaded

(Continued on page 60)

GALEF HUNTERS

**CAL. 30/06
SPRINGFIELD
RIFLES**

Original low numbers New low price!

\$32.50

STOCK NO. R23B

HUNTERS!

We are offering the remainder of our supply of Springfields at this fabulous price. With Gov't arsenal sales halted we believe these to be the last of this choice model rifle on the market! The most popular hunting rifle and caliber in the world, these genuine Springfields are in perfect mechanical condition with sharp, clean rifling. Softnose 30/06 ammo sold everywhere. Order now and inspect without risk. See our ironclad 10-day money back guarantee!

AMMO SPECIALS:

100 rds. G. I. target . . . \$7.50
40 rds. professionally loaded soft point hunting . . . \$5.90
20 rds. Rem. or Western commercial soft point . . . \$4.75

ACCESSORIES BARGAINS:

Slings: U.S. gov't regulation cowhide, new \$1.95. Swivel handle cleaning rod, 7 pc. & tips solid brass, gov't issue \$1.95. Swivel handle one-piece gov't steel cleaning rods, 99c. Brushes: U.S. Army brass, official, new, 2 for 25c. Oil: G.I. gun oil, 6 oz. can 25c. Patches: G.I. cleaning patches, flannel (200) 75c. Solvent: G.I. gun cleaning solvent, 6 oz. 25c. Gun Case: G.I. olive drab, heavy-duty, brand new condition, heavy gov't spec, zipper, \$1.95. Saddle armbands, U.S. official top quality cowhide, riveted and stitched, \$4.95. Snap-on front sight covers, 49c.

SPECIFICATIONS:

Model: '03 Bbl.: 24"
Sights: Famous Springfield sights adjustable to 2700 yards. Windage and elevation. Stocks: Gov't selected American Walnut. Caliber: 30/06
Packing: Guns shipped to you in original cosmo-line. We degrease and oil lightly. Shipped in heavy duty protective packing case.
Wt.: approx. 8 1/2 lbs.
Ship. Wt.: 10 lbs.

FROM GOVERNMENT

BOXES TO YOU!

We remove your Springfield from original government boxes, carefully clean off all cosmo-line, oil lightly and ship to you in heavy duty packing carton, ready to shoot. The Springfield is a world famous rifle every American should own. It is the most accurate and dependable rifle ever built and has probably bagged more deer, bear and other big game than any other gun ever made.

TO ORDER:

Send check, cash or money order, \$10 deposit for C.O.D. Shipped RR Ex. charges collect F.O.B. Los Angeles, Calif. resid. add 4% state tax. 10-DAY MONEY BACK GUARANTEE. Dealers inquire.



THE ELLNER CO.

Dept. 127, 1206 Maple Avenue, Los Angeles, Calif.

Shooting



Long-barreled Ruger .44 Magnum was used by 49th-stater to take Alaskan Brown bear. Holes are Streamline muzzle brake which used power of big cartridge to cut recoil.

Bear by Jonas Bros.

Bears with a Pistol



Bear-killing Ruger was used in frequent practice by author and wife Judy (left) who shot bear. Sling swivel pegs into backstrap; lanyard steadies aim like stock.

ONE OF BIGGEST HANDGUNS LAYS LOW ONE OF BIGGEST WILD ANIMALS ON ALASKAN GIRL'S HUNT

By DEAN C. BRENNAN

HUNTING GAME WITH THE PISTOL is common sport for handgunners these days. Grouse, coyotes, jack rabbits, even wolves and cougars, all fall to the pistolman's dead eye. Hunting not just "big game," but the biggest game, is a different sort of a challenge. My wife, Judy, and I enjoy the outdoors—we have to; the game we shoot is often our only food, here in Alaska. Being the 49th State doesn't suddenly pull this area out of the rugged, undeveloped past into the modern century, and a pistol is as much a way of life here, as snowshoes.

Last summer Judy and I worked out as often as possible

with our .44 Rugers to become so thoroughly familiar with them that we would feel completely confident carrying them in the brush, instead of carrying additional rifles. At this point we decided to go all the way and make them aggressive weapons, instead of merely defensive. With this purpose, being well supplied with Elmer Keith articles, notes on local reports, and factory specs, we set out to get all we could from the big guns. We did not realize at the beginning that what we were to get was the distinction of taking one of America's biggest wild animals, an Alaskan Brown Bear, with a pistol. *(Continued on page 53)*



Pride of personal accomplishment adds extra thrill as young hunter displays a fine trophy.

**JUST THINK WHERE YOU'D
GO IF YOU WERE A PHEASANT, GO
THERE, SHOOT LIKE THE
MAN SAYS—AND WATCH THEM FALL!**



Think like a pheasant; go where he would go under given conditions, and you'll find him.

DO YOU

By BERT POPOWSKI

YOU DON'T NEED A DOG to bag pheasants. At least, I don't need one; and you won't either if you, like the man who found the lost mule, will "jest figger where a mule (pheasant) would go (under given conditions), and go there."

It's not that I have anything against dogs. I like dogs. But I just don't like to admit that I have to depend on a dog to help me win a simple battle of wits against a cock pheasant. I think I'm as smart as a ringneck; and I've proved it by bagging pretty consistent limits of the gaudy immigrants, without dogs, over a long period of years, from all kinds of cover, in Iowa, Ohio, Nebraska, South Dakota, Wyoming—wherever I was or could go when a season beckoned. The money I've saved on dog food I've spent on shotshells that have brought me a lot of sport, and a lot of tasty eating.

For example, there was that stormy day in Nebraska;



Shooting over pheasant-trained dogs brings unforgettable moments; but this writer says he gets more birds with less trouble by being his own bird dog.

NEED A BIRD-DOG?

eight inches of snow on the ground, more blizzarding down thick enough to cut visibility to about a city block, temperature in the mid-20s, and the wind howling. Not a perfect day for pheasant hunting? No, not from the standpoint of comfort; but, if it's pheasants you're after, weather like that can be an advantage. Pheasants like comfort, too; and weather like this drives them to cover, cuts down their mobility, knocks miles of walking off the work of the thinking hunter.

Figure it out for yourself. This day, the wind was howling out of the northwest. So where would a comfort-seeking pheasant be? He'd seek shelter from the icy wind—and shelter would consist of any east-west running ditches, cut-banks, or creek channels that held thick weeds or brush—or reasonably wide north-south stands of woods thick enough with evergreens or undergrowth to break that wind and provide cover. East-west stands of woods would have

to be quite thick to provide that cover; and in any woods, birds would be concentrated in the east and south portions, away from the wind. Aren't those the covers you'd seek if you were a pheasant? It's that simple.

That morning, we drove only the east-west roads, stopping to hunt the woody shelter belts on either side of the road as we came to them. We hunted exactly four such shelters to kill exactly four daily limits of cock birds. We flushed at least five birds for every one we killed; and we filled out limits by walking an estimated total of three miles.

One member of that hunting party was a man with a bad heart which he couldn't risk straining in even that amount of rough walking, so he stayed in the cabin that morning. But that afternoon, we took him out in the car and stationed him in a ditch, well sheltered, at the southeast corner of a stand of trees. The other four of us, without guns, walked



Father-son camaraderie blooms as they share adventure, match wits and hunting wisdom against a wily opponent.

No man can "think where a bird will go" when he falls, and here the nose of a trained retriever does pay off.

from the road up along the west side of the woods. First one man, then another, then the third, then the fourth, turned east into the woods. The first man walked east about one-fourth of the east-west depth of the woods, then slanted southeast toward our "stand" gunner. Man No. 2 walked east to about half the east-west depth of the woods, then slanted southeast. Man No. 3 walked three-quarters of the depth of the woods east, then turned south. Man No. 4 walked straight east just inside the north end of the woods until he came close to the east edge, then turned straight south . . . I hope you're getting the picture. We were simply quartering from the west and north, driving the game to the southeast.

It worked. Our waiting gunner bagged his limit without having to move more than 20 feet along his ditch shelter. He refused even to estimate the number of birds that flew past him.

Those same woods would be "driven" differently, of course, by gunners who wanted birds of their own shooting. A grove to the north of the road (upwind) would be driven from the road northward. Assuming that most of the birds would be in the eastern half of the woods, away from the wind, one hunter would strike into the woods at about the middle of its east-west breadth. After he had advanced 15 or 20 yards, a second man would start north at a point a little to the east of the first man's line of march. Giving the second man a similar head start, Man No. 3 would walk north to the east of Man No. 2, nearer the woods' eastern limits—and Man No. 4 would walk north *outside* the eastern edge of the cover, where he could cover any birds that flew into the open or any that ran clear of the woods before flying.

On strips of woods lying south of the road, all four hunters would walk south along the west edge of the cover, thus

driving any birds to the eastward; then swing east and then north to set up the same staggered pattern as above: man at the center of the woods leading the march back northward, the others strung out behind and to the east of him, with the fourth man outside the woods to cut down the wide ones.

These methods work equally well in cornfields, either harvested or standing, if the law permits. It doesn't take a small army to do the job, either; nor does it take bitter weather to concentrate the birds. The theory is this: working one edge of a cornfield, with the hunters strung out in a diagonal line (not walking abreast) tends to force the birds toward the edge of the field, where trailing hunters spook them into flight. Birds that slip off toward the center of the field do not stop running until they reach the far side.

The four corners of the field are the "hot" spots. Running birds leg it as far as the end of the field; then, when they find very light cover beyond them, they hide and hold. So the corners must be worked out very thoroughly. Unless corn, or other row-planted crops, are very dense and "dirty" with weeds, they are generally more productive of ringnecks if worked crosswise of their rows of growth.

In very thick cover, such as weed-dirty corn fields, dense stands of sweet clover, even ankle-high alfalfa or small-grain stubble, there's another fine pheasant-producer that can be employed. As few as two hunters can use it for vastly improved results. This consists of walking a zig-zag pattern down the field, taking perhaps ten or a dozen steps 45 degrees off a direct down-field line, then another ten or a dozen steps at almost right angles to the original zig. This herringbone-pattern type of hunting gets up those birds that have slipped off a few feet or yards off the direct line of march and would thus be bypassed. Smart, hard-hunted



Author's method of working likely pheasant retreat forces birds out to thin cover, flushes them where gunner has best possible chance for an open shot.

and tight-holding birds very often do that, especially late in the season; either that, or they flush very wildly. Two hunters can work this zig-zag pattern much better than three or more, simply because they can more uniformly synchronize their zigs and their zags. Also, there is less hazard of any wild shooting. The trailing hunter on each lap of such a pattern-type hunting can cover against birds flushing behind his partner.

Another great producer of tight-holding birds is the "hesitation" type of advance. It can be combined with the zig-zag pattern mentioned above. As long as a hunter is moving, the birds out of his direct path are quite content to hide and hold. But the moment a hunter stops they become uneasy; they think they've been seen, or otherwise detected. Their nerve breaks and out they clatter. Pheasants that have been crowded into the corners of fields, where they have no further chance to go anyplace but out in the open, are particularly susceptible to sudden pauses of several seconds duration by the canny hunter. Under a steady walking advance, no matter how slow, they would hold unless the hunter chanced to come right up on them.

Hen pheasants are tattletales on their gaudy mates. Some untutored hunters walk all day and report they saw dozens of hens but very few cock birds. What to do under such circumstances depends on the cover. If it is very thin and open, the cocks have probably been running on ahead of such hunters, so that they never were forced closely enough to flush them. In alternately thick-and-thin cover, the cocks sprint across the barren spots and hide in the first thick cover they encounter. In such alternating cover, the best bet is to walk rather rapidly through the thin stretches, then employ the zig-zag combing of the denser stands. Using the hesitation advance often helps wonderfully.

Hen pheasants are just naturally shorter of leg and stride, have less endurance than the cocks. They run until they begin to tire, then hide. Meanwhile, the cocks may hold a lead of 40 to 50 yards or more, depending on the type of cover. Flushing hens tells the hunter to move faster, catch up with the cocks. Of course if you flush hens in dense cover, such as alfalfa or thick marsh grass, (Continued on page 53)

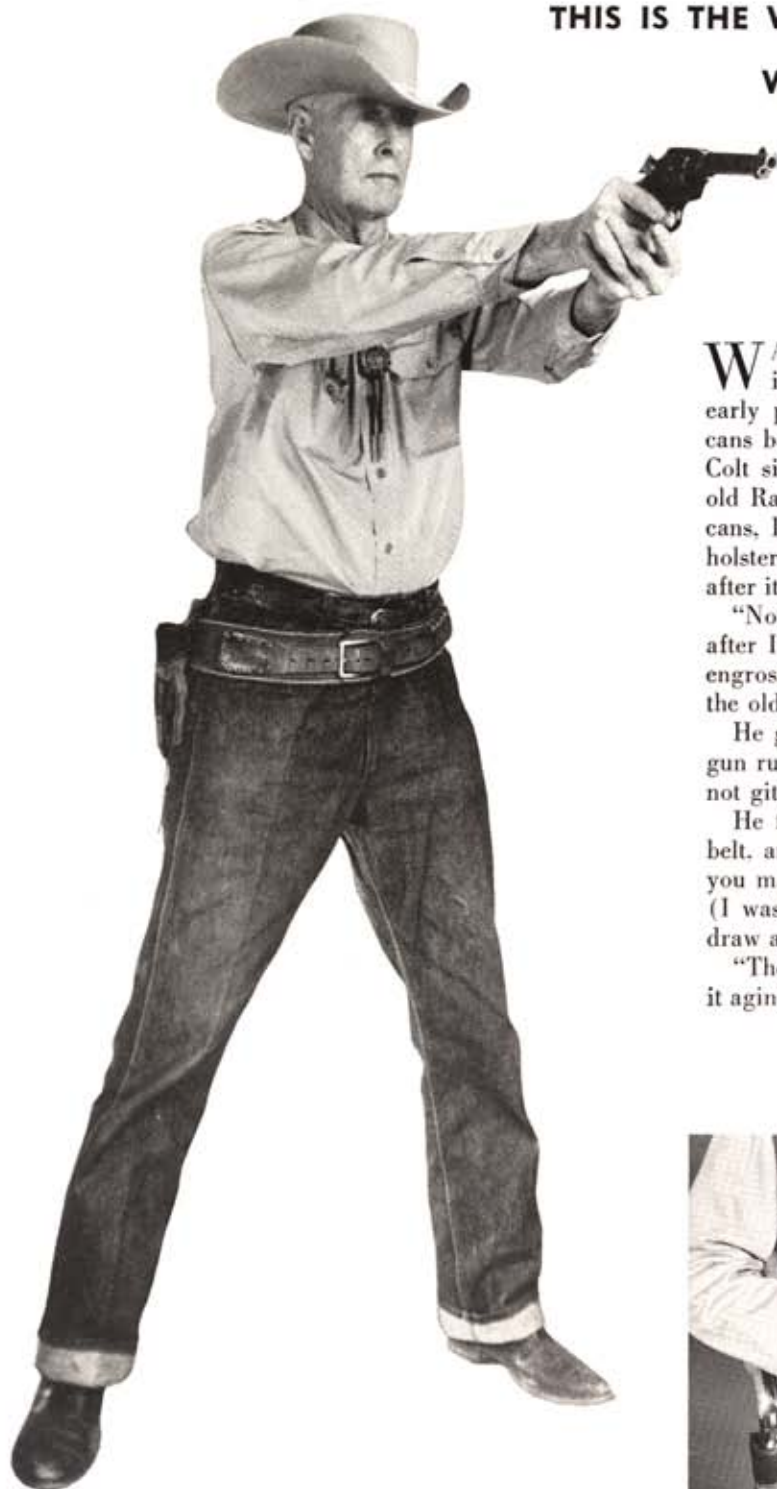


A successful team of "bird-dogging" hunters pauses to compare trophies.

"Take Your Time

THIS IS THE WAY THEY DID IT (AND STILL DO IT)
WHERE THE SHOOTING IS FOR KEEPS,
NOT FOR THE TIMER OR CAMERA

By WALTER RODGERS



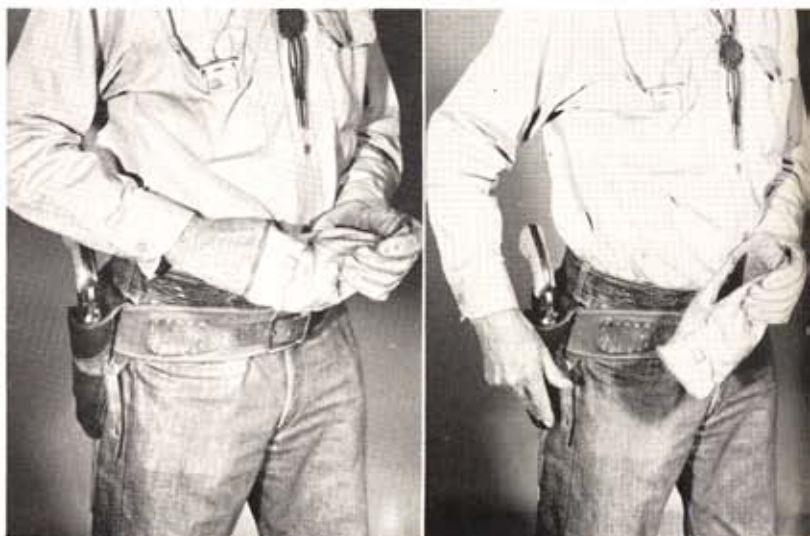
WAY BACK IN THE WILD and rugged trans-Pecos province of Texas, known as the Big Bend country, in a very early part of this century, I was banging away at some tin cans back of my camp with an old single action Army Model Colt sixshooter. I had a good cut-away holster strung on an old Ranger Scout belt, and though I wasn't puncturing many cans, I was sure wearing the hide thin on my right thumb. I holstered the gun after each shot, then went back frantically after it for the succeeding shot.

"Now yuh're dead," said a drawling voice behind me right after I'd emptied my gun. I whirled in surprise, for I was so engrossed with my draw-and-shoot practice that I hadn't heard the old Ranger walk up behind me.

He grinned and shook a chiding finger at me. "Never let a gun run dry," he said. "Reload after the third shot, and you'll not git caught with yore britches down."

He flipped a fistfull of .45 caliber cartridges from his own belt, and told me to reload. I did. "Now," he said, "let's see you make that grab draw again." Whirling towards my target (I was kinda' proud of my gunspeed by now) I made a fair draw and missed my target.

"The best of us miss now an' then," he comforted me. "Do it agin." I holstered my gun, dove after it again, and—fumbled



Ranchmen wear gloves riding, roping, but remove for gun speed. Bare hand starts down and back in circle motion.

—FAST!

Rogers' favorite for fast work is Colt Bisley model with long handle and spur modified to SA shape for two-hand cocking.



my draw. The gun just wasn't in the right place.

"I wus lookin' for that," the Ranger said seriously. "Now, if'n it was possible for a feller to die twicet, this would be yore second death in a gunfight. That grab draw just ain't no-wise dependable. Always remember, yore hand ain't got no eyes. Maybe hit'll find the gun, and maybe hit won't. Let yore fingers guide yore hand to the gun, and—don't git in sich a hell-fire hurry."

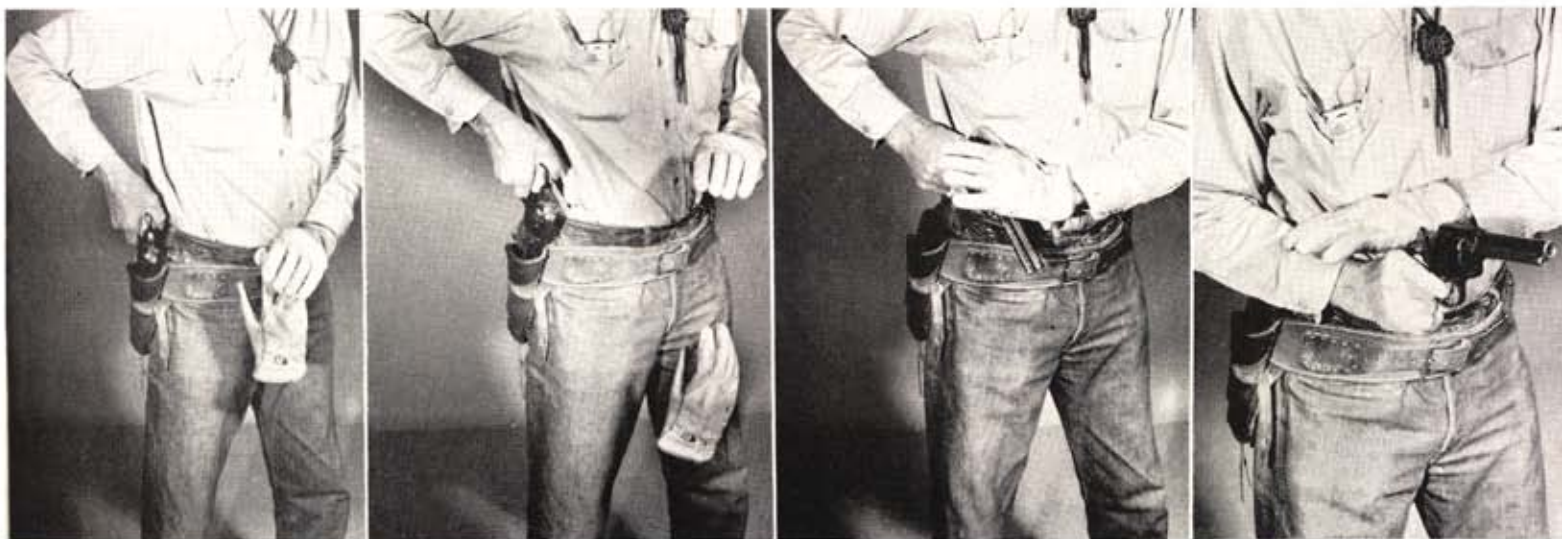
That was my first dependable, straight-from-the-horse's-mouth advice in gun-handling. Since then, down through many arduous years along the Texas-Mexico border where I worked cattle, broke wild horses, and served in various capacities as an officer of the law, I was taught and advised by men whose everyday lives depended upon their ability with their guns. I never became an expert. I have witnessed so much real gun-speed and positive shooting with these old Peacemakers that I long ago gave up any ideas I may ever have entertained about my own speed or accuracy. I know men today who, if I knew they was gunning for me, I'd leave my gun at home and try to talk them out of it.

But I've seen it done—by men who weren't shooting for fun or the movies. My book, *"The Traildrivers of Texas"*

(Naylor Publishing Company, San Antonio, Texas, 1916), tells about many of the men I knew or for whom I worked, when I was a button wrangling horses for adult men to work cattle on. Geo. W. Saunders recommended me for Ranger Duty. I worked for Pleas Butler, and knew him to be a fast and positive shot with both pistol and rifle. (He had no use for sights on either gun.)

I knew Texas Rangers Jess Smith and Kickapoo Jones, both of whom served in the Rangers between 1870 and 1873 and became experts in the use of the smaller cartridge-type Colt Single Action. I camped with Rangers Arch Miller and John Hollis at Mariscal, Texas—down on the border where, a very short time earlier, a whole troop of U.S. Cavalry were massacred and their barracks burned and their mounts run back across the Rio Grande.

I knew Ranger Captain John Hughes, and recall that he was one of the very few Rangers I ever saw wearing two guns. He wore them on crossed belts, and was fast and accurate with either hand. I knew Joe Sitters, mentioned in Zane Grey's dedication of his book, *"The Lone Star*



Fingers quickly but surely feel way to gun handle, bring pistol up and out from high, solid holster rig. Left hand drops glove, comes forward as pistol is shoved out, throwing back hammer for fastest hip-shot. Gun hand makes circle in drawing.



Don't crouch says author—it throws you off balance; and don't grab for your gun.



When in city, gun is worn high in same place on dress belt, drawn by sure feel, not grab.

Ranger," and was at his ranch in the Big Bend shortly after he was killed in the fight that followed the burning and sacking of the famous Fisher Ranch by bandits. I was in packtrain service with the U.S. Cavalry on that gun-smoked border when Pancho Villa and Chico Cana were acting up across the river and we had to dodge a lot of singing lead. Through it all, I remained as inconspicuous and as near invisible as possible, I assure you.

I never saw one of these men with his gun slung halfway to his knees and tied down. No working man—ranger or law officer or cowboy—that I ever knew would wear his gun where it would be a hindrance instead of a help in his work.

Early day Texas Rangers were recruited from working cowboys who had proved themselves capable with guns, and with nerves to match. Their manner of carrying their guns followed their range-riding and cattle-working experiences. The Ranger Scout Belt came into existence from these experiences. It is made of soft, pliable lace-leather, doubled, and carrying double rows of cartridges. It measures exactly four inches in width. The holster is threaded on this wide belt, and the gun (Continued on page 49)



THE ARMY'S SHOOTIN'EST OUTFIT



International Team coach Capt. John Kolb helps Lt. Verle Wright dope wind on Benning range. Installation at Advanced Marksmanship Unit is nation's first.

By M/SGT JOHN D. MARTIN

SHOOTING THE U.S. ARMY RIFLE has been a subject of importance to every man for a good many years. Firearms writers have said much "for," and "against," rifle marksmanship in the United States Army. There were those who advocated the elimination of rifle marksmanship training as such, and would teach our soldiers how to put out a volume of massed fire, regardless of whether they hit anything or not. However, some bitter lessons were learned in Korea against a massed and fanatical enemy; lessons which proved the concept that, for the Army to win battles with a minimum cost in lives and equipment, its infantrymen must know how to shoot the service rifle, and hit what they shoot at. Further, the dough-boy must be trained to exercise good judgment in detection, selection and engagement of battlefield targets. He must be willing and confident in his ability to fire his rifle, and realize the full measure of combat success as a result.

Today, the United States Army is definitely on the comeback trail as far as rifle marksmanship is concerned. Much enlightening progress has been made, based on the predication that each and every soldier must be a thoroughly trained and



Armory holds racks of Dunlap free rifles, Model 52 and 70 Winchesters, tuned Remingtons and custom-made Garands.

qualified marksman, with the current service weapon. Commanders at all levels have been and are continually being instructed to emphasize and encourage marksmanship.

In 1953, the U. S. Army Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia, instituted and now conducts a special course known as "Rifle Marksmanship Instruction." Its aim is to train well qualified instructors for service throughout the Army. Under the guidance of General Wyman, commanding Continental Army Command (USCONARC) at Fort Monroe, Virginia, an effective program of competitive marksmanship has been instituted which extends from the lowest to the highest levels throughout the entire United States Army. This program provides for smallbore rifle and pistol competitions as well as for .30 cal. rifle shooting with the accent on the Service Rifle. Also under way at Fort Benning are Projects "Trainfire" and "Autofire" which are developing marksmanship training systems designed to be more realistic and effective with modern weapons.

One of the most significant steps the Army has taken to enhance its marksmanship program was the activation of a novel training unit in 1956. Known as the United States Army Advanced Marksmanship Unit (USA AMU), it is stationed at Fort Benning, Georgia. The Unit's Commanding Officer, Col. Edward R. Mason, is a dedicated shooting enthusiast. AMU is under the operational control of the Infantry Center, but unit personnel wear the circular red, white and blue shoulder patch which identifies their organization as a USCONARC unit.

The AMU is unique. The concepts and principles upon which it was founded, encompass *all* of the facets of rifle and pistol marksmanship. In essence, it is the Army Rifle and Pistol Teams cadre, and is the home of selected officers and men who possess outstanding abilities as marksmen, coaches, armorers and instructors.

In order for it to develop better Army marksmanship, the AMU is organized to accomplish the following missions:

1. Render technical and advisory assistance in the conduct of annual All-Army Rifle and Pistol Championship Matches.
2. Select and train Army Rifle and Pistol Teams.

3. Select and train candidates from the Army to compete in tryouts held by the National Rifle Association of America (NRA) for positions on the United States International and Olympic Shooting Teams.

4. Assist the Commandant, The Infantry School, in the conduct of an Advanced Marksmanship Training Course.

As can be seen, the Unit's Mission justifies its existence in the United States Army in that it vividly asserts in what manner the cause of marksmanship is to be furthered by its activities.

In order to understand exactly how the AMU is set up to accomplish its mission, it might be well to explain its organization. Basically, the unit consists of three main groups. Unit Headquarters contains Administration, Supply, and Maintenance. The Rifle Group is composed of: U.S. Army Rifle Team and the Army International Rifle Team. The Pistol Group includes the U.S. Army Pistol Team, and the Army International Pistol Team.

The Unit Headquarters might be referred to as the nerve center of the Unit. It directs and controls the activities of the organization as a whole, and is concerned with such functions as command, operations, planning, general train-



Complete gunsmithing is done in Unit shop. M/Sgt. Glenn Baker here turns barrel ready for action fitting. Glass bedding of service M1 rifles is also done by armorers.

ing, administration, public information, finances, supply, liaison and maintenance. Although this group seldom shares any of the glory as the result of a match being won on the firing line, the officers and men comprising this group deserve a large portion of the credit for the achievement of the Unit's mission.

Of the various Unit Headquarters' functions, the two most important as far as shooting is concerned, are the supply and maintenance installations. Though their operation is based on established Army principles, these activities constitute the only supply room and small arms repair shop of the kind in the entire United States Army.

The supply office is responsible for the procurement and issue of all match type weapons, ammunition and accessories. Whether a person be a shooter or not, it would be a sight to behold for him to walk into the supply room of the USA AMU and view the fabulous array of firearms and equipment. He would see everything from 100mm Team Captain type spotting scopes to metal sling keepers; from free rifles to team patches that the shooters wear on their jackets. The Unit's ammunition bunker stores match

ammunition that is fired by the Army's top rifle and pistol marksmen: everything from match grade .22LR ammo to commercial and handloaded .300 H&H magnum match loads and special match ammo loaded by Frankford Arsenal. The best ammo made is supplied to Army riflemen and pistolmen on both military and civilian competitive firing lines, and indicates the Army's desire to build up its overall marksmanship capabilities.

The AMU's small arms repair shop is another function which is unique in its own right. It offers "custom gunsmithing" for the shooters in the Army. The personnel who work in the shop are selected because of their outstanding ability and experience as craftsmen and gunsmiths. In the shop is the equipment and skill to perform almost any operation on a rifle or pistol; whether it be glass bedding an action, fitting a barrel, or building a rifle. The shop also handloads ammunition.

All rifles and pistols issued by the supply section are sent to the shop initially to be checked for functioning, alterations and modifications as desired, and to be tuned up with respect to accuracy. The *(Continued on page 54)*



Army's best shooters get even better from AMU training. Trigger squeeze is explained to new students by veteran Army coach, M/Sgt. Harold Hankins, stationed at Benning.

Author glasses shot over .22 smallbore ISU fifty-meter course. Rifle is one of battery of Hammerli Free Rifles used by Unit in International shoots around the world.



Pistol-smith M/Sgt. Herman Gano checks S&W .38 Masterpiece on rest of his own design.



SHOOTING IS FOR

**NOT EVEN LOSS OF HIS RIGHT ARM STOPPED
LES AMBURGEY'S PARTICIPATION IN SHOOTING. TODAY,
HE IS TOPS WITH BOTH SHOTGUN AND RIFLE**

By LES D. LINE

AROUND THE west Michigan farm village of Sparta, folks point to Les Amburgey as one of the town's top shots with both rifle and scattergun. This in itself is no small accomplishment in any hunting-conscious midwest community. But in Les's case, it is remarkable. He has only one arm.

Few youngsters ever reach their middle teens without at one time or another having broken a bone or two. Les Amburgey was no exception. He was six years old when a fall at his home, then near upstate East Jordan, fractured his right elbow. Most such childhood mishaps are just a part of growing up. They heal and are quickly forgotten. But Les Amburgey's broken elbow never really was forgotten. For 23 years, recurrent infection—sometimes infrequent but too often frequent—plagued him. The arm never completely healed.

A lot of things happened in those 23 years. Les's father took him hunting for the first time at the age of 10. He killed his first game, a cottontail, with a .22 rifle a year later. The Amburgey family had moved from East Jordan to the Kent county town of Sparta, centered in one of

Michigan's choicest pheasant areas. And Les had become a crack shot.

He was 29 years old when, in 1939, he had his final bout with infection in that injured right arm. He lost. A job picking apples on a nearby farm had put too much strain on the elbow. The arm was amputated just below the shoulder.

Now 48 years old, Les Amburgey is one of the best shots in town, with either rifle or shotgun. No allowances are made for his handicap. He can handle his weapons as quickly and as efficiently as the normal shooter with two arms. And he does so without any mechanical aids.

He has little trouble filling his bag limits during bird season, with the help of his English pointer, and has had better than average success in the deer woods. More important, he feels any sportsman faced with a similar handicap can do the same.

There is a key to Les Amburgey's success in overcoming the loss of an arm. But it is a very simple one. The key is—determination—and the careful selection of weapons.

A lot of persons, if suddenly confronted with the situation



Michigan hunter kept on enjoying guns after chronic infection required amputation of right arm below shoulder. Rifle is M94, originally .38-55 but rebarreled to .30-30 and with prong butt plate specially shaped to give firm base for lever action. Amburgey thinks autoloader like Remington 740 would be better if he had to learn using deer rifle again today.

EVERYONE

Les found himself in back in 1939, might be inclined to put away their guns for good. No doubt this "out" came to mind in Les's case. But the fields and woods had become too important a part of his life. As soon as the doctor would permit, Les was back trying to regain his shooting skill. And since his right arm had been lost, it was like starting over from scratch.

The first task was the shotgun. He tried several different guns and different gauges, finally settling on a double 20 made by the old Eastern Arms Co. It is a hammerless weapon with two triggers and a thumb safety, and it is the scattergun he uses today, although he also owns an elaborate German double 16 gauge, "just for looking at or for loaning," which was sent him by a friend who was overseas.

It is on the matter of shotguns that Les has some good advice for similarly handicapped persons. "Don't use too light a gun for the load you're shooting," he strongly urges. "The recoil will make good successive shots difficult, if not impossible."

This is the main reason he has shied away from 16 and 12 gauge weapons and automatic shotguns. "The 20 is plenty of gun for all small game, except ducks and geese," he adds, "and when it gets to be good (Continued on page 64)



Expert with shotgun, one-armed enthusiast uses double 20-gauge by "Eastern Arms," probably Stevens Arms Co. brand name gun. He finds automatics or pumps difficult to use.



CHOOSING A MATCH .22 RIFLE

By LARRY F. MOORE



Goal of U.S. riflemen is to shoot at Camp Perry. Crack smallbore marksman Lt. Col. C. J. Shaffer of Hoboken, N. J., showed up at '57 Nationals with BSA Martini, scoped for any sight 100-yard course.

NO TOP MATCH RIFLEMAN IS EVER SATISFIED WITH ANY RIFLE UNTIL HE REBUILDS IT; BUT YOU DON'T NEED TO BUY A CUSTOM JOB TO WIN MATCHES

COMPETITIVE RIFLEMEN at the top seldom, if ever, use unmodified factory-issued equipment. They use custom-made or modified factory rifles. The guns which started out as factory-built match rifles are frequently rebuilt to the extent that only the receiver and bolt remain of the original parts. It is not surprising that the beginning shooter contemplating entry into the competitive rifle sport should ask "Who makes the best barrel?" and "Who makes the best stock?" Yet the truth is, you don't need a custom-made rifle to get into competitive shooting and do well at it. Training and experience come first.

The inexperienced shooter will do well to buy factory-issued equipment. Rarely can he take advantage of custom aids until he has had considerable experience, because he does not at first really know what he needs in the custom line. For example, a beginner, no matter how skillful he may be in lines of shooting other than match rifle work, cannot determine the most advantageous stock and barrel dimensions for his personal use without having done considerable shooting. Furthermore, it would be a shame to "shoot out" an exceptionally accurate custom barrel while the novice is progressing through the lower classes.

Regardless of the type of rifle shooting in which you may eventually hope to participate, you will do best starting with smallbore rifle shooting. This form of shooting has the advantages of a high level of accuracy, comparatively low cost for



Position champ Art Cook fired to 1957 win at Perry using M40-X .22 with custom cheek rest, barrel bedder.

ammunition, year-around participation, a large number of ranges, and the greatest number of competitors. Anyone who can turn in master-class scores from four positions in the gallery, and from the prone position in outdoor matches, will not find it difficult to become proficient with the free rifle or the high-power rifle.

The length of time required to reach the National Rifle Association's master class with the smallbore rifle will depend upon the individual, and the amount of time and effort devoted to the sport. A shooter who makes the master class in three years of competition is doing very well. Therefore, you can see that there should be no rush to purchase custom equipment.

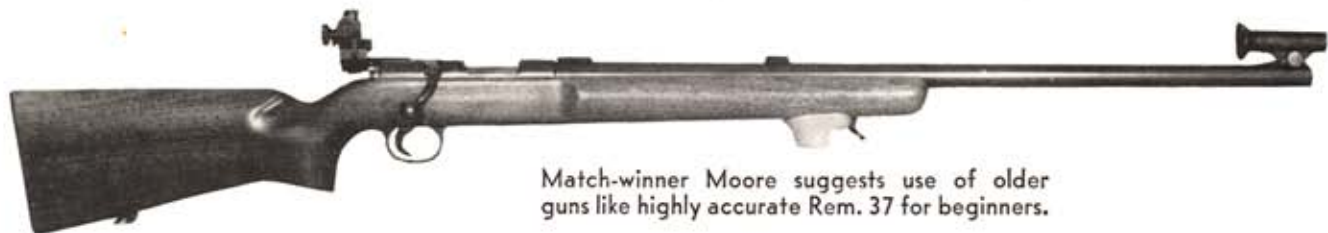
The NRA establishes rules, and standardizes courses of fire and targets for smallbore rifle competitions. Also, this organization maintains a classification system based on scores fired in registered competitions. Registered tournaments are conducted throughout the United States and the scores are reported to the NRA headquarters (1600 Rhode Island Avenue, Washington 6, D. C.). The four classes in order of skill are: Marksman, Sharpshooter, Expert and Master. For outdoor prone competition, the shooter must average a minimum of 97 to earn a Sharpshooter rating, 98 for Expert, and 99 for Master. Some of the top-ranking shots maintain a yearly average of around 99.5.

Selecting a match rifle is not much different from selecting any other type of tool. You need a piece of equipment which will put the shots in the highest-scoring ring and with a minimum of effort on your part. Also, most shooters must consider the cost.

Assuming you decide to start with the smallbore rifle, it is well to study the requirements of the tool you are about to purchase. Fortunately, there are few restrictions on the smallbore match rifle other than it must shoot the caliber .22



Stoeger-Anschutz .22 is getting a following among factory-gun users.



Match-winner Moore suggests use of older guns like highly accurate Rem. 37 for beginners.

rim fire cartridge and it must have a three-pound trigger pull. Some matches permit the use of a telescopic sight and others are restricted to metallic sights. The ten-ring on the standard NRA 100-yard target is two inches in diameter and a smaller ring, called the X ring, is one inch in diameter. The width of the rings on this target is one inch. Other NRA targets are proportioned with the range to correspond with the 100-yard target, except that an allowance is made for the diameter of the bullet since scoring is done from the outside of the bullet hole. It is highly desirable that the rifle and ammunition put all of its shots in the ten ring and a

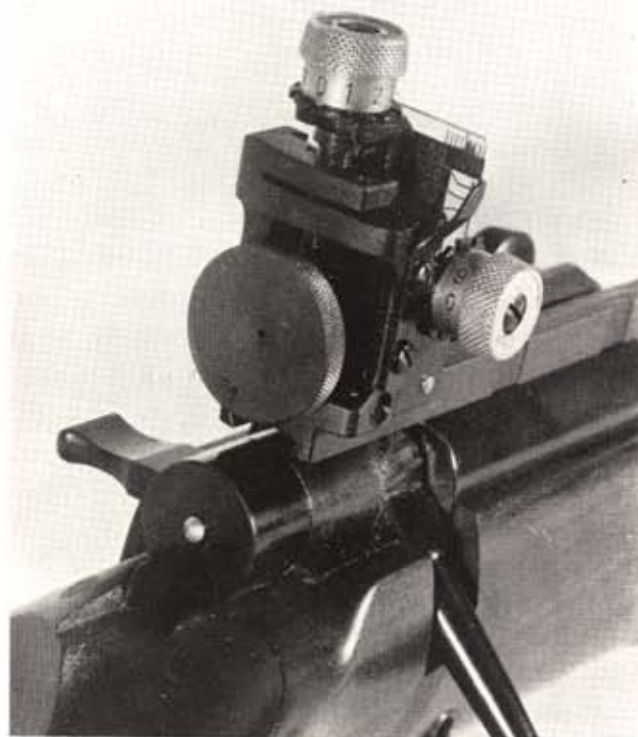
large percentage in the X ring. Most factory rifles will give groups at 100 yards of two inches or less when using a regular brand of standard velocity ammunition. When using a match cartridge of high quality, most factory rifles will average groups of 1.5 inches or less at this range. Some rifles, using selected lots of match ammunition, will average one-inch groups or less at 100 yards.

There is enough similarity in courses of fire and rules for the indoor and outdoor smallbore rifle shooting that one rifle, if carefully selected, will serve for both types of competition. All of the factory rifles made for smallbore match shooting now have detachable metallic sights and they are equipped with telescopic sight bases. It is simple and convenient to change from metallic sights to a telescopic sight.

It matters little what type of rifle the individual fires on his first visits to the range. Many top competitors started shooting with a sporting or training rifle. These rifles are especially good for use in learning the fundamentals of marksmanship on the 50-foot indoor range, where frequent sight changes are not required. It is highly desirable to start learning shooting in the gallery, since it is much easier to master position, holding, sighting and trigger control without the factors of changing light and wind which almost always have to be allowed for in outdoor shooting. Generally, the shooter will "outgrow" the sporting or training rifle in a season of shooting. He is then ready for a full-size match rifle.

In an average rifle club, there are likely to be various models of match rifles in use. The new member may handle and fire the various models. He can then determine the model having the most suitable dimensions and weight for his use. Most club members are anxious to help a new shooter. However, it is well that the scores fired by the member be a guide to the weight to place on his advice.

Buying a used match rifle is frequently best in terms of performance and economics. Care must be taken to assure that the rifle is in good mechanical condition, and that it gives the performance required. One advantage in purchasing a rifle privately is that a trial and inspection of the rifle can be arranged before purchase. This cannot generally be done with a rifle in a factory carton on the dealer's shelf. More dealers are coming to realize that shooters do need to "try out" guns, and are (Continued on page 51)

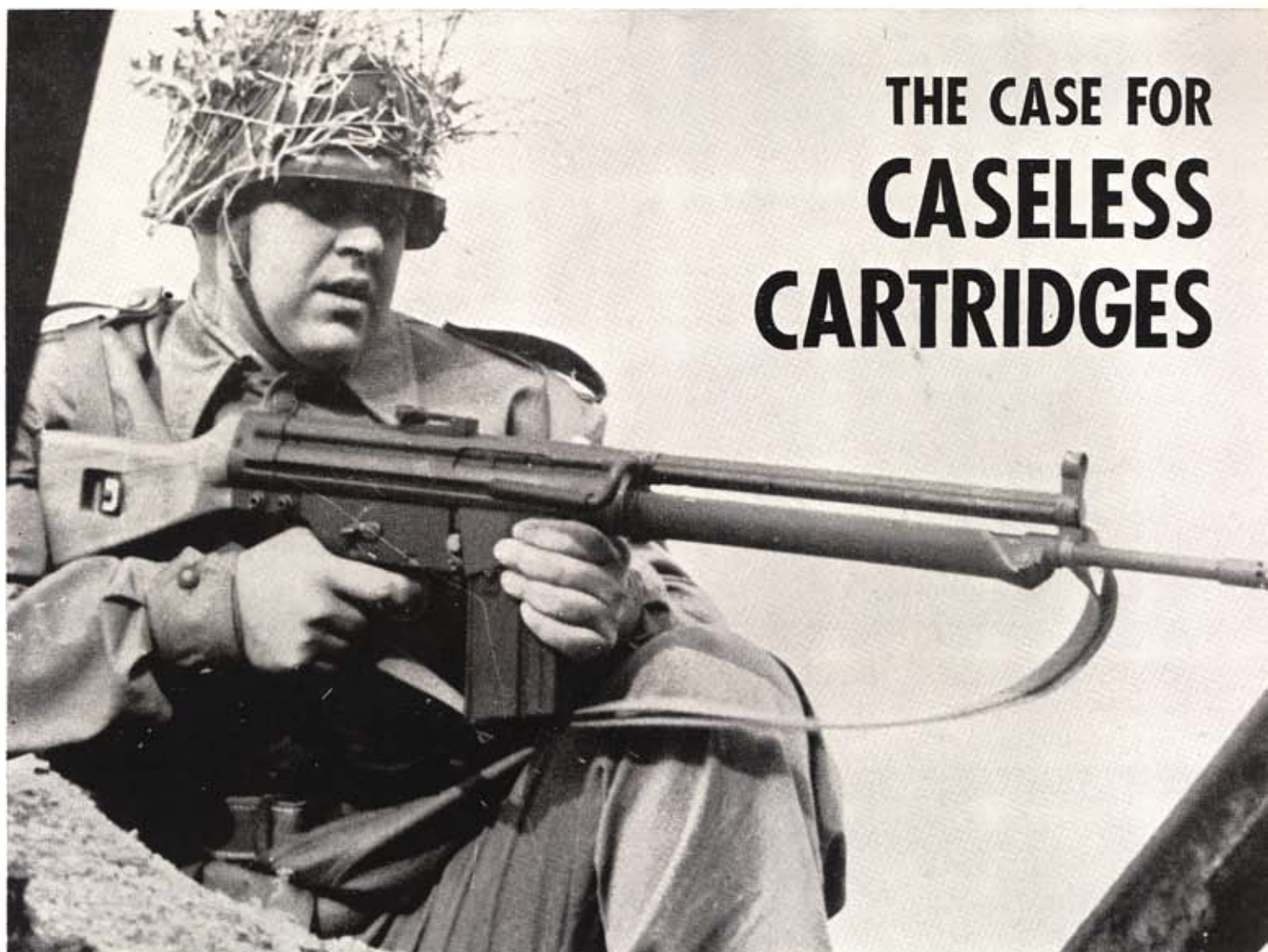


Rear sights adjustable by dials for windage and elevation, and removable so scopes can also be used, are essential to match work. Anschutz (above) is easy to use.



Current Winchester M52C has Redfield Olympic sights which remove for scope to fit on blocks.

THE METALLIC CARTRIDGE, ONCE
THE GREATEST STEP IN ARMS DEVELOPMENT
CAN BE REPLACED SOON WITH LIQUID PROPELLANTS IN BURN-UP CASES



THE CASE FOR CASELESS CARTRIDGES

Styling of Spanish CETME machine rifle shows German origins. Gun takes special Spanish, conventional NATO, or combustible load.

By GEORGE C. NONTE, Jr.
Captain, Ordnance Corps, USA

THE SELF-CONTAINED METALLIC CARTRIDGE today is obsolete—at least in theory. Ideas on the drawing board today will, in the next few years, place in the hands of the sportsman and the soldier firearms which do not use the familiar brass cartridge case. The metallic cartridge, a century ago considered the greatest single step in the evolution of firearms, is on the way out. Case-less cartridges, which do not leave a metal shell in the gun to be removed mechanically will make possible firearms design approaching the ideal in many ways.

The brass cartridge's size and shape place severe limitations on the size, weight, shape, and magazine capacity of the weapon shooting it. Removal of these limitations by introducing radically new forms of ammunition would open up new vistas of firearms design.

Cartridges without cases are not new, fundamentally. By the time of the Civil War, cartridges for small arms were almost invariably paper tubes containing

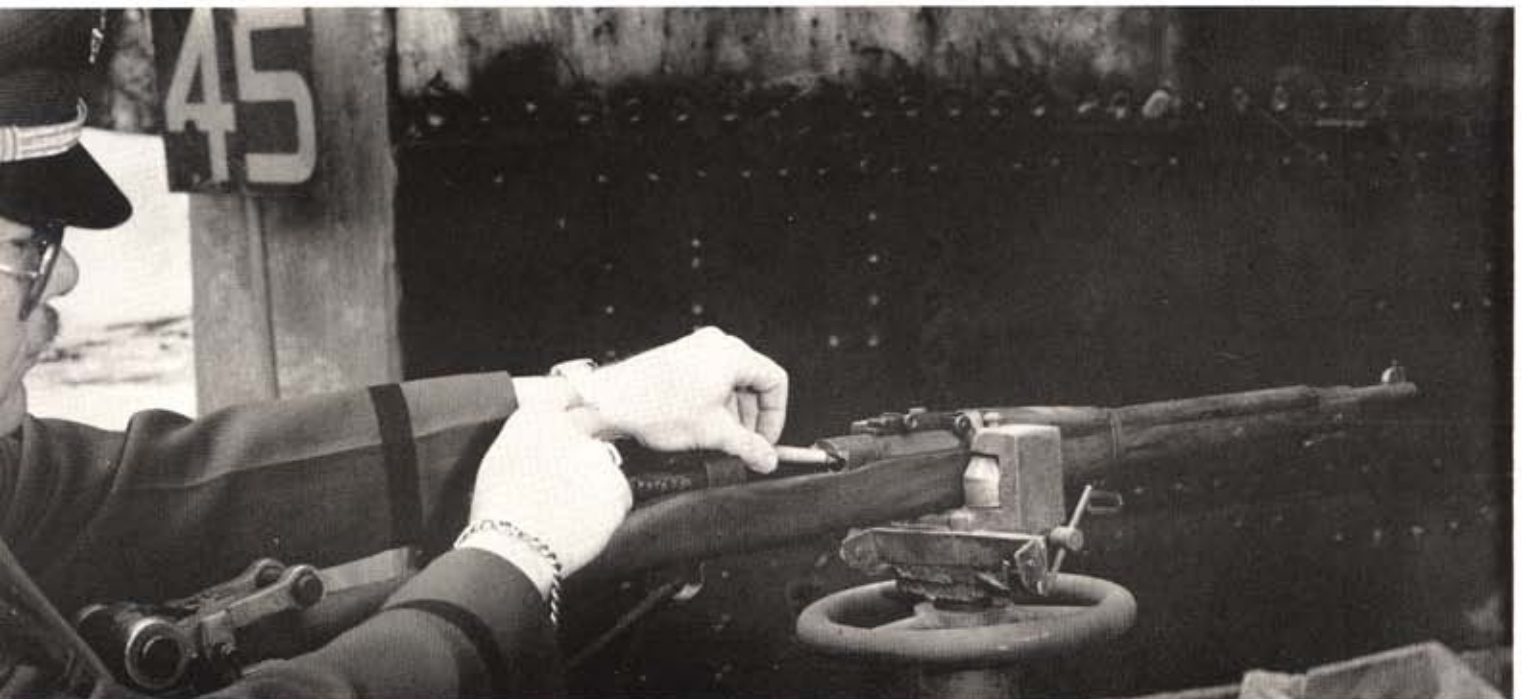


Civil War caseless cartridges used in muzzle- and early breech-loaders did not seal chamber; guns often had weird mechanisms to do this. Cases were of (l-to-r) tinfoil, paper tied with string, linen and shellaced silk.

powder and ball, which were torn to pour their charge into the gun; or they were some form of combustible-envelope round. In these, the powder was in an envelope attached to the bullet. One type used solid pressed powder, but others had envelopes of cloth, paper, collodion, or animal gut. All were consumed by the flame of discharge, and there was nothing left in the gun that had to be thrown out. By 1870, the metallic cartridge, which permitted sealing the "new fangled" breech loaders against loss of gas at the chamber, had ended the supremacy of the old-style "caseless cartridges." Yet today some of the newest experiments in this field suggest some of the earliest pre-case cartridges of the last century.

The combustible idea remained dormant for small arms designers until World War II. Shipping space and brass metal for cartridges were at a premium. Germany in particular worked to develop cartridges without brass, but

by war's end, no successful cartridge-weapon combination had been devised. Using a combustible load in repeating breech-loading arms introduced new problems. First was obturation, or sealing the chamber against escape of propellant gases. This had been done for 100 years by the expanding brass case. Second, making a completely combustible case-propellant-primer combination to withstand military shipping and handling was a problem. Third, the cartridge had to withstand the forces imposed on it by the feed mechanism of an automatic weapon. These last two problems are closely related. And, finally, removing the brass case from the cycle developed a heat problem. The case was the only barrier between gun and the terrific heat developed immediately in the chamber on firing. With the case, much heat was absorbed momentarily in the brass and, before it could be transferred to the gun, it was tossed out—perhaps down your neck. Without the



Captain Nonte warily inserts hydrazine-loaded .30-06 into Springfield rifle on test cradle at Rock Island Arsenal where he tried out liquid propellant.

heat-removing brass case, dangers of cook-off and decreasing barrel life arose.

None of these problems were solved fully by Germany, though a short 8 mm Kurz cartridge for the Sturmgewehr 44 was evolved. The bullet was stuck in the end of a thick-walled "cup" formed from solid propellant, and an inner charge of a few grains of rifle powder would burst this cup in the chamber, increasing the burning area and sending the bullet on its way. There was no metal cartridge case. Further development was slowed after 1945.

Recently, it was determined that a successful combustible cartridge would save 50 per cent of both weight and bulk of conventional ammunition. Abroad, the U.S. Air Force contracted for caseless development along lines which the 8mm Kurz suggested. Outgrowth of the research on the StGew 44 was the Mauser Machine Pistole M1945, flown to Spain during Germany's last days and developed by Madrid technicians into the C.E.T.M.E. light assault rifle. Taking two forms of ammunition, conventional or combustible, various models of the C.E.T.M.E. point one way to solving the caseless problem.

A cartridge for the C.E.T.M.E. in 8mm "Mauser" caliber was developed in Spain by the Brussels, Belgium firm of Sidem International, for the U.S. Air Force Research & Development Command. Sidem is a general ordnance and munitions firm, as well as European sales representative to the American Firearms International Company, distributing many U.S. sporting arms to Rod & Gun Clubs. In the research field, Sidem's 8mm cartridge was longer than the 8mm Kurz, had a star-shaped inner form (fluted wall,) and contained about five grains of Olin Ball Powder as a burster. Exactly how the C.E.T.M.E. is obturated is not known, nor any facts on the success of this project.

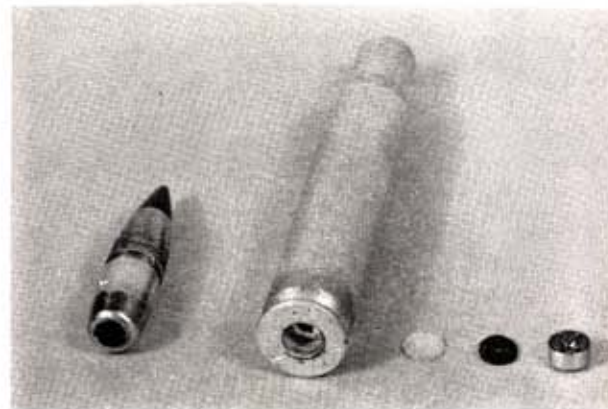
Ideally, even the C.E.T.M.E. combustible is insufficient. One proposed form of "combustible" actually has a cart-

ridge case in the form of a skirt. Reminiscent of the old propellant-contained Volcanic cartridge, this new cartridge on being fired would pull the skirt along with bullet out of the bore. A similar concept is in U.S. Patent 2,804,804, issued to James M. Cumming in 1957. The Cumming cartridge does away with a primer, and is fundamentally "muzzle loaded" if need be. A multi-pronged firing pin penetrates the base of the bullet, releasing from separate self-contained reservoirs in the bullet base hypergolic liquids which combine to ignite and propel the bullet out the barrel. Hypergolic liquids are compounds which, when brought together, ignite without the need for an outside igniter or primer. Examples of hypergolic liquids used in some rockets are red fuming nitric acid, and aniline.

To sum up the solid propellant combustible cartridge picture, the right combination of brains, time, and money will develop this ammunition in the very near future. But regardless of the prospects of solid powders, liquid propellants seem to offer more advantages.

Since existing cartridge shapes and sizes limit weapon's design, we must establish an ammunition goal and proceed toward it. This goal would be to reduce the ammunition to its smallest, most flexible and portable form. Ideally, we would retain only the projectile, designing all other components of the ammunition into the weapon in permanent form. This would permit us to build a weapon with no external moving parts and no openings to admit dirt and moisture. Even the feed opening would be closed by the projectile magazine. There would be no ejection of fired cases, no smoke and gas escaping at the breech and little or no muzzle flash or smoke. The magazine capacity would be tremendous by existing standards. Such a weapon would be completely sealed, dirt and waterproof, and capable of operating under the most severe conditions.

Existing technology and *(Continued on page 46)*



Components of hydrazine load are usual for Cal. 30 Ball M2, except primer must be sealed by foil disc to avoid wetting.

Light aluminum bullet and combustible 8mm fit various CETME rifles. In center, Walther caseless 9mm may be model for new Russ rocket cannon.

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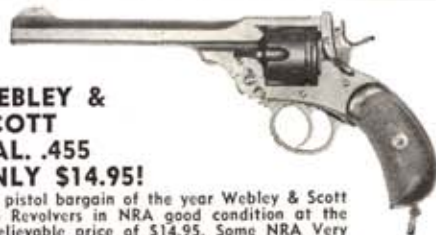
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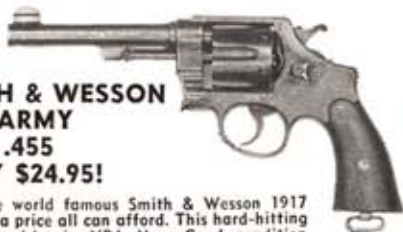
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North Haven, Conn., junior gun program started up when local nuisance shooting became serious problem. Supervised plinking range with accent on individual care and responsibility has cured cause.

HAVE
FUN
WITH
GUNS



Tin cans are first targets in sand pit program but kids graduate to paper targets fast. Below, .22s of all types are used by youngsters in sand-pit plinking.





"Don't Be a Jerk" GAME TEACHES GUN MANNERS

**POLICE AND CIVIC CLUB SOLVE TOWN'S
"JUVENILE PROBLEM" WITH SUPERVISED FUN-SHOOTING PROGRAM**

By H. E. HELWIG and BILL CLEDE

DURING THE PAST three years that the North Haven Rotary Shooting Association has been operating, there have been no complaints at all of what was common, nuisance shooting incidents in town," says Police Chief Leno Berneire of North Haven, Connecticut.

North Haven is not an unusual town. It had its share of the usual complaints of kids shooting their BB guns and .22 rifles too close to houses. And there were incidents of broken insulators on utility poles, damaged road signs, broken windows, and on one occasion an injured pet. There were so many complaints that, at one time, the town considered passing ordinances to prohibit all shooting whatsoever within the town limits.

Today, it is an entirely different story. Today, there is a happy bond between the police and the youngsters of the community. They shoot together.

The North Haven Rotary Club agreed with Chief Berneire that positive action was needed to control promiscuous shooting yet not unduly interfere with the legal pursuits of hunting and target shooting. They talked over many ideas. Organizing a National Rifle Association Junior Rifle Club was discussed at great length, but this didn't seem to offer a complete solution.

We are wholeheartedly in favor of the junior club idea. Target shooting is an ideal sport for youngsters. But what we needed here was not a formal program but a plinking-type of experience in which any boy or girl could shoot with any type of small caliber rifle. A large number of shooters and an expected rapid turnover dictated the requirement for an informal, fun-type of shooting with a minimum of individual coaching.

To conduct the program, the North Haven Rotary Shooting Association was organized, with dues of \$1.00 for kids and \$2.00 for adults. The dues cover insurance premiums and other incidental expenses.

The North Haven Rotary Shooting Association proposed an unusual shooting program, and setting it up posed a few problems which we had to solve as we went along. Finding a place to shoot where no outdoor range exists wasn't easy; but Dr. Don Meyer, local optometrist, and Harry Voss, and others of the Rotary Club Youth and Community Service Division, looked long and hard for a suitable place. They found a sand pit, conveniently located yet with an adequate safety area, so they visited the (Continued on page 47)



Ranger target with close group brings sense of accomplishment to both young lad and shooting coach.



Chatauqua County CD security unit numbers about 20 men who regularly take to the field with rifles and study combat problems over the local back-roads terrain.

AMERICAN MINUTEMEN IN CIVIL DEFENSE MAY

MEAN DIFFERENCE BETWEEN ARMED PEACE AND SHOOTING WAR

By WILLIAM B. EDWARDS
and DAVID SOULE

YOU WERE SOMEWHERE ELSE when it happened. Now you stand beside the smoking pile of rubble that an hour ago was your home—in the debris-strewn area that was your city. The sights and sounds around you are horrible. Seventy miles away the big metropolis was Ground Zero—one of 63 major U.S. cities defense authorities estimate would be vaporized in the first minutes of nuclear attack. Your car radio is chattering hysterically about enemy troops dropping from the sky—they'll be here soon, you think.

What do you do? Some fellow on television told you last fall, but you switched to the ball game. A magazine article had suggestions, but you were too busy to read it. Will a Civil Defense Rescue Unit come charging up the street to help you? You doubt it. Neither you nor your neighbors paid much attention to Civil Defense over the past few years, and it's too late now.

So, what do you do? What are you going to do it with? You don't know . . . so you are chalked off along with seventy-five million other Americans in those 63 major cities who sat, fat and happy, and laughed at the people in Civil Defense who warned, and played cops-and-robbers with fire hoses and guns. Now you, too, would like to play the game, but there aren't enough "toys" to go

THE RIFLEMAN



Each man owns .30-caliber rifle. In foreground, a .30-06 Remington M760 is fired in "combat." At right, stacked Springfields recall Minute Men of '76 in bivouac.

around. You're out. You are dead . . . not because Civil Defense has failed to try to save you, but because you and your neighbors rejected their efforts.

Can this picture be prevented? Not entirely, but your chances of survival can be increased many times by efficient, effective preparation. In your home, now, you can organize things to help yourself cope with disaster. Matters such as at least two weeks food supply for your household; containers of water tightly sealed; towels, bandages, blankets, and first aid supplies, could make a difference. And you can join your local Civil Defense unit *now*, and become an important member in the organized fight for survival.

This fight for survival, as articles in GUNS Magazine have proved by nationwide readers' response, is a problem occupying the minds of many people today. The story ".22s For Survival," and the editorial-like essay, "Where Are Tomorrow's Minutemen?," revealed that GUNS readers all across the nation are conscious of the changes in the world which modern weapons with their destructive potentials have made. No one expressed panic. Every letter of the many received reflected level-headed, serious concern of "What can I, the private Joe, a firearms enthusiast, do about it?"

The answer, we learned, was also nation-wide. Still in the formative stage in some areas, well-organized and integrated with Civil Defense in others, these letters showed that a movement is stirring at the (Continued on page 42)



Hunting woodchucks as if they could "shoot back" is IMSU field exercise. Target is dynamite, explodes when hit.

IN CIVIL DEFENSE



HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL in the human breast, and this is especially true of the trap and skeet shooter, at the start of every new clay target season. Every trap or skeet shooter of record feels in his heart of hearts that *this* is the year he (or she) is going to break more targets. The same hope springs each year, regardless of last year's disappointment.

There's nothing wrong with this feeling. Hope springing anew in the breast, if properly communicated to the trigger finger, can result in more clobbered clay birds. In any event, hoping to break more targets, whether it's a springing, bounding, or just a yearning hope, can't hurt your score. You've got to want to break them. And you'll break more birds if you think you can't miss than if the reverse is true.

Trouble is, too many shooters go into a new season reinforced with nothing more than a desire for better scores. Like we said, desire can help you break more birds, but desire alone, without some cooperation along the way, won't lift you from, say, Class C to Class A. Lots of confidence, coupled with wanting to smash 'em right in the middle, can add a few percentage points, but it won't lift you out of a class.

Too many shooters go after better scores with exactly the same pointing habits which produced last year's disappointing scores. When a beginning trapshooter, for instance, takes up the game, he or she almost inevitably takes a "ready" position with the gun pointed right over the center of the traphouse. Why? Well, for one thing it seems the sensible thing to do. The middle of the traphouse is in the center of things, and pointing the gun there is natural and easy. It's not the right way, but since that's the way he started, many a trapshooter continues to point the gun over the center of the house for ever thereafter. He never thinks of doing anything else.

One shooter friend picked up his first twenty-five straight by the simple expedient of taking a head start on the angle targets from posts one and five. Reduced to its simplest terms, all trapshooting consists of swinging the gun barrel to intercept moving targets. Cut down the distance the barrel must move to pick up and break the target, and you have started on the road to better performance over the traps.

The above being true, why hold the gun barrel over the *center* of the house for targets that are going to come out at an angle? The toughest target you can get at post one at trap is the bird that comes out at a wide angle to the left. So, when you shoot from post one, why not start your swing from a

point about three feet to the *left* of the house? You can gain at least seven or eight feet on a sharp left-angle bird by starting your swing from a point part way out on the path the bird will travel; and that means more aiming time or a closer target—either of which means easier hits.

But, you say, what happens if you get a *right-angle* bird instead of the left-angle? You have only to move the barrel a few inches, and you have an almost straight-away target. You haven't lost a thing by taking a lead on the most difficult angle from the post.

The same philosophy holds true for right-angle targets from post five. Gain an advantage in time and lead on the right-side flyer by holding to the right of the house, when you shoot from post five.

What to do on posts two and four? Elementary, my dear Watson. Hold just over the corner of the house; over the left corner for post two, over the right corner for post four. On post three, do what comes natural: point your shooting iron right down the middle.

The same tendency for perpetuating an initial bad pointing habit exists in the game of skeet. When you are introduced to this quicky gun-handling game, you observe that the target comes out of the house from a chute, each and every time from the same spot. Since that's where you first see the target, it's easy to get in the habit of pointing the gun at that chute, and this you do, forever more.

Nothing in the rule book says you can't point at a spot *behind* either traphouse, if you want to. But if you like to break more birds, start your swing from a point about ten feet out in space, in front of the house. Just like in trap, the ten feet you have thus cut from barrel travel gives you an advantage of just that distance. It's easier to break a target by moving the barrel a short distance than by having to move it a long one.

Skeet and trap scores go higher, too, when you point the gun barrel at the spot where you expect to break the target, before you place the barrel in the positions we have indicated. Whoa a minute, you say. What's this business of pointing where you are going to break the target, or in the case of trap, where you will break the most difficult angle from that post?

Example: From post two at skeet, you will attempt to clobber the bird when it's in a spot just over post eight, out in the middle. So point the gun at this spot, then swing the barrel back to a point ten feet in front of the high house, for your first shot. Don't take the barrel all the way back to the

house. When you call for the bird, swing back to where you originally pointed, and pull the trigger. Dead bird!

Jump over to the trap field, and begin on post one. What's the most difficult shot from post one? Right; the bird that flies at an extreme angle to the left. So point the barrel out where that portsider would zing, then pivot back to a point three feet to the left of the house. If the puller has it in for you and throws that tough bird, laugh at him while you return the barrel to the spot from where it was initially pointed, and break the bird.

Now that we have the lateral dispersion of the gun barrel taken care of for the trap-gunner, how much to hold *above* the trap?

Chances are about even that when you started shooting trap, the muzzle was pointed at a spot level with the traphouse roof. You probably still do it that way. But if you watch the perennial hot-shots of trap, you'll notice that when the targets are low, they hold just above the house. When wind or trap adjustment results in high or sharply rising targets, you'll see them holding higher above the house. Why? For the same reasons we indicated earlier: to cut down the distance the barrel must move. If you hold low when targets are high, you have to move the barrel up to the target, which is farther from a low position than from a high position. If you hold high for low targets, the barrel has to move down to them. Take a lead on the target in this fashion, too.

Out of just such little things as these are better scores made. Nothing drastic; just little fine points of technique, here and there, that add a bird or two to your scores.

Of course, trap and skeet are fun whether or not you shoot high scores. But, mortals that we are, it seems that enjoyment of any sport is often keyed directly to the degree in which we can excel at it. This year, let's match up with the hope springing in our breasts the sheer pleasure of improved performance.

There is no big secret behind high scores at trap or skeet; they result from careful attention to small details—and, lest we forget, from practice. Knowledge alone won't do it. You must train yourself to do what you know. But, the practice is as much fun as the real thing, so have at it!



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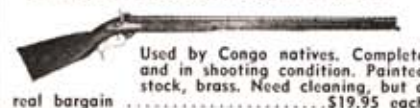
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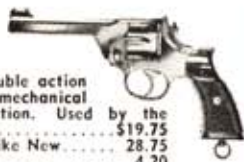
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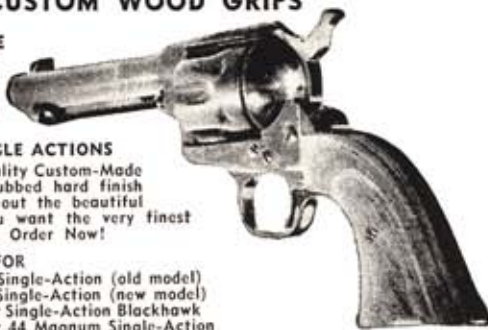
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THE RIFLEMAN IN CIVIL DEFENSE

(Continued from page 39)

grass roots of America. The people of America are spontaneously, in small or bigger ways, taking steps to ensure their own survival. While policymakers at government level steered our Ship of State through the troubled international waters, civil defense is being organized at the local level by civilians.

One group is typical of the "minuteman movement." Formed in August, 1956, the Internal Mobile Security Unit of Chatauqua County, New York, came into being as the result of popular concern over a weakness of their own Civil Defense organization. The county CD Director was officially present at the organizational meeting, which made public the existence of a group of dedicated and sincere Americans who had until then met more or less secretly. According to David Soule, who was elected Director of the IMSU in Chatauqua County, "When this business was first thought up, the units existed more or less secretly, with just a few people knowing of other units' whereabouts, strength, and other details . . . for security reasons. However, with our affiliation as a part of the county Civil Defense program, this was no longer considered necessary."

Soule points out that "You, as a gun owner, gun crank, casual hunter, or target shooter, have a part of the equipment right now to play a potentially valuable part, in service to your community. Civil Defense is not going to function smoothly without muscle. Without authority, backed by well-trained, well-armed riflemen to aid the other services in their difficult tasks, Civil Defense machinery is going to be in trouble. Even in the event that no infantry follows up the nuclear attack, we will have to cope with people who now live on the borderline of crime and violence. Without civil restrictions, terrorists, looters, rapists will have their way. Your family's life is at stake. There aren't enough police, auxiliary police, state police, and National Guard units to do it all. Order can't be maintained at a food distribution center with a fire hose and a handful of band-aids. You, however, can be a part of an organization to help cope with this specific problem. Consult your CD Director concerning this."

Soule and his friends did so. Being a gunsmith, David Soule was perhaps closer to the heritage of the "Kentucky rifleman" and the "Battle of Lexington" elements of the Great American Dream than most people. He knew that a man with a rifle has not alone won any wars. But he also

knew that when General Maxwell D. Taylor, U.S. Army Chief of Staff, praises the indispensable role of Infantry in coming wars; when "Project Davy Crockett" joins our new weapons line-up to give the individual soldier nuclear capability on the future battlefield; and when anti-gun laws creep across the nation to blot out the chance for popular resistance at the civilian level in case of national emergency, something had to be done. He began by organizing a small group of men. "Pick men you can trust," he urges, and wrote out a questionnaire that makes the "Are you now or have you ever been a member of the Communist Party?" as innocuous by comparison as "It looks like rain." Living in a small community, Soule and his friends knew each other perhaps better than many people living in the impersonal cities.

"With a small group of men, you have the nucleus of a Home Guard unit," he says. "Do your varmint hunting in groups; act as if the woodchuck were able to shoot back. Utilize the terrain to best possible advantage in making your approach. Seek your personnel from rifle clubs, men who have seen service in the Infantry or Marines; preferably men with combat experience. Their suggestions will be valuable in aiding you and your group to most efficiently learn the lay of the countryside through which you, without the blessings of road signs and friendly gas stations, might have to fight."

The basic item of this unit, Soule points out, is a rifle taking the U.S. standard service cartridge—still, for practical purposes, the .30-06. Guns include the Springfield, Garand and Enfield M1917 rifles, and commercial sporters like the Marlin 455, Savage M110, Remington 721, 740, 760, and 725, and the Winchester M70. Second in point of merit are sporters in the .308—7.62mm NATO caliber. These include Model 70s, M88s, or the Savage 99. Also, get a "pile of ammo, and fire your rifle as much as you can afford. Know your sights and their particular calibrations," Soule urges. "Keep at least 100 rounds of ammo on hand for each arm; 500 rounds would be better if an emergency comes."

As the "Home Guard" unit activity spread around, more and more shooters came to attend the frequent, informal meetings. Natural leaders emerged—men elected on the basis of experience and ability. Personality alone does not qualify another man for a life-or-death decision, but a smoothly-running outfit, free from internal discord and jockeying for position, is necessary; as Soule says, "You are all volunteers, and you can also un-volunteer. An unpopular leader could destroy all your efforts."

When the Chatauqua unit had grown to about 20 members, they felt the organization had something concrete to offer their local Civil Defense Director. This was not the first time such an idea had come to the attention of CD. About two years ago national director of Civil Defense, Val Peterson, gained wide publicity over his thoughtful statements that the gun-sportsmen of America constituted a valuable military force in case of emergency. But Peterson was right only to the extent that the hunter and casual outdoorsman really knew how to handle guns and himself

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under stress. A shotgun of ordinary design is useless as a military weapon. Accuracy beyond 100 yards with slugs is nil; and small shot are hardly disabling to a man at over 50 yards, unless hit in the face. What a shotgunner is to do while a parachutist is cutting him up with a machine pistol had never been adequately explained to Soule and some others.

Among men active as early as 1916 in trying to regularize minuteman activity for civil defense is a retired army colonel now connected with a leading newspaper in Indiana. The colonel, although to him must go much of the credit for "starting" this thing, wishes to remain nameless. "If you had beat your head against a stone wall as many times as I have," he told me in a phone conversation, "You'd be ready to give up, too." He emphatically declared he wanted no more to do with the idea. "Everybody I talked to in CD, and from Governors on down, thought the principle of forming local groups for fundamental home-level defense was an important and necessary task," he said, but complained that "Nobody wanted to take the first step."

According to the Colonel, the main stumbling block was that individual county CD Directors feared to accept volunteer riflemen "Because no one else anywhere had done this." Now, with the example of the Chataqua County, New York, Internal Mobile Security Unit, no CD official can give this excuse. The Chataqua unit organization is a good model for people wishing to form other similar units in cooperation with their own local authorities.

In any concentration of force, the governing authority is a critical factor. Thus IMSU mission as set forth in the organization booklet is:

"In the event of a National Disaster or Civil Emergency, the CD forces will not be used until such time as the Sheriff decides that the resources of local municipal and private agencies are not adequately sufficient to cope with the existing problem. At that time, the CD Services which are a reserve force will then operate under the direction and command of the regularly appointed CD Director and his authorized deputies."

Significant limitations are imposed on the use of the IMSU forces: "At present, under no circumstances will the Sheriff's Dept. utilize the services of the IMSU in any capacity regarding the use of firearms." Yet, "In the event of a National Emergency, which means an enemy attack on our country, we shall defend against an invading military force with every means possible. The broad aims of our strategy are:

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tions at all places at all times by making use of surprise, mobility, deception, evasiveness, and concentration of force.

"To inflict casualties on his troops.
"To cause damage to his supplies and installations, and to delay operations.

"To lower his morale and his prestige.
"To maintain the morale and the will to resist of the population."

The Chatanqua CD forces emphasize this last goal. Against an invading power, they say, the will of the people generally is to resist the invader. This forms the basis for guerilla warfare. Guerilla action against an invader builds up effectively only if it has been planned and prepared for by the defending national authorities. The Civil Defense structure, while it is preparing for atomic warfare, does not have the power to resist the most likely form of "conventional" invading military force. So completely has CD officially neglected this most obvious application of defensive power by civilians, that a remarkable statement was issued by the retired army general who is Director of the CD forces of a major mid-western state. When queried four years ago as to "What steps the CD had taken to ensure the survival of guerilla resistance forces, in the event of a collapse of conventional Armed Forces defense of the U.S.," he gave the astonishing reply that "Suppression of guerilla activity is the job of the Armed Forces." It would seem that lack of vision among top "leaders" has stimulated much of the spontaneous concern and activity which GUNS discovered now exists in putting Defense into Civil Defense.

What might be called the Soule Plan outlines duties of the Internal Mobile Security Unit. These include carrying out the orders of the CD Director in helping other services, maintain order, and bolster CD authority when local enforcement groups are not large enough to cope with the problem of mass evacuation due to fall-out or panic. People will crowd roads that must be kept open for fire, rescue, medical and food distributing teams to pass. As a member of your local CD Internal Mobile Security Unit your identity card may give you the right of passing on duty, but the problems of efficient evacuation in time are completely insurmountable. As we write, Chicago digs out from a snow fall that has slowed all activity measurably. Headquarters, Fifth Army Corps, closed early at 3:30 P.M. so personnel from a distance away could get through the traffic. Chicagoans recall the traffic jam which stretched from the Loop to 51st street along five miles of the Outer Drive, when visiting Soviet minister Molotov simply halted his limousine and strolled across the highway to view the lake shore beach. This traffic jam caused by mere curiosity unquestionably was filed away in Soviet studies of how easily our traffic pattern, most congested in the world, could be fouled up. Should other types of "visitors" take the place of Molotov "dropping in" on Chicago, elaborate and effective CD plans will be necessary if a wheel is to turn. And effective Civil Defense needs an effective Security Force to handle the vastly increased load on the usual forces of law and order. The Internal Mobile Security Units will have to protect CD Headquarters from unauthorized entry by subversives, hysterical persons, or counter an attack by enemy personnel trying to destroy the essential CD machinery

of communications and rescue.

The shooter's most important place, if he has no other special skills which would be of value in an emergency (like being a "ham" radio operator or a construction or demolition specialist) will be with the combat team. His function in coordination with the other members with whom he has enjoyed Sunday outings and woodchuck hunts now becomes critical. The team must wage guerilla warfare against an invading military force. He must stand ready to prevent looting and terrorism. The team may protect specific crossroads, railheads, exposed water supply routes or reservoirs, and set up and maintain roadblocks for traffic control. Members of the team must cover enemy plane landings, and apprehend enemy aircraft crew members surviving crash landings. Other duties may be to enforce traffic control so that other service teams may perform their duties—those technicians from other services studying radiation, issuing clothing and emergency food, registration and medical examination stations. In the event of a National Emergency, the Internal Mobile Security Unit may be called upon to seek out and apprehend known subversives and enemy agents.

That the need for "minutemen" was not a transient one to the Founding Fathers, is easily proved by the much-mentioned Second Amendment to the Constitution. Its function by declaring that "A well-regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed," was and is to preserve liberties so essential they were almost overlooked in drafting the Constitution. These liberties were those necessary for the population of the states to act in their own defense, America's original Civil Defense. Supreme Court decisions have maintained that the National Guard is the "militia" referred to by the Constitution and, as far as that goes, such decision is reasonable. But it is not mutually exclusive of all other forms of civilian local organization for defense—many other groups or individuals are also "the well-regulated militia." Soule's Internal Mobile Security Unit and similar units number citizens drawn from this "militia."

Just introduced by Cong. Leonard Farbstein of New York is House Resolution 91, "A Bill, To establish within the Department of Defense a civilian department to be known as the Department of Civil Defense, which shall be of equal rank with the existing military departments." According to Mr. Farbstein's bill, the Secretary of Civil Defense would be operating under the direction, authority and control of the Secretary of Defense. One mission of the Civil Defense Chief would be "to prepare comprehensive and effective programs of civil defense," suggesting strongly that the present Defense Secretary, Mr. Neil McElroy, was somewhat short of the mark when he declared in late January that America was now adequately defended on every level. At least, Mr. Farbstein's concern suggests he feels CD needs a little boost into action, and the current minuteman-militia spirit may become critical in implementing such a bill, if passed.

More easily recognized as militia, because of sometime national government approval, are the State Guard organizations. At the end of War Two the Texas State Guard, activated from among over-age or pre-draft

Texans on call of the Governor, did not disband. Though the Texas National Guard forces had returned from federal service, Texans remained alert. Developed from the Texas State Guard is the National Association of State Militia with executive Hq in Dallas, founded by General Allen D. Rooke. Privately wealthy, General Rooke remained alert to the problems of defense on local levels, especially so with the United States Army dwindling from current budget cuts to under 800,000 total personnel. He has spent largely of his own funds, says NASM Director Col. James B. Bursleson (310 Dallas Federal Savings Bldg., Dallas 1, Texas), in keeping the State Guard cadre active and equipped. Some states have kept skeleton organizations from their War Two State Guard outfits. The Ohio Defense Corps, under Brig. Gen. Cameron Sanders, is today active, while California, Washington, Indiana and Colorado each maintain a defense cadre capable of operating on the immediate civil level. In 1955 Public Law 364 permitted each state to have military forces in addition to the National Guard. At the present time there is a bill before Congress to allow the President to designate surplus equipment to be made available to State Guard units, and to place the administration of the State Militia program in the hands of the highly capable National Guard Bureau.

This national movement toward effective defense of civilians by civilians is not a moment too soon. Countries which our national policy for the time being number among the aggressor nations of the "cold war," have completed the organizing and arming of their total civil populations. And 640 million Chinese, now organized into 25,000 "communes" or collective social organizations, have weapons issued for training for "civilian defense." Each commune, such as Shangchuan Commune in Hsushui county, Hopei province, which numbers 40 villages and 56,000 people, is administered as a regiment. Each commune is divided into several companies. The awesome network which has destroyed the family, changed the face of China, and may change the face of the world, demands three things of the individual: to farm, to work in a factory, and to be a militiaman. This means the end of individual liberties as we think of them in the U.S. But the difference is an important one, between the Chinese Commune Militiaman and the volunteer rifleman of an American Internal Mobile Security Unit. That key difference is the word "Volunteer." Only a genuine national sense of pending emergency, and a determination of the individual to "do something about it," can account for this spread from coast to coast of the Minuteman Idea.

As GUNS reader William Joel Paulson aptly expressed it, "No enemy in his right mind would attack our Army, our Navy and Air Force if he knew that he would ultimately have to fight an armed and determined population as well. The logistical problems alone in such an operation would preclude any possibility of victory for them, and they would be the first to know it. If we can spread the idea over the nation that each citizen is responsible for the safety of all of us, we will never again be attacked. The Minute Men might mean the difference between an armed peace or a shooting war."



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THE CASE FOR CASELESS CARTRIDGES

(Continued from page 33)

materials do not seem ready to give us this ideal weapon. But today we can effect a compromise that will very nearly approach the ideal, recognizing of course, that the ideal will move ahead just as fast as we try to achieve it.

Basically, any firearm is a free piston, non-reciprocating, single cylinder internal combustion engine. Careful consideration of this fact brings forth the realization that the solid propellants used thus far are not ideally suited for such a mechanism. Since 1949 the U.S. Army Ordnance Corps has done considerable research in this field. It has been determined that liquid propellants have many advantages over solid propellants or powder. Some of these advantages are: Less flash; less smoke; less barrel erosion; less heat transferred to the weapon; smaller volume of propellant required; and no conventional cartridge is required. Many more exist, but these are sufficient to justify development.

Continuing with our internal combustion engine theory and liquid propellant, it becomes apparent that we no longer need to assemble all the components of a single round until the instant of firing. The need for the self-contained cartridge no longer exists.

We have fired liquid propellant ammunition in a standard M1903 Springfield Rifle. To observe the performance of the propellant only, the standard M2 Ball Cartridge was loaded, substituting hydrazine (N_2H_4) for powder. Standard cases, primers and bullets were used. New, unfired cases were selected. Primer pockets were sealed off from the case body with a disc of aluminum foil and sealing compound under the primer. This prevented the propellant fluid from getting into the primer pocket. The primer develops sufficient pressure to readily rupture the aluminum foil and communicate the flash to the propellant. After charging the case with propellant, bullets were seated in the usual

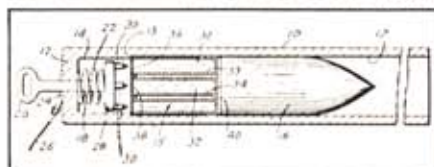
manner with a Lyman tong tool. Cartridges thus loaded were carried immediately to the range for firing, since no seal was used between the bullet and case. This eliminated any loss of propellant by seepage or vaporization. (Hydrazine vaporizes at about 130°F.) Five rounds were loaded with progressively heavier charges, from a very light load up to a load calculated to equal the M2 service load. Each round was loaded singly into the rifle. Firing was done by cable with the rifle fixed in a test cradle. During firing, the rifle was observed for apparent recoil, muzzle flash and smoke. No attempt was made to record pressure or velocity. Of the five rounds, three misfired due to leakage of the propellant past the primer seal which wetted the priming compound. Two rounds fired satisfactorily. Report and recoil were mild and the fired cases showed evidence of very low pressures. This was anticipated with the charges used.

This elementary test confirmed that liquid propellants can be used insofar as providing the propulsive force is concerned. Development of a mechanical weapons system adaptable to liquid propellant is necessary before the full benefits of such ammunition can be gained.

Further tests of hydrazine loaded ammunition are planned. A new primer seal is necessary but this appears to present no great difficulty. The ultimate goal of these activities will be the design and construction of a firing model of a liquid propellant rifle, that requires no cartridge case whatsoever. The particular form our rifle design will take we cannot yet predict. But whatever mechanical solutions are arrived at, the mechanical and ballistic problems will be common to all liquid propellant research.

The mechanical process thru which we must go to fire a round are these: Seat the bullet at the forward end of the chamber, seal the rear end of the chamber, inject the propellant into the chamber, ignite the pro-

pellant. A system of this sort means that we may build the ignition and feed mechanism into the weapon proper, and then design the projectile magazine and propellant tank as a unit to be attached to the arm. The need for the cartridge case and primer has been eliminated entirely. A tremendous saving in ammunition weight and bulk is realized here, over 50%. Utilizing existing materials and technology, a 50 round combination propellant tank and projectile magazine can be built that is only slightly larger in diameter and less in length than the 10 shot rotary magazine of the Johnson Semi-Automatic Military Rifle in 30/06 caliber. The same basic design can be increased to 200 shot capacity and compare favorably in size with the familiar Thompson 50 round drum. At this point, the military possibilities of such a weapon literally leap up before us. Picture if you can, the individual soldier armed with a rifle of conventional



When firing pins hit shell, hypergolic liquids mix, burn, propel bullet.

appearance and weight, carrying 200 rounds in the magazine and an additional 400 rounds on his person. (A very similar weapon was described in a Sunday serial in a Chicago newspaper 20 years ago.)

To get down to facts, and to show that such a weapon can be constructed, is now in order. The first requirement is a liquid propellant that is stable under extremes of temperature, relatively easy to ignite when confined, non-corrosive and that will give velocities and pressures equivalent to those obtained with conventional nitro cellulose base powder. There are several chemical compounds that appear suitable, but no detailed description will be given here.

Second, is a requirement for a feed mechanism that will seat a projectile at the forward end of the chamber. Most reciprocating type action principles could be modified to do this without great difficulty. Third, is the problem of locking, sealing the rear of the chamber tightly enough to prevent gas from escaping to the rear into the action. This was successfully accomplished many years ago in large caliber artillery. Application of the knowledge gained there should provide the answer. Fourth, and probably the most important and difficult, is to provide a propellant injection system that will introduce precisely metered quantities of propellant into the chamber at a specific time. Basically, this could be done with a floating piston backed up by inert gas under high pressure. It could be recycled or cocked by a conventional gas piston that also operated the feed and locking mechanisms. Fifth, is a propellant container or tank, and presents no great problem. It would consist of a small pressurized container fitted with a quick disconnect nozzle to enable it to be readily attached or removed from the weapon. Sixth, is a projectile magazine. A drum magazine similar to the old Thompson drum but smaller in size would seem to be best suited for holding a large number of rifle caliber projectiles. It would seem convenient at this point to combine the propellant tank

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and the magazine, both to simplify loading and to insure that a like supply of both projectiles and propellants be available at all times. Factory-loaded throw away type propellant projectile magazines of non-strategic materials would seem to be the most logical choice. Seventh, would be an ignition system capable of uniformly firing the propellant at both fast and slow rates of fire under varying extremes of temperature. An electrical system is most desirable here and could be designed around a spark-type or heat-type igniter and a nickel-cadmium or mercury battery power source, with a useful life of many thousands of rounds. Last, and certainly not least, we must have a basic weapon assembly consisting of barrel, receiver, stock and other components to bind all these other units into a homogeneous weapon system. It must be short, compact, light in weight, and of a configuration that will lend itself readily to normal firing positions and tactical employment.

Having established the basic requirements for such a weapon, we should consider what is necessary to build it. Every component required to produce this arm exists in one form or another. It only remains to lift such items as the injection system, the ignition system and other existing mechanisms and refine them to the point where they can be utilized in the weapon described. Diligent effort in this field would seem well worth the cost.

A few more comments on the advantages of liquid over conventional propellants are previously outlined. Nitro-cellulose powders are carbonaceous, and their product gases do not vary much in mean molecular weight, regardless of their variations in composition. Generally speaking, improvement in ballistic performance can be achieved by decreasing the molecular weight of the product gases, or by increasing the flame temperature. Since existing solid propellants do not lend themselves to reducing the molecular weight of their product gases, the only method available for substantially increasing their performance is to increase their flame temperatures. Typical nitro-cellulose powders burn at 4000 to 5000° Fahrenheit. Raising this temperature is not desirable. On the other hand, certain liquid propellants are non carbonaceous and their product gases are of a much lower molecular weight than the nitro cellulose propellants. In addition, flame temperatures are as low as 3000° Fahrenheit. Since the energy released by combustion is approximately the same for a given weight of either liquid or solid propellants, it is evident that a liquid propellant will generate much less heat to be absorbed by the weapon. As a result, a much lighter barrel will suffice for prolonged fire. It is also conceivable that bullet velocity and energy might be considerably increased without exceeding what are generally considered safe pressure and temperature limits. The lower flame temperature will also insure less erosion and, consequently, longer barrel life. This would be of particular value in "automatic" weapons. Some of the liquid propellants are virtually flashless and smokeless used in rifle-caliber barrels of conventional length. Others produce some flash and smoke, but less than the nitro cellulose powders.

Development of a liquid propellant small firearm is both desirable and feasible. It only remains for some one to roll up his sleeves and get to work.

"DON'T BE A JERK" GAME TEACHES GUN MANNERS

(Continued from page 37)

Stillman-Rice Estate and contacted Mr. Jesse Rice to ask permission to use the land.

"This is a community service project," they said. And when they described the backing given the program by the Police Department and the Rotary club, Jesse Rice joined the sponsors and gave his okay. However, only the Association is allowed to shoot. The range activities are covered with liability insurance to protect the landowner.

The object was to provide a legal place to shoot rather than a regular rifle range. We had to keep away from the formal atmosphere of a target range, and we wanted to allow the use of field-type repeating rifles as well as bolt action target guns. The usually prohibited tubular magazines and autoloading had to be welcomed here, and this complicated the problem of control.

In the beginning, everyone was issued an "A" membership card. This restricted the boy or girl to single loading only. The "B" card which allowed the use of a magazine had to be earned, and the youngsters were told they could qualify when they had learned to handle a gun properly.

A few rules were imposed. Rule No. 1 was—actions must always be open. This was no problem for bolt guns, lever actions, or pumps, but some of the autoloading cannot be locked open. We provided three inch wooden dowels to each youngster with an autoloading rifle, so he could place it in the ejection port and keep the bolt from closing. This gave visible evidence that the rifle was inoperable.

"It isn't polite to point," we told the kids, "and that's the second rule." The young folks were all impressed with this elementary rule of courtesy, and we devised a little game called "Jerk" to drive the point home. "Jerk" is played with the entire group sitting in a semi-circle. A new gun is passed around for everyone to see. This gives an opportunity for the youngsters to inspect and become familiar with guns they wouldn't ordinarily use. Each youth gets to handle the gun for one minute,

then the coach calls out, "Pass." If the gun is ever pointed at anyone, or if it is passed with the action closed, everyone yells, "Jerk." Needless to say, we have few "jerks."

The range itself is nothing elaborate. A 30 foot sand bank provides a natural back-stop, and the Rotary Association members built a wooden frame a few feet in front of it to hold the targets. Another waist-high frame about 50 feet back defines the firing line, and it is grooved to hold the rifles, actions open, while targets are being changed. No one handles a rifle while anyone is forward of the firing line. Chief Berneire, Police Sgt. Tom Nerreau, and Club President Harry Vendetto and other volunteers handle the supervision of firing sessions and it's an easy job. They have organized the kids, appointing Junior Lieutenants to help supervise, keep the books, and take care of the administration of the group.

No mention is made here of the "Ten Commandments of Safety." We felt that youngsters won't remember a bunch of rules and regulations—so, at the North Haven shooting ground, youngsters learn safety by habit. It matters little if a boy or girl can memorize the rules; he learns by doing, and his own actions are the test of how well he has learned. Everyone is individually coached in the fundamentals of gun handling and shooting, and never is a youngster subjected to a long dull lecture.

The shooting ground is considered the same as a ball diamond or tennis court. It is a place to have fun and practice a sport. "Horseplay" has no place in the game, and the youngster who makes a pass at "Cowboys and Indians" is politely asked to leave. "You must think like a man when you play a man's game," he is told, "you can come back after you grow up." It's surprising how fast he grows.

To start with, targets were tin cans, candy wafers, and balloons. Naturally, glass and rocks were taboo. Paper targets were always available, and it wasn't long before the kids

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were reaching for paper instead of the "plinking targets. As one lad put it, "A tin can full of holes doesn't look as good to Mom and Dad as a Ranger target with a good shot group."

The idea of a public shooting ground is spreading in the New Haven area. About a year ago, Dave Carlson, Arms Plant Manager at Winchester-Western, called me. Dave lives in Woodbridge, Connecticut, and Loyd Barrow of the Town Recreation Committee had asked his help in organizing a similar program in Woodbridge. Chief of Police Richard Ciarleglio liked the idea and, with the sponsorship of the Recreation Committee and the Lions Club, he opened his program last spring with 171 youngsters enrolled the first day. Here again the result has been "no police calls for nuisance shooting since this program started."

The programs are running smoothly now. Some of the kids are developing their natural qualities of leadership, and the Junior Lieutenants exercise good control over the shooters. It seems that the Lieutenants maintain better order and enjoy their responsibilities more than an adult. They pay attention and really try to learn to use their pride and joy.


And when a youngster on the firing line looks back over his shoulder at the policeman supervising the group, his eyes seem to smile as though he is thinking, "Gosh, he's a swell guy." That's a fine thought for any kid to have about a law-enforcement officer.

We are not alone in the discovery of this solution of the "nuisance shooting by kids" problem. Other communities across the nation have discovered the values of supervised shooting both as a preventative against the activities commonly included in the terms "juvenile delinquency" but as an actual character-builder for all kids. We think we are (or were) unique in the type of shooting we

devised—most such programs have been based on more formal targets and more formal methods; but we cut our cloth to the pattern we faced in our community. And it works.

Nor is the abatement of the "nuisance shooting" the only benefit we see in the program. Other juvenile mischief has declined, too. True but true is the old adage that "Satan finds mischief for idle hands to do;" and supervised shooting, our kind or at formal targets, gives the kids in any community the "something to do" they beg for.

We're not alone, either, in our belief that supervised shooting is a definite builder of character. Long ago, many schools in various states adopted "rifery" as a part of their recreational (and/or military training) programs. It was my privilege at one time to read stacks of letters from teachers—many of them women, many of them admittedly against the idea in the beginning, but all now convinced in its favor. Over and over again I read, "This program does something for kids besides teaching them gun safety and marksmanship. Boys and girls who weren't physically equipped to excel at other sports have attained new self-confidence, new pride, from their success as marks-men. And there's something about this 'game' in which the individual himself is solely responsible for his success or failure, where 'only the holes in the target count' and neither size nor strength nor influence nor cheating nor wealth nor social position matter—that makes kids better kids, better students, better potential citizens."

These are things which we shooters have long known. But there are many who don't know them; and perhaps this story, shown to the police and the Rotary or other civic groups in your community, will help to spread the gospel. Why not try it? 

The Savage One-Ten now comes



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"TAKE YOUR TIME—FAST!"

(Continued from page 22)

rides with both hammer prong and trigger guard above the top edge of the belt. The belt is worn tight around the hips and the gun never sags low. When working in town, the Ranger threads the same holster on a nice dress belt, and wears it in the same position, where he's used to having it.

We do not "carry guns" out here. We wear them. The average cowboy today, like myself, cuts the Scout belt to more conservative dimensions in order to have less bulk around the hips, especially when wearing the gun over chaps. We often discard the belt entirely and thread the holster on the chaps belt for convenience. Law enforcement officers, unless in uniform, wear their guns high, beneath their coattails, but in the same position at which the gun is worn with uniform. You'll see a lot of pictures depicting cowboys riding bucking horses with their guns whipping far out on the curve of a loose belt. In actual practice, it just isn't done that way. The gun should be so snugly strapped against the flat of your hip that, no matter how high-wide-and-handsome your mount may buck, your gun rides like a flea in a rug, undisturbed. Most riders affix a buckskin string with a slot in it, to slip over the hammer prong. This contrivance is easily slipped off when the gun is needed, and it holds the gun firm in the holster.

In 1896, the Colt Company manufactured a gun after the specifications of the target shooters in Bisley, England. The gun was designed to meet their desire for a single action Colt that could easily be cocked with the thumb while holding at arms length on the target, and with a handle dropping lower to prevent the weapon rebounding high after each shot. The gun never became popular over here, but I have known a few

gunners who became very adept in its use after they had heated and raised the hammer prong so it could be handled faster.

The Bisley Colt used in these illustrations had the original prong cut off, and the prong from an Army Model S.A. Colt welded on in its place. I made the grips from a section of old hickory taken from an old wagon wheel long discarded at a homesteaders dug-out in New Mexico. In repeat shots, it is much slower than the Army Model, but it can be used with amazing speed on the draw and first shot, and is very accurate.

Now: how did the old timers draw and fire? They combined a few well-known principles with a lot of practice and perseverance. Despite the fact that a few men have perfected the "fanned" shots for rapid work with their S. A. Colts, very few ever became adept at it. However, the average early-day gunners that I knew, were adept at shoving their hardware *beneath the heel of the other hand* to sweep the hammer back as their gun comes into firing line, for an extremely fast first shot at close range when the chips are all down. This is *not* fanning. It is, rather, a two-handed draw that is hard to beat.

About the draw itself, whether made with both hands or one, there is one principle we should never forget. *There is no eye in the hand.* The hand that strikes at the gun (what the old Ranger called my "grab draw") is apt to miss.

The next principle is: you cannot drop your hand to a given point, stop its motion downward, and reverse it to the upward pull of a gun, as swiftly as you can perform a complete short circle of the same dimensions. With the gun-hand paused slightly in front of the gun, start the tight backward circle of your hand so the fingers will come into

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contact with the holster below the gun handles. Complete the circle upwards and forward, picking the gun up as the hand raises. This can be done, after much practice, without a fault or a fumble, and the circling hand will come into position with a cocked and fired gun resting in perfect alignment with your body, with the forearm resting snugly just above the hip. You aim with the entire body.

The pictures illustrating this article show how the *feeling* fingers of the hand locate the gun so the hand can pick it up as it travels upward and forward. You can stand erect, aim, and fire from the hip as effectively at close ranges as is needful in a gunfight. When you wear your gun too low, there is a tendency to throw the whole body into what is known as a *gun-crouch*. The body automatically goes into a crouch, to enable you to align the gun without having to raise it too high. But when this is done, the whole body is thrown into tension and is off its natural balance. When you need to throw a shot with your life at stake, you don't want tension. You want to be poised, relaxed, with no unnecessary handicap.

Practicing by throwing a lot of lead around in a haphazard manner does not get the job done. Speed isn't acquired in a hurry. Never hurry your draw. And never practice with a loaded gun. Speed comes with the skill you'll acquire along the trail. You'll benefit by this deliberate slowness when, if ever, you face a time when the chips are all down.

Now it isn't my intention here to "debunk" any man's method of using his gun, or of his choice of weapons. I'm simply giving you the straight goods on how the Old West that I knew as a kid did it, and the way it's done out here where a man's life may depend on the way he uses his gun. Not that we're still staging shoot-outs with badmen so often - but a charging cow or bull, or a time when a man's foot gets caught in the rigging on a bad or badly frightened horse, can make a straight, fast shot mighty important.

I have known a few men (not Rangers) who used their S. A. Colts in various calibers. I recall that the .41 caliber was once very popular among certain individuals, but never where extreme knock-down power was needed. Some used the Smith & Wesson .44 S. A. (American) revolver with its 8" barrel. But, though extremely accurate, it was too slow, and minus the power needed.

I knew and worked cattle with a certain
(Continued on page 52)



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CHOOSING A MATCH .22 RIFLE

(Continued from page 30)

making this possible: best advice, ask.

One of several models of rifle which are no longer made may give the shooter satisfaction, combining favorable price, good quality, consistent accuracy. The discontinued M37 Remington has good design features as well as good workmanship. The rifle is bolt action, with detachable box magazine. A single-loading platform blank was also made to replace the magazine. The trigger is adjustable for weight of pull, creep and backlash. The sling swivel is adjustable. Quick-detachable metallic sights of telescopic height are used. The rear sight is an excellent one. It has large, easy-to-read, adjusting knobs for both elevation and windage, and a six-hole sighting disc is used. Many of the M37 rifles in factory condition give exceptionally good accuracy.

Some shooters prefer the Winchester M52B rifle to the M52C (which is being manufactured at the present time) because of its shorter lock time. The trigger mechanism on the M52C is more complex than the one used on the previous model and, because of the additional levers, more time is required for the trigger to release the firing pin. The handling and accuracy characteristics of the two models are similar.

Four factory-made smallbore match rifles suitable for use in NRA competitions are available over the counter in the United States at the present time. The M52C Winchester and the M40X Remington are manufactured in the United States, the Mk II International BSA is made in England, and the M54 Anschütz is made in Germany.

Leading in sales in the U.S. is probably the M52C Winchester rifle. It is available in three weights of barrel, all 28 inches long. The M52 is a bolt action with a detachable box-type magazine. A single loading platform is available to replace the magazine. (The magazine has little if any use on a match rifle.) The rifle can be purchased with either Lyman or Redfield sights which are of telescopic sight height. Both makes of rear sight have click adjustments for elevation and windage, which have a value of about one quarter minute of angle per click. The rifle is equipped with a trigger which can be adjusted for weight of pull, creep and backlash. An adjustable hand stop is provided. The M52C fits the majority of individuals with reasonable comfort and it is also designed for ease of production with little skilled labor or hand fitting. The barrel and

receiver, for example, are not bedded in the wood of the stock. Bedding the receiver and barrel in the stock is normally a slow process requiring a considerable amount of skilled hand fitting. On the M52C, and on some M52B rifles, pieces of Neoprene are inserted between the metal and wood parts and the screws are then tightened. A band secures the front of the stock to the barrel. The stock does not have a checkpiece and the rifle can be shot by right or left-handed shooters. The 2 January 1958 list price for the M52C heavy barrel rifle with Redfield Olympic rear and W670 front sight is \$166.75. The rifle with standard-weight barrel costs less; bull-weight barrel, more.

The M40X Remington rifle, which replaced the precision-made M37, is available with two weights of barrel. The M40X is designed for low-cost production. This is accomplished by using many parts previously designed for other models. A considerable number of castings and stampings are used. The rifle, which is a single-shot bolt-action, is equipped with a trigger adjustable for weight of pull, creep and backlash. The stock, which is made without a checkpiece, is in contact with the receiver only. Two screws are installed in the forearm for contact with the barrel if a contact is desired. The M40X compares in cost with the M52C Winchester: \$166.85 with Redfield sights.

The Birmingham Small Arms Company in England makes a rifle which is patterned after a custom-made rifle formerly produced by Al Freeland, Rock Island, Illinois. The Mk II International BSA is made with two weights of barrel. It can be obtained from Freeland in either a right or left-hand model, and is the only left-hand match rifle now factory-produced. The heavy pattern uses a 29-inch barrel, and the light pattern a 26-inch barrel. The action is single shot, of the Martini type. The block in this action tips down at the front to expose the chamber. A lever at the front of the grip moves forward only a short distance to operate the block. An automatic ejector is used. The top of the block is grooved to permit convenient loading and to deflect the ejected case. The stock and fore-end are designed for a comfortable fit for most shooters. The stock has a checkpiece. The fore-end is equipped with an adjustable sling swivel. The sights are made by Parker-Hale. The rear sight has one-quarter of a minute click adjustments for both elevation and windage, and has a

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six-hole eyepiece. The trigger mechanism is one of the best, from the viewpoint of uniformity of pull from shot to shot. The mechanism operates on the set-trigger principle, the trigger being cocked when the lever is operated. The trigger is adjustable for weight of pull, creep and backlash. The complete mechanism may be removed from the receiver by removing a single screw. The materials and workmanship on the rifle are very good. The rifle has good handling qualities and it is especially convenient to operate. The rifle sells for about the same price as the two U.S. rifles.

The most recent rifle to appear on the market is the M54 Anschutz. The rifle is a single-shot bolt-action. The action is similar in design to that of the Walther which was

are easy to read and adjust. Both elevation and windage knobs have ten clicks per revolution. Two revolutions of the knob are required for one graduation on the windage index scale. The elevation index scale has yard graduations only. The rifle shows very good workmanship. The Anschutz, in spite of its advanced features, sells for only \$120. However, it is designed for the right-hand shooter only. Stoeger Arms imports and distributes the Anschutz.

The difference in the average accuracy of the four models of factory rifles being produced at present is probably not great. The accuracy which can be obtained with any model varies with the individual rifle and the lot of ammunition used. Therefore, it is not possible, without conducting a test with a

"TAKE YOUR TIME—FAST!"

(Continued from page 50)

man in Texas long ago, who wore his gun naked with the barrel stuck inside the front waist band of his pants. He was an expert in its use, both in speed and accuracy, and refused to wrap it in leather. He watched his back trail continually, and finally died in Rankin, Texas, in front of a sheriff who wore his gun on his belt.

As to the Texas Rangers (TV shows to contrary) there was, and is today, an unwritten code among them which respects all men and their speed. No Ranger approaches any man with a naked gun in his hand. They reckon that if any man thinks he can beat them to the draw and wishes to try it, that is the man's privilege.

In 1913, while gathering a herd down in the Brasada regions of Texas, Jabby Burris of Kenedy, Texas, shot the heads off two coiled and striking rattlers while I was stumbling through the air just above them and about to make a forced landing in their ugly midst. My horse had shied from them, stepped in a hole and fell. I heard the two shots just before I landed on the pile of squirming snakes. When I looked up, Jabby was reloading his .45 S. A. Colt. I learned that night in camp that he had neither front sight or trigger, but used a slip-hammer and fired from the hip.

No, he did not wear a buscadero belt or low-slung gun. He wore it just like I've tried to show you in these illustrations. But if you, my gunner friend, use low-slung rigging, that's your business, and I wish you well with it.

The so-called "Texas Draw" was not made from a holster, but from the hip pocket, and with the gun butt to the front. It had only one real value: the wearer facing his opponent appeared unarmed, and thus had the advantage. It was never considered a gentleman's method.

I saw Mack Harmon gun down two men who had the drop on him, and both were shooting at him before he knew their intentions. He fired from the hip, and though one of them was in front of him and the other off to his left, he killed them both with two fast shots that almost blended together. He never raised his gun above his hip. I cleaned his gun afterwards, and it was a S. A. Army Model, 5¼" barrel, .45 caliber. He wore it in a leather holster threaded on his dress belt beneath the tail of his coat. His opponents were in too much of a hurry. Mack was composed. So an old time Texas gunfighter once said, "The way to win in a gun fracas is—don't hurry; take your time—fast!"

Hunters using high power rifles must also learn to lead running game. A deer running perpendicular to the line of fire at 10 miles per hour would have to be given a lead of 1½ feet at 100 yards, and 3½ feet at 200 yards, if the hunter were using a .30-06 rifle and 180 grain bullets.

Hot stove league time is here and bird hunters talk about the speed of birds and alibi the shots they missed. Many gun pointers don't realize that a canvas back duck can fly 90 feet per second, green-wing and blue wing teal, 80 feet per second. The redhead clips along at 75 f.p.s. The brant, goose and mallard fly from 50 to 70 feet per second.

Results of Machine-Rest Accuracy Tests of Ten Factory-Made Rifles in Unmodified Condition

The extreme spread for each 10-shot group fired from a machine rest at a range of 100 yards is given in inches. Measurements were made between the centers of the extreme shots in each group.

RIFLE	NO. OF LOTS TESTED	AMMUNITION GIVING BEST ACCURACY	LOT GIVING BEST ACCURACY			
			NO. OF GROUPS	EXTREME SPREAD (in.)		
				AVERAGE	LARGEST	SMALLEST
M37 Rem. # 4785	6	Mk III 55MF02-71B	5	0.80	1.00	0.68
M37 Rem. # 5740	4	Mk III 55MA21-34A	5	0.82	0.90	0.69
M52 Win. # 64450B	4	Mk III 55JC-37A	5	0.91	1.02	0.73
M37 Rem. # 4599	6	Mk III 55MC-66BT	5	0.96	1.20	0.85
BSA Mk II # UE2313	10	Mk III 55JC-36A	3	0.99	1.07	0.92
M54 Anschutz # 4866	5	Mk III 55NA82-28A	5	0.99	1.18	0.72
M52 Win. # 82219C	6	Mk III 55KC-73A	5	0.99	1.21	0.84
M52 Win. # 85621C	4	Mk III 55HF-36B	4	1.07	1.23	0.85
M52 Win. # 58295B	4	Mk III 55JC-33A	4	1.12	1.22	0.92
M40X Rem. # 1064	5	Mk III 55HF-36B	4	1.12	1.40	0.70

made before War II. The rifle has a 28-inch heavy barrel which is completely free of the stock. The trigger is adjustable for weight of pull through a hole in the right side of the stock near the bolt handle. The stock is especially well designed for use in NRA-type competitions. The checkpiece stock has some cast-off, and the checkered grip is shaped to fit the hand. A quick-adjustable sling swivel is provided. The rear sight is somewhat different in design from those made in the U.S. The adjusting knobs are large, and they

large number of rifles and several lots of ammunition, to conclude that one model is superior in accuracy to another.

The individual contemplating the purchase of a first match rifle will do well to inspect and, if possible, to fire each of the four factory-made models. Any of these is capable of putting the shooter in the master class. When you become concerned with those few extra Xs which frequently win a match, then you may want a modified-factory or custom-made rifle.

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HOLLYWOOD GUN SHOP 6116 HOLLYWOOD BLVD. HOLLYWOOD 28, CALIF.

SHOOTING BEAR WITH A PISTOL

(Continued from page 15)

One of the first additions made to Judy's gun were stag grips with a lot of body to them. I then carved a thumb rest and finger grips into it to effect a type of target handle. This enabled her to lob them in tighter, because the gun weight no longer rested on the target finger. A common failing of the occasional six-gun shooter seems to be that of resting the pistol on the trigger finger, which is not conducive for accuracy.

We finally settled on the 220-grain Prot-X-Bore bullet in front of 22 grains of 2400 powder. From these loads we were able to obtain better and quicker groups, due in part to the reduced recoil. A rather difficult period was encountered when the cylinder pin persisted in blowing loose. Jack Shine, our local Anchorage gunsmith, repaired that and Judy quickly found herself able to consistently outshoot most of the men hereabouts. Another tough time in the learning process happened when Judy saw another girl get cut slightly by recoil. One of the local boys had just received his Maggie Ruger and was at the range blazing away at paper. His wife insisted she be allowed to shoot, also. Finally, he let her. Before she could be stopped, she grabbed the gun with both hands, held it about ten inches from her nose and touched off. The slight gash in her forehead healed nicely, but I doubt if her fear of guns will ever heal. This shook Judy for a while, but she persisted and continued to practice; not as a range shot, but as a quick, accurate hunting shooter with a deadly defensive potential. This throughout has been our approach, reverting back to the value of plinking away with the good old .22 revolver. Still, we looked for more "steam" and accuracy, coupled with the handgun's speed in getting into action, and light carrying qualities. Fitting a longer barrel seemed the most practical answer to more power, since the muzzle flash still suggested a lot of the powder was going into flame and not useful gas pressure on the bullet in the bore.

I wrote to John Mutter, Pendleton Gun Shop, in Oregon, about rebarreling to a longer barrel and using his very efficient "Streamline" in-built muzzle brake. Acting on his reply I mailed off the little cannon and began twiddling my thumbs. In a short time a new and miraculous "Long Tom" arrived. Mutter had tightened her up, put on an 11-63/64 inch button bore barrel with a beautiful profile and, as requested, installed his brake.

The first few rounds through this smoke pole convinced me that it was the one I had been looking for, for a long, long time. The craftsmanship is such that the grandchildren will be able to look at it with pride in future years. This quality is sadly lacking in so many of today's arms. The sights are whited for fast hunting visibility. The brake is so efficient that .44 Specials overshoot the Magnum factory load at 80 yards. It just doesn't have the pressure to activate the thing.

I started out with factory loads, then switched to 220-grain Prot-X-Bore again, then to 235 grain Keith slugs with 22.2 grains of #2400 and sent for some 215 grain bullets . . . then tragedy struck! I contacted meningitis and was hospitalized just as Brown Bear season rolled around. During

the long, slow period of recuperation I was forbidden to do anything, particularly anything so strenuous as hunting. Judy had to be almost beaten before she would consent to carry on with the hunting plans. But a good sized Black Bear was killed by a local resident just about this time with a .44 Ruger, using factory stuff—a head shot at close range—so we were sure our loads would work. General range observations had shown similar results with better trajectory for the hand load, and sufficient energy.

Judy's father, Don Clark, had a construction camp fifty miles out of Cordova, building the road up the Copper River toward Chitina. As I said, she almost had to be beaten, but she finally loaded up her gear and flew to the camp. The Brownies around there are not the biggest in Alaska, but they



Butt swivel of big Ruger .44 can be taken out, put in backstrap for sling.

are plentiful and tough. The terrain is so impassable, one must almost hunt the road, or wait at clearings.

Judy's big chance came late one evening, on the road, after the camp and equipment had quieted down. She was hunting the road with Dewey Phillips, the Construction Boss, when a big Brownie stepped from the brush and began lumbering toward them. He was probably just inquisitive and unable to see well; he wasn't charging, but was coming up the road definitely in their direction.

Judy had time to aim well at the bobbing nose of Mr. Bruin. When she fired, he lurched up in a half arc up and to the side, did about forty yards of cart wheeling and died on his belly in the weeds. His lower jaw had been shattered by the 235 grain hard-cast Keith slug. It had torn a channel into the neck and smashed against the spine. I imagine death was due to shock and pressure to the brain, along with a broken spine.

Whatever the method, it was quick enough, and had completely defeated any charge tendency the big guy might have developed.

Judy just about split her seams with joy when the big rough-tough men came out and measured her shooting distance at 50 feet. Many sceptics of the effectiveness of big bore handguns have asked what would have happened had the Brownie not been stopped. Well, Judy was cocked and ready for the second shot before he hit the ground. Her chances of keeping him in the gravel were well in her favor. I must admit, though, that Dewey, standing a little to one side, was ready with a .300 H & H Magnum rifle—a very good idea, if at all possible. Due to the close range of this kill I would say a .375 back-up gun would be a better choice, or a hand grenade!

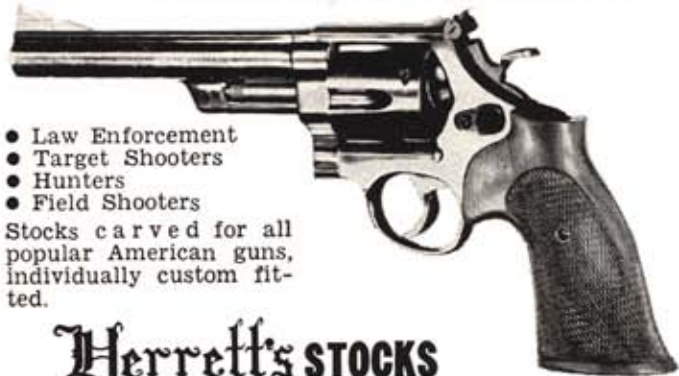
The latest load I'm using in the Maggie is a 255 grain cast slug with 23 grains #2400 powder behind. There is a bit of recoil to this load and Judy, who stands about 5'1" and weighs about 104 pounds, finds it hard to hold after six shots. I find it bruises my palm on straight recoil after about twelve rounds. This is getting maximum range, though, and it's a well-known fact that recoil is forgotten when hunting. A few weeks ago I hung a ventilated rib on my barrel in order to balance the muzzle better and give weight. Joe Taylor, a Fish & Wildlife shooting pal, promptly did the same after trying this one. Now four other Rugers are in the same process. It really makes the hang a lot better and reduces muzzle bounce, allowing a quicker second shot. But of all the improvements or changes which I have tried out for aiding handgun shooting, the pistol sling is one of the best.

The sling is snapped in place only on Tundra or flats, where no trees or rests are available, and in grass. This, that the big bears like, is chest high. These conditions make it hard to get a good shot when the Brownie suddenly stands up. The sling, tightened by the left hand under the chin, draws a group together nicely and steadies the trembling which a man is so apt to be afflicted with when the bears suddenly present themselves.

The sling, a leather thong of adjustable length, has a loop to go around the neck and a quick release snap which attaches to the swivel. This swivel is usually carried in the butt, and can be unscrewed and inserted

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in the top of the backstrap for aiding shooting. The thong must be of such a length that it can be worn around the neck, with gun in holster—in this position it lays across the chest and is not in the way of body action. This 11-63/64" barrel Ruger beauty carries very comfortably in a swivel holster with tie-down strap. It hangs close, doesn't flap, doesn't chafe or rub, and is always there.

The initial grab for the gun must slide the hand under the sling and twist the wrist a bit to cock the hammer. Shooting with arm extended necessitates rolling the gun in the hand to cock. With a little practice, you can hang away in fairly rapid succession. It definitely slows shooting down, but sometimes this is a good idea. But the increased accuracy more than balances the loss of speed.

In using the sling, the left hand (if you are right handed) makes an underhand grab, palm up, for the loop under the chin and rotates to take up tension. This draws the gun into the shooting hand and draws the chin tight against the left hand, locking that portion of the body against the chest. If this position is properly taken, only wind or earthquake will destroy aim.

Describing the action makes it seem long and involved, but with familiarization, this whole procedure can be accomplished rapidly. The advantage of having a powerful, accurate rifle-like handgun, with both hands free for climbing, working, fishing, makes it a most desirable outfit. There is a comfortable feeling in having a heavy handgun when, after walking five miles up the river to the best fishing, Mama Moose steps from behind a tree to see if her baby is in danger. Of course he's not—but try to tell her that. This automatically means that you are, and no one I know willingly back-tracks five miles or so. We have so far never been bothered

as we slip warily around the old girls and head for the fish. Anyone who provokes a charge deserves all they get, including a face full of palmate antlers. But with the roar of the rushing trout or salmon streams here, it is quite possible for the sportsman or outdoorsman to simply stumble into the lap of a moose or bear. The Brown Bear loves to fish as much as we do, and has the added incentive of his demanding appetite. This consequently makes him a bit fussy when startled by a sport fisherman. But if the fisherman has a handgun of .44 Magnum power, and knows how to use it well, he need not fear a normal encounter. If he gets panicked, he may lose his life. If he stays calm, his chances are good.

Joe Taylor will verify this—especially when he talks about the time he was standing in a sparkling pool, flicking his trout fly downstream toward me. He looked up after a while to see me pointing at something behind him. Carefully he looked around and was a bit shaken when he eyeballed a nice, fat Brown Bear watching him from about 80 yards upstream, Joe didn't move (he swears he could have but decided not to), but he did know he was in the direct line of fire between me and the bear; and the water was cold! While Joe was wishing he could grow fins and swim quietly away, the bear turned, went out of the creek and disappeared into the brush.

Joe had no gun at the time, but the next week he picked up a bright, shiny-new Ruger .44, whited the sights and went out to learn to shoot it. He's good with it now, but still looks over his shoulder a lot more than he used to. I continue to be pretty cautious, too. My long barreled .44 Maggie is truly the most satisfying all-purpose gun I've ever seen. And someday I'm going to see a Brownie to match Judy's.

THE ARMY'S SHOOTIN'EST OUTFIT

(Continued from page 25)

Unit's gunsmiths also devote their talents to testing weapons, in a never ceasing effort to provide the shooters with the best performing and most accurate rifles and pistols that can be had anywhere. The shop always has the crying towel hung out for the benefit of the bewildered shooter who is convinced that it is his rifle, not himself, that is causing the bullseye to be so elusive.

Constant liaison is maintained between USA AMU's Headquarters and the rest of the shooting world, including the National Rifle Association, Springfield Armory, Frankford Arsenal and manufacturers of firearms, ammunition and shooting accessories. Such contact is essential to developing marksmanship ideas and equipment. The Rifle Group consists of both the U.S. Army Rifle Team and the U.S. Army International Rifle Team. The functions and activities of each team differ considerably from each other.

The AMU Rifle Team section is responsible for selecting and training individuals and teams to represent the U.S. Army in State, Regional and National Rifle Competitions. It consists of the officers and men who fire the M1 Service rifle over the conventional courses of fire, and the Infantry Trophy Match Course. They also fire the bolt action match rifles appropriate in certain types of matches.

The shooters of this section are selected for outstanding ability not only as marksmen but also as instructors. For a man to be assigned to the Unit, he must not only be able

to shoot, but he must be an outstanding soldier, able to instruct others as well. Training for, and firing in matches is not the only function of this section. These same riflemen must make their competitive experience pay off by serving as instructors in the Advanced Marksmanship Coaching Course and the Advanced Marksmanship Sniping Course. These two courses of instruction are conducted by the AMU under the supervision of the Weapons Department of the Infantry School. Providing the cream of the Army's riflemen in the form of qualified instructors to the U.S. Army Infantry School is perhaps one of the most positive contributions the USA AMU can make toward the improvement of overall Army marksmanship.

Students who attend marksmanship courses are from enlisted and commissioned ranks and come from all types of units throughout the Army. Members of National Guard and Reserve Units are also eligible to attend these courses, providing they meet the prerequisites. The knowledge and skill of the Army's top riflemen, gained over many long years of experience, is being imparted to other soldiers, who in turn will train the Army's combat riflemen and competitive teams at the lower echelons.

Any soldier in the U.S. Army who believes in the principles of clean living, intelligent thought, and hard work can make the U.S. Army Rifle Team and be assigned to the AMU as the ultimate result. Each soldier is

encouraged to participate in the competitive rifle marksmanship program at company and battalion level. If he shoots well, he may climb the ladder of elimination on up through division, Army Area competitions and, finally, the Army Championship Matches conducted annually at Fort Benning.

From the Army Championship Matches, the top competitors are chosen by AMU to try out for the U.S. Army Squad that will go to Camp Perry, Ohio to compete in the National Matches. The dream of most Army tyro marksmen is to go to Camp Perry and fire in the National Matches.

The rifle team section of the USA AMU further assists the Army-wide marksmanship program by sending out highly skilled instruction teams to each Continental Army Area, and on other special training missions as may be requested. These instruction teams assist, advise and instruct the respective Army Areas in the conduct of their annual small arms firing school and championship matches. Quite different are the responsibilities and program of the U.S. Army International Rifle Team.

One of the biggest disappointments to the American shooting world over the past several years is the fact that the U.S. Rifle and Pistol Teams have not been able to measure up in the type of competition that exists at the Olympic and the International Shooting Union (ISU) Matches. Russian shooting teams have been taking home most of the Gold Medals from Olympic and ISU competitions in recent years. This has served them well as more ammunition for their propaganda machine. Why are we consistently outshot in these world competitions? The answer is plain: the free rifle and pistol game is completely foreign to us. It is not our national sport, as it is in some other countries; therefore, we do not possess the ability to excel at it. This does not imply that we cannot reach the ability level with that found in world competitions. However, as far as the non-shooting public of the USA and other countries is concerned, the press releases mean only one thing: that the Russians and the Europeans are better marksmen.

Many of the top International shooters from other countries, especially Russia, devote their full time to training and practice for several years. Realizing this, while its overall marksmanship program provides an increasing nucleus of highly skilled marksmen from which to draw upon, the U.S. Army has taken vigorous and impressive action to develop trained, highly skilled candidates for the U.S. Olympic and International Shooting Teams. This is the purpose of the International Rifle Section of the USA AMU.

For training future U.S. Rifle and Pistol Team hopefuls, the Army constructed a completely new and modern International Range at Fort Benning. The only one of its kind in the United States, the Benning range has been studied by Chicago consultants and the new Pan American Games range is patterned on it.

Right now, there are Army shooters training hard and diligently, by devoting full duty time to develop their ability. This shooting ability will be commensurate, if not better, than any the world has to offer in the Olympic and International shooting events. In this process conducted by the USA AMU, patience is the key word. Skill can not be developed over night. Over a period of the

(Continued on page 58)



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RECTANGULAR READER now available in attractive new styling by Bausch & Lomb Optical Co., Rochester, N. Y. A redesigned, fluted handle provides easier gripping, more comfortable handling. The Bausch & Lomb reader frame and handle is made of light weight molded plastic and is available in three colors: ivory, demi-blonde, and ebony. Priced at \$4.50.



.22 AUTOMATIC PISTOL by Smith & Wesson, Springfield 4, Mass., is new entry in the target field. The 7 $\frac{3}{8}$ in. barrel has a 9 $\frac{5}{16}$ in. sight radius. Overall length is 12 in. with a detachable Compensator. Weight is 43 $\frac{1}{2}$ ounces with a $\frac{3}{8}$ ounce weight in the recess in the barrel. New pistol has undercut Patridge front sight and S & W Micrometer Click rear, of non-recoiling design. The $\frac{3}{8}$ in. grooved Target Trigger has adjustable stop. Checkered walnut stocks have modified thumb rest for right or left hand shooters. The magazine holds 10 .22 L.R. rounds. Finish is bright blue except matting on the line of sight. Priced at \$110.



MEXICAN LONGHORNS, measuring 5 to 6 feet wide, make wonderful conversation piece when placed over a mantel or in the sportsman's den. Hard to get, these Mexican Longhorns come from the wild-eyed critters that were introduced to the Americas back in 1521 at Vera Cruz, Mexico. Horns are hand polished to a smooth silk-like surface. Leather centerpiece is genuine hand-tooled cowhide. Sets between 5 ft. and 6 ft. only \$29.95. Order direct from Seaport Traders, Inc., Dept. G-4, Los Angeles 15, Calif.



PRECISION PLASTIC INLAYS perfectly suited for fine inlays in gun stocks, available in many brilliant colors. Under normal use will not chip, warp, shrink or discolor. Can

be sawed, filed or sandpapered, then re-polished to original mirror-like finish. Inlay is beveled, the stock chiseled out carefully, then the inlay cemented in place with liquid cement. After the cement has set the surface is smoothed off, polished, and the job is done. A set of complete instructions included with each order. Details may be had by writing C. D. Cahoon, Boxford, Mass.



BULL WHIPS will appeal to sportsmen who enjoy the art of "Popping the Bull Whip." Many skills can be enjoyed with the whip. Once you own a bull whip, there's nothing more to buy to make it work for you. Once a snapper is worn off, another can be had for only a few cents. The Bull Whip is cut in one continuous piece from a whole hide of genuine Indian Tan Leather. The hide is cut into strands which are later to be braided by the individual when he buys a "U-Do-It Bull Whip Kit." After leather is cut, it is packaged together with a shaped wooden handle and step by step illustrated easy to follow instruction sheet. The kits are sold by Tandy Leather Co., Dept. G-4, 300 Throckmorton St., Fort Worth, Texas.



"INSULATED MOUNTAINEER" BOOT features warmth and comfort due to quilted Nylabond insulation and Swiss imported Vibram black lug soles. Designed to meet the stiffest requirements of outdoorsmen who track and tramp over rough or rocky terrain, the boots are warm and comfortable, even in below-zero weather. Upper stock of brown full grain chrome tanned Brazil ski leather is highly water repellent. Continuous gusset-vamp lining leaves no ridge over the instep. Additional information about this new model (No. 4409) furnished by the Chippewa Shoe Co., Chippewa Falls, Wis.



BIG GAME TROPHIES. Anyone can be a big game hunter with these genuine reproductions of Animal Head Trophies. Molded of pliable skin-textured plastic and expertly scaled to one-half actual size of the real animal head. Gleaming teeth, bristling whiskers and sparkling eyes give life-like realism to these unusual trophies. Each head is mounted on a genuine mahogany wood plaque, complete with its own gold embossed title plate. Choice of Royal Bengal Tiger, African Leopard or Black Panther. Only \$2.98 each, from the line of Cossman & Company, 7039 Sunset Blvd., Hollywood 28, Calif.



TROPHY KNIFE, beautifully designed, of superior quality, is fine, practical hunting belt knife. Made by the world famous J. A. Henckels Twinworks of Solingen, Germany, a firm manufacturing fine quality knives since 1731. Heavyweight 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. tapered blade is fine Solingen steel which holds a razor sharp edge. Thick, comfortable, genuine stag horn handle and brass guard assure positive grip, even though hands may be wet. Belt sheath is richly polished, genuine cordovan leather. Blade length 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; overall length 10 in.; weight 7 ozs. Retail price \$9.75 postpaid, from Norm Thompson, 1311 NW 21st, Portland 9, Ore.



.22 CALIBER REVOLVER is new nine-shot, combining modern materials and action designs with traditional styling. Patterned along authentic Western lines, the gun is manufactured by High Standard Mfg. Corp., Hamden, Conn. Named the "Double Nine," it's ideally suited for use on the field, shooting ranges and on camping trips. Features rebounding hammer with automatic safety block, scored, non-slip trigger and movable square-notched rear sight. Priced \$44.00 with blued finish, and \$5.95 extra for deluxe nickel finish.

WITH Guns



BROOKWOOD MODEL. economy-priced 6-passenger Chevrolet station wagon, provides increased cargo capacity and passenger room for the outdoorsman and his family. Easier conversion with improved rear gate and third seat design, mark the company's freshly restyled line of station wagons for 1959. New models incorporate many mechanical and structural advances, including improved suspension, power teams, steering, brakes, sheet metal and greater visibility area. Produced by Chevrolet, Division of General Motors Corp., General Motors Bldg., Detroit 2, Mich.



ENGRAVED TRAP BUTTPLATES display artistic, sculptured animal in bas-relief on hand fitted trap. Engraved surrounding in scroll or leaf design. Engraved screws. Approximate size, 5 1/4 in. x 1 9/16 in. Price, engraved buttplate, as illustrated, \$48.00. Delivery made on special designs about four weeks after order has been received. Manufactured by Frank Mittermeier, 3577 East Tremont Ave., New York 65, N. Y.



DR. WOHLER VARILUX BINOCULAR. New Zoom-principle introduced to three dimensional binocular viewing. An 8 x 40 size instrument with magnification control that varies power from 5x to 11x. Center-focus, coated optics, shock-proofed, protected

against moisture and dust, light weight. List price with case, \$180.00, plus tax. Service & sales: Tele-Optics, 5514 Lawrence, Chicago 30. Imported by: Optica Corp., 4018 N. Wilson Dr., Shorewood, Wis.



LIN-SPEED OIL. Modern, kettle-boiled linseed oil replaces the common variety of oil with one suitable for applying the legendary oil finish to gunstocks. Applied with up-to-date ease, rapid drying, beauty of results and great staying ability under adverse conditions. Oil has been refined, can finish new, and re-finish old, gunstocks. Lists at \$1.00 a bottle. Further information about the product can be obtained by writing the manufacturer, Geo. Brothers, Great Barrington 2, Mass.



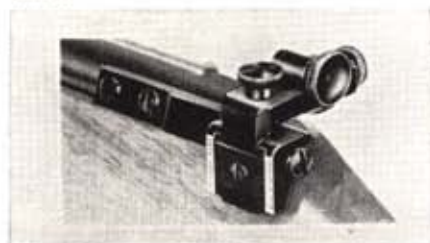
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WINCHESTER BEGINNER'S MODEL 37 shotgun is designed especially for the woman or teenage shooter who is just starting off. Priced at \$31.95, the 20 gauge shotgun has minimum recoil and will handle all standard loads. From the line of Winchester Western Div., Olin Mathieson Chemical Corp., New Haven, Conn.



PECOS BOOTS represents a new line of pull-ons introduced by the Red Wing Shoe Company, Red Wing, Minn. Designed for smart dress appearance, the boots feature the rugged quality and craftsmanship famous in Red Wing work shoes, and so necessary to the outdoorsman. Available in six styles. New lasts, patterns, and counter patterns plus "Sweat-Proof" leather insoles and genuine Goodyear welt construction assure longer service, lasting comfort, and correct fit. Sizes 6-13, widths A-E. Priced from \$14.95 to \$16.95.



NEW S-330 PEEP SIGHT has quarter-minute positive click adjustments for windage and elevation. Reported to be completely free of back lash. Windage and elevation bracket can be removed for scope mounting simply by turning coin-slotted screw. When returned, it takes same position as before removal. A product of O. F. Mossberg & Sons, Inc., New Haven, Conn.



THERMAL HUNTING SOCK. Wigwam Mills, Inc., Sheboygan, Wis., recently introduced a thermal hunting sock, of medium weight, all-worsted knit, with an exclusive three-dimensional stitch. This unique stitch, employing the thermal principal, provides hundreds of air pockets which prevent body heat from escaping. Wigwam, for over 50 years a leading maker of socks for every sport, also has other hunting and camping socks in a variety of weights and materials. All wool, Nywool, nylon and "Foot Hugger" s-t-r-e-t-c-h styles are included in the line. Wigwams are sold through sporting goods and department stores.

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(Continued from page 55)

next two to four years, the AMU believes the press releases will have a different story to tell about the results of world-wide shooting competitions.

In addition to training shooters, research is constantly under way to develop free rifles, ammunition, equipment and techniques which will aid in producing winning U.S. International Rifle and Pistol Teams.

Handgunners are important too at AMU. The Pistol Group consists of two sections. First is the Army Pistol Team which selects and trains individual shooters and teams to represent the U.S. Army in state, regional and national pistol competitions. Except for the weapons used, the functioning of the Pistol Team is, for all practical purposes, the same as that of the Rifle Team. The same can be said for the U.S. Army International Pistol Team. Selecting and training handgunners is essentially the same as it is for the U.S. Army International Rifle Team, as far as organization and scope is concerned. The Pistol Group has its own armorers in the Unit's small arms repair shop.

The three groups which comprise the USA AMU are an aggregation of the best the Army has in the field of marksmanship know-how. Brother shooter, you can bet your bottom dollar that the Commanding Officer, Colonel Edward R. Mason, and every officer and man of the United States Army Advanced Marksmanship Unit is personally dedicated to the proposition that skilled marksmanship is by no means obsolete regardless of any existing, or future concepts of push button warfare. That is why the USA AMU is the shootingest outfit in the U. S. Army.

BE YOUR OWN BIRD DOG

(Continued from page 19)

it can mean the cocks are just holding tighter. But, by and large, since the cocks are both taller and more muscular, they see danger approaching earlier, get away from it faster.

In virtually all cases, the first inclination of pheasants, especially cocks, is to run. The second is to hide, when the density of cover permits it or when they begin to tire of running. In both cases, they use cover with great skill and cunning. The more time they're given in finding escape outlets on foot, or ideal hiding places, the tougher the hunter's job. But the smart hunter tries to avoid becoming engaged in a foot race.

Thus, if you are going to hunt an island of weeds or other cover, in a much larger field of thinner cover, the approach should be an encircling one, to prevent the birds from running clear through the thicker cover and then scattering widely while sneaking through thinner shelter. Approaching such an island on a direct line is guarantee most of the birds will go through it and scatter.

But an encircling approach gives them the chance they prefer to take—to hide in thicker cover in which they are better concealed; and you are likewise giving yourself a far better chance—to find them concentrated in the substantially smaller area of denser cover. So it is wise for two or more hunters to move quite rapidly and widely to reach the far edge of such a weedy island, then fish-hook back into, and through, that cover. Then, by zigzagging, and hesitating, during that return trip you can rout every pheasant hidden there.

The jumping of pheasants so that they present the best shots for clean kills depends greatly on how hunters advance through cover. Chase a cock pheasant in a direct line, and he will run and flush almost directly away from you, increasing the range with every step and every wingbeat. He then presents the easy-to-hit but hard-to-kill straight-away target, because the long range and the long, tough, tail feathers and the muscular legs stop shot before it reaches the vitals. Thus such direct chase requires maximum hunter effort for a minimum of neat kills. Broken-winged and broken-legged knock-downs require delay in searching out cripples, while the birds up ahead remove themselves to distant parts.

Personally, I am opposed to "gang-hunting" of ringnecks. I like small hunting parties, solely for the personal companionship they offer. I think a party of three or four is ideal for pheasants, and for other game. Such small parties are flexible, can cover enough ground to fill bag limits, and allow for everyone a chance to hunt both individually and cooperatively.

Of course, no method of finding and flushing pheasants is much good unless you can hit and kill them; and any discussion of that factor simmers down sooner or later to what gun, and what load. There are a lot of opinions on this subject—most of them, it seems to me, based on the false assumption that the ringneck is, for some reason never quite clarified, very hard to hit and harder to kill than a bull rhino. Now, I'm not the world's best shotgun shot but I've hunted pheasants as much as I was able during 32 seasons out of the past 34 years, and I've never found them particularly difficult to hit,

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or hard to kill. They are no harder to hit or to kill than grouse, quail, partridge, or other game birds—provided that they are equally well hit, at comparable ranges.

I think that, because the pheasant cock in flight is an uncommonly large target (what with his actual size plus his flowing tail and wing-spread), most gunners shoot at them at completely unrealistic ranges—at 50, 60, 70, or even 100 yards! Any bird is hard to hit when he gets out to (or beyond!) the reach of your gun, and hard to kill when, for the same reason, the shot load has lost its power.

From 1924 through '39, I hunted South Dakota ringnecks with a Remington Model 17 20 gauge. Money was so scarce in those days that you could buy a five-shell box of ammo, in case you couldn't afford a box of 25; and meat was what we were after, because it was needed. I had managed to acquire a case of trap loads: 7/8ths of an ounce of 7 1/2 shot. Except for a few boxes of No. 6s for ducks and No. 2s for geese, that case of ammo lasted me through four years of hunting. We ate a lot of shotgun meat at my house, too; and I also paid off a lot of social obligations. I fed pheasants, ducks, and geese to families all up and down my street.

I kept meticulous records of my ring-neck kills during those years. During three of them, I averaged exactly 101 pheasants annually, and not over a score of the 303 birds were the then-legal hens. Cocks were a pound heavier, on the hoof and on the meat-platter, so I shot nothing but cocks whenever possible. This was with a 20 gauge gun, using loads designed for highly bustible clay targets.

During one of the World War II years, my two sons, then 12 and 14 years old respectively, helped me harvest 42 Nebraska ringnecks, all cocks. Neither of the boys was yet an outstanding wing shot, and both were using 20 gauges. Yet we lost only two birds that were dropped by our gunfire, and had to run down only three other cripples. All others stayed where they fell. We were using trap loads of Number 7 1/2 and 8 shot in all three shotguns.

During a post-war year, in Nebraska, we hunted in grassland thickets, in haled-out small-grain fields, and in cornfields. We usually got our full limits of birds—seven cocks a day then—and we lost no cripples. On one trip that year, I dropped five birds out of a gunful of shells, from one spot. No two of those shots were even similar. The birds burst out in sundry directions, like fragments of a bursting bomb. On that same trip, one of my boys got a triple at the edge of a plum thicket. All were taken with trap loads; no birds were lost.

Of course, you don't shoot such light loads of fine shot in cylinder-bored quail guns. You use full (or near-full) chokes, and you use ammunition that your gun patterns in uniform killing density. Then, if you hold right, you deliver a killing pattern, and you get your bird.

Pheasants aren't particularly hard to hit, either, in spite of the fantastic claims made as to their air speed. True, they make a great clatter in getting up at times, which probably shakes the inexperienced hunter's nerve. But it takes an adult, full-feathered cock some eight to ten yards to get up a full head of steam—time enough to get the gun up and

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pointed while the bird is accelerating and generally on a fairly direct route. Too many hunters get flustered by that noisy flush and shoot far to soon (not enough range to allow the shot charge to spread). Having missed that first big shot, they get flustered and miss again, and maybe again (by which time the bird is out of range). Generally, they claim hits with all three shots—and ever afterward maintain that ringnecks are exceedingly tough birds to kill. It just isn't so.

Mounting the gun rapidly is a highly desirable trait. But then it should track the bird's course for some yards to open the proper lead ahead of it. Finally, the trigger is pulled, the hammer falls, and, by the time the shot load gets out there, it has had a chance to spread to a goodly pattern. When pheasant and pattern meet in such ideal timing, it is curtains for that cock.

Or let's look at it this way. Suppose the flush is close enough so you have three seconds between the moment when you first become aware of the bird and the moment when shot and bird must collide. If you spend one second in mounting your gun, another in tracking and establishing the lead, and the third second in trigger-pull and shot-travel, you will have been right on the nose in combining deliberation, care, and timing. Slow reactions, surprise, or tardy identification of sex, after sighting the bird will mean that you have less time for the rest of the procedure to avoid a long-range shot and, probably, a sorry cripple.

On the other hand, if you make your sex identification as you are shouldering your gun, you gain time for the other two operations, can be more deliberate with them and still make a perfect kill. Also, if other birds flush while you're shouldering the gun for your first shot, you are in fine position to hurry the first kill, then switch to the second target and, possibly, a third. Doubles and triples aren't made in Heaven; they result from fine gun handling.

It is no uncommon thing for one bird to jump the gun and flush first, ahead of the remainder of the flock; or for the first shot at a single to trigger the remainder of the flock into flight. The hunter who works rapidly in getting his gun on the first bird is in command of any subsequent developments. But the guy who is slow on the first bird is likely to be hurried on all others. He will probably drop a high percentage of cripples, simply because he ran short of time to deliver good shots. In which case, he may need a dog—for help in retrieving or cripple-chasing.

But the man who learns to be his own bird dog, and learns to shoot effectively, will never again saddle himself with a pooch that demands constant attention, in the field and in the home, yet is only of help on approximately 4 per cent of the shots he makes at ringnecks. This kind of hunting will make you a better game shot, too; and you'll get more satisfaction doing it.

GUN RACK

(Continued from page 13)

by dropping a shell into the ejection port and closing the action by pushing the back of the follower. Two other shells can be inserted into the magazine for a full load adequate for all shooting conditions except a flight of passenger pigeons. The gas-operated action on the Model 58 introduced some time ago gave comfortable, easy recoil, and should do so on the 878. We have not shot this gun yet, but will report further on this new Remington 878 as soon as we get one.

Hill Submachine Gun

Federal restrictions on automatic weapons development have not entirely killed off all native Yankee ingenuity. Some of this class of gumption is found in Texas, where John Hill has designed a light, easily manufactured, jamproof submachine carbine taking a rather special 9mm "Luger-type" cartridge. Hill sent it to GUNS, with 50



Clip fits on gun top, feeds shells into a jam-proof loading turntable.

of his special cartridges, to shoot and report on.

The weapon has one part of a "critical mass": the breech block. All else could be made from alloy aluminum or magnesium if need be. As is, the gun weighed about 6 pounds with full clip a-top the mechanism. The important thing about the gun is its magazine, loading, and ejection cycle. The magazine (in the model it is of lucite so the user can see the cartridges) lies on top of the gun, held by a slight spring catch. The follower has a light spring and the cartridges lie at right angles to the axis of the gun, in the horizontal plane, bullet tips facing to the left side of the gun. When the breech block is drawn back—a non-reciprocating cocking handle is on the left of the barrel breech and moves once to draw back the bolt—a loading turntable pivots its central cartridge trough directly in line for a cartridge to roll into it. Because of this feeding system, the Hill 9mm cartridges were turned from .38 Special brass, cut and loaded to 9mm specifications, since .38 Special is cylindrical, while Luger ammo is slightly tapered. When

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the trigger is pulled, the bolt flies forward, a strut turning the loading turntable in time for the cylindrical bolt head to push the cartridge on into the chamber. The fixed firing pin fires the cartridge as the bolt closes. Then the bolt is blown back, a light hook extractor pulling the case to the rear and down into the open-bottom pistol grip handle. There is no ejection or loading port: the gun can be fired fifteen or twenty times with the handle closed by masking tape, if it is desired to keep dirt from getting into the gun. As I shot a burst, my other hand cupped beneath the grip, a shower of hot shells tumbled into my palm. This design is the handloader's dream gun! He can shoot up five hours work in five minutes. With Hill's Cartridges, no malfunctions occurred. The 9mm Luger would not fit. The gun was excellently finished, extremely simple in construction, and on a mass production basis could be made from sheet metal. Hill reports that the German Government is interested in his design, and "they have solved the problem of feeding tapered 9mm shells satisfactorily." The gun is not currently in production.

ELMER KEITH SAYS

(Continued from page 9)

same make rifles, and same identical ammunition from the same lot by Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd. Results, widely different as to penetration and expansion.

Kynoch furnishes only cupro nickel jacketed solids in the .476 Westley Richards caliber. It is one of the finest of all the .470-class of loads, but because of lack of demand, it is supplied only with cupro nickel jacket while other loads are now furnished in solids with good steel jacketed slugs.

Recoil of 577-100-750

I am often asked about the recoil of various "elephant" rifles by men or women who contemplate hunting in Africa, so a few remarks on the recoil of our heaviest shoulder rifles may not be amiss. I have never fired anything bigger than an eight bore Greener double barrel rifle weighing 18 pounds in the black powder persuasion; nor anything larger than the .600-100 or 110-900 British Cordite express and the big .50 caliber Mauser made by Weber of Lodi, Calif., and written up in an early issue of GUNS. I can give my observations and reactions to the firing and recoil of these rifles.

The big eight bore was used one winter with nine drams of F.G. black powder and a 2¾ ounce conical bullet. It had plenty of authority at both ends, but was not unpleasant to shoot. The huge Al Weber .50 caliber Mauser that handled the Browning

(Continued on page 63)

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.50 caliber machine gun cartridge had the heaviest recoil of all, but the rifle weighed 25 pounds and it was just a hard push rather than a sharp blow. It always walked me back, and the barrel and fore-end always got away from my left hand and rose to the vertical, to be caught as it came down. Al Weber, who is a tall powerful man, did not move his feet at all when it recoiled and handled it much better than I. We found it superbly accurate to extreme ranges with its Weaver K-V scope in Buehler mounts.

My friend Maynard Buehler, the scope mount maker, probably owns and has fired more big rifles than anyone I know. He has both 2 and 4 bore black powder elephant rifles, as well as eight bore doubles and about everything in modern Cordite rifles. He says his 14 pound Westley Richards double rifle for the .577-100-750 Cordite load is the worst kicker he has. This rifle was formerly owned and used by my friend Dr. Oliver G. Olafson, of Minneapolis. Doc wrote me many letters both from Africa and from his home on the use of this rifle, and he stopped charges by elephant, rhino and buffalo on several occasions with it. Doc is about six feet tall and 170 pounds, and the only comment he ever made to me about the recoil of this rifle was that he had a good shot at the front half of a big bull elephant and knew he would not be able to recover from the recoil quick enough to get the second shot into the bull without risk of hitting him too far back in the belly. In Doc's own words, "So I pulled both sides at once. It was quite a hell of a jerk, but it stayed in my hands. He went about 300 yards, and was on his side, his tusks straddling a tree as if he had tried to prop himself up." That was both barrels pulled at once, purposely, on a .577 double weighing 14 pounds.

My friend Capt. L. E. Wadman of Mill Valley, Calif. has a 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ pound .577-100-750 best quality Westley Richards, and I have a Royal Model H & H ejector for the same load that weighs empty 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ pounds or 12 pounds 10 ounces loaded. Lyle Corcoran of the Hollywood Gun Shop, son Ted and Mrs. Keith watched me shoot this rifle the first time. I shot offhand with left shoulder resting against the back end of a Jeep station wagon to steady me. I was perfectly relaxed, intent on seeing how accurate the big rifle was, and thinking nothing of recoil. I fired at a pasteboard carton at around 60 yards, holding as near dead center as possible. The big slug landed $\frac{3}{4}$ " from dead center at eleven o'clock. It did not make me move my feet or twist my body. The barrels raised almost to vertical and the butt came downward off my shoulder. Ted told me my grip loosened on the small of stock with my right hand. It may well have done so, as I know the .600 Wilkes kicked loose from my right hand on several occasions.

Ted tried the big rifle next at the same target. He is a husky 23 year old lad, six feet one inch and 170 pounds, a college student in winter and a Forest Service Smoke jumper in summer and, for further recreation, is in the Special services, Army reserve, also a paratroop outfit. Ted gripped the big gun hard and leaned into it and hit 3" from dead center at 4 o'clock. The big rifle raised only about to the 45 degree angle or less, and the butt did not leave his shoulder nor did he lose his grip on either small of stock or barrels.

The rifle proved very accurate and will pile its big slugs in one hole at 60 yards if you do your part; but when I am relaxed and intent on aim and trigger squeeze, it will also bounce off my shoulder and the barrels will raise to the vertical. I can whip

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it back on my shoulder for the second shot much faster than I could recover from the recoil of the .505 Gibbs.

I wrote Capt. Wadman my experience with the big rifle. He said his rifle was also very accurate, more so than most smaller bore double rifles. He says his rifle belts hell out of him off hand, but is more pleasant to shoot from the bench rest. He had photos taken of himself at the crack of the big rifle showing it in recoil. These proved that the rifle shoved his right hand away from its grip on the small of the stock in off hand position. When fired prone, the photos prove that the big rifle gets away from both hands and is simply floating in the air above his extended hands; but the butt does not leave his shoulder. He said that, firing offhand, it lifted his left foot and made him hop backwards on his right foot to keep his balance, and he weighs 240 pounds. Said he would never have believed the rifle got loose from his hands if he had not seen the photos to prove it.

I am five feet ten inches and 175 pounds. No big rifle or shotgun has ever hurt my shoulder in the slightest, but I have had my second finger rapped by the trigger guards

until it was sore. No trace of discolored or black shoulder has occurred for me at any time. I always pull the stock tight to my shoulder, then relax my whole body as I aim and squeeze the trigger, and recoil never bothers me at all. I often wonder when people tell me of getting black-and-blue shoulders from the terrible recoil of the .30-06 or .375 Magnum. I am convinced if they would take an easy stance off hand, hold the rifle hard against their shoulder, and then relax the rest of their body and roll with the push, they would not get hurt. From the head and shoulders down the body should be just as relaxed as if you had your favorite gal on a good dance floor and were dancing to good music. Do this, and recoil of even the largest rifles will not hurt you. Brace yourself against recoil; fight it with all your strength and you will get hell kicked out of you. Relax and let the gun recoil and think nothing of it, and it will not bother you in the least. In game shooting, the recoil of the heaviest guns will not bother you, but the recoil is noticeable when you pattern a Magnum ten for long strings or target a big rifle for very many shots. Rifles of very heavy recoil should be fired prone.

SHOOTING IS FOR EVERYONE

(Continued from page 27)

duck weather, it's generally deer season, too, and you won't find me on the lakes then."

It didn't take Les too long to pick up the one-arm operation of his shotgun. He added a recoil pad, but other than that his double is "as is." In the field he carries his shotgun—and rifle, too—pointing skyward, his hand at the wrist of the stock and the butt pressed against his waist. When shooting, he balances the shotgun straight out from his body, and has remarkably fast recovery for a second shot at fleeing game.

"Relearning" how to use a deer rifle didn't come so easily. A one-arm shooter today, if he were to select a big-game gun, would probably turn to Remington's fine autoloader, the Model 740-A Woodsmaster, first introduced in 1954. A bolt or slide action weapon would be out of the question and a lever action might, at first, seem too difficult to handle with the handicap.

In 1939, Les's choice of a deer gun was a .38-55 Winchester '94, the manufacture of which had been discontinued two years before. Similar in most ways to the phenomenally popular '94 carbine, his rifle has a pistol-grip stock and a half magazine. The stock and forearm are of checked walnut.

At the time he lost his arm, there were a couple of self-loading rifles around—Winchester's model 1907, discontinued in 1942, and Remington's model 81, the predecessor to the present Woodsmaster. But neither gun

then was too popular, so Les decided to stick with his lever action '94.

The first move he made was a switch to a modern caliber. Winchester shipped him a .30-30 carbine barrel by mistake—he had requested a .30-30 rifle barrel—but the error proved to be a beneficial one. The six-inch shorter barrel greatly improved the gun's balance when handled with one arm.

Les then shortened the stock by about three inches, and added a special buttplate which he himself designed. The old-time Schuetzen rifles gave him the idea, with the buttplate fitting snugly below and above his left shoulder and holding the gun solidly in place when fired. A friend made the special buttplate, first using steel. But weight was a crucial matter and steel added too much, so aluminum was tried. It proved ideal.

Still, even with his rifle altered for ease of handling and with constant practice, Les couldn't seem to regain his former skill. The one big problem was sighting.

Prior to the operation, Les Amburgey had killed four deer. He has taken a like number of whitetails since, but it was 1945—six years after the loss of his arm—that he chalked up buck No. 5. It took him that long to solve the sighting problem.

As he puts it, "I was up in the deer woods every year, but I couldn't seem to hit the broadside of a barn." This isn't too surpris-

(Continued on page 66)

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