

# Guns

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

MAY 1959 50c



HUNTING • SHOOTING • ADVENTURE

**FIRST-READER  
FOR  
SHOTGUNNERS  
— PART ONE**

**HE HUNTED KENYA  
FOR THE  
WALKER COLT**

**WHO SAID "COPS CAN'T SHOOT?"**





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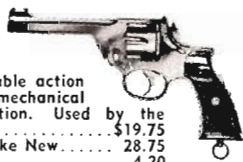


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By D. L. COOPER  
*Texas Dept. Public Safety*

**T**HE .357 Combat Magnum is my favorite for all-around use. It won me top award in a fast draw with a robot. The Ojala rig is my favorite for a fast draw with it or a S.A. Colt. The Combat and K-38 won me many awards in local, state, national and international competition, plus the grand prize for four years in the Texas Rattlesnake Rodeo. A .44 Magnum S. A. Ruger is used to illustrate maximum

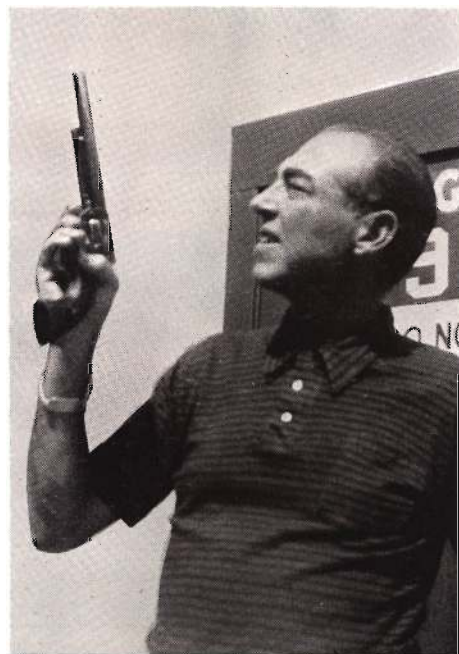
handgun power. My handloads have been used in some 400 demonstrations. A recent shooting show in Fort Worth with over 9,000 spectators was televised. Jugular bullets are used for my hobby of long range varmint hunting, and wadcutters for short range targets and "trick" shooting. Handloaded rifles in .244 and .222 are my favorite long guns, with 12 ga. shotguns. A .270 is used in law enforcement work and for larger game.

I'd like to fill another room with awards, but the Department is so busy there isn't much time for competitive shooting. Duty must come first. Demonstrations are done without pay, many on my own time. I hope to encourage gun and traffic safety, better understanding of firearms, and especially a public pro-gun feeling. Anti-gun laws are not good. Shooting is a wholesome sport.

## MY FAVORITE GUN

By CHARLES MARQUIS WARREN, *Producer "Gunsmoke" and "Rawhide"*

**O**F ALL my large collection of guns, I prefer shooting the Peacemaker. I enjoy its feel and the sturdiness of its many features. Unlike others with delicate innards, the Colt .45 can operate with certain broken parts. If the hammer notches broke, you could still thumb home shots. If the hand or pawl which rotates the cylinder, or the cylinder stop bolt, or any of the springs broke, you could still turn the cylinder by hand. Even if the main spring busted you could still pop-cap by hammering the hammer with a rock. And finally, if the first cartridge is no good, which isn't the fault of the gun, you still have four others. I can assure you that Commander Warren would have felt much safer in the Pacific in 1944, had he carried one. At least, I have one now.





# TRIGGER TALK

**S**PRING is a time for planning, whether it be for a fall hunt, an African safari, or just when to get your guns out of winter wraps for spring sport. Here are stories planned to spark your planning urge:

Louis Weyers' article from the Transvaal may knock down that last obstacle in the way of your trip after the big ones (we hope it does); but it's of interest also to the man who will never "sight" an elephant; for Weyers is talking here of good American guns which are good at home, good anywhere in the world.

Next comes Colonel Busbey ("I Like the Side-by-Sides," GUNS, April, 1958) with another rattling good story on shotgun how-to. A shooter who puts his gun behind his theories (see cover), the salty Colonel offers readable and understandable advice on how you can shoot better.

Carlos Vinson brings European wild boars close to home — Tennessee and North Carolina, to be exact. There you can hunt the exotic "*gros gibier*"—great game—of Europe, here at home. And they grow as tough in Tennessee as in the Ardennes.

More African hunting, about the "Kenya Walker?" Well, yes, and a story with a surprise ending. The lucky owner of the big Kenya Colt has just returned from another trip, this time to Ethiopia, where he presented a sword to The Lion of Juda, His Imperial Majesty, Emperor Haile Selassie. There's a story in that, too: watch GUNS.

The gun crank will relish "They Said It Couldn't Be Done," too-often said about Jim Harvey, who went ahead and did it. Shot revolvers, Jugular Xpress bullets, and Prot-X-Bore high velocity slugs, are all his. Read about the new rifle calibers, the Maglaska, in this one, too.

"Teach The Lady To Shoot" rates with Busbey's shotgun primer; it's a what and why and how of shotgunning for the wife or girl friend. Sometimes a man wants to be alone, and the hunting camp may be that time. But women are sort of nice to have around, and this story by an expert lady shooter is calculated to make them good shooting companions.

A top-notch police pistol course is detailed in "Who Said Cops Can't Shoot?" These cops can shoot, and the ideas embodied in their training could help you be more accurate as a match competitor.

More for the collector this time: gun midgets are one of the most fascinating aspects of collecting. Bob Abels, dean of gun collector dealers, specializes in miniatures for his own amusement. Hence Sonntag's story on collecting and making tiny working guns is for both the collector and the do-it-yourselfer. And for our Gun of the Month, we present an historic revolver recently given to the West Point Museum: a good Yankee gun with a bad Nazi owner.

For hunter and big-bore enthusiast, the data in Les Bowman's stock design story tells you what to look for in buying a high performance rifle, for match or moose. How to lick kick is the theme.



## THE COVER

What's wrong with our cover? We don't endorse this gun position (see article), but we do suggest that you can profit by what the man behind the gun has to say on how to improve shotgun scores. Anyway, we do think it's a striking picture; don't you?

# Guns

**FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD**

MAY, 1959

VOL. V, NO. 5-53

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# GUNS in the NEWS

[Special]—

◆ Childersburg, Ala. There's nothing minor about Miner Cliett. At 14, Miner is being hailed as the hottest young gunman in the country. At the Mid-South Open, he broke 443 out of 450 targets, a world's record for any age. The late T. K. (Tackhole) Lee, of Birmingham, Ala., regarded by organized shooters as perhaps the greatest marksman of all time, used to have a standing bet of \$10,000 that no one could top young teenager Cliett in a two-man match and nobody ever took him up on it.

★ ★ ★  
◆ Van Wert, Ohio. Sam Price has a setter who just doesn't know when to quit. Sam got his limit of pheasants in the first 10 minutes of the hunting season, but his setter, unwilling to call it a day so soon, kept going and, in fact, hasn't been seen since.

★ ★ ★  
◆ A 17-year-old Cleveland youth was shot recently by a woman he had attacked only a few minutes earlier. The victim said she admitted the young man to her home when he represented himself as a collector for a church charity. Once inside, he attacked her. As he left the house, she found a gun, ran to the door, and shot him before he reached the street. The youth managed to reach his home and his father took him to a hospital. Police, arriving a few minutes later, heard the youth confess the rape.

★ ★ ★  
◆ Richmond, Va. You won't believe it, but when Arnold Stewart shot a goose on Ocracoke Island, the bird fell into and down the chimney of the Beachcombers Club house and landed in the fireplace, ready for cooking. Well, ready except for feathers and certain other extraneous assets. Or at least

so it was reported in the Richmond "News Leader."

★ ★ ★  
◆ Few people know it, but pronghorn antelope, commonly thought of as among the world's great leapers, won't jump a fence. Deer will jump; pronghorns will often crawl under rather than jump even a modest man-made barrier. Because of this idiosyncrasy, in Wyoming, where the federal highway program requires stocktight fences along Route 30, underpasses are being constructed at key points to serve pronghorn transients en route to new range or to water.

★ ★ ★  
◆ We have it on the word of the Kansas City, Mo., "Star" that Bob Thomas, hunting rabbits with a shotgun, fired at a running bunny, missed, but killed one of a covey of quail flushed by the rabbit. As all gunners know, there are days when you just can't miss. And vice versa.

★ ★ ★  
◆ Warning to Los Angeles shooters: Better take action now against threat of vicious anti-gun legislation in your city. Phone Councilman Edward R. Roybal in protest. The proposed law, we're told, is a copy of the New York City Sullivan abortion.

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brand new, complete with new recoil plate, butt plate, screws, front band spring, \$4.95. Same, less metal parts, \$3.95. (Very light color stocks, finish sanded but not stained, same prices.) Carbine Handguards, new, \$2.30 ppd. Write wants for other carbine parts.



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# Elmer Keith says...

## .22 Hornet Revolvers

Christy Gun Works, 875-57th, Sacramento, California, has long furnished cylinders and barrels for the .22 Hornet cartridge for the Single Action Colt and Great Western Revolvers. He can also fit target sights, and can fit up either S. A. Army or Bisley models. For those wanting a flat shooting, small bore revolver for small game and small vermin shooting, this does a very good job. Christy also fits small rebounding firing pins in the guns, to make them safe with commercial Hornet or full power reloads with any type bullet from 30 to 50 grains as desired. Standard commercial ammunition worked very well in one I tested here some years back.

## New Quick Draw Holster

Bucks Leathercraft, operated by H. W. Hutchins, Newfoundland, Penna., makes a very good line of quick-draw holsters for hard service. They are made of excellent grade saddle skirting, moulded over the gun for an exact fit while the leather is wet. These holsters are smooth grain inside and rough flesh side out, and are made with full but narrow skirt back that puts the smooth side next to your person. A small strap below the frame will keep holster as tight as desired. Front of holster is cut out below end of frame for fast work.

The sample sent for test held gun practically vertical. I would prefer the butt tipped ahead more, and this can be had if desired. These holsters are made of best materials and carefully hand sewn with a leather plug in bottom to minimize drag and barrel wear at the muzzle. Hammer and trigger guard are left in the clear above the gun belt, as they should be. Altogether a first-class, hard-service holster, and one that properly fits the gun.

## A Remington Run-down

### RIFLE SIGHTS ON SHOTGUNS

Hunters who, by law in several states, are forced to use a shotgun for their deer and bear shooting, have long felt the need for a first class set of rifle sights on their shotgun for use with slugs and also to center a pattern of buckshot at close range. For slug use particularly, such sights are badly needed.

The Williams Gunsight Co. of Davison, Mich., has long furnished and fitted the finest extra-large aperture receiver sight for such slug use, and it has given perfect satisfaction wherever used. This sight is so large in the aperture that it is also excellent for fast wing shooting. Even Skeet shooters said

they did not feel handicapped at all when using it.

Now for the first time comes a great gun company with a shotgun for such work, with open sights on the barrel. Remington now produces and markets special slug barrels, bored especially for accuracy with slug loads, and fitted with rifle front and rear sights, the same as their Model 725 rifle. These can be adjusted for any given range and will give excellent shotgun slug accuracy for close range flat country deer and bear shooting. The same barrel can also be used for shotgun work, giving an improved cylinder pattern.

Remington furnishes these special slug shotguns in Models 11-48 (\$132.95), Sportsman 58 (\$146.45), and Model 870 Wingmaster (\$95.95). These guns can also be had with additional shot barrels for regular shotgun usage, and barrels can be changed quickly. Remington also furnishes barrels with rifle sights and bored for slugs for these three models, so the shooter owning one of these guns can have an interchangeable rifle-slug barrel at a cost of \$54.35 for the Sportsman 58 or Model 11-48, or \$44.35 for the Wingmaster 870. This is something that has been needed for a long time by sportsmen living in states that prohibit rifle use on deer, and Remington should enjoy very large sales on both the new slug guns and the new slug sighted barrels in these sections. Dealers will want to stock up on these guns and barrels before the next big game season.

These slug guns by Remington would also be very useful in the pump models in Africa (auto loaders not allowed in British territories), for both pot shooting of birds and also with buckshot for leopard (to trail a wounded cat into dense cover), and also with slugs for longer range when a hunter needed a rifle and was out with a shotgun for birds. You never know what will be encountered in Africa. To go out for birds and maybe meet a lion head on is not unusual.

These Remington slug guns should also be ideal for much jungle shooting in South America. It is mostly close range, and the improved cylinder boring would do nicely for birds and small animals, with the slugs and buckshot for the larger fauna.

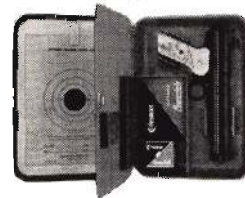
### SPORTSMAN 58 12 GAUGE MAGNUM

Remington now furnishes their well liked Sportsman 58 chambered for 3" Magnum 12 loads. This gas-operated autoloader has long been popular in standard 2 3/4" chambering, and will be even more so now that it is to be had for the big Magnum 12 load with

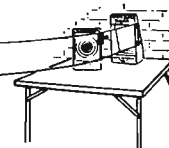
# Does Your Son Want to SHOOT?

## Shoot with him at home with a .22 Pellgun

There comes a time when every normal American boy wants a rifle of his own. Ownership of a gun implies responsibility. So teach your son gun safety and marksmanship right in your home with the recognized .22 . . . a Crosman Pellgun Rifle. High accuracy with Crosman's exclusive Tru-Flyte barrel, button rifling, adjustable sights and metered gas-power. Shooting is *safer* the Crosman "power-without-powder" way. Quiet, odorless, no recoil. And, you can *shoot* in your own home without elaborate backstop or shooting range with Crosman's Remote Control Targlite. Ask your Crosman Select Sporting Goods Dealer for demonstration.



**CROSMAN PORTABLE SHOOTING KIT** with 150 Gas-Powdered Pistol, built-in target and backstop.



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1½ to 1¾ ounces of shot. This makes it an excellent wildfowl pass gun for those long range mallards or geese. Dial control on the gun gives instant setting for either 2¾" light loads or the heavy 3" loads. With plain barrel, weight goes around 7½ pounds; with ventilated rib, around 7¾ pounds. Stock dimensions are standard at 1¾" comb, 2½" heel drop, and 14" length of pull. Price, \$149.95 with plain barrel, and \$169.95 with elevated ventilated rib barrel.

receiver and triggerguard design and, regardless of color of stock preferred, are wonderful shooting guns.

### NEW CALIBERS FOR MODEL 725

Remington announces that their Model 725, perhaps the finest bolt action Remington has produced (first offered in .280 Rem, .270 Winchester, and .30-06) is now to be furnished in .222 Remington and .244 Remington. Price with Monte Carlo Stock, \$134.95.

Hopkins. Many shooters wanted short magnum-type cases in .35 and .375 caliber that would work through standard actions. To meet the demand, we now have the .35 O.K.H. and the .375 O.K.H., both made on the .333 O.K.H. short belted case. Of the three loads, I would prefer the .333 O.K.H. belted with its much greater sectional density; but other shooters have different ideas and want the .35 or .375 caliber. All three cartridges will handle both 250 and 300 grain bullets, and the case will hold around 65 grains of powder maximum. They are ideal big loads for an all-around American rifle for everything from deer to Kodiak bear.

The new Winchester .338 is practically a duplicate of our old .333 O.K.H. Belted in



Blonde maple stocks add modern touch to Remington 58TX Sportsman at right and 870TX pump above, both with ribs.

### BLOND STOCKS

Since Remington came out with their ultra-light aluminum frame and lined-barrel .22 with a honey colored stock and gold plate trimmings, some folks wanted the same colored stocks and trimmings on their trap and Skeet guns; so Remington will now furnish these blond stocks and gold trim on their ventilated rib models. These high grade light colored stocks are now available in trap versions 870TX and 58TX at a retail of \$166.35 and \$214.45 respectively; Skeet Models 870SX and 58SX at \$137.85 and \$181.35; and field grade Models 870ADX and 58ADX at \$137.85 and \$176.05 respectively. These Remington pump and auto loaders all carry the same fine streamlined



This will be a welcome addition to the list of calibers available in this fine rifle. However, in my opinion, it's high time Remington brought out a good, big, all-around big game cartridge for this rifle. For my money, it should be our .333 O.K.H., preferably with 250 grains at 2600 to 2700 and the 300 grain round nose at 2400 and 2450, either the plain 06 case or the Belted O.K.H. case. Or, if they prefer, a factory load that is well established, then the .375 H & H magnum would fill the bill.

C. M. Oneil, of Alberton, Montana, has now completed the line of O.K.H. Cartridges developed by himself, Keith, and Don

everything except groove diameter. (The new Winchester is .338" instead of .3330".) It will make Winchester a very fine cartridge, but would have been even better in standard .3330" groove diameter so that all existing bullets would have been available to the handloader.

Remington also badly needs one big game caliber larger than the .300 H & H or .30-06, and until they do bring out such a caliber we expect Winchester to enjoy most of the sales of heavy big game calibers. Their .338, .375 H & H, and .458 have all been well proven in the field, both here and in Africa,

(Continued on page 64)



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removing all corrosive residue

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## CROSSFIRE

game animals than most of our so-called conservation. Let's have more of Keith.

K. Otoupalik  
Missoula, Montana

### Gracias— And The Same To You, Pete

Many thanks for sending me the February issue of GUNS inviting attention to the piece on police awards. There is plenty of food for thought in this excellent article. If we can get more police interested in training young people in shooting we will have made a big stride in overcoming anti-gun feeling. With a youth training program the police have a wonderful opportunity to win friends among the teenagers.

You people are doing some mighty fine work. I wish you the best of luck.

Pete Brown  
Arms Editor, "Sports Afield"

### Most Essential Area

Thank you for sending me the advanced proofs of your excellent story on the "Rifleman in Civil Defense." The case has never been more clearly and convincingly stated, and you deserve continued praise for insisting upon more active backing in this most essential area.

Let me tell you again how deeply impressed I am by your fine editorial handiwork. More power to you!

Leo A. Codd  
Executive Vice President  
American Ordnance Association

### Follow Switzerland

I have just returned from a three month stay in Canada and just read the February issue of GUNS.

I wish to comment on the article entitled "Should You Own a Gun?" With this I agree wholeheartedly. Because of the stupidity of the English Government in banning civilian guns after Dunkirk, America sent thousands of guns and many thousands of rounds of ammunition to England to save the tight little isle. We as free Americans can do something about this where our country is concerned. We can't look to any other country to help us. If the Defense Department wants to cut down the Army then they better do something to counter balance it. If we are invaded, it will be up to the sportsmen and gun collectors to greet the enemy when he attempts to land.

Let's have every able-bodied man a shooter. If the Swiss can do it and maintain their freedom, there is no reason why we can't do it. This country gained its freedom with the rifle, and the way to keep it is with the rifle. The Government should build more rifle and pistol ranges and have them open to the public so that any man who wishes to shoot or learn to shoot may do so.

I have been a subscriber to GUNS ever since it was started, and there is none better. I have enjoyed the issues a lot. The articles concerning arming the citizen have been quite to the point. Keep up the good work.

Luther J. Gibbons  
Nixon, N. J.

### Viva Keith!

I have been an ardent follower and booster of your magazine ever since it first hit the market, and especially since Elmer Keith has joined your staff. To me, he is tops. I know Elmer personally and, while a lot of people argue about his belief in large calibre guns, they do so because of ignorance and inexperience. Elmer is at heart a true conservationist and is doing more, by continuing to expound his theory of large calibres and clean one-shot kills, to perpetuate our

### West Virginians, Arise!

Your October, 1958, edition contains a letter, in Crossfire, from a gentleman in West Virginia, regarding West Virginia's ridiculous pistol laws. After traveling, being stationed, or hunting in approximately 40 of the states, I can see how such an ill-advised piece of legislation can affect such an honored sport as pistol shooting. I believe the law reads: a member of a shooting club is authorized to carry his pistol to and from meetings. We residents of the State of West Virginia who are members of gun clubs or are lucky enough to be in the proximity of a gun club, are very few.

I wonder if this gentleman has talked to his representative to the legislature. Last year I wrote a letter to the governor. Afterward, I realized that this was the wrong approach; I should have written to my representative. If all the individual pistol shooters and the gun clubs of the state would pick up the ball, talk to their representatives and flood them with letters, I believe that something would be done.

I hope that each fellow West Virginian who reads this magazine, be he rifleman, shotgunner, or pistolman will pick up the ball and start it rolling. Let's have West Virginia lead those other states which have similar useless, restricting type firearms legislation, in abolishing them.

Harold C. Spring  
T/Sgt. USAF

### Sullivan Law For Pennsylvania?

In recent weeks station WPEN in Philadelphia has been conducting an anti-gun crusade for the ostensible purpose of reducing the number of violent crimes in this area. As is usual with well-meaning but ill-informed do-gooders, they have been boosting state legislation similar to the Sullivan

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Law of New York State.

Such talk is bad enough, but I now hear that a stringent gun law is to be brought before the next legislature at Harrisburg. The exact details are not known to me but the knowledge of what has happened in New York causes me to view with alarm the efforts of those who want strict control of firearms.

Please use the facilities of your excellent publication to inform all Pennsylvania firearms enthusiasts that something potentially dangerous is afoot in Harrisburg. I know you'll come through as usual.

William S. Read, Jr.  
Merion, Pa.

### ... and Tennessee

I have read several articles and comments in your magazine on state pistol laws. The Sullivan Law of New York seems to be regarded as the worst of this nature; however, I believe an inspection of these laws will reveal that the state of Tennessee has the worst pistol law of any state.

Tennessee law forbids the sale of any handgun to any person, and forbids carrying, concealed or not, even for hunting or while camping or fishing. No provisions are made for permits, and it is illegal to carry a handgun in any manner, under any circumstances. Possession is not mentioned in the law and apparently is legal. Carrying unloaded pistols to and from a target range is generally thought to be legal, although the law does not make this clear.

The Sullivan Law may deny about 80% of New York City residents purchase and carrying permits as a recent article in your magazine stated, but Tennessee's pistol law denies these rights to 100% of its residents. I would like to see an article in your magazine explaining the interpretation of Tennessee's pistol law and what a handgunner's rights under it are, since it is vague in many respects. I think you have a fine magazine and am a regular reader.

Name withheld  
Chattanooga, Tennessee

### The Bannerman Story

I am a regular reader of GUNS magazine, and my attention and interest was aroused by your article in the January, 1959, edition entitled "Arsenal on the Hudson." I would like to comment favorably on the article by requesting more just like it! I would greatly appreciate it if you could send me immediate word as to where I might send for a Bannerman catalog, or any such price listing as may be obtainable.

John W. Davis  
Stevens Point, Wisconsin  
Address: Francis Bannerman & Sons, 501 Broadway, New York, N. Y.—Editors

Must congratulate you on two outstanding articles in GUNS. They were so good that I cut them out to keep. That's praise indeed. The one on Bannerman's took me on a trip I had wanted to take for many years, and obviously never would. You gave a picture of just what I would have looked for. It's tops: next thing to being there myself. And your article on the Colt rifles was very well done indeed. Fine photos. You should get a lot of favorable comments on these two.

Major R. T. Huntington, Ordnance  
Fort Lewis, Washington



## This is his last raid

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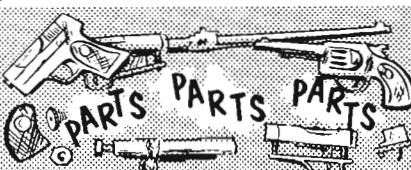
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Very Good . . . . . \$29.00  
Fair . . . . . \$14.95  
ACCESSORY KIT: Consisting of 2 extra mags & carrying case, tool set, special aircraft sights, plus other extras. Kit with gun \$37.50. Without gun \$9.95. A \$15.00 Value.

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\*These items are available in fully active condition with proper U.S. Treasury authorization to the buyer.



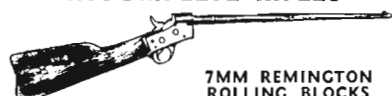
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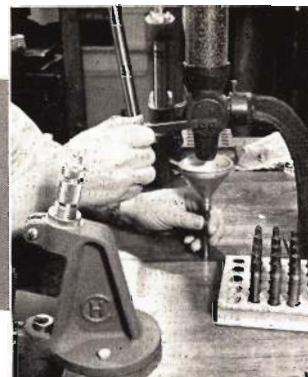
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# HANDLOADING BENCH

By KENT BELLAH



YOU WERE WISE to choose the .222 Remington round—it was created practically without bugs. Now the most popular .22 hot-shot, it hit the market in 1950 and has been hitting varmints and targets ever since. Ballistics fill the gap between the low powered Hornet and loud-mouth Swift. There is nothing amazing about these ballistics—except inherent accuracy which gave gun writers a field day with both gun and pen. Factory fodder starts a 50 grain pill at a listed 3,200 fps. The hull has a good shape, high loading density and uniformity.

The Hull Fillers fraternity snatched at the case like it was an inheritance from a rich uncle. The bench rest brothers promptly started shooting new world's record groups. Varminters found exceptional accuracy at moderate range in the hull that looks like a .30-06 viewed through reversed binoculars. All tubes shoot well.

Some writers call it a 300 yard varmint cartridge, which strains the barrel on small targets. Wind dopers can be fairly certain of hits to 249 yards, but darned if I'll call it a 250 yard crow gun, for the average lads. Even a novice can smack 'em dead at 200 plus, and hear a satisfying Plop! as the bullet expends energy. Shooters with plenty of field practice, a real hot tube, and a fine glass, can blast the black bandits almost without a miss on a calm day, when the wind is less than 5 miles per hour.

At 100 yards a factory slug is traveling 2,660 fps, and at 200 is a pretty decent 2,170 fps. At 300 yards, the bullet is getting tired and wobbles along at only 1,750 fps, although still spinning at around 160,000 revolutions per minute. No matter what the rotational velocity, the forward velocity is

getting a little slow for fast blowup. Drop is a huge 23 inches plus, and a mere five-mile side breeze moves the group more than 8½" compared with 6½" with a Swift. If you are shooting in one minute of angle, which is pretty good, you can miss the exact point of aim by nearly a foot without allowing for windage. Or, if you are lucky, you can hit within 5½" with the other side of your spread.

When you estimate the range and allow for drop, wind speed, and bullet deflection, you'll agree that crows and prairie dogs at 300 yards are too small for consistent hits, although the group would plug a Stetson hat every shot. At 200 yards, mid-range trajectory is only about 2½", and bullet drop less than 9". The same wind pushes the bullet only 3½", compared to 2½" for the Swift or over 7" for a Hornet. If you forget the wind, a two-minute of angle (2 moa) group will catch a goodly number of crows, with no hold-over necessary. If you hold into the wind on the far edge of a crow that thinks you have a Hornet, it's as deadly as the arsenic a sweet old lady puts in her husband's coffee to collect insurance.

There's the truth in a cartridge shell. Let's call it a 200 yard-plus gun. Coyotes roll most of the time at up to 250 yards, but the punch is light at this range, where more bullet weight or velocity performs better. While not recommended for deer, 100 pound whitetails have been cleanly killed with a well placed hit. A glassed .222 at moderate range in open country makes exact bullet placement more accurate than an open sighted .30-30, and a well placed hit is always the best killer. Tiny, high velocity pills are not wood choppers, and

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should never be used where a twig might explode the bullet.

The little .222 cartridge has started many shooters in handloading, being one of the easiest and cheapest to reload. It is fully adequate for 95% of all varmints, and about 100% adequate for call hunting. Animal calling will triple your bag, may increase it 50 times. Varmints can be hunted every day in the year, the best hours being early or late in the day, or at night where it is allowed. Some calls work better than others. The Weems All-Call has given me a lot of fun, and brings in all four footed predators, birds of prey, and even coons and deer. Call hunting, and the mild report of a .222, helps cement farmer-hunter relations, something all of us should work on.



Good .222 reload compared with cases stretched in die without lubrication.

All the factory guns I've fired, and they have been many, gave accuracy from fine to superb. These include the Remington, Savage, Marlin, and F.I. Sakos in featherweight sporter, heavy-barrel, and Mannlicher models. I think the light F.I. Sakos are the best shooting sporters right out of the box, with no tune-up work. They have superb accuracy, plus the excellent handling qualities I value so highly for field use and on running game. The light barrels and beautifully finished metal is well bedded in the French Walnut stock, which helps account for accuracy. Light barrels will shoot. The heavy tube may group a bit tighter, especially for long, sustained fire, where points count on targets, but the sporter is a real hunting gun. Marlin uses the same fine action with their Micro-Groove barrel. Mine shoots well.

Large glasses like the 8x Leupold and

Bushnell can't be used in the low Sako rings. An 8x Weaver can be mounted with a .025" shim in the forward ring, which may not be the best practice. I think the best deal is to drill the Sako actions for a Buehler mount, or those who can't have the work done will like the Stitch. The 6x and 8x scopes are the most popular, but rest shooters sometimes use a 10x or more.

Factory fodder generally groups in about 2" from sporters right out of the box. Cases are better than average, have fewer off-center or eccentric necks, thin walls and other defects. Maximum length is 1.700". New or once-fired hulls are best trimmed .004" to .006" under that figure, which faces off most shells. Exact length is not important, just so it is uniform and not too long. Like other calibers, new cases are not uniform in length. A trimmer like the Forster allows visual inspection of the neck walls for uniformity after trimming, and before deburring. Discard cases with neck walls thin on one side, with neck or wall cracks, or head or primer pocket defects.

Best bullets are 50 to 55 grains, and the .224" diameter shoots best in all the guns I've fired. The 55 grain pills buck wind slightly better, which is more than canceled out for varmints by the faster blowup of some 50 grain types. Soft bullets blow up faster, while hard ones give more penetration. Bench resters who home swage their pills agree that pure, soft lead cores give better accuracy than any alloy and, of course, are more destructive on varmints.

Sisk, Sierra, and Hornady bullets have given me excellent results, and I have good reports on Speer. The Sisk 50 gr. Lovell


and 54 gr. Niedner have plenty of explosion on varmints. The Sisk 49 and 55 gr. Express numbers are a bit tough for fast blowup at .222 velocity. Good target and varmint pills are the 53 gr. Sierra Benchrest H.P. and Sisk 49 or 55 gr. Benchrest H.P., all in .224" diameter.

4198 cannister powder has given me the best results. My light Sako and a custom rifle will group close to 3/4 moa with 21 grains behind 50 gr. Lovell's in Remington cases, ignited by CCI primers. Half-inch and smaller groups have been shot, but a tube that "stays" in 3/4 moa is plenty hot. This is a "universal" load that shoots well in all rifles I've tried, without buying premium priced Benchrest pills.

To work up to best accuracy with any 50 gr. bullet and 4198, start with 19.5 grains, increasing the charge in .5 grain steps, stopping at any indication of excess pressure. Don't load more than 22 grains. If your best groups are, say, with 20.5, 21 and 21.5 grains, then settle for the center figure. Your loads will be right in the middle of the best burning range of the powder, and show the least velocity-pressure spread. Cut the top charge .5 grains or more with 55 grain bullets, which loses about 100 fps velocity. Bullets are best seated out as far as possible to feed in the magazine. If you single-load, you can seat them to nearly touch the lands.

B. E. Hodgdon, the Merriam, Kansas, powder distributor, lists 27 grains of Ball, type C, as sold under his label, with 50 gr. Hornady bullets at 3,420 fps, as a MAX charge. He advises CCI or W-W primers for best ignition with this powder. This load is

(Continued on page 59)




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Author who lives in South Africa hunts big game selected areas, took this elephant in '51 in Mozambique.

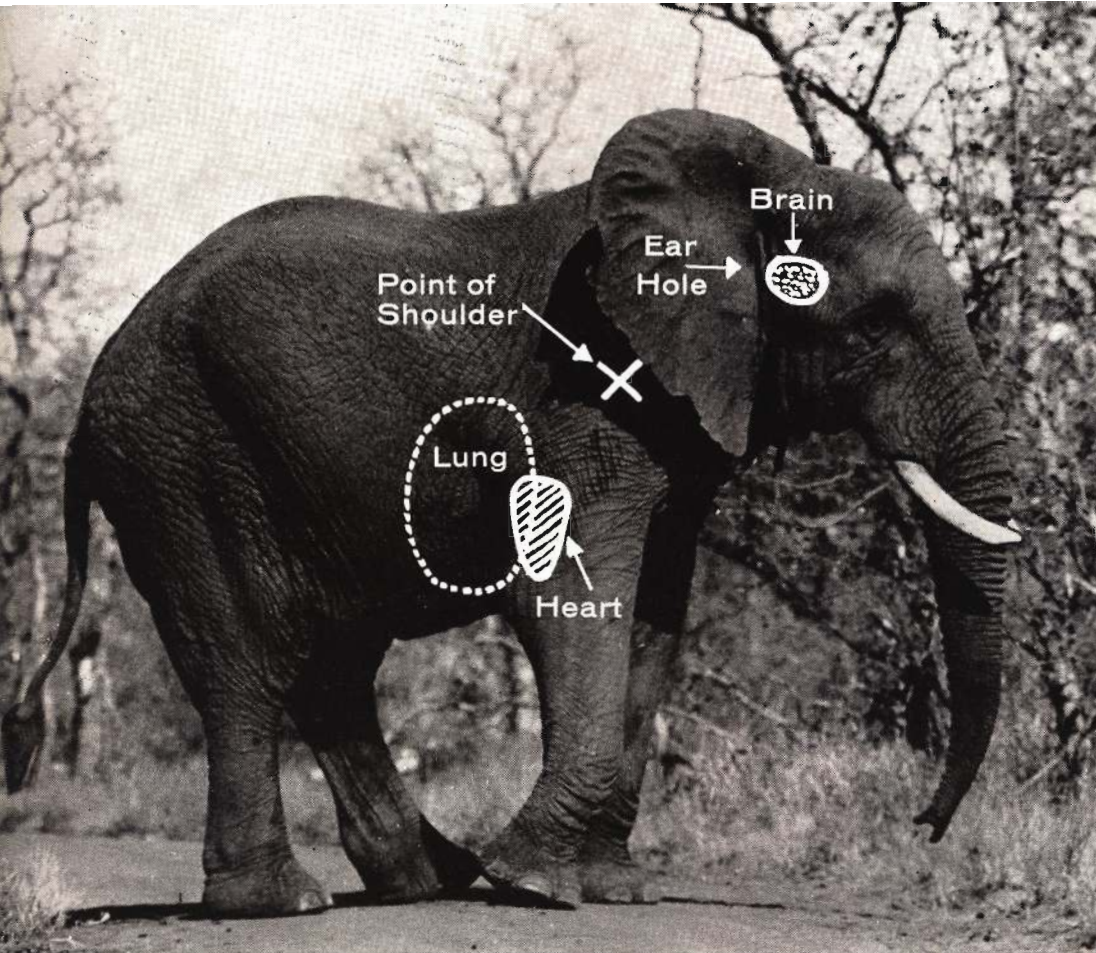
# Your Ready-Made Battery for Africa

By LOUIS WEYERS  
*Transvaal, S.A.*



Weyers tried many fine British doubles, settled on bolt actions for Africa. Heaviest rifle (top) is .458 "African" Winchester, iron sights, for 50-yard slug-fest. Next, his .375 Model 70 carries Weaver J2.5 in Echo mount; third is .30-06 similarly fitted up. For getting small game for pot in camp, Weyers takes Winchester 72; G4 Weaver on top.





Vital spots of elephant are not easily hit. Any bullet for pachyderms must drive through inches of hide, spongy bone, to kill. New .458 WCF has many African boosters.

## RESIDENT SPORTSMAN FINDS PRACTICAL RIFLES FOR ALL AFRICAN GAME IN STANDARD BOLT ACTION SPORTER LINE-UP

**T**HE AFRICAN ELEPHANT is the world's largest game animal, and one of the world's most coveted trophies. The typical American hunter will live out a lifetime of deer hunting, black bear and off-season varmint shooting, with always lurking in his mind the dream of one great safari to Africa. A major stumbling block to realizing this dream is the belief that the hunter must be equipped with rifles of the largest and most coveted sort—that is to say, the most expensive: big, double rifles, custom made by skilled and costly craftsmen. Yet today's fast air transportation plus reduced fares and "economy" style safaris are placing all Africa within moderate reach of an increasing number of American hunters; and the rifles to be used, including the largest, can easily be the practical, everyday rifles which you may already own.

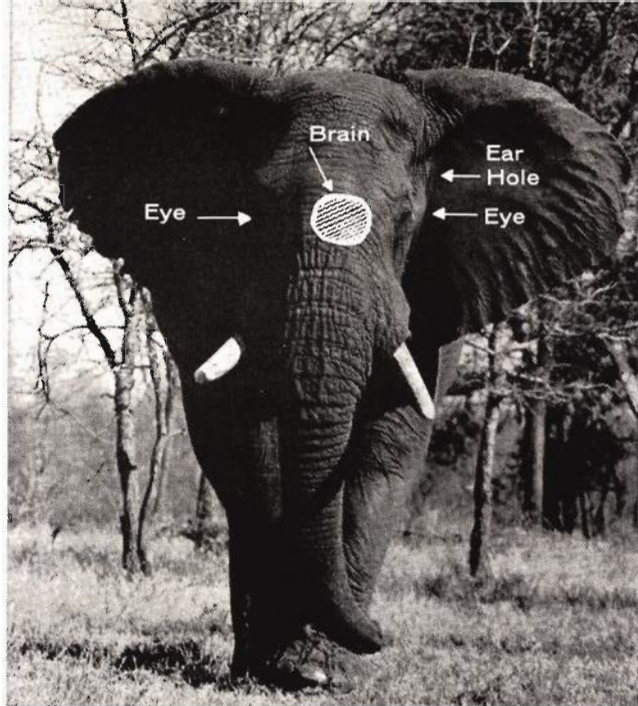
I live in Africa (the Transvaal), have hunted Mozambique and Angola and other places, and have selected my battery with an eye to economy and practical use, rather than in competition with the wealthy sportsmen and princes who come here to shoot. My guns, selected after a variety of experiences, are—Winchester Model 70s in different calibers to suit all game. The newest Model 70 "African" in .458 caliber makes my battery complete.

In considering the weapons we plan to use to hunt the elephant it will be advisable to canvass a wider field of rifles than just those suitable for elephant. Once it was traditional to use a heavy caliber top quality British double. I carried a lovely .470 Rigby double for a while, and a .500-.450 Holland briefly, as well as various magazine



Slimmed M70 with muzzle brake was used by U.S. visiting hunter to take lion. Weyers prefers .375 as "all-around" gun for veldt.





Weyers stood ground with camera to "point blank" range, drew in location of aiming spots giving best success.

rifles—.505 Gibbs Magnum, .404 Jeffery, .375 Magnum, 10.75 and 9.3x62 Mausers. In the course of time I became convinced that there was little to choose between the two types of rifles. Although the rapid and dependable second shot of the double is highly desirable, I personally feel happier with the additional cartridges offered by a magazine. There have been times when I was grateful for them!

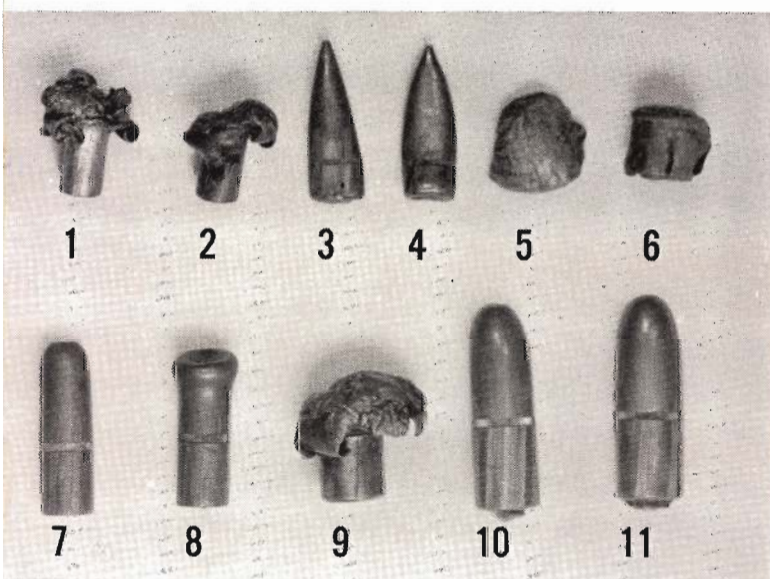
Let me explain how I came to select my battery of American magazine rifles for African game. A prerequisite for my heavy weapon is that the bullet must be of adequate weight and strength and sectional density. It must not have surplus velocity—which pushes up pressures and recoil, and only encourages the bullet to buckle or disrupt. Of the rifles available, I considered only the .505 Magnum powerful enough. But this was not satisfactory, as the solids (full patch bullets) are too weak, and the rifle has uncomfortable recoil. The .416 and .404 fired bullets of inadequate weight. Then Winchester introduced the .458 Magnum.

The .458 Winchester Magnum fires a heavy 500 grain slug at a modest velocity, and is easy on the shoulder. The steel casing of this bullet is of unique strength, 1/10" thick at nose and .067" at its thinnest point. This thickness, coupled with its fine sectional density, gives it the penetration required. In many ways, this caliber was an answer to the African hunter's dream. I believe it comes closer to the perfect elephant rifle than any other I have had the pleasure of using. The cartridge case is short (can I forget my companion who once found the .375 Magnum too long of case to operate while an elephant thundered towards us?), and the rifle is not too heavy. It is also well within the legal limits. In Tanganyika, .375" is the minimum for dangerous game, while Kenya requires at least .400" for elephant, rhino, buffalo, and hippo, and .375" Magnum for lion and eland.

The .458 Winchester Magnum is the heavy boy in my battery, and its efficiency can be gauged from the illustration, where it can be seen that the solids are really solid, and the softs splendid for buff.

Now, at one stage, my heavy was a .470 double, my medium a high quality British .375 Magnum (with double pull trigger), and my small bore a single pull .30-06. This was clearly confusing, but it was only after I had standardized entirely with Winchester Model 70 rifles that I realized how important it was to have all one's rifles with the same stock feel, the same balance, bolt action, safety catch, and trigger pull. With the exception of the .458, all have Weaver J2.5X scopes, and even the "African" will have one when I find a suitable mount. The recoil of this rifle is not sufficient to jar the scope, as was that of the .505 Magnum. Weaver's scopes are used because they are admirable in every respect, and the "J" series in preference to the "K" because the extra size and weight is, I feel, not justified in African shooting.

The calibers I have selected were final choices after much consideration and experience. The .30-06 is a caliber of unusual versatility. (Continued on page 59)



1) Core-Lokt 220 .30-06 shoulder shot, impala, 200 yds.; 2) same, buffalo, shoulder, 40 yds.; 3) M2 Ball at buff, shoulder, 80; 4) same, 90 yds.; 5) .375 300-gr. Silver Tip, brain shot, buff, 30 yds.; 6) ST on sable, shoulder, 175 yds.; 7) FP .375 on buff, 300 yds.; 8) same on rhino shoulder 30 yds.; 9) .458 Soft on buff, shoulder, 60 yds.; 10) same FP on buff shoulder 74 yds. (poly-groove Buhmiller barrel); 11) same, through neck to brain, 14 yds.



Kudu fell to .30-06 which Weyers calls minimum for average African hunting.



# A FIRST-READER FOR SHOTGUNNERS

**"THIS IS THE WAY I DO IT,"  
SAYS VETERAN SHOTGUNNER WHOSE SCORES  
A-FIELD BEAR OUT HIS THEORIES**

By COLONEL GEORGE W. BUSBEY (Ret)



A safe, comfortable, easy-to-get-into-action carry for gunner in bird cover.

THE OBJECTIVE of shotgun shooting is to hit things with a reasonable percentage of the shots fired. But because shotgunning has not been (perhaps cannot be) reduced to the mathematically precise rules of sight-picture and trigger-control that govern rifle and pistol shooting, the number of opinions as to how this can be done is almost exactly equal to the number of shotgunters able to talk or write.

Some of these opinions are backed by expert scores in both target and field shooting—and far be it from me to say those men are wrong. On the other hand, neither will I concede that they are right, or that they are all good teachers for beginners to follow. Some of them, I happen to know, preach one thing and then, blissfully unaware of it, do quite another when they actually swing a gun on a target. Anyway, this preachment is not for such as them; this is for the shotgun beginner. If you're already an expert, turn the page, and God bless you!

Although many shotgun shots are fired at stationary targets (sitting rabbits, squirrels, varmints, pattern boards, and what-have-you), the real value of a shotgun is its ability, when properly handled, to send a charge of shot which will hit a running or flying target. You can get valuable information, to say nothing of pot meat, by shooting a shotgun at stationary targets, but this is not true shotgunning. The shotgun sports hinge primarily on air-borne targets.

There are a few essentials which, if practiced, will enable a man (or woman) to become a satisfactory shotgun performer, able to enjoy the sport and give a fair account of himself a-field or on a marsh or on a clay-bird court. The following are those essentials as I see them.

## GUN POSITION

The first, last, and most important consideration in adopting a "correct" gun position is to make sure that it is a *safe* position. That means position that keeps the gun pointed where an accidental discharge cannot harm you, your shooting companions, or any other





Gun butt is pocketed in shoulder as arms support and exert rearward pull without blocking gun movement. Eyes well above barrel get clear view of target. Gunner can swing either way.

Unlike cover picture (in which arms are too close together, cramping the swing) picture below shows arms and head in correct triangle of forces.



This may be fine for riflemen, but it's all wrong for the shotgunner. Eyes are too low, arms are locked.

thing you do not mean to threaten or to hit.

Your gun is, undoubtedly, equipped with a safety, and most of them are good; but never trust a mechanical device to correct *your* mistakes in gun-pointing. If you can forget to keep the gun pointed safely, you can also forget to set the safety gadget; and the time you forget *both* is exactly when the accident will happen. The only certain safety with a loaded gun is to keep the muzzles pointed always and invariably in a safe direction. Neither the lie, "The safety failed," nor the truth, "I thought it was on 'safe' and it wasn't," will absolve you in the eyes of a wounded companion—or his widow. AXIOM: *The good shooter is a safe shooter.* Keep the gun muzzle pointed where it can't do any damage.

The correct *firing* position for a shotgun is one where the gun butt is snugly placed in the hollow of the shoulder—not out on the tip, nor down on the muscles—and the gun is supported by the arms and held in position by your two hands.

Place your cheek against the stock so that your eyes are well above the top line of the barrel, barrels, or rib. (Hereafter, let's let "barrel" serve the meaning whether your gun be a single or a double, with or without rib.) Never aim down the top line of the barrel. (Accompanying photos show right and wrong positions.) Glance down at your gun only to be sure that your master eye is looking

truly along a line above and parallel to the top of the gun.

*Question:* Which is the master eye?

*Answer:* The eye which is in control of your vision when both eyes are open.

*Question:* How can I tell which is my master eye?

*Answer:* Sight down your finger, or your gun, at some object, with both eyes open. Then close one eye. If you are still sighted on the object, your master eye is open. For a right handed shooter, the right eye is usually master.

*Question:* Suppose my left eye is master?

*Answer:* There are three things you can do: shoot left handed; get a gun stock which will put your master eye directly above the rib; or,—best of all—forget it. You will see why when you find out that you do not use the rib or the sights or even the barrel, to aim or sight at any target. You look *above* and parallel to the rib or barrel; and a few inches makes no difference to a shotgun.

Once you have found the correct spot to place your cheek on the stock, never vary it. From there on, *never* look at any part of your gun. Forget the sight—it is useless. Forget the barrel, except to get and keep it placed properly. And never, never, *never*, use your hands to move your gun up, down, or sideways toward any target.

*Question:* How do I move my gun toward the target?

*Answer:* By using the muscles of your upper body.

Use your hands to raise the gun to its proper mounted



position and keep it there. The left hand (for a right-handed shooter) must do a little fingering and pulling straight back to keep the gun butt in its proper place in the hollow of your shoulder. The right hand must grip and pull and hold a little also, to keep the gun butt in its proper position. And . . . the right hand must turn its trigger finger loose from all other jobs so that it will always be free to fire the shotgun at the correct time.

Just let your arms alone. Their muscles will soon strengthen to hold your shotgun in its proper position. Work them hard, but only at that one job. If they start to move the gun up, down, or sideways, stop them—tell them to mind their own damn' business.

The arms should be neither directly under nor stuck out at right angles to the gun. (See photos, front view.) There is a reason for the position shown, and it is a compromise between two desirable and mechanically sound positions. If you had to hold up a heavy weight for a long time, you would, naturally, get directly under it. But the gun is not a "heavy weight" and you won't be holding it a long time . . . If you wanted to keep the gun from moving to the right or left, you would put one arm on each side and push equally with each arm. But, in the latter pose, you would soon tire and your gun would droop downward . . . So—you compromise; because you want to do two things at once. You want to keep your gun correctly mounted, and you also want it to stay that way while you move it. You want to be able to move it up, down, right, or left, in order to follow the direction of a moving target. How can you do that?

It is not easy, at first; but it soon becomes easy if you simply freeze your upper body in the correct position and then make your upper body muscles do all the work except pulling the trigger. Remember, now: your eyes are above

and parallel to the barrel. Don't look at any part of the gun. Don't aim, or try to use the sight. Let your body do the work.

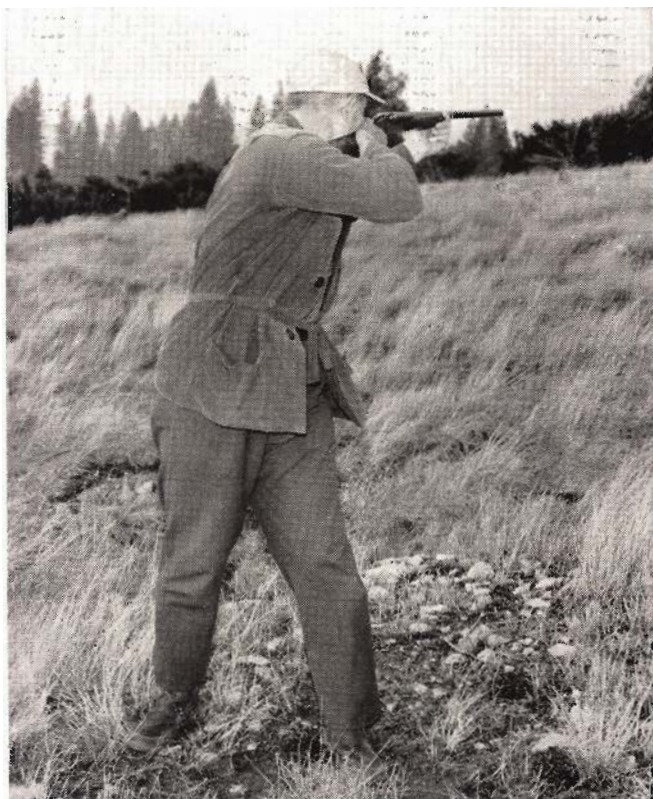
The functions of your feet and legs are to support you and take you where you want to go. If you are already there, place your feet comfortably and forget'em. In general, right-handed shooters advance the left foot, but comfort is the deciding factor as to how much it should be advanced and how much the feet should be separated.

If your target should appear suddenly from some unexpected direction, let your lower body take care of itself; make your pivot from the waist. If there be plenty of time, you may move your feet so that you face generally toward your target, but if speed is essential, you'd better stand where you are and trust your pivot joints than to start hopping around. I never saw a successful shotgunner shoot while his feet were doing a jig.

AXIOM: *The good shooter is strong. Train your muscles.*  
**SWING**

The foundation of good shooting is correct gun position; but to make it pay off, you must *swing*. Swing is the smooth movement of a correctly mounted shotgun in any direction desired by the shooter. I have been shooting shotguns for 49 years. Over that time, I have seen some of the best and some of the worst. The best shooters *swing*. Some say they don't, but watching them proves that they do.

Over those same years I have heard and read much about three methods of shotgun shooting: *snap shooting*, *pointing out*, and *swing*. My advice is to forget the first two and concentrate on the third. Snap shooting is trick shooting. The shooter tosses his gun to his shoulder and fires at a spot where he thinks the target will be. The snaphooter can be very effective at short range with an open bored gun—destructive at (Continued on page 46)



Properly positioned at start, gunner can swing left or right, as in pictures above, without moving feet.



Weight has changed from left foot to right, but the feet have not left spot on which they were planted.





European wild boars are tougher, bigger than their razorback cousins. Pigs have flourished in southern hills till they are now major dangerous big game.

## STOP-GUNS for



Recommended for stopping boars are larger rifles like .35 caliber Marlin 336, for woods shooting.

## IMPORTED FROM EUROPE, WILD BOARS NOW DRAW THOUSANDS TO CAROLINA MOUNTAINS FOR THRILL-PACKED HUNTING SPORT

By CARLOS VINSON

**F**IFTY YEARS AGO a British hunting syndicate turned loose 13 Prussian wild boars and sows, in a big 500-acre lot on the slopes of Big Snowbird Mountain, western North Carolina. There was a fine hunter's lodge on nearby Hooper's Bald Mountain, plus caretakers' quarters and hound kennels, for enjoying European-style hunting in the American back woods. But the remoteness of the rugged area eventually caused this pipe-dream preserve to fail.

The 13 Prussian pigs in the big fenced area thrived and multiplied until the herd numbered 60. Cotton McGuire, a native caretaker, was deeded the whole layout, for back wages due from the group of English sportsmen who started the project. Cotton, at the time, was not too well sold on the European boars to which he had fallen heir; and, being financially unable to carry on the project, Cotton decided that he and his mountain friends might as well enjoy a grand-slam hog hunt that would give the mountaineers something to talk about for many moons to come.



The hunt fizzled. The Prussian boars were too much for the mountain hunters and their dogs. The mixed hound and cur dogs knew how to handle black bear and the native wild mountain razorback hogs, but the beady-eyed devils from across the sea were tougher.

The hunters did manage to kill a couple of the boars, but the fifty-odd others really put on a show. A few of the old mountaineers that were in on the hunt still talk about it. Some fine mountain hunting dogs were slashed to death by the wickedly tusked boars: some of the hunters were sent squirreling up trees to escape madly charging boars; and the excitement finally reached such a high pitch that the boars tore through the supposedly animal proof fence and escaped into the surrounding mountains. Some of them crossed over into Tennessee and took up abode in what is now Tennessee's Tellico Wildlife Management Area. The others remained on the North Carolina side in the Hooper's Bald area, where the breed still exists.

Today, both Tennessee and North Carolina have huntable populations of Prussian wild boars. Both these states placed the beasts on their official game lists several years ago. Each fall, around 150 of the Prussian boars are bagged by hunters in the mountains of eastern Tennessee and western North Carolina, about 75 in each state. Most of these are



Big pig was shot by Yankee hunter in Tennessee using .300 Savage 99. Lever rifles work fast for quick shooting.

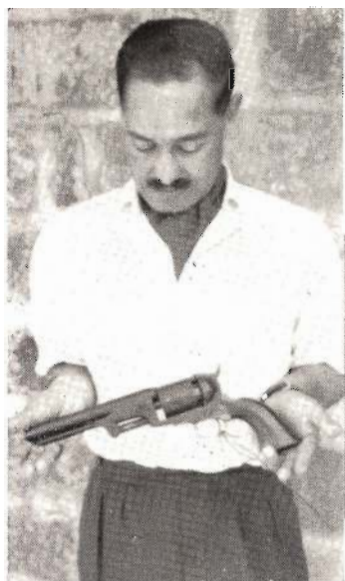
killed by members of hunting parties which employ the services of native guides who have packs of boar and bear dogs. California and New Hampshire also have small European wild boar herds, but the main attraction for hunters is the southern area just described. The little pint sized javelinas of the southwest, and the native wild razorback hogs of various southern wilderness (Continued on page 50)

# DIXIE TUSKERS



Starting out at dawn, Vinson's party in North Carolina hunted Hooper's Bald Mountain area for European wild boars.





Kenya police officer handles Colt .44 bought by Chicagoan.

**FOR YEARS PAST, RUMORS OF A WALKER  
COLT "IN DARKEST AFRICA" HAVE MADE U.S. COLLECTORS  
DREAM OF A NEW KIND OF BIG GAME SAFARI**

## HE HUNTED KENYA FOR THE WALKER COLT

By WILLIAM B. EDWARDS

*Author, "The Story of Colt's Revolver"*

WHEN THE MACHINES of Eli Whitney chopped out the big "Walker Model" revolvers which he had sub-contracted to make for Sam Colt in 1847, they chopped out more than just guns. This four-pound-plus chunk of history is now worth at least \$1,000 and fine specimens with proved backgrounds may be worth much more.

The legends, myths, stories of fabulous hidden caches of these revolvers, and the ultimate discovery of the collector when he tracks down such a myth, often do not coincide. A friend whose grandfather was Commissary General of Subsistence during the Civil War (Union) told me of a pair of "big Colt revolvers Grandfather had during the Mexican War and the Gold Rush." He positively identified these guns, from photos of revolvers of the type made by Whitney for Colt, as the rare and valuable "Walker" model. Eagerly I waited for the package in which he promised to send me the guns. My disappointment was not too great on opening the box and finding—of course—two nice pocket Model 1849 Colts of considerably less value. I had not really expected to find a Walker—or at least so I told myself, now that the box was open.

Walker revolvers are brought back by collectors from

Mexico as if they grew there. In the museum of the Mission Churubusco, near Mexico City, is a glass wall case or panel. It contains, well lighted, a rusty revolver. The card speaks of this as a "Colt Revolver of the American model used in the War of 1848." If rust and scale do not deceive me, the gun is, or was in 1951, a crumbly old Starr Model 1858 revolver, more frequently associated with the Civil War nearly two decades later. Where the Walker revolver is now, which once graced that case, only some Texas collector might be able to say.

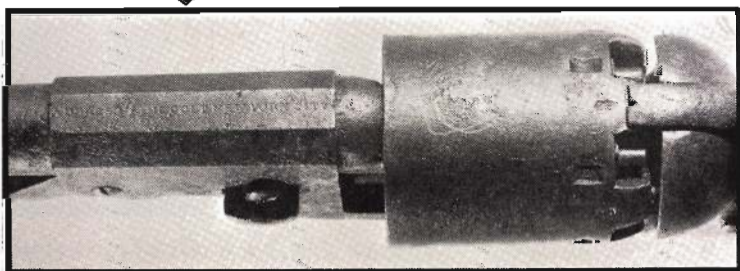
Meanwhile, Walkers by the bushel come out of Mexico—as I said, "like they grew there." Some, indeed, did grow there—out of old railroad iron and cold rolled steel, in Monterey blacksmith's shops. These fakes, which also include Paterson type revolvers, are crudely done and fool no one except the unwary Gringo tourista who is eager to think he is getting a prize at a low price. He is: a booby prize.

Yet Walkers do turn up in strange places. John duMont owns one, somewhat pitted and with a replaced pair of grips, that was pulled out of a burning ash can by a small boy in his home town. Larry Sheerin's unique cased



Big Dagoon was rare prize; has vertical lever catch and brass handle straps.

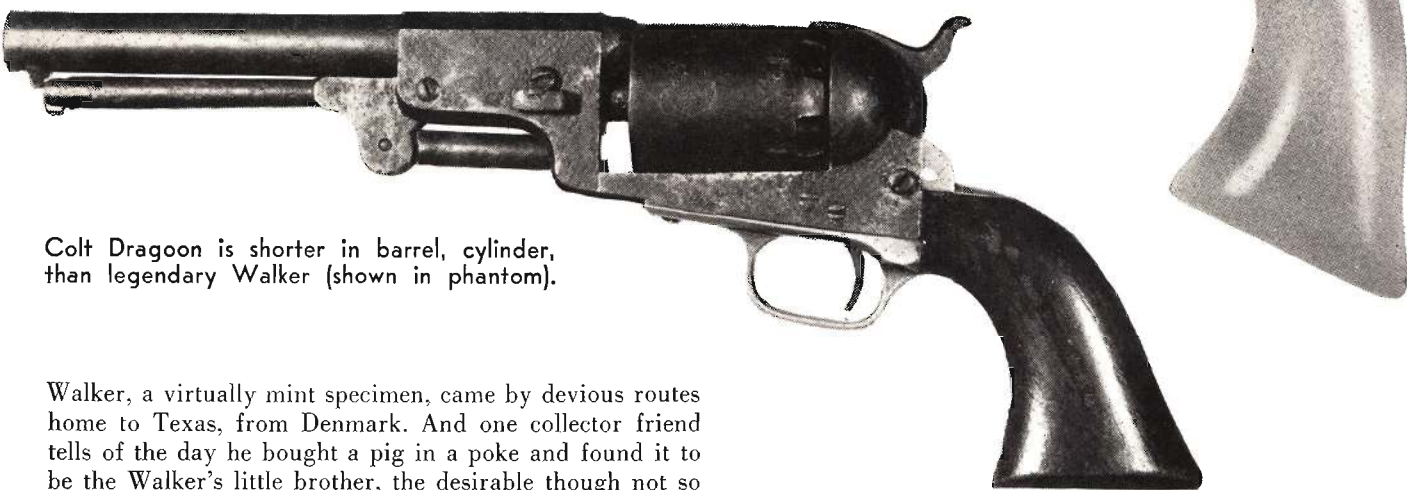
Barrel is marked in one-line stamping Address Saml Colt New York City but has London proof marks on cylinder.







Number stamped on barrel some believe to be old police registration, but gun could not be traced. Serial number identifies gun as being of London origin.



Colt Dagoon is shorter in barrel, cylinder, than legendary Walker (shown in phantom).

Walker, a virtually mint specimen, came by devious routes home to Texas, from Denmark. And one collector friend tells of the day he bought a pig in a poke and found it to be the Walker's little brother, the desirable though not so valuable Colt M1848 Dagoon. He walked into a local antique shop where he was a steady customer in the days when pocket Colts brought \$3 and \$5 and fine Army 1860's went for \$8 or \$10, and found his dealer friend with a wood chisel, struggling with the lock on a polished warm-red walnut box about 15" long and three or four inches thick. "Lost the key," explained the dealer. My friend grabbed the box, hefted it once to feel the weight and, like all collectors, being somewhat of a gambler, said "I'll give you \$20 for it without opening it." The dealer, who had found it in a chest of drawers bought at a sale, agreed. The money and unopened box changed hands, and my friend, after picking the lock, found he possessed an almost new Dagoon, fully cased with all accessories including the rare Dagoon Colt bullet mould. The wood around the lock shows the marks of the antique dealer's wood chisel

to this day, to lend flavor to the story.

Fed in my childhood on such tales, I was naturally ripe for any rumor of rare guns. Once, in a blinding rain storm, myself and friend Harold Whelpley of West Haven drove miles out of our way to look at "Two square-handled pistols made in New Haven." Thinking that "Whitneyville, where the Walkers were made, is near New Haven," we plunged on through the night, seeking the address. We found the house, and found the guns. Recalling the experience, I'd say they were the two nicest Volcanic pistols I've ever seen, in showroom condition. But not Walkers.

Then one day, while working with John Amber on "The Gun Digest" a few years back, (Continued on page 63)

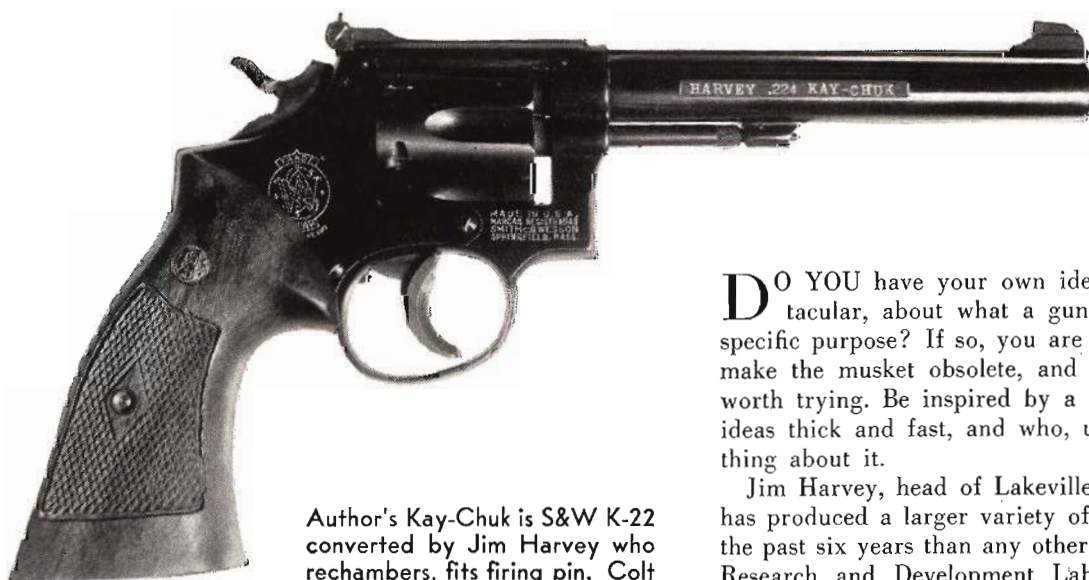


Bobcat shot with wildcat cartridge, .224 Kay-Chuk, is proudly held up by hunter Don King, Gainesville, Tex.

**HARD WORKING DREAMER  
MAKES HIS DREAMS COME TRUE BY  
TURNING OUT GUNS AND LOADS  
THAT FULFILL SHOOTER'S  
DREAMS OF ACCURACY AND  
FIELD PERFORMANCE**



## **"They Said It Couldn't Be Done"**



Author's Kay-Chuk is S&W K-22 converted by Jim Harvey who rechambers, fits firing pin. Colt OM cylinder is too short for .224.

By KENT BELLAH

**D**O YOU have your own ideas, some of them pretty spectacular, about what a gun (or a load) should be for a specific purpose? If so, you are the kind of fellow who helped make the musket obsolete, and some of your ideas might be worth trying. Be inspired by a "real gone" gun bug who has ideas thick and fast, and who, unlike many of us, does something about it.

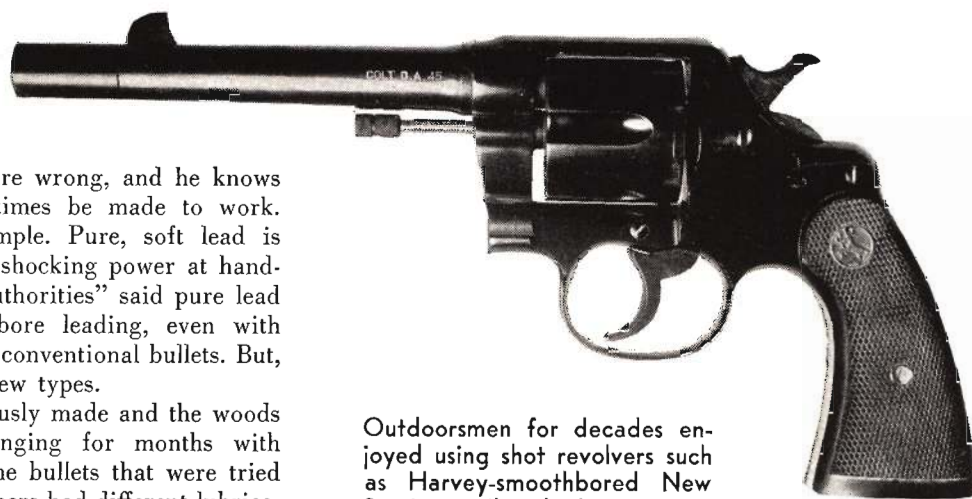
Jim Harvey, head of Lakeville Arms, Lakeville, Connecticut, has produced a larger variety of developments in the gun field the past six years than any other man I know. Jim is a walking Research and Development Lab, and some of the ideas he perfected on a shoestring are decades ahead of the competition. Some, due to government interference or by coming out before their time, were not profitable. But they worked mechanically.

"Authorities," of the type who once taught the world was flat, often repeat theories until they are accepted as facts.

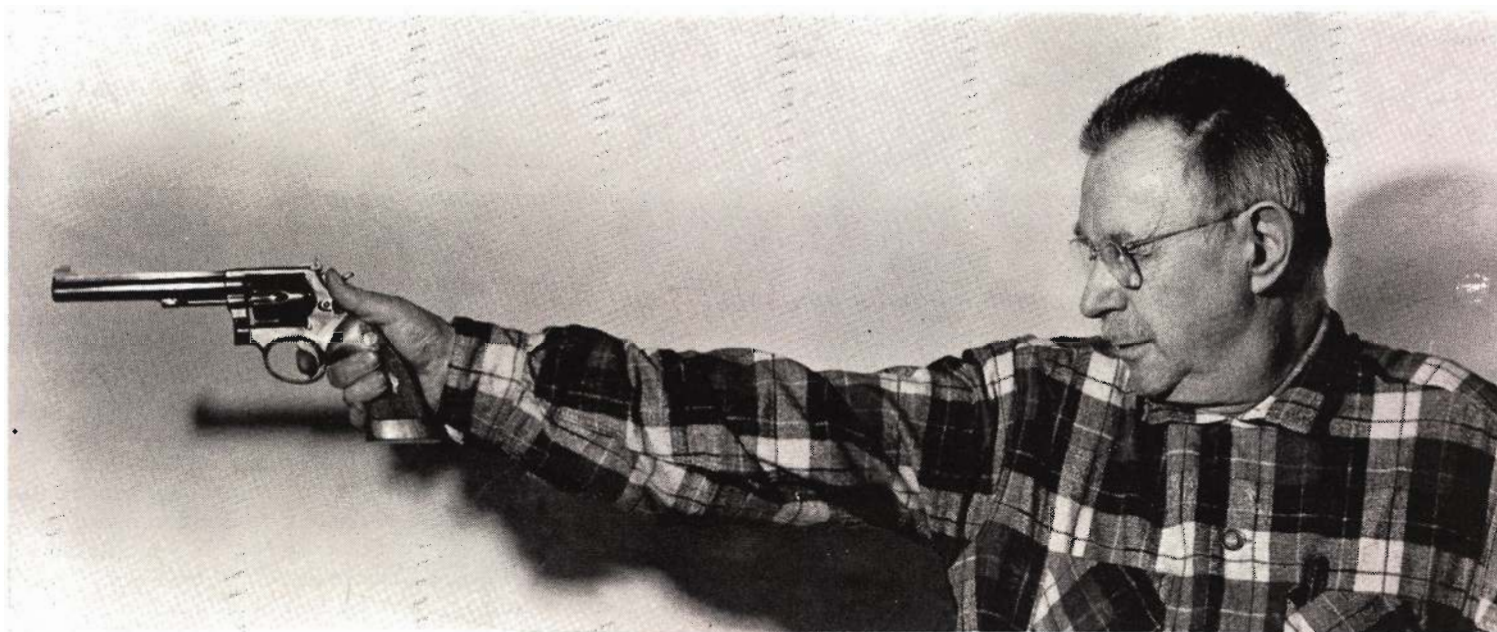


Harvey likes to prove theories are wrong, and he knows that the wildest idea can sometimes be made to work. Take handgun bullets, for example. Pure, soft lead is more dense and has far greater shocking power at handgun velocity than any alloy. "Authorities" said pure lead bullets would slug and cause bore leading, even with perfect lubrication. It's true with conventional bullets. But, in 1948, Jim went to work on new types.

Scores of designs were laboriously made and the woods around Lakeville were kept ringing for months with thousands of revolver shots. Some bullets that were tried had rivets in the base or nose; others had different lubrication; but all failed. In 1952, Harvey hit on the idea of an integral zinc washer base. It would, Jim reasoned, equal a



Outdoorsmen for decades enjoyed using shot revolvers such as Harvey-smoothbored New Service until mal-administration of National Firearms Act caused snake-potters to be outlawed.



Experimenter Harvey exhaustively tested pure lead bullets in .38 Spl. (K-38, above) and in heavy Magnums in achieving high velocity shock.

precision-machined base for better accuracy, act as a gas-check, and coat the bore with a microscopic film of zinc to prevent rust and wear. Zinc would act as a lubricant. It worked beautifully. And so the famous Prot-X-bore bullet was born in the small town of Lakeville, Connecticut.

These bullets are clean to load and, with no grease to seep out and kill part of the powder or primer, ammunition is extremely stable in storage. Killing power is all out of proportion to paper ballistics. Only factory swaged bullets were sold at first, but Jim soon developed dies for home swaging. A swaged bullet is more dense and uniform than cast types, but moulds were in demand and Jim invented a clever design for casting inexpensive bullets at home. Various weights in all popular calibers are available. Harvey had hundreds of loads lab tested for accuracy, velocity, and pressure, with the best data supplied in their literature.

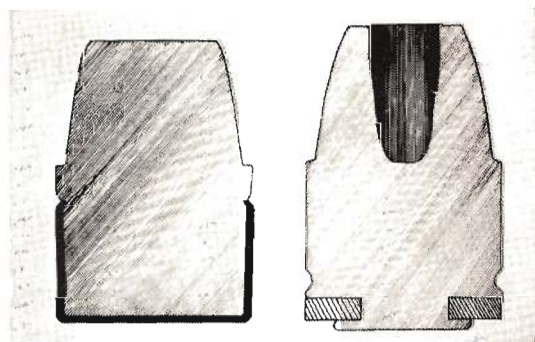
Accuracy was superb. Some loads grouped in  $\frac{1}{2}$ " at 50 yards, and the average was under  $1\frac{1}{2}$ ". Then Harvey designed a S.F.M. (Shoot From Mould) mould, to cast bullets ready to shoot. With sizing and lubricating eliminated, faster production of perfectly balanced, undeformed, concentric bullets is possible. Dr. F. W. Mann and Harry Pope, who long ago learned more about accuracy than most people know today, had proved the accuracy of precision bullets shot without sizing. Like them, Harvey measures success in performance, not profits. Experimenting, not bread, is his staff of life, and profits go for further experiments. The Prot-X-bore bullets were a success by any standard, on the range and in the field.

Another 1952 success was a revolver smooth-bored for shotshells. Crude shot revolvers were old hat, but Harvey perfected the first high efficiency gun to equal  $2\frac{1}{2}$ " shells in .410 shotguns at up to 30 yards. Big calibers are best,





Novel handgun varmint round, ideal for wary coyotes, is Kay-Chuk (center) contrasted with .22 LR, and Hornet (rt.) from which it is made.



Details of high velocity pure lead bullets show Jugular Express half-jacket and zinc washer on base of Prot-X-Bore hollow point which is popular for .357 and .44 hunting and defense.



Big game wildcats for various actions are Harvey .429 Maglaska Junior, Senior, and Super Senior with .458 WRACo "African." Right, .358 Maglaska.

the simplest being the .45 Colt. Rifling is reamed out, and a 1" long choke tube is threaded to the muzzle. The fast taper choke is .010" under bore size. Cylinder throats are reamed to chamber diameter. Efficiency depends on Harvey's .045" zinc over-shot wads to increase pressure for uniform patterns.

With sized and primed .45 Colt cases, loading procedure is: charge with 5 grains Bullseye, seat a 1/4" felt wad over a thin card wad, and charge with about 135 No. 7 1/2 shot. This is 25 fewer shot than in a light .410 shell, but the entire charge patterns in the area covered by the best 135 pellets from a shotgun. Wads can be seated with a dowel, but Harvey designed a Wad Seater Die for uniform adjustable pressure. The over-shot zinc wad is crimped with your .45 Colt seater. Bullet loads can be fired with reduced accuracy and power.

There is no finer gun for teaching aerial shooting. They are dandy for game no larger than jackrabbits up to 25 yards, and are pure poison on snakes. There is no safer firearm in settled areas, as the shot expend practically all energy within 60 yards. A little .22 Short bullet can be lethal at 30 times that range. Most anyone handy with tools could copy the conversion, but Harvey was building a going business.

Like a shot out of the blue in 1956 came a Treasury ruling the little snake shooters were classed as sawed-off shotguns under the National Firearms Act! Without warning, work was stopped at Lakeville Arms and conversions under way were frozen. All guns in the hands of owners had to be registered. With a sad heart, I registered my fine Colt .45, one of the first conversions. To sell it requires paying an unfair \$200 tax. Sportsmen recoiled at the unjust ruling. These were not "criminal" guns by any stretch of the imagination. Not one was known to have been used in any crime.

Lakeville Arms was hard hit financially. Years of hard work, expensive testing and advertising went to waste, just as they were getting up full steam. The tears Harvey shed were not for himself, but for thousands of good citizens who wanted a safe little hobby plinker for reloading. The shot revolver didn't die screaming, like prohibition, but quietly, like the inoffensive little fun gun it was. It died a horrible death, gut-shot by an absurd bureau ruling, falsely accused of being a gangster weapon. With a spotless character and a smeared reputation, no one mourned its passing except law abiding sportsmen. Harvey still supplies his felt and zinc wads, and loaded shells, to the fortunate few who own a conversion. Unaltered revolvers can be loaded with shot for reduced range shooting. (Continued on page 61)



Compared with .458 soft nose, Maglaska .429 bullets give hunter wide variety of weights, energies, in his custom loadings. Cannelures help control the expansion.



# TEACH THE LADY TO SHOOT

**WE'VE BEEN TELLING YOU ALL ALONG, SHOOTING IS (OR CAN BE)  
A FAMILY GAME. DON'T BE SURPRISED IF "SHE" OUTSHOTS YOU**



Less strenuous than vacuuming living room is appraisal of expert woman shot who urges men to take their wives shooting. Above, young couple enjoy skeet at Sun Valley, Idaho.

By IRIS STOWERS

**H**AVE YOU EVER WISHED that your wife, daughter, sister, or lady friend enjoyed shooting? Have you often thought she might enjoy hunting with you if she would only try it a time or so? It is almost a sure bet that you have. It may surprise you, though, to learn that she has very likely yearned to shoot and hunt with you, but feels that this is a sport strictly for the men. It may surprise both of you to learn that regardless of what precepts you have formed about women handling a gun, she can learn quickly to shoot and hunt as well as any man.

If the lady has never had a gun of any kind in her hands, so much the better. She will have the advantage of starting from scratch, and she will learn faster than a person who

has already accumulated a batch of incorrect shooting habits. Due to this factor, the lady probably will become a better shot than you are, especially if you are self-taught.

Most women have the idea they are physically handicapped when it comes to shooting a gun and hunting. Nothing could be farther from the truth. The average shot-gun weighs less than a new baby, so a woman need not be a muscle-moll in order to handle it easily. Before I was bitten by the gun bug, I had believed that I should be just short of All American football timber in order to be able to take part in either clay target shooting or to make a hunting trip. I was amazed to find the whole business is less strenuous than vacuuming the living room.





Don't make mistake of starting girl on too-small gun. Double Fox 16 would be good starter; Remington 870 with Cutts is good advanced rig when she learns skeet.



Iris Stowers, husband Henry and Junior receive from Joe Bryan of Pilot Life and Al Tufts, Pinehurst, some of her trophies (right) at 1956 N. Car. shoot.

Another fallacious idea of mine was the belief that in order to become an expert shot with a gun, I would have to spend many years of hard practice. Actually, a beginner can become an excellent marksman within a few weeks if taught properly. When my husband would urge me to try a few practice shots at the skeet range, like most women I'd shy away like a skittish colt. "Why, I couldn't hit a bear in the backside with a bass fiddle. I've never shot a BB gun, much less a real gun. And, besides, I'd probably appear so ridiculous that I'd be laughed off the field."

However, the seed had been planted and was germinating. Sitting disconsolately around the gun club, chatting with other shooting widows about cold remedies, measles, recipes, and other brilliant chit-chat reputed to be popular among women, I could not rid myself of the feeling that I was missing out on something that was a whale of a lot of fun.

Then one day I made the plunge; that is, I decided to allow myself to be persuaded to try a few shots at seven station on the skeet range. As I remember, my instructions were: stand like this; place your feet about so far apart; shift your weight slightly to the left foot; hold your gun like this; the muzzle like that. Place your left hand about here on the forearm; put your safety off; call for your target; cheek your gun like this, with the stock in the hollow of your shoulder like that. Bring the muzzle up crisply under the target, and pull the trigger. With these instructions racing wildly about in my head, I called, "Pull," and shot straight up in the air before the target came out of the trap house.

"That did it," I thought, as I looked about belligerently. I'd made a royal loon of myself and everyone would be laughing their fool heads off. But no one had paid the slightest attention. I felt a little better and grimly decided to try another. A few shots later I broke a target. Two weeks or so later I was hitting 17 or 18 out of each "round"







On Caracas, Venezuela, skeet field at last Pan-Am shoot, girls like Mrs. Igor Pezas, Egypt, compete for top honors.



Have you ever wished your wife or girl enjoyed hunting? Read; then act. You'll never know till you take her out.

(25 targets). Three months later my pride was almost scandalous when the experts began inviting me to shoot on their squads. Soon afterwards I won the state skeet championship and several other trophies. Now, nine years later, I have won three state women's championships, and enough silver to start a fair-sized pawn shop if times become that hard.

Better than ever, I have learned a new language and have learned the strange customs of a great fraternity—the twenty million people who comprise the shooting and hunting group. I know their argot; their language communicates to me when they speak the shooting jargon. I break out my crying towel and commiserate with the wailing duffer who tells me he “stopped his swing on low three,” and “flinched his doubles on high two.” The shooters display a brand of sportsmanship seldom seen in any other sport. I've noticed many times such famous shooters as Alex Kerr giving advice to a competitor at an important tournament. Can you imagine a fighter giving his opponent advice and help; or a baseball player giving the other team his signals?

Assuming that I have, perhaps, sold you on the idea of teaching the lady to shoot, and that you have her slightly intrigued with the idea of learning (don't let her fool you—she's more interested than you could possibly imagine) she will probably have some questions. Since she is a woman, the first question will pertain to clothing. That is easy. An old dress or skirt; a shooting coat that will cost about \$5.00; flat heel loafers, and a pair of sun glasses is

the uniform of the day. A baseball or golf cap can be added, to shade eyes from direct sun. The equipment can be your old field gun and a box of shells if there is a nearby gun club, and there probably is a good club in your vicinity. If not, never mind. A cheap hand trap that you can purchase for about \$5.00 and a case of clay targets will do nicely.

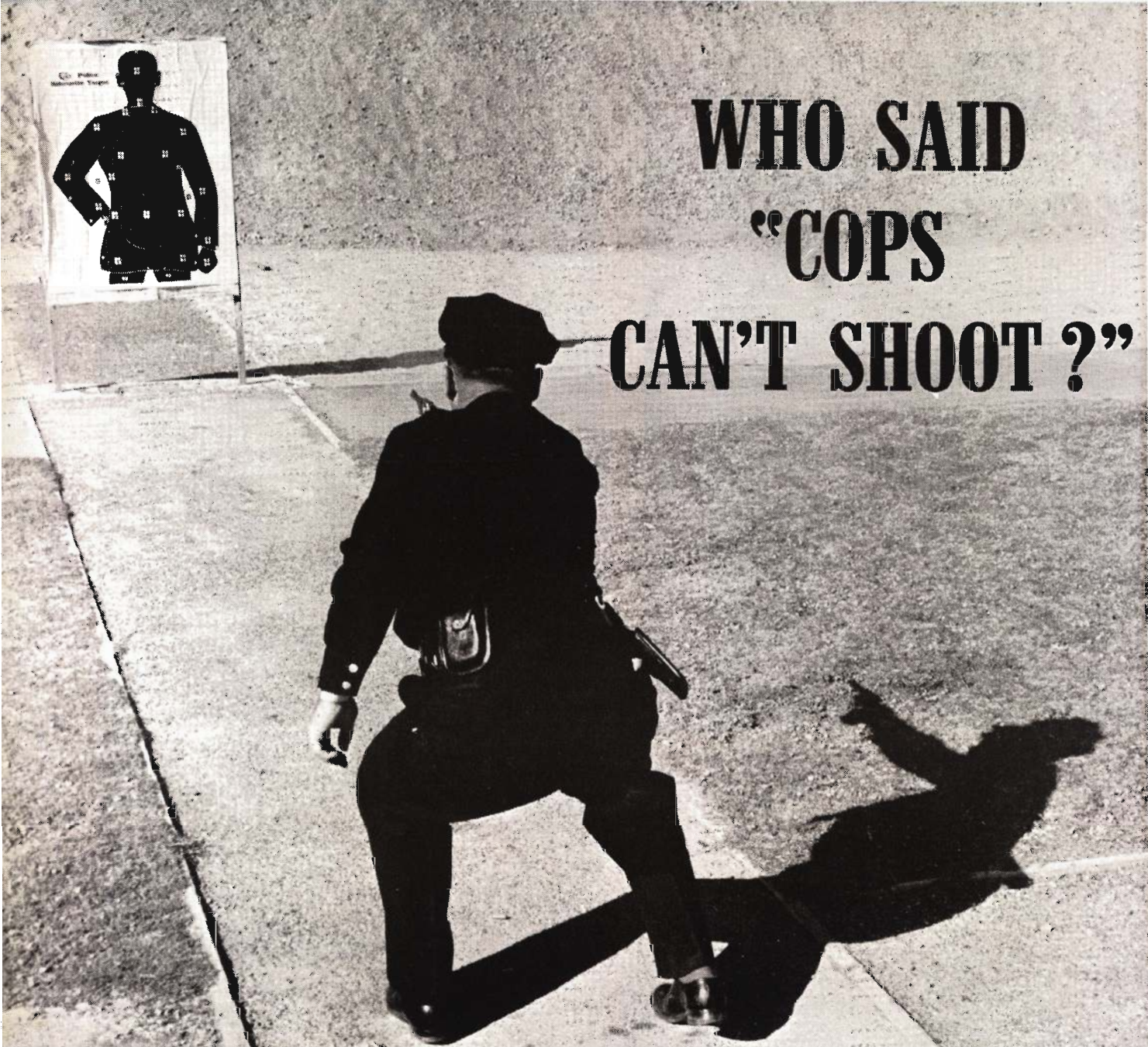
You do not have to belong to a gun club to be welcome at one. They will be delighted to have you shoot their fields. Nor do you need to invest heavily in equipment. Fancy equipment is usually the mark of the amateur. My friend, Jimmy Robinson, tells in his excellent book, “Wing Shooting, Trap and Skeet,” of a 60-year-old man who won the Grand American in 1936 with a \$20.00 rabbit gun. He received \$5,000 in cash besides his trophy, incidentally.

As to the fit of the lady's gun, a corps of highly efficient engineers have taken care of that detail for you. If she is of average size, the standard gun will come close to a perfect fit. If she is the bean-pole type, or if she is so short her ears grow out of her shoulders, she may have to be especially fitted. Normally, the standard drop, pitch, and length of stock will suffice until your lady begins to get so accurate that she crowds Carola Mandel, the national ladies' champion.

I would recommend the 20 gauge for the lady to start with. It's large enough to pack a wallop, and light enough to swing crisply. Don't, for gosh sakes, make the mistake of starting her on a pip-squeak (*Continued on page 48*)



# WHO SAID "COPS CAN'T SHOOT?"



The right decision to shoot—or not to shoot—can only come with complete, familiar confidence in one's revolver and oneself. Target is at average man-killing gunfight range.

By CHARLES C. NIEHUIS

ONE OF THE BEST pistol shots in the nation is Gordon Selby, a detective with the police department of Phoenix, Arizona. Not only is he a consistent winner as a match shooter on the target ranges of the Southwest, but he is a master marksman with the .38 revolver either on the combat range or in his work of law enforcement.

During the Sports Show in Phoenix in 1957, Selby challenged one of the famous "fastest guns alive" to a quick draw match but the challenge was declined. Selby is extremely fast, as the duel contests have proven, and he shoots using either hand. He has been involved in numerous gun fights, in three of which the criminals were killed. He apparently is one of those rare men who can shoot well under stress as on the range at a target match. The firing program on the modern range of the Phoenix

police trained gun expert Selby to be one of the country's best shots with the revolver.

Police of Phoenix have an unusually high department average in shooting weapons necessary in law enforcement. The minimum score in monthly qualification must be at least 65%. Any officer failing to shoot this well must practice until his average is brought up to this minimum. But the department average at present is much higher, 87 per cent. Detective Selby is one of the more consistent shooters and has maintained an exceptionally high average of 99.08 for 1954-5 and 99.72 for 1955-6. Recently he won the annual Phoenix Police Pistol Championship. Most unusual about the handsome trophy he took home for this contest was the name of the trophy's donor: Chief of Police Charles P. Thomas.



Chief Thomas, unlike some chief executives of police in other large cities, who think that "cops shoot so poorly they shouldn't have guns," has decided that Phoenix police will be well trained. He encourages weapons proficiency within his department by personally providing and presenting three different yearly awards: a trophy and pistol for the highest maintained average; a pistol for the second highest average; and a pistol to the policeman who shows the greatest improvement in shooting.

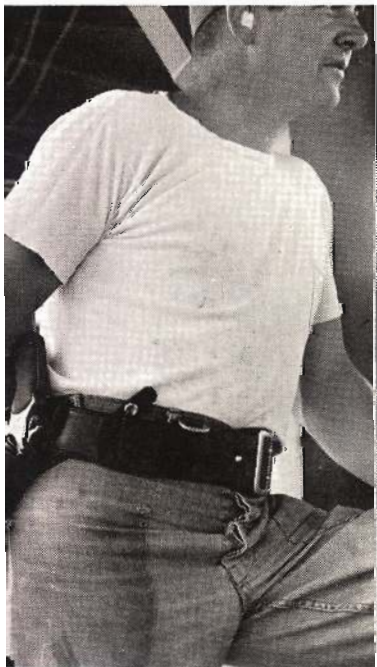
The shooting program owes its beginning to a former officer, Earl O'Clair. While O'Clair was a patrolman, he was unexpectedly involved in a shooting fray with two robbers. The gun fight, which occurred during his off hours, made him realize his own inefficiency with the sidearm he carried in his every day job. As soon as Earl O'Clair became the chief of Phoenix police he, helped by other officers interested in shooting, caused the firing range to be built, using city prisoners to do the work.

Earl Dean, one of the first instructors and now a supervisory officer working under Chief Thomas, developed many of the instruction techniques. Such a simple principle as sighting a revolver correctly is often difficult to get across by word or example to the rookie, so Dean adapted



Simple things in life are stressed in Phoenix program, like how to reload quickly when gun empties in a fight.

## PHOENIX POLICE FIREARMS TRAINING PRODUCES EXPERTS WHO WIN SHOOTING MATCHES ON TARGET RANGES AND AGAINST CRIMINAL GUN MEN



Usual holster for Arizona lawmen is F.B.I. or Jordan model worn high and tight with butt to rear, gun tilted for speed and aim.



Phoenix officers demonstrate variety of unique poses in fast shooting. Silhouette targets are fired on at all ranges. Coach in tower calls time, studies performances.





Duelling at electronic targets reveals safely which officer is faster. Coats swing aside at step which begins draw designed for officer wearing plain clothes off duty.

the Army triangulation method to handguns. The officer's revolver is placed in an eye-level rack, pointing at a target board a few feet away fixed to the same rig. The instructor moves a black disk bullseye over the paper until the officer declares his sights are right on it. A mark is then made through a tiny hole in the center of the disk. After three tries, these dots are connected by lines. The smaller the triangle, the better the "score."

Instant firing at man targets from short distances is also highly important to the modern "gun fighter," the policeman. Accurate aimed slow fire at distant targets—a running man or an auto gas tank or tire—is important. But the most important skill to the officer is his ability to decide quickly on shooting and then hit who he shoots at.

In firing at point blank range, the shooter points his forearm and the gun at the target, and both should be in perfect alignment. This is not "hip shooting" as is commonly believed, but point shooting in which the gun is held out in front so the barrel can be seen without taking your eyes off the target. The correct position if seen from overhead would show the elbow brought in to the point of the hip, and pistol and forearm extended in one simple line. The Phoenix stance recommended for such shooting is a half crouch. The weight is evenly balanced between the shooter's two feet, enabling him to pivot on the balls of his feet to follow a running or moving target without stepping forward. If the officer can learn to hold the barrel of the gun in a level position, and to hold his gun straight, the belt buckle of his enemy automatically becomes the target for his bullets.

This stance, once learned, perfected and practiced, enables the shooter to obtain remarkable accuracy at point blank range, shooting the revolver double action. Some of the better marksmen with the Phoenix department can put a string of five shots into a space no bigger than a man's palm, and do it consistently.

Shooting from behind barricades is stressed, because nine out of ten gun fights occur in alleys, in and around buildings and doorways. In a correct stance for barricade shooting, the officer places his foot near the base of the barricade (wall or door frame,) then leans forward placing the palm of his free hand against the barricade. The shooting hand's wrist is placed in the crook of the thumb, as a rest, allowing good aim without wobbling. When this position is properly assumed only the sighting eye, a bit of shoulder and a bit of hip are exposed as targets for the enemy. All Phoenix policemen are required to shoot with both right and left hands from behind barricades. Throwing too much weight on the supporting hand has the



Pistol a prolongation of forearm and that in line with eyes is formula for accuracy.



effect of exposing too much of the shooter's body.

In addition to competitive target shooting, duelling with pistols is sometimes part of the Phoenix schedule. Two targets are used, made of plywood and faced front and back with copper screens which are connected electrically with lights, bell and horn. The targets are out of sight at the start but can be flipped upright simultaneously by push button control of the range officer. The two "duellists" stand shoulder to shoulder and draw and fire, at the same signal, at the flip-up targets which each have their own backstops. When the bullets from the duellists pass through the targets, the electrical connection between front and back screens is made, and the lights flash while horn and bell sound, telling which man scored first.

Minor details in shooting must not be overlooked. Reloading after firing five shots rapidly is practiced in a way that prevents dropping cartridges. The officer holds the

revolver in the left hand, palm cupped underneath to catch any spilled cartridges. These can be pocketed for later use. The method of throwing shells into the chambers, after punching them out with the ejector, is literally that—a motion almost like tossing them at the empty chambers.

Dry fire, double action, reloading drill, and live shooting are all part of the Phoenix program. So much shooting takes a lot of ammunition, and this is reloaded by the Department.

Each policeman receives instruction in the use of the rifle, submachine gun and riot and tear gas guns, but particular attention is given to shooting the revolver double action. The police revolver is considered by the Phoenix officer as a "part of himself" from the day he pins on his badge, until he retires. The FBI holster rig, worn slightly high, tipped forward, on the right side, is recommended for Phoenix officers. Occasionally, when police knowingly go into a hot spot, they may wear extra revolvers in shoulder holsters, pants pocket, or elsewhere.

Public interest in the pistol shooting abilities of their Department is encouraged among Phoenix citizens by exhibitions of skill. In addition to exhibition shooting, the Phoenix Police Department is represented at matches by its own pistol team.

While the ordinary day-to-day work of the policeman is routine: visiting used car lots to check vehicles, checking the passenger lists of airlines, and other chores, Phoenix Police know the revolver is the officer's constant companion and must be ready for instant use. Their training program keeps it that way.



When officer lies down on job it may save his life. A stable gun platform gives high percent of distance hits.

Phoenix training began when officer O'Clair survived shooting scrape with two hoods: began target shooting.







Ye Old Hunter is all heart!

**WARNING!** American shooters! You may subject yourself to U. S. excise tax and other liability in purchasing your guns from non-American sources!

Ye Old Hunter illustrates all weapons by actual unretouched photographs so you can see how they REALLY look.

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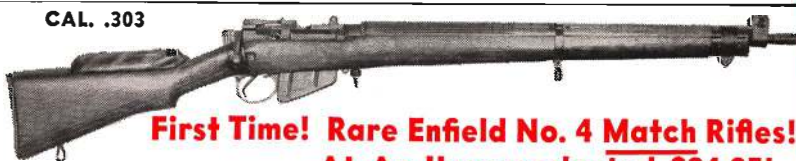


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CAL. .303



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### .303 AMMO:

**HERE IT IS!** Leave it to Ye Old Hunter to bring gleaming-perfect fresh stock .303 British ball 170 gr. magnificent issue loads to you at only \$7.50 per 100! Stock up now to shoot those sensational bargain Royal Enfields for almost nothing! Why pay more elsewhere! Shipped Soonest. Order NOW! Today! Soft Point Ammo . . . See opposite page.

## ROYAL ENFIELD No. 1 MK-VI RIFLE!

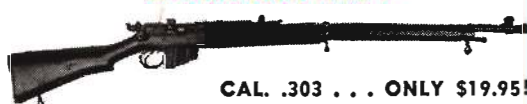


CAL. .303 . . . ONLY \$19.95

The "last of the last" are these rare ultimate model Enfield rifles; produced experimentally in very limited numbers from 1945-1957, they combine all Enfield refinements and perfections of over 50 years of development, featuring a special position thread barrel and lightened receiver, these are the ultimate in Royal Enfields and the end of the line for the "Finest Rifle in the World." A collector's, shooter's, and gun lover's delight—only \$19.95 today. Prong bayonet only \$1.00 more with rifle.

"THE RIFLE YOU CANNOT AFFORD NOT TO BUY." Without doubt the most shattering rifle opportunity ever to befall American shooters. An exclusive deal with England permits Ye Old Hunter to offer these superb 10 shot bolt action Enfield repeating rifles at far less than the price of even a .22 American sporter. They all take standard U.S. sporting .303 Ammo available everywhere. Most models with 5-gr. barrels! Never before such magnificent guns at such bargain prices. Get the Greatest American Gun Bargain from Ye Old Hunter! You'll never again have such an unbelievable opportunity.

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CAL. .303 . . . ONLY \$19.95!

Developed during the Boer War from the Lee-Metford model, this was the first Enfield charger loader, and the first of the Enfield 5 Groove barrels for cordite loads. This was developed to off-set the clip loading Mausers used so devastatingly by the Boers. Later issued to territorial and Navy, so S.M.L.Es could be used by overseas troops. Extremely well preserved, and only \$19.95.

**ALL ENFIELDS ARE IN FINE SERVICEABLE CONDITION!!**

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ERED!! ANYTIME! ANYPLACE!  
BEST RIFLE IN THE WORLD".

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Cal. 8MM Mauser Only \$19.88!  
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CAL. 11MM MAUSER . . . ONLY \$9.95!

The FIND of the century—the BUY of the century. Complete in every detail and fully functional down to the clouds of dust which rise into the air with every stroke of the bolt. When it speaks, there is thunder in the hills. There is no telling what condition you may attain from the hours spent joyfully cleaning up these horrible specimens, with luck, NRA "Fair Condition" is possible! Only \$9.95, complete!!!!

## ORIGINAL U.S. KRAG "LONG TOM" RIFLES

CAL. .30-40 . . . ONLY \$13.95!

A unique special. The smoothest and most loved U.S. bolt action ever made at a price which now all can afford. Tried and true and worn to prove it, these original U.S. Krag .30-40 "Long Toms" are yours today. Now, complete mechanically and worn as light as you'd want, and fortunately without upper hand-guard. Usually a crack can be found in the butt stock, but at \$13.95 you are always ahead.

## GARRIBALDI'S GREATEST!

CAL. 6.5MM

Only \$9.95 complete with 100 rds of original ammo!

Yes, this impossibly low price is true! This amazingly machined and fantastically accurate six-shot repeating GARRIBALDI'S GREATEST can be bought for ONLY \$9.95 COMPLETE with one hundred rounds of ammo in original clips. This is the rifle that COULD HAVE WON THE KOREAN WAR if the Chinese had been unarmed. Enjoy the greatest and cheapest big bore shooting of your life with this bloop condition Garibaldi's Greatest Repeater! Now!

## PANCHO VILLA SPECIALS! CAL. 7MM REMINGTON ROLLING BLOCKS

ONLY 92¢ per lb.!!!  
TOTAL PRICE \$8.28!

Yes, here it is, the original "gun crank condition" 7mm Remington. You can almost see the finger prints which the former fanatical owners pressed into the wood as they realized the jig was up. Nobody has Remingtons like these! All guns practically complete. Pre-oiled and ready to clean up. The buy of the century, only \$8.28. Also some original "Long Tooth", or ultra rare "Short Tooth" bayonets. These historical specimens, only \$1.95 each. A Treasure.

## FAMED .43 ORIGINAL REM. ROLLING BLOCKS

Wt. 9 lbs. ONLY 62¢ per lb.  
TOTAL PRICE ONLY \$5.58!

You can't buy prime hamburger at this price. Condition of all rifles is "Gun crank special", meaning that the outline is clearly visible through the rust and you can see light through the bore. Little of that old elbow grease will clean this fantastic bargain! NRA poor condition. Cracked with conquest in the hands of fanatical Latin boards. It is truly a precedent shattering bargain at only \$5.58, shipped pre-oiled. Action alone worth this giveaway price. A gun crank's dream. Adorn this historical relic with an original bayonet, only \$1.00, when ordered with this rifle. Supply not inexhaustible.

**SPECIAL!!!!** Order a set of PANCHO VILLA SPECIALS, both 7MM and .43 Cal. Only \$12.95!!!

## INCREDIBLE AMMO BARGAINS

MINIMUM ORDER 100 ROUNDS. All prices below per 100 rounds. All ammo must be shipped RR-EXRESS. SHIPPING CHARGES COLLECT. Sensational New sensational prices! Save, save, save!

### 6.5x55 (SWEDISH MAUSER) . . . \$7.50

Here it is! The finest 6.5x55 cartridge ever developed and manufactured by those ever-living Swedes to standards, unsurpassed anywhere on earth. A real Swedish by any standard at a GIVEAWAY price for those fine Swedish Mausers and Norwegian Kings. 188 Gr. bullet and superb brass cases assure joyous reloading with proper components for years to come. A truly terrific bargain!

### 6.5MM ITALIAN IN CLIPS . . . \$7.50

Superb appearing original 6.5mm Italian ball loads for all those imported rifles. Packed in original 8 rd. clips ready to use in all those Italian 6.5 mm rifles and carbines. Cheapest price ever offered for these magnificent appearing cartridges. Components alone worth double!

### 7.35MM ITALIAN IN CLIPS . . . \$7.50

Finest quality recent date issue ball ammo in ORIGINAL 8 rd. CLIPS at the lowest price ever offered. By Ye Old Hunter the clips alone for more than we sell the ammo loaded in them. 128-gr. original issue ball round . . . the first of the new "short cartridges" and still among the finest.

### Exclusive—Collectors and Cartridge Design Maniacs.

7.62 RUSSIAN SOFT POINT \$4.95 per 20 rounds. A priceless exclusive first and possibly last, NOBODY, but NOBODY but Ye Old Hunter (the collector's best friend) has this—and at what hazardous dealings, Nikita himself had to OK this deal—and only a "reluctant" horse-trade of two Pancho Villa specials convinced him he had nothing to lose by placing this never TOP SECRET Russian cartridge on the American market. This is the secret cartridge used in the new Russian SKS-46, the Avtomat rifle, their new LAR, and according to rumor, designed for interplanetary use. Only \$4.95 per full 20 rounds. Ye Old Hunter is all bargain!

### 7.62MM RUSSIAN RIFLE . . . \$7.50

Choice lot of Captured Communist cartridges picked up by Ye Old Hunter. The rarest and most desirable of these—the greatest globe girder of dem all. 150 Gr. FP issue loads. Order now! Don't put it off another day!

### 7.65MM (.30) BELGIAN MAUSER \$7.50

The collectors' and shooters' find of the year at lowest price ever offered! The rarest and most desirable of contemporary Mauser rounds available at last! Formerly sold up to \$1 per round, so stock up now while supply lasts at this amazing price! Contemporary production! 184 Gr. Boat-tailed Bullets. What-a-give-away. Today!

### .30 CALIBER M1 CARBINE . . . \$5.00

Ye Old Hunter left no stone unturned to bring you this gleaming late date ammunition. Manufactured in the mid 40's it literally sparkles! You'll lift the dust off these shiny brass cases. No further need to inquire; this is on hand ready to be sped on its merry way today! Top grade!

### .30-06 U.S. COMMERCIAL . . . \$7.50

Sensational low price on these superbly intact delightfully embellished Winchester .30-06 GR. FP Bullets. Perfectly flawlessly preserved brass cases. 20 rd. Commercial original boxes. Manufactured in roaring 20's! These are the joyous and joyful rounds of the west! At their unbelievable economy and discolored hues. Now!!!

### U.S. .30 (.30-40 CALIBER) KRAG . . \$5.50

Leave it to Ye Old Hunter to return triumphant with this greatest large rifle cartridge bargain in America. Today's beautiful original Commercial U.S. Krag .30-40 gr. FP loads at far less than even reloading components cost. Supply not inexhaustible, so better order now to be sure! Manufactured by Winchester. Etc.

### CALIBER .303 BRITISH . . . \$7.50

HERE IT IS! Leave it to Ye Old Hunter to bring you this perfect fresh stock .303 British ball 170 gr. magnificent issue loads to you at lowest ever price! Stock up now to shoot those sensational bargains! Royal rifles for almost nothing! All brass fully reloadable cases! This sparkling ammunition on hand for immediate delivery.

### .303 BRITISH SOFT POINT . . . \$14.75

Unbelievable, earth-shaking, but true, true, true. Imported sporting .303 British soft-point ammunition now available at the unheard of price of \$14.75 per 100. Never has anyone dared offer new hunting ammo at 14¢ per round, but Ye Old Hunter, being all heart, spared no expense to close a deal all other hunters can cash in on. Brass case, with non-corrosive Berdan primer and 150-Gr. expanding bullet make this the ammunition buy of the century. Perhaps longer! Be prepared. Stock up!

### 8MM GERMAN MAUSER ISSUE . \$7.50

Beautiful, clean, 8MM Ball ammunition, all brass cases and boxer reloadable type primers. True 0.323 bullets alone worth practically this give-away price for these complete M.C. cartridges. Order today and shoot your favorite Mauser at this shattering price, for stocks of this select ammo cannot last forever. Don't delay, order today.

### 9MM LUGER (PARABELLUM) . . . \$5.00

At last! Your favorite pistol cartridge at an absolutely unheard-of bargain price. Fine original assorted issue loads from the world's most famous factories to slide through those no-longer-expensive-to-shoot 9mm Lugers, Brownings, Radoms, Mausers, or what-have-you. NOW!!!

### 9MM F.N. STEYER PISTOL . . . \$5.00

This amazing find makes possible this most shattering offer of the century. Fabrique Nationale's superb smokeless powder ammo packed in original long boxes. NOW!

### .38 COLT AUTOMATIC . . . \$6.00

A rare and amazing opportunity! Who would have thought this magnificent find would be ever available again—and at a lower price than when originally made. Stock up now while time still lasts. Commercial carry-in chester Stainless 158 Gr. in original 50-round boxes.

### .43 (11MM) REMINGTON . . . \$6.00

Who else but Ye Old Hunter would have found this treasure? Original Remington UMC loads in original boxes—375 gr. lead bullet makes superb target or hunting round for those shootable .43 Remington rolling block. Appeal to your appetite! Quality not guaranteed. Worth twice this price for components alone!

### .45 (ACP) COLT AUTOMATIC . . \$5.00

Unbelievable discovery of enormous underground supply permits this astonishing bargain for all you .45 shooters. All U. S. manufactured, late date and in sealed boxes of 50. Not to be confused with our .45 "pull it out" stuff this is truly live and raring to fire. Stock up while the stockin's good, as supply is not unlimited! TODAY.

Ye Old Hunter

Save 80%!!!

Ye Old Hunter is all heart!

**WORLD'S GREATEST PISTOLS!  
WORLD'S LOWEST PRICES!**

MOST ARE NRA EXCELLENT.

Only \$14.95 up—WHY PAY MORE elsewhere?

On hand for immediate delivery—order from this ad!

(Send permit if your state or city requires.)

WEBLEY & SCOTT CAL. .455

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

### SMITH & WESSON M&P CAL. .38 S&W

Here it is! Why pay more elsewhere? The popular Smith & Wesson Military & Police Revolver at only \$24.95 in NRA v.g. Some NRA Excellent only \$29.95. All with 6 inch barrels.

### SMITH & WESSON 1917 ARMY CAL. .455

Now, the world famous Smith & Wesson 1917 Army at a price all can afford. This hard-hitting Army stand-by in NRA Very Good condition only \$24.95 (.455 Webley Ammo, \$7.50 per 100.) Top value!

### COLT NEW SERVICE CAL. .455

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

### LLAMA .38 SUPER AUTO

Absolutely N R A Excellent throughout, in original wrapping and original box, with cleaning brush. The Super Llama shoots the potent .38 Super Auto and well worth twice the price. Why pay more elsewhere? Yours today. (Extra magazine only \$2.50.)

### .45 ACP BALLESTER MOLINA

A "Ye Old Hunter" bullseye special. Rarest of the rare. The finely made, precise, Argentine .45 ACP. All NRA Excellent throughout. In original box with original wrapping. The pistol opportunity of a lifetime. Today's top value. Extra magazines \$2.50 ea. (.45 ACP ammunition only \$5.00 per 100.)

### COLT .45 MODEL 1911

Colt .45 ACP Model 1911. World renowned U.S. auto: NRA v.g. only \$34.95. Excellent only \$39.95! Order now. A prize value! (.45 ACP Ammo, only \$5.00 per 100.)

### SPECIAL! HITLER KNIVES!

ONLY \$4.95!

QUALITY made Imported Solingen all-purpose "Hitler Knife." Solingen honed steel blade with etched wording "Blut und Ehre!" (Blood and Honor.) Nickel plated finger guard and leather-protected full tang. Checkered black grip with attractive black, white, red, and gold inlay with Nazi swastika. Black metal protective sheath with live leather carrying strap. Ideal for hunting and fishing and a unique, decorative, heavy duty letter opener. This is absolutely the last time these will be available ANYWHERE. Order today. Real Value.

OLD HUNTER PUBLICATIONS: send \$5c for story of America's most famous and most biggest Arms Merchant. Send 50c for 1st edition colored printing of America's amazing new automatic rifle—the Armalite AR-10—a world first from Ye Old Hunter's secret underground printing press. Send 10c stamp for special Enfield story "The Finest Rifle in the World!" Also NEW "Ye Old Hunter" Round the World Flyer. 25c stamps or coin. Order today and Save. Save. Save. Save. Save!

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Tiny Colt was made by hand, has, fully working mechanism.

# Collect Gun Midgets

**PRIZED IN THE COLLECTIONS**

**OF KINGS, MINIATURES MAKE FASCINATING**

**HOME WORKSHOP HOBBY**

By KENNETH G. SONNTAG



Jeweler's lathe was needed to make screws and drill holes in model guns; also does polishing.

EVER SINCE GUNS BEGAN, people have been copying them in miniature. Ranging from crude "toys" to delicate works of art, these tiny replicas turn up from all ages since gunpowder was invented. Many are preserved in museums; many are owned by private collectors. Making gun miniatures is a hobby that has proved fascinating as well as rewarding to home workshop craftsmen all over the world.

My own addiction to this hobby started back in 1933, when I was just sixteen. I started with non-working models carved from wood, and my first miniature was (you guessed it) a Colt Single Action. Friends and classmates

liked the little model, and I made several of them. Working parts came next, and soon I had a Single Action with a movable cylinder, trigger, hammer, and ejector rod. I topped that one off with ivory grips. Next came a Colt .45 automatic with movable slide, magazine, and removable barrel. No springs as yet; that came later. I was an addict now, as firmly committed as a smoker to his weed.

Other models followed, all of hard wood, each teaching me something that would make the next one easier. People were getting interested in what I was doing and began contributing ideas, parts from watches and clocks, small tools they thought I might use. I used them. Before long, my



Postage-stamp collectors' items include Mexican-made 6" Walker Sonntag bought as example of another's work, plus functioning wooden Walther P-38 which has movable slide. Cap-lock pistols show filing skill.



# -Or Make Your Own



Crude miguelet "horse pistol" shows author's early attempts at midget gunmaking; but derringer, Colt, P-38 show developing skill.

models included flat and coil springs, parts made of Bakelite where wood was too fragile, shim brass and steel where I could use it, with only the large parts such as frames and barrels made of wood. My hard wood was curly maple, which tends to crack in a curved line and so avoids splits between two needed holes. Pivots and screws were of straight pin metal, or were wooden pegs sanded to size, some slotted to represent screw heads.

It was while discussing these imitation screw heads with a friend that the subject of using real screws came up. "What you need is a jeweler's lathe," he suggested; and, after a little more discussion, I was convinced that I couldn't make another model without this little lathe. A local wholesale jewelers' supply house furnished me with one at cost, and I acquired the tools, materials, and information needed to turn out my own small screws. With a little more effort, I began making my own taps also.

It soon became evident that little steel screws and tapped wooden holes just don't go together, and the decision had to be made—try to make the models from steel, or continue as I had been doing, or stop completely and let the collection die. Working in steel looked like an enormous undertaking, but you never know what you can do till you try; and I'm certainly glad I tried.

Reverting to the Single Action again, it was not too long before I had a set of  $\frac{1}{4}$ " scale drawings to work from.

What looked at first like a big problem broke down into many little ones, and in turn each one was solved. I completed a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " scale Single Action Colt revolver, the first all metal miniature in my collection. I was so proud of it that I advertised photos of it for sale in "The American Rifleman," and received replies from 46 of the 48 states and quite a few foreign countries. One of these replies informed me of a miniature Walker Colt (*Continued on page 54*)



Author cut out Remington Derringer, found he had to do others for friends. Every part in guns functions.



# Gun of THE MONTH



THE OLD • THE NEW • THE UNUSUAL

**HIGH NAZI OFFICIAL'S FAVORITE  
GUN WAS AMERICAN REVOLVER  
WORN AT TIME HE SURRENDERED**



Goering surrendered to U. S. Army 40 miles inside German lines in 1945. Aide, right, was Col. Von Brauchitsch.

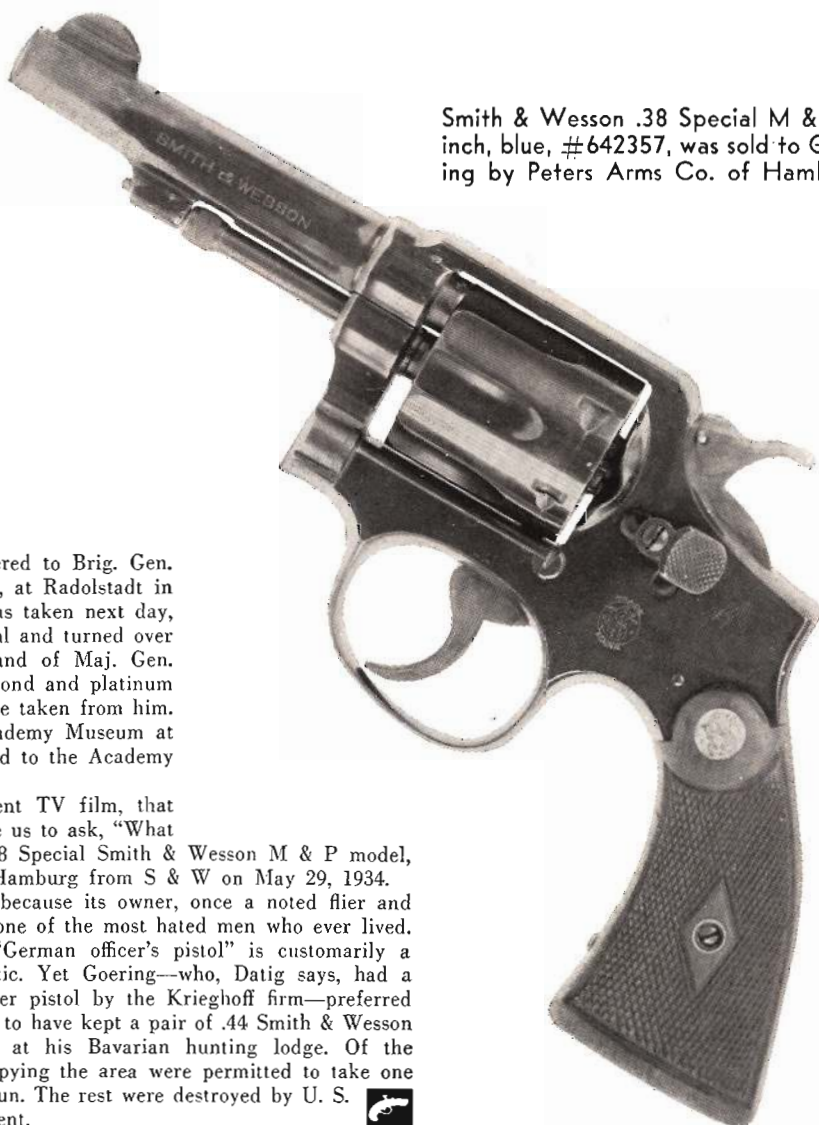


High Nazi's M & P and holster (it is identical to holster in surrender photo) were presented to West Point Museum.

**R**EICHMARSHAL Herman Goering surrendered to Brig. Gen. Robert I. Stack, 36th Division U. S. Army, at Radolstadt in Austria, 40 miles inside the German lines. He was taken next day, May 9, 1945, to the Texas Division Hq at Kitzbuhl and turned over to 7th Army Interrogation Center under command of Maj. Gen. Arthur A. White. At that time his fabulous diamond and platinum marshal's baton, parade dagger, and revolver, were taken from him. Dagger and baton are in the U. S. Military Academy Museum at West Point and, recently, the pistol was presented to the Academy by Gen. White.

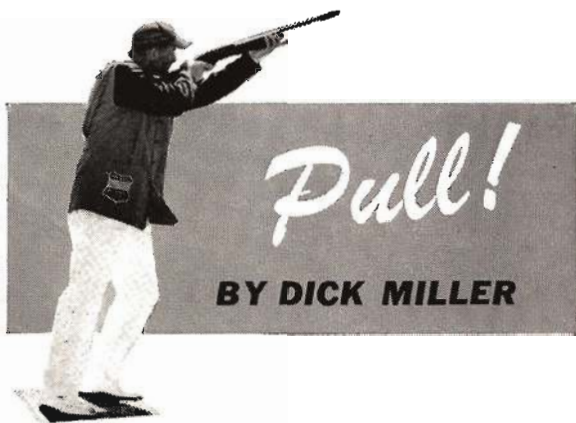
A sharp-eyed GUNS reader noticed, in a recent TV film, that Goering was wearing a *revolver*. The reader wrote us to ask, "What kind." Now we can say that it was, and is, a .38 Special Smith & Wesson M & P model, No. 642357, shipped to the Peters Arms Co. of Hamburg from S & W on May 29, 1934.

This historic weapon is important principally because its owner, once a noted flier and hero of World War I, rose in infamy to become one of the most hated men who ever lived. It is additionally unusual because the typical "German officer's pistol" is customarily a Luger, Mauser, P-38, or smaller pocket automatic. Yet Goering—who, Datig says, had a financial interest in the manufacture of the Luger pistol by the Krieghoff firm—preferred an American Smith & Wesson revolver. He is said to have kept a pair of .44 Smith & Wesson "New Century" or 1926 Triple Lock revolvers at his Bavarian hunting lodge. Of the Bavarian guns, some of the U. S. personnel occupying the area were permitted to take one gun each, authenticated by the CO as Goering's gun. The rest were destroyed by U. S. Forces authorities during German civil disarmament.



Smith & Wesson .38 Special M & P 4-inch, blue, #642357, was sold to Goering by Peters Arms Co. of Hamburg.





SINCE GUNS magazine readers come from all segments of firearms interest, this column, which chronicles the sports of trap and skeet, may attract the attention of individuals who have not been exposed to the clay target sports, who know neither the terminology nor the "methodology" of either game. For this reason, since "Pull" attempts to interest both novice and master, this month's material is aimed at the rifleman, the pistol shooter, gun collector, police officer, or general arms interest fan who has not yet enrolled in an undergraduate course in trap or skeet.

If we were to issue a catalogue describing a course called "Basic Trapshooting I, leading to an undergraduate degree," it would read something like this:

Trapshooting is a shotgun game, in which the contestant fires at flying targets called clay pigeons. Most shooting is done with 12-gauge guns, especially in competitive events.

Trap is divided into three championship events, called "Sixteen-yard," "Handicap," and "Doubles." In the Sixteen-yard event, shooters fire at single targets, from a point sixteen yards behind the traphouse. The traphouse contains a mechanical device for throwing the targets, called a trap.

In Handicap events, shooters fire at single targets, from distances up to 27 yards behind the traphouse. The handicap distances are assigned on the basis of past performance or known ability.

The Doubles event finds contestants shooting at two targets released simultaneously. Doubles targets are fired from the sixteen-yard line.

A regulation trap squad consists of five shooters, each of whom shoots five shots from each of five "posts" or shooting points. All targets in trap fly away from the shooter, at angles which are not predetermined. Trap is a long-range shotgun game. Favored guns are usually full choke. Your duck, squirrel, turkey, or pheasant gun serves as a trap gun.

A catalogue describing "Basic Skeet I" might say: Skeet is a short-range shotgun game. Targets emerge in a predetermined path from a high house on the field's left edge, and from a low house at the right. Skeet is fired from eight "posts" or shooting points, seven of which are arranged in a semi-circle between the two traphouses, and one post halfway between the two houses.

A shooter fires two shots from each post at single targets, for a total of 16 shots; then shoots at four pairs of doubles (two targets released simultaneously). The first shot missed is repeated, and called an "optional." This adds up to a total of 25 shots for the regulation "round." If no shot is missed, the

"optional" shot is taken as a single shot from any post. From posts one through seven, a shooter fires at one target going away or crossing from his left (the high house), and one target coming in, crossing, or going away from his right (the low house). Both shots from post eight are at incomers, one from each house.

Skeet championships are awarded in gauge classifications and aggregate (total score in all gauges). Classes are all-bore (12 gauge), 20 gauge, small bore (28 gauge or 3 inch .410) and sub-smallbore (2½ inch .410 shells). Your quail or upland game shotgun serves as a skeet gun.

In both skeet and trap tournaments, shooters in other than handicap events are divided into classes, based on previous scores, so that shooters may compete against other shooters of demonstrated like ability.

The descriptions given here apply to the games of trap and skeet as they are fired in the United States. International skeet differs little from the U.S. version. International trap rules and field lay-outs differ sharply from the Yankee game. International trap targets emerge flush from the ground, rather than from a traphouse above the ground, and fly from 80 to 90 yards as opposed to 50 to 60 yards for domestic targets. The birds emerge from a series of fifteen traps to the single field; three traps to each of five posts. Under our rules, one trap serves each field of five posts. Two shots are allowed at each target in international trap, while the trap game we know gives the shooter only one.

When our new student digs deeper into the basic trap and skeet courses, he will discover that much of the appeal which those sports have for thousands of enthusiastic fans goes beyond the satisfaction of breaking a moving target. This is a soul-satisfying thing, it's true; but in addition, the follower of the clay target sports learns to look forward to seeing friends at each successive club shoot or area tournament. Ask most of the top-notchers in either trap or skeet what they have gotten out of the game, and the answer will almost invariably refer to the friendships they have made through participation in the sports, rather than to some pinnacle in shooting skill which gained a win or a trophy.

If the professor of Basic Trap favors field trips for his classes, he would certainly choose the nearest of such outstanding shooting events for the month of May as the Baby Grand Shoot at Ranchinn Skeet and Trap Club at Elko, Nevada, April 30 and May 1, 2, and 3. In another area, he would suggest the Stifel & Son 25th Annual Spring Shoot at Casey, Illinois; or the 5th Annual Ray Loring \$5,000 Memorial Handicap at the Pines Gun Club, Streator, Illinois, May 15,

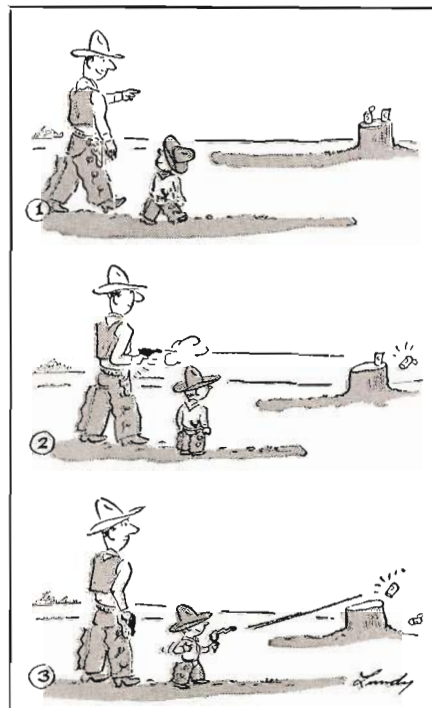
16, and 17. The New York Athletic Club shoots are scheduled for May 8, 9, and 10 at Pelham Manor, New York. The Vermont state shoot will be held at the Bennington Rod and Gun Club, May 30 and 31.

Down in the Southland, the Louisiana state shoot will be run off May 8, 9, and 10. In the northwest, it's the Northwest Handicap at Fort Dodge Gun Club, Fort Dodge, Iowa, on the 16th and 17th. The Missouri state shoot occupies the stage on the 22nd, 23rd, and 24th of May, at the Wright City Gun Club, in the show-me state. New Mexico's state championships will be decided on April 30 and the first three days of May, at the Albuquerque Trap Club.

The professor of "Skeet Basic I" will have to figure out his own field trips without any help from this corner, since as this is being written, I can't find my copy of the skeet shooting magazine. But there are skeet clubs in every area, and a visit to any club on any shooting day would provide as much spectator appeal and beginner education as attendance at a formal match shoot.

Reference will often be made in this column to "registered" shoots. For the uninitiated, this term means that the scores recorded in registered shoots are reported to the national governing bodies of trap and skeet. Those organizations are the Amateur Trapshooting Association (ATA) for trap, with headquarters in Vandalia, Ohio; and the National Skeet Shooting Association (NSSA) in Dallas, Texas, for skeet.

If you are still with us at this point, you have earned a bachelor's degree in skeet or trap. If you'll crack the books, and stay with us for future issues, you can earn your master's degree and ultimately your doctorate in trap or skeet. These higher degrees require some shooting, of course; but that will be fun, I assure you. All the students who take the trap and skeet courses agree to that. One of the nicest things about these (and all the other) shooting sports is—they're family sports, in which the kids and ladies can participate on approximately equal footing with the old man. Can—and do. And how they love it!





Bowman holds two favorites by Gartman: .30-06 and .244 maple, 6¼ lbs. each; Bear Cub and Bushnell Scopes.



Len Brownell leans into own-make stock which recoils from cheek without kicking.

**EXPERIENCED HUNTER AND GUN  
CRANK TELLS HOW STOCK DESIGN CAN  
REDUCE BRUISING RIFLE RECOIL**

# HOW TO LICK FLINCH-MAKING KICK

By LES BOWMAN  
*Wyoming Hunting Guide*

AS A RIFLEMAN and experimenter, as well as a hunter, I have always been interested in why some guns "kick" and others don't. After some years of trial and study, I decided that objectionable kick in a rifle is caused largely by the design, shape, and fit of the stock. It has little to do with gun weight, or even with load power.

A good illustration of this occurred one evening after dinner at the ranch, when my guest and I headed for the range to sight in his new gun. Targets were set up, John settled at the shooting bench, sighted a few times, and then squeezed off a shot. "Wow! This new gun certainly kicks," he grumbled. "That really hurt." The rifle was a handsome Mauser-action .30-06 with set trigger, a fine 4X scope, and a perfectly finished stock of beautiful wood. The gunsmith had also done a fine job of reducing the weight of the gun. After a dozen more sighters, John was pulling off the target so badly he stopped shooting. "I thought packing a gun under seven pounds would be a dream," he muttered, ruefully massaging his cheek and shoulder. "But I'm flinching already."



Still game, John then tried out my 6¼ pound Gartman Bantam rifle in the same caliber. After three shots, all well grouped, he turned to me. "Les, why is it your gun seems to kick very little—not as much as the 11-pounder I shot last fall—whereas mine, a pound heavier and with a 2" longer barrel, kicks like the devil?"

I put the two guns on the bench side-by-side and showed him the difference in design and shape of stocks, especially the cheek pieces. My lighter rifle had a recoil pad to spread the recoil over a greater area, and the pitch of the gun butt was significantly different. "Why didn't my gunsmith think of those things?" John complained. "If that's what takes the kick out, that's what I want."

Right here let me differentiate between "recoil" and "kick." Recoil is the rearward thrust of the gun following the ignition of powder. It is in relation to gun weight, caliber, bullet weight, amount of powder, and other factors. "Kick" is the *effect* of this thrust on the shooter. It is governed by the weight of the gun, stance of the shooter, and how the recoil is distributed to the shooter's body. This last





factor has a great deal to do with the enjoyment of a person using a gun, and with accuracy, either for target work or hunting.

Every year, hunters who come here for spring bear or fall big game hunts bring rifles about evenly divided between "custom" and factory standard makes. Of the "custom makes," some are from well-known gun and stock makers, but many are from the small local rifle shops turning out only a few rifles a year. Some are rebuilt military rifles, and some have used the original action only, everything else being new. As a general rule, the stocks of these custom guns follow a general style: a comb of some sort, checkering, recoil pad, and from fair to wonderful finish. But, after this, the similarity stops. Shapes vary according to the gun man's particular idea of good looks and design, with very little thought to the most important item of design, elimination of "Kick," plus stock shape and fit to permit fast accurate aiming and sure holding. No shooter can confidently handle a kicking gun. He can "get used to it"—which means that he can adjust his shooting position and "style" of cheeking the gun until it hurts him less or not at all; but too many times he develops a flinch which ruins his

shooting, or finds that he has lost the pleasure out of his shooting. Proper stock fitting could correct both conditions.

Originally, most guns were built heavy, especially when scope equipped. Nine to twelve pounds was "average," and many shooters actually added heavy barrels and weighted stocks to reduce recoil. But since that time there has been a trend toward light and "bantam weight" rifles—rifles in calibers up to .30-06 and weighing, with scope and mount, around 6¼ pounds. The magnums average about a pound heavier, or 7¼ pounds. This reduction in weights has given the big game hunter a far more pleasant rifle to carry in the mountains and one the average hunter can use more quickly and more accurately than the heavier gun he formerly carried. But in these light rifles, apparent recoil has been magnified, and this has been responsible for more attention to better stock design and fit. Even the established gun manufacturers have brought out lightweight versions—not yet, in most cases, as light as the custom guns, but definite steps in that direction.

Although I have hunted for 50 years and naturally have some favorite old rifles, all in the heavy class, I have recently collected



Guymon light rifle (left) has wide forearm for recoil control, with cheek piece sloped to allow gun to kick away from cheek. Same design is in Hi-Wall maple stock (above) which has plate sloped to reduce torque on firing. Old M94 carbine was notorious kicker.





Factory-stocked Model 70 Winchester (top) can cause kick from stock comb angle, butt pitch. Custom rifle, bottom, has comb angled forward and butt giving better support.

a series of calibers in lightweights that make hunting a real pleasure. I have lent these guns to all who would use them here, and it has been fun to watch the enthusiasm shown in each instance. Many of these hunters have immediately ordered duplicates for themselves.

In reviewing gun stock shapes for the past years, I find very few old stocks which resemble the stocks of the new designs by top gunstockers. However, I notice several manufacturers, especially of magnum calibers, have definitely studied this recoil problem. And after shooting some of the new guns and comparing apparent recoil and kick, I can easily see why some of these new guns are more popular than others.

A particular caliber and load will produce just so much rearward thrust, developed as the charge propels a given bullet forward to designed speeds. Let's study a Weatherby caliber, for example. No one can deny that there will be more recoil when bullet speeds are stepped up. But *how this recoil is absorbed by the shooter* is the difference between recoil and kick. All Weatherby stocks that we have

used here or seen pictured show a great deal of attention to design intended to minimize "kick." This permits high speed, flat shooting cartridges that the hunter can shoot without developing a bad flinch problem. I've shot .300 Magnum factory stocked guns, made for open or telescope sights, that kicked like a mule; shot them again after a better designed and shaped stock had been installed, and found the kick down to a point where shooting was a pleasure. A number of the gunstock manufacturers who sell semi- or full-inletted stocks to gunsmiths, and owners who do their own stocking, have done a lot of research along this line and are featuring modern designed stocks that are equal in kick-reducing design and shape to the best the custom gunsmith has to offer.

However, the real credit for stock design advancement belongs to the custom stock makers. Those craftsmen have worked out changes from the so called "classic" designs, in vogue for so long, to designs that give more shooter comfort. And it is not alone the light weight gun that is benefiting from this change. The high powered high velocity guns recently brought out, such as the Winchester .458 and Weatherby .378, are either so stocked by the makers or are being re-stocked, on customer order, by top stock makers.

I've done a lot of experimenting here on all caliber guns, from .219's to .35 Newtons, to check on this recoil problem. Recently I spent several days with one of America's top stock makers, Lenard Brownell of Sheridan, Wyoming, getting his accumulated ideas on this angle. Lenard insists that, even on a heavyweight .22 Long Rifle target gun, attention to stock design to reduce apparent recoil helps a person's shooting score. And he follows that thought with the stocks he uses on his own target, bench, and game rifles. He is a top shot with all, and is one of the few stockers I know who really shoots in all categories and does a lot of big game hunting, also.

Another of the top stock makers who also shoots target, bench, and game a lot, is Al Biesen, of Spokane, Washington. I have guns stocked by both these men. Along with the superb workmanship, bedding, and checkering, the design of the stocks make any caliber gun a real pleasure to shoot, whether in .222, .270, or a (Continued on page 58)



Author is guide-outfitter, expands own knowledge and experience with that of many sportsmen who bring all types of guns to his ranch for hunting. Exotic Guyton rifle, right, shows good principles of stock design for reducing the kick.



# Now You Can Learn To Shoot IN COLLEGE

## COLLEGE COURSES IN HUNTING AND GUN HANDLING

### PROMOTE SAFETY, RECRUIT NEW SHOOTERS,

### BUILD GOOD WILL FOR THE SHOOTING SPORTS

By CHARLES DICKEY  
*Sportsmen's Service Bureau*



At "school with a difference," Fred Missildine, noted shot-gunner, coaches pupil pointing gun at No. 8 skeet station.

LAST DECEMBER, men and women from eight states attended a course in adult education offered by North Carolina State College at Southern Pines. Nothing unusual about that? No, but this was a college course with a difference. The "tools" were not books and pencils; they were guns. For this was a course in hunting and gun handling, taught by hunters and shooters of wide experience and even professional stature. And few teachers ever had more enthusiastic pupils.

This was not the first time that an institution of higher learning has recognized gun sports as part of their adult education program. Years ago, the University of New Mexico included a similar course in its extension curriculum. Wherever tried, these courses have been well attended, enthusiastically received by the people who enrolled in them, and lauded by conservation departments and leaders in safety promotion. If the college nearest you doesn't offer a course in hunting and gun handling, why not promote it? It will work, too, as an intra- or extra-curricular course in any high school.

The North Carolina course included experienced hunters and shooters, as well as complete novices. Oddly enough, this seems to be a pattern. The first New Mexico class included a gunsmith, an experienced competitive rifle shooter, and a former Alaska big-game guide. Experts as well as novices acclaimed the courses. Hunting and the gun skills are subjects about which no man ever "knows it all," and there's always something to be learned from discussion and practice.

A varied group showed up for firearms instruction the day the North Carolina course opened. There were Pearson Wells of Center Cross, Virginia, 75 years of age; Dr. Willard Rainey of Princeton, New Jersey, with his son, Willard Rainey, Jr., of Greensboro, N. C.; Mr. and Mrs. George Candler of Sarasota, Florida, and others from near and far. J. H. Klasen of Rochester, New York, had never hunted before, but he shot a ringneck pheasant on the third day of the school. Other pupils testified to shooting experience ranging from a little to a lot, but all admitted that they learned.





Student Hal Emmons from Detroit cheeks Model 12 pump in simulated field shot from skeet "high house." North Carolina State College instructor checks gun angle.



Dick Wolters brought family from New York City to take hunting course. With coach Missildine he waits as dogs "Duke" and "Rex" point.

Rex brings in the bird. Big pointer is part of "staff" of River Bend Ranch game farm where shooting students follow theory with practice.







Hal Emmons is justly proud of pheasant. Detroiters had never hunted afield before, was one of four complete novices who took N. C. State hunting course and got adult education diploma plus game.

On the opening day of the school, the students were given lectures on firearms and ammunition. Fred Missildine, member of the professional all-American skeet team for the past 11 years, checked the group out on ammunition. Les Webb of Richmond, Virginia, field man for an arms and ammunition manufacturer, gave a thorough demonstration in types of firearms. Jim Dee, director of the shooting promotion program for the Sportsmen's Service Bureau of New York, worked with the group on safety. But the instructors were wise enough to know that the students wanted action and, as soon as the group had been grounded in safety, they were taken out for their first shotgun shooting.

In an opening in the pine woods, clay targets were thrown with a handtrap for three hours. Students were taught safety, proper stance, how to mount and train a gun on moving targets.

The second day, the class started actual hunting. Half of the group went quail hunting with local guides, and the others went to River Bend Ranch at Vass, N.C., a pheasant shooting preserve. Fletcher Nicks, manager of River Bend Ranch, divided the pheasant hunters into two groups. Those who had hunting and shooting experience were sent on woods trips. The inexperienced hunters were guided by the author in open fields. River Bend Ranch, like any well-managed shooting preserve, has tough-hunting areas and hunting where the birds flush in open fields.

Of the party of five that I guided that first morning, only one had ever shot a flying bird. The first few pheasants that flushed gave the students a bad case of pheasant fever. There was a lot of shooting—all of it safely done, but bloodless. The big advantage of shooting preserves is that there is always plenty of game, so the students knew they would get more chances and didn't let the misses bother them.

Harold Emmons, Detroit, Michigan, was the first to connect with a pheasant. Our big pointer, Rex, retrieved him beautifully and I don't know who was prouder, Rex or Hal. Hal had hunted deer in Michigan for many years, but this was his first ringneck.

After Hal knocked down the first bird, the others gained confidence. They slowed their shooting. At first, they had been rushing their shots. They saw now that they had enough time. They got their cheeks down on the stocks and started scoring. By the middle of the morning they began to get *too* good. Maybe three hunters would cut loose at a big cock pheasant, and all would connect. I couldn't tell who was actually hitting the birds. So we took turns, with only one or two hunters shooting, so I would know who was hitting and who needed correction.

Of the four complete beginners to wing shooting, all killed at least one bird by himself. Some, like Hal Emmons, killed three. We came out of the field at noon with 17 pheasants. Not bad for a group of novices. The clay target shooting the day before had paid off.

The afternoon sessions were devoted to lectures by Dr. Fred Barkalow, head of the zoology department at N.C. State. Although the students had shooting on their minds, Dr. Barkalow's talks on wildlife management got complete attention. Dr. Barkalow discussed deer herd management, predator control, food and cover planting, managing wild turkeys, quail problems, importing exotics, and many other topics of importance to hunters.

During the evenings, movies were shown on waterfowl and exhibition shooting. Despite the fact that the students had put in four or five hours in the field, other long hours at afternoon lectures and other activities, they usually stayed up until midnight discussing hunting and shooting.

On the third day, those who had hunted quail went for pheasants, and the pheasant (Continued on page 46)



## NOW YOU CAN LEARN TO SHOOT IN COLLEGE

(Continued from page 45)

hunters went for the bobs, The quail hunting was at best only fair because of a long drought, but all the students got some shooting. Later, a deer hunt produced no deer for the bag, but hunters did see plenty of doe, on which there was no open season. For most of them, it was their first deer hunt.

The deer hunt was followed by an evening coon hunt. This was more of a social gathering than anything else, but the class enjoyed it. Most of them stayed out until midnight, listening to the hounds run.

The students really went for the skeet shooting under the expert guidance of Jim Dee, Fred Missildine, and Les Webb. They wanted to shoot, and the clay birds gave them plenty of targets. With professionals to help them, the students quickly caught on to the fast-moving "pigeons." There were no impressive scores, but some of the beginners broke 12 and 15 out of 25, which is plenty good for novices.

A banquet was held for the students and instructors on the final night of the course. It was strictly informal, as was the entire course. Prizes were given to the top skeet shooters in each squad, and the students were given certificates showing they had completed the prescribed course.

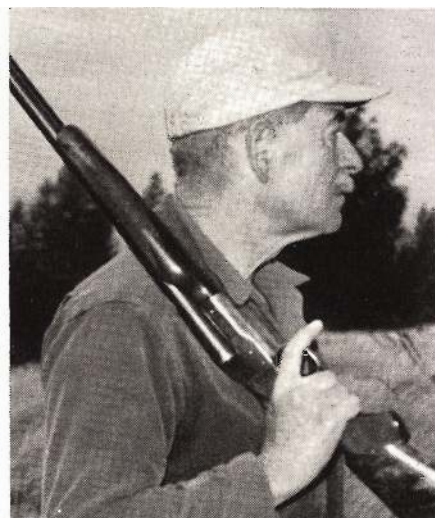
The course will be held again next December. They expect that the attendance will about double. If it does, then the hunting short course will be an annual offering. Package cost for the course was \$175.00. This included everything except personal expenses, hunting licenses, and ammunition. Starnes

expects the costs next winter to be about the same.

What did the course prove? First of all, it proved that there are people anxious to learn more about hunting and shooting. One-third of these pupils signed on at shooting preserves as soon as the course ended, eager for more hunting. It proved that these people will go great distances to get good instruction. It showed that the students were willing to devote 12 to 16 hours a day to learning more about wildlife and hunting.

Since this was the first course held, no one knew exactly what to expect. All of the students were enthusiastic about it. Some will be back next December to repeat it. Here, as elsewhere, the course proved that the public will go for a hunting short course, and undoubtedly other universities will soon be offering similar opportunities. The course introduced clay target shooting and four types of hunting to a new group, thereby adding to the ranks of gun sportsmen. It gave the students a thorough grounding in firearms handling, thereby promoting safety. And most of the students went away with a better understanding of wildlife management than the average hunter grasps in a lifetime.

The students went home with a desire to do more clay target shooting and hunting. They now have confidence in themselves and know they will improve. And one of the most important things is that they all had a good time. And isn't that what shooting is supposed to be?



Position is fast, comfortable for a short period, safe in brush because hand protects trigger against twigs.

## A FIRST-READER FOR SHOTGUNNERS

(Continued from page 19)

short range with a close choked gun, of course. Some snapshooters get spectacular results and often fascinate the watcher. What the watcher forgets is that only a very few snapshooters are successful. They are persons endowed by Nature with unusual reflexes; and... one can snapshoot effectively at long range targets.

The man who *points out* uses a method sometimes called the "half snap." He tosses his gun to his shoulder, barrel lined close to the flying target; then quickly swings or points his gun ahead of the target, and fires. He is really a swinger who takes a short-cut; and, too often, his movements are jerky. Some of these men are very successful at all ranges, and it is my opinion that they, also, are persons fortunate enough to possess magnificent reflexes and muscular control.

Finally, there is the true swinger. He mounts his gun correctly, often lightning-fast, while his master eye picks up the flight line of the target. Instead of trying to guess at some point ahead of the target—like a hobo trying to snag a fast freight—he merely moves his upper body so that his gun barrel parallels the travel of his open eyes. He sees his target clearly with both eyes, above his gun barrel, all the time; and, at the instant which practice has told him is right, his trigger finger fires the gun. If he hits, he sees the result instantly—and a pretty picture it is, too! If he misses, he is ready for a second shot without delay. The swinger is not a slow, pottering shooter; he is often a very fast one. But he is a logical person who knows that his shot charge must travel a route which will connect with the flying target where it *is*—not where it *was* when he decided to shoot.

It is possible to calculate by mathematics exactly how far ahead of a flying target a shotgun must be fired. We know the velocity of the shot charge and the approximate velocity of the target. Sometimes, we know the range pretty closely. If we just knew how long it took for each shooter to fire his shotgun after he thought he fired it, we might—might, I say—tell him how far ahead of the target to "aim" a shotgun with ex-

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pectation of hitting his target.

When we can measure that time accurately, it might be possible to make a steady "snap" or "point out" gunner hit some of the targets most of the time. So far, it hasn't been done, although millions of words have been written on the subject. Tables have been prepared by experts, proving everything except the reaction time of the individual gunner. Study of the millions of words and of the carefully prepared tables have kept more shotgunners in the dub class than anything except not leaving their beds. Forget all that bunk for all time if you want to hit flying targets and have fun doing it. Add to the objective of shotgun shooting the pleasure it can give you. Think of it as a joy, like painting a beautiful picture which you, yourself, want to see all the way. Do not spoil your pleasure by mathematics or gun-sights. *Swing and shoot while you see the target.*

**Question:** Where do I learn how to swing?

**Answer:** Anywhere you happen to be with your gun. It is easy. The hard thing is to keep on swinging when you fire the shot. Too often, you suddenly realize that you have just *seen* your target clearly, and you think: *Oh, my goodness! Maybe I'm too far ahead, maybe I'm not far enough, maybe I'm too high, or too low...* Instinctively, you stop your swing and, in a panic, push with your hands to correct your "aim," yank the trigger, and—miss. Forget your doubts; swing and shoot. If you have mounted your gun correctly and done some shooting with your shotgun at stationary targets to learn about where your shot charge lands, you will not miss too many flying targets above or below—most will be missed ahead or behind along its line of travel. That's swing, and all you need is practice.

**Question:** But where do I learn how to swing with flying targets?

**Answer:** Probably the best place is on a clay-bird trap court—not skeet. Get permission to take a position at first one and then the other end of the line. Use empty shell in the chamber of your gun to soften the fall of the firing pin. Then, with gun correctly mounted, swing with each target till your arms ache. Each time you swing, snap your gun, simulating firing. Soon you will be *seeing* the target clearly above your barrel, but you won't be seeing the barrel—although you will know it's there as a sort of shadow. Your common sense will begin to tell you that you would have hit some of the targets you have been *seeing*. You may even be pretty sure where your muzzle pointed when the shot was "fired." You might even think you had figured out a "lead." Don't fool yourself—just swing and snap. When your gun actually bangs will be time enough to find out whether you were right or wrong. The important thing now is to *swing* and release the trigger somewhere along the course *without stopping the swing*.

## SHOOTING

The third essential in becoming a satisfactory shotgun shooter is the will to shoot; the will, and the will *power*. All the perfect position and swinging is valueless unless you condition your reflexes to make some noise with your shotgun.

**Question:** When do I shoot? And how?

**Answer:** I cannot tell you exactly when, nor how; but, if you keep your correct gun position as you swing and *see* your target,

I can help you to find out. Soon, you can do it all by yourself. And the beauty of it is double: first, you see the result of your shot instantly; and, second, the range or direction do not matter for, magically, your swing takes care of that. You become both an actor and an audience.

I cannot tell you exactly when nor how, but I will tell you how *I* do it. It will not be exactly *your* way, but it will give you a start. I swing from behind my target—how far behind depends upon how much time I have—and, just before I catch up with it, I think I pull the trigger. Because I swing fast, and because I am not as young as I once was, my upper body muscles swing my gun barrels far past the target before the charge of shot actually leaves the barrel. How far, I do not know; but, from common sense, I do know that it was far enough if I killed, not far enough if I missed. Of course, too, sometimes I miss above or below, but not often—not if I kept my position right. Most of my misses will be in front or behind the target, because I failed somehow to swing correctly.

The experts will now say that I "lead" my targets. Of course, technically, I do; but I can only say that the word "lead" almost kept me from enjoying shotgun shooting, from hitting ducks and clay birds, and from hunting. Forget "lead"; mount your gun correctly, swing, and let *seeing* your target and swing do the work. If you intend to try to measure or calculate "lead," you should stop right here and get another teacher, because you and I can never agree.

How do I shoot? I do not know whether I tap, pull, or yank the trigger. It doesn't

matter, anyway; because if you keep your gun correctly mounted, no trigger finger can spoil your position by any method. Use the method your muscles like best, and don't worry about it. Many top flight shooters tap, they say. If the trigger pull is heavy, I doubt that a tap is enough. Do whatever is necessary, and don't bother the finger with foolish advice. Just be sure that you don't use any part of the hand *but* the finger for firing.

For finger practice, take a soft peach, grip it firmly but gently with three fingers and the thumb of your shooting hand. Then pretend to pull a trigger, hundreds of times. If peach juice runs down your hand, you are not doing the right thing. Learn by doing. That is called empiricism, but don't let that scare you.

Return to the trap court, this time to shoot. Ask for the most competent man available to stand behind you and tell you where you miss. If he tries to tell you how to shoot, or mentions "lead," get a different man at once! Any competent observer can tell you, most of the time, where you missed, and that is all you need to know. Keep your correct position, eyes looking above and parallel to your barrel, and continue to shoot. Not too many rounds the first time; just try to hit some targets. Your trigger finger is learning, and it will learn faster than you do.

*Swing and see and shoot.* You want to become an instinctive shooter; any other kind is pretty useless afield. When you are confidently breaking clay targets half the time, you have the business licked... on the trap court.

AXIOM: Any shotgun shooter who consistently  
(Continued on page 48)

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hits flying targets at all reasonable ranges is a swinger. Be one.

The next lesson is never ended. It is the lesson of how to hit flying game. A clay bird court is one thing—a fine place for a beginner to learn, and for a poor shooting oldster to correct some faults. A field or a duck marsh is something else. You cannot call "Pull" and have your target come out before you; although, with a pointing dog, you can almost do so on Bob White quail and, sometimes, pheasants. Nor can you wander for miles holding your gun correctly mounted—although you do have plenty of time to mount it correctly when a dog is on point or when ducks can be seen approaching from afar. But those situations do not always exist; so you must learn to mount your gun correctly and quickly under many different circumstances and conditions. It is not difficult to do if you will remember two things:


First, remember the *safe* rule, and carry your gun any way you wish as long as you do not point your gun at a companion, a

dog, or anything you do not wish to threaten or shoot.

Second, remember that, from any safe position, you can mount your gun correctly in plenty of time to get off a shot at any target you could have hit from any position—safe or unsafe. Correctly mount your gun swiftly, but never recklessly. You'll do all right.

**Question:** How should I take the various and numerous kinds of shots which I may encounter while hunting?

**Answer:** Take them as they come, and shoot where they are. Never restrict yourself to one or two types of shots just because they seem easier—they are all easy if you keep your gun correctly mounted, swing, and shoot. Some hunters pass up the easier incoming shot to turn and shoot at the more difficult going-away bird! That is worse than wrong—it is silly. No matter where your target appears, shoot at the first safe opportunity within reasonable range. If you miss, you will still have time for a second shot.

**AXIOM:** If you don't shoot, you've missed. **SHOOT**—and Good Luck to you. 

## TEACH THE LADY TO SHOOT

(Continued from page 29)

.410 gauge. That pea shooter is a heart breaker for the experts. I've seen the great Alex Kerr have bad days with that little gun, and for my money he is the best shooter in the world today.

Men, you may stop reading at this point. I have something to say to the girls. Ladies, put on your loosest girdle, your old skirt, and your shooting coat. Go out to the gun club and pick out a good shooter. Ask him to coach you, after telling him how you

admire his shooting ability. No man lives and breathes, between the ages of 6 and 106, who will not be delighted at such a request. Your husband, brother, or close friend will not do ordinarily. It is the same as one of them teaching you to drive an automobile.

Ladies, you will be on the spot in one respect: that is, regarding safety. Learn the ten commandments of gun safety, and observe them religiously. The men will watch you particularly close in the phase of safety; violate just one of these rules and you will immediately become as welcome as a skunk at a picnic.

Start your program by observing other shooters. "Form" is as important in shooting as in golf or any other sport. Form is simply the easiest method of doing a thing, and there are many short-cuts in shooting a gun. Your foot position is important. Your feet should be about 12 inches apart; your weight slightly more on the left foot. Your position should be one in which you would take to shoot the target at about the point in its line of flight that you intend to break it. Deviation from this position is only for picking up the target, following its line of flight until you have the correct lead ahead of your target. Your feet should not be moved; the body should swivel, using the left foot for a pivot. Your gun muzzle should be moved



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smoothly, and steadily, not by jerks. After you shoot, you should follow through with your swing the same as you do with a golf club or a tennis racquet.

If you can, it is best to wait until there is a lull in the shooting, or until a range is vacant, and start out on station seven. Shoot only the low house targets until you have mastered that station, and you have learned to stand correctly without giving much thought to your position. Clay target shooting requires a lot of concentration, so practice at each station until you have solved the problems encountered there before you move to the next.

After a few weeks' practice at the gun club, or with the hand trap, you will begin to form a team with your gun. You will hardly realize you are holding a gun when you shoot, for your attention is concentrated on your target. Here are a few don'ts while you are learning:

1. Don't violate any safety precaution. Keep the action open at all times when you are not actually on the shooting station and ready to fire your gun.

2. Don't talk while another shooter is firing.

3. Don't get in with the expert squads until you are ready. You will only slow them up, and break the rhythm of their shooting. Shoot with the beginner squads until you get some experience.

4. Don't adopt unorthodox shooting positions, squatting, feet too wide apart, leaning towards the target excessively. You may notice some good shooters doing this, but they are shooting well against a handicap.

When you have learned to handle your gun well, you are then ready to take part in the second oldest sport in the history of mankind—hunting. Hunting, in this modern era, is about as easy as baking a cake. I have hunted ducks, geese, pheasant, quail, doves, deer, and bear. With the exception of quail hunting and pheasant hunting, where a lot of walking over rough terrain is involved, all of it is simple. You can drive your car out to a dove field, get out and walk a few hundred feet, get in a blind, and shoot all afternoon. The same applies to goose hunting if you hunt them in the wheat fields as we do around Lake Mattamuskeet, N. C. If you shoot ducks over pot holes, or around the edge of lakes, there is little physical effort involved there either. Of course, going along in a boat is certainly no strain. Crow shooting is a lot of fun, and you help the farmers out in ridding the country of this pest.

Hunting clothing should be warm and of durable material. Don't make the mistake of leaving a warm house at 3 A.M. on a freezing-cold morning, clad in gabardine riding breeches. You won't look glamorous, anyway, if you are purple with cold.

Give the shooting and hunting sport a trial. You will like it. You will be initiated into a new world. Never again will you have to sit, forgotten and forlorn, and listen to hunters speak happily in a lingo as strange as Swahili to you. When one says, "That old honker came quartering in on me, I took him with a pass-shot," you will soar out to a marsh and mentally thrill to the sight of that majestic gray goose winging over a blind. You get the memory of that indescribably wild and untamed sound the wild goose makes. "A flight of squealers buzzed my decoys and I had a malfunction." Again you are in perfect tune; you are on his frequency as you sympathize with the unfortunate man who sat for hours in a cold duck blind, only to have his gun fail to fire when a flight of ducks finally come in close.

There are few sights in the world more thrilling than the sight of watching a pair of well-trained bird dogs making game and freezing at point over a covey of quail. You'll never forget the thrill of walking slowly up, and having a dozen or more quail explode noisily into flight and rocket away like bullets.

Of course, I know from experience that being a wife and mother is a demanding job, and I do not recommend that you go overboard on any hobby or sport. However, I do know that there is no better enjoyment to be found in any hobby than you will find with a gun—not just in the matter of killing game for, actually, the true sportsman kills comparatively little. The enjoyment is in all that goes with shooting and hunting; the clean outdoors, the knowledge you gain of wildlife and of nature, and the understanding and companionship that only shooters and hunters enjoy.



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## STOP-GUNS FOR DIXIE TUSKERS

(Continued from page 21)

areas furnish a lot of sportsmen with some good sport every year, but these natives are not as thrilling to hunt as the exotic Prussians.

The best way to hunt wild boar in Tennessee or North Carolina is to form a party numbering between 20 and 100 hunters, and apply for a hunt. A good-sized party may be 25 or 30 hunters. Complete information is available from The Tennessee Game and Fish Commission, Nashville, Tenn., and The North Carolina Wildlife Resource Commission, Raleigh, North Carolina. Write well in advance of any planned hunting trip into these areas. Preliminary correspondence should start no later than late spring or early summer for a fall hunt. Ask the state departments for complete details on the party boar and bear hunts. These are managed hunts, but even so around 3,000 hunters get to take part every year, counting of course North Carolina's open area around Hooper's Bald.

In this area the season normally opens Oct. 15th, and stays open until the first of the year. Some of the local guides have built hunters' camps high up in the mountains, and they form parties and put on hunts all during the Oct. 15th to Jan. 1st season. The season dates may vary from year to year for different reasons, so it always pays to check on this angle.

These open area hunts on the North Carolina side rarely fail to produce boar or bear or both. Typical of these hunts was one that I took last season. I made my arrangements

with Claude Hyde, who has a comfortable camp in Horse Pen Gap near the top of Hooper's Bald Mountain. Twenty-three of us were in the party, from at least six states. We hunted four days, bagged three wild boars and 1 bear. Claude Hyde (% Graham Furniture Co., Robbinsville, N. C.) is a dandy source to contact to get lined up for one of these open area hunts on the North Carolina side. Other local hunters have camps and dogs—if Claude can't accommodate, he will put sportsmen in touch with someone who can.

The managed hunts are usually during late October and early November, and are of three days duration with two days of actual hunting. For both types of hunts the rates, including guides with dogs, board and lodging, licenses and permits, are as reasonable as for any other kind of big game hunting anywhere in the United States.

This is one of the most thrilling types of hunting available to American sportsmen today. The transplanted Prussian wild boars are dangerous "critters." This does not mean that they roam around through the mountains attacking everything that moves in front of them, but it does mean that when they are cornered or hard pressed by dogs their tempers get hair-trigger and they get ready to use their razor-sharp tusks if they have to. A mad boar, held at bay by a bawling pack of dogs, is an unpredictable critter. All of a sudden he (or she—the sows are also fierce) may savagely charge the dogs or any hunter in sight. When one does, about the only way to stop him is with a high powered rifle bullet, or a rifled slug from a shotgun. And the shooting had better be accurate, to a vital spot, because a wounded wild boar is more dangerous than one not wounded.

Guns and loads for wild boar hunting are very important. Your pet scope-sighted long range deer and antelope rifle won't do. Such a rig will clobber a boar or bear all right, but in the mountain brush most of the shots come at close range, 50 yards or less, so the long range scope-sighted rigs are really out of place.

The guides themselves practically all use short saddle type carbines in .30-30 caliber, shooting 170 grain softpoint bullets, and a good share of the mountain hunters who do not follow the hounds use 12 gauge shotguns and rifled slug loads. These combinations are deadly on the boars at close range. The shotguns with rifled slugs carry up to 40 yards, and the .30-30's up to 100 yards. The short saddle type carbines are built to take a lot of abuse, are handy to get around with through underbrush while climbing up and down mountains, and they pack sufficient wallop to do the job. Those tough old mountain guides use a rawhide string for a sling strap, and the carbines they carry soon get scratched and beat up to where they look like junk iron. But they will still clobber the wild boars and black bears and that is what really counts with the guides. Only rarely do the guides make a kill themselves. When they do have to make one to save the valuable skins of dogs or hunters they want a gun adequate to do the job and, also, one that will not wear them out to lug around.

Wild boar hunters planning to do most of their hunting from stands can get by just fine with practically any gun and load com-

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bination good for deer and bear in other parts of the country. This is one type of big game hunting where scope sights are out of place (in most cases), but a wide variety of rifle calibers will fill the bill. Among these are .30-06, .270, .35, .32 Special, .30-30, .308, and various other similar calibers. As for shotguns (using rifled slug loads) nothing smaller than 12 gauge should be used. Bullet weight for the high powered rifles should range between 150 and 200 grains, in all cases with softpoint bullets.

Rifle type for this particular kind of hunting is largely a matter of personal preference. The bolt actions and lever actions are a bit slower to operate for most shooters than the pumps and auto-loaders, but on the other hand they are usually somewhat more sure and dependable. The average hunter can put a lot of hot lead into a charging animal with a bolt or lever action rifle, and it has been my personal experience that they are somewhat less apt to malfunction than the pumps or auto-loaders.

A wild boar's brain is small, and deeply protected behind thick, tough skin and a lot of bone. The heart area is also small and, from a side angle, protected by the fore-shoulders. A lung shot near the heart will usually kill a boar, but if hit in the lungs he may be able to do damage before falling dead. For quick, telling effect a spinal shot is probably the best of all. On the North Carolina hunt I examined a 285-pound boar that one shot from a .30-30 rifle stopped dead in his tracks. The bullet centered the spine just back of the fore-shoulders, and right then and there the big tusker went down for keeps.

During the 1958 hunts in Tennessee, one hunter and several dogs got slashed by charging boars. It took quite a few stitches to close up the ugly wound left in the hunter's leg. Not a single Tennessee party failed to get one or more boars during the 1958 season, and there were really some hair-raising hunts.

The hunts usually start at dawn, with the guide heading for the previously located boar feeding grounds with the dogs on leash. Any member or members of the party feeling like they can squirrel up and down rugged catface mountains all day are welcome to go along with the guide and his helper. But take a tip from one who has tried it, this going can get plenty tough. I pooped out before noon, and I am pretty well toughened to reasonably rugged hunting.

The guide will have other helpers who will direct various members of the party to stands along known boar and bear runs. Do what they say because they have hunted the mountain wilderness long enough to know what they are doing. And they would rather one of their customers would get a boar or bear, than not get one. Part of their bread and butter comes from putting on successful hunts.

Either wild boar or black bear may be taken on most of these hunts, but for most of the out-of-state hunters the main attraction is the boars. If the dogs, mostly hounds, succeed in starting a boar in or near the feeding grounds, the members of the party on stands will get to hear some chase music deluxe. If members of the party are trying to follow the guide, and his helpers who invariably follow through after the dogs, and they have enough of what it takes to keep up with the guides, then their chances of getting a shot at a bayed boar will be improved. The

standers take the chance of a boar being chased past, within gun range of their stands, or one of the critters coming to bay within hearing of their stand. If such happens, the stander is supposed to head for the spot as fast as possible, approach the actual scene of action cautiously, and if a clear shot presents itself, try to make it good. Shots from stands will usually be at running animals.

Clothing and equipment for these hunts need not be anything fancy. The weather is usually chilly enough for long-handled underwear and medium weight outer clothes if one plans to stay on a stand. It is a good idea to take along an outfit a little bit on the lightweight side, plus a change to something medium heavy. Here, as everywhere else, weather is variable and unpredictable.

So there you have it—the how-to of wild boar hunting in the mountains of Tennessee and North Carolina, and the next step of course is for you to start planning one of these thrilling hunts.



### Time-Saver Tip

Now is the time of year to have major repairs made on your favorite shotgun or rifle. Gunsmiths are usually not busy, and the repair divisions of the arms companies are in a better position to handle gun overhauls. If you have such a problem, take care of it now. It's foolish to wait until the first day of hunting season, when the gunsmiths are overloaded with repair jobs that customers wanted the day before yesterday.

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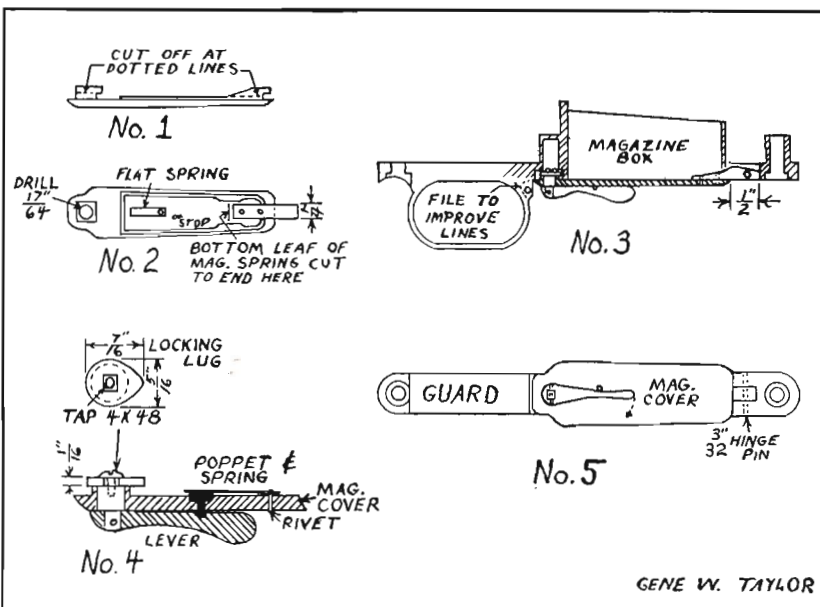
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Some of the most beautiful (and expensive) hand-crafted custom sporters have this type of hinged floor plate, and when built carefully and accurately, this "gadget" will give that fine custom look to your own sporter.

In preparing the magazine cover to receive the new hinge and lock, first enlarge the hole at the rear of the cover with a 17/64" drill. The magazine cover should be drilled from the bottom to insure getting the hole parallel with and at 90 degrees to the flat surfaces of the cover. At this time, dress off the lips on both ends with a file. (See Drawing No. 1) Be careful to file the new surfaces smooth and even. The new lock will rotate on the rear surface, so be especially careful here.

The hinge proper is made of 1/4" square stock 1 3/4" long. If welding, brazing, or silver soldering facilities are available, it may be shortened to 1". Drawings No. 2 and No. 3 show the shape of the square stock for riveting. Be sure and taper off the hinge so as not to reduce the capacity of the magazine.

In fitting the hinge to the cover, file a gap of 1/4" in the front end of the lower inner framing that holds the magazine spring to allow the square stock to lay flat on the inside floor of the cover. Any filing and fitting necessary to make the hinge piece fit snugly must be done on the cover, not on the hinge piece. It is important to have the hinge centered exactly on the cover.

Study Drawing No. 3 for details of the shape of the hinge. Note the angles in its outline. The rear angle is such that it will not interfere with the operation of the magazine nor reduce its capacity. The front angle governs the distance the magazine cover can be opened. This should allow the spring and (Continued on next page)



(Continued from preceding page)

follower to clear the magazine box.

Assuming the hinge is to be attached with rivets (mild steel), clamp the hinge piece and cover together (see Drawings No. 2 and No. 3) and drill two holes using a No. 40 drill. Use a slightly larger drill to counter-sink both sides of both holes. This will allow the rivets to upset and form a stronger head. The rivets should fit the holes snugly and, when carefully peened to draw the assembly tightly together, may be dressed off flush.

Holding the cover over its position on the magazine, mark around the hinge with a sharp scriber. Using this outline, carefully fit the hinge into the magazine with a file. The front bottom edge of the magazine box will have to be filed for clearance in opening the cover. Be careful in filing this depth so as not to allow the tip of a loaded round to catch in the opening.

After the magazine cover has been properly fitted, drill the hole for the hinge pin. The hinge pin hole should be drilled with the magazine cover fitted in place in the closed position. Use a No. 36 drill and bore  $\frac{1}{8}$ " above the bottom edge of the plate and  $\frac{1}{2}$ " ahead of the inside face of the front magazine wall. Make the hinge pin from drill rod. It should fit snug in the two sides, but allow the hinge to work freely. This may be accomplished by running the drill in and out several times in the hinge piece alone.

The latch is made of 17/64" round rod and is 7/16" long. The rotary locking lug is attached to one end and the operating lever on the other. The round rod will be given square ends measuring 3/16" by 3/16", over which are fitted the rotary locking lug and lever respectively. The lever is pinned in place and the locking lug held with a 4 x 48 screw with washer. (See Drawing No. 4)

The locking lug is made from 1/16" flat stock having an oval shape approximately 5/16" by 7/16". This part will have to be fitted to the individual magazine. Make it slightly oversize at first then file and try. (See Drawing No. 4)

A well proportioned lever should be 1 1/8" to 1 1/4" long. It should be 11/32" in width where it attaches to the shaft, and should taper gradually to approximately 1/8" at the other end. See Drawings No. 4 and No. 5 for shape of lever.

To hold the lever in a closed position, install a small poppet as shown in Drawing No. 3. The spring, rivet, and poppet assembly must be as flat and low as possible so as not to interfere with the magazine spring. After the poppet is installed and with the lever in the closed position, drill a hole, using a No. 50 drill, through the magazine cover in line with the left side of the lever and at a point 3/4" ahead of the post. Fit a small metal peg into this hole, allowing the top to extend outside far enough to act as a stop for the lever. The bottom side of the lever should be drilled slightly at the point where end of the poppet rests when the lever is in the closed position. The end of the poppet should be slightly rounded for ease of operation. This gives a positive holding action.

The foregoing directions and drawings are for the Mauser rifle; but due to the similarity in construction, they may be utilized also for other popular military rifles by studying the principles involved and applying them along with judicious fitting.



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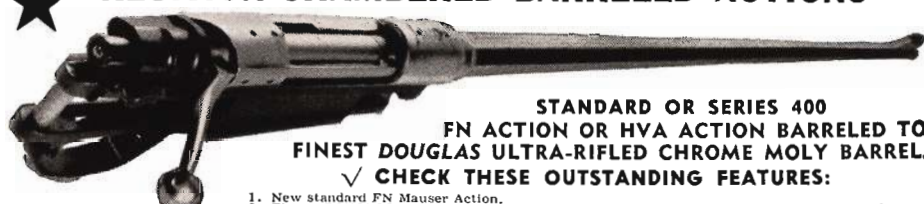
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**COLLECT (OR MAKE) GUN MINIATURES**

(Continued from page 37)

revolver being made in Mexico, and I soon added one to my collection. A beautiful piece of work indeed.

Back at the work bench again, this time to turn out a 1/4-size model of the Remington Double derringer. Before I was through with this project, four of these models found their way into other collections, and one has been used as a molding model for casting copies in gold and silver. None of these retained the sharp lines of machined steel, however.

Anyone with a work bench always has some unfinished project, and among mine was a model of the Match Target Woodsman left over from the wooden model era. It was so near completion that I decided to finish it. It finished up so nicely that I decided to try to make a Sport Model from steel. This one cost me a lot of aspirin, and before it was finished I had to learn how to coil a spring to certain outside and inside dimensions, how to drill a fairly deep hole and then weld it shut to retain the hole and also have a solid surface, and finally, how to wind a rectangular spring to fit into the magazine box. It's easy enough to wind music wire around a rectangular core to get the proper size and shape, but when you remove the core, you get something pretty useless.

Finally, after a lot of cutting and fitting, it was finished and took its place alongside the others in the display cabinet. This model, as with all the steel models I make, was copied from the actual gun. I find it easier this way, because all the dimensions are right there and merely have to be reduced to scale.

I had been getting photos, literature, and letters about other miniature guns being made for sale or trade. From this correspondence, I added the Paterson Colt revolver in two models, plus a flint-lock Kentucky rifle and a Remington Rolling Block Model 1871 Army pistol to the group. About this same time too, an Aston Single Shot Percussion pistol in approximate scale was purchased and added to the collection. It is a showy piece, with a polished bright steel barrel with brass fittings mounted on a walnut stock, and a brass grip cap.

My next miniature was a tiny Chinese

hand cannon. Using a piece of bronze stock, I drilled a hole down its length, drilled another smaller hole into the large bore at right angles to it at its depth, and cut it to scale size. It was then chucked in the jewelers lathe and the open end turned down to a cannon muzzle for a distance of 1/4". I then clamped it in a swivel vise sketched a design around its entire surface, and with a small hammer and small chisel and a lot of light tapping, removed enough metal to change its shape to that of a Chinese dragon which had swallowed the cannon and wrapped its long body around itself, leaving only the muzzle protruding from its mouth. A tool turned out of drill rod formed the shape for the eyes of the dragon, and this same tool held at an angle to the work was used to produce the scales on the hide. This was my first attempt at metal sculpturing, and it was good enough to take its place with the rest.

While making the Oriental Hand Cannon, representing some of the earliest Oriental Handicraft, I decided that my next model must be a copy of one of the newest from that part of the world, a souvenir Jap Nambu Pattern 14 automatic pistol. This pistol is of fairly simple and fragile construction and, in its miniature size, posed a problem of how to clamp it down to work on it. The bolt itself required three attempts before it was finished, and the trigger guard assembly with its unorthodox shape required more effort than usual. The two recoil springs, mounted one on each side of the bolt, required the smallest diameter turning I have had to do to date (slightly less than 1/32" O.D.). The magazine had its own special problem in the cast aluminum base. This part finally was made of steel and polished bright. It looks good, I added it to the collection.

During the construction of the Nambu, I received through the mail four miniatures which, at first glance, looked more like toys than true miniatures. I re-read the letter that accompanied them, then went back to the models themselves, and finally realized just what I had: four miniature workable models of childrens toy cap pistols! Triggers and hammers were cast in a mold, as were both sides of the pistols themselves. They show lines where the halves of the mold join, and the halves are held together by two or three rivets. An advanced collector purchasing his first Walker revolver could not have been more thrilled.

Maybe because of where I grew up—the Chicago city fathers call it Cicero, and the Beer Baron Al Capone called it home—the desire was planted in my mind to own one of Mr. Thompson's sub-machine weapons. This was a very elusive item. First I was too young; next they were too expensive; finally they became illegal to own. Just recently, with Federal blessings, and after about 30 years of impatient patience, I finally got my Tommy. Needless to say I lost no time in scaling it down to miniature. It was a work of love from the start. Everything seemed to go just right, and in it I have incorporated parts of all the various models. It has the finned barrel of the early models, mounted on the smaller lightened receiver of the military gun; the removable shoulder stock and pistol grip under the barrel of

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the old, and the bolt style of the new. The bolt handle, although representing the old in being mounted through the top of the receiver, is retained by the bolt with the method used on the M1 model. The adjustable rear sight, although representing a lot more work, was much more desirable than the stamped out military version.

With the completion of this miniature, I had attained the theme of my collection: "From Hand-Cannon to Sub-Machine Gun in Miniature." Any future pieces will have to fit into this framework.

"How do you do it?" This is the question which always comes up every time the collection is displayed. I suppose the simplest answer would be, "Get started and iron out the problems as they present themselves." A lot of education in various fields would help, but I started too young to have



Woodsman was masterful copy of Colt .22 auto pistol, has moving parts.

acquired all this education. Sam Colt started with wood; I started with wood. He made a working model; I made a solid model. His was full size; mine was miniature. He made a famous trade name; I'm still enjoying a wonderful hobby.

Starting with the wooden models, I learned about soft wood and hard wood, cutting with the grain and across the grain, about glues and types of wood filler and finishing agents. When wood became inadequate for some parts and plastics were explored, a little research revealed the various properties of compression and injection-molded types which to use and when. Getting into steel required knowledge of metallurgy concerning soft steel, tool steel, cutting speeds, cutting oils, tempering, hardening, oil quenching, center-to-center drilling techniques, abrasives, polishing procedures, finishing, bluing, lubricating, preserving—the list is long but learning has been fun.

Each model is a problem which breaks down into many little problems which, to date, have not proved impossible to solve. They require time, patience, and planning. Even after production has begun, I come across problems which, unforeseen in the planning, force me to put it aside until a solution is found. During this time, I proceed with another part of the project. These problems get fewer and farther between as time goes on, because each model teaches something for use on the next.

I first get a photo of the size I want to make the model. I have compiled quite a collection of photos from gun magazines. When I decide on a model, I measure its overall length and reduce it to  $\frac{1}{4}$  size. Making the templates from this, the angles and curves are correct and the pin and screw holes are spotted for me. This saves a lot of time, and you proceed with the assurance that everything is correct.

Using the .45 Automatic receiver as an

example, the next step is to use the template to draw its shape on the steel. Next, center-punch and drill the various holes, and then file to the shape of the template outline.

Next, finish both sides of the receiver blank down to its proper thickness. Scribe a center line along the entire width of the blank, and spot a hole at the proper place which will form the round area to accommodate the forward found part of the magazine. Spotting a hole at the top of the blank and at the bottom of the grip, and drilling from both ends toward the center, will insure a straight hole. It's too easy to come out off center when drilling straight through. In the same manner, spot and drill a hole to provide a start for a file of proper size to remove metal to accommodate the main spring housing and grip safety.

Next, the receiver is moved to a vise mounted on a compound table which in turn is mounted on a precision drill press. The top of the receiver is leveled to the machine, and the round bottomed area which will later accommodate the forward bottom section of the slide is milled away, using one of the various cutters available with the several different models of hand grinders on the market. In this same position, change the cutter to a wheel, and mill the grooves for the slide to travel in. Next, using the smallest cutter available, mill a  $\frac{1}{16}$ " slot to accommodate the lug and link on the barrel.

Next, mount the receiver in the vise in such a way that a flatbased cutter will remove metal from and square up the recess for the main spring housing. In the same position, cut the grooves for the shoulders on the main spring housing.

The rest is file work and patience, except for cutting the recess for the trigger after filing has cleared away enough metal to make this area accessible. The shank of the wheel cutter used for cutting the grooves for the slide is ground down to a smaller diameter for about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of its length from the cutting edge. Inserted through the top of the receiver at the magazine opening, it is worked within the frame, removing metal so as to allow the trigger to slide back and forth in its own recess and to clear the magazine when it is inserted. This one example of using an available milling cutter and changing it to fit a specific job indicates a fairly high mortality rate on these tools, and this must be written off as necessary to getting the job done.

Bluing these little guns is conventional, of course; but various methods must be used to achieve the results necessary to each model. Early weapons, such as Colts, came with a bright blue and shiny finish, achieved by first polishing the metal to a mirror finish and then bluing by the Charcoal method. Present day guns have a blue-black appearance acquired with usual bluing processes; but the dull black matte finish on the sub-machine gun was obtained by allowing it to remain in the solution much longer than usual. This process etches the surface of the steel slightly and evenly.

This, then, is the story of my collection as it is today. It will continue to grow, of course, and will look to outside help in its growth. But behind it all, and of inestimable value, are all those wonderful memories which have helped it along its way, and those many contacts with other men of the collecting fraternity, dealer, and collector alike.



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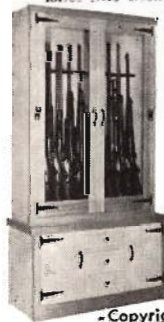
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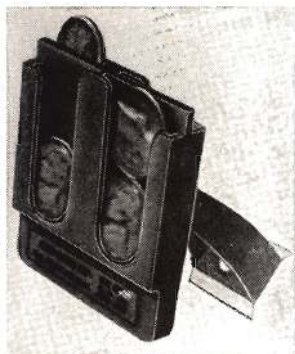
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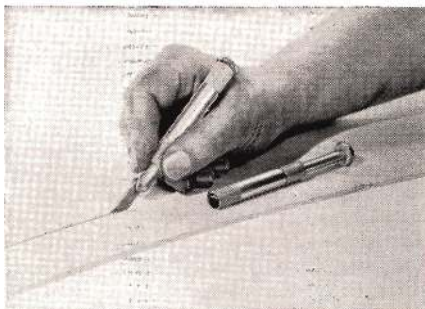


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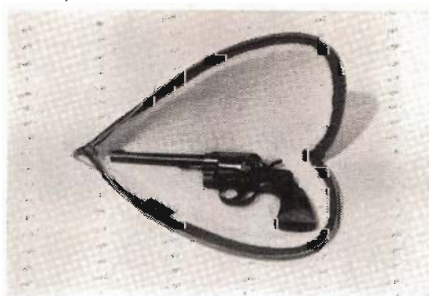
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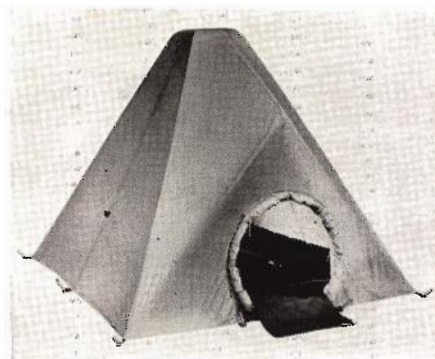


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## HOW TO LICK KICK

(Continued from page 42)

.300 or .375 heavy magnum.

I doubt very much if a shooter could ever get a custom gun made that will exceed the dollar value that is in a Winchester, Remington, Savage, or Marlin factory made gun; but I do believe that, in most cases, factory stocks can be vastly improved to the individual's fit and comfort. These stocks are necessarily a compromise to try to fit, as closely as possible, all shooters, using all types of sights. However, if a shooter buys a factory gun and then has it re-stocked, his total cost may equal or exceed that of the custom gun. Recently to get their share of the lucrative "rifle-crank" fringe market, both Savage and Remington have begun to sell barreled actions without stocks, at low prices. Others may, too.

It is interesting to observe a group of our sportsmen as they arrive here for their hunts. Sometimes an entire group is using the wonderful old .30-06 caliber in a variety of guns. They always head immediately for the shooting house to sight-in and check the guns. Some complain a great deal of recoil, and some never seem to notice it. On investigation, we always find that the shooters who do not mention recoil have very well shaped and fitted stocks.

I have a Winchester .348 that kicks like a mule; but I've shot one belonging to one of my hunters that was a pleasure to shoot. It was especially stocked and fitted and had very little recoil.

For caliber, the old .30-30 Winchester is probably as hard a "kicking" gun as we have. Yet, properly stocked, a 12-year-old girl can shoot it comfortably. Kick is a matter of delivery of foot pounds of recoil. And all calibers have recoil in varying degrees, from a few pounds to 65 or more foot pounds. Prone or bench rest shooting transfers more of this recoil to the body in the form of Kick, than positions such as kneeling, sitting, or off-hand shooting.

The forearm, size of butt plate, pitch of stock butt, and gun sling, all contribute to this problem of recoil. One spot that affects

most shooters the worst is the shape of the stock at the cheek piece. Recently stockers have been paying more attention to this detail. On recoil, a gun naturally comes back, transferring the recoil to the shooter's hand and arm and, if wearing a gunsling, to the shooter's arm and shoulder through the sling. But, also, this rearward travel of the stock will sock the shooter's cheek if the stock is not built right. Some stocks are so poorly fitted to the shooter's stance that the trigger hand and thumb have a tendency to hit him in the nose or face. This adds very little to the comfort of a shooter, and naturally causes him to flinch.

While I have said a great deal about the fit of the stock to a shooter I have also found that a shooter must fit himself to a stock. In my experiments with this, I have found that, even though I am much longer in the arms and considerably heavier than Lenard Brownell, we both shoot an average length of pull (13½) equally well. And in picking up guns with some difference in stock measurements, we throw them up to a natural shooting position about as well.

A good shooting position for accuracy means the gun must be solid at all body contact points: fore hand, cheek and shoulder. As most western shooting is now done with scope sighted rifles, it's easily apparent that stocks designed for use with iron sights just won't allow good, solid, cheek contact.

I have had some English-made guns with beautiful stocks, but I have never had one I really liked to shoot. They have too much drop, and they have a too low and badly shaped cheek piece. Some have forearms too narrow for a good grip. While I hated to throw away such beautiful wood and the wonderful workmanship of fitting wood to metal, I have had all these guns restocked.

After the war lots of 8 mm. rifles (Mauser '98s) were brought home and converted for hunting. I have never seen a gun that kicks as hard for what it accomplishes as do most of these 8 mms. However, I have shot them from well fitted stocks and they were fine to shoot. Nine to eighteen pounds of recoil

transferred to your body at one narrow point is one thing, but a percentage transferred through the forearm hand and arm, some through the trigger hand and arm, and the balance through the good large recoil pad on the butt plate, makes very little pressure at any one point.

A lot of drop in a stock tends to throw the muzzle up on discharge. That, coupled with a poorly designed cheek piece, will hit you an uncomfortable blow in the face. Even on straighter stocked guns the form, both horizontal and vertical, of the cheek piece is important. A great percentage of the now existing stocks have been made strictly with an eye to looks and not recoil absorption, and actually taper the wrong way for relieving or minimizing recoil.

A properly shaped and fitted stock for any particular shooter should come up so easily and naturally that if the hunter throws up his gun with his eyes closed, then opens them, he'll have the target reasonably well in his sight. This type stock on a good gun, combined with the necessary amount of practice, means the difference between coming home with the meat, or a big trophy, or just being able to tell about the "one that got away."

Taper of cheek piece in both horizontal and cheek contact is required. The width of a cheek piece for full-faced people must be less than for thin-faced people. This is the custom stocker's job. The grip diameter for the trigger hand is also important. The stock should be fitted so that the thumb has no tendency to hit the nose at the gun's discharge. I believe a good job of checkering on the forearm makes for a steadier hold and absorbs some of the recoil through that hand and arm.

To notice the strides in stock design and shape made in the last few years, it is only necessary to look through the gun and stock illustrations in the gun magazines. While it would be impossible to name them all here, a few of the stockmakers who recognize the importance of stocks in eliminating recoil feel, and who have done something about it, are Reinhart Fajen of Warsaw, Missouri; Anthony Guymon of Bremerton, Washington; and Peterson Wood Carving of Sun Valley, California. Companies making the complete rifles such as Weatherby's, Inc., of South Gate, California; Gartman Arms of Wrentham, Mass.; and P. O. Ackley of Murray, Utah, show this stock change in all they offer. And stockers like Lenard Brownell of Sheridan, Wyoming; Al Biesen of Spokane, Washington; Keith Steigell of Gunnison, Colorado, and many others, are all paying close attention to shape as well as fit and finish.

When you are next in the market for a rifle or rifle stock, looking for these details will readily show you the difference between some of the older hard kicking stocks, and the modern kick reducing design now on the market. If you own a rifle that kicks, don't blame the caliber for all of it. Spend a reasonable amount and have it stocked by a good stock man. He'll ask for your general build and arm length; then let him go from there. Besides having a good looking, well bedded stock, you'll have one that reduces the apparent kick. If you are like most shooters, you will find such a new or a custom stock goes a long way to helping you shoot more accurately, and enjoy your shooting and hunting more.

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## HANDLOADING BENCH

(Continued from page 13)

a bit hot with some components. Best deal is to start with 25 grains, and work up to not over 26 grains, which Hodgdon lists at 3,408 fps, and that registers somewhat less on some chronographs. CCI primers give perfect ignition with Ball or other powders. They may reduce chamber pressure considerably, and velocity an insignificant 15 to 30 fps, which can be made up with .1 or .2 grain of powder, if you want the last foot second possible.

Some shooters get good groups at moderate velocity with inexpensive 4895 propellant. Try 23 grains for 2,800 fps with 55 gr. bullets. Add 1 grain for 200 fps more velocity with 50 gr. pills.

Minimum cost shooting can be done with Lyman's cast bullet No. 225107 H.P., that I designed for the Harvey .224 Kay-Chuk wildcat revolver. Gas checked and sized .225" it weighs 35 grains. Backed by 9 grains 2400 and CCI primers, Monroe Thomas got  $\frac{5}{8}$  to  $1\frac{1}{4}$ " groups at 80 yards. At close range the large, deep hollow point takes small game apart. This load is not chronographed, but is probably around 2,400 fps. The alloy was a commercial rifle mix, and a good one, called Illinois Bullet Alloy No. 7,

distributed by Division Lead Co., Summit, Illinois. This is a handy, all-around alloy, flows well, drops easily. It can be used for hard pistol bullets, and practically all rifle loads.

There is good reason .22's are the most popular .22 hot-shots. The year-around fun guns are easy and economical to shoot and load, group tighter than Texas Levi's without any fiddling around. Cases that are dry-sized may stretch badly, upsetting headspace. Use quality dies, and a tiny bit of lanolin or case lube to avoid trouble. Don't over-lube, or excess grease will make oil dents, as in other calibers.

Varmint and target shooters will like the inexpensive pocket Dwyer Wind Meter, that registers wind speeds of 2 to 10 m.p.h. on one scale, or up to 70 m.p.h. on another. (\$4.95 from Peddler's Cart, Hubbard Woods Sta., Winnetka, Ill.) Quite accurate, you quickly learn exactly how to dope a given wind on paper targets, and can duplicate your results in the field, with the best of the wind dopers. When the little ball registers up on the high scale, it's a good time to go home and refill some more hulls!

## WINCHESTER BATTERY FOR AFRICA

(Continued from page 16)

It fires bullets of four different weights—110 to 220 grains—with varying velocities (3380 to 2410 f.p.s.). The lighter bullets have a use for the long range plains shooting sometimes required for antelope. The 220 grain can be happily used on small and medium antelope. In an emergency, I have satisfied myself that it is satisfactory on buffalo. With the 220 grain blunt nosed solid it can no doubt kill elephant. The .30-06 is obviously at its best on the small and medium African antelope, but can cope with a comprehensive range of targets if the devil drives, though this is not always to be recommended. An added attraction is the fact that a superb range of controlled expansion cartridges are available for the .30-06 including the splendid "Core-Lokt" which leave little to be desired.

The other rifles in the .30-06 category, with the exception of the .300 H & H Magnum and the 8x60 Magnum, are out-

classed by it. These either fall into the rather dowdy 7.9x57 mm. or .303 group, or the high velocity light bullet weight class .270 W.C.F., .280 Halger, .275 Magnum, etc. The .303 is unspectacular and pedestrian, and my experience with the .270 W.C.F. on the larger antelope has not endeared me to it. An acquaintance who frequently expounded the virtues of the .270 recently had its inadequacies convincingly demonstrated to him by a lion. I much prefer the .30-06.

We now come to the medium caliber in my battery. The .375 Magnum Holland conception was masterly, and it very closely approximates the all-round rifle for Africa. There may be little it does to perfection, but by the same code there is little it does not do well. In my outfit it covers the larger antelope and carnivores. It is equally useful on the medium antelope, and there are many, including myself, who have used it

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on buffalo and elephant with great satisfaction. In Africa one can never be sure what lies around the corner, or what hides in the long grass, and if you are carrying a .375 Magnum you can handle anything from Thomson's Gazelle to elephant. The one drawback of the .375 Magnum is that the general run of bullets made for it leaves something to be desired. The softs, both American and British, do not appear to be strong enough to cope with the tough skinned game animals of Africa, and I think that the velocity is too high for the standard bullets. Solids are, on the whole, better, and the Winchester Full Patch as good as are available.

The other rifles in this category fail to measure up to the .375 Magnum and lack its versatility. The 9.3x62 is very pleasant, but lacks the power and the versatility. The 10.75 mm. has poor sectional density and though good for African buffalo, is inadequate on elephant. The .404 covers the bigger animals better than the .375 Magnum but, not having varying bullet weights, doesn't handle the smaller stuff.

The great advantage of my battery is that it can be bought piecemeal by the thrifty sportsman. If one can only rise to one rifle, the .375 Magnum is the obvious all-purpose weapon. If, however, one can afford two weapons, then the .30-06 and the .458 Winchester magnum are indicated. These cover all game types until the .375 Magnum is added. These considerations are also of importance to travellers by air subject to a rigid baggage weight restriction.

To complete the battery I have a 12 bore shotgun and a Winchester Mod. 72 .22 rim fire rifle. The former varies the menu, and the latter does the same with less noise and expense, and provides limitless "plinking" fun—a grand companion.

But the .458 is the one I must rely on for the biggest game of all—the elephant. Although lacking somehow the glamour of the lion, so-called "King of Beasts," and without the cussedness of the rhino or the murderous vindictiveness of the African buffalo, tracking the elephant is an art distinct from any other form of hunting. It holds an exhilaration not experienced when on the track of other game.

An elephant is an animal of tremendous vitality. Apart from the danger element, which is always present because of the short ranges at which the beasts are shot, a poorly placed shot can easily cause loss of a valuable trophy. Furthermore, on the grounds of humanity, the beast itself is entitled to a

quick and painless death. Elephants should always be shot from close range to ensure perfect accuracy.

Shots used on elephant can be roughly classified as either brain or body hits. Of these, let us first consider the brain shot, which is the most instantly deadly. The skull of an elephant is composed of a network of shock-absorbing air-filled cells, which offer considerable resistance to bullets and rule out the possibility of hydraulic shock. The brain, which is about the size of a shoe box and vaguely sausage-shaped, lies lengthwise in the centre of the skull and close-range shots must be varied to obtain the correct angle of elevation.

The brain lies roughly horizontally between the eye and the ear orifice. It starts at the ear orifice and reaches forward almost half way to the eye. When aiming, visualize the position of the brain and line up the sights accordingly, having regard to range and position from which one is firing. Although best taken at right angles, the side brain shot is available through a fairly wide angle to the expert.

The frontal brain shot is regarded with suspicion by some hunters, but this can only be because of their experiences with rifles of inadequate penetration, as it is an uncomplicated shot. Naturally, considerably more penetration and accuracy is required than for the side shot. The cardinal point to remember is that the tendency is to shoot too high on the forehead. The bullet then passes harmlessly well above the brain and the elephant will not be put down. An elephant charging, with its ears spread out, is an awe inspiring sight. Better advice would be to shoot low rather than high, for there is always the possibility that a heavy bullet might press through and break the neck.

When hit in the brain the elephant simply collapses in his tracks. If stationary at the time, he will fall with his legs tucked up underneath him: if he was on the move, his momentum will usually cause him to topple over, usually away from the hunter. It sometimes happens that a heavy bullet close to the brain causes concussion and the elephant drops as if dead, but this is a deception. Frequently a beast is momentarily brought to its knees, but will recover and make off with remarkable alacrity. It is the "dead" elephant that should be treated with suspicion. Often one has dropped, been photographed, and had its tail cut off, when upon the hunter's return some while later the elephant has vanished—with a headache and

minus fly swish. The experienced hunter will watch carefully for the tell-tale quiver of the rear leg, and put in an insurance shot if there is any doubt. The heart, of course, continues beating for ten or fifteen minutes after death.

The body shots allow a greater latitude of error. These shots are usually side body shots. The lungs are about four feet long and half as wide, and lie just behind the front legs, reaching down to about a foot from the bottom of the body line. An elephant shot in the lungs should only run about a mile, but I have known one that only lasted 150 yards and another that went 15 miles.

The heart is about 18 inches long and lies very low down in the chest and half behind the leg bone. An upper heart shot, or one which severs the aorta, should bring the animal down within 100 yards, and a lower heart shot within about half a mile.

A spinal shot immobilizes the animal. It is usually taken from the rear (just above where the tail is connected to the body) or from above. It is not to be recommended from the side because of the difficulties in locating the spine.

A shot of which I have no personal experience is the so-called shoulder shot. It has never attained much popularity with hunters but has its advocates in writers Norman Smith and John Taylor. The idea is to break shoulder bones and thus to immobilize animals and at the same time to shatter vital internal organs in the chest cavity. The idea is to aim for the "point" or socket of the shoulder. A heavy and slow moving bullet is required.

From the front, when the elephant's head is raised, as in eating from a tree, it is possible to use the chest, heart or lung shot.

It will be appreciated that with all except the brain and spine shots the elephant is still able to carry on for a while and perhaps to pulverize the hunter if it so desires: elephants are usually shot well under 50 yards. It is for this reason that most of us try for the brain shot whenever it is possible.

At present there seems no fear of our quarry becoming extinct, or in short supply. Although, at the turn of the century, upwards of 25,000 elephants were shot annually, the protection afforded them since has given them adequate opportunity for recovery. It is unlikely that a pair of sportsmen today could shoot four tons of ivory in two years (1898-9) or, to quote another party about the same time, pay £800 duty on their ivory. The fact that control officers shoot more and more elephant every year and that some complain the elephants are scarcely "holding their own" are signs of the times. There would appear to be a quarter of a million or more elephants roaming about in Africa today. Another factor which is not generally known is that control officers of the various game departments shoot very many more than sportsmen, about one to seven or eight. This doesn't prevent the Game Departments concerned from raising the license cost regularly!

Though I appear to have wandered somewhat from elephants and elephant rifles, I hope that I have managed to broaden the reader's knowledge of African hunting. I have tried to show how, with a very modest outlay, one can acquire a splendid and versatile battery of rifles for all beasts from the smallest size, to the elephant.



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## THEY SAID IT COULDN'T BE DONE

(Continued from page 26)

At last gun fans have woken up. Bills to "legalize" the shot revolver have been introduced by Congressman King (Cal., HR4029), Sikes (Fla., HR4094) and John Saylor (Penn., HR4227). Their passage will benefit many shooters.

Continuing experiments with pure lead, Harvey brought out "The Most Deadly Bullet," his jacketed Jugular, in 1956. (See May, 1956, GUNS.) A .014" specification jacket allows an undreamed of velocity of 2,000 feet per second in either .357 or .44 Magnums for the most deadly handgun loads ever fired. Magnum performance is obtained in .38 and .44 Specials, and Magnums destroy more tissue than many .30-06 rifle loads. Testing some of the first bullets, I was amazed at the destruction on varmints. Jackrabbits exploded like a feather pillow hit with a Swift. Heavy numbers have terrific expansion and penetration to quickly stop tough game or men. Jugulars give more expansion in .38 Specials than factory .357 Magnum loads. Police found them superior for either combat or car stopping.

Actual killing power is up to double what energy figures indicate, which is a whopping 1,072 foot pounds in a .357, or 1,510 in a .44 Magnum. Hollow point numbers blow to smithereens like varmint rifles. Solids expand fast, shed lead, and penetrate deep. Jugulars are the ultimate in killing power, with superb accuracy to 500 yards and more. They are shot without lubricant and recoil is light for the delivered energy. There is a new thrill in handgunning with soft lead slugs driven faster than ever before. Factory swaged bullets and custom loads are available. So are swaging dies and a new mould design. Harvey says Jugular repeat business is nearly 100 percent. They are produced on five R.C.B.S. Model A presses.

An invention Harvey has not yet patented is a gismo to check powder charges in custom loads. Working on the loading press, it indicates variations to .1 grain, or any foreign matter in the case. It has proved valuable to make the carefully assembled custom loads produced by Lakeville Arms.

Another clever invention is a Cannelure Die to crimp jackets or gas-checks on bullets to prevent shedding in flight, for fine accuracy at high velocity. Harvey recommends it for all gas-check or jacketed bullets driven over 1,100 feet per second. Factory Jugulars are crimped with this die.

The excellent Jugular performance, that is more than a milestone in handgun progress, sparked an idea for super efficient big game rifles in .429 and .358 calibers. Harvey has just brought out his line of four "Maglaska" wildcats, with much to recommend them, after testing dozens of cartridge designs and hundreds of loads. New double jacket "two-stage" bullets were designed for the high velocity big bores. They are for deep penetration and controlled expansion without blowing up. Calibers .429 are the Junior, Senior, and Super Senior. The latter two pack more energy at higher velocity than the huge .458 Winchester African Magnum, with a punch of over 5,000 foot pounds!

Pressure runs lower in top loads than factory .300 or .375 H & H Magnums. The .429 bullets run from 500 grains to 225 grains, with construction varied for different recommended velocities. A long list of loads

have been tested for accuracy, velocity, and pressure, and guns and bullets are being field tested in Alaska and the States. Even the "little" .358 Maglaska packs up to 4,258 foot pounds of energy for clean kills on heavy game. Identical caliber handguns would be practical companion guns, and pistol bullets might be handy for small game and plinking.

The varmint handgun void was filled with the new "Harvey .224 Kay-Chuk" using a Hornet case trimmed .050" and fired in a short neck K-Hornet chamber. Smith & Wesson K-22 guns are chambered and the firing pin altered for this hottest of the small bores. K-Hornet dies load the little stingaree with a long list of lab tested loads. Harvey believes complete and expensive lab data is worth every cent of cost.

Thirty-five grain Sisk bullets come twisting out of the muzzle at 2,200 f.p.s., with 9.5 grains of 2400 at 29,000 psi pressure. One half grain less powder starts a 40 grain Sierra pill at 2,084 f.p.s., with pressure of 29,200. Factory .357 Magnum slugs bounce off 1/8" steel plates that either of these loads penetrates like cheese. The round has video and audio for potent looks and heaps of noise. I knew it was good when I cut a rabbit apart with the 375 foot pounds of explosive energy in the tiny pill. It's just dandy for bobcats, coyotes, and other varmints call-hunted with a handgun. Wayne Weems, who makes the popular Weems Wild Call, now leaves his rifle in the rack when varminting, as it is easy to bring predatory animals into easy handgun range. This hot-shot goes with call hunting like ham goes with eggs, and call-hunting is a growing year-around sport.

Almost recoilless, a Kay-Chuk is extremely easy to shoot accurately. There is practically no rock 'n' roll to spoil your aim. Tom Dyer put 5 shots in 5 inches at 150 yards. Bullets have a flat trajectory, reach the target pronto, and disintegration reduces ricochets. Sighted in at 25 yards, you are on

(Continued on page 63)

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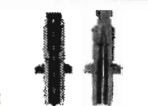
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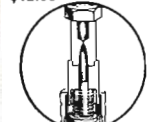
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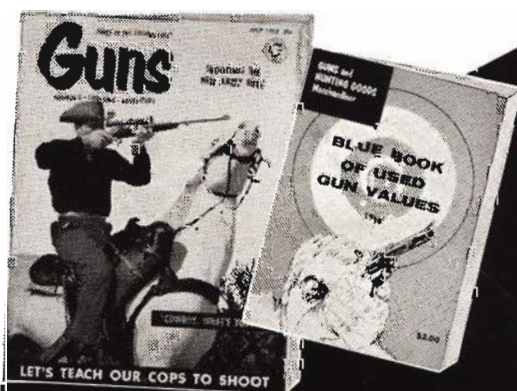
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aim at 100 and only 2 inches low at 150. 2.5 to 3 grains Bullseye is fine for targets or small game. As a survival gun, the Kay-Chuk would bag deer with well placed hits. It is a nice companion gun with a K-Hornet rifle, that is quite efficient with Kay-Chuk loads. Both bullets listed have soft cores and thin jackets for fast blow up.

Harvey has made many inventions in other fields, although guns are his greatest love. Ideas materialize at the dinner table, on the job, or in bed. Many have not been tried, because of lack of time. He has patents on 22 fishing lures, a casing for an outboard motor on a canoe, a "Cribinette" with a potty chair, a clothes hanger, mechanical toys for small fry, a new type folding table, and a folding top for a cruiser. He made a wood frame fish net, and special ovens to bend the wood. A fishing leader-tying machine and the "Dyedend" leader were other inventions. A new game called Bat-Net is his creation, and with proper promotion it could be a big national seller.

Jim and Mrs. Harvey (Starr) are archery fans with many awards. Starr won the Maine women's championship in 1950. Jim made a safety quiver and a scabbard to carry a bow with the arrow nocked. His lead "Killer Head" was made to expand and deliver shock on game like a bullet, as the shaft penetrates.

Jim bagged his first deer at eleven, and was reloading at twelve. He is the only man to shoot the Center Bridge rapids on the Androscoggin River in a canoe, and live to tell about it. His 90 acre lake front place in Maine is for diversion and shooting.

The Harveys work hard and play hard. They stay so busy that a 48 hour day would be welcome, but what could be more thrill than bringing out something new? It would require a monthly bulletin to report all of Harvey's new gun ideas. Probably his most worthwhile accomplishment for lasting fame is his deadly Jugular bullet, that puts handgun bullet efficiency in the rifle class.



## THAT KENYA WALKER COLT

(Continued from page 23)

a letter came in from friend Milt Hicks, then Sales Manager of Colts. Milt wanted to know what the value would be of a Walker revolver "with a man's name on it," which had turned up in Kenya Colony, Africa, during the Mau Mau disturbance. At Camp Perry that summer, Milt had nothing more to say about the Kenya Walker except that "someone" from Africa had written into the Colt factory asking about a gun in their possession.

Neither Amber nor I nor any of the few other people Hicks may have mentioned the Walker to were in a position to do anything. Not at all surprisingly, the Kenya Walker grew into a full blown myth that turned up in odd parts of the U.S. as I had occasion to chat with gun collectors in my travels. Milt Hicks, in a later letter, told me with some surprise that the story made the transcontinental trip across the U.S. faster than he did that summer by airplane.

Finally, it occurred to me to write to my friends at Parker-Hale, Ltd., in England, and see what they could do about locating the Kenya Walker. After several months, during which their Nairobi commercial agents advertised in the local papers for "Wanted: Big Old Revolvers," I learned that the results of their search had been zero. They had turned up one British pepper-box, and wanted to know if that was of any interest to me. The Kenya Walker, I gradually came to believe, was the same as many other Walkers—a myth.

And then a Chicagoan bought the Kenya Walker. Only, as of course it had to turn out, the Walker was actually the later and less desirable M1848 Dragoon. But how A. W. "Bud" Lindert of Homewood, Ill., discovered this long-lost collector's prize is in itself a story of collecting adventure.

The ownership of this legendary Colt was always obscure. It became still more difficult to trace—there was doubt the pistol even existed—when white civilians were asked to place their gun collections in police stores at Gil Gil. This fabulous arms depot is another of those British government caches of citizens' guns that will remain locked up, possibly for a half century, until gradual

withdrawals, deaths of owners, minor thefts, and rust deplete the lot. But at present it numbers some 28,000 firearms, including such rarities as 1899 Smith & Wesson .38's of U.S. Navy pattern, first and second model, plus double rifles and shotguns, and modern and semi-modern firearms of all kinds.

In January of 1957, Bud Lindert was travelling in Kenya. He and his host, Dr. Thomas of Nairobi, were guests of the Kenya

Military Police, who arranged a visit for them to Gil Gil. The inspectors and native police stationed at the lonely depot rolled out the red carpet for their visitors, a rare break for their solitary post. One of Lindert's first questions was whether any "large Colts" were among the 28,000 guns in storage. Surprisingly, of all the American collectors who had heard of the "Kenya Walker," Lindert was not one. His question was just the routine gambit of the visiting collector. To his surprise, the inspector replied that there was one, and after a search, picked it off the racks and handed it to Lindert.

Bud identified the gun correctly as a London Dragoon, numbered in the London series with New York City barrel marks, though London proved. It was serial #584, and collectors generally consider that about 600 Dragoons were made at Colt's Hartford plant for London sale. These are of the Third Model type, round guard, and Lindert's "find" had the vertical loading lever catch. Later Hartford Dragoons, made toward the end of Dragoon production after about 1856, usually have horizontal or "Navy" style latches. The identifying tag bore a number and the name, "Johnston." Of all the guns Lindert observed, this was the only one which was tagged with a name.

Originally the inspectors indicated they would give Lindert the name of specific gun owners, by checking the registration tag numbers with their files. At the time he left, they advised it would be impossible to give out such information, and he came away from this treasure trove empty handed.

Back in Nairobi, Lindert called all of

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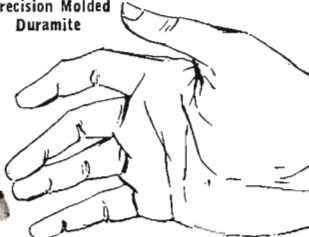


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the Johnstons listed in the phone book. None of them knew what he was talking about, and the Dragoon Colt seemed lost forever in the Gil Gil arms cache.

The day before flying home, Lindert saw the Commissioner of Trade and Commerce, to get an export permit for the few items he had bought. He told the Commissioner he was leaving with but one regret—he had been unable to locate the owner of a large old Colt he'd seen at Gil Gil. "I'll bet I know him," exclaimed the Commissioner. "His name is Johnston, and he lives at an apartment hotel here in Nairobi. He's away now on a mineral survey trip in the mountains."

Elated at his fortunate coincidence, Lindert left some money with his friend, Dr. Thomas, to offer to Johnston when he came out of the "bush." In October 1957, Lindert received a cablegram: "Johnston accepted offer. Advise wishes on shipment." And at last, over a year after he had first sighted the big Dragoon, it finally reached Lindert in Homewood.

Johnston had obtained the Dragoon from the Nyasaland police, as payment for doing some gunsmithing for them. How it came to Nyasaland it not known.

The interior of the gun is in excellent condition and it shows no evidence of wear on the exterior, only surface pitting. The usual Dragoon-Indian battle scene is partially visible on the cylinder. On the wood grips, the name J. L. CROMPTON is stamped. British military records have no data on this man. It is believed that number P4138, punched into the right side of the Dragoon's barrel lug, is a police serial number applied sometime in the past when the gun was registered somewhere.

Although the big Colt is a Dragoon and not the rarer Walker, the coincidence of the name stamping leaves little doubt that this is the legendary African "Walker" which eluded American collectors for several years. If you aren't convinced, it might be fun to continue the search.

## ELMER KEITH SAYS

(Continued from page 9)

and give the shooter a choice of calibers that was previously obtainable only in fine custom built arms and custom loaded ammunition.

### Smith & Wesson Model 41

Smith & Wesson have been building fine .22 caliber target pistols for well over half a century, starting with their highly successful Model 1891, a .22 and .38 combination, which could be changed from a single shot .22 target pistol to a five shot .38 revolver. The .22 version proved a highly accurate target arm. In 1906, the second version of this pistol was brought out in 10" barrel, .22 caliber only, and again was highly successful in the toughest target competition.

The third model, brought out in 1909, also sported a 10" barrel and was one of the finest .22 target guns used in competition. My old friend, the late Sgt. Bailey of the Marine Corps, sported a pair of these guns at the National Matches at Camp Perry in 1925, after making history with them in international match competition.

### Elmer "Never" Said It

*As all editors know, gremlins eat type. When they can't eat it, they transpose it. They did a little of both to Keith's copy in our last issue. Capt. Wadman fired his big rifle from bench rest, not prone as gremlinized on page 64; and the last sentence of Keith's copy of that page should read: "Rifles of very heavy recoil should never be fired prone." A gremlin ate out the word "never"... It happens to the best of us. One of the most valuable of all collectors' books is the "Wicked Bible" from which a gremlin ate the word "not" out of the seventh Commandment. In both cases, the correction is: DON'T!—Editor.*

Smith & Wesson's next .22 single shot target pistol was the Straight Line, which never became as popular as the Model 1891 or the third Perfected Model. This was no doubt due to the fact the weight of the straight line rested largely in the hand, leaving the muzzle light and giving one the feel of a fly rod rather than a target hand gun. Like the Colt Camp Perry Model, it died a natural death without achieving any great honors as a target gun, although the gun itself was superbly accurate. Smith & Wesson discontinued this model around 1936.

For a time, Smith & Wesson made a .35 caliber auto pistol on the Clements European patents, but it was for a special cartridge that did not find much favor and the gun was finally dropped from production. However, Carl Hellstrom, president and manager



S & W M41 match pistol has a wide trigger, giving light feel with safety.

of Smith & Wesson, saw the makings of a first class .22 auto pistol for target shooters in this design, and about 1941 he had a pilot model made up and shown to a few top shooters. Then World War II shelved all study and development. After World War II, plans were made to bring out the new arm in 1950, but the Korean war again shelved the project.

I saw it for the first time as a pilot model in the fall of 1953, and I urged Mr. Hellstrom to bring it out as soon as possible.

A run of these pistols was produced in 1957, and production is now going full blast. I have one of the first of the regular production run. The Company is back-ordered, and may require time to catch up.

No expense has been spared, either in design, material, or workmanship, to make this the finest of all .22 auto target arms, for the toughest of match competition. Everything from a muzzle brake to a wide assortment of barrel weights has been thought out and added. Overall length is 12" with muzzle brake, giving a sight radius of 9 5/16". Sights are Patridge type, one-eighth inch wide, rear sight fully adjustable, giving 3/8" elevation clicks at 50 yards and 1/4" windage clicks. The sights are both mounted on the barrel assembly, preventing sight movement.

A quarter-inch-wide matted groove extends from front to rear sight, and the balance of the top of the barrel assembly is dull sand-blasted finish to eliminate glare. The muzzle of the barrel proper projects from the body of the assembly around 3/8" to permit installation of the muzzle brake, which slips on over the muzzle, while a lower lug lines it up with a threaded hole in the barrel weight directly below the muzzle proper and allows it to be firmly screwed to the barrel and barrel-weight assembly. A recess in the barrel assembly proper, under the muzzle, accommodates a set of two barrel weights. One of these, and the one we prefer, is of solid steel and weighs 1 1/4 ounces. The other, of aluminum alloy, weighs but 3/4 ounce. The center of this weight is tapped and drilled for the muzzle brake holding screw.

This gadget does prevent any upward thrust of the muzzle during firing and the gun recoils straight to the rear. On the other hand, all muzzle brakes always looked like sore thumbs to this old gun-crank, and I always believed in giving a bullet a clean break at the muzzle. For this reason, and even though I realize it does give the hot rapid fire target shot a slight advantage in match competition, I prefer the gun without the muzzle brake.

The barrel assembly is also grooved to receive a set of adjustable steel barrel weights that can be adjusted to give the desired weight at any point, from near the muzzle to back under the trigger guard, and the full complement of these weights will give the shooter a full pound additional

(Continued on page 66)

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weight. The upper counter weight weighs around 7¼ ounces, and the middle one about 4¼ ounces. The bottom section of 4 ounces is screwed to the middle weight and the latter can be moved forward or to the rear along a line of graduations to secure any desired balance.

For big, powerful men like Sgt. Brenner, or for hot match shooters who train regularly and can accustom their muscles to the weight, this set of weights (selling at \$15 additional) are a great advantage, as the heavier arm has a slower swing on the target, giving more time for trigger let-off, less recoil in rapid fire, and less movement of sights with relation to target during recoil. For the casual shooter, they would probably give more weight than he would need, and would tire his arm unnecessarily in long strings.

This combination of the two regular barrel weights, and the one-pound clamp-on combination of three weights, gives anyone anything he could possibly desire in the way of weight and balance. Retail price of the gun has been reduced from \$110.00 to \$100, and the three counter weights and Allan wrench cost \$15; a total of \$115 for the gun complete.

The breech block and slide recoils under the extended barrel assembly, causing no movement of sights or top of gun. The slide is heavily grooved to facilitate pulling back the block for loading. Grips are hand-filling, with a thumb rest on left side and another slightly lower shelf on the right side that separates the trigger finger from the second finger. South-paw shooters will find that this fine grip works about equally well for them

as it does for the right handed shooter.

The grip is large, amply long, of finely checkered walnut, and is set at a different angle than any other auto pistol. It is a more comfortable natural grip for me than any other auto pistol grip I have ever seen, and many friends tell me the same thing. The bottom edge flares out around the bottom of the hand, making positioning of the hand for each shot a simple matter. The thumb rest and the shelf on the right side make it impossible to secure any but the one perfect grip on the gun. This eliminates the old target necessity of fitting the gun into the shooting hand with the other hand.

Magazine release, slide stop, and safety are all small, neat, and all positioned conveniently on the left side. The stocks cover the back strap. There is ample room at the top of the grip for the heaviest and meatiest of hands, without cramping. Front strap is grooved. Trigger is well shaped and well positioned. It is ¾" wide and grooved. It carries an adjustable back stop to limit rearward travel, and is fully adjustable by quarter pound clicks. This adjustment is very wisely put *inside* the assembly, where it can be adjusted only when the arm is taken apart, thus eliminating any chance of anyone accidentally changing your trigger pull. Under no circumstances should the sear or notches be stoned in S & W trigger assemblies. They are very carefully case hardened, and any stoning will remove the hard skin until they will wear; whereas, if left alone, they polish as the arm is used.

The barrel is well rifled with six grooves and a right-hand twist of one turn in 16⅞". It is superbly accurate and, with good match ammunition, will make from one-half inch to one-inch groups at 50 yards from rest. All guns are machine-rest tested at the factory.

The whole trigger guard serves as a sort of cushion of the spring type for the recoiling slide, thus cushioning the jar and making for the smoothest operating automatic pistol we have ever tested. This contributes greatly to a smooth action, and to rapid recovery in rapid fire shooting.

The magazine holds 10 cartridges and has

a button for depressing the magazine spring to facilitate easy loading. The magazine is well constructed, easy to load, and is marked on each side at the position of the fifth and tenth cartridge, so you can see at a glance how many rounds are in the magazine. The arm will not fire when the magazine is removed, and for another very fine safety precaution, a small pin protrudes from the rear of the frame just above the grip, enough so it can be seen or felt, to tell you instantly when the arm is cocked. It falls when the sear releases.

Finish of the entire arm, with the exception of the sand matted and grooved portions, is the fine, very highly polished, traditional, high-bright S & W blue, than which there is nothing finer in gun finishes. The arm has a long sleek, racy appearance, and it holds and handles just as well as it looks.

Both front and rear sight blades are tipped back to prevent glare and show up a beautiful black on the target. Front sight blade is on a low ramp. Back end of frame, breech block, and indicator pin are dull matte finish, and the back of the rear sight assembly is also grooved to prevent glare or reflection. Weight of the arm with muzzle brake and the ¾ ounce aluminum barrel weight is 43½ ounces. With the heavier all steel barrel weight, it is just 44⅞ ounces.

Henry W. Benson, Judge Don Martin, Eddie Schaller (the local gunsmith), and I tried out the new pistol. All four of us have had considerable experience with all manner of pistols and sixguns and all are agreed that the new Smith & Wesson is the easiest .22 automatic to shoot and do top grade work with that we have ever tried. It is a friendly gun, easy to get acquainted with. We shot it extensively, on target and at both short and long ranges. We have never had a trace of a malfunction. The arm worked perfectly at all times, and its accuracy is phenomenal. I have shot some mighty accurate .22 target pistols over the years, but in my opinion this Smith & Wesson Model 41 tops them all for extreme accuracy.



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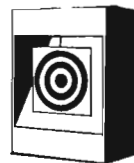
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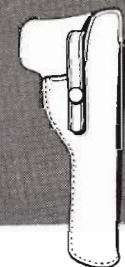
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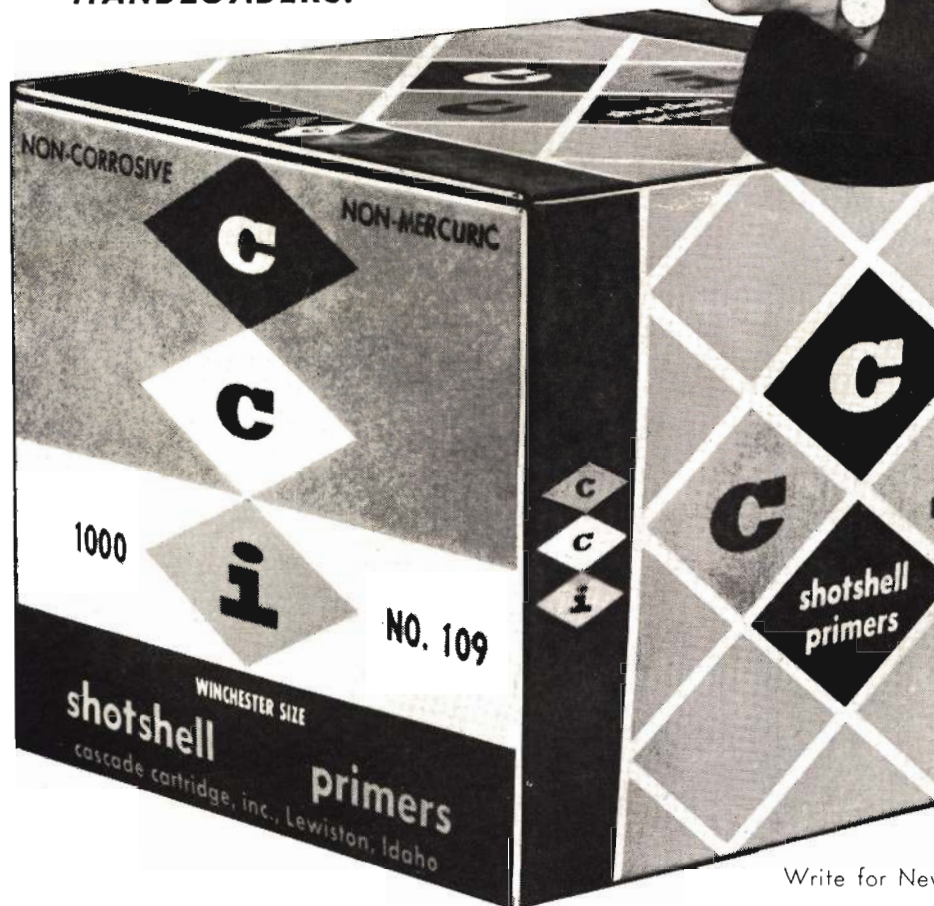


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