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Guns

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Guns MAGAZINE'S

PROPOSAL FOR A

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.22 caliber rimfire

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Now fasten your eyes on the features that set this .22 apart from all others. There's the convenient Single Shot Selector, a Weatherby first, that lets you choose semi-automatic or single shot with a flick of the thumb. The bolt is designed to stay open after each round when used as a single shot. As a semi-automatic, the bolt remains open when the last shot is fired. Outstanding safety features for range or field!

The highly polished classic Weatherby checkered stock has Monte Carlo comb, cheek rest, pistol grip and a checkered buttplate that begs to be shouldered. The receiver is grooved for scope mount. The 3-leaf rear sight has 50, 75, and 100-yard flip-up settings. The exclusive contoured barrel has a highly polished blued finish you'd expect to find on any Weatherby. Five- and 10-shot magazines are provided. Weight, approximately 6 lbs., length, 42³/₄ in.

Put yourself to the test. See if you can talk to your Weatherby dealer for more than three minutes without asking to handle a new Mark XXII. But beware! The modest price tag is designed to weaken you even more. If you already own a Weatherby Mark V, don't let it mingle with any .22 but this. If you don't yet own a Weatherby, there's no easier way to start. For a free Mark XXII brochure, write to: Weatherby, Inc., 2781 E. Firestone Blvd., South Gate, California. In Canada, Canadian Sauer, Ltd., 103 Church St., Toronto, Ontario.

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(A) VIRGINIA FLINTLOCK PISTOL:

This beautiful Virginia Manufacture Pistol is 16 inches long and has a round steel barrel 10 inches long. The Virginia Flintlock was patterned after the Harpers Ferry with only slight changes, such as, a swivel ramrod which proved much stronger and the grips and brass buttcap are slightly shorter. Pistol has a rifled bore in .54 caliber, with handsome varnished wood and brass mountings. Lockplate is casehardened and is marked with "VIRGINIA" and "Richmond 1812".

ALL PISTOLS AND REVOLVERS

\$59⁰⁰ each



(B) HARPERS FERRY FLINTLOCK PISTOL MODEL 1805 - DATED 1807

Made for the Army at Harpers Ferry Armory, this was the first U.S. Pistol to be manufactured at a National Armory. It is a tribute to its attractive lines that the U.S. Army Military Police adopted crossed Harpers Ferry Flintlock pistols as their insignia. This flintlock is 16 inches long and has a round, steel barrel 10 inches long. This striking pistol has a rifled bore in .54 caliber, with handsome varnished wood and brass mountings. The lockplate is casehardened and is marked with a spread eagle, U.S. and HARPERS FERRY 1807.



(C) NEW MODEL ARMY

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(D) KENTUCKY-TYPE FLINTLOCK PISTOLS:

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KNOW YOUR LAWMAKERS

Paul Findley
 20th District, Illinois



Government increasingly has restricted the right of private ownership of firearms although similar attempts in Colonial times provided sparks which helped light the fires of the Revolution. Laws regarding registry and transport of firearms are necessary to help check crime, but there should be no abridgement of ownership rights for mature men and women of responsible character.

The gun owner who likes to hunt always realizes that while hunting is his favorite hobby, wildlife conservation must be his first concern. Be assured of my concern about Government infringements on gun ownership.

Congressman Clifford Davis
 Tennessee

The Tennessee "Volunteer," skilled with weapons, has been a valuable part of the heritage of our nation since the time of Andrew Jackson. As long as we retain our rights to own and become skilled with firearms, this great resource will continue to protect our homes and our freedom when needed.

Congressman George A. Goodling
 19th District, Pennsylvania

During my legislative career I have seen countless bills introduced which would have restricted the ownership of guns. As a former Chairman of a Committee to which they were referred, I have never seen one discussed seriously.

Stringent laws on ownership will never prevent the criminal from obtaining firearms. Guns in possession of responsible citizens are a deterrent to crime.



Ralph Harvey
 10th District, Indiana

I appreciate this opportunity to register my views with you concerning the private ownership of guns. As you so very well pointed out in your letter the Second Amendment to the Constitution clearly defines the right of the citizen to own firearms. As a Member of Congress please be assured I would never support any proposal which would abrogate this fundamental right.

William Henry Harrison
 Wyoming



I most certainly believe in the Second Amendment to Our Constitution. While there may be instances where some minor restrictions are necessary, I do not believe that Federal legislation is required or proper. My State of Wyoming does not need restrictive legislation. Our citizens understand the proper use of firearms, both for protection and hunting, and that privilege has not been abused.

Restrictions for the purpose of preventing the dishonest from retaining firearms only penalize the honest citizen. The criminal will always be able to obtain a firearm.

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

Guns

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

MAY, 1964

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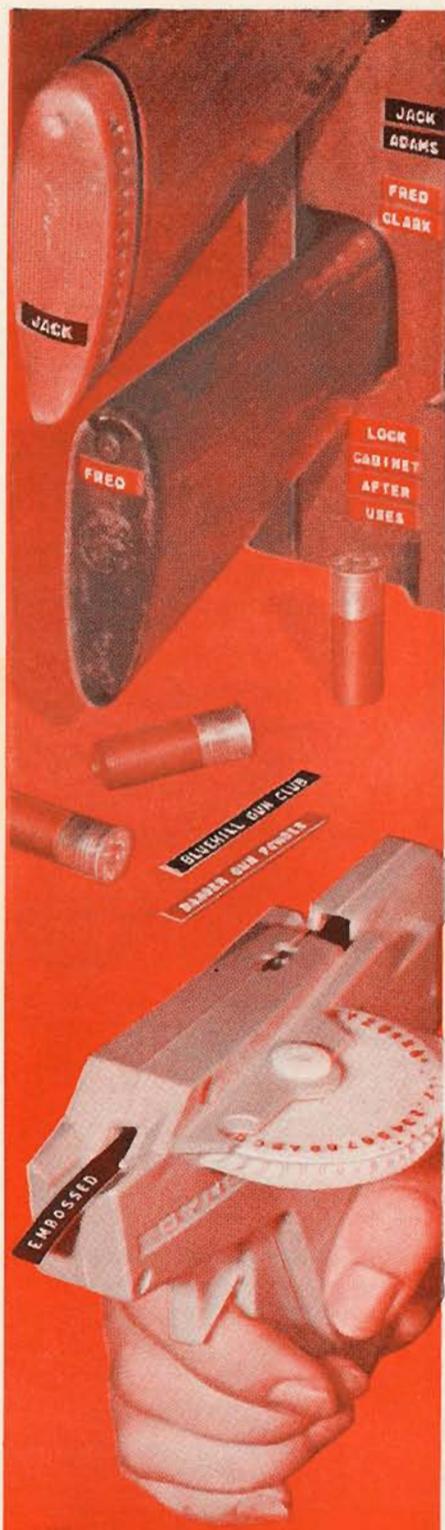


THE COVER

Kent Bellah, GUNS Magazine's handloading editor, is an outstanding pistol shooter. He uses his handgun skills for varmint and deer hunting, and is an active competitor on the firing line. Kent here demonstrates his handgun hunting hold for running or still game. The left elbow is braced against the body to steady the gun. Speed Graphic 4x5, f:15 at 1/50, 135 mm Optar lens. Photograph by Mrs. Bellah.

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Rowland Ward Records

What the Boone and Crockett records are for the trophy hunter of North American game, the Rowland Ward records are to the African and Indian trophy hunter. We recently discovered that the "Rowland Wards Records of Big Game," eleventh edition (\$25.50), is available in the United States through Jonas Brothers of Seattle, 1507 12th Ave., Seattle 22, Washington. This edition (1962) covers African game exclusively, and it is interesting to make a comparison between the B&C methods and those used by Ward's standards. We found the biological background given on each of the species very interesting, and even the record pages, when properly read, make excellent entertainment.

Ammo Pack

For those who hunt with a .22, lugging a box of ammo along can become a first rate nuisance. Ammo Pack, 4416G N.E. 25th Ave., Portland 11, Oregon, now offers the handy Ammo Pack carrier. Consisting of a leather case and a metal liner, you can slip a box of .22 LR or .22 Magnums into the metal liner, slip it into the leather pouch, and the pouch on your belt, and you are set. These are handy gadgets, and if you have ever had a box of .22's bust in your pocket and spilled a handful of them, you'll really appreciate the Ammo Pack.

Pacific's Pistol Powder Measure

Bob Deitemeyer recently sent us a new style pistol powder measure that bears but faint resemblance to the old Pacific measure. The new version has rotors that can be changed easily and speedily, comes with a bracket so that the measure can be mounted above your loading bench. We received two rotors and checked them with Red Dot. We threw fifty charges with each rotor, then weighed the charges on our shop scale—one load was slightly under, but the difference was less than 0.1 grains. We carefully repeated the series, and found that this time all charges weighed right on the button. The one failure was therefore obviously a human failure, and it seems likely that the rotor was not fully turned in the one charge. If you have rotors from the old measure, you don't need to replace them. Although they are a bit shorter than the new ones, they will work in the new measure.

Balscope Twenty

Based on the same optical and manufacturing principles as the Balscope Ten, the new B&L telescope has some features that will appeal to shooters and hunters. We have

mounted it on our pistol box and found that it makes a dandy spotting scope for the indoor range as well as for the outdoor shoots we cover once in a while. The scope body has a mounting provision so that threading it on a camera tripod is a simple matter. Set up in this fashion, we have used the Balscope Twenty on the 200 yard rifle range, and the scope body is rugged enough to take the hard wear and tear of riding in a saddle bag, and it should be a real blessing in country where glassing can save many a weary and useless stalk for elusive game.

Focusing is accomplished by turning the eyepiece, and the minimum focus is 15 yards. Over-all length of the Balscope Twenty is 15 3/4" and the scope weighs but 22 ounces. The die-cast aluminum body can take considerable abuse and the finish, a pale green, appears to withstand some pretty hard knocks. Retailing for a nickel under \$25, we found the Balscope Twenty to have the usual, fine optical properties we have come to expect from Bausch & Lomb glassware, and we feel that the only thing lacking is a plastic lens cap. We lifted one from one of our camera lenses, and it is probable that B&L will furnish lens caps for the scope shortly.

Hard to Find Brass

Shooters who own guns of obsolete calibers and those of us who own guns that require hard to get brass, can take a breather. The Connecticut Cartridge Corp., Box 354G, Plainville, Conn., now offers a great many of these cartridge cases, and all of them are brand new. Write for their new listing—it's worth the time. With new brass you can get that old gun off the wall and back on the range.

Apache Rescue Gun

The Apache Rescue gun employs a new concept. This is not a firearm in the strictest



sense of the word, and can only be fired with the special cartridges. There are flares, sonic
(Continued on page 55)



ACTUAL HIGH-SPEED PHOTO

This is the powerful new Smith & Wesson .41 Magnum revolver... the heavy duty double-action handgun that knocks big game flat, shoots true, reloads fast and fires a standard practice load

This new S&W .41 Magnum® revolver has 3¾ times the stopping power of a .38 Special! Enough power and penetration to knock any North American game animal flat. You can fire six powerful shots as fast as you can pull the trigger. And eject all six empties at once. Slip six fresh cartridges into the cylinder, swing it shut and you're ready to shoot again... more than twice as fast as a single action revolver!

That's the kind of firepower a man wants slung on his hip when he's in game country... and it's only available in Smith & Wesson revolvers!

Yet this heavy duty double-action revolver fires a standard velocity load that's nearly as mild as a .38 Special. Fire it single action for deliberate shooting, double-action when rapid fire counts. See this powerful new revolver today at your gun store or write Smith & Wesson, Inc. Dept. C-5, Springfield, Mass. for a folder describing the gun, its Remington ammunition and other modern handguns made by Smith & Wesson.



New S&W .41 Magnum double-action revolver, 4 or 6 inch barrel, blue or nickel, oversize stocks, \$140.

MAGNUM IS A REGISTERED TRADEMARK OF SMITH & WESSON, INC.

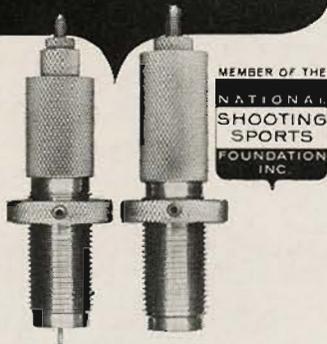


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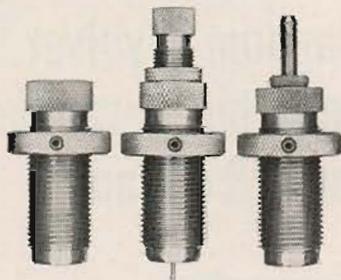
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CROSSFIRE

Where To Go?

The day of the sportsman's sidearm in New York State is gone, and the day will come when you can kiss your rifles and shotguns goodbye also; not me! I'm kissing New York State goodbye.

I intend to go to a state where I at least have a chance to defend my family, property and person, where I can pursue my happiness, of which a large share is hunting and shooting, and where the constitution is honored and not kicked around like a roll of toilet paper.

An Irate Citizen

SCA Newsletter Scores

Enclosed find my check for \$7.50 for my full membership in the Shooters Club of America. After reading one of your Newsletters, on the gun laws, I am in full agreement with you and feel that more people should be informed of such matters.

A. J. Cesery
 Pine Bluff, Ark.

Goldwater's Views

I received a letter some time ago from the Honorable Barry Goldwater, our Senator from Arizona, in which he said "I have a personal interest in the use of firearms and have long enjoyed them as a hobby and, just as you, appreciate the right we all have for the correct use and keeping of firearms. Any legislation which would abridge this right will meet my strong opposition."

I am voting for him if he wins the nomination for President.

Charles E. Irl
 Phoenix, Arizona

Future Voters

I am only 19 years old, so whatever opinions I hold are regarded lightly by nearly all adults I can express them to, including my parents. Perhaps you can tell me, and other boys like me, where we can go to be heard. I have heard people refer to me as "that gun-crazy kid," like I was going to shoot the place up any minute. I pride myself on my ability to handle firearms safely, and it bothers me when people look at my four rifles, and want to have me committed to the nearest booby bin.

Gerry Nygaard
 Seattle, Wash.

I am a 17 year old junior in high school, and an avid reader of GUNS Magazine. I don't do very much hunting, and I own only one gun, but I do like the shooting sports.

I want to commend you on the fine work you are doing toward curbing further anti-gun legislation. It is nice to find that the battle is being strongly, and successfully waged. I am appalled to find certain people in this land trying to deprive both the adult and younger citizens of rights given to us by our forefathers and cherished by so many. I am too young to vote or carry on the fight in any way but a letter like this, but I am behind you, as are most of my friends.

I shall continue to read your fine magazine and support the cause you champion.

Henry W. Gresham
 Fayetteville, Ark.

Politicians now on the anti-gun bandwagon might do well to remember that the boy of today is tomorrow's voter!—ED.

National Crow Shoot

The National Crow Shoot and Crow Calling contest will be held this year at the Kentucky Dept. of Wildlife's game farm about 2 miles south of Frankfort, Ky. The dates will be June 19, 20 and 21, with the 19th as registration day. I'll be happy to send a shoot schedule to anyone requesting it. We'll be happy to see you there.

Bob Ross
 1031 Delta Ave.
 Cincinnati 8, Ohio

Presentation Ross

Recently I saw a Ross rifle, caliber .303, Model 10, which had a brass plate attached to the stock. On the plate is engraved the following:

Presented to
 F. E. Woodard
 P.P.C.L.I. Scouts

By
 Major Armstrong
 Canadian Corps School, France

Would any of your Canadian readers help identify any of the names on this plate?

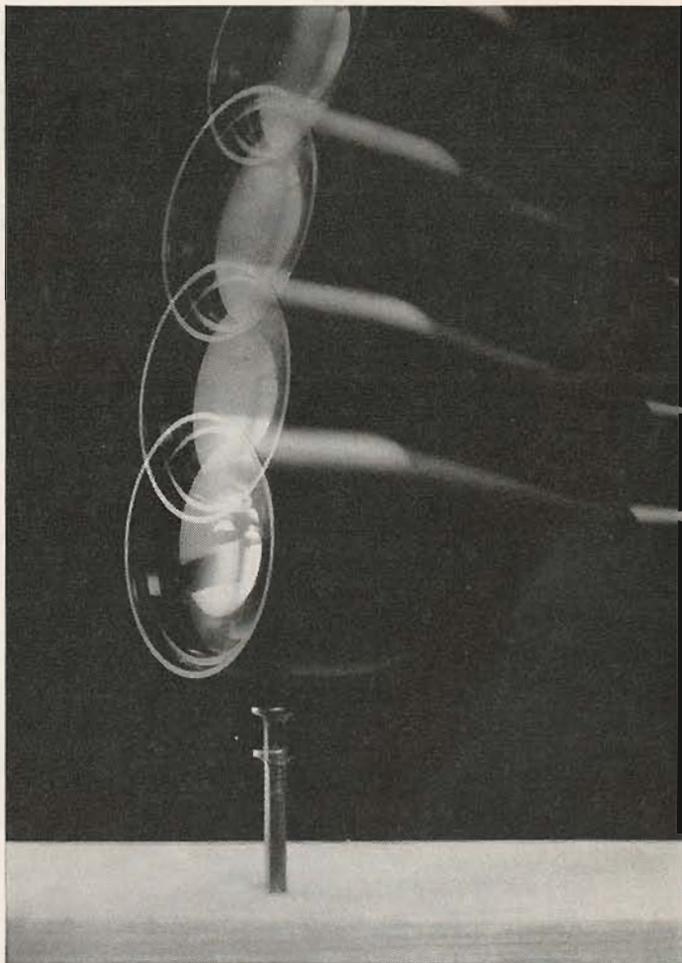
Fred Meins
 Ryegate, Montana

Help Wanted

I am compiling information and photographs on the Colt Single Action Army revolver, and would appreciate any data and photographs on presentation, case, engraved, unusual, or factory marked Colt's Single Action's. I hope to be able to use this in a book.

George Virgines
 264 Dewey Ave.
 Northlake, Ill.

SLAM IT! THEN USE IT!

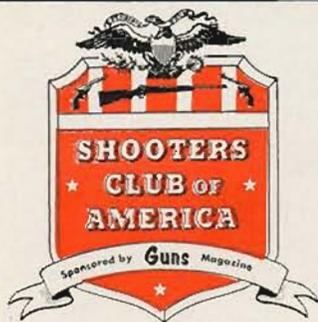


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Not that you would ever hammer ten-penny nails into a 1½" pine board with this fine scope but we did! We wanted to be sure the new scope line would give you top performance under the roughest field conditions. We not only slammed it . . . we scraped it, baked it, froze it, dropped it and soaked it! It performed beautifully after all this torture. Here's the kind of scope you've wanted for years — a wonderful combination of the finest American-made instrument quality, and hard, tough design at new low prices! New alloys, new lubricants and new production methods have made it possible to give you scopes that stay in mint condition for a lifetime. New V-mount design always maintains zero, even under toughest recoil and allows you to switch your scope from rifle to rifle. You can't buy better optical or mechanical quality at any price. Your dealer can tell you why the shooting world is so excited about the new B&L scopes. There's a 2½X or 4X at \$49.95, 2½X to 5X at \$79.95, and a 2½X to 8X at \$99.95. For 85-page manual, "Facts About Telescopic Sights", send 25¢ to Bausch & Lomb Incorporated, Rochester, New York 14602.



BAUSCH & LOMB 



NEWS from the SHOOTERS CLUB OF AMERICA

"I am proud to be a member of the Shooters Club of America and heartily applaud the efforts that this fine group has done and is doing toward insuring that the right to keep and bear arms is not denied to the citizens of the United States . . . Continue with your fine work."

Lt. R. L. Potts, USA
APO New York

Shooters Defeat N.Y. Anti-Gun Bill

A massive effort by New York State pro-gun forces spelled defeat for a proposed bill requiring registration of rifles and shotguns when announcement of the bill resulted in a torrent of mail from gun clubs, conservation groups and individual sportsmen.

Under present N.Y. State Laws, anyone can purchase a rifle or shotgun. No official records are kept of such sales. But following the Assassination, strong support was generated for additional anti-gun legislation in New York State.

In full support of this viewpoint, Senate Majority Leader Walter J. Mahoney referred to unrestricted availability of rifles and shotguns as "intolerable". In December, Mahoney stated that he was certain the Berkowitz Committee (Joint Legislative Committee on Firearms and Ammunition) could draft legislation that would not be unduly oppressive, but would protect the rights of the individual and society in general.

Mahoney's statements provoked such an immense outpouring from pro-gun groups and individuals that Senator Berkowitz did not attempt to adopt extreme legislative measures. Instead, Berkowitz filed bills to make it unlawful for the insane or for persons with serious criminal records to possess rifles or shotguns. Persons with criminal records would be allowed to possess rifles or shotguns only if they were able to obtain a certificate of good conduct from the police.

In announcing his decision not to file bills for compulsory registration of rifles and shotguns, Berkowitz made the following statement: "We felt that such a move would penalize law-abiding sportsmen, but would not reduce crime. All persons who appeared before our committee, without exception, agreed that criminals would never use licensed or registered guns in committing a crime. Neither could any legislation ever prevent anyone from obtaining a rifle or shotgun."

Senator Mahoney, commenting upon the Berkowitz proposals, said the bills "are probably the best we can hope for under the circumstances."

The defeat of this New York State legislative attempt is a prime example of the strength inherent in unity of action. THE SHOOTERS CLUB OF AMERICA and GUNS MAGAZINE will continue to keep you informed of anti-gun legislation pending in your area.

★ ★ ★

The Pro-Gun Law Reader Response Was Overwhelming And Vocal

The idea of a pro-gun law has caught hold and has been welcomed by shooters and collectors alike. Here are some excerpts from a few of the thousands of letters received.

"I concur wholeheartedly with you Pro-Gun Law article. We need a united front . . . to get a national gun law without registration requirements. The important thing is to get the control away from the states and local governments. That is where the registration, the permits approved by police thing starts. More power to you and the Shooters Club of America."

H. D. Reit, Jr.
Los Angeles, Cal.

"I have just read your article 'A Pro-Gun Law Now!' and was a little amazed to find that there really are some people left with some good common sense about gun laws and keeping our rights to own and bear these guns . . . I am all for your efforts and ready to help in any way I can."

H. L. Beaty
South Houston, Texas

"I want to congratulate you on your article 'A Pro-Gun Law Now!' You say that a pro-gun law might not be enactable. You may be wrong . . . I speak from personal experience . . . You are so right in stating that we must take the offensive . . ."

J. E. Edwards
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

"My guns are some of my most prized possessions. They are the symbol of our independence and of my own independence, and I will keep them and my right to keep them, unhindered, at all costs . . . We are with you and behind you."

B. E. Pontius
Escondido, Cal.

"Having just read 'A Pro-Gun Law Now!' I had to write this note to say that as a shooter and member of the Shooters Club of America, I will support such a proposal 1,000 per cent. I believe too, that you will get equal support from the greater majority of sportsmen."

S. Rabin
Brooklyn, New York

"I think we should have some kind of gun law that will protect our rights to 'keep and bear arms' once and for all instead of trying to figure out a way to disarm the shooting sportsman. How come they don't outlaw autos? They kill more people than all the guns made . . . I say that if they want a gun law, why not have a law that would make parents let their children take a complete safety training course before giving them a gun? Don't deprive the boys and girls of the enjoyment they can get from the shooting sports, but let them start out right by giving them gun safety training."

E. L. E. Hack, Bristol Small Arms Training School, Bristol, Conn.

"You are quite right to draw attention to the need for uniform firearms legislation. Whatever its final form, the protections of the citizen's right to have and bear arms must be preserved."

U.S. Senator Frank Church
Idaho

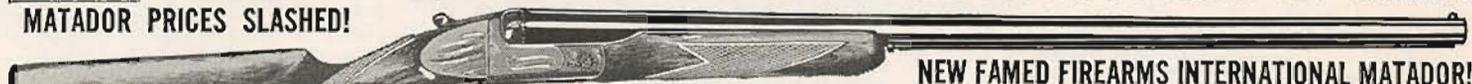
"The article 'A Pro-Gun Law Now!' was inspiring and I appreciate your ability in that line. For me, firearms have been a source of enjoyment for more years than I care to remember."

M. W. Boxer
Yonkers, New York

\$1,000,000 OFFER! FOR "GUNS" READERS!

And for DEALERS, too!
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C22-1707-2	12	2 3/4"	28"	M&P	7 1/2 lbs.	45"	107.78
C22-1707-4	12	2 3/4"	28"	M&P	6 3/4 lbs.	45"	107.78
C22-1707-6	20	2 3/4"	28"	M&P	6 3/4 lbs.	45"	107.78
C22-1707-7	20	2 3/4"	26"	IC&M	6 1/2 lbs.	43"	107.78
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C22-1708-10	410	3"	26"	M&P	5 1/2 lbs.	43"	99.99

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Perfect for ducks, geese, fox, etc. Shoots either 2 3/4" or 3 1/2" magnum shells. 32" full choked barrels. Engraved receiver, double safety underlocks, checkered French Walnut stock, Beventral forearm. 10 ga. only has double trigger. Action closed. Overall 46 3/4". Peep rear sight adjustable from 200 to 1600 yards, blade front sight. Foolproof safety. Turned down bolt. American walnut stock and handguard with sling swivels. All shipped collect. Military Surplus. All in N.R.A. Good Condition.
C24-1710. Made by Remington or by Winchester. Price, without scope, cut to \$2995

M1917 .30/06 WITH NEW HI-POWER SCOPES INSTALLED
C24-1711. M1917 Rifle by Remington or Winchester with Fleetwood 3 1/2" 4 power scope. \$39.95
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Made by Remington and Winchester!
Famed 30/30 Caliber!

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The U. S. Model 1917 Enfield is a tremendous value in the most desired .30/06 military caliber! Specifications: 6-shot, top loading, 1 in 10" 5-groove 28" barrel with sharp clean rifling. Overall 46 3/4". Peep rear sight adjustable from 200 to 1600 yards, blade front sight. Foolproof safety. Turned down bolt. American walnut stock and handguard with sling swivels. All shipped collect. Military Surplus. All in N.R.A. Good Condition.
C24-1710. Made by Remington or by Winchester. Price, without scope, cut to \$2995

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Exclusive at KLEIN'S! Absolutely Brand New! Factory packed deluxe models with full Marlin warranty. Famous Marlin fast short throw lever action. Tubular magazine holds 7 shots. Famous Marlin Micro-Grooved barrel. Hooded ramp front sight, adjustable open rear sight, receiver with 15" overall. 20" barrel for all popular scope mounts. 20" barrel is a fine factory fitted recoil pad, sling swivels, and oiled leather sling with brass fittings. Klein's scooped the market to offer this great buy! 30/30 caliber.
C20-774. Marlin 336C with Large 1" 4 Power Tasco Scope mounted and ready to shoot, with mounts, recoil pad, carrying strap, swivels. At Klein's "45 Days Only" \$88.88
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Famous World War II 30/06 caliber semi-auto rifle. 8 shot, 2 1/2" brl. 42" overall. Adjustable sight. Excellent as issued with original clock type aperture sight adjustable from 100 to 1200 yds. Weights 9 1/2 lbs. Precision work. Excellent condition. In NRA Very Good Cond. \$77.99
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E45-327. 2-man boat OUTFIT 8'x4'8". Wt. 25 lbs. \$34.79
E45-329. 4-man boat outfit 10'7"X5'5". Wt. 35 lbs. \$47.78
E45-331. 6-man boat outfit with 3 seats, 12'6"X8". Wt. 41 lbs. \$57.78
E45-328. 2-man boat with motor mount. \$41.98
E45-330. 4-man boat with motor mount. \$53.95
E45-332. 6-man boat with motor mount. \$64.95
Boats inflated lose approximately one foot in length and width. Shipped Express collect.

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Brand new! First quality! Made by Tasco! With a twist of the wrist you can have any power you want from 3 to 9 field of view, 1 1/4 to 30 ft. Crosshair reticle. Magnesium fluted barrel, coated lenses. Windage and elevation click stops, parallax corrected nitrogen filled fog proofing. Large eye piece and objective. 1" tube, cowhide lens caps. Overall 12". \$29.99
1 1/4 oz.
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Cal. 30/06. The most popular military rifle for sporting use. This lot are all Model 1903-A3's with which number 1 nickel steel receivers, milled working parts. Made in Gov't arsenal—not commercially assembled. 5-shot magazine. Adjustable rear open sight, blade front sight, 43 1/2" overall, 8.60 lbs. \$39.78
C24-1789. NRA Excellent

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Sit back, smoke a "shirrup" while looking at this replica hanging over the fireplace. You can't help but congratulate the hardy pioneer who lamed a wilderness and formed a country. Can be fired. Each gun brand new and set fired. 31" octagonal barrel, full length stock, heavy barrel. 36 caliber.
B23-1586 \$25.78

B27-1786. VARIABLE POWER SCOPE 2 1/2" to 8". Tasco quality and features same as above. Crosshair reticle. \$21.99
B27-1724. 2 1/2" X 4" scopes—CROSSHAIR or POST and CROSSHAIR RETICLE. All the quality features of B27-1722 described above plus Fixed Reticle. always accurately centered. Choice of reticle. Choice of 2 1/2" or 4" \$17.99
B20-7644. WEAVER PIVOT MOUNT \$9.88. TASCOS TOP MOUNT \$9.88. State make and model of your rifle.

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The only U.S. Military small arms made with the lines and weight of a modern sporter. Weights only 5 1/2 lbs., 18" brl., 36" overall. Gas operated. 15 shot semi-auto. Adjustable receiver sight. Brand new!
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C21-1502. Powder flask \$9.95
E21-1503. Bullet mold. \$9.95
D20-229. Black Leather Holer \$9.95

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Locking sliding glass doors and ammunition drawer. Barrel rack and stock pits lined with green felt. Romy's! 62 1/2" high, 31" wide, 19" deep. Made of select hardwoods in solids and veneers. State choice of Walnut or Salem Maple finish. Shipped Express. \$57.78
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For Rifle Cartridges. You get everything! Sizing die, deprimer, primer, bullet seater, and crimping instructions. State choice of color. Epl. \$9.95
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Complete with heavy duty air pump, aluminum oars and repair kit at no extra charge. Easily worth \$10.00 extra. Tough rubberized vinyl canvas, reinforced at strain points, two separate air compartments for safety. Two seats, our locks. Handy tow and gunnel rope. Finest import.
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E21-1585

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For Rifle Cartridges. You get everything! Sizing die, deprimer, primer, bullet seater, and crimping instructions. State choice of color. Epl. \$9.95
D28-1720
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ZOOM SPOTTING SCOPE

True zoom action with finger-tip control. Zooms from 25 power to 50 power. Brilliant image at any power. 60mm objective. Hard coated optics. Prismatic system. 15" overall. Scope weighs 2 lbs. Includes pan head elevator. Tripod adjustable from 12" to 30". New model.
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NEW CREDIT CUSTOMERS: No Down Payment Required. But to speed your order, rush 10% or more down payment, and send name and address of your Employer and names and addresses of 2 or more firms with whom you have (or had) credit accounts. Also your age, occupation, number of dependents, date present job began and present salary. Information will be kept confidential.
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Brand new! First quality! Made by Tasco! With a twist of the wrist you can have any power you want from 3 to 9 field of view, 1 1/4 to 30 ft. Crosshair reticle. Magnesium fluted barrel, coated lenses. Windage and elevation click stops, parallax corrected nitrogen filled fog proofing. Large eye piece and objective. 1" tube, cowhide lens caps. Overall 12". \$29.99
1 1/4 oz.
B27-1785. Price cut to . . . \$29.99

B27-1786. VARIABLE POWER SCOPE 2 1/2" to 8". Tasco quality and features same as above. Crosshair reticle. \$21.99
B27-1724. 2 1/2" X 4" scopes—CROSSHAIR or POST and CROSSHAIR RETICLE. All the quality features of B27-1722 described above plus Fixed Reticle. always accurately centered. Choice of reticle. Choice of 2 1/2" or 4" \$17.99
B20-7644. WEAVER PIVOT MOUNT \$9.88. TASCOS TOP MOUNT \$9.88. State make and model of your rifle.

TASCOS VARIABLE ZOOM SCOPE

22 Scope zooms from 3X to 7X. Crosshair reticle. Mounts fast and easy on 22 rifles with dovetail grooves. 3 1/2" body, 20mm objective. Fully coated optics. Crisp, clear images at all powers.
B27-1787 \$9.99
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GUN & AMMO PURCHASERS:
Please send signed statement stating that you are 21 or over, not an alien, have not been convicted of a crime, not under indictment, not a fugitive or drug addict.



THE FRONTIER GUNSHOP

BY JAMES M. TRIGGS

PIONEER AMERICAN HANDGUNS:

DESIGNED AND DEVELOPED by Elisha Root, shop superintendent of the Colt's Patent Fire Arms Manufacturing Company, the Root sidehammer model pocket revolver was patented in 1855. While many of these pocket revolvers were produced and sold, the arm never achieved the widespread popularity of many of the other Colt revolvers, due to the intricate and delicate mechanism which was frequently subject to breakage or malfunction.

Root model Colt revolvers are considered very desirable collector's pieces today and many are found in excellent condition with presentation engraving and ivory grips.

This arm was manufactured in a variety of models in both .28 and .31 caliber. The .28 caliber revolvers were made with 3½" and 4½" barrels; models with 4½" round barrels are found in .31 caliber only. Other models had round or octagonal barrels. Cylinders were either plain round or full-fluted with several different cylinder arbor retaining devices and arbors employed. The .31 caliber model with round barrel and plain cylinder is shown. The relatively rare cylinder pin retaining screw (14) which passed through the cylinder wall is shown.

Disassembly of the 1855 Root Colt should be undertaken carefully due to the delicacy of its interior parts. Remove cylinder arbor retaining screw (14) (or depress cylinder arbor latch on left side of frame in front of cylinder in models employing this type of latch) and withdraw cylinder arbor (11) from rear of frame. Remove cylinder (11). Remove grip screw (22) and grips (23). Remove mainspring tension screw (21) and drift out mainspring pin (20). Remove mainspring (19). Remove trigger screw (25), cylinder stop screw (18), and side plate screw (27) at left of frame. Tap frame to loosen side plate.

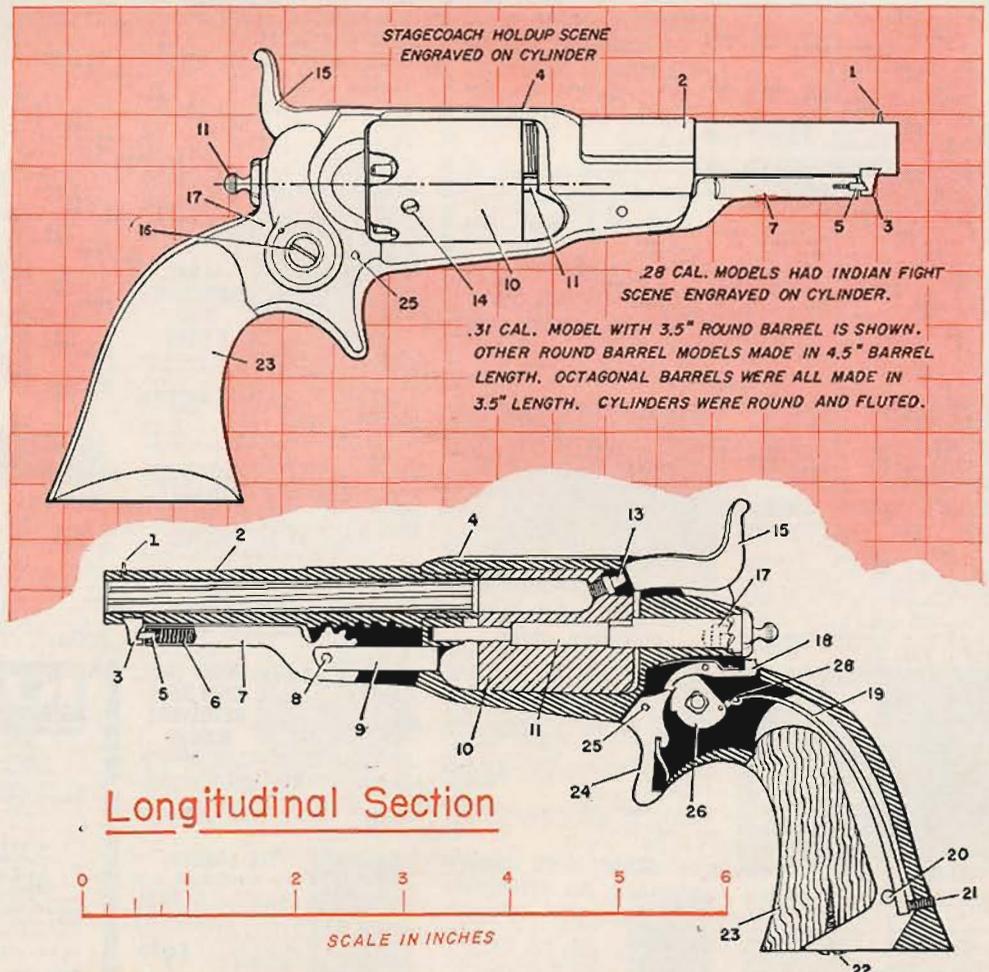
Remove hammer screw (16) and pry hammer (15) off square shank of sear (26). Remaining lock mechanism parts may be removed from frame in the following order: Sear (26); Trigger & trigger spring (24); Cylinder stop & spring (18); Hand & spring (17)—(remove hand from recess in right side of frame under hammer).

To disassemble loading lever and plunger assembly, unlatch and lower the lever (7). Drift out plunger pin (8) through hole in lower forward part of frame and remove lever and plunger (9).

Colt Root Model 1855 Sidehammer

PARTS LIST

1. Front sight
2. Barrel
3. Barrel stud
4. Frame
5. Loading lever latch & pin
6. Loading lever spring
7. Loading lever
8. Plunger pin
9. Plunger
10. Cylinder
11. Cylinder arbor
12. Cylinder arbor sleeve (not shown)
13. Nipples
14. Cylinder pin retaining screw (Retaining latch contained in forward part of frame on some models)
15. Hammer
16. Hammer screw
17. Hand & spring, with hand pin (in right side of frame)
18. Cylinder stop screw and spring
19. Mainspring
20. Mainspring pin
21. Mainspring tension screw
22. Grip screw
23. Grip
24. Trigger & spring
25. Trigger screw
26. Sear
27. Side plate & screw (not shown—at left side of frame)
28. Stirrup and pin



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RUGGED ALL STEEL MOUNTS THAT PUT SCOPE DIRECTLY OVER BORE

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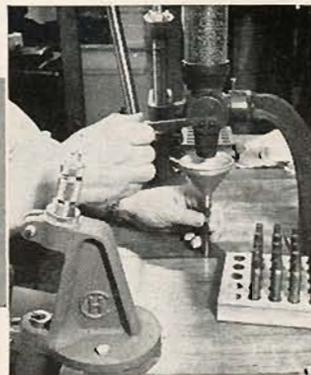
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HANDLOADING BENCH

By KENT BELLAH



The .284 Winchester

LAST YEAR Winchester introduced a new .284 cartridge for their M100 auto and M88 lever action rifles. Both are fine guns of their type. Many hunters are switching to them for medium game. Others, prefer bolt action pieces, although I'm not sure they have any advantage for medium game. There is sometimes an advantage in faster fire power if you use it sensibly. You should place a higher value on the first well placed shot than on the next 10 rounds.

A friend carried a single cartridge for his rifle on a deer hunt. He also carried a .44 Magnum revolver for the coup de grace if necessary. It wasn't necessary. I think he wanted to spoof his companions who packed autoloading rifles. With the understanding that I don't think any sensible man will spray the countryside with hot lead to bag a buck, let's take it from there.

The .284 cartridge has quite similar ballistics to the fine .270 Winchester. The major difference is a shorter case, a little trick W-W learned about a long time ago. The round is as modern as tomorrow. No doubt it will also be popular in bolt actions. Contrary to some opinions, it isn't difficult to reload for lever actions and autos if you use proper dies. Dies are quite critical, and good ones are highly recommended for any cartridge.

We had a sample set of .284 RCBS "Precisioneered" dies before a Winchester rifle was available! RCBS works closely with firearms labs, and generally have Precisioneered dies before guns are in production in new calibers. We have used many RCBS dies, have never found one with a defect. A few were not correct for a particular gun, but the fault was always in the gun chamber or bullet, not the dies. RCBS dies are made to closer specs than many guns.

The Speer people used a .284 Model 88 for their tests, firing 934 rounds to work up data for the new Speer Reloading Manual No. 6. This is by far the biggest and best up-to-date manual available, with much more dope than the old No. 5. Everyone should have it. Speer ballistcian Dave Andrews obtained some 5 shot-groups of 1.5" at 100 yards with the 160 grain Speer pill backed with 53.0 grains 4350 and CCI 200 primers. This is a top load for auto or lever actions, but not excessive, starting at 2703 fps for 2596 fp (foot pounds) M.E.

I've quoted this load because it's real good. We can't obtain quite that good accuracy, as few rifles do that well right out of the box. But groups won't average very much larger, and you may occasionally get one

that is smaller. A 2.0" group is not bad at all. This heavy bullet performs extremely well for any game in the .270 class, that is on the large side.

Some people will use the .284 and .270 for larger game than I think is desirable, and some will get away with it. For anything larger than medium heavy game I consider the new .300 Winchester Magnum far superior. All of us are well aware of what a "well placed hit" does on any animal with almost any decent load. But there is a whale of a difference in a clean, one-shot kill and a mortally wounded fine game animal that you have to trail a mile, or lose completely. A bit "too much" power doesn't hurt a thing. It can make the difference between a successful trip you'll remember with pride the rest of your life, and one that's a total loss and disappointment.

Another fine load is a 130 gr. Speer backed with 56.0 gr. 4350 and CCI 200 primers in the .284 hull. It starts at 3043 fps for 2680 fp M.E. I think it's a better deer load and expansion is faster. Like other Speer game bullets, the core and jacket fuse together for a classic mushroom, without separating, shattering or exploding. You get maximum shocking power for any normal range. I've seen some bullets that penetrated game completely without much expansion, or gave core and jacket separation.

Good bullets are never 100 per cent "dependable." I've never seen any make or type that performed exactly the same way every time if enough shots were fired. I mean on game. Firing into fine, moist sand gives fairly uniform performance with a particular bullet. It's a good yardstick to compare bullet performance with a factory load for control.

Several years ago a chap shot a deer with a .30-06 factory load and thought he missed. Another shot got the buck. Examination showed the first bullet penetrated about 3" in the chest without expanding. The next hit in nearly the same place penetrated completely, expanding well and making a nice exit hole. There was no noticeable difference in the reports. What happened? We checked the recovered bullet. The core and jacket compared favorably with others in the same box. Ballistics of the remaining rounds were normal. The shooter swears that brand of ammo is no good, although it's excellent. The severe bullet failure could have happened with any other make, or possibly even with a fine custom bullet, although I think the factory bullets were a bit hard for best expansion at .30-06 velocity. They would be about right for a .300 H & H, that also has bullets that are too hard for best expansion

at fairly long range on deer-size game. Winchester loads their new .300 Magnum with bullets that I think are about right.

Speer decided not to list their BL-C-2 loads in their new No. 6 Manual. Their best one is 47.0 gr. behind their 130 gr. pill for 2807 fps. You may want to settle on 1.0 grain or so less powder for lever or auto actions, where the overall cartridge length is 2.800" to function in the magazines. We found that 44.0 gr. works well with the 140 gr. Sierra bullet in the M88 for 2600 fps. The 160 gr. Sierra B.T. behind 54.5 gr. H-4831 shoots well. We didn't chronograph it, but velocity is around 2450 fps.

Joyce Hornady, Box 906, Grand Island, Nebraska, has .284 data for their bullets in a custom M70 with a Douglas barrel. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you want their data. The top loads are too heavy for M100 and M88 rifles. You can't get top charges in the cases as bullets must be seated deeper to function in the magazines. When the .284 was introduced, I didn't think it would be a very popular one for reloading. At the rate Winchester is producing rifles I think it will be popular, and I'm looking for some custom and factory bolt action guns to be chambered for it. It will probably replace the time-tested .270 sooner or later.

You need tighter than normal dies for springy pump, auto, and lever actions. Fred Huntington told me this was a major cause of die returns. RCBS now has a much needed "first" in supplying "Small Base" sizers for these actions in .243 Win., .270 Win., .300 Savage, .30-06, and .308 Win. Specify "Small Base." They can be used for bolt actions, but the tighter a case fits a chamber, within reason, the better accuracy you get. Their .284 is correct, and so are other calibers used mostly in springy actions.

RCBS made so many "firsts" you'd think they invented handloading. One is the quick-change up or down stroke toggle, on their strong "O" frame "Jr." and A-2 presses. Both have adequate strength for any operation. I consider the A-2 the ultimate for heavy-duty bullet swaging, case forming and reloading. They say it forms a .30-06 hull to .250-3000 in one operation. That's an understatement. I've amazed people by skinning down a .30-06 case to .22-250 in one operation! This impractical stunt merely proves the press power. It takes a little practice with a thin lot of commercial (not GI) brass.

RCBS seaters are original, considered by many as superior for perfect bullet alignment. The die throat forward of the case mouth is reamed to normal bullet diameter. Bullets don't depend on the seater stem cavity for alignment. No other major die maker uses this more expensive design. RCBS dies are not the only fine ones, but they are fine, and RCBS is justly proud of them. Quality and design are excellent, dimensions are close, and alignment is perfect. They are a bargain at \$13.50, much superior to low quality dies.

RCBS originated their 3 die pistol set, and later their 4 die set that seats bullets in one operation and crimps in another. They eliminate shaving lead or deforming bullets. RCBS will cut seater stems to fit the soft bullet noses exactly. RCBS Tungsten Carbide dies are not original, but the critical insert design is the equal of any ever made.

(Continued on page 44)



MODEL 939

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MODEL 402



MODEL 755

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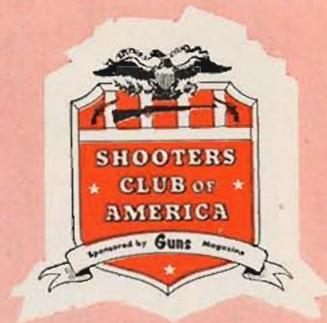
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A PRO-GUN FIREARMS ACT

By E. B. MANN

BEFORE WE BEGIN, let it be strictly understood that this is *not* a finished pro-gun Bill, ready for submission to the United States Congress. It is written in layman's language, every word of which will have to be studied and shaped to fit the legal necessities. But, it is the most aggressive step ever taken by any publication; by any organization; by any group concerned with the rights of the people to keep and bear arms. But the legal pitfalls are many, and some of them will be covered in this article.

This proposal does not fulfill all of our own hopes, or all of the hopes expressed in your letters, as to what an ideal pro-gun law should be. It is merely a skeleton of basic aims, published here as an invitation for your criticism and suggestions; and as a tool for your own use—in your own state, county, or municipality.

In presenting this Bill, and in asking your support of it, we are mindful of the fact that the eyes of the entire world are focused on America. The suppressed people of the world realize that ours is the only nation which permits its citizens to keep and bear arms. Every anti-gun law that is passed takes a small chip from this freedom. Conversely, any laws that protect and perpetuate this freedom can only serve to improve that image; can only affirm that we are, indeed, a free people.

Your letters have been most helpful. Hundreds of them have been received, responding to our beliefs that "The Second Amendment is *Not* Enough," and "Why Not A Pro-Gun Law *Now*?" Most of your letters offered specific suggestions as to what a pro-gun law should do. Every one of those suggestions has been carefully studied by an ever-widening panel of men in the firearms industry, representatives of the shooting sports, legislators, and legal experts.

As one sample of the problems to be faced, take the almost unanimous demand that state laws regarding guns be made uniform throughout the states. This is an essential need, one that must be attained. But, from the standpoint of a federal law, it runs head-on into the Constitutional provision that all general police powers shall be reserved

to the states themselves—backed up by repeated court decisions that the states "may regulate, within the limits of their constitutions, the possession and use of firearms." Thirty-five states have provisions in their own constitutions identical or similar to the Second Amendment; but no two states are identical in their applications of firearms regulations. The federal government is specifically prohibited from dictating to the states in this area of police powers, and it would be illogical for us to present a law, based on a Constitutional right, which ran counter to another Constitutional right. This is a knotty legal problem. We are seeking a solution to this problem, are hopeful that one may be found. But we must face the possibility that, even if we can enact a federal law as a pattern, we may yet have to fight the battle in each of the states to win uniformity of firearms regulations.

It is easy to say, as some have said, "All right, quit stalling! Write the Bill, get it presented, and let us all write letters urging its passage!" No legislator, worthy to sponsor it, would present this Bill—or any Bill predestined to such bitter controversy as this one will encounter—unless we could be sure that the Bill was clean of at least the obvious legal pitfalls. If he did, our cause would suffer. We must be sure we're right before we go ahead.

Here, then, is a suggested platform (facing page), a basic framework of a Pro-Gun Law. It is brief, dealing in generalities; the finished law will have to cover a multitude of details. Footnotes are added here to point out—and point up—some of the specifics.

NO ONE KNOWS better than we do that this basic platform will fall far short of pleasing everyone. It could not possibly in this space, even pretend to cover all the facets of this fantastically complex problem. We present it as a foundation.

A minority of letters received demand the unequivocal right to carry firearms, loaded or not, concealed or openly, without license. The words, "To keep *and* bear," do cer-

A LAW TO REPEAL AND REPLACE THE FEDERAL FIREARMS ACT¹

WHEREAS the Second Amendment of the Constitution of the United States of America states that "A well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed." And,

WHEREAS the history of the writing of that Amendment, as well as its wording, clearly indicate the intention of the writers, signers, and citizens who voted for its passage, to be as hereinafter defined in this Bill, and not as otherwise defined or interpreted by any branch or agency of the government—

BE IT ENACTED therefore that the words, "A well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state," shall be accepted in the true meaning intended by their writers and supporters as an affirmation of (as President John F. Kennedy so aptly phrased it) "our basic civilian-military relationships, in which every citizen must be ready to participate in the defense of his country;" and that "the right of the people to keep and bear arms" means all of the people and not only those who are members of state or national guards or other quasi-military groups; and that it shall be the intent of all legislation relative to such matters, as it is the intent of this Bill, to protect and preserve that right and not to limit or restrict it except in the just and fair interest of public safety and welfare, and then only as hereinafter provided.

BE IT ENACTED, in accordance with the meaning of the second Amendment as above defined, that no federal agency of law or law enforcement can or may prohibit, restrict, require licensing of, or specifically tax the purchase, ownership, or legitimate use of firearms or other arms of such categories as those related to sport, hobby, or civilian self-defense by any law-abiding citizen, and the terms "specifically tax," "legitimate use," "firearms...related to sport, hobby, or self-defense," and "law-abiding citizen," shall be understood and interpreted as follows and that no other interpretation may be placed on them:

1. "Specifically tax" shall mean, and be interpreted to mean, the indiscriminate taxing of firearms, ammunition, components, and any accessory to the use of firearms, except where such revenue thus received shall be used specifically for the expansion of a program of civilian marksmanship, hunter safety training, or any other use to promote and encourage the shooting sports.

2. "Legitimate use" shall include use in sports, hobbies, self-defense and practice for same; but the maintenance of this right shall not prevent the application, through due process of equable penalties for reckless use or use in ways or places dangerous to the public safety as stipulated by reasonable regulations.

Use of any firearm in the commission of a felony, or in resistance of arrest after the commission of a crime, shall be a federal offense punishable by not less than

five years imprisonment, or such additional penalty as a proper court shall decide, in addition to any penalty inflicted for the crime committed.

3. "Firearms...related to sport, hobby, or self-defense" shall include all rifles, shotguns, and handguns (pistols and revolvers), excepting only those which are designed for or have been altered for criminal use (exceptions to be exactly defined later in this bill)², and shall further recognize that the hobby of gun collecting which perpetuates the heritage of firearms, shall not be restricted (except as concerned full-automatic and certain other firearms defined later), but shall be encouraged.

4. "Law-abiding citizen" means, and shall be interpreted to mean, any citizen not previously convicted of a felony, not a fugitive, not legally proven incompetent by reason of age or mental deficiency, and not provably a drug addict.

WHEREAS the history of law enforcement proves that neither the requirement of a license to purchase or a license to possess firearms, nor the registration of firearms, by serial number or by ballistic characteristics, have been or can be effective in the prevention or detection of crime; and

WHEREAS the requirement of license to purchase or possess places undue discriminatory power into the hands of the police or other licensing agency and encourages the prohibitory use of such power in contradiction to the intention and true meaning of the Second Amendment; and

WHEREAS the licensing and registration of firearms are not only infringements on the rights of the law-abiding citizen and without justification as aids to law enforcement, but are detrimental to national defense—

BE IT ENACTED that no federal agency can or may require the licensing or registration of firearms (with the exceptions herein noted and defined), and that the federal courts provide recourse and protection for law-abiding citizens asking immunity from such restrictions if and when imposed by state or local agencies; and that all federal agencies urge the several states to revise their firearms regulations to be (1) uniform in all states, and (2) uniformly within the limits of regulation specified in this enactment.

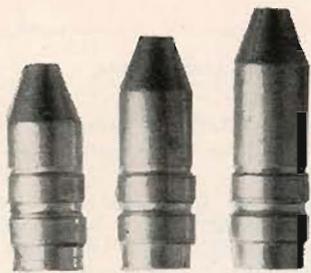
BE IT FURTHER ENACTED that the federal government does hereby, and shall in spirit and letter, not only protect the citizen in his right to keep and bear arms but shall encourage him to own arms and to attain skill in their use, as a preparation for the part he may be required to play in the defense of his country; and that the federal government shall, by such legislative and/or administrative steps required, expand (through its existing Department of Civilian Marksmanship or such other agencies as may be needed) its present program for the development of civilian marksmanship, and that the necessary funds be provided (including the provision, where necessary, of military or military-surplus arms for such training).

¹The National Firearms Act is primarily a tax act, placing a transfer tax (\$200) on "gangster type" firearms: machine and sub-machine guns (full-automatics, designed or altered to shoot a sequence of shots by a single functioning of the trigger), sawed-off shotguns or rifles, and certain other firearms. This act needs revision, too, mainly for clarification. The "other weapons" wording is troublesome and confusing. But it is not and will not be the intention of the pro-gun law to relieve full-automatic weapons or weapons obviously designed or altered for criminal use, from either registration or taxation.

²We will not attempt to legalize sale or possession of "pen guns," "belt-buckle guns," or other such odd-ball weapons, except (for the protection of collectors) they be (1) true antiques for which no fixed ammunition is available, or (2) unless they are effectively de-activated, or (3) unless they are registered subject to tax as provided in the (revised) National Firearms Act. The term "pen gun" as used here does not include pen-shaped gas guns, which are already legal under Federal law. (Fixed ammunition to be defined.)

tainly stand foursquare and unmistakable in the Second Amendment. But to demand is one thing; to get is another. Every responsible person with whom we have conferred, advises strongly against demanding. They insist unani-

mously that the inclusion of an unlicensed right to carry would inevitably foredoom the entire program to failure. They say, "If we ask this, we will get nothing; and this is something we (the advisors) do not (*Continued on page 62*)



Above: A bullet cast in Hensley & Gibbs No. 51 mould (left) has more efficient shape than factory .357 slugs. Left: These perfect .30 caliber castings are shown before and after lubricating and sizing.



CAST 'EM



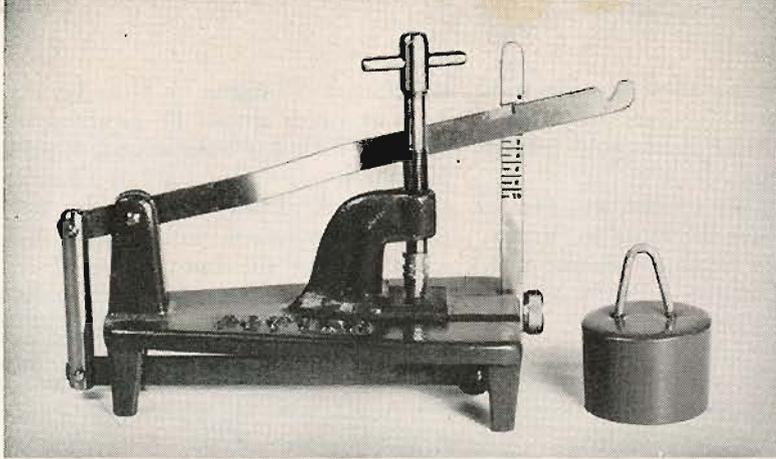
The author uses either the bottom draw thermostat furnace or the Thermo-Utility dip pot, both made by SAECO, depending on the type of mould he wishes to use.

**BULLET CASTING IS ECONOMICAL, BUT THE
TRUE PLEASURE COMES FROM MAKING ACCURATE BULLETS
THAT WILL INCREASE YOUR SCORES**

By KENT BELLAH



Hensley & Gibbs four-cavity mould has fast, back-hinge.



The Potter Lead Tester, which indicates the relative hardness of an alloy with some accuracy, does not indicate the quality, nor the presence of impurities—as copper, iron, or arsenic.



Bullet at right, pulled with inertia bullet puller, shows deformation due to excessive crimping of case mouth.

RIGHT FOR ACCURACY

BULLET CASTING is an art that was old when our nation was young. From the first Pilgrims up to the advent of the metallic cartridge, untold millions of lead balls were cast over campfires, kitchen stoves, or roaring fireplaces—yet more cast bullets are being shot today than in muzzle-loading days.

Many riflemen flinch at the thought of firing cast bullets in their pet shoulder gun. Granted, you need a slicker bore than for jacketed pills, but cast slugs won't harm a bore—if it's de-leaded before shooting jacketed bullets. Cast slugs make good reduced plinking loads, however. Casting slugs for rifles is a story in itself, and since most cast bullets are shot in handguns, let's concern ourselves mainly with the casting of these.

No gun or ammunition is better than the bullet used. For that reason, don't try to make your castings too cheap or too fast. The secret of good, accurate cast bullets is precision and uniformity—in alloy, weight, and in the critical dimension.

Some casters start with minimum cost equipment. I have found that it's better to start with the best, or the best that you can afford. An investment of

\$100 at the start will assure you of years of fun and satisfaction. Let's see why better equipment gives you better, more accurate castings.

A bottom draw, thermostat electric furnace, such as the SAECO or Lyman, maintains uniform temperature. The heavier head of metal over the spout reduces internal bullet defects, such as dross, air pockets, and folds. Here's the proper way to use one of these furnaces. Start with about six pounds of alloy, and keep the pot about half full all during your casting. Wait until the alloy reaches full temperature before casting, then stir, flux, and stir some more. This will prevent lead-rich casts when the lighter metals, used for alloying, float to the top.

Beeswax can be used for flux, but I prefer a good bullet lube. I use Mirror-Lube for both fluxing and lubricating. It isn't messy, cuts clean in a sizer, reduces leading, and doesn't melt out oil at high temperatures. I cut the sticks into 1/2 inch slices, using a knife blade that's warm, drop a slice into the pot, and stir well. Igniting the fumes with a kitchen match will reduce the smoke. It is best to work near a window or door, in a draft that will carry smoke outside, or use an electric

fan to solve this problem.

Screw the furnace to a 12" x 14" board, to prevent any possibility of tipping. Then place it on a piece of Sheetrock to protect the table finish. Plug the furnace into a separate, unloaded circuit. An incandescent lamp wired into the circuit makes a good visual indicator. When it dims, the pot is heating; when it brightens, the operating temperature of the furnace has been reached.

Use a tablespoon to return poor casts and sprue cuttings to the pot before too many accumulate. Add pigs with kitchen tongs, or steel photo tongs, to prevent splashing the alloy. Since a fast, steady casting speed is desirable, a helper is handy to add pigs (ingots), sprue, flux and stir, and take casts off the drop pad. Rivet a 6" wood handle to a table spoon to stir the mix at the bottom of the pot.

A clogged spout can be due to an overload of alloy, adding too much metal, or a low temperature setting. If the spout leaks, or drops of metal form on it, the valve is crusted over, and you'll get folds or wrinkles in the casts. Empty the furnace, remove the valve and polish with fine steel wool. Clean the crud from inside the pot,

and touch bullet lube to the warm valve to insure perfect seating.

Adjust the metal flow screw to your needs. A fast or wide open flow often causes a cavity to fill before air bleeds off through the vents, giving you internal air pockets. Current moulds have proper vents that should not be enlarged, but some of the old ones may need venting with a needle file.

A perfect mould is vital to the casting of precision bullets, and I have found Hensley & Gibbs moulds tops. The cavities are beautifully cut, the sprue cutter is heavy and flat for clean cuts, and the cavities and guide pins are in perfect alignment. H&G moulds are made in four-cavity and larger models, and have connected sprue

holes. When using these moulds with a bottom draw furnace, keep them close to the spout, preferably resting on some support.

After the bullets are cast, wait two or three seconds for the sprue to harden, and then strike the cutter sharply with a mallet. H&G makes a dandy one, or you can use a lead or plastic faced hammer. An eight ounce ball peen hammer with a plastic furniture tip on the face makes a good mallet for occasional use.

For production, I prefer to use two of the four cavity moulds rather than one with six, eight, or ten holes. I fill both moulds, empty the first, and refill it before emptying the second one.

Hot castings are easily nicked, and

any that are damaged by a fall on the floor or bench should be returned to the pot. With flat base bullets, a perfect sharp edge all around is vital to accuracy. A nicked, or otherwise imperfect base causes the bullet to tip when leaving the bore. Other base defects, caused by cutting a non-solid sprue, or by an air pocket, cause bullets to have an erratic flight. To protect your castings, drop them from the mould onto a folded bath towel. A handy system is set up by placing a box (padded with the bath towel) on a chair. Put one end of another towel into the box and tack the other end to your bench. Castings roll gently down this slide, and land in the box without a scratch.

SAECO-Cramer three-holers are superb moulds having individual sprue holes. Like Lyman's one or two cavity moulds, they are held tight against a furnace or dipper spout. If they leak in contact, touch bullet lube to the warm spout. All of these moulds, and H & G's four cavity, are scissor hinged behind the blocks. Lyman's four holers, and larger H & G's are hinged forward of the blocks, making them just a bit slower to operate.

Castings, especially flat base bullets, should be sizing diameter to .001" larger. Oversize casts, which are common, may deform in sizing. Diameter isn't as critical with swaged hollow base handgun bullets. Diameter varies with the alloy, and with some you can use .002" oversize. Specify the alloy and the sizing diameter you'll use when ordering moulds. Flat base bullets should be close to groove diameter, or no more than .001" over.

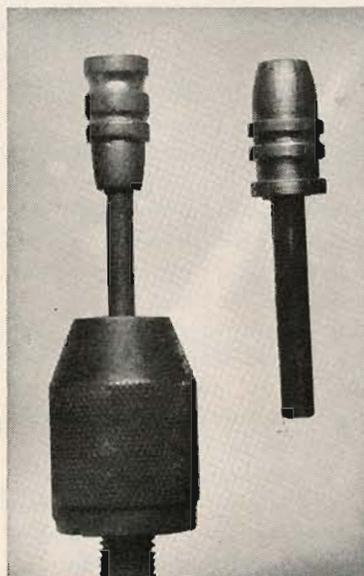
Close the moulds gently without slamming, and use uniform pressure every time for more uniform bullets. If the blocks, cavities, sprue cutter, and guide pins are not perfectly true in a new mould ask your dealer for a replacement; but not if the fault is due to use or abuse.

Lyman's popular moulds are good low priced ones, and have been improved over the past few years; they are available for many rifle and handgun bullet styles. The handles can be used for any blocks with the same number of cavities. You can also use double cavity handles for single cavity blocks by shaving wood from inside the handles, permitting the blocks to close fully. To use one-hole handles with two hole blocks, file the back inside of the (Continued on page 41)



BULLET CASTING

Left to right: A perfect casting; cast with wrinkles (cold alloy); fins (by sprung blocks); hole in base (sprue not solidified); out of line sizer.



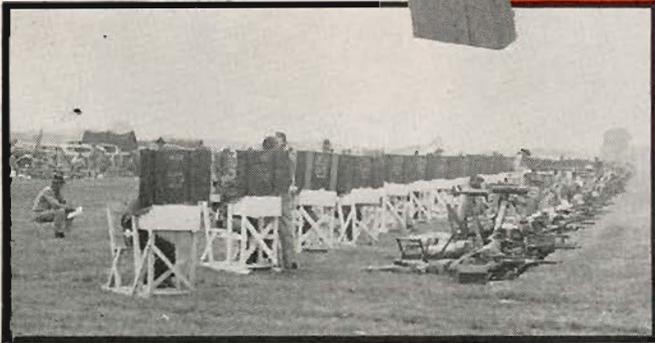
Left: A bullet pulled from reload shows bad fold in nose and deformed groove due to excessive crimp of non-uniform case wall. Right: Cast shank in bullet base or hollow point nose, used to lap rusted mould.

By LT. COL. FRANK F. RATHBUN, AUS RET.



The M14

FOR NATIONAL MATCHES



The M14 will be on the firing line at Camp Perry, rifles will be available for civilian participants.

FOR MILITARY MARKSMEN, the National Match rifle for all leg and trophy matches in 1964 will be the M14. Civilian competitors will have the choice of continuing to use the M1 or firing a borrowed M14 in the 1964 National Matches at Camp Perry.

The National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice (NBPRP), whose job it is to prescribe which rifle is to be used in National Trophy and National Board leg matches throughout the country, has designated 1964 as the year in which the M14 would be used in all matches in which the service rifle is prescribed.

In 1961, when NBPRP first made this decision, it was felt the stock of M14's would be big enough by this time to equip all military units, issue them to civilian teams, and sell them to individual civilians who wanted to buy one.

But in a surprise move last spring, Secretary of Defense McNamara said the Army had on hand or on order all the M14's it needed and didn't plan to buy any more.

As a result, there won't be as big a supply of the weapon on hand as anticipated. But if civilian marksmen still want to try their hand with the new piece, they may draw one at the National matches and become at least partially familiar with it by attending a short course to be conducted for their benefit by the Small Arms Firing School, a group of instructors from the Army Marksmanship Training Unit.

The match-grade M14 being issued to active Army, Reserve, and National Guard Marksmanship units has been slightly modified to improve its target shooting qualities.

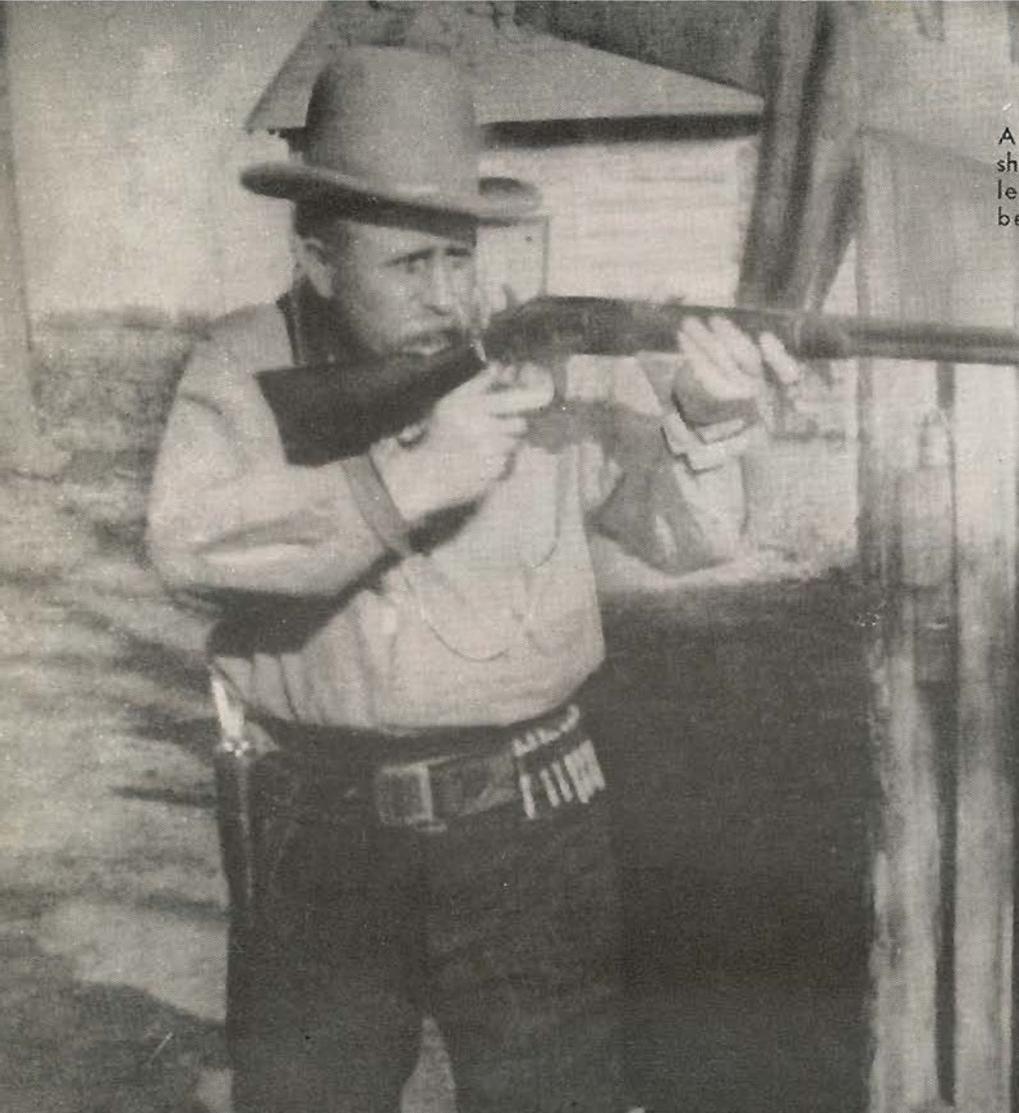
As prescribed by NBPRP, the modified rifle will meet the specifications listed in the next column.

Around 6,000 of these match-grade M14's have already been issued. Army officials hope to have about 7,800 of

"U.S. Rifle, Caliber 7.62 mm, M14 as issued by the U.S. Army, having not less than a 4½ pound trigger pull, with standard type stock and standard type leather or web sling. Sling cuffs and sling pads are not permitted. The rifle must be so adjusted as to be incapable of automatic fire without removing the stock and changing parts. In all courses and in all positions the 20-round box magazine will be attached. The hinged butt plate will be used only in the folded position. The gas system must be fully operational. External alterations to the stock will not be allowed. The application of non-metallic coatings to the interior of the stock to improve bedding is authorized provided the coating does not interfere with the functions or operation of safety features. The front and rear sights must be of U.S. Army Materiel Command design, but may vary in dimensions of rear sight aperture and front sight blade. The internal parts of the rifle may be especially fitted and include alternations which will improve the functioning and accuracy of the arm, provided such alterations in no way interfere with the proper functioning of the safety devices as manufactured. It is the competitor's responsibility to have his weapon checked prior to the firing of a match."

them in the hands of marksmen by spring.

The M14 will fire the same course as the one prescribed for the M1. Even for rapid fire, the same rules will apply, except that the shooter with the M14 will begin a string with five rounds in magazine, fire and then insert a new magazine with five rounds. The man with the M1 goes through a similar drill, beginning his string with two rounds in a clip and inserting a new full clip of eight rounds to complete the firing.



As a star in his own movie, Tilghman shows how he captured Dick West, the leader of the Jennings Gang. Poster, below, advertised Tilghman's movie.

Bill Tilghman: SIXGUNS TO CELLULOID



AMUSU THEATRE
SATURDAY
OCTOBER 30
BILL TILGHMAN
Famous Deputy United States Marshal
35 Years an Officer of the West
Appears in Person in the Greatest Sensation in Years
"The Passing Of The OKLAHOMA OUTLAWS"
Showing the True Historic Career and Actual Capture or Killing of
Bill Doolin, King Of Outlaws
Bill Dalton,
Henry Starr,
King of Bank Robbers, and
Al Jennings



THE BEST of the West

Courtesy University of Oklahoma

By GEORGE VIRGINES

"NO BRAVER MAN ever handled a gun or arrested an outlaw . . . of all frontier marshals, none holds a higher place than he."

This might sound like a well-known immortalization of Wyatt Earp, Bat Masterson, or another motion picture or television idol, but it is not. This tribute was made about a man who, though practically untouched by the sensationalism of modern TV writers, had dedicated his life to the enforcement of law and order in the western frontier—Marshal Bill Tilghman.

Bill Tilghman was all of the things that are claimed of those western heroes who do battle on movie and

**A SKETCH OF A MAN WHO
DEDICATED HIS LIFE
TO THE ENFORCEMENT OF LAW
AND ORDER ON THE
FRONTIERS OF THE WEST**



television screens—and more. Few will deny his fame as an Indian fighter, buffalo hunter, sheriff, and U.S. Marshal. He even produced and acted in his own movie “western.”

Tilghman’s knowledge and love of guns began in 1862, when his father enlisted in the Union Army. Bill had to furnish food for a family of five, and he always liked to recall how he killed four 10 pound geese with an old, heavy musket.

Much the same as youngsters today, Bill Tilghman had his boyhood idol—“Wild Bill” Hickock, and he imitated this famous western hero by practicing with a pair of cap and ball revolvers—shooting from the hip.

At the age of twelve, he could shoot off the head of a snake at 30 paces, and at 16, was establishing his reputation for fearlessness in southwest Kansas, which was then the frontier. It was here that he got his start as Indian fighter, and buffalo hunter. In one battle, during which Tilghman was protecting his buffalo hides, he killed four out of seven Indians. During a campaign in 1878, when the Indians were on an uprising, Bill Tilghman distinguished himself as Indian fighter and government scout.

During the great buffalo extermination of the 1870’s, Bill Tilghman’s name stands out, although the press at the time had written up several “Champions.” His lifetime total of buffalo that went down under his gun was 11,000, and more than half were taken with a Sharps carbine. His widow, Mrs. Zoe Tilghman, still has the gun. Bill Tilghman thought enough of this carbine to have it rebored to extend its *(Continued on page 50)*

Below: Colonel Ransom Payne, with the gun, horse, and other equipment owned and used by Bill Tilghman as a lawman. Right: The badge and six-shooter — symbolic of more than 45 years of Bill Tilghman's life.





The Time

EDITOR'S NOTE

The editors of GUNS Magazine are pleased to add the distinguished name of Bradford Angier to our list of contributors. Renowned as one of America's outstanding outdoor writers, Mr. Angier's article marks a departure from our usual format. We will be interested to learn if you enjoy reading it as much as we did.



of the Grizzly

**THE COMPULSIVE HONKING OF WILD GEESE LEADS STRAIGHT TO
A SPRING-FAT BEAR IN BRITISH COLUMBIA**

By BRADFORD ANGIER

THE MURMUR OF geese winging northward, free as air, sped my station wagon toward the Mexican border. The excitement of migrating birds pressed rousingly against the predawn stillness. Heady tonic, that, for a hunting trip's start. Beyond where the ghosts of night fires coiled thinly from adobe chimneys, I braked to savor its promise.

Hoarse throats tossed their compulsive honking back and forth across the drowsing desert, singly and in a swelling chorus. Then the nearing surge of wings stirred its own unsettling undertow.

Where the wild wedge was pointed, toward my too long vacant homesite 2,500 miles nearer the Pole, grizzly would be emerging after the long

The Time of the Grizzly



A blurring charge—the shot—and the author's 220 grain, .30-06 slug downed the big grizzly not more than 25 snow-filled yards from the rifle's muzzle.



sleep. There, for the second time this year, I'd watch Spring awakening the land. The iron drag of the long months of being cramped in crowded places started to fall away, as I accelerated after the geese toward that second spring.

April heat paced my open-windowed progress through California. The warmth gave way to balminess in Oregon, surrendered to sleet in Washington, was finally buried in a British Columbia blizzard. But by then I was no longer hurrying. I'd come upon the humped darkness of my first moose in Pine Pass, and each moment had become one to be relished. Unlike bear, *mooswa* is not legal this time of year.

Later that day, my fifth north of Mexico, I swung left from the Alaska Highway beyond where the clear wintry

lights of Charlie Lake cut a hole in the Aurora Borealis. Not far now. The frosty tunnel of my headlights picked out a familiar packladen bulk. Together, Garry Vince and I jounced westward beside the hard white ribbon of the Peace River.

"Geese here yet?"

"If they were, they'd need skates." The dude wrangler glanced at the creaking load behind us. "Looks as if you've brought enough of an outfit to wait them out, though. You must have finally finished that work that had you corralled down south."

"Finally."

I guess I let more feeling into that one word than I'd intended, for after awhile my neighbor grunted, "Yeah. All summer and fall I listen to dudes enthusing, 'Oh, Heaven.' But every time I see their cities again, all I can think is, 'Oh, hell.' Here's where I start looking for my horses tomorrow. Thanks. Glad you're back."

Another hour then, up the frozen trail into otherwise uninhabited Rocky Mountain Canyon to the cabin I'd rented, and I was all the way back: to where I knew steaks and roasts to be free for the shooting, rugs for the skinning, trout for the landing, and fuel for the satisfaction of splitting.

Seasoned spruce logs exuded their fragrant greeting. When I got the coal oil lamp lit, resin-yellowed walls smiled back its radiance. Dry poplar was soon chuckling inside the stove. The few chores done, I unwired my suspended bedroll, squished atmosphere into the air mattress, and listened to the cheerful snapping and crackling in my dreams.

Blue distances were slowly turning yellow the next morning when I left with lunch and rifle. Can anything match that first spring day of grizzly hunting, especially in wilderness coming alive after the hard Sub Arctic winter? I didn't want to waste any of it.

Two mallard scrambled from a gap of open river at the thud of the cabin door, leaving a raft of foam to drift beneath the ice. I was looking for geese.

The swiftly sinking swish of old snow preceded me when the upriver trail curved inland. Does it give you an odd feeling, too, to witness apparently solid crust rippling and settling ahead of you? The storm through which I'd driven hadn't touched here yet. Sounds of late northern spring were all about. Faint warblings lifted over woodlands and juniper-patched hillsides, from tanager and goldfinch, as if the last flakes of winter were tinkling as they fell.

Sign was everywhere. So was game. A cross-fox, golden red and platinum-tipped black, followed his nose out of sight. Only then did a snowshoe hare materialize and streak into a thicket of highbush cranberries.

Freezing sweetens the peculiar sourness of this fruit. A clump was melting against my tongue like sherbert when a sharp little kitten face peered from a spruce. An orange spot on the richly brown throat shone as the marten darted back, popped out as unexpectedly from the other side of the trunk, then vanished.

I was crossing an old burn when an eerie southing made my nape hairs stir. Ever hear the incredibly coyote-like yipping with which alerted cow elk warn their mates? This call was deeper. It was more like the muffled howl of a wolf when I realized what it really was: a cow moose cautioning a bull that peril threatened.

The answering *ooo-waughhhh* (Continued on page 52)

Gun
OF THE MONTH



a Pair of Merwin & Bray Pistols

By GRAHAM BURNSIDE



The pristine condition of this pair of .30 caliber Merwin and Bray side-swing, single-shot pistols is most remarkable.

THIS PAIR of fancy Merwin & Bray pistols have been in the same family since they were new. They were originally purchased by a man named Andrew Suydam, who was born in 1825, in New York. He went to California during the gold rush of 1849 and a few years later returned to New York.

The pistols, a product of the 1860's, were undoubtedly bought by Mr. Suydam after his return from California.

The pistols are consecutively numbered, 216 and 217, and the bronze frames are engraved and gold plated. The engraved barrels are blued, the grips are mother of pearl.

Merwin & Bray were not manufacturers of firearms. The company acted as distributors of arms made by other people, and in some instances they financed the manufacture of firearms. Although these side-swing-single-shot pistols are fairly common, the actual manufacturer is unknown. Since the pistols are found in variation, it may be that more than one company was involved in the manufacture of these guns.

The pistols can be found both in .30 and .32 caliber rim-fire; those pictured are reported to be in the smaller caliber.

It is rare that old arms are found today in such perfect original condition. It is also quite unusual that this pair has not been separated over the years.

Andrew Suydam was the great-great uncle of Andrew Suydam Southard Jr., of Salinas, California, who is the owner of this beautiful pair of pistols.

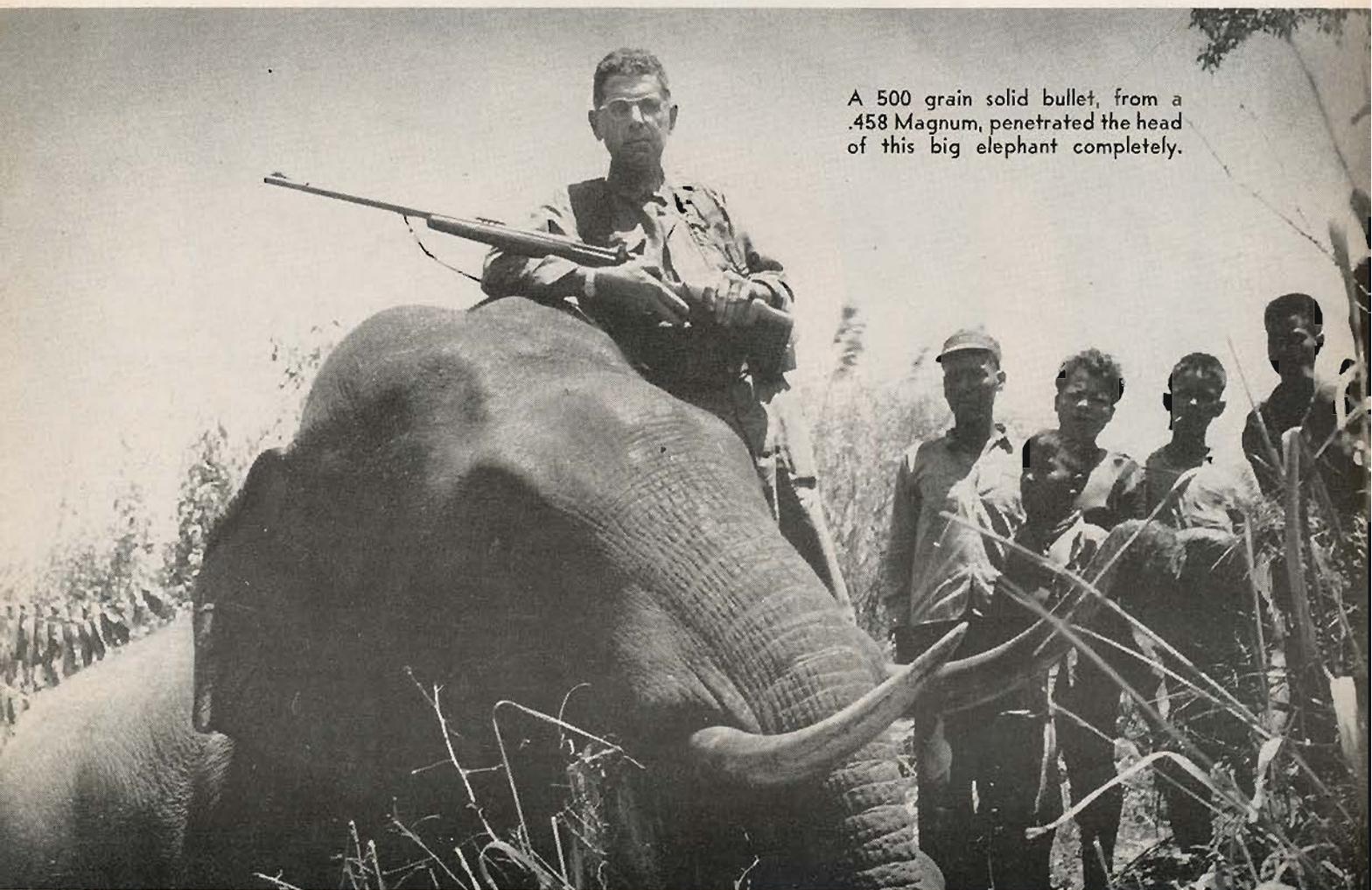


John Buhmiller, shown with a good Sable antelope, has developed a number of fine elephant calibers.



Bill Jenvey's .465 Jeffery double rifle, almost 40 years old and still in perfect condition, downed this Eland.

BIG GUNS FOR BIG GAME



A 500 grain solid bullet, from a .458 Magnum, penetrated the head of this big elephant completely.

NOW THAT SAFARIS have become financially feasible for many hunters, the matter of a heavy rifle for old tembo or the Cape buff assumes a good deal of importance. The standard practice these days is for the African outfitter to provide—for a rental price—the heavy ordnance. This is fine, saves the hunter money, and works out very well for the average safari. Ordinarily the American sportsman requests and is supplied with the .458 Winchester Magnum bolt action rifle.

The bolt action .458 is a shooting iron with which most hunters are completely familiar. Give him one of the English double rifles and he flounders. It is muzzle heavy, weighs more than the American .458, and he thinks the open iron sights are hopelessly crude. Even some of the professional white hunters of Kenya and Tanganyika are swinging to .458. This is great concession because the average Kenya guide usually swears by everything that is British, condemning all things that are foreign.

Since safari shooting began in East Africa, about the turn of the century, the country has seen rifles from Germany, Belgium, Spain, and Austria, but the professional hunters have largely disdained them. They preferred to stick to their superb Purdey's, Westley Richard's, and Jeffery's. I have handled countless numbers of these double express rifles—some of them with a history of 30 years of almost constant safari—and never fail to be impressed by the superb quality of workmanship.

The .458 bolt action rifle has an interesting background. It was designed not to surpass the most popular African cartridge, the .470 3¼" Nitro Express, but to equal it. The .470 pushes a 500 gr. bullet at 2125 fps and delivers 5,030 ft. lbs. of energy. The .458 Winchester Magnum does the same.

The Kynoch company, a subsidiary of the mammoth Imperial Chemicals Ltd., does not always have the same success with their so-called solids—that is full metal patch,—as we do. I have seen more than one 500 gr. bullet from the .470, the .475, and the .476 bent into something resembling a wishbone after striking the heavy shoulder bones of elephant and buffalo. The .458 solid, as manufactured by Remington, Winchester, and Hornady will not do this. While the ballistics of the American and British loads look exactly alike on paper, the superior performance of the bullet spells quite a bit of difference in favor of the four-five-eight.

There is an even more potent American rifle for Africa. This is the Weatherby .460 Magnum, made up on the superb Mark V action. The .460 utilizes a necked up .378 Magnum case and the .458 Magnum bullet—the combination is a real humdinger! The 500 gr. bullet hits 2,700 fps and accounts for 8,100 ft. lbs. of muzzle oomph. Only the British Nitro Express, firing a 900 gr. slug can come even reasonably close to this giant! The .600 indicates 7,600 ft. lbs. of energy.

I use and like the .460 Weatherby Magnum very much. However you have to get used to it. The recoil of 100 pounds isn't for everybody and the first-time hunter wants to purchase his .460 early in the game and get a taste of that middling hefty recoil before he tries to bring down old tembo! Recoil of the .458 is about 70 lbs. from a 10½ lb. rifle, while an 8 lb. 30-06 will recoil 20 pounds.

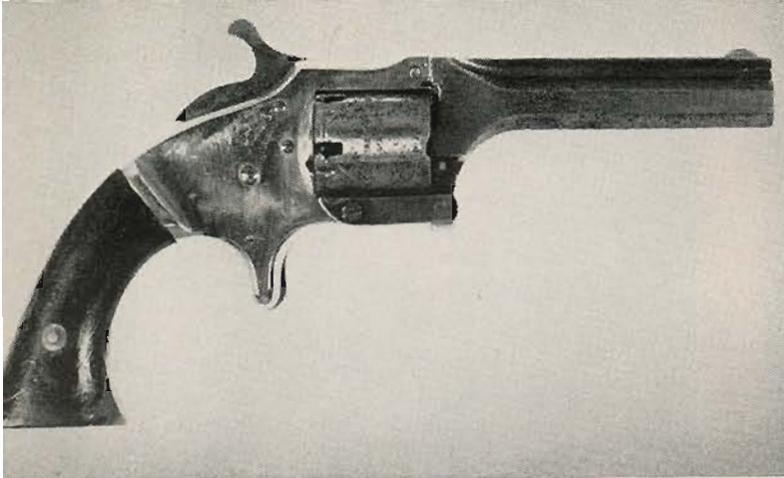
I have shot only 7 elephants and am not much of an authority on what it takes to lay the giant pachyderms low, but I have shot a good many buffalo. On my last African swing I resolved to kill the Cape buff with one shot from the big Weatherby. On the first try, Mike Hissey and I got (Continued on page 39)



British hunter is shown with the buffalo that charged John Buhmiller. Shot at range of only two yards, it dropped across Buhmiller's legs.



Folding leaf express sights, common on double and bolt action German rifles, are seldom seen on British-made doubles used by white hunters.



Collectors Discover Spur Triggers

By C. ELDON SHOMBER

AT LONG LAST, the spur trigger pistols are beginning to come into their own. Often ridiculed and maligned, they used to be shunted from person to person like a sick pup, and ownership of more than one of these little pistols made you the butt of snide remarks and bad jokes. Spur trigger pistols are also known as sheath, Mexican, or stud trigger guns and can be spotted easily by their more or less straight trigger guard and the absence of the large circular guard that became fashionable in later pistols.

It wasn't too long ago that a collector of modest means could acquire as many of these guns as he desired with a minimum outlay of the long green stuff, but that time has passed. The beginning collector, at a loss to determine what he wants to collect, finds the spur trigger pistols generally available. With a minimum of effort and time, he can locate these guns at any gun show or in almost any pawn shop in the country. But as with other guns, it is sometimes necessary to separate the wheat from the chaff and go to some length to ferret the better specimens out of their hiding places. As with every commodity, the law of supply and demand reigns, and prices are commensurate with demand, though not always representing the true value of the piece.

Often a great deal of history is connected with spur trig-



ger pistols. They were in evidence in just about every part of the country before and immediately after the Civil War, and many officers and men of both sides carried a spur trigger gun as a hideout weapon. Many of these revolvers were later recovered from the battlefields, and Rutherford B. Hayes, one of our Presidents, is known to have carried a Smith and Wesson No. 2 Army model in .32 caliber during a portion of the Civil War. Wild Bill Hickok is reputed to have been carrying a pair of Smith and Wesson No. 2 Army models in .32 caliber when he was killed in Deadwood, South Dakota. General George A. Custer was presented with a No. 2 Army in .32 caliber in 1869, and Mexico's Emperor Maximilian owned a .32 caliber pistol with his coat of arms carved on the ornate grips. The most popular hideout gun carried by frontier gamblers, saloonkeepers, ladies of the night, and all those who felt the need for a close-range gun was the famous Remington Double Derringer in .41 caliber. It would be impossible to estimate the number of men whose premature hasty demise was attributed to this little gun, but the total would no doubt be considerable. A Hammond Bulldog pistol with spur trigger has been labeled as the pistol that did in Big Nose Kate, Can Can Saloon hostess in Bisbee, Arizona. A Colt House Pistol was used on Jim Fisk of Erie Railroad fame, hence the gun bears the nickname "Jim Fisk Pistol." It has been bandied about that a spur trigger pistol in the hands of one of the members of the weaker sex was used to dispatch the "dirty little coward" Bob Ford, but this has not been substantiated.

The evolution of the spur trigger pistol dates back to the Civil War. Immediately after the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, there arose in the South a considerable demand for small-caliber, pocket-sized pistols which could be carried unobtrusively. Northern gunmakers were hard put to satisfy

the demand and many enterprising individuals formed new companies which sprang up almost overnight. These companies made their smaller spur trigger pistols as much like the Deringer pistol as they could, and it was not long before any small pistol was dubbed a "Deringer." These imitations showed the name Deringer with two "R"'s to placate Henry Deringer of Philadelphia. Although he did manufacture at least one model with a spur trigger, he was largely unsuccessful in his attempt to curb the indiscriminate use of his name.

The majority of gunmakers responding to the demand for the small guns, manufactured their products as cheaply as possible. By using low-cost materials and employing crude workmanship, they were able to sell tons of their products. There were of course companies that maintained the highest standards of workmanship, producing quality pieces as they had in the past. Notable among these was Forehand and Wadsworth, Smith and Wesson, J. M. Marlin, and Colt's Patent Fire Arms Mfg. Co. Companies which did not maintain the high standards set by their counterparts were the Plant Mfg. Co., New Haven, Conn., Mohawk Arms Co., Mohawk, New York, Ryan Pistol Mfg. Co., New York, and Hood Firearms Co., Norwich, Conn. Some firms evidently did not want to advertise the products they made as their own since many spur trigger specimens are found without any markings whatsoever. In order to determine their makers, one must either examine patent information for clues to the maker or consult what scanty material has been published about these pistols.

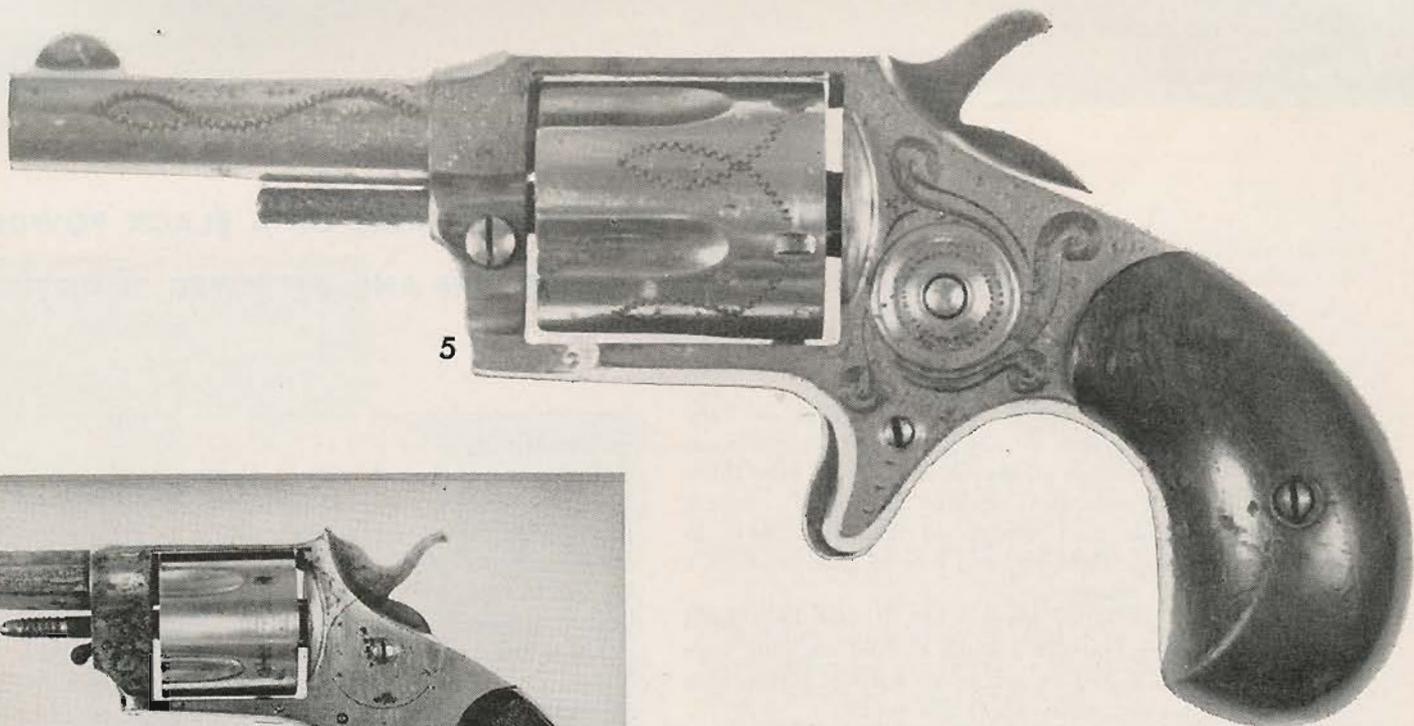
Sometimes the only marking is a name such as Alexis,



4

Bulldozer, Southerner, Red Jacket, Blue Jacket, or Whistler. The crude workmanship and cheap appearance of some of these revolvers has earned them the name "Suicide Specials." The "Bulldog," manufactured by Forehand and Wadsworth, is a solid, well-built weapon in .38 rim-fire caliber. The barrel has six-groove rifling, grips are the standard birdhead design and the original finish was nickel with blued hammer and trigger. Barrel length is 2 9/16" and the overall length is 6 7/16". The Topstrap is marked "BULLDOG" and the left side of the octagonal barrel is marked "FOREHAND & WADSWORTH, WORCESTER, MASS. U.S. PAT. OCT 22, '61—JUNE 27, '71—APR. 20, '75."

Another well-made pistol by an (Continued on page 49)

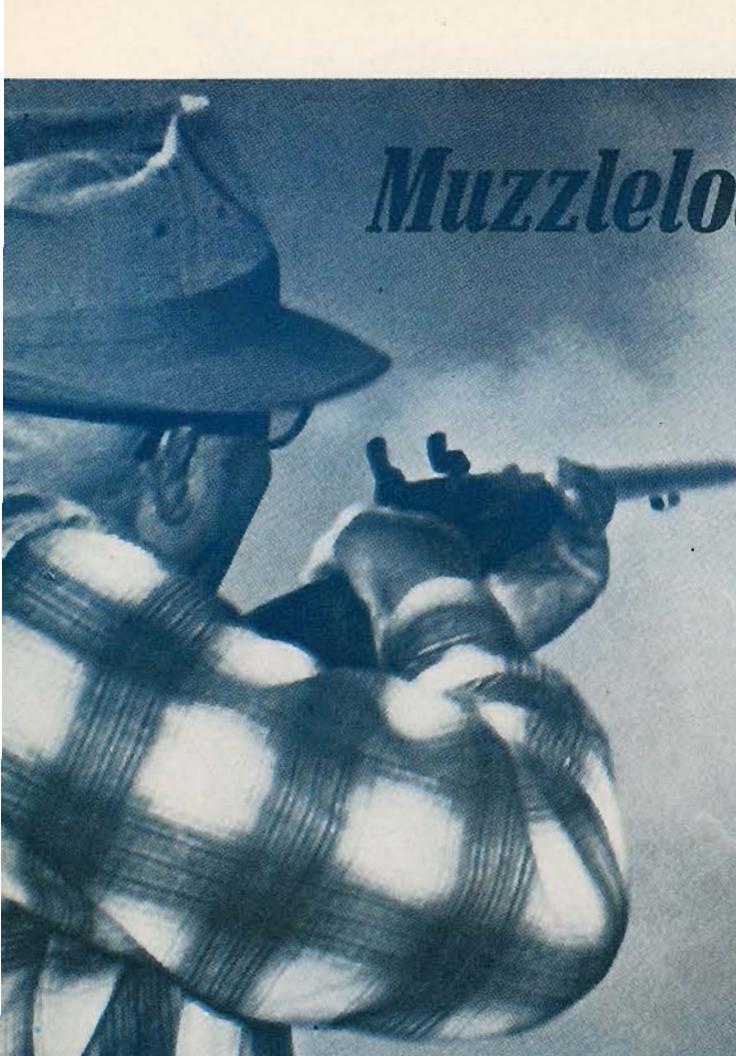


5

6



1. Tip-up revolver by Connecticut Arms. 2. A Bull's Eye, in .22 RF. 3. The Ranger No. 2 by Hopkins & Allen. 4. Seven shot Imperial No. 1 revolver. 5. Red Jacket No. 3 made by the Lee Arms Co. 6. A Bulldog by Forehand & Wadsworth.



Muzzleloading shotguns—

DOUBLE DILEMMA

By DANIEL K. STERN

PROPER SELECTION AND CARE OF A BLACK POWDER SCATTERGUN WILL MEAN MORE FUN AND IMPROVED SHOOTING

SPECTATORS WHO watch a shooter using an old muzzle-loading scattergun, usually get one of two reactions. They either look askance at anyone who would even think of doing this, and walk away shaking their head; or their interest may be aroused enough so that they begin to wonder where they might get, and how to care for such a gun for their own pleasure.

If you're in the latter group, and if you have been thinking of getting yourself a black powder shotgun, here are some pointers, based on over seven years of pleasurable shooting, for a safer, more enjoyable sport.

First, you must have the gun. And, if you don't already own one, the ideal thing is to find one that is in practically new condition. Shotguns like this are fairly expensive, usually worthy of preservation in their pristine state, and not too easy to find. Consequently, most of us must settle for a gun that falls short of being in mint condition.

How much should you pay for the privilege of doing your reloading on the firing line? Not too much. Prices

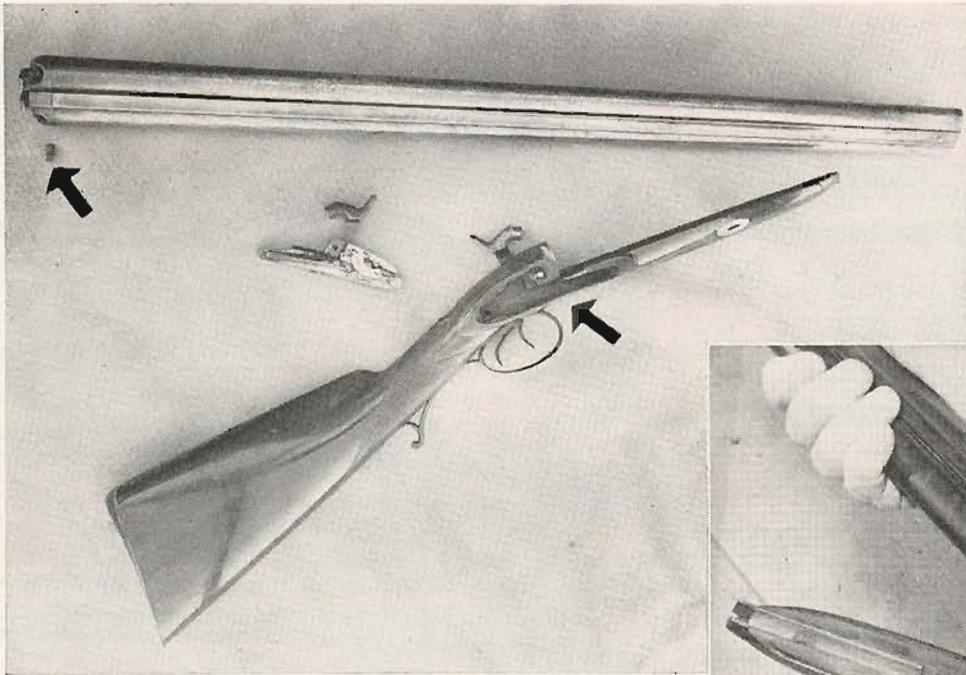
have stiffened, but you should be able to pick up a satisfactory specimen for \$30 to \$40.

And what is "satisfactory?" Obviously, the gun must be complete. The barrels should have no apparent bulges, nor should they show severe rusting and lack of care. Avoid any gun with these defects—even though you may be able to clean off the rust, it is difficult to detect any internal damage it may have caused.

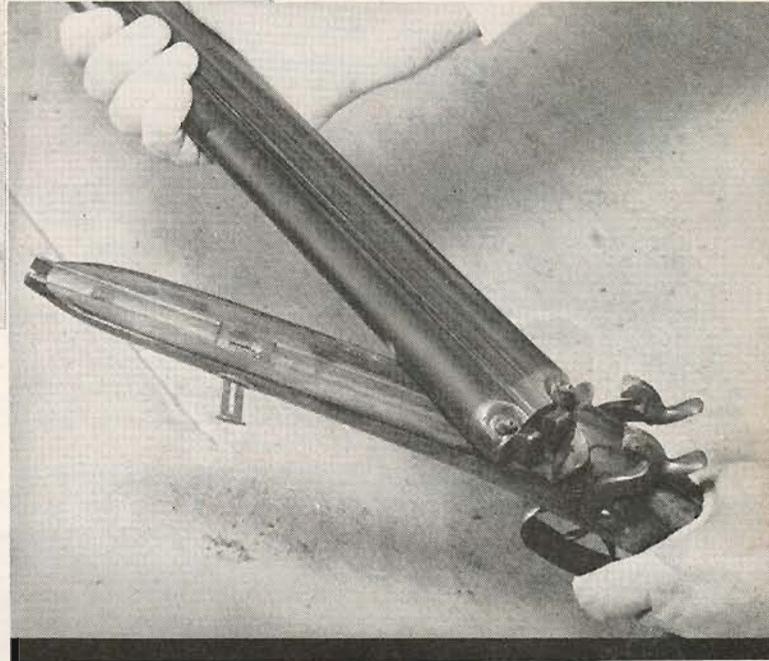
Locks and hammers should be complete and operable. To find or make lost or broken parts can be costly and time-consuming. Remove the locks and look at the wood inside. Doubles require a lot of inletting, so hard use, insects, and the ravages of time may have damaged or seriously weakened the wood.

Trying to tell the exact gauge by eyeing the tubes is difficult—check the underside of the barrels where the gauge is stamped. Most guns available are 10, 11, 12, 13, or 14 gauge; the bigger gauges being more numerous.

My preference is for an 11, 13 or 14 gauge, where you



Component parts of a typical black powder shotgun are shown above. Arrows point out nipples, which must be replaced when badly worn, and inletting around lock, which should be inspected for damage. Right: fore-end wedge and breech plug lugs hold the barrels in place.



Below: author test-fires muzzleloader with the aid of a long cord and heavy timbers. For best results, the gun should be patterned at hunting ranges, and loads established that give best patterns in both barrels.

V



can usually use modern wads made for 10's, 12's and brass 12's, in that order. Ready-made wads are convenient, inexpensive, and uniform, and well worth their small cost. True, almost anything can be used for wadding, but results are so erratic that it is hard to learn the gun's patterning characteristics. Sometimes, wear has enlarged the tubes so that the wad specified is too loose; in such cases, the next larger size wad will do the trick.

Most barrels run 28 to 32 inches. You may see guns with tubes as short as 26" or as long as 34". I prefer the handling qualities of those around 28 or 29 inches.

Stock fit is largely a matter of personal choice. The only thing that may disturb you is that many of the old doubles pitch down much more than modern shotguns. Some of the old timers get the effect of a semi-pistol grip by carrying the trigger guard back and down.

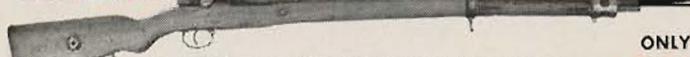
Assuming that you have a choice, the important factors in gun selection are: condition, fit, gauge, and barrel length. You may want to compromise on some of the things mentioned—if you have the ability, the time, and the desire to correct the trouble. The one thing you *don't* want is a pair of unsafe tubes.

Now let's get down to specifics. Tight, solid breech plugs are important. Have a gunsmith unscrew the plugs to find out if they, and the barrels, are (Continued on page 42)

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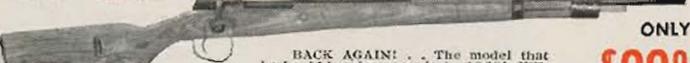


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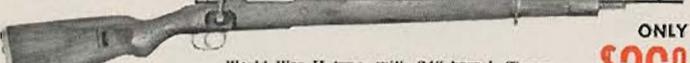
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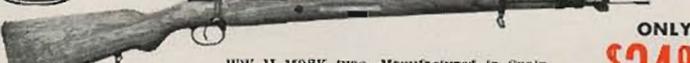
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WW II M98K type. Manufactured in Spain AFTER WW II—some as late as the mid 50's. ALL with ALL milled parts. ALL with 24" barrel. ALL arsenal reconditioned, polished and refinished. ALL complete with original cleaning rod and muzzle cover. ALL guaranteed NRA VERY GOOD to much better. 8 MM Ammunition only \$4.00 per 100 rounds!

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MAUSER PERSIAN M98/29 BRNO MAUSER CARBINES!

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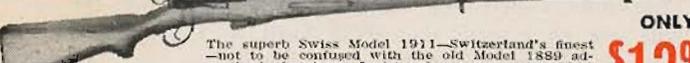
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The great M98/29 Brno Mauser Carbine! Every desirable Mauser feature—not to be confused with the old Model 1889 advertised elsewhere. Insist only on a genuine 1911 Swiss—the rifle that insured Swiss neutrality. (Original bayonets only \$1.95!) NEW 7.5 Swiss Soft Point ammunition only \$5.00 per twenty.

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Cal. 7.5 Swiss

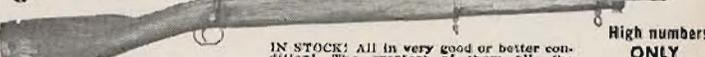


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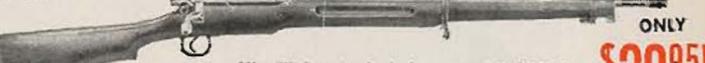


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Cal. .30-06

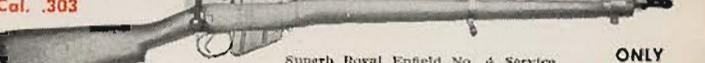


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Cal. .303

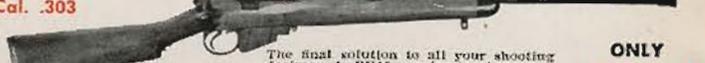


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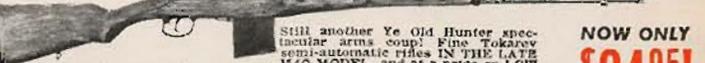


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Cal. 7.62 Russian

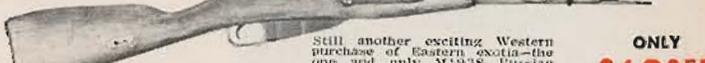


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NEW! NEW! NEW!
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FREE! • NEW LEATHER HOLSTER WITH MAGAZINE POCKET!
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THIS MONTH'S REVOLVER SPECIAL!



Guaranteed NRA EXCELLENT, but actually "like new" genuine COLT .38 Special COMMANDO Revolvers, all in the popular four inch barrel length. Available at a fraction of the original price. Guaranteed original—no reworkings. Fixed 1/10 inch front sight with square notch rear. Square butt. The perfect all-around revolver for defense, target or plinking. Large supply so order yours while the supply lasts.

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FREE ORIGINAL ACCESSORIES! — Takedown Tool — Cleaning Rod — Official Swedish Army Holster.

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Cal. .380



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\$22.95!

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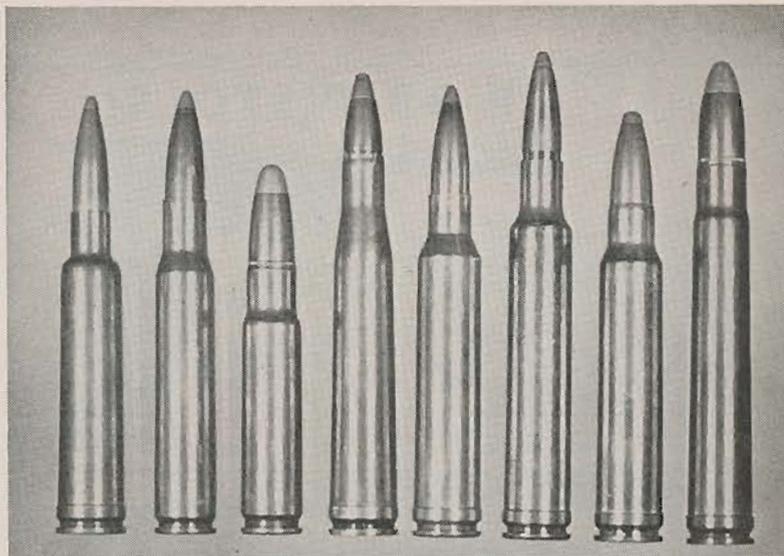
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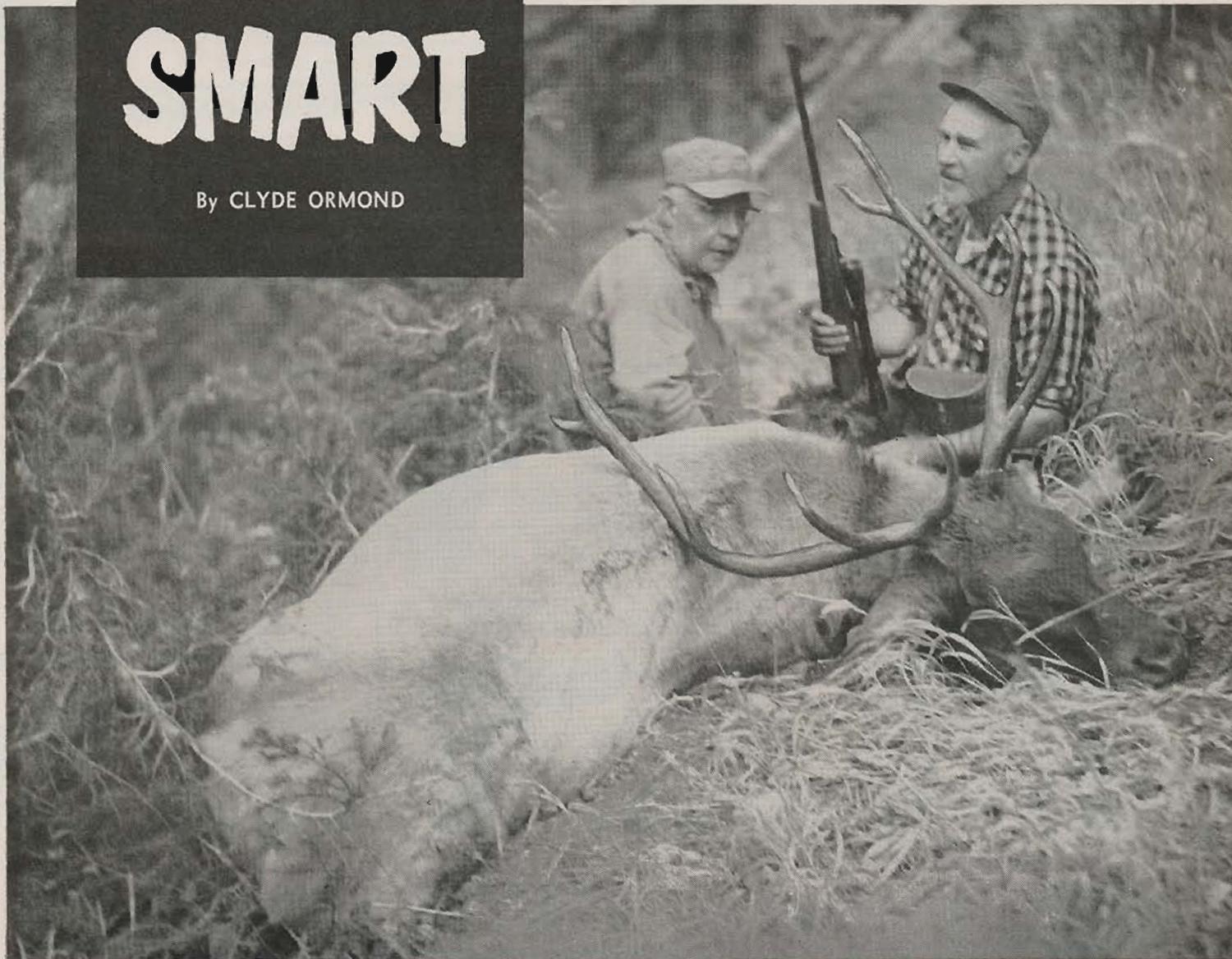
"WORLD LEADER IN ARMAMENTS"

BULL ELK are SMART

By CLYDE ORMOND



Suitable elk cartridges include, left to right; 7 x 61 Sharpe & Hart, .30-06, .358 Win., .300 H&H Magnum, .308 Norma, .300 Weatherby, .338 Win., and the .375 H&H Magnum. Below, Harry Meyers and elk-wise guide Charlie Wilson talk over mistakes made by my elk.





DESPITE THEIR BULK, BULL ELK CAN BE CRAFTY CRITTERS

WHO WILL LEAD YOU A MERRY CHASE UP AND DOWN HILL ALL DAY LONG

THE ELK IS fast becoming one of America's top trophy big game animals. While the number of elk cannot increase, due to the limited capacities of the winter ranges, the number of hunters is mushrooming. Today, bagging an elk is more than setting forth into a herd, sorting out a majestic head. It entails going places and doing things that hunters of a by-gone day never dreamed of. And some of the tricks which our man-conditioned elk know and use to outwit the hunter, can drive a man to desperation. What happened on a recent Wyoming hunt is fairly typical, and highly illuminating.

The first morning out of Glidden McNeel's camp on upper Elk Creek, Harry Meyer, druggist from California, and Dane Conger, one of South Dakota's Fish and Game Commissioners, hunted with guide Charlie Wilson, heading eastwards towards a region called Smoky Hollow.

Four miles out of camp, the guide tooted on his artificial bugle, and got a bull's answer. Now, Charlie knows every rock, tree, and bush in that area by its first name, so he sized up the hunting potential. "Three of us stink more than two, so Dane, you cross this draw, go a half-mile up that ridge, and set down somewhere till we come. I'll take Harry." Charlie and Harry circled, hoping to come above the bull a half-mile up the opposite slope, and for once things looked suspiciously easy.

After forty slow, pussy-footing minutes, Harry came upon the bull bedded down for the day. However, he

couldn't spot antlers in the heavy shade, and he didn't shoot at the big heavy animal. It took just five seconds for Harry to point, and for Charlie to put the glasses on him, and see that it wore head-gear. The bull had bugled, made love, and snorted around all night in that one spot. He'd lain down for maybe fifteen minutes. But he chose *that* particular five seconds to spring to his feet and run down the side-hill.

Meanwhile, Dane heard banging through the timber, headed his way. It sounded like several Sherman tanks on the warpath, and getting closer. But Charlie had said sit down, so Dane stayed set, close enough to spit on the faintly visible game-trail.

Suddenly, things "blossomed" in his face. A whole band of cows came loping right up that trail through the thick timber. At exactly twelve feet, as he paced it off later, one cow stopped short and looked him in the eye. At fifteen feet, another cow stopped, panting and looking back. But Wyoming said "bulls only" for the non-resident. Finally a big herd bull came along the trail, stopping behind the cows. He was also behind a big blow-down. Dane could see antlers above, hoofs below, and chin sticking out from the blow-down's end, but nothing he could shoot at.

Now, here was a hunter who'd waited a year to hunt elk. He was equipped with a fine .30-06, loaded and cocked. The sovereign state of Wyoming had granted him, for the \$100 fee, a right to take a crack (*Continued on page 58*)



Two Winchester .338 Model 70's flank a custom .30-06 Springfield, both good elk calibers with proper loads.



The well-organized Glidden McNeel camp on Elk Creek, in the middle of Wyoming's finest big game country.



Pull!

BY DICK MILLER

THIS COLUMN HAS consistently advocated that shooting in the clay target games be made easy for the beginner. This philosophy applies equally to the shooter who has had a taste of the games, a round or two of skeet or trap, or a few weeks, even months of cracking or shooting at targets.

Shooting must be made easy for the uncounted numbers on the sideline who have not been given a taste of the fun, who are on the verge of trying, but are hanging back simply because they are not quite sure of etiquette, protocol, custom, or what have you. Trap and skeet shooters are for the most part a gregarious lot, and will almost without exception rush to help a new shooter, or a would-be shooter.

Long experience, and more than a few admissions from shooters after some experience on the line, indicates that the number of untapped shooters is greater than we might think. Let's make it easy for them to become shooters.

Because Spring is approaching, this month we include a primer on gun club etiquette.

There are five shooters on a standard trap squad. The shooter assigned to post number one shoot first. That shooter should always make sure that his four squad members are ready to shoot, before firing the first shot. He will usually inquire if the squad is ready, before calling for a target, or for a practice target. He (or she) is the shooter who requests that a sample target be thrown, and it is only common courtesy that this shooter makes sure that all of the rest of the squad has a chance to see the sample target, if he has called for one. When each shooter has fired five shots from the first position or post, as the shooting positions are called, the shooter on post one moves to post two, and so on down the line. The shooter on post five moves to post one.

Here is a maneuver that looks complicated to the uninitiated, and causes some embarrassment to the new shooter. First, the shooter on post five should walk in BACK of the squad, while moving from post five to post one.

The shooter now on post two should make sure that the shooter moving from post five to his new position on post one has reached the post, and is ready to shoot, before he calls for his target. Scrambling from post five to post one can be an unsettling experience, especially if the shooter who has moved from post one to post two has already called for his shot.

When the lead-off man (shooter who began on post one) reaches post five, he will complete his five shots on that post, leaving the squad members on posts one through four to shoot one more shot to complete their

full complement of shots. A beginner will sometimes walk off post five, thinking that because he is finished, the rest of the squad is finished. His walking away can distract and annoy the rest of the squad. Courtesy indicates that the shooter finishing on post five shall remain there, as motionless as possible, until all squad members have finished, especially the shooter on post four.

This observation holds true on all posts. Do not move to the next post until all shooters move. You should always be ready to shoot in turn, as far as possible. Rhythm and timing of a squad is important to good scores, and it can become distracting when one shooter takes an abnormally long time to get off a shot. By this we mean that one should avoid fiddling with glasses, false starts with the gun, gazing at the crowd, referee, or scorekeeper, when your turn arrives. This does not mean that the squad will not grant time for necessary adjustments, and you are not expected to shoot at a faster pace than you find convenient or possible.

For an opposite mannerism or reaction, we occasionally find the eager beaver who will load his gun and point it over the trap before the shooter on the next post has fired. This action can be expected to raise your neighbor's blood pressure, since he can't be sure whether you are going to fire out of turn, or whether you are just over-eager.

Occasionally it becomes necessary to question the referee and/or scorekeeper concerning the scoring of a shot. This should be done with dignity and courtesy, and is not an occasion for oratory or acrimony. Long and loud arguments with officials do not improve scores.

Two cardinal rules of all the shooting sports, that have made possible the amazing and enviable safety record of all organized shooting involve gun muzzle and actions. When you walk to your shooting station, make very sure that your gun muzzle is pointed down range, away from your squad, and from the crowd. If the squad is stopped for any reason, don't swing your gun muzzle toward the referee, scorekeeper, or gallery.

When you walk away from your shooting station, break your gun or open the action, so that it is apparent to everyone that the gun is not loaded. No one likes to be put in the position of wondering whether a gun is loaded or not. You may be forgiven breaking some of the rules of shooting courtesy outlined here, but you will not, and should not, be forgiven breaking either of the last two rules. Keep the muzzle pointed down range, away from people, and keep the action open until ready to shoot.

Because of squad positions skeet etiquette differs slightly from trap courtesy. Skeet

squads move from post to post, and are not in as close a proximity as in trap. The admonition regarding eager beavers does apply to skeet and trap. There are few skeet shooters who are truly comfortable and unperturbed while they are taking their turn on one post while the rest of the squad has lined up on the next post. In the same vein, the shooter who is finishing his last string on post seven cannot be expected to steel himself to the spectacle of the rest of the squad strolling toward the club house. Squad members should stay in the area until all shooters of the squad complete the round.

Don't be in too big a hurry to assume the post about to be vacated by the squad member ahead of you. The hot breath of a shooting buddy (?) behind you is hardly calculated to improve scores.

The iron-clad rule of not loading your gun until you are on the post and ready to shoot applies doubly to skeet. If it is disconcerting to the trapshooter to have someone on either side of him loading a gun, it is downright frightening to have a shooter behind you loading a gun. This faux pas is not only discourteous, it can be fatal. Fortunately, this rule is so ingrained into shooters and would-be shooters that its violation has never produced a fatality. We would like to keep the record that way.

The admonition against promiscuous muzzle waving also applies to skeet. As in trap, walk to your post, and away from it, with action obviously open or broken. All of these rules have a common base in courtesy and safety. After all, how would you feel if you were standing on a shooting post, and you observed another person approaching with a closed gun. You can reason that the odds are millions to one that the gun is not loaded, but if the action is visibly open, and you can see from a distance that the gun is not capable of firing, you don't even have to calculate the odds.

None of these rules are complicated or difficult to remember. Many of them are so obvious that you will instinctively not break them. But, it's more fun if you know the rules, and it helps your peace of mind.

Veteran trap and skeet shooters will no doubt observe at this point that we have said nothing about conversation on the field. I am aware, having been both a trap and skeet shooter, that many trap gunners look upon all skeet shooters as a curious breed who combine shooting with a debating society.

I am also aware that some skeet fanciers regard all trap addicts to be crusty codgers whose ire is instantly aroused by even one spoken word while on the field. Prudence and self-preservation dictate that I not attempt to referee this divergence of philosophy.

We shall simply conclude by saying that the arrangement of shooting posts on the trap field, and the pace at which shooting is done, is not especially conducive to conversation.

On the other hand, the skeet field lay-out, and movement of squad from post to post does afford an opportunity for more conversation. However, this does not imply that good skeet scores and brilliant conversation during a tournament go hand in hand, and conversation need not be loud enough to distract the squad member who is shooting. 'Nuff said.

BIG GUNS FOR BIG GAME

(Continued from page 29)

no closer than 125 yards from three old bulls. They were spooky, and despite the high grass we could not stalk any closer without alarming the trio. I decided to take the larger of the three from this distance.

On the first shot, a shoulder try which I later found went too high to hit the heart and too low to crack the spine, my buff went down like he had been the victim of nuclear reaction. But he no sooner hit the deck than he bounced up, full of fight and looking for trouble. I whacked him with a second slug, and followed it with a third before he was anchored. I attributed my failure to make a one shot kill on the distance. No great shakes as a rifleman, I figured I must have placed the bullets poorly.

On the next buff, Mike and I crawled within 40 yards of the buff and this time I swung the big Weatherby over a sturdy tree limb, with all the time in the world, I waited until I had the old buff lined up. I shot him through the heart. He dropped like a head-shot rabbit. Dropped and came up swinging. I laced another round into him, and followed it with the last round I had in the gun. Hissey put one last bullet into the great beast as he lay on the ground dying.

A third buffalo I shot at 50 yards. This buff was looking right down my throat. He was suspicious of me as I crawled on my belly through the all too short grass. I drove the 500 grain steel-shrouded bullet into his

chest. The bullet knocked that 2,000 lb. critter end over end—but only for an instant. He got up and hightailed it. But not for far, after 50 yards he folded up and came down with a crash. It was the only bull I downed with one shot.

These experiences did not make me think any less of the .460, but simply convinced me that the Cape buff is really a tough critter.

In Indo-China I used a .450 double express on buffalo. The rifle belonged to Ngo Van Chi, perhaps the greatest shikari in Asia today. This .450 used the 3¼" case and with a 480 grain bullet at 2,150 fps churns up 4,950 ft. lbs. of muzzle energy. It is, at least from the standpoint of the ballistics, quite on a par with the .458 Winchester Magnum. However, my experiences with this gun were not happy ones. My ammo, Cordite loaded and acquired by my Tonkinese friend years before, was pretty ordinary. We shot a buffalo in Vietnam which outmeasures and outweighs his African cousin by somewhere around a half-ton. This is the gaur and a right salty customer he can be! I was not overly impressed by the performance of the .450—a French double express without ejectors, and on at least one occasion I regretted not having along my more potent .458 Magnum rifle. I am a portsider and I had whipped over to Indo-China too quickly to have the bolt handle swung over from the right side to the more convenient left. As a result,



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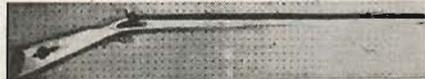
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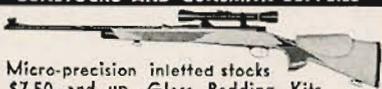


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I was at a disadvantage with the double. Chi had offered his rusty .450 double and I had decided it was the answer to my southpaw prayers.

The .450 had not looked like much on both gaur and elephant. In Uganda, hunting with my old compadre Earl Jones of Abilene, I had watched him and Lars Figenschou have a hell of a time trying to deck an old Cape buff, Earl with a .375 Magnum and his white hunter with a .450. They laced 10 shots into this bovine before he rolled over, 6 from the .375 and 4 from the .450, and at ranges from 90 yards on down—mostly down.

These are somewhat sketchy experiences from which to judge any cartridge and it certainly is neither fair nor accurate to speak disparagingly of the .450 on such trifling background as this. The .450 has been one of the most popular cartridges in Africa for the last 60 years and today is second only to the .470 and the .475 calibers, not only in numbers of guns used but also in general esteem.

I am not a double rifle fan. I swear by the bolt action, but I am not going to knock the doubles. I have seen too many old African hands use these side-by-sides, and use them with devastating lethality, not to accept the fact that here is the well-nigh perfect design for dangerous game at off-the-muzzle distances.

What are the advantages of the double rifle? I believe that the doubles decided advantage is in its ability to deliver two shots within the shortest possible time. There is no bolt to lift, no lever to throw, no slide to function. The marksman simply shifts his trigger finger a fraction of an inch and loosens the second shot. A good man can get off that follower so rapidly that the two shots blend into one slightly ragged roar. He raps that charging tusker with 10,000 pounds of smash from those two barrels so fast it practically comes in a single dosage.

It takes a lot of shoulder-rubbing familiarity with the big doubles to attain speed and accuracy in the field. The user must accustom himself to the muzzle heaviness which is peculiar to guns above .400 caliber. The best marksman I have known with the big double is Bill Jenvey, an Aussie, with whom I made a long and pleasant safari in Kenya. Bill was lightning fast and deadly with his .476 Holland.

The double rifle does not have the good balance of the shotgun but it points like one. When a Purdey, Westley Richards, a Jeffery, or an H&H comes to shoulder, it points dead on! There is no getting your face and eye into position. When your cheek touches the comb, the sights will be in alignment and they'll be pointing very near the target. The doubles I have seen are without any stock frills. There is no Monte Carlo comb, no cheekpiece, no extras. Just a plain, simple shot-gun type butt with a comfortable pistol grip. Yet toss that rifle to your shoulder and you will find it fits perfectly.

The sights, by our standards are crude. The rear is a flat-topped, V-shaped notch. The front is a medium to fine iron bead. The rear sight is usually fixed. It is located by the factory and moving it would require a hammer and a big drift; the shooter-owner never touches it. The series of folding express rear sights are absent on the white

hunter's battery. The rifle has been regulated at the factory to shoot both barrels on the same point of impact at 100 yards, and the sights are adjusted for the same zero. Until you get to know the big doubles, you will swear this sights combo is hopelessly oversimplified. After you shoot the double for a while and watch it perform in the hands of one of these professionals, you'll come around to the opinion that here is a real gee-whiz of a design!

Caliber for caliber, the double express kicks less. This is due to the extreme shallowness of the action, the barrels do not stand as high above the shoulder as does the tube on a bolt action. There are disadvantages too! For instance, the front trigger fires the right barrel. This pivots the gun to the right, swinging it off the mark before the left barrel can be triggered. As a result, most experienced users fire the rear trigger first, permitting the gun to kick back through the hands, thus readying the forward trigger. The piece does not kick off to the right, and the second shot is fired faster.

It has been contended that with the bolt action rifle there is always the danger, under the stress of hurry, that after the first shot the gunner in his haste will not draw the bolt completely to the rear. This would fail to eject the empty and chamber it again, leaving the shooter with an empty gun. Since this has happened to experienced hunters as well as not-so-experienced men, any comparison between the bolt action and the double rifle, favors the latter pretty heavily.

There are other considerations that score for the double gun. For example, the closed action of the express is virtually impervious to dirt, sticks, rain, and mud. After the first two rapid shots, the action can be broken almost soundlessly. This counts for a surprising lot when you have downed a bull in the midst of a herd of tuskers. The double sound of the two shots may have awakened them from a sound midday siesta, and awakened, the great beasts are not sure where the danger lies. Let the clatter of a bolt action come to the outspread ears, and an old cow is apt to come investigating. And she'll be walking lightly and bent on lethal mischief! The double opens and closes noiselessly.

The overall dimension of the express, when working into deepest cover—a locale much sought after by the wounded buff when he likes to play for keeps—is infinitely better than the bolt rifle. The double is no longer through its action than a shotgun and with many of these guns now appearing with 24 inch tubes, the double is short and handy.

Despite the obvious advantages of the double rifle, the average American sportsman won't take to the side-by-side elephant gun. He is unfamiliar with the gun and it feels decidedly awkward to him. His best bet is the .458 Winchester Magnum or the .460 Weatherby Magnum bolt action rifle preferred by his Nairobi outfitter. He is more familiar with it and will not go out and bash in 50 marauding elephants or decimate entire herds of Cape buff caught in that terrible plague, the rinderpest. He is going to clobber only one old bull tusker and from one to three buffalo. In tidying up these chores, he has along a tough professional hunter who stands ready to slam in his brace of .475 rounds any time the going gets sticky. 

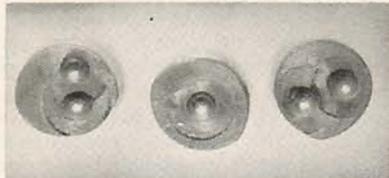
CAST 'EM RIGHT FOR ACCURACY

(Continued from page 20)

jaws to permit blocks to close.

When lead splatters on the inside faces of the mould blocks, you get out-of-round casts with fins, or stickers at vents. These should be cut off, not scraped, with a razor blade. Discard bullets with fins, stickers, base holes, pimples, laps, folds, or round edges. Fully-formed bullets should be weighed, and the light ones discarded. It's slow work, but important to accuracy. I've found the magnetic damper on a Lyman-Ohaus 505 scale makes the job of weighing bullets, or powder, much faster.

Defects found in cast bullets are squeezed out of bullets swaged at high pressure. Cast .38 wadcutter, with the conical hollow base



of Speer's swaged bullets, are not as accurate. Compressed to higher density, the swaged bullets are not as sensitive to variations, and the bevel base insures perfect, easy seating, without deformation or shaving lead. They are true "match grade."

Phil Sharpe, yesteryear's greatest experimenter, said that cast, conical base bullets were "useless." Before Phil's untimely death, I disagreed with him on this one subject, but respected his ability. No doubt he used imperfect castings. Smith & Wesson called the original WRA .357 S & W Magnum bullet a "Sharpe type," after the H&G No. 51 Sharpe mould—still the best in this caliber. When it was modified, with a cupped base, in factory loads, Phil protested WRA's "perversion." Our careful tests indicate any accuracy loss was due to rough handling by the factory rather than by the perversion.

Ed McGivern, the greatest practical handgunner of all time, proved the accuracy of his 1916 conical base design made by Ideal (now Lyman's 358395). It was copied, and is still swaged and loaded, by Winchester and Remington in their .38 Special mid-range loads—unequaled by any flat base bullet.

Federal's first .38 Mid-Range ammo used an inaccurate flat base wadcutter. When they switched to McGivern's design, this ammo became the pride of the Federal line, and is honestly labeled "Match." Speer's swaged .38's with the improved McGivern design are the finest we have ever tested, the easiest and least temperamental to reload. The price is hardly more than casting your own, and I recommend them for competition shooting.

Most moulds are ruined by abuse and neglect. Degrease the blocks before casting by swishing in carbon tet, outdoors; gasoline can also be used. Be sure the sprue cutter swings freely. After casting, let the mould cool an hour, then apply a good gun oil freely to the cavities and blocks. Store in an open wooden box or drawer, and check and recoil occasionally when not in use.

To remove rust from neglected moulds, make a lap, by casting a cut-off nail in the

cavity. Chuck this shank in a hand drill, and coat the cast lap with 600 grit compound. Spin the lap in the cavity (don't squeeze the handles until it turns freely) until it is perfect, but not enlarged.

What about alloys? A good commercial mix has an advantage over mixing virgin metals. Division Lead Co. (DIVCO) spent a good deal of time and money to develop the fine Illinois Bullet Alloy (IBA) No. 7, for both rifles and handguns, and No. 4 strictly for handguns. They run uniform from batch to batch, while even the most carefully measured home mixes may not.

If you insist on making your own alloy, I recommend only a virgin lead-tin mix. Melt the lead and add the tin, both carefully weighed, flux, and stir well. A 10:1 lead-tin mix is good for velocities up to 1500 fps. For softer revolver bullets add 50 per cent virgin lead. Alloys with three components are difficult to mix, and more difficult to duplicate. In good commercial mixes they often shoot better than lead-tin. Tin melts at 450 degrees F., lead at 621, and antimony at 1167, higher than furnace capacity.

Used or recast metals change in quality and composition; lead becomes brittle and tin burns out. Lead testers may indicate a difference in hardness, but not in alloy quality or uniformity. Scrap metals are just that—scrap; they may contain copper, arsenic, iron, or other contamination. The old "thumbnail test" for lead purity merely indicates you have a good thumbnail—use virgin metals for precision.

No bullet sizer can true-up bullets if its are out-of-round or out of alignment. Use a sturdy sizer, perfectly true, with highly polished dies that are in perfect alignment. Die tool marks cause bore leading and friction. The SAECO Lubri-Sizer is sturdy, in perfect alignment, with mirror finished dies. It, and the sturdy Star, let you lube 30 to 50 casts before turning down the grease screw. Lyman's popular lubri-sizer is a good one, and easy on the budget.

Precision-cast handgun bullets have 50 yard ten ring accuracy, or close to it; non-uniform casts group up to four times this size. As one policeman said, "Our department bullets are cast as fast and cheap as possible. They are not much better than throwing rocks." Such bullets are not worth the powder to drive them out the bore. Serious practice deserves accurate bullets, yet about 9 out of 10 competitive shooters handicap themselves by using non-uniform practice pills. If you won't spend the time and money necessary to make precision cast bullets it's better to purchase good bullets. The real fun in casting is not in the money you may save; it's in making good bullets!



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MUZZLELOADING SHOTGUNS—DOUBLE DILEMMA

(Continued from page 33)

really sound. Unless you have the equipment and know what you're doing, don't try this yourself; you're likely to pull the rib loose in the process. Damascus or twist barrels are subject to inherent defects and preferably should be x-rayed to detect hidden flaws, and range-tested with the gun held firmly by sandbags, timbers or whatever you have handy.

Cleaning the barrels is ordinarily the first step after a gun is acquired, but before you do this, it's wise to make sure that neither tube has an ancient charge in it. See if the ramrod will go full depth in each barrel; if it doesn't, there's a reason—and might be a long forgotten load. Muzzleloader ramrods almost always have a worm or screw on the small end, often reversed inside a brass tip. Screw on the worm and clear the barrels before you try to clean.

Vigorous use of a brass brush will be beneficial to the tubes; particularly if the gun has been long out of service. A bore light, which can be dropped into the barrels is helpful in checking for bad mid-barrel pits. If you find such a spot, better hang up the gun. After brushing, run through several oily patches to pick up any debris.

Don't be discouraged if the cones or nipples look beat; they often are. Before trying to remove them, get a proper-fitting T-wrench and use plenty of penetrating oil. Give the oil at least three or four hours to work. In

stubborn cases, a bit of heat may also have to be applied.

Nipples are easy to replace, but many times they can be rehabilitated with a file. If they are too badly pounded to respond to file reshaping, or the flash hole has been worn too large, replace them. In either case, apply a little light grease or vaseline to the threads before installing.

Locks should work freely, and independently of each other. If they don't you may have a single-trigger job firing both barrels simultaneously. This could be very dangerous and, at best, you'd get belted from the recoil.

As the wood in the stock dries and shrinks from age, the trip levers may come together, setting up the possibility of doubling. Fill out the inside of the stock behind the lock plates with plastic wood, or file off the butt of each trip lever until they clear.

You may find that a lock binds or does not work freely. This could be caused by gummy old oil, incorrect reassembly, or a weak spring. Using turpentine, alcohol, or a similar solvent and an old toothbrush, scrub the lock mechanism. Put a drop of the penetrating oil on each screw and let it soak in. Then carefully disassemble the lock, keeping in mind where each part and screw goes. Wrong placement of a screw, or one that is too tight, can cause an otherwise satisfactory lock to bind. Clean and polish parts with a fine stone or crocus cloth, clean, oil lightly, and reassemble. Now is the time to replace weak or broken springs.

Hammers, which take a pretty good beating, are often loose on their tumbler pivot pins. This is not serious, but *don't* pound the hammer screws in an effort to correct it. Peening the corners of the hammer slot will work, but it is better to put a bit of paper or metal foil over the pin, push the hammer back on, and the looseness will disappear.

Stocks should always have several coats of linseed oil worked into both outside and inside surfaces to recondition the dried-out wood. If time and worms have destroyed some wood, you must repair this with plastic wood before you re-oil. Put on two or three layers, rather than one heavy coat, and make it a little higher than needed, sanding it smooth and to its proper level.

With these things done, take your gun to a range to see if it will perform without risk to you. Use No. 9 shot, even though you may be planning field rather than skeet shooting. They set up more resistance than an equivalent load of 6's or 7½'s, and this is a test to determine safety. If your gun is a 14 gauge or larger, start off with 1½ ounces of shot and its equivalent measure of powder—in this case, 2¾ drams of Fg black. Some shooters like FFg better; don't use anything finer.

Before loading, snap a cap on each barrel to clear the nipples. Caps should fit easily but snugly. Most shotguns use size 11 or 12.

Tie 30 feet of twine to the trigger of the barrel you're going to load. Putting a wad

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edgewise in the barrel *not* being loaded, preventing placing two charges in one barrel, something that is surprisingly easy to do.

Using a flask, powder measure, or scoop, charge one barrel. Seat the over-powder wad, pounding it firmly against the powder. The wad must be a snug—even tight—fit. When both barrels are used, a tight fit prevents the second charge from moving under recoil when the first is fired. My over-powder wad is a 3/8 inch pre-lubed type used for fillers in regular shells. To permit trapped air to escape while ramming, nick the edges with your teeth. With the same scoop setting, pour in the shots. A thin over-shot wad follows, and should just make contact; don't do any pounding here.

Position the gun securely with timbers or sandbags. Cap and cock both barrels. Move back, carefully letting out the cord as you go. Lie down before touching off the charge—it's unlikely that anything will happen, but don't take any chances. If the gun is going to blow, you'll be out of harms way.

Assuming that the gun remains in one piece, check to see if the hammer on the empty barrel is still cocked. If not, you're going to need some lock work.

Now make the same test with the second barrel, again having both hammers cocked. Increase the charge to 3 or 3 1/4 drams of Fg, depending on gauge, and increase the amount of shot an extra 1/8 or 1/4 ounce. Repeat tests as before with the sandbags and cord. Remember, these are old guns, and you can't be too careful! A thorough check of barrels and plugs must be made after each test shot. Look for barrel bulges or loosened plugs. If you find any, hang the gun on the wall and try another.

The next step is the pattern board. Pace off 25 yards and place an aiming mark in the center of the paper. Use the maximum skeet charge of 1 1/8 ounces of 9's backed by 2 3/4 drams of Fg, if your gun is 10 to 13 gauge. Hold 14 gauge loads to 1 ounce and 2 5/8 drams. Be sure to wear safety glasses for all shoulder shooting!

After firing, mark the target with barrel fired and load, and shoot twice with same barrel and load to get an average. A 1 1/8 ounce load of 9's contains about 658 pellets. You should find about 330 within a 30-inch circle with no bad gaps or holes which would allow the target to slide through. Averages above 390 would indicate that your gun had at least some degree of choke.

If you find a badly blown pattern with big gaps, it does not necessarily mean that the gun is entirely to blame. For example, with my 13-bore, I tried using the hard 1/8 inch over-powder wads as over-shot wads. One barrel fired satisfactorily while the other shot patterns with an elliptical hole in them. Shifting to the correct, thin over-shot wad eliminated the trouble.

If the trouble persists, try varying the powder charge 1/8 dram in either direction. If this doesn't help, go up to size 8 shot. You may find an improvement in both percentage of hits and in evenness of pattern. Various combinations of wadding may be needed. You may find it best to use a 1/4 or a 3/8 inch pre-lubricated filler with a hard 1/8 inch over-powder wad beneath. Experiment to find out what combinations of powder charge, shot, and wads do best in your gun. It takes a little time, but you may be pleasantly surprised by the improvement.

As you test, you may find that certain com-

binations may be outstanding in one barrel, poor in the other. However, to try to carry two different shot sizes, let alone two wad combinations, is a confusing nuisance, so stick to the load that works well in both. Keep in mind which barrel does the best and, when you go into the field, save this tube for the longer, more difficult, shots.

If you plan to use your gun for hunting, test it with 6's and 7 1/2's, patterned at 30 or 35 yards. Keep the loads as light as possible. Don't get "magnumitis" with these old guns. Even with 10 gauge arms, don't exceed 3 drams and 1 1/4 ounces. Hold the 14 gauge down to 2 3/4 drams and 1 ounce.

After shooting, promptly clean your gun in the garage or yard, not the kitchen. Dismount, remove the nipples, put barrels in a bucket, and swab. Change patches and water until clean, using very hot water for final dousing to help barrels dry better. Dry thoroughly and oil lightly. Use last bucket to clean cones: dry thoroughly. A pipe cleaner can be run through them, or warm gently on stove. Grease lightly and replace. Wipe all metal parts and stock with damp rag to remove fouling.

This maybe sounds like a lot of work, but even the cleaning adds to your knowledge and understanding of vintage shotgunning. And if there are a few light pits in the bores, they're probably there because the original owner didn't believe cleaning was important. It is, and in case you're wondering, that's what makes percussion shotguns something of a "double dilemma"... first to find a good one, and then keep it that way. There's another generation coming, you know. 

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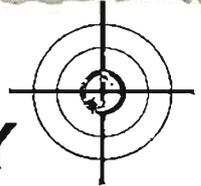


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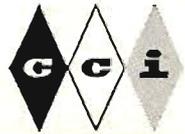


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HANDLOADING BENCH

(Continued from page 15)

and far better than most. The first run didn't have quite the best double angle on the mouth, which is critical, but current ones are perfect, at least for most cases. These outwear several dozen ordinary dies, require no lube, and work easier. Dies or cases can't be scratched, even with gritty, unlubed cases. Brass and nickel is beautifully burnished.

Another RCBS original is their Removable Shell Holder Head and Snap-Action Spring. Shell holder dimensions are as critical as dies. Some complaints on RCBS dies have been due to inferior shell holders. RCBS makes them accurately, with lips exactly 0.125 deep. Cases with normal rims won't pull out and won't wear the lips.

RCBS refuses to make a lower priced press than their nice "Jr." Many lads want to start with a cheaper one, but Fred feels that your basic tool is well worth a slightly higher price for a better one. The heavy-duty "Jr." is poorly named. Fred and I discussed it with Editor John T. Amber of "Gun Digest" and "Handloader's Digest" fame. I agreed with John that it deserved a better name. John mentioned Bonanza, perhaps because Fred's plane is a Bonanza.

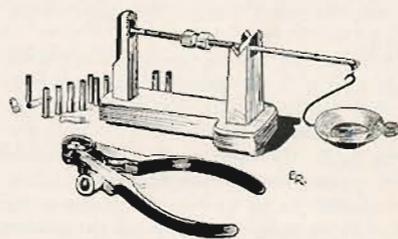
Even the famous A-2 press has an unimaginative name. Fred spends more time thinking up design improvements than names. But as some guy said, "A rose by any other name..." One thing we can say, RCBS stuff is truly Precisioneered. Fred has been a dedicated shooter and handloader since he wore knee pants. He hunts everything from varmints to elephant, from California to Alaska to Africa. A designer of some of the best wildcats, he certainly knows how to use tools.

"The Shooting Linds," Dot and Ernie, gave an exhibition to open the new Winchester Gun Club, Hurlwood, Texas, near Lubbock, with a BANG! Or more correctly, about a thousand bangs. Two of my best shooting friends, D. L. Cooper, the Texas exhibition shooter, and Kenneth Shaekelford, Ag teacher and Sunday School Superintendent, made the 624 mile round trip with me. It was time and money well spent. Dot and Ernie used W-W ammo in Winchester shotguns and rifles and S & W handguns. The Linds learned fast and fancy gun handling under the late Ad Topperwein, and are now internationally famous. You can learn most of their stunts with practice. Some require lots of practice, but handloaders can afford plenty. Don't miss seeing Dot and

Ernie if they shoot in your area. You'll see a great show and get practical tips.

Ernie hunts 'chucks with his friend Stan Sprague. Stan is editor of the "U. S. Handgunner," official journal of the U. S. Revolver Association, 59 Alvin St., Springfield, Mass. We are old friends, as I've been contributing editor, life member, and a director of the association for many years. Stan and Ernie use hot handguns for close shots, and rifles for longer ones, as I do.

Stan keeps me informed of his 'chuck kills at long, long range, and his misses. A recent letter said, "I got in the Hall of Fame by nailing one at 532 paces after missing 3 at over 450. The bullet didn't open up



but it did the business. I used a .243 Winchester Varminter, loading the 75 gr. Sierra H.P. with 42.0 gr. BL-C." (Note this is not BL-C-2!). The load is safe in Stan's .243, but it's flat out, and over what Hodgdon calls "strong maximum." Some guns won't take this charge, so work up carefully. Stan's two fine boys, Al and Lew, grew up with guns and handloading, and had a most happy home life.

The best commercial bullet lubes are so good and cheap that it isn't very practical to mix your own, even if you load in large volume. Formulas for poor lubes are plentiful, so I'll quote a couple of pretty good ones, just in case you ever need one. Many custom loaders, police agencies and individuals have switched to Mirror-Lube for more satisfactory results at less cost. It's a really fine lube, made by The Bullet Pouch, Box 4285G, Long Beach 4, Cal.

Dennis L. Smith, Inman, Kansas, uses a 3-3-3 mix of beeswax, paraffin and Texaco water pump grease in his .45 Target. Frank Clark, Lubbock, Texas, a dedicated shooter, uses a 4-3-2 mix. Frank melts 4 parts (by weight) of beeswax with 3 parts paraffin, then adds 2 parts Cosden Para Fine water pump grease, for his home-timed .45 ACP. Stir well and pour in your Lubri-Sizer. You

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can cast into sticks if desired. Form tubes with 3 wraps of aluminum foil around a 1" dowel. Seal the lap with tape. Set the tubes in a rack and fill slowly. If your sizer uses hollow sticks, store lube in a covered can, and melt with a blowtorch to pour in a sizer. This is a bit messy and inconvenient, and not satisfactory in all guns, especially at Hi-V.

Speer's new No. 6 Manual contains more new dope than any book available. Far more important, each and every load has been very carefully tested and chronographed in the Speer lab. Top loads have been checked for pressure. You can trust their information by following their simple instructions. We recommend this brand new edition very highly. It includes a "Glossary of Terms for Handloaders", with some terms that have never before defined, to my knowledge.

Mr. John Appelt tells me the excellent Forster-Appelt Handgun Sling, patent #2,985,980, that sells for \$2.95, is not his invention. Most of the Forster-Appelt products for handloaders are the result of joint efforts in designing. Best known for their most versatile case trimmer, Case Length & Headspace Gauges, and neck reamers, all their products are extremely well designed and beautifully made. The Handgun Sling is unique, and worthwhile for precision accuracy at long range.

The sling is much like a scope. One who has looked through iron sights for 10 years may look through a scope for 10 minutes and decide glass sights are not very practical. When you buy the Handgun Sling follow the simple directions on the box. Then give it a fair trial with dry-fire, followed by test groups after you are intimately familiar with it. The major cause of complaints about rifles, handguns, shotguns, powder measures, scopes, scales, and a variety of other equipment is due to not being intimately familiar with the item. That's why you probably can't use chop sticks well, and people who do probably can't use a fork as well as you do. When you become familiar with the sling, you'll greatly improve your long range two-hand accuracy work, with or without a handgun scope.

When you need extra torque for a screwdriver try pressing a bicycle-type hand grip on the handle. Your dealer has various sizes of rubber or plastic grips for loading tools, core cutters, sizers, and other equipment. The best penetrating fluid we've found for rusted or frozen screws or bolts is Liquid Wrench. Soak extremely tight screws overnight. Then tap the handle of a driver that fits the screw perfectly before you turn it out. This is handy stuff around the home or car. 

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Dean Grennell of GUNsport writes on Rifle reloading—Kent Bellah, Guns Magazine, Handgun reloading—Francis Sell, Shotgun reloading—Bob Steindler, Guns Magazine, Developing a loading system—George Nonte, Shooting Times, Forming special cartridge cases—New step by step reloading procedure by members of the Speer Ballistics Staff.

PLUS SPECIAL COMMENTS ON TIMELY SUBJECTS BY

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QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

By GRAHAM BURNSIDE

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

Whitneyville-Kennedy

I would appreciate any information you can give me on my Whitneyville-Kennedy .44 caliber lever action rifle. It has the serial number 76 throughout the rifle, so I would say that it is an early model.

I would like to know if these arms are in demand among lever action collectors and the approximate going price of this gun. It is in NRA very good to fine condition.

Richard P. Lintner
Stevens Point, Wis.

There are several variations of the Whitneyville-Kennedy rifle—some being harder to find than others. From what I have been told, the model with a 28 inch barrel is less common. Such rifles marked .44 are for the Winchester .44-40 cartridge.

Yes, they are in demand, but fewer collectors are seeking them than Winchester. I would say that a very good to fine Whitneyville-Kennedy is worth about \$80 or better.

The Whitneyville-Kennedy rifle that I have is far more accurate with the .44-40 cartridge than any comparable Winchester I have used. Possibly this is due to the weight of the rifle. The Kennedy is rather heavy.—G.B.

Stocked Auto Pistol

Can you inform me where I can purchase a 7.63 mm Mauser pistol that uses a combination holster and stock? Are any guns of similar design available, and in what calibers? The idea of a combination holster and stock is a good one and makes sense.

Charles M. Young
Slidell, Louisiana

The idea of a pistol-carbine that uses a demountable holster-butstock—is a good one. Unfortunately, I cannot advise you, as such Mauser pistols are covered under federal firearms regulations. When you attach a buttstock to a pistol—that makes it a rifle or carbine, and if the barrel does not have legal length, the piece must be registered under existing laws.

Most collectors who covet such items simply do not have the attachment mechanism.—G.B.

Chilian Mauser

Could you please send me a list of gunsmithing schools in surrounding states or in Georgia?

I have a '95 Chilian Mauser and would

like some tips on sporterizing it. How do I get the front and rear sights off? What kind of sporter stock? Where can I have the bolt bent? How will I remove the piece that holds the top part of the fore-end on to the barrel at the rear?

Mike Wallace
Griffin, Georgia

The nearest gunsmith school is the Pennsylvania Gunsmith School at 257 W. River-view, Bellevue, Pittsburgh 33, Pa.

The front and rear sights of your Mauser are sweated in place. They can be removed with a blow torch and a mallet. In most models, the handguard retaining ring will come off with the rear sight.

Any number of good semi-inletted or completely finished stocks are available. Watch the ads and take your pick.

Almost any competent gunsmith can alter your bolt. The method used should be the cut, bend, and weld system.

If that Mauser were mine, I'd consider carefully the investment angle. To convert an 1898 Mauser is one thing—maybe the 1895 model is not worth it.—G.B.

Evans Rifle

I would appreciate all the information you can give me on a company called EVANS, believed to have operated in Mechanic Falls, Maine, around the 1870's. Particularly the years of operation of the company, the approximate number of rifles manufactured, and their significance in the history of arms making.

I have one sample piece to describe. It is a lever action repeater with a very unique magazine in the buttstock. It would appear to hold about 20 or more cartridges of a caliber .44 size. The only markings on the rifle are on top of the barrel, "EVANS SPORTING RIFLE"—on the inside of the receiver, the number "697"—on the lever-hammer mechanism the number "447"—buttstock is numbered "199"—forestock has a red crayon number 51—on the underside of the barrel is what I decipher as "5T." The barrel is fair to good inside and out, except for about two inches of deep pitting at the muzzle; the rest of the metal is deeply pitted; however the inside is mechanically very good.

I would like to have your opinion as to the value of this piece and any further information you may supply about the company.

George A. Fortner
Big Spring, Texas

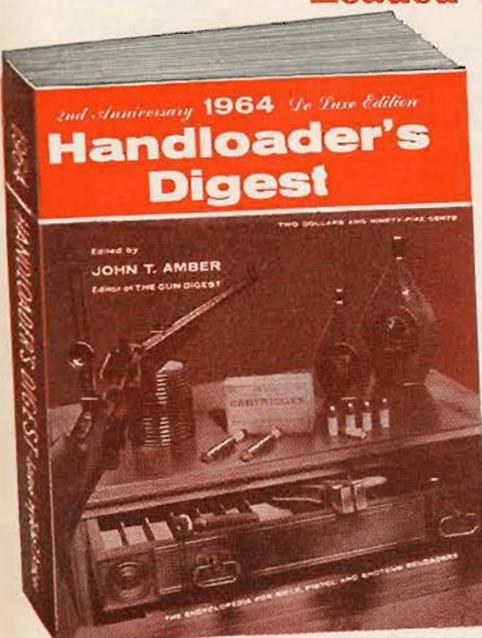
The Evans Repeating Rifle Co. operated from 1871 until 1880. The plant was operated by the gun firm of Merwin & Halbert, known for its manufacture of cartridge revolvers.

There were two .44 Evans cartridges. They were both center fire. The Evans .44 "old model" cartridge had a case length of about

(Continued on page 48)

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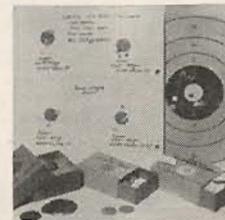
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by *Ellis Christian Lenz*
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G-66 Brand

(Continued from page 46)

one inch (Winchester manufacture), and the .44 Evans "new model" cartridge had a case about 1 3/4 inches long (also by Winchester).

Although the spiral magazine of the Evans functioned well, it was a poor design. When loading the arm, one had to work the lever each time a round was inserted.

An Evans sporting rifle in "as new" condition is probably worth about \$200, and specimens with no original finish, but in sound condition are worth about \$50. It's hard for me to say where your rifle fits into the picture.—C.B.

etc., of a shotgun I have. It is a double barrel 12 gauge with side hammers. On the barrels is stamped: "Parker Bros. Makers, Meriden, Conn. Damascus Steel." It also has serial number 9303 and "Pat'd Mar. 28, 187(?)" stamped on it.

Larry Andrews
Hawthorn, Calif.

The Parker organization started in 1832 when Charles Parker formed a company to manufacture coffee mills. In the 1840's the firm made hardware items. In 1860 the company was reorganized as the Parker, Snow, Brooks & Co.

During the Civil War, the organization made rifled muskets under government contract. From 1865 to 1868 the company was the Meriden Manufacturing Co. (Meriden, Mass. was always the location of the firm.)

In 1868, the "Parker Brothers" company was formed. The three brothers were Wilbur, Charles, and Dexter. They manufactured shotguns until the firm was absorbed by Remington Arms in 1934.

Shotguns, in general, are not heavily collected today. If in excellent condition your arm may be worth \$50. The usually encountered specimen is worth about half that much. Such old shotguns with Damascus barrels should not be fired, even with low-powered shells.—C.B.

Mauser Conversion

I am thinking about having my 8X57 Mauser rechambered to 8 mm-06 (standard). I've heard this conversion cussed and discussed, and would appreciate answers to the following:

1. What is the velocity of factory Remington 8 mm, 170 grain ammo at the muzzle and at 200 yards?
2. Is it generally difficult to stabilize the lighter (110-125 grain) bullets in the tight (1-in-8 1/2 or 1-in-9 twist) Mauser barrels?
3. How much improvement is there in the trajectory of the 8 mm-06 over the 8X57 with the heavier (170-175 grain) bullets loaded near maximum?

Cliff Lindblom
Kearney, Nebraska

The muzzle velocity of the 8X57 mm as made by Remington with a 170 grain bullet is 2,570 fps. At 200 yards it has dropped off to 1,790.

This American loading is less powerful than the cartridge normally has in other countries, since there may be 8 mm rifles around of dubious quality and condition. I have found that the slightly reduced loading is just fine for American thin-skinned game and is very accurate.

The lighter bullets can be stabilized in the 8 mm barrels with proper handloading. My advice would be to not have your Mauser rechambered to the 8 mm-06, but rather to load the standard 8X57 case. With experimentation, you can achieve excellent results without rechambering.—C.B.

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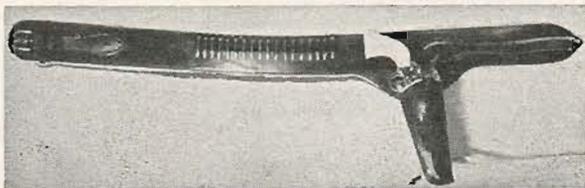
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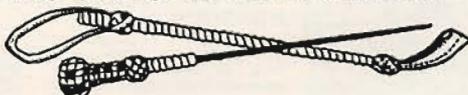
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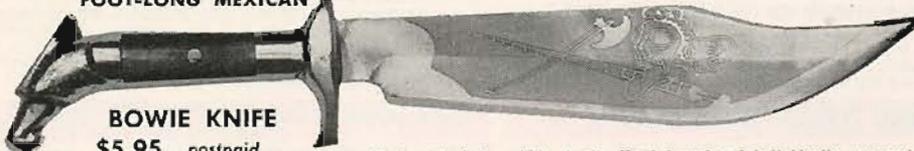
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COLLECTORS DISCOVER SPUR TRIGGERS

(Continued from page 31)

unknown manufacturer is the "BULL'S EYE," a small, seven shot revolver in .22 rim-fire caliber. The barrel is 2 1/4" long and overall length is 5 1/2 inches. The original finish was nickel with case hardened hammer and trigger, and the plain walnut grips are of the birdhead type. The only marking is "BULL'S EYE" atop the round barrel.

A pistol seldom encountered is the Connecticut Arms Co., Norfolk, Conn. Pocket Model, or as it is sometimes called, Woods Pocket Revolver. Manufactured from Wood's patent of March 1, 1864, it fired a .28 caliber hollow base cartridge. The unusual feature of this gun is that it loads from the front of the cylinder. It has a brass frame with plain metal barrel and cylinder. Barrel length is 4 inches, overall length is 10 inches, and it has an octagonal barrel, which is marked "CONNECTICUT ARMS. CO. NORFOLK, CONN." The tip-up action employed was later made famous by Smith and Wesson and by Marlin.

An example of a small, cheaply-made spur trigger pistol is the Red Jacket No. 3, manufactured by the Lee Arms Co. of Wilkes-Barre, Pa. It is a five shot .32 caliber rim-fire revolver with birdhead grips and a 2 1/4" round barrel. The barrel is marked "RED JACKET No. 3," and some examples have Lee Arms Co., Wilkes-Barre, Pa. marked on the topstrap. The gun has a nickel finish and is fully engraved. Very

little is known about this manufacturer and they were in business only a short time.

Another example of the smaller, cheaper guns is the "Imperial No. 1." It has a 2" round barrel, is nickel finished with case hardened hammer and trigger, plain walnut birdhead grips. It is five groove, seven shot, .22 caliber rim-fire gun of unknown manufacture.

The "Ranger No. 2," manufactured by the Hopkins and Allen Arms Co., of Norwich, Conn., is a five shot, .32 caliber rim-fire revolver. The barrel length may be 2 or 3 inches, the finish is nickel with blued hammer and trigger, though these may be case hardened on some specimens. The grips are birdhead style and may be anything from plain walnut to ivory. The barrel may be round or octagonal, and markings vary.

Spur trigger pistols are perhaps the "last frontier" of gun collecting open to anyone with a few dollars. At the present, it is possible to obtain practically any specimen for a relatively small sum, but it is quite probable that these guns will one day be as sought-after and costly to collect as others are today. With the increased interest that is being shown in these previously ignored guns, it is logical to assume that prices and values will soon soar. If you want to start collecting them, study them and start collecting while the field is open and the opportunities relatively limitless. It won't always be that way.



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SIXGUNS TO CELLULOID

(Continued from page 23)

usefulness. According to Mrs. Tilghman this carbine started out as a .40 caliber gun. After Bill wore the barrel smooth, he sent it to the factory to be rebored to .50 caliber—and then wore it out again. During a hunting expedition in 1874, the stock of the carbine was broken. Using his frontier ingenuity, he cut a strip of green rawhide from a freshly killed buffalo and made a field repair. Attesting to his excellent workmanship, the stock is as rigid and sound today as when it left the factory. This famous Sharps carbine, serial number #53558, with a 24 inch octagon barrel, is a true, authenticated piece that would make any gun collector drool. Another rifle Mrs. Tilghman possesses, that was used by her famous husband, is an early Marlin lever action, serial number #92089. The Winchester .30-30 was another favorite of Tilghman. At the age of twenty Tilghman turned to law enforcement. Unlike some notorious lawmen, Bill did not build his reputation on being a fast gun and killer. He measured his success by the number of men he brought in alive, yet no man knew more about handling a gun. It is said that he never shot a man unless it was absolutely necessary. He served as lawman in Dodge City, known as "the wildest town in the United States." His cohorts were all men who could be listed in a "Who's Who" of Western history; Wyatt Earp, Charlie Bassett, Bat Masterson, Doc Holliday, and many others. Chris Madsen, Heck Thomas, and Tilghman became known as "The Three Guardsmen," a title given them because of their work in ridding the Territories of desperados. These three were also instrumental in apprehending most of the Doolin gang, bank robbers of Arkansas and Oklahoma.

Bill Tilghman served as an under-sheriff and city marshal of Dodge City, and later became a deputy U.S. Marshal in Oklahoma. He also served as deputy marshal and sheriff of Lincoln County, Oklahoma. From 1911 to 1913, he was the chief of police of Oklahoma City. He spent one year as special officer for Governor M.E. Trapp of Oklahoma, in 1923, and his last ill-fated position was as city marshal of Cromwell, Oklahoma. Bill Tilghman's career as lawman totals up to an impressive 46½ years of service, a record unequalled by any other lawman of the old West.

One of the little-known events of Bill's life was that he was a recipient of one of the

Colt "Buntline Specials" presented by Ned Buntline in Dodge City. Ned Buntline (or Edward Z. C. Judson, which was his real name), one of the first pulp writers of wild west stories, is best known for his promotion of "Buffalo Bill" Cody. It was his purpose to present these long barrel guns to five western lawmen for whom he had great admiration; Wyatt Earp, Bat Masterson, Charlie Bassett, Neal Brown and Bill Tilghman. The guns were Colt single actions, caliber .45, with a twelve inch barrel. The name "Ned" was said to have been carved in the walnut stocks, and the guns were presumably fitted with demountable carbine stocks and hand-tooled holsters. Bill Tilghman cut off the barrel of his Buntline to make it of standard length.

Another item attesting to Tilghman's ingenuity is contained in an article appearing in the "Wichita Morning Eagle," February 25, 1902:

"Sheriff Tilghman has invented a key for the jail to prevent prisoners from making a rush on the jailer when he unlocks the outer door of the cellroom. He has a key fastened on the end of the barrel of a Colt's .41 revolver. The key enters the lock leaving the end of the barrel raised about to the level of a man's abdomen and could be fired through the grating of the door. In case a rush should be made, after the door is unlocked, the jailer will have the revolver in his hand ready for immediate use. It is a formidable looking combination."

Bill Tilghman had and used many types of weapons. His favorite handgun was the faithful Colt single action revolver. He had several, but prized highly a silver plated, .45 caliber with ivory grips. It was with this gun that he captured Bill Doolin in January, 1896. When Tilghman got word that Doolin was at a hotel in Eureka Springs, Arkansas, he rushed there, and captured Doolin without firing a shot. Bill Doolin later told a newspaper reporter, "If it had been anyone else I would have pulled my gun."

While waiting for a promised U.S. Marshal appointment which got lost in factional politics, Bill turned to making a movie, based largely on facts of his law enforcement career. The film titled "Passing of the Oklahoma Outlaws," was a six-reel thriller that was exhibited all over the country. The story told of the early days in the southwest, when the country was terrorized by outlaws. Three

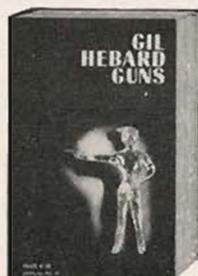
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of the old time deputy marshals, who took part in the actual capture of the outlaws, acted their own parts in the movie. They were Bill Tilghman, Chris Madsen, Bud Ledbetter. Also appearing in the film was one member of the famous Doolin gang who had reformed, Tom Jones, alias "Arkansas Tom." Other lawmen who appeared in the film are E. D. Nix and John Hale. The movie depicted the killing or capture of Bill Doolin, Bill Dalton, Henry Starr, Al Jennings, and many others. Bill Tilghman believed that the young boys and men should be shown "Westerns" that did not idolize the outlaw, a tenet that could be applied to the youth of today.

Bill toured the country with his movie, lecturing on the evils of crime. He also exhibited his collection of historic firearms and other accoutrements. This rather unique collection was reported on by E.E. Harriman, a writer who interviewed Bill at Los Angeles, in 1920. According to Harriman, Bill personally showed him the array of firearms he had stored in a low, flattopped trunk. There were at least fifteen revolvers, with a variety of barrels lengths. Some were silver and gold plated with pearl, ivory, and assorted fancy wood grips. There were guns that were said to have once belonged to such outlaws as Bill Doolin, Henry Starr, and Frank James. It was a very impressive gun collection to say the least. Unfortunately, these guns were stolen, according to Bill's widow. Another gun that is supposed to have belonged to Tilghman is in the famous Davis Collection, at the Mason Hotel, Claremore, Oklahoma. The gun a Colt Single Action Army revolver, caliber .38-40, was given to Tilghman by John Wesley Hardin. In later years, Bill also carried a Colt .45 automatic. From musket to automatic, Bill's lifetime covered a long range of experience in the use of firearms.

Bill Tilghman, as much as any man, had earned the right to retire from law enforcement work. But, at the age of 70, he accepted an appointment as City Marshal of Cromwell, Oklahoma. Patrolling the streets on the night of November 1, 1924, he came upon a man firing a gun. After the man was disarmed, he suddenly pulled another gun from his coat and fired, ending an illustrious career. The killer, Wylie Lynn, a probation officer, escaped conviction for the murder. But his luck ran out in a fight with another law officer who shot and killed.

Bill Tilghman was accorded an honor given to few men in the State of Oklahoma. As his body laid in state in the capitol building, the flag above it was flown at half-mast. A fitting tribute to a man who was a lawman—first, last, and always.

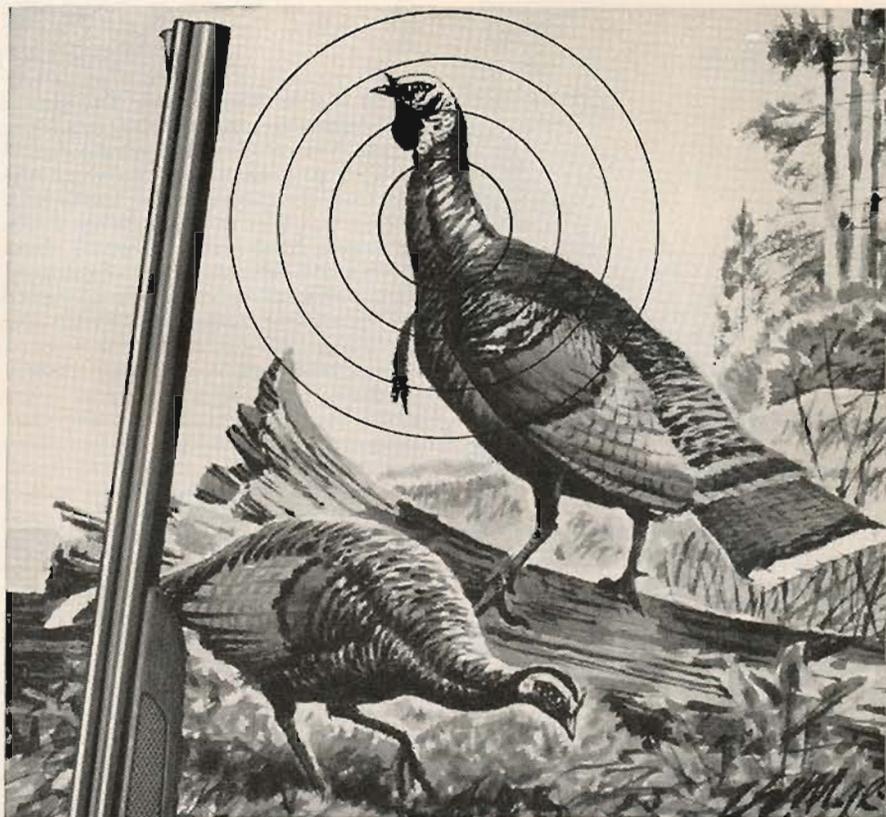
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THE TIME OF THE GRIZZLY

(Continued from page 26)

was less a grunt than a growl. Two moose, dark as charred stumps, crashed into sight only yards away. They confronted me with bristling unease. Long coarse hair was still rising atop their necks when they finally swerved away. Forefeet, sharp enough to rip open a man, lifted black against the snow.

When next I thought to examine the never ending story at my feet, there was the answer in the tremendous tracks of a bear. Grizzly!

Black bear grow big, too. But their claws are more hooked and considerably shorter. Springtimes particularly, after *ursus horribilis* has been doing more dreaming than digging, his toenails really reach out. Some old-timers will assure you that because of them, Old Eph can't follow you up a tree. Better not bet your health on it. I checked the full magazine of my Model 70, and eased a cartridge into the chamber.

The fresh prints were heading toward cliffs, below which winter-killed goat are occasionally found. Then they veered into the south wind, to the frozen Peace River and up through the snow of the opposite shore. Moose yarded over there where a few range horses, mine included, kept fat on peavine and vetch. It was low thick country, however. Grizzly, with their ropy tendons and built-in spikes, ordinarily forage upward after hibernation, even when this means bucking slides and drifts.

The snap of brush sent me scrambling at a steeper slant up the south bank. The shale was so icy, though, that I lost hope for a shot before the bear could disappear into the muskeg. Then I was staring at a hummock that, screened by willow, had overlooked my approach. It was newly and heavily trodden.

Will the big bear attack? Very rarely except in a defensive sense. Yet in Sub Arctic wilderness so remote that most of its creatures live and die without ever seeing a human, who can tell how any animal will react? And grizzly, short tempered at best, are notoriously hair-triggered upon awakening, parched and sluggish, from the long sleep.

When the honk of the wild goose is loud enough to lure you five days northward, though, you can't deafen yourself to its promise easily. I took off cautiously along the

trail. Wind, now sharply laced with snow, continued to blow into my face. Suppose the grizzly, jaws watering at the thought of that final charge at a moose calf or some other meal, hadn't even caught my instinctively alarming human scent?

Ever notice how, at such a time, the trigger guard of your rifle becomes a reassuring solidity against which your forefinger can stay ready? Looking everywhere twice, I kept as much as possible to the more open parts of the northern bog. The grizzly, whatever its reason, didn't get very far ahead. Traveling one side or the other of those paw marks began to put aches into my muscles, which were not eased by crossing the trail periodically to check it.

Snowfall and shadows began to thicken. Ahead, in the direction the bear had been moving, a series of shallow beaver ponds gleamed. Then before reaching them, the grizzly circled back west into even denser concealment. The tracks showed he had quickened his pace to a lope.

Well, there was always tomorrow. After the initial letdown, I felt more alive than I had for weeks, as I recrossed the river and swung homeward into the sifting storm.

Something a lot of us learn early is that the really enduring pleasure of hunting lies not so much in any actual shooting as in the hunt itself—the satisfaction of reading sign, of figuring where game may be and trying to outguess it, of sensing the presence of wild life, and of getting close. This is the kind of hunting you can enjoy any time, with gun or without, in any wild place.

The challenge isn't in just getting meat. What really counts is getting to taste the peace, the contentment, the warm realization of adequacy revealed only to those who successfully come to grips with themselves in the farther places.

The cabin was a welcome shape in the snow-heaving twilight. Wind, cold from the North Pole, pressed the sweet oily blackness of birch smoke back down the stove pipe. Then I reinforced the sputtering bark with kindling and clanged on the lids. Fire built its friendly roar.

Snow still rustled against logs and windows the next morning. No use hunting to-

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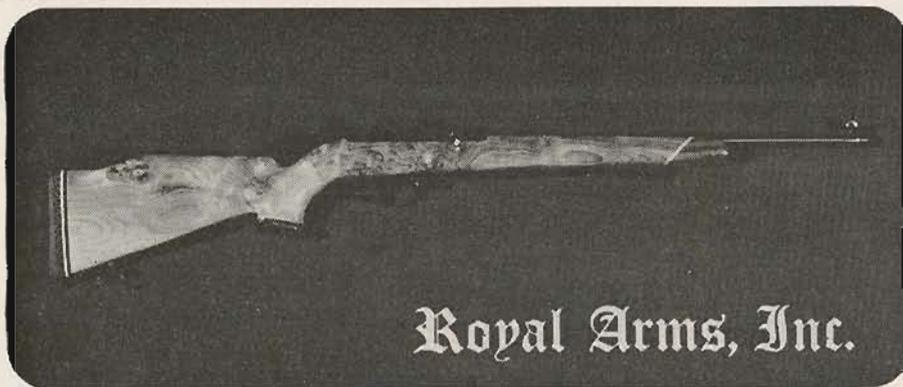
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day. Game wouldn't be moving. My feet hit the cold floor early, nevertheless. I agree with many of my sourdough friends that morning is the most memorable season of the day. Besides, a dozen things are always waiting to be done around a cabin.

Milton Vince, Garry's brother, stopped in long enough at noon to boil the kettle with me and to leave a string of beaver tails. It was this backwoods delicacy, half a century ago, that impelled Horace Kephart to write regretfully, "This tidbit of old-time trappers will be tasted by few of our generation, more's the pity."

Ever seen any? Detached and strung on a cord for carrying, beaver tails look like scaly black fish whose heads have been removed. Putting them in a hot oven causes the dark skin to puff and lift away. This exposes a



white meat. Resembling salt pork, it goes particularly well with such a north woods standby as baked beans.

I cheated some by first bringing the water to a boil for a couple of minutes, then letting the beans stay in and soak for one hour instead of over night. At that, they took most of the afternoon to cook. Time didn't drag, meanwhile. A snowy day is a fine one for cleaning guns. I finished by waxing the stocks and softening the slings with neats-foot oil. Then, remembering the date, I went over my fishing tackle. It wouldn't be long before Arctic grayling would be within casting distance of the doorstep.

The beaver tails and the storm lasted the next day and most of the day following. Then a west wind started trumpeting a warm blue note. That evening the clamor of Canada geese, flying low up the platinum river, peopled the dripping forest. Standing by the

woodpile, I could hear the rush of wings. I came in, shut the door, and spent my sixth night in the woods.

With the westerly still whipping downriver the next morning, the best start toward getting a rug for that cold spot seemed to be to cross the Peace just above the cabin. A bank beaver arched itself beneath the open water. The *cr-rack* of that flat tail made me jump even though I was expecting it. Grizzly hunting strings the nerves taut, doesn't it? I suppose it's because the tribe includes some of the biggest flesh-eating animals on this globe. Being flesh yourself, that's something you never quite forget.

Leaves were snapping open like popcorn, as I followed a poplar slope toward the muskeg I'd last hunted. My second spring was really here. Yellowjackets buzzed pussy willows. Grouse drummed. Ever noticed how their mating call sounds like a one-cylinder motor catching hold, being fed too much gas, and flooding out? The first scouts of the cliff swallows added to the fever. Tiny blue moths brushed me. Once a massive shadow made me duck, and a soaring eagle *eeeeeeed*.

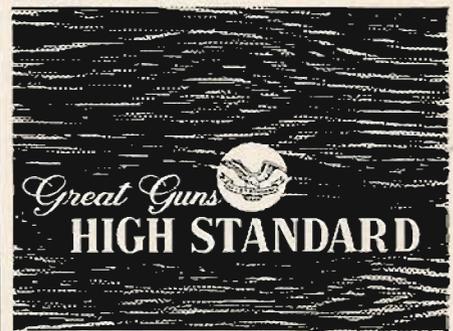
Where snow was already sparse or gone entirely, brown grass rustled. I angled toward the silence of a brook. The stream had frozen in a series of levels. It was like climbing an icy stairway. My progress was so quiet that, around a bend, I came upon the long legged, grey leanness of a lynx. I'd frozen before it turned and tried to make me out. Its stub of a tail switched angrily. Then I moved, and it padded away.

A few more steps, and there were the fresh grizzly tracks. They wandered some. Then they lined out generally west, into breezes earthy with spring.

The grizzly had investigated several winter beds that were now thawing and loosening patches of moose and other hair. One place Old Eph had rushed full tilt at where a black bear had been filling up on kinnikinnic berries. Looking at how the large enough black had fled, I found myself sliding the bolt of the .30-06 far enough open to make sure a live cartridge was in place.

The tracks began to lose their directness in the soggy density of a peat bog in the making. Here the increasingly frequent criss-crossings of older spoor struck an additional warning. The remains of what looked to be an ancient stream bank extended into the muskeg. I worked along it, careful of crumbling sandstone. Even it soon dwindled away among drifts, frozen morass, and occasional

Just out!



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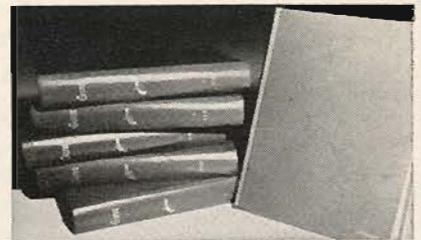
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patches of dry land.

The glimpse of a shape beneath a stunted spruce flooded cold, then heat, along my backbone. Then I realized that the object was dead. Something had been half buried in the snow, then rudely but powerfully covered with debris. It was what was left of a sorrel horse.

I heard the grizzly before I saw him. Then came the unnerving interval of following his still invisible progress by the quivering of willow tops. When a bulky shadow finally materialized, it was behind the close-growing undersides of spruce branches too thick to shoot through.

The bear kept throwing up his snout and sucking air into his nostrils. His investigation took him out of sight again. Then I saw him rearing above some low dense conifers, concave face still high and nose extended. Trying to move so gradually that I wouldn't be noticed, I started to bring the crosshairs midway between his ear and eye. The next instant he was back out of sight on all fours. For what seemed a long while, there was only the sound of that nose still raking the atmosphere.

What deciding smell he finally managed to isolate, I don't know. None, maybe. All it may have taken to make up his mind was the ever festering fear that his property rights were being violated. Grizzly are singularly sensitive about these, especially in the hungry spring. With a coughing roar, the bear came forward with hurtling bounds.

Here it was, nightmarishly on the line. Even though I was as ready as I ever would be, there was nothing to see for the first few yards but a hairy blur in the thick brush. It takes something like this to make you realize what it means for a grizzly to be able to cover short distances nearly twice as fast as an Olympic sprinter. And there weren't any more than 50 yards between us. These were already half gone.

Then suddenly there was just snow, grass, and bear. The handloaded 220 grain hollow point caught him in the chest. Enough of it smashed through to shatter the spine. The grizzly sprawled there, long-clawed paws a fraction more than two rifle lengths from the cached remains of the horse.

Weighed down with hide and liver, I still felt like a million dollars when the cabin finally bulged into sight. Ever notice what a healthy appetite you work up after a few days in the woods? Scientists remind us that nature meant man to spend most of his time outdoors. Yet look at what the majority of us settle for too much of the year.

A pair of Canada geese, perhaps part of the very flock that had lured me five days northward, basked on the ice beside the stretch of open river opposite my door. They got uncertainly to their feet as I approached. Honking, they lifted their wings as if to take off. Then they changed their minds.

"Going to stay awhile, are you?" I called to them before starting inside to fry some of that grizzly liver. "Me, too." 

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GUN RACK

(Continued from page 6)

boom, fire extinguisher and fire starter, aerial flares, outdoor insecticides, and tear gas cartridges available. The gun is of relatively simple construction, and is capable of firing only one cartridge which is screwed into the muzzle. We found that function of the gun is not impaired by sub-zero temperatures, and all of the flares tested—they are made of Reynolds aluminum and are non-reloadable—performed to our complete satisfaction. The Apache Rescue Gun is available through retail outlets only, but if your store does not yet carry it, have them contact Apache Rescue Co., Inc., 5474G North County Road 18, Minneapolis, Minn.

Wildlife Recordings

Johnny Stewart of 925 North 22nd, Waco, Texas, recently mailed us some of his new records for calling varmints and crows. Especially



good is the record #103, and foxes come popping out like they were operated by a puppeteer. If you use the 103, do not use too much volume with the Stewart player. If you are interested in having crows come in so fast that you can't even see them fly, try Johnny's #201 and side 2 of his #202 record. Johnny tells us that he has recently streamlined his player, and the newer model is even better than the one we had here for a while. Stewart has made a long study of varmints and game calling, and his records are recorded in the field from actual animal cries.

Loads for the .284 Winchester

There has been considerable interest in the handloading data for the new Winchester caliber. We have done some work with this caliber, and our findings were recently substantiated by Fred Huntington of RCBS who has been working with this caliber for a year.

In lever actions and autoloaders, the loads have to be kept down somewhat, but the given data can be stepped up just a grain or so if you load for a bolt action rifle. With the 130 grain Speer bullet and CCI primers, we found 57 grains of 4350 a good load, and muzzle velocity is around 3100 fps. With the 154 grain Hornady bullet, traveling about 2900 fps, we used 55 grains of the same powder in our Model 88, and with the same amount, we chronographed the 160 grain Nosler bullet at slightly under 2900 fps.

Fred, by the way, has something new in the handloading line—a powder spoon. It has the

long handle that we have been looking for, and the capacity of the spoon is just large enough to make it real handy, yet small enough to allow easy handling for prolonged sessions at the powder scales. The spoon is available from your gunshop or direct from RCBS, Box 729G, Oroville, Cal.

Hard-to-Find Shotshells

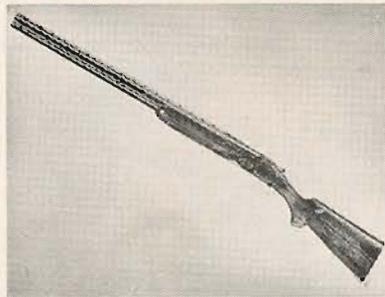
Have a 24 gauge or 32 gauge shotgun and can't use it because you can't find ammo? Bob Sanderson, 724G W. Edgewater Street, Portage, Wis., imports Belgian shotshells in all popular gauges and in some of the more exotic gauges. He also offers a fine, hand-made, suitcase-type case for a double shotgun or rifle that has a number of custom features. Bob also imports a wide line of fine shotguns from England and Belgium, and his Greener trap gun is a delight to handle.

Daly Shotguns

Some months ago we reported on our use of one of the Japanese Miroku guns that are made for Charles Daly and are imported by Sloans Sporting Goods Co., 88 Chamber Street, N.Y.

We have received two of these new Miroku guns, one, the Commander, a classic O/U with ventilated rib, single selective trigger, and auto ejectors; the other gun is a side-by-side with double triggers, extractors, and raised rib. Both guns show exceptionally fine inletting and wood-work, and in extensive shooting—the guns were used to test the new Winchester ammo—both guns performed extremely well and after firing them over 500 times, we can only admire the quality of these guns.

The O/U is available in Field and Superior grade, costing \$255 and \$295, and also as trap and skeet model, also retailing for \$295. New and as yet only examined, is a special trap model with an extra-wide ventilated rib. Trap addicts who have checked the gun over from muzzle to butt, tell us that they think that the



gun will help them over the hump and will earn them the coveted 25x25 brassard.

The side-by-side, also known as Model 500, has a box lock action and double locking lugs. Our test guns had exceptionally fine blue jobs, and several other guns which we examined had the same kind of fine metal and wood finish—hence our guns had apparently not been especially selected. Best of all news is the price tag on the Model 500: \$130 with the plain rib, and \$150 with the ventilated rib. Both guns are available in a wide choice of chokes and barrel lengths. Sloans has both models in 12 and 20 gauge.

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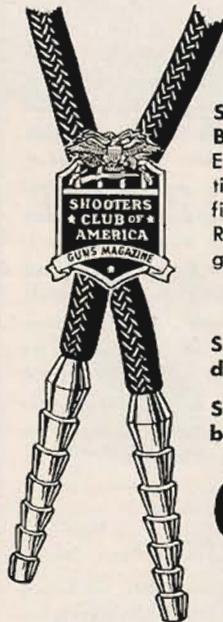
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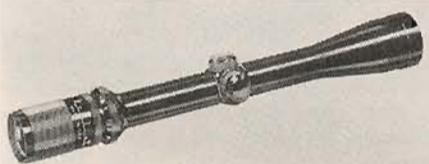
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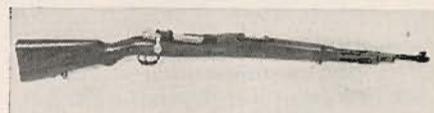
WESTERN BOOTS are becoming more and more popular each year, and the Austin Boot Company, Dept. G-5, Box 548, Winters, Texas, has a pair for you. Their new catalog shows over 25 styles priced from \$21.75 to \$36.50. All Austin boots are hand-made and are guaranteed to fit. They also offer gift certificates from \$5.00—a good idea for the man or woman on your gift list.



REALIST, INC., Dept. G-5, Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin, makers of precision optical and photographic products, has recently introduced a new line of rifle scopes. Featuring lightweight aluminum tubes, coated lenses, nitrogen processing, and weather sealing, the big game scopes are available in 2½, 4, and 6 power, and a 3X to 9X variable. The Apache line of scopes for .22 rifles will be available in 4 and 6 power. All Realist scopes will carry a lifetime guarantee against all hazards, plus an exclusive insurance protection against total damage or loss. At your dealer or write for brochure.



TARGET SHOOTERS will welcome the new Time Target Patches that require no waiting. These self-sticking patches are pre-cut into 1" squares, and are quickly and easily dispensed from the new carton of 500 patches. Available in either black or white, they are priced at only 98¢ per carton. At your dealer, or write: Professional Tape Co., Dept. G-5, 355 Burlington Rd., Riverside, Ill.

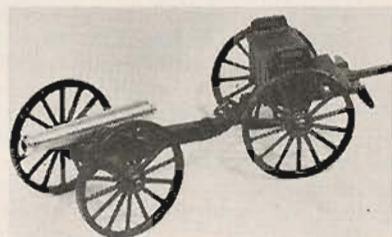


MILITARY MAUSER rifles, made by Fabrique National of Belgium, and chambered for the 30-06 cartridge, are now available from Centennial Arms Corp., 3318 W. Devon Ave., Dept. G-5, Chicago, Ill. Rifles have 23½ inch barrels, and are in good condition. Priced at only \$39.95 (\$5.00 extra for select grade), this is a rare opportunity to purchase one of the last bolt action Mauser rifles to be manufactured, and in America's most popular hunting caliber.



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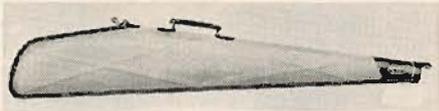
A 22-PAGE illustrated brochure providing extensive information on the pulling of small trailers has been released by International Harvester Company's motor truck division. The free manual is Sales-Engineering Bulletin No. 206 entitled "Pulling Trailers . . . With The International Travelall." Its contents include types and classification of trailers, towing applications, care of tires, and towing tips. Requests can be made to: International Harvester Co., Dept. G-5, 180 No. Michigan Ave., Chicago 1, Ill.



IF YOU'VE BEEN looking for replica cannons, look no more. Service Armament Co. Dept. G-5, 689 Bergen Blvd., Ridgefield, N.J., has six different models. Prices range from \$1.50 for a Revolutionary 24-pounder to \$5.98 for the Napoleon with limber pictured above. All have brass barrels and iron wheels that roll.

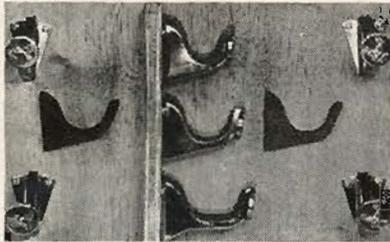
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E. I. DU PONT de NEMOURS & CO. INC., Dept. G-5, Explosives Division, Wilmington 98, Delaware. Compact 4-page brochure, designed as a companion piece to "DuPont Shotshell Handloading Information," gives laboratory data for loading 40 standard rifle and 12 pistol cartridges, covering the full line of Du Pont powders for handloaders. Write, or ask your jobber.



SOLID BRONZE gun cradles are available for only \$3.75 per pair. Polished out to bright gold finish, they have 1/4 inch neoprene cushion for gun barrel, and are ornamented with either deer head or quail. Styles available for either single or double barrel guns. Order direct from: Herrick Machine Works, Dept. G-5, 2426 Holmes St., Kansas City 8, Mo.



STOEGER ARMS, 55 Ruta Court, Dept G-5, So. Hackensack, N.J., has just released the "Shooter's Bible Treasury," which contains a selection of the best material from the past 55 editions of the world famous "Shooter's Bible." From the early editions, you'll find a wealth of reference material on U.S. and foreign shotguns, rifles, and handguns that have been long discontinued. Also included are 16 feature articles by some of America's most famous gun writers. Price, \$2.95.



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BROWNELL'S INC., Dept. G-5, Route No. 2, Montezuma, Iowa, offers the latest catalog, #16, for the usual \$2.00. Bigger and more complete than the earlier issues, this catalog is a treasure of information and features a much expanded line carried by Bownell's.



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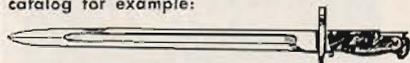
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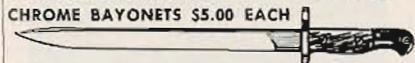
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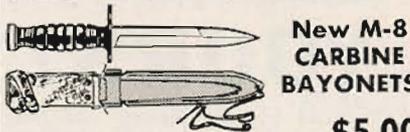
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BULL ELK ARE SMART

(Continued from page 37)

at that trophy. He'd driven 600 miles, and spent ten day's vacation for the purpose. But still he couldn't shoot. The clump of blow-down timber completely covered the shootable portions of that prize. Any second, his year's opportunity would vanish.

Dane sat rigid and held his breath fifteen seconds, which, he swore later, seemed a full five years. But not being one to give up before the final bell, Dane began a close scrutiny of that pile of blow-down. In one place, which by some rapid geometry calculations he figured should be in the shoulder area, there was a virtual knot-hole through the up-ended portion of one snag. In the knot-hole was a patch of blurry brown. So, with rifle up already, Dane shot the knot-hole. When Harry and Charlie got there, he was dressing a bull which he believes might rank in the Boone & Crockett book. I measured the distance next morning. Exactly thirty feet, hunter to quarry.

Two days later I hunted with Harry and Charlie again. As we topped the Divide Trail, looking over into Fall Creek Basin, I bugled. Sure enough, a bull, which we figured to be but a quarter-mile below us, answered back.

Canny old Charlie adopted the same strategy as with Dane. "Harry," he said, "you go set up on that ridge. Clyde, you sneak down and kill the bull. When I hear you shoot, I'll bring the horses down and look for you. Harry can set up there if you mess it up some way."

I've killed dozens of legal elk. But to simply "go - down - there - and - kill - an - elk - and - they'll - come - with - the - horses" represents a lot of confidence. I pussy-footed down the timbered spine, expecting to see antlers any minute, bugled twice, and got answers back. Mad answers, which is good.

When I'd gone a full quarter-mile, almost straight down, I could still get answering bugles—below me. Figuring that this must be a whipped, or wandering bull, I kept on down. In fact, I walked a full mile to the alder-choked creek bottom, and still got answering bugles—seemingly half-way up the opposite side of Fall Creek. Exhausted, I drank at the creek, gave the bull up for the day, and then climbed that danged mountain a full mile back up.

The whole affair seemed most baffling until we picked up the tracks. Here's what took place: My sparse bugling had started the bull across Fall Creek Basin to bugle. Another bull had been the wanderer—in fact he wandered around just under the crest, almost within rifle-range of the horses, and into another drainage. Somewhere along the line I'd picked up the other bull's challenge and became pooped trying to catch up . . . to where he never had wandered.

In order not to waste the day, we took up the trail of the first bugler. Here and there we could pick up a track. It seemed this bull was with a band of cows, not spooked, and had headed north towards some dense timber, to shade up for the day, normal elk behavior.

We paralleled the spoor, only intermittently cutting it as it showed up in the dust of old game trails, which is good tracking procedure. Then, near the north slope of a heavily-wooded peak, Charlie reined in, dismounted, and whispered, "Them elk are bedded down by now. And they're right up there, just under the top. We'll tie up here and . . ."

Before he'd finished, Charlie's know-how on elk was demonstrated. A sudden loud *Bang!* came from the timber, not much over a hundred yards away—right where Charlie said the elk had bedded. It seemed that Lee Mateo, another hunter from our camp, hunting with Glidden, had spent the morning hours wandering up on top of this same mountain. He saw the five-point bull we'd followed so carefully, sticking his head out from behind a big pine tree. That, as Lee put it, "was a mistake." He up-ended his .338 Magnum and sent a 200 grain Power Point bullet through the portion of neck which was visible.

This should have been enough for the day. But when we rode into camp at sundown, we learned abruptly that other things may have happened.

The cook hurried out of the tent to meet us. "Did you shoot fourteen times up the Elk Creek Trail just a while ago?"

"No."

"Somebody did. Musta been Glidden's hunters then."

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It was well after dark when the other hunters, Glidden and Holger Anderson, another Commissioner of Fish & Game from South Dakota, dragged in.

"Okay," Harry said, "let's have the story. And what the hell you mean by fourteen shots?"

"Seventeen," Holger corrected, "And I shot 'em all."

"At one elk?"

"That depends."

It seems that Holger and Glidden were headed for camp, up above Elk Creek, when suddenly, out of the alders walked a monstrous bull, and stopped in a tiny opening, regarding them. According to Glidden, the distance was about 130 yards. Holger piled off his horse and began whanging away with his scope-sighted .30-06. The first three shots failed to hit the big bull who walked quickly out of sight.

"But then, so help me," Holger went on, "the second bull, smaller but a six-pointer, walked right into the opening and stopped, just like the other one. So I began banging at him."

Describing each shot, Holger said that he'd fired on up to the seventeenth round. By that time, it occurred to him that something might be wrong with the rifle or sighting arrangement. With no time to re-sight, and not one to quit early, he did a sensible thing. By directing his fire in a series of decreasing concentric circles around the bull, and continuously working in, he finally put the bull to earth.

With the smoke clearing, he discovered what was wrong with the rifle. The previous week, Holger had a gunsmith do some minor repairs. In re-assembling the rifle and scope, the smith had neglected the detail of tightening any of the screws. The scope rattled in its mounts like cans in a churn, and the rifle action could be shoved around in its stock.

"The nice thing about it all," Glidden concluded dryly, "is that Holger was never licked. Even if he hadn't got that bull down by the second boxful, I saw a third bull a little ways behind, waiting his turn."

The next morning before daybreak, Charlie, Harry and I were riding out, headed for the bull I'd bugled up across Fall Creek basin. Two hard hours later we were looking down into the clear hushed canyon. A half-hour later we were down far enough to make the shrill squeal of our bamboo elk bugle carry across. In a minute, the bull I'd heard the day before answered, like some distant, faint peanut-vendor.

Little by little, we sneaked the horses downward, and bugled intermittently, and soon got another bull to answer. Then the two began bugling at each other, and for a while it was one of the great thrills of the outdoors to listen to those two warriors on the range, one of the most awe-inspiring sounds of all the wilderness. Then, to complete the wild magnificence, both bulls wandered out into openings between the pines, where we watched them for moments with the binoculars, at a half-mile.

By circling the basin, to take advantage of the cover of pines, we made it around to where Charlie figured we were within three hundred yards of the bulls. Harry and I left Charlie with the horses, and tried to finish on foot. Both bulls would still answer the bugle and close at hand too!



The welcome break for the noon meal gives the hunters a chance to relax—while the horses browse in the shade.

The hillside had alternate strips of timber and grassy alps. As we left each strip of timber we fully expected a bull to show, but he didn't. Before leaving the third timber, I closely studied all the openings and, as far as vision permitted, into the dark stand of

pinus a hundred yards beyond. No visible bull. However, the minute we stepped out of the trees, a big five-pointer, which had been studying us from concealment, bugled, wheeled, and romped back into the thick pines and alders. (Continued on page 60)

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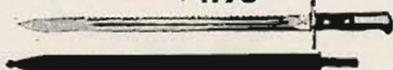
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(Continued from page 59)

The most exasperating habit that can thwart the elk hunter is this. Put a spooked elk in a basin devoid of any foliage except one single tree, and without exception, that elk will put and keep that tree between himself and the hunter until he gets out of range.

Knowing this, I began a series of run, twist, duck, zig-zag movements, and fired when and if possible at a cornerwise target in heavy timber. In four shots from the Remington 7 mm Magnum, loaded with 175 grain soft-noses, I had the five-pointer's heels skyward.

What are suitable rifles, ammunition, and techniques in the face of such an exasperating form of hunting? For Dane Conger's elk and experience it would have been a 12 gauge shotgun, loaded with rifled slug. For Mateo's elk, at 75 yards, it might have been a .270 or .30-06—anything which could have broken an elk's neck. Actually, my lighter 7 mm Magnum would have been ideal for his situation and opportunity, and his .338 Magnum would surely have been more "suitable" for my cornerwise shooting opportunities. The "suitable" rifle for Holger's opportunity would have been one with tight screws.

My own experience in over 30 elk is this: Opportunities, under today's hunting conditions, are apt to be scarce and aggravating when hunting elk, especially trophy elk. But the rifle-cartridge combination which will take these great animals cleanly more often than not boils down to one rather special category. Adequate cartridges for elk should be at least .30 caliber; bullet weight should be at least 180 grains, and of a construction which will allow the bullet to retain approxi-

mately two-thirds of its weight after deep penetration, and which will open up to around .75 caliber shortly after entrance into flesh. Velocity should be a minimum of around 2900 fs. Lastly, all these factors should be in proportion; where more bullet weight is used, then proportionately less velocity should be maintained.

This combination will fail less and succeed more on elk than any combination of lesser cartridges. Specifically, this makes cartridges of the .300 H&H Magnum, .338 Magnum, .308 Norma, .300 Weatherby, and .300 Winchester Magnum entirely suitable for today's tough hunting conditions on elk. Sure



you have a margin—you generally need it!

Other recommendations are: Get into as remote and primitive an elk country as your time and purse will allow. Elk are more plentiful and less spooky there. Make use of good outfitters such as McNeel. Go with a guide with the know-how of a Charlie Wilson—there are only a few left. Laugh at the aggravations which spooky elk will usually afford you.

And, keep everlastingly at it. As Charlie says, "A good hunter can't make all the mistakes. Sometimes it's the elk's turn."

COLLECTOR'S QUIZ

by TOM HUNTER

1

THE 5MM. AUTOMATIC PISTOL SHOWN HERE WAS USED EXTENSIVELY IN WORLD WAR II BY THE —

ITALIANS RUSSIANS
 JAPANESE GERMANS

2

THE PERIOD BETWEEN 1850 AND 1900 SAW MANY KNIFE PISTOLS MANUFACTURED. THIS ONE WAS PATENTED IN —

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3

THIS IS A BRASS BARRELED BLUNDERBUSS FLINTLOCK PISTOL. THE INVENTION OF THE FLINTLOCK SYSTEM OF IGNITION HAS BEEN CREDITED TO —

M. LE BOURGEOIS WENDELL J. KIRK
 WILLIAM T. ROGERS W. A. ROWLAND

4

A GUN OF THIS TYPE IS KNOWN AS A —

CYLINDER GUN PINEFIRE PEPPERBOX
 FLARE PISTOL TEAT REVOLVER

Answers on page 66



THEY CALLED HIM WILD BILL

BY Joseph G. Rosa
*(University of Oklahoma Press,
 Norman, Okla., 1964. \$5.95)*

Wild Bill or James Butler Hickok has, over the years, become legendary hero, a man without blemish or human foibles or faults. No matter what Hickok book you examined, it either proved Wild Bill a hero, or a liar and bully. It is therefore doubly refreshing to find a writer who merely presents a picture, who reports the good and the bad, and who, when he disclaims certain statements of others, simply proves that this could or could not be the truth in light of other and well-documented reports. Mr. Rosa, who has written several articles for GUNS Magazine, did a masterful job, and must be congratulated, and the completeness of his research work is noteworthy since Mr. Rosa lives in England and wrote the book there.—R.A.S.

DANGER DOWN THE SIGHTS

By Barney Berlinger
*(Vantage Press, New York, N.Y.,
 1964. \$3.50)*

It seems uncertain just what the author tried to accomplish with this book. This conglomeration of hunting experiences, some good, and some pretty bad, has but one saving grace: father teaches son to hunt.—R.A.S.

HOW TO MEASURE AND SCORE BIG GAME TROPHIES

By Grancel Fitz
*(Outdoor Life, New York, N.Y.,
 1963. \$1.49)*

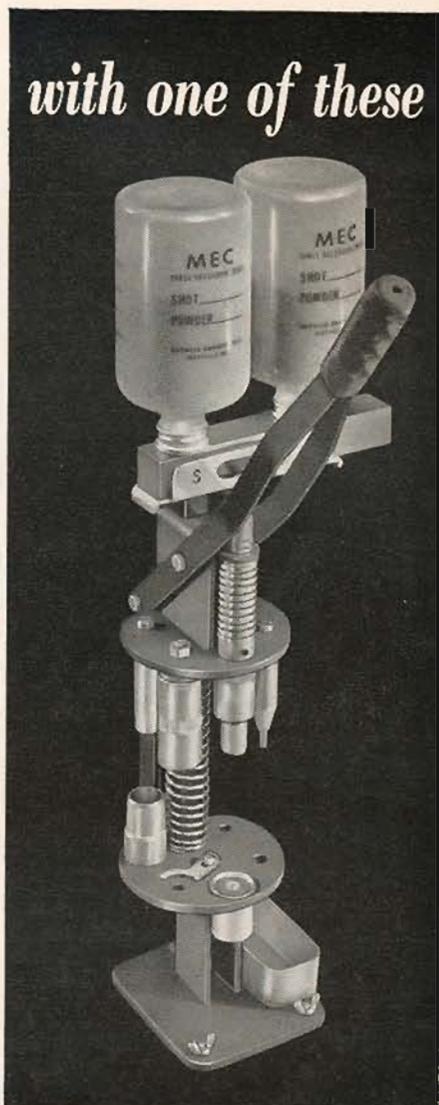
Besides being an outstanding photographer, Grancel Fitz's real interest was the Boone and Crockett club and the records recognized by this organization. The question "how big is my deer" or elk, or antelope, has come up so often, that Mr. Fitz and the publisher of "Outdoor Life" decided to issue this volume. In order to determine the rating of a head you need only this book, a 1/4 inch wide steel tape, and of course a head that might make the book. The how-to-measure directions are explained in detail where they might throw off your measuring.—R.A.S.

SMALL ARMS MAKERS

By Col. Robert Gardner
*(Crown Publishers, Inc., 419 Park Ave.
 South, New York 16, N.Y., 1963. \$15.00)*

This "directory of fabricators of firearms, edged weapons, crossbows and pole arms" contains over 13,000 entries. It is likely that Col. Gardner's work will become the most important firearms book and directory yet to be published, and it is an invaluable reference work for the collector, the dealer, and anyone who gets embroiled in arms research. The book is divided into four sections: American gunmakers, American edged weapons makers, Foreign gunmakers, and Foreign edged weapons makers; the foreign section also contains the most important marks of
(Continued on page 65)

enjoy more of this with one of these



If you do a lot of trap or skeet shooting, this is the reloader built specifically for you. It's the MEC 250. You spend a lot less time reloading those hulls because the 250 is the fastest, by far, of all conventional tools . . . As its name implies, it'll process up to 250 shells per hour . . . safely, easily, accurately.

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much of the trouble. Mail-order buying is a part of modern living. What hurts one seller hurts all.

Nobody is deluded, either, with the thought that restrictions (of whatever kind) on mail-order buying will solve the juvenile delinquency problem, or any problem. But if a restriction could be devised that would, without hurting the legitimate buyer or the legitimate seller, prevent just one "improper person"—one killer, one hood, one gang-crazy kid—from getting one gun—the use of which in crime would damage all of us—we should agree to that restriction.

In our opinion, and in the opinion of our advisors (even those in the industry who will be affected by any mail-order restriction) the present provision in the Dodd Amendment requiring an affidavit in duplicate stating the age, address, and non-criminal competence of the buyer, and requiring that one copy of such affidavit be mailed to the buyer's local police authority—but *not* listing the serial number of the gun, and *not* requiring police approval of the sale—is a restriction we can live with, one that we should, at this time, support, if only as the least of many far more damaging alternatives. Our turn will come, when this pro-gun law is ready.

Perhaps this bill, as here outlined, is not what you want, either. We are not wholly satisfied with it. Certainly it does not solve several major problems, does not even touch scores of minor ones, such as: shipment and sales of guns between individuals who are not dealers and parental responsibility in the case of junior shooters.

However, many weeks of serious study by many people have gone into the shaping of the broad general intentions expressed in this rough draft. These are:

1. To place on record an official statement of the true meaning of the Second Amendment.
2. To demand strong penalties for any use of guns in crime.
3. To prohibit (at least at the federal level, and as a pattern for legislation at all levels) all registration and all licensing to purchase or possess.
4. To urge federal support for expanded firearms training programs.

These four planks provide, we believe, the framework for a strong platform on which we all—the firearms industry, the shooting organizations, and the individual shooters alike—can stand united to present our cause to our lawmakers and to the men and women throughout America who elect those lawmakers.

Meanwhile, face the near-certainty that each and every one of us will be confronted soon with dangerous anti-gun legislative efforts at local levels. Why not move first? Show this rough draft of our pro-gun law to one of your own state legislators; urge him to have it properly drafted to meet these major objectives, and to present it for passage. Passed, it could effectively block dangerous action from the opposite direction. Properly publicized, whether passed or not, it could get our message to more of the non-shooting public.

Try it. This is war, whether the official declaration has yet been made or not. And, as in any war, the first strong strike can be decisive.



"ANY DAY NOW, COMRADE."

A PRO-GUN FIREARMS LAW

(Continued from page 17)

even want. It would be abused by many more people than it could benefit; and every abuse would do us all incalculable damage."

We agree with these advisors, and offer this suggestion: that the pro-gun law stipulate against any federal requirement of license to carry, but that it recommend (and that we in our own states demand) that, while state or local regulations may require licenses to carry, those regulations must clearly state that license must be granted upon application and for a stated, nominal fee, and within a stated, reasonable time, unless the licensing agency can prove within that time that the applicant has a criminal record or is otherwise legally (within the meaning of the federal act) incompetent. This would enable the law-abiding citizen to carry a gun when needed for self-protection,

but would give the police the power to prevent the licensing of provably improper persons. (It is assumed that we are all agreed that we are all strongly, sincerely, wholeheartedly opposed to the possession of guns by criminals and/or the use of guns in crime. We must be, if we are to win any support outside our own ranks, or even the support of our own people, for our program.)

The second most-discussed subject has to do with mail-order purchase. This was expected, if only in view of the wide publicity accorded to the actions of the Dodd Committee, both before and after November 22, 1963. It is a sticky question that we must face, since it applies to domestic guns as well as imports, to fine guns as well as cheap "junkers," to ethical conscientious sellers as well as to those others who have caused so



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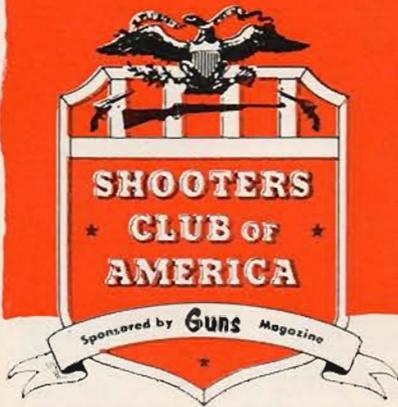
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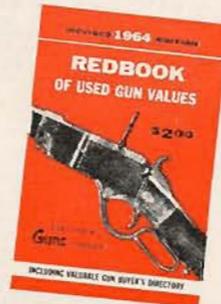
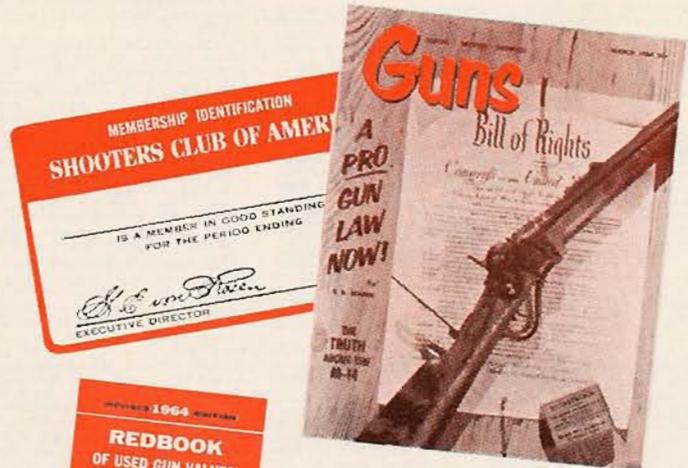
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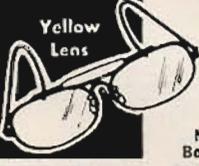
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(Continued from page 61)

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HAZARDS AND PROBLEMS OF HANDLOADING

By Fred Tucker
(Fred Tucker, Kenton, Okla., 1963. \$2.00)

While the title of this small paper-bound book may sound as though the author was against handloading, this is not the case. After starting with the basic reloading procedures, the book warms up to the touchy task of presenting some of the dangers involved when one attempts to roll his own ammo. While some may criticize the pamphlet-like make-up, and some may disagree with one or more of the theories of this book, I think it should be read by every handloader, veteran and beginner alike. If only one of the cautions helps make your handloading safer, it will be two dollars well spent.—J.R.

CIVIL WAR COLLECTOR'S ENCYCLOPEDIA
By Francis A. Lord
(The Stackpole Co., Harrisburg, Pa., 1963. \$17.50)

Histories about the bloody Civil War are plentiful, but what has been lacking up to now, was a complete description of the equipment and material used by the Blues and the Grays. Author Lord has done an outstanding job in collecting all of the material that he presents in a comprehensive, yet easy to read style. From cartridge pouches to medicine chest, from saddles to flags, all of the items used by both sides are there, and best of all are the many excellent photographs and drawings. I was especially delighted with the comprehensive index and the manufacturers index which have helped me a great deal in some of my reading and identifying relics of the Civil War. The publication of this book is a milestone in the study of the War Between The States, and Dr. Lord deserves thanks from all of us.—R.A.S.

CATTLE RAISING ON THE PLAINS OF NORTH AMERICA

By Walter Baron von Richthofen
(University of Oklahoma Press, 1963. \$2.00)

If the name of the author sounds familiar, it should, for he was an uncle of the famed WW I ace Manfred von Richthofen.

First published in 1885, this book is the Baron's effort to describe and advise on the cattle industry of the Great Plains. It is an unusual contemporary account of an industry that was in its infancy then, but was destined to a greatness not even realized by Richthofen.

This is another fine contribution to Americana literature in the Western Frontier Library series.—J.R.

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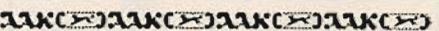
By J. W. Vaughn
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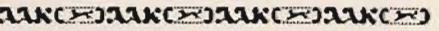
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SHOOTER'S BIBLE TREASURY
(Stoeger Arms Corp., 55 Ruta Court,
South Hackensack, N.J., 1964. \$2.95)

Early copies of the "Shooter's Bible" have rapidly become collector's items. It is therefore doubly pleasant and important to report that Stoeger's, in publishing the Treasury, has done the shooter, the collector, and the student of firearms a real service. The 224 pages are crammed with important stuff; here are some brief examples; you can find a complete listing of Holland & Holland shotguns, of the L.C. Smith line, and a great many other guns of yesteryear. The only hitch is the fact that the Treasury has the same soft binding as the other Bibles, but I understand from Stoeger's that hard-bound copies will be available. A "best buy" for '64 as far as I am concerned.—R.A.S.

THE BADMEN
(Columbia Records, 1963. \$10.00)

It is seldom that we review a record album here, but this one deserves much more that

our limited space allows. If you're a Western Americana fan, you are in for a rare treat—when you listen to songs of such famous badmen as Jesse James, Quantrell, or Billy the Kid, and—sung by men like Pete Seeger and others with a real twang. You'll listen to the voice of Zoe Tilghman, wife of the famous lawman, or Homer Croy, outspoken defender of the James boys, and many others. These voices, on two records, are worth the price of the album, but there's more. The big, bold, and beautifully produced book that is included with the album



abounds with photographs, woodcuts, and articles on well-known, and not so well-known badmen. If anything can bring the old west nearer, this album will do it.—J.R.

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By Tom Hunter

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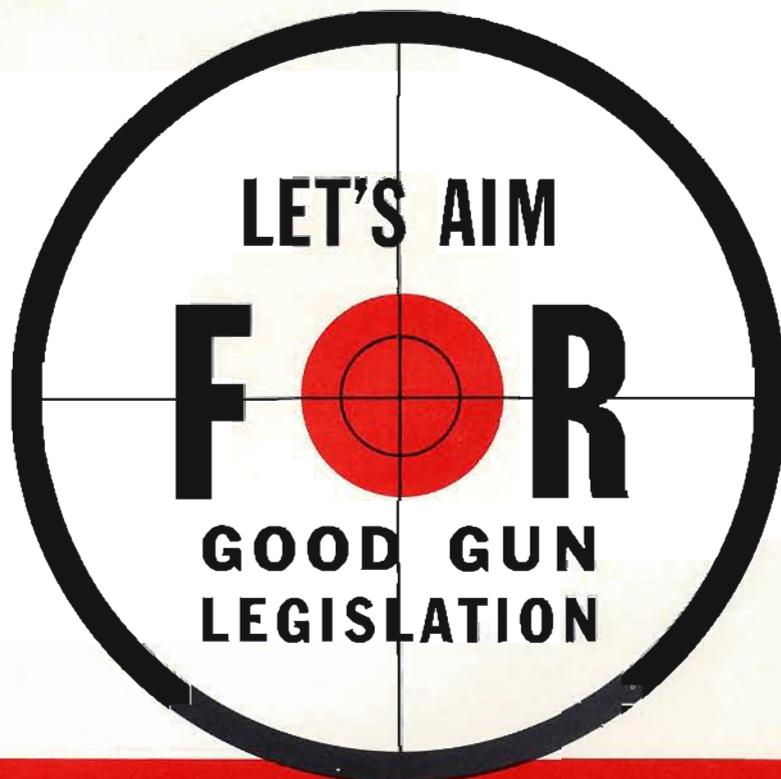
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The issue: There WILL be legislation involving firearms. The question: WILL IT BE REASONABLE AND REALISTIC, OR WILL IT PRIMARILY INFRINGE UPON HONEST CITIZENS' CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO BEAR ARMS?

REDFIELD GUN SIGHT CO. is NOT opposed to sane, sensible gun legislation. However, certain bad laws, prompted by a lack of understanding, might be introduced and enacted. We urge the sportsmen of America to unite in an effort to prevent the passage of such laws.

We are legally and morally right in opposing bad gun legislation through the Second Amendment of the Constitution. But, we must believe in our cause; then, we must take action.

What action? What strategy? 1. Let's prevent passage of laws which would involve the mass registration of privately-owned firearms at any level of government, now or ever. 2. Let's prevent the intrusion of owners' fees and licenses that would limit a decent citizen's constitutional right to purchase and possess firearms. 3. With reason and open-mindedness, let's listen to the well-intentioned sponsors of gun legislation—but be on the alert for provisions which would (a) disarm the re-

sponsible citizen, or (b) try to legislate morality. 4. Let's get answers to two questions:

A. Will the proposed legislation prevent firearms from falling into the hands of the irresponsible...particularly the criminal, or the person with criminal intent?

B. In proposed registration or licensing programs, what will assure us that confiscation will not eventually follow—which has been the historical result in all such programs?

United, concerted action is required. The National Rifle Association, and other responsible citizens' groups need your whole-hearted and enthusiastic support.

If you are not already a member of the National Rifle Association,* we urge you to join immediately. As a responsible citizen-sportsman, YOU can help insure the rightful passage of sane, sensible gun legislation and prevent bad gun legislation which not only infringes, but is dangerous!

*Membership fee in NRA is \$5.00.

Send your application to: National Rifle Association
1600 Rhode Island Avenue, NW • Washington 6, D. C.



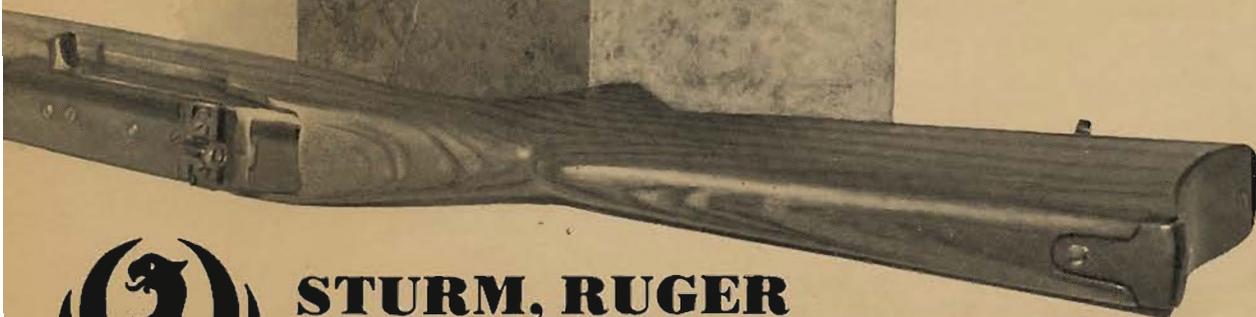
REDFIELD GUN SIGHT CO.

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“To ride, shoot straight, and speak the truth—
This was the ancient Law of Youth.
Old times are past, old days are done;
But the Law runs true, O little son!”

—Charles T. Davis



**STURM, RUGER
& COMPANY, INC.**

Southport, Connecticut, U.S.A.

Manufacturers of Firearms for the Responsible Citizen-Sportsman