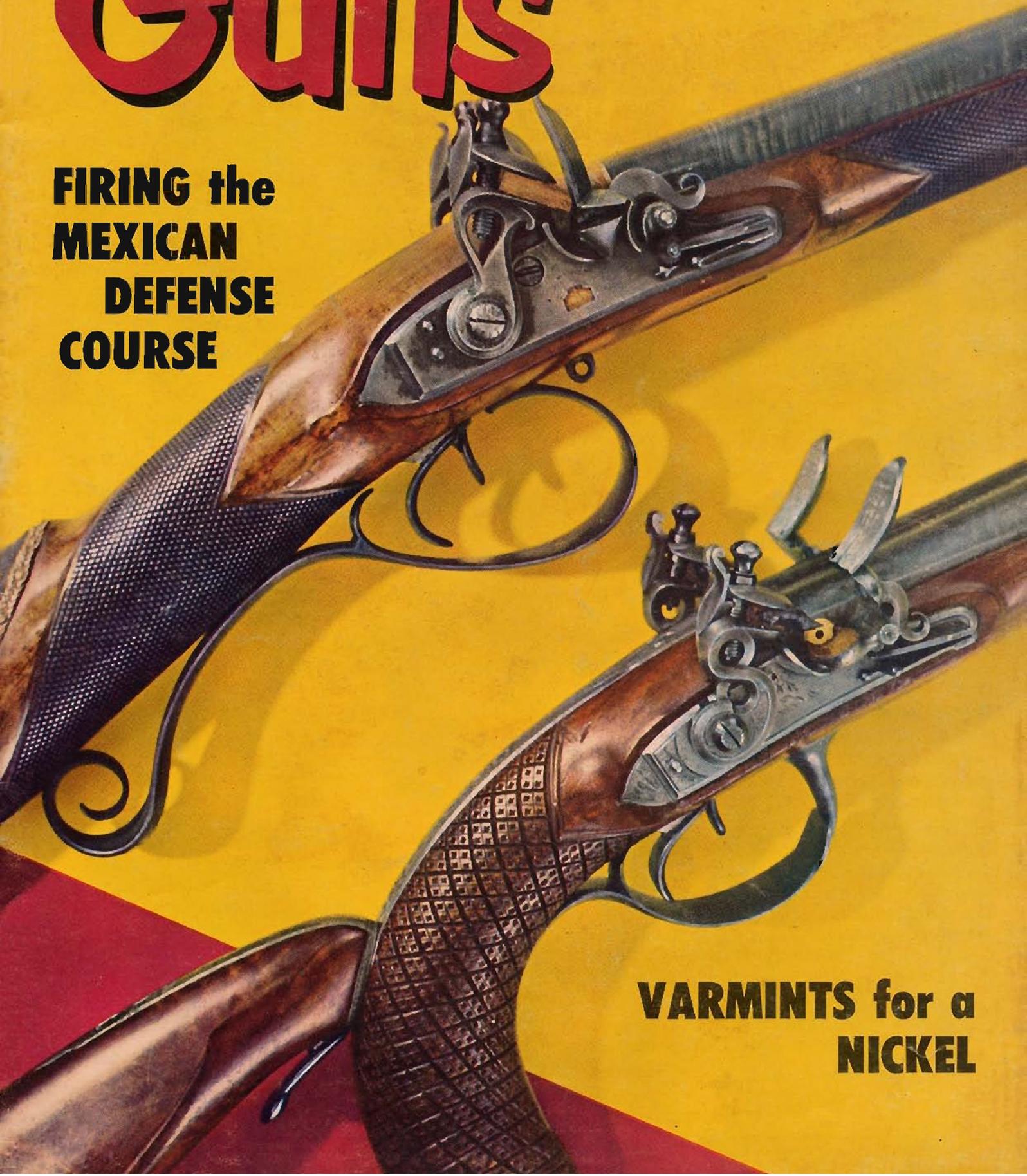


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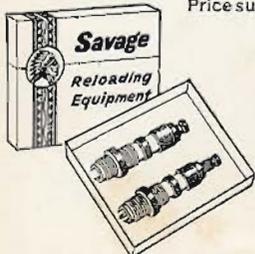
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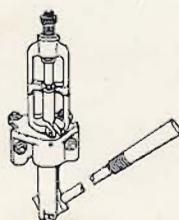
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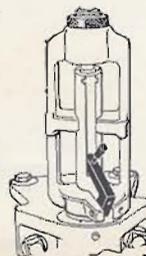


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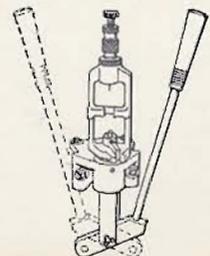


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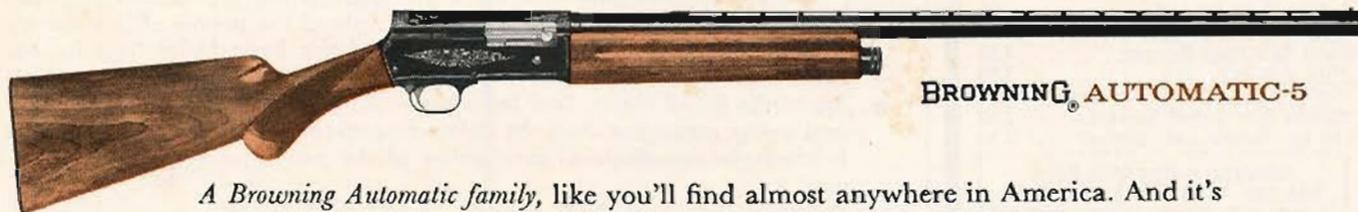
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KNOW YOUR LAWMAKERS

Congressman Ralph Harding Idaho



I would not favor any legislation, federal or state, which would unduly restrict private gun ownership in this country. Citizens should have the right to retain firearms in their homes.

The Second Amendment of the U. S. Constitution provides: "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 Idaho's Constitution recognizes this right as well. In the Declaration of Rights is this provision: "Right to Bear Arms—

The people have the right to bear arms for their security and defense; but the legislature shall regulate the exercise of this right by law."

The Idaho Supreme Court has also determined that the right to prohibit the carrying of concealed weapons falls within the police power of a municipality and ordinances enforcing proper use of guns have been found constitutional.

It is my view that proper regulation of guns can be accomplished in such a manner that it will both serve to reduce crime, and yet insure that the rights of the individual citizen and the sportsman are not infringed upon.

Congressman Harold T. Johnson California

Throughout my lifetime I have owned guns and have enjoyed hunting of all types available to sportsmen. For this reason I feel very strongly about the preservation of the right of the individual citizen of the United States of America to own and retain guns without undue interference from the Federal government. I feel, however, that this right goes far deeper than the right of sportsmen to own the weapon required for their advocacy.

The Second Amendment of the Constitution of the United States specifically prohibits any infringement upon the right of the people of this country to keep and bear arms. The importance of this basic belief held by our founding fathers is shown in the high priority which it was given in the adopting of the Bill of Rights. That importance has not diminished one iota today and every precaution must be taken to prevent any infringement on this fundamental constitutional prerogative of the people of this nation.

Congressman Joseph E. Karth Minnesota

As a sportsman, as well as being a legislator, I support the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution in its broadest sense.

It is true, of course, that certain gun laws may reduce crime—I have in mind promiscuous through-the-mails selling without proper identification etc. In most cases, however, where crimes are committed, they are committed with stolen weapons.

Certainly, I believe thoroughly that a law-abiding private citizen should in no way, shape, or manner or form be prevented from keeping firearms for participation in shooting sports for self defense purposes.

I read your magazine regularly and find it interesting, informative and educational—congratulations.



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

JUNE, 1964
Vol. X, No. 6-114

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IN THIS ISSUE

collectors . . .

THE SAGA OF S&W Louis W. Steinwedel 16
 A MUZZLE LOADER FESTIVAL M. Robert Beasley 36

military . . .

THE MYSTERIOUS SPIW Lt. Col. Frank F. Rathbun 19

hunting . . .

VARMINTS FOR A NICKEL Hal Swiggett 22
 HOW TO CHOOSE YOUR NEXT HUNTING VEHICLE Byron Dalrymple 26
 WOODCHUCKS COME BEFORE BIG GAME Bert Popowski 32

technical . . .

RELOADING REMINGTON PLASTIC TRAP LOADS Jim Horton 20
 LEVERPOWER John B. Prescott 30

handguns . . .

MEXICAN DEFENSE COURSE Bill Toney 24

departments . . .

KNOW YOUR LAWMAKERS 4
 GUN RACK 6
 CROSSFIRE 8
 SHOOTERS CLUB OF AMERICA 11
 HANDLOADING BENCH Kent Bellah 12
 THE FRONTIER GUNSHOP James M. Triggs 29
 PULL! Dick Miller 38
 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS Graham Burnside 44
 SHOPPING WITH GUNS 56
 THE GUN MARKET 64
 INDEX OF ADVERTISERS 66

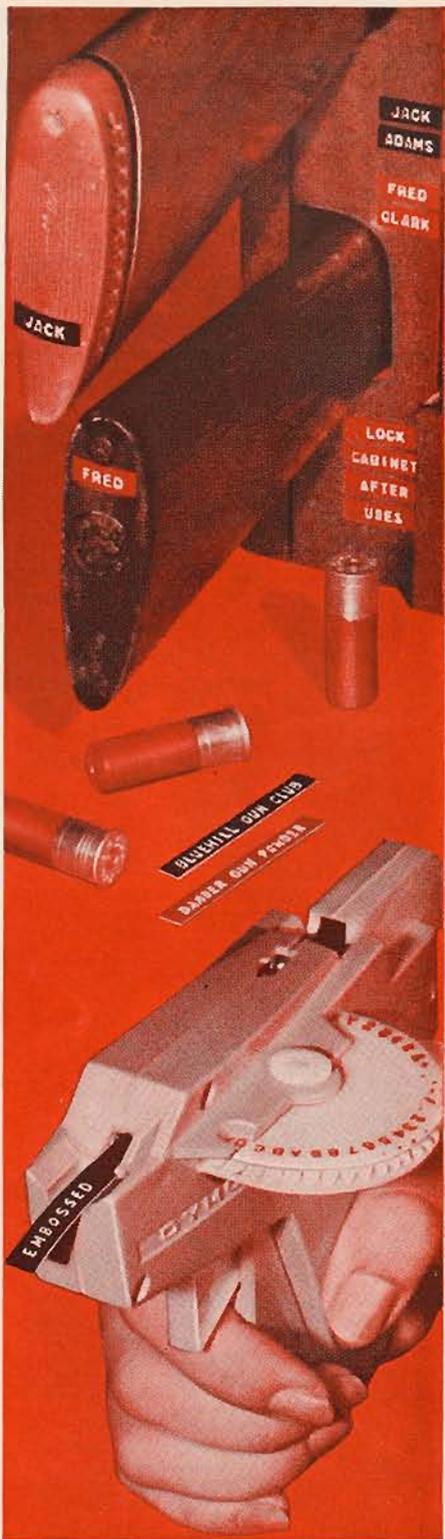
THE COVER

Double barrel flintlock pistol with a clip-on stock, gold inset in pan, and special triggers was made by Durs Egg in 1790 for club-fingered George IV, probably while he was Prince of Wales. Curt Gunther of California was first man allowed to photograph the guns in the private museum of Churchill's of London. Collection is valued at more than a half million dollars, contains many one-of-a-kind specimens.



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Speer Manual #6

Bigger than ever and with more information per page, the newest Speer Loading Manual is a must for every reloader. The Speer staff has been testing old loads and working up new ones for over a year, and the new manual reflects the fantastic amount of work that was poured into it.

Aside from the revamped loading tables, complete with loading dope for practically all the latest calibers, you'll find a great deal of technical information and how-to tips. Especially interesting is the section on chronographed factory ammo, and this should do much to end the many arguments that start with "the factory gives this load such-and-so many fps, but my loads don't gimme the same." There is lots more we could say about the Speer Manual, but your best bet is to get one—at \$2.95, it is still the biggest handloading bargain.

The New Model 70

Not one opinion voiced by the fifteen shooters who had the chance to examine or shoot the new Model 70 agreed with the opinions expressed by the others. The new Model 70 only vaguely resembles the old model, and then you really have to look for the points of similarity since there are more points of dissimilarity.

Let's start with the barrel and the sights. The front and the rear sights are easily removable, and the rear sight strongly resembles one of the high Williams sights. Internally, the new Winchester Model 70 has



undergone the greatest changes. The engine turned bolt—a considerable improvement in the appearance—is recessed so that the cartridge head is completely enclosed. A breech bolt sleeve has been added, and for the handloader who likes his ammo hot, this feature is of great interest since it effectively prevents possible gas blow back. It is a moot point whether or not the cocking indicator is of any importance, but there is one, and you might as well get used to seeing it. The barrels on the new models are free floated, excepting those on the .375 H&H and the .458 Winchester Magnum. The trigger has been widened and serrated, and the magazine follower fastening to the magazine spring has been changed. A word of warning might be indicated here. The old Model 70's had a simple method of fastening the spring to the

follower; once you take the spring and the follower apart on the new model, you'll have the devil's own time to get them back together again, and snapping open the magazine floor plate without guarding it with your hand will spill ammo and the follower all over the countryside. The follower and trigger guard are aluminum.

The stock on the new Model 70 is probably the greatest bone of contention among the

The S&W .41 Magnum

At press time, we started to put our new S&W Model 57—the name given the .41 Magnum—through its paces. Finished in the customary fine S&W style, the Model 57 weighs a hefty 48 ounces with the 6 inch barrel. The first few rounds of handloaded ammo that were shipped to us by Remington were not a production run, but this ammo shot well. The test gun was factory sighted to shoot dead-on, but force of habit made us hold the gun at the customary 6 o'clock, and thus our first group was low. Recoil is there, though we believe that it is not severer than that of the .357 Magnum, and it is certainly lighter than that of the .44 Magnum. Noise level on our indoor pistol range was not at all bad, even to the shooter, and again it appeared to us that it was on the order of the full loaded .357 Magnum cartridge when fired in a 6" S&W.

Remington will offer a 210 grain lead bullet and a 210 grain S.P. load. The lead bullet churns up, according to Remington, a muzzle velocity of 1135 fps, and a muzzle energy of 600; for the S.P. bullet, Remington lists 1600 fps and a respectable 1193 for the muzzle energy.

Dies are available for this true .410 caliber from RCBS. Other handloading companies will of course also carry the needed stuff to cook up your own loads. A complete and comprehensive report on the S&W .41 Magnum will appear in a forthcoming issue of GUNS Magazine.

shooters who have seen the gun. Personally, we fired only 10 rounds with the .30-06 test gun and the factory open sights. The stock is a high breakaway Monte Carlo comb type (Continued on page 58)

NEW CROSMAN "38"'S

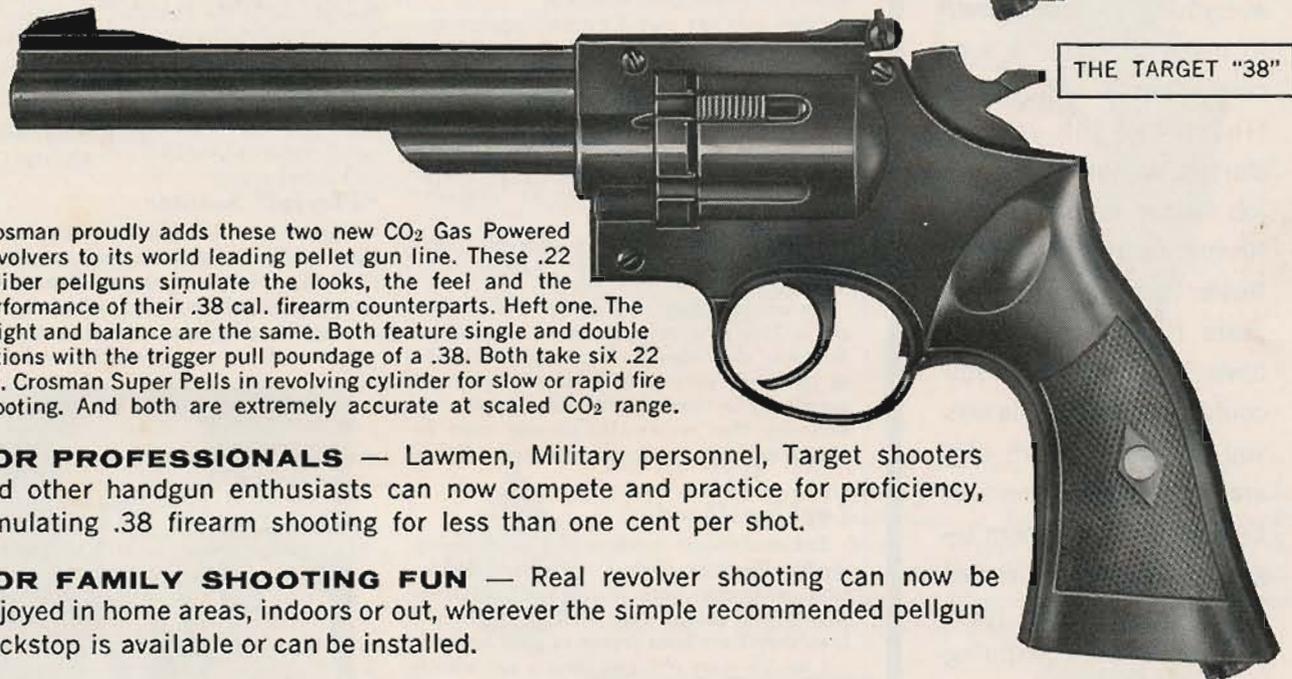
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CROSSFIRE

Concealed Firearms

I recently read the Seven Point Program of Action which you published in the February issue of GUNS and in a recent Shooters Club Newsletter. In general, I thought it was very good, especially the sixth, which could hardly have been worded better.

I take serious exception, however, to the second point which says that laws concerning the carrying of loaded concealable firearms should be made more stringent.

I can only say that I strongly oppose any legislation dictating the manner in which a firearm must be carried (loaded, empty, taken apart, in a case, etc.). I would add here, however, that I do not object to the requirement of a license for the carrying of a loaded concealable firearm. I urge you to publish this letter and invite comment through your magazine.

Elwood Caster
Lacona, N.Y.

No one will dispute, I am sure, that if we are to have permits for carrying concealable firearms, they should be stringent (rigid) so that only persons of good character get permits. The law should, also be firm in declaring that responsible persons must be issued such a permit if requested.—Editor

Looking Ahead

Enclosed is my payment for membership in the Shooters Club Of America. I like GUNS Magazine very much, and hope that you will be able to stop some of the stupid laws they have been trying to pass lately.

I am 26 years old, and have a son who is three. I like to go out and pop a cap as well as anyone, and ever since I was nine years old I have been building a collection of guns and reloading equipment. I intend to pass these on to my son, or his son, when I get too old to hunt and shoot, but will he be able to use them with as much freedom as I do now?

William Hensley Jr.
Folsomville, Indiana

Canadian Laws

In the March, 1964 issue of GUNS, you published a letter by Richard Smith, London, Ontario. The statements he makes regarding the laws we have are true, but I can't agree that there is nothing repressive about our handgun laws. We may own a handgun only to put in a collection, to protect our property (if this is the reason given when the handgun is registered then the gun must remain on the property), or for target purposes. If target work is the reason given on regis-

tration, you must belong to a gun club before you may shoot it and you may take the gun only to the club (the only place it may be fired) and home again. The only exception to this, as Mr. Smith mentioned is in Ontario, where this year they were allowed to hunt with a handgun. The rest of us must be content to shoot our guns at our club or, if we don't belong to a club, to sit and admire our collection.

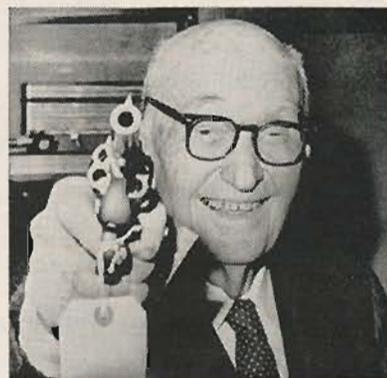
As if this is not enough, a bill is being brought up in the House of Commons which will call for the banning of all handguns and the registration of all rifles and shotguns. I am sure that many people would agree that our gun laws are, indeed, repressive.

G. Rodney Shewchuk
Alberta, Canada

"Playful" Senator

Enclosed is a picture of Senator Carl Hayden, Democrat from Arizona, aiming a Colt .38 at the photographer. The Senator is at a hearing which is to consider legislation on control and shipment of firearms.

Just a glance at this picture, and you can



see that Senator Hayden does not know the first thing about firearms safety. It is careless people like this who ruin shooting for all good people who collect and shoot firearms.

I would like to know how a man can pass judgment on something which he does not know the first thing about? I think a person should know something about what he is passing judgement on.

I have been reading GUNS Magazine for six years now, and would like to compliment you on your fine magazine.

Kenneth T. Helwink
Chicago, Ill.

It is evident that the Senator has not yet learned what over two million youngsters, who have taken the hunter safety training course, have learned.—Editor

Alaska Guides

After reading "Choosing A Guide" (GUNS, Oct. '63.) I noticed Alaska got bumped around a bit. All I can say is that hunters should take the time to write the Chamber of Commerce of the town the guide resides in or near. The Chambers up here work together in making our fair State a better place to live, they won't steer you wrong.

Spring hunts for cattle killing "Kodies," where the ranchers sing your praises, are becoming very popular and a heck of a lot better than possible Government trapping.

N. S. Haase
Kodiak, Alaska

Stand And Be Counted

I have just read your very informative article about firearms legislation. I must say that I agree with you 100 per cent. It is about time we, as a nation of riflemen, pool our time, talent, and minds and get a pro-gun law passed before the federal courts interpret away all our rights.

I know the laws and Constitution of this land were written by men who were inspired of God. Their meanings were clear to the people then. Why all the confusion now? As a minister I feel that we should protect our rights and the rights of others. You can count on me to "father" the cause at every opportunity. I know you will continue the good work.

Elder Lawrence Dotson
South Point, Ohio

Pro-Gun Publicity

I see every sport on television and in the newspapers but the gun sports. Surely it takes as much skill, practice, and concentration to score 100 straight at skeet as it does to bowl a 300 game.

The gun is portrayed on TV and in the newspapers as if it were a reptile of the most dangerous species; always ready to strike. The classic lines, beautiful finish, and exquisite workmanship are quite lost when in the hands of a scowling criminal.

Conversely, a show with, say, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stack shooting a round of skeet would offend no one. Please pardon my verbosity, but I think Gary Anderson is as much a national hero as Arnold Palmer.

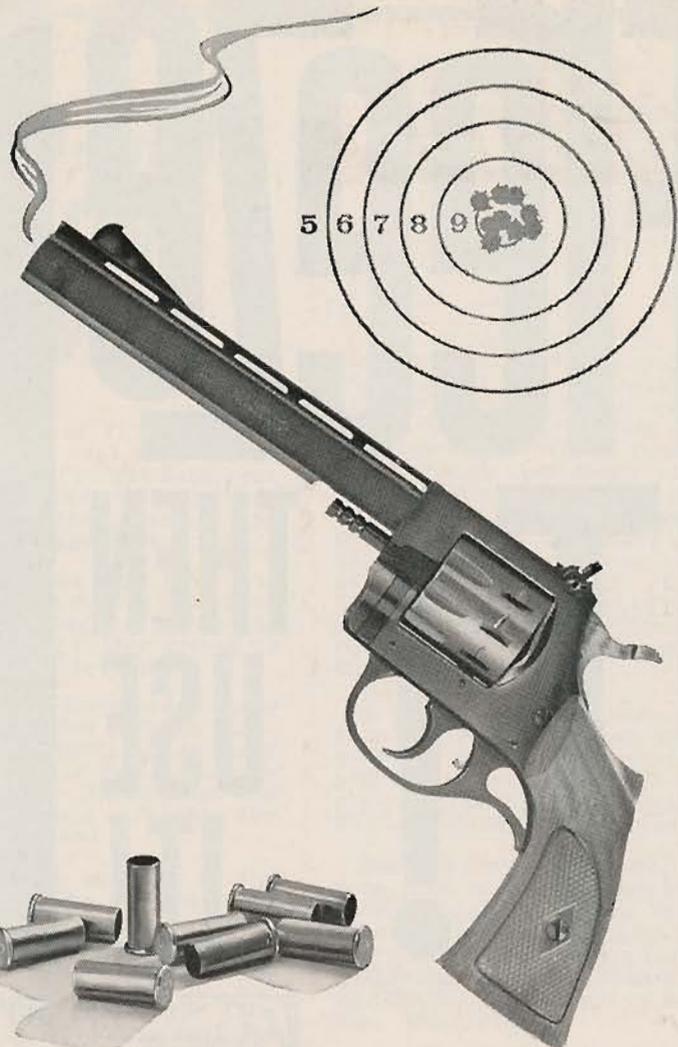
John C. Barrett D.D.S.
Tylertown, Miss.

Readers Respond

Thank you very much for publishing my letter in your March '64 issue of GUNS. I appreciate this very much indeed. I have not had a chance to buy this copy yet for it will not be on sale in Australia for about another month. I have had three replies in two days from people in the U.S. I think this is really terrific. Keep up the good work as you have in the past, best luck to you all.

Bruce Martin
Queensland, Australia

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MODEL 402



MODEL 755

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H&R Forty-Niner Model 949 Western style .22 caliber 9-shot revolver with one-piece walnut grip.



H&R Model 929 Sidekick .22 caliber 9-shot revolver with swing-out cylinder.

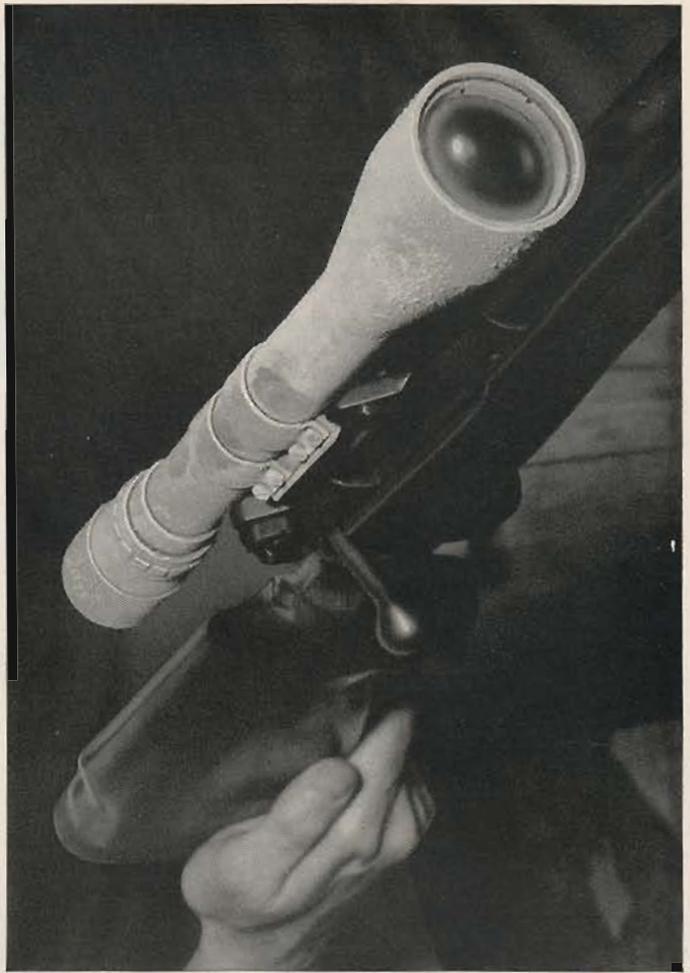


H&R Model 900 Snap-out .22 caliber 9-shot revolver with center push pin unit for fast loading, unloading.

FREE CATALOG. Send 10 cents to cover handling and mailing costs. Write Dept. GM-3

Harrington & Richardson, Inc.
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Freeze IT! THEN USE IT!

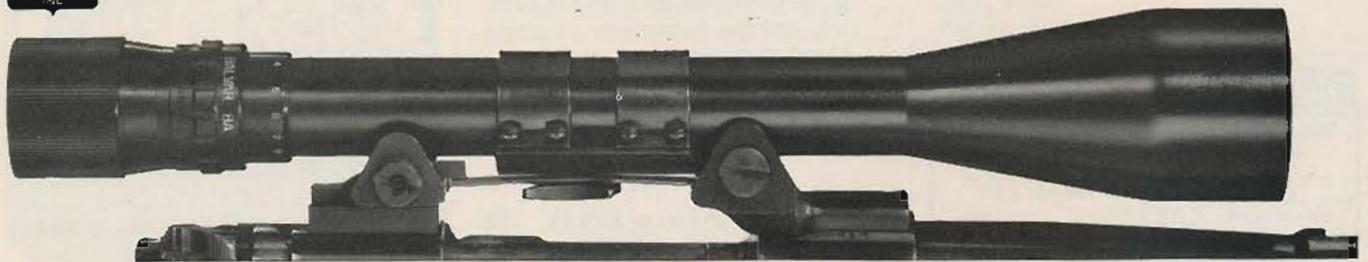


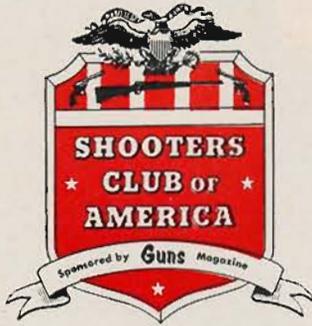
SUPER TOUGHNESS AND B&L QUALITY AT \$49.95

Not that you would want to freeze one of these fine new scopes by packing it in dry ice, but we did. We subjected a new Balvar 8A scope to a seven-day deep freeze to be sure the new scope line would give you top performance under the roughest field conditions. Mounted on a Winchester Model 70 .375 Magnum at 40 degrees below zero, it checked out perfectly. We not only froze it . . . we baked it, soaked it, slammed it, scraped it and dropped 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 2½ to 8X at \$99.95. For 85-page manual, "Facts About Telescopic Sights", send 25¢ to Bausch & Lomb Incorporated, Rochester, N.Y. 14602.

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BAUSCH & LOMB





THE PRO-GUN LAW IS ON THE MOVE

One of the most heartening pieces of mail received in this office in many moons included a copy of House Joint Resolution No. 21, offered to the House of Delegates of the State of Virginia on January 22, 1964. We think it merits reprinting in full:

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 21

Offered January 22, 1964

Concerning the inherent right of citizens of this Commonwealth to own and bear arms.

Patrons—Messrs. Pennington, Middleton, Gunn, T. C. Andrews, Putney, Phillips, Smith, et als

Referred to the Committee on General Laws

WHEREAS, from the landing at Jamestown on to the expansion of this nation to the Pacific coast, a peaceful society developed in the area that was wrested from the wilderness by sturdy riflemen armed with their personal weapons and skilled in their use; and

WHEREAS the history of this great nation bears witness to the many benefits derived by a citizenry free to own—bear—and become skilled in the use of rifles and firearms, and among these historic occasions, to mention but a few, were the following: Valley Forge, Yorktown, New Orleans, the Alamo, Manassas, Chateau Thierry, Tarawa, and Iwo Jima; and

WHEREAS the right of the citizen is entwined in the very roots of the founding of the Commonwealth when it was not only the individual's right to bear arms but his duty to bear arms in the defense of his community—only slaves were forbidden to carry weapons—Thomas Jefferson deemed the right to bear arms worthy of inclusion in his drafts of the Virginia Constitution—and the rise or fall of the political rights of the citizen has been allied with the right to bear arms or the deprivation of such rights; and

WHEREAS our armed forces have always been dependent upon citizen soliders who were familiar

with the use of firearms, and a capable and well armed citizenry is an efficient deterrent to any aggressor who would seek to overthrow the government by conquest or subversion; and

WHEREAS laws limiting the right to own and bear arms have never succeeded in deterring crime but have rather served to disarm the public; and

WHEREAS the horrible tragedy which befell the Jackson family of Louisa County at the hands of a fiend could well have been prevented had Mr. Jackson had available to him a firearm for self defense; and

WHEREAS many citizens of the Commonwealth who own and enjoy the use of firearms are greatly disturbed by the proposals of certain groups to regulate and restrict gun ownership, and such citizens are of the firm and undying conviction that the safety of our nation from enemies within and without makes more necessary proper training in the safe and effective use of firearms which can only be guaranteed by a continuation of the existing right to own and employ such weapons; now therefore be it

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, that the right to keep and bear arms guaranteed by the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States and which right is an inalienable part of our citizens' heritage in this State, shall not be infringed; that any action taken by the General Assembly of Virginia to interfere with this right would strike at the basic liberty of our citizens; that no agency of this State or of any political subdivision should be given any power or seek any power which would prohibit the purchase, possession, or which would require registration of firearms by any citizen of good standing for the purpose of personal defense, sport, recreation, or other noncriminal activities; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that

the Clerk of the House of Delegates be instructed to send a copy of this resolution to every member of the Virginia Delegation in the Congress of the United States as a reminder of the fact that laws cannot prevent tragedies but bad laws can bring in their train even greater tragedies.

This is not, of course, a pro-gun law; it is a Resolution, a statement of basic principles, an interpretation of the existing constitutional provision framed by Thomas Jefferson. Passed by the General Assembly, it will constitute a mandate and a warning to lawmakers at all levels of government that the people of Virginia intend that these principles, shall be upheld. It is at least a step on the road to pro-gun legislation, and a pattern which other state pro-gun groups might do well to follow.

Note, if you will, how closely this Resolution follows the suggestions made in our pro-gun law proposals for a favorable interpretation of the Second Amendment to our federal Constitution.

Reasons for increasing optimism come from other sources also. A recent release from the National Shooting Sports Foundation brings heartening news from New York. The following is quoted from a story in "The New York Times" of Wednesday, January 29:

Albany, Jan. 28—The sportsmen's lobby won a victory today as the Joint Legislative Committee of Firearms and Ammunition announced that it would not recommend a bill requiring the registration of rifles and shotguns.

Instead, Senator Albert Berkowitz, Republican of Granville, who is chairman of the committee, filed bills to make it unlawful for the insane or for persons with serious criminal records to possess rifles or shotguns. . .

. . . Senator Berkowitz said: "We felt that such a law (i.e., requirement to register) 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."

The National Shooting Sports Foundation release adds the following

(Continued on page 55)

YOUR GUNS DESERVE
RCBS
PRECISIONERED
RELOADING EQUIPMENT

UNIFLOW POWDER MEASURE



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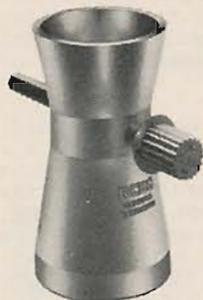
Special Measuring Cylinder prevents powder clogging and ensures consistently accurate uniform charges. Adjusts quickly and easily from one charge to another. Powder level visible at all times. Easily mounted on press or bench. NEW Small Measuring Cylinder available for bench rest and pistol shooters. Specify regular or small measuring cylinder. Complete with stand plate.

With both Measuring
Cylinders. \$25.05

\$19.95

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ANOTHER RCBS PRECISIONERED PRODUCT



... The Powder Trickler makes it easy to balance scales with accurate powder charges. You merely twist knob and powder "trickles" into scale pan—a kernel at a time—until desired charge is reached. Used with most popular powder scales. Large capacity reservoir. Base of Trickler—designed extra large to minimize tipping—will accommodate anchorweight if desired.

\$3.00

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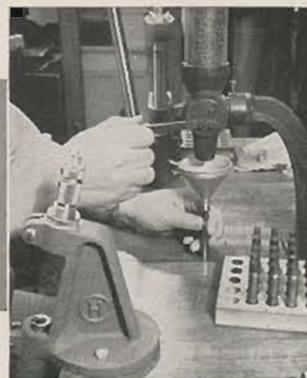


RCBS INC.

DEPT. E18, P. O. BOX 729
OROVILLE, CALIF 95965

HANDLOADING BENCH

By KENT BELLAH



The C-H "Nytral" sizers, about as hard as tungsten carbide (T-C) pistol die inserts, are solid nitralloy. The big, big news is the Nytral rifle sizer. It's impractical to use T-C for bottle neck cases, although the super hard, slick dies are in demand. Nytral, like T-C, makes extra long life premium dies. Cases are easier worked, and beautifully burnished without galling or scratching. Our .222 and .38 Spl. dies are perfect, slick as T-C under a 50X microscope.

C-H recommends breaking-in with 25 lubed cases, then lube about every tenth. You may need to lube one in 20 fresh cases, or one in 5 old dry ones. After some use, less lube is needed.

After breaking-in we sized 40 unlubed .222 and 200 unlubed .38 cases. They didn't gall or scratch. Nytral rifle dies are a major improvement. Our pistol die, unlike some T-C



inserts, full length sizes without leaving a sharp ring near a case head or damage to the die. Blued Nytral sizer bodies, at \$16.95, have an excellent chromed split hex lock nut and Allen lock screw, and a chromed hex nut on the decapping unit. Complete rifle or pistol sets are \$22.95, and worth it.

C-H has an informative 32 page (25¢) booklet on Metallic & Shotshell Reloading. It lists shotshell and swaged handgun bullet loads, dope on swaging, reloading and lists C-H products. Written for the novice, experts will find much of interest. The top pistol loads are well below maximum in our tests.

Speer's new 148 gr. Hollow Base .38 Wad-cutter outshoots any cast or swaged bullet we have tested. Cost is about like casting your own! In our tests with 3.0 grs. Bullseye and CCI 500 primers it shoots well within the 50 yard 10 ring, mostly in the X ring. Speer's pill tightens groups tremendously, about half the size of good average reloads that won't shoot in that elusive circle.

One secret is the high density swaged hollow base, Ed McGivern's 1916 design,

used in all factory match ammo. Speer's improved design for reloads has a bevel base for inline seating that eliminates base fins on firing. The forward bearing surface is near land diameter for less deformation and friction plus bore alignment. The hollow base expands or swages down to fit large or tight bores perfectly. It shoots beautifully in a tight-bore Colt Python or S & W Model 52, and a large bore S & W K-38.

For the first time, Speer's bullet permits reloads that exceed factory match ammo. It's superb for targets, or small game and varmints to over 75 yards. Loading isn't temperamental as flat base bullets. For the S & W Model 52, or custom pistols, seat bullets flush with the case mouth, crimped very lightly or not at all. For revolvers crimp cases lightly in the crimp groove.

With this mild charge it produces more terminal shock than semi-wadcutters, and tin cans jump higher. Your dealer has these or can get them. Or order from Gil Hebard Guns, Knoxville, Illinois. Gil's new \$1 catalog No. 16 lists everything for handgunners, with many good tips.

Speer's new No. 6 Reloading Manual, \$2.95, is the best ever published. It's completely revised with much new reloading dope from the nation's finest private ballistic lab. It explains nearly everything you need to know, plus tens of thousands of dollars worth of tested loading data. The new book is without competition, needed by every novice or expert.

We had reports of some factory ammo blowing primers. One chap had gas blown in his face, but wasn't injured. Perhaps that lot of ammo had soft case heads. Regardless of pressure, any primer blowing load is excessive in a particular case or rifle. Ammo varies a bit, and rifles more. Don't reload any cases with even slightly expanded pockets. Purchase a new lot of ammo and after firing, keep cases trimmed to minimum length and neck reamed as necessary. It's sensible to reload Hi-V Magnums a bit less than flat out.

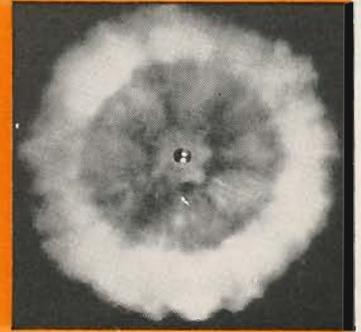
All .264 loads I've listed are well within acceptable limits of pressure with specified components. A change in components may increase pressure. Magnums didn't get "too Magnum." They fill a need for long range, flat trajectory with a potent punch without loading flat out. The .300 Win. Magnum has higher terminal efficiency at lower pressure than smaller bore hot-shots. It's a great cartridge.

Discard any cases in a new lot with visible defects. Load and fire the others

(Continued on page 14)

announcing...

THE WORLD OF GUNS



THE FIRST COMPLETE "PRO-GUN" STORY!

The ever-increasing agitation for anti-gun legislation has brought a correspondingly heavy demand for positive measures designed to combat anti-firearms hysteria. In response to this demand, the publishers of GUNS Magazine and The SHOOTING INDUSTRY will publish a special, separate issue—on October 15th, bearing the title THE WORLD OF GUNS.

THE WORLD OF GUNS will be the first complete source of positive pro-gun information—information designed to sweep aside the misunderstandings and misinformation clouding the firearms question. THE WORLD OF GUNS will present the complete story . . . from manufacturer to shooter—the historical role played by both the individual shooter and the firearms manufacturer in the development of our free nation will be explained—noted industry leaders and highly placed figures from outside will present facts and figures revealing the full profile of the shooter, of his activities, and of the firearms industry—and as a special bonus, THE WORLD OF GUNS will contain a "Who's Who" of the firearms industry—the men who can be counted on to lead the struggle against restrictive anti-firearms legislation.

Available in a hard-binding, designed to take a permanent place in any library, THE WORLD OF GUNS will accomplish its vital educational and public relations effort through massive public distribution. Copies will be delivered to some 1,500 members of "Official Washington" and to all Governors. In addition, firearms manufacturers, gun clubs, and other interested groups and individuals will support this effort by distributing complementary copies to state

and local legislators, schools, libraries, etc. Thus, by bringing our side of the story to public attention, THE WORLD OF GUNS will accomplish its vital task.

In this critical time, those of us concerned with firearms can no longer afford to merely react to efforts designed to limit our constitutionally-protected rights. We must band together in support of a positive program of information which will protect us against those who do not recognize the benefits derived from firearms. It is to accomplish this objective that THE WORLD OF GUNS is being published . . . it is the one place where all the information will be available . . . the one opportunity to participate in a *pro-gun* effort.

Don't delay, order your copy now—at the special pre-publication price—and order extra copies for distribution by your club or group to local lawmakers, schools, colleges, libraries, etc.

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(Continued from page 12)

for groups and plinking. Trim, ream if needed, and you'll have cases formed to fit your chamber, if they are not sized too much. They won't give quite the same center of impact as new one. Zero with reloads. Acc-U-Ream Flash Hole and Primer Pocket Gauges run from "Minimum" to "No-Go" if you want to sort cases for extreme uniformity. Discard any that take a "No-Go." Inspect cases visually after each firing for superb reloads.

Winchester's new M70, in production by the end of 1963, isn't kissin' kin to the old 1936 version it replaces. With a greatly improved lock, stock and barrel, long wanted and needed, it deserves a new name. Tack drivers called the old M70 a "do-it-yourself kit." They custom stocked it, bedded the factory stock or floated the barrel. Now with a new swaged, floating tube it doesn't need any custom gunsmithing.

Best feature is a jeweled bolt, recessed to enclose cases, and a bolt sleeve cap. It eliminates blowing hot brass and gas right in your eye if a primer blows. That was possible in the old flat bolt, coned barrel M70, a Mauser hangover. With this, and a stronger receiver, you have a huge margin of safety with hot loads. It will take a near detonation to take it apart, or damage the gun or shooter.

A wider, serrated trigger gives better control and let-off for precision hits. A new finger release floor plate and cock indicator are good features. With a scope, quickly removable iron sights give the tube a clean, custom look, without the old undesirable barrel cuts or "pine log knot" bulge. Everybody who is anybody in higher gun society uses a scope these days. A better designed better looking stock is more functional.

Winchester went all out on their new pride and joy. Riflemen will take it like a refund from Uncle Sam. I'm overjoyed the old M70 was phased out. No doubt the new dress and guts will make the new one a "riflemen's rifle" for many, many years. Handloaders will love it. It's the safest, strongest Winchester ever built.

Remington's new M600 carbine has considerable appeal. It's a light 5½ pounds, and a short 37¼" for easy packing afoot, in a car, pick-up or saddle. The major advantage is very fast handling to get on game before game gets away. Our cal. .308 shoots good, like a rifle should, using a K-4 Weaver scope and Federal's 180 gr. loads with their Hi-Shok bullets. In fact, these shot better in the M600 than in a much higher priced .308 rifle, proof of inherent accuracy.

The highly desirable recessed bolt face encloses the case in steel, a safety feature Remington used on their old M721 and 722, and their newer M700, and XP-100 pistol. They never did give this safety feature as much praise as I thought it deserved. The M600 floating barrel holds zero without custom gunsmithing. The flatter bolt handle and vented rib are similar to the super accurate XP-100 Remington pistol, that is more than a "trifle like a rifle." The wide, serrated trigger lets you pin-point hits. The stock looks good and feels good.

The M600 in .222 Rem. will be in my battery soon. It's exactly what many hunters want in a compact varmint piece, the low price, \$99.95, will sell the M600 to some

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ALL AMERICAN MADE EACH PRESS GUARANTEED 20 YEARS!

✓ CHECK THESE 5 FEATURES



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Wide open work area makes loading with either hand fast & simple. Takes all standard 7/8" x 14 dies.

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Never handle a primer again—primers come from box through machine, into primer pocket without handling. Saves time, tempers and lost primers—*keeps primers clean*—prevents misfires & velocity changes.

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Exclusive linkage design makes this press *super powerful*. Swages bullets, full length sizes cases—even the tough magnums—easily, smoothly, effortlessly.

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Exclusive overthrow feature withdraws case from die on power stroke—automatically resizes each case *twice*—eliminates brass spring back, gives a perfect case each time.

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Made of tool steel, with hardened bearings. No castings to spring, crack and break—*so strong we guarantee each press for 20 full years.*



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Each Press Comes Complete with two primer seaters, two slides, automatic feed and other exclusive features mentioned above. Dies not included. State caliber shell holder wanted. Additional caliber shell holders \$2.50 ea.

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Numrich Arms

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chaps, but a good many others will buy it because they like it, and like its good features.

A fine reload in our .308 is Speer's 165 grain pill backed with 44.0 gr. 4320 and CCI 250 primers in Federal cases, starting at 2475 fps in the 18½" tube. Bullet performance is better than indicated by ballistics.

Should you weigh every powder charge? Yes, if you are a novice, or if you are not intimately familiar with a good measure. If you have mastered a good measure, thrown charges are just as good. Maintain a fairly uniform volume of powder in the hopper, and operate it with uniformity. Throw a few charges to settle the powder and return them to the hopper, then operate with all

the uniformity possible. We bump the handle once lightly to fill the charge hole, then twice to expel the charge.

Bench resters, who shoot the world's tightest groups, generally measure charges. They are intimately familiar with a fine measure. To learn the best technique, weigh several hundred thrown charges. Keep a record of variation and you'll soon know if a charge is light or heavy before you weigh it. Practice is worthwhile.

RCBS made extensive tests with their excellent measure. They told me shooting accuracy was fully as good as weighed charges. Our own tests verified with their claim.

Loads were for a .222 Sako in Remington
(Continued on page 65)

... manufacture and sell more gun barrels per year than all U.S. custom barrel makers combined—our barrels are top quality at a low price.

Octagonal
MUZZLE LOADING BARREL BLANKS
 NOW IN 36 Caliber (1 turn in 40") or .45 caliber (1 turn in 50"), 8 groove in 50", 8 groove in 50", 8 groove in 50", 8 groove in 50", 15/16" across flats, 32" long either cal., only \$15.95 plus \$2.00 post. 45 cal., only \$19.95 plus \$1.50 shipping. 45/70 caliber—1 turn in 22", 8 groove, 32" long... \$13.50 plus 95c.

Add \$2.00 per barrel for threading for our new breech plug and nipple advertised below.
BREECH PLUGS: Made from Ordnance Steel (not cheap castings) — uses standard 5/16" thread. Oct. model 15/16" across, round model 1 1/4". Made specially for use with our fine muzzle loading barrels but acceptable to any. Add \$2.00 to barrel price for threading at factory for this plug. Price for round or octagonal (state which) Only \$5.95.

ROUND MUZZLE LOADING BARREL BLANKS
MUZZLE LOADING—1 1/4" straight 8 groove rifled lengths—1 turn in 50"—super accurate... 32" long \$19.95 plus 95c. Above \$10.00 to any 45" bench rest model... \$18.95 plus \$1.50 Add \$2.00 per barrel for breech plug threading.)

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 45/70 round blanks, 8 groove rifled, 1 1/4" o.d., 1 turn in 22" ... \$10.60 plus 95c.
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 EXTRA HEAVY 22" barrel blanks. Full 1 1/4" dia. 6 groove barrel suitable for center or rim fire actions, 27" long, 1 turn 14" ... Only \$8.95 plus 90c post.

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- Percussion barrel drops into stock—ready to shoot.
- Free, interchangeable percussion hammer sent with each barrel.
- Return to original by simply replacing original parts.
- .45 cal., 8-groove, (1 turn in 50"). Blued with slight dovetail, etc.

This conversion barrel is the same match quality as used in our H&A muzzle loaders—instant-turned to fit 45/70 "trap door" Springfield rifles, complete with plug, tang, & nipple. Simply drop out old barrel and receiver—install our new barrel and change hammer—gun is ready to shoot. Original U.S. Springfield percussion hammer included... it replaces your cartridge hammer without fitting. Price complete and ready to use—\$26.50 plus 85c pp. (bullet mold—45 cal. for above—only \$2.25.)

WINCHESTER STOCKS
 Unused, with minor bumps, scratches, etc. Model 12, 12-ga. \$5.95. (Pump Handle) \$2.45. Win. Model 1914 or 1917 (also '92 Models)—For flat butt plate \$5.75.

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 With elevators. 1 for \$1.00; 12 for \$5.00; 50 for \$17.50.

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 Enfields are fine action. But cock on closing stroke and have an extremely slow "muddy" firing pin fall. You can bring your rifle up-to-date—and it will often better than today's modern production—for just \$5.95 and 2 minutes time. Our unit reduces lock time (the great accuracy improver up to 72% cocker rifle, on the turn of the bolt just as in Winchester, Remington, Springfield, Mauser and others. Simply insert in your bolt. Regular safety works as usual. Normally, a \$15.00 conversion. **OUR UNIT, READY TO INSTALL IN YOUR BOLT IN 2 MINUTES AT THE UNBELIEVABLE LOW PRICE OF \$5.95 PPD.** (Post. 1914 or 1917 Editions. Remington, Winchester Models only—state which—not for British SMLE)

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 Easy to use liquid—not a "Gooey" paste
 NEW HIGH SPEED FORMULA takes seconds to apply... beautifies & protects. Deep blue permanent finish actually penetrates the steel. Used by gunsmiths and gun factories everywhere. Guaranteed... to be the best cold blue you ever used—or your money back.

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We are now able to re-produce—on a custom basis, the gain twist rifling as used in the super accurate percussion match rifles of yesteryear. The advantage of gain twist rifling is that the barrels have almost no turn at the breech end and then gradually increase in twist up to the muzzle. This gives your ball a gentle start in the rifling and permits a much higher rate of spin or twist at the muzzle. Rifles can now be loaded with 30% to 40% more powder giving much higher velocity, flatter trajectory and greater accuracy... bullets cannot strip.

Gain Twist rifling is available in any of our muzzle loading blanks as well as in our Hopkins & Allen Rifles at \$7.50 EXTRA



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- NEW BUGGY RIFLE—light and fast, only 5 1/2 lbs. Octagonal cut rifled 21" barrel. Either .36 or .45 caliber.
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- 12 ga. FOWLER, only 4 1/2 lbs., 30" choked barrel.

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 32" Long Range Full Choke Barrel—
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Greatest long ground Duck and Goose gun ever. Each with brand new proof-tested Long Range barrel, each mechanically perfect with extra large, extra strong action. ALL AMERICAN MADE. Condition as specified refers to outside receiver finish. Everything else new.
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Magazines are NOT supplied with DCM CARBINES—ORDER YOURS NOW
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 1. 5 shot capacity — required by law for hunting, fits flush with guard—streamlines appearance. Solid machined bottom — not "raw" appearing oversized fold over \$3.45
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 GAS PISTON NUT WRENCH essential for removing gas piston for cleaning your new DCM Carbine. ONLY \$1.00

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For 22 Rifles with grooved receivers

Only \$2.75 Per Set

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Quickly installed right set. Streamlined front ramp with sight. Rear sight with both windage & elevation built in. Both installed by simply tightening Allen set screw. Front .560 i.d., rear .725 i.d. Plenty wall thickness for reaming to all popular sizes. Blued, ready to install. ONLY \$2.95 for complete set.

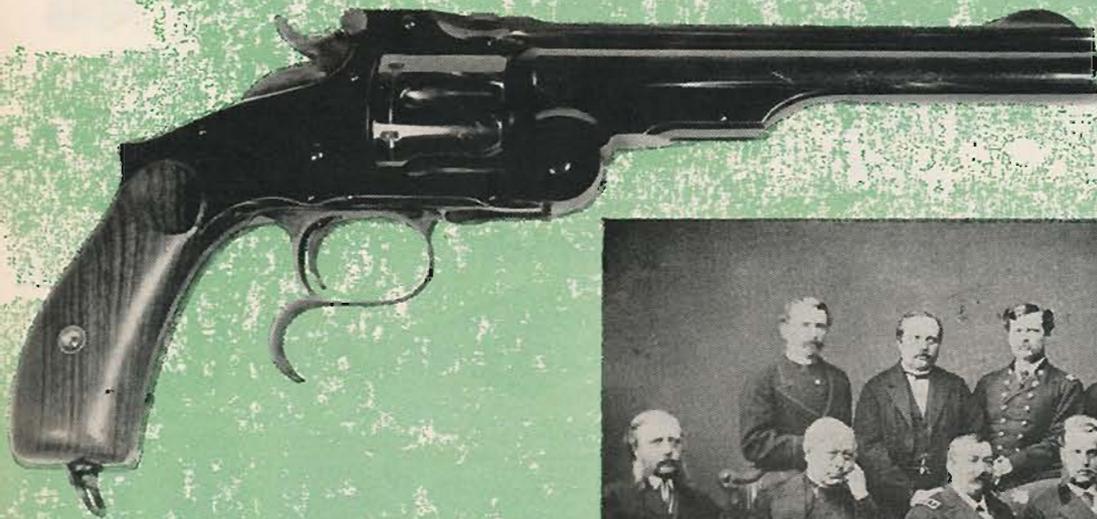
S.M.L.E. 5-SHOT MAGAZINES For .24, and .25 rifles—gives slim, "sporter" appearance to rifle—NEW \$4.75

SAGA OF SMITH & WESSON

BORN WITH THE METALLIC CARTRIDGE ERA,
THEY MADE HANDGUN HISTORY

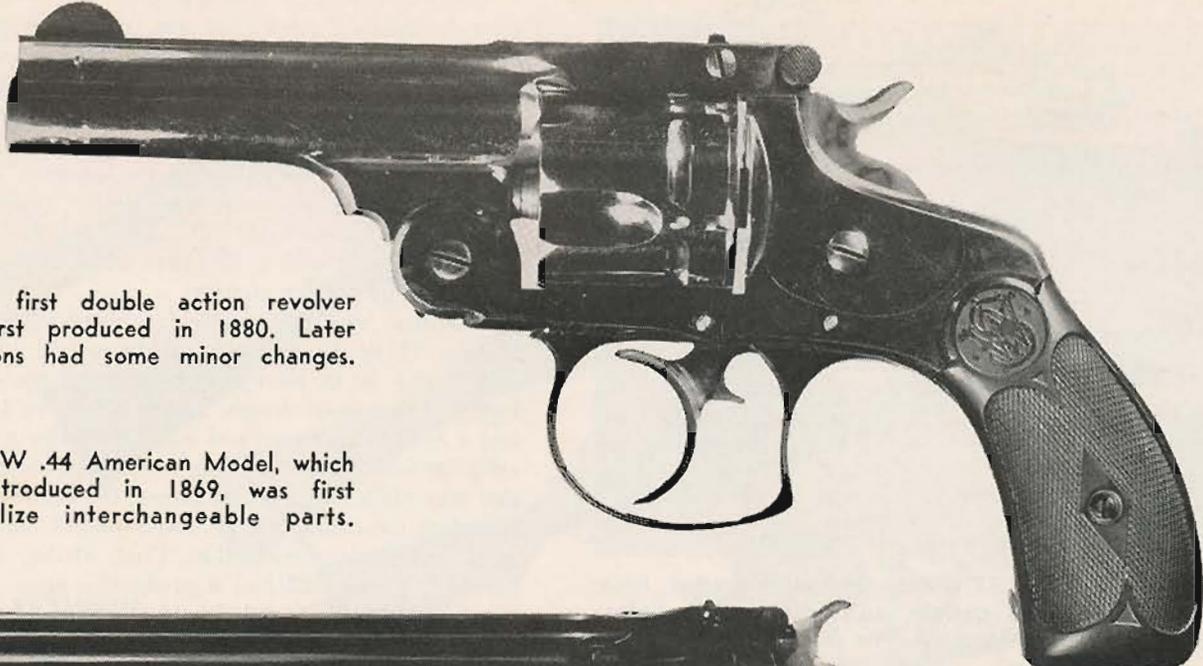


Buffalo Bill Cody's casual introduction of the S&W revolver to the Grand Duke, resulted in the huge sale to the Czar.



The famous S&W .44 Russian revolver (above), ordered in quantity by the Czar. Right: The Grand Duke, surrounded by dignitaries. Seated on the Duke's right is General Phil Sheridan. General Custer is second man on the Duke's left.





S&W's first double action revolver was first produced in 1880. Later variations had some minor changes.

The S&W .44 American Model, which was introduced in 1869, was first to utilize interchangeable parts.



This interesting variation of the S&W Russian has front sight pinned on and an unusual hammer and spur.

By LOUIS W. STEINWEDEL

AS THE RIDER pounded into position alongside the snorting, shaggy buffalo, he pressed into service a rather unusual long barreled revolver and promptly dispatched the galloping target. Dismounting near the trophy, the hunter called out to his companion, "Bill, what kind of a gun is this? There is nothing so fine in all my Russia!"

The enthusiastic young man was the Grand Duke Alexis, second son of Czar Alexander II, and the occasion was a much celebrated hunt with America's newest idol, Buffalo Bill Cody. The hunt not only highlighted an otherwise dull 1869 state visit, it introduced the 21 year old nobleman to the new Smith & Wesson "American," the most remarkable revolver in the world of 1869.

When Alexis gave the revolver a thorough testing, he pitted it against everything from empty champagne bottles to charging buffalo.

"This gun could rule Russia!" Alexis exclaimed after a particularly pleasing session with his adopted Smith & Wesson. Obviously, this was no idle boast, for as soon as Alexis' special train puffed its way back East, he made a

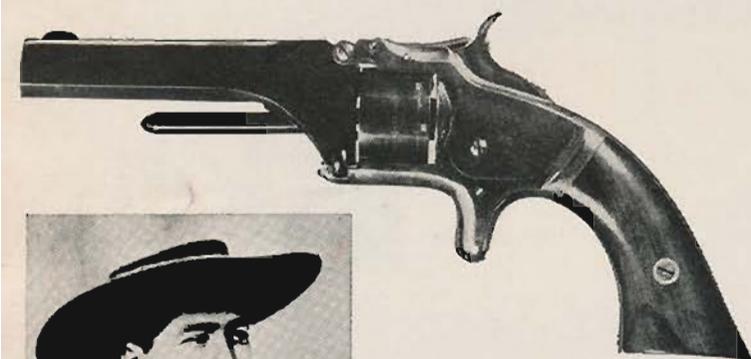
bee-line for the Smith & Wesson plant at Springfield. After a quick tour of the factory, and the formal presentation of an engraved target pistol, the very unprincipled subject of business was broached, and Smith & Wesson happily found itself with an order for 200,000 revolvers for the Imperial Russian Army—a demand which would take the best part of five years to fill.

This large order really pushed the firm of Smith & Wesson into the limelight, but the company's contribution to America's firearms history began four years before the opening of the Civil War, when S & W introduced a brass frame, seven shot .22 target revolver. This historical firearm had the enviable distinction of being the first successful revolver to use self-contained metallic cartridges. This ammunition concept is so closely linked to the early development of Smith & Wesson, that Daniel Baird Wesson and Horace Smith are frequently credited with being the sole inventors of the metallic cartridge. Although the famous partners are most closely associated with the emergence of the modern brass shell and much of the early



Top to Bottom: .38 Safety Hammerless, 3rd Issue; Model 1913 .35 caliber auto pistol; .32 Safety Hammerless, 1st Issue. A low cost S&W collection.

SMITH & WESSON



Above: A S&W First Model, 2nd Issue in .22 RF. Both Jesse James and Wild Bill Hickok owned S&W's.



This S&W .45 single action was designed around the patent of Major George Schofield in 1873.

cartridge making machinery, the fact is that the workable metallic cartridge is generally held to be a composite invention of both Americans and Europeans working over a great many years.

The metallic cartridge and its companion revolver by Smith & Wesson, swiftly swept the country. The original Smith & Wesson revolver, which first appeared on the market in November of 1857, fired a .22 short rim-fire cartridge loaded with a 30 grain bullet and propelled by a three grain powder charge.

This first successful cartridge revolver, the Smith & Wesson "First Model," was made with a hinged barrel that tipped up to allow the removal of the cylinder for loading. The brass frame, nickel plated in later models, had a rounded contour and was fitted with a disc shaped sideplate which permitted access to the lockwork. The hammer was oddly made in two pieces, the jointed thumbpiece operating the cylinder stop. Today one of the most sought after collector's pieces, the "First Model, First Issue" Smith & Wesson .22 had a production span of but three years (1857 - 1860) and should not be confused with the very similar but somewhat more common "First Model, Second Issue" which was produced up to 1867. The Second Issue is characterized by an irregular shaped sideplate which covers almost the whole left side of the frame, and a more logical and sturdy one piece hammer. Some of the Second Issue .22's were made with steel rather than brass frames that were popular during this period.

Despite the popularity of Smith & Wesson's little pocket pistol, the manufacturing operation remained a small one—initially with only 25 workers—until 1860, when the company moved into a plant on Stockbridge Street in Springfield. Now that the superiority of metallic cartridges had been pointedly demonstrated—by Smith & Wesson's petit .22 as well as by such large caliber long arms as Spencer's and Henry's—business grew and soon employee rolls topped 600. In comparison, the plant manufacturing the more urgently needed Sharps breechloaders was staffed by 500. This growing passion for prosperity was again boosted in 1861 with the introduction of a bigger .32 caliber, six shot version of the Model No. 2 revolver. The U.S. Government was, of course, asked to consider the new S&W breech-loading revolver for official use in the War Between the States, but the gun's rather small caliber and the classic reluctance of the Ordnance Department to accept anything that appeared to be progressive, militated against the "US" stamp ever appearing on a Smith & Wesson arm during the war years.

During this time, however, officers were forbidden to disrupt the aesthetic lines of their uniforms by toting standard size revolvers in outside holsters. Many met this problem by carrying diminutive Colt .31 caliber 1849 "pocket" revolvers under their tunics. These little "five shooters" were rather tedious to load and not especially powerful but they did produce only a negligible bulge in the blue uniform. With the appearance of the .32 cartridge pistol, officers' tastes instantly shifted to the Smith & Wesson gun. Besides being easily loaded, and using compact waterproof ammunition, the S&W enjoyed a superiority in accuracy and increased firepower of one extra shot over the Colt percussion gun.

So intense became the demand for the desirable .32 S&W that practically all resources were devoted to its manufacture and, though a military size cartridge revolver was technically feasible during (Continued on page 52)

Over the years, calibers have been reduced. SPIW has improved accuracy for average infantryman, is slated to replace the M14 once it is adopted.



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

NEWEST ARMY WEAPON, STILL TOP SECRET, IS REVOLUTIONARY IN DESIGN

THE ARMY'S Special Purpose Individual Weapon (SPIW) is still under tight security wraps, but General Earle G. Wheeler, Army Chief of Staff, came out from under them long enough to tell Congressmen pondering the military budget that the weapon looks "very promising." He also told the House Armed Services Committee in January that the Army is working very hard on the new development.

"I took a look at four working models of these weapons a couple of weeks ago," he said. "One has been put together by Springfield Armory, one by Harrington & Richardson, one by American Armaments, Inc., and one by Olin Mathieson—Winchester-Western."

He gave the Committee a fairly complete discussion of the new rifle, but large portions of his account were censored out of public reports of the hearing. The security watchdogs let this much go by:

"We will conduct some firing tests probably next month. This weapon looks very promising because it has a point capability—ability to fire at an individual target—and also an area capability because it has an integral grenade discharger."

He described the principle of the SPIW as "quite interesting" from both a gunsmith's and a gunner's point of view. But his reasons for this opinion were deleted from published accounts of the hearing.

His testimony followed that of Secretary of Defense McNamara, who had told the Committee that Defense had decided to discontinue rifle procurement in fiscal years 1964-65, except for 85,000 M16's already ordered under the FY 1964 program.

"In view of the upcoming field evaluation of the M16, the expected completion of service tests on the SPIW in fiscal year 1965, and our relatively good over-all rifle inventory position," McNamara told the Committee, "I believe we can safely terminate M14 procurement."
(Continued on page 47)

THE MYSTERIOUS SPIW

Editor's Note

The author, still under security control, cannot describe the classified material he has seen. However, early reports say that the SPIW may be a two-barreled, over-under.

Various newspaper reports say that the needles have a plastic coating; that the weapon will also fire plastic balls. This much is certain: Winchester and the other companies mentioned in the article, are going ahead full speed with developmental work.

**NEW FROM TOP TO
BOTTOM, THESE PLASTIC
SHOTSHELLS CAN BE
RELOADED EASILY AND
OFTEN. HERE
ARE THE FACTS ABOUT...**

LAST YEAR, WHEN Remington switched to plastic shotshells in their light field loads, it was whispered that target loads would make their appearance with plastic cases early in 1964—at least in 12 gauge. It was also said that this case would be easier to reload, have a longer life, a new type base wad, and an improved primer. This was the schedule, but a bug or two somewhere along the line could push the target date back. Happily, this wasn't the case, and the 12 gauge target loads are now available. Improved they are; of that there isn't any doubt.

In appearance, there isn't too much difference between the new target loads and the Shur Shot line. The target case has a lower brass head than the Shur Shot case, and the crimp doesn't have the heat sealed dot of the other plastic shotshell cases in the Remington-Peter's line.

The crimp is still the eight point type used on the R-P plastic 12 gauge shotshells and retains the ribs. Why this can't be changed to a six point instead of an eight point crimp is beyond me. Many reloaders already own a six point crimp starter die, but reloading the plastics makes an eight point die mandatory, as the case must be run through this die every time it is reloaded. Otherwise the crimp won't form correctly.

The head of the new case is made from brass, instead of steel as in other plastic cases. This makes resizing easier, as many of you well know.

For this new shell, Remington has brought out a new primer. Called the 97, this is a standard 209 size. Compared to the 57 primer the new 97 is the same height, but has a larger flash hole and of course has a larger diameter. This means that the reloader need

RELOADING THE



buy but one size of primer, at least as far as reloading the new plastic target cases is concerned.

The base wad appears to be of plastic, but is actually a two piece wad, the inner portion is a molded type but protected by plastic. This plastic portion looks similar to the Remington "H" wad except that it has a flash hole thru the center.

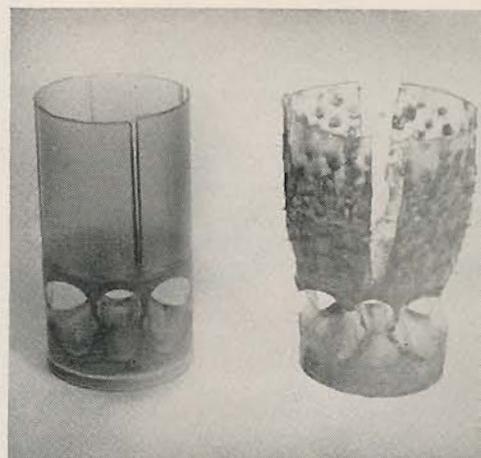
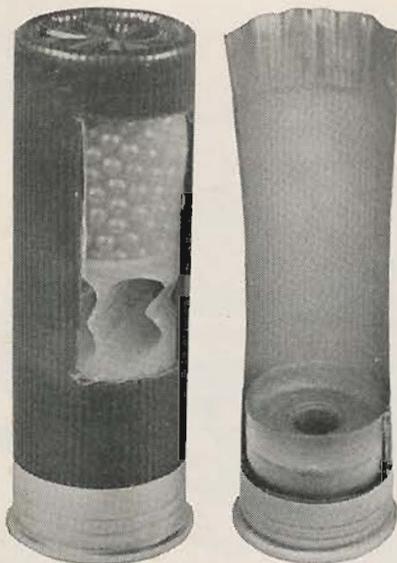
Personally, I was never very happy with the molded-in base wad that Remington-Peters have used for the last several years. "Disintegrating base wads," I called them and for good reason. When reloaded they tended to come apart or flake off, and pieces of the base wad could, and sometimes did, obstruct the flash hole causing ignition troubles or bloopers. However, with the new base wad this can't happen, as it is fully protected by the plastic. This is an excellent improvement and the best to date.

The new target shells are loaded with the highly popular Power Piston wad column. Popular, that is, with the users of factory loaded ammunition, because reloaders haven't been able to get their hands on these as yet, although shipments are now being made. This wad was introduced to me at the Grand American Trapshoot, last August. I shot but one box of these at that time, at the practice traps, and smothered all 25 targets from the 16 yard line. I chose another make of shell for the regular events, due mainly to the 'disintegrating base wad' of the Power Piston loads at that time. This year will see a change in my ammunition preference.

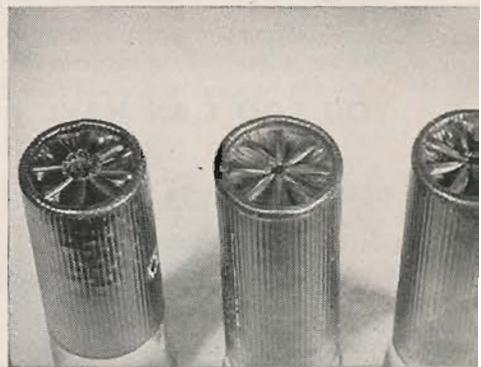
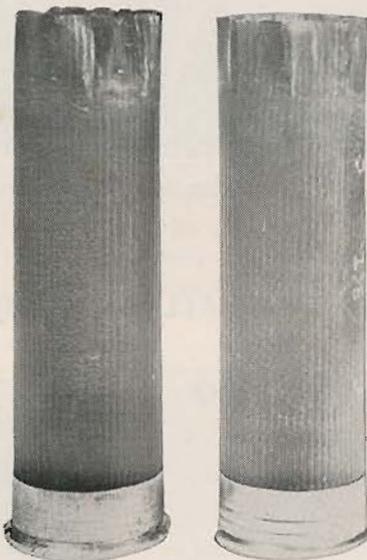
The Power Piston wad used in the plastic cases is slightly different than the one used in paper cases in that it is about 1/8" higher. This height is all in the ribbed portion of the wad. I haven't learned the reason for this difference yet, but I have reloaded the plastic cases using the Power Piston wad for paper cases and can see no difference in their performance.

One other difference was noted, but not in the new shotshell; the difference is in the box. Recent Remington shotshells were packed in paper boxes which had the bottom glued in place, which meant that the shooter couldn't fold the boxes flat for storage. This has been changed, and the boxes are now of the old style, making storage and carrying easier and less bulky.

The new cases reload like a charm.



Left: Two cutaway views of the new Remington plastic target cases. Note how Power Piston wad is compressed when loaded. Note also the base wad, which is fully protected by plastic. Right: Remington's Power Piston wad before and after firing in the new plastic case.



Left: The plastic case on the left has been reloaded and fired 20 times (note etched appearance), while case on the right was fired only once. Right: Heavy factory load is at left; next, one of the new plastics as reloaded; at right is factory loaded target case.

By JIM HORTON

Using the MEC 310 tool fitted with their Plasti-crimp Kit, the reloaded shotshell is hard to tell from one fresh out of the box. Actually, the only visual difference is in the reloaded shell's slightly darker appearance, the result of the burning powder. The last 1/8" or so of the case wall is tapered, so that it is thinner at the extreme end; this

possibly helps the crimping operation. Cases must still be run thru an eight point crimp starter die, however.

A short case life test was run using one case. This case was reloaded 20 times without serious damage, when the test was called on account of darkness. Twenty reloads and still going strong! Even Rem- (Continued on page 66)



Author's low cost outfit satisfies his requirements for a varmint combination.

YOU TOO CAN HAVE A LOT OF SMALL GAME HUNTING AND VARMINT SHOOTING FOR A NICKEL PER ROUND OF AMMO

By HAL SWIGGETT

THE LOWLY FIVE CENT PIECE—the coin that will hardly buy you a good cigar or get you a decent cup of coffee—will get you some of the finest varmint hunting you've ever seen. Actually, to keep the facts straight, the price is five and one fifth cents, and what it buys is one round of the .22 Winchester Rim-Fire Magnum.

The average varmint shooter spends a good many dollars getting a rifle made, scoping it, and usually buying a good deal of reloading equipment so that he might work up a load that suits his shooting needs. Even then he might have problems. He gets stuck in some small town without ammo, and finds that the general store doesn't stock his caliber or the components he needs to reload, and his reloads cost a good deal more than five cents per round. True, he may make kills a little farther out than our five cent job, but I doubt that he gets any more pleasure shooting it than we do.

Like many a working man, I wanted to do some serious



Jack rabbit, stopped in his tracks from 141 paces, shows power of the small but mighty .22 RF Magnum.

'Varmints



FOR A NICKEL'

varmint shooting, but couldn't afford the high prices for the hot center-fire rifles, scopes, and ammo. Winchester must have had my kind in mind when they came up with the .22 WRFM. And the firearms manufacturers went along with the general scheme of things.

Several manufacturers are producing rifles with barrels accurate enough to get the little 40 grain bullet right where you want it: and at a price you can afford. Winchester offers their slide action Model 275 and lever action Model 255 for shooters who prefer those styles. Kodiak is on the market with an autoloader. It will get the job done for anyone wanting a fast firing rifle. Savage even has it available in their over-under rifle and shotgun combination. The one I have been using is Mossberg's Model 640K Chuckster, priced at \$39.88. It is a little cheaper than any of the others, is well built, has a crisp trigger pull, and handles every bit as well as some of my higher priced varmint rifles. Winchester's entries into the field wear a \$59.95 price tag. Kodiak also prices their autoloader at \$59.95; Savage gets \$49.50 and up for their over-under. There are others available, some higher in price, some lower. My interest was in a good shootable rifle at the lowest possible price.

A caliber such as the .22 WRFM doesn't require a heavy scope or mount, and most rifles have grooved receivers to take scopes which come supplied with satisfactory mounts. To stick with the same manufacturer, I chose Mossberg's 2½X-5X variable. My outfit set me back a few cents less than \$65.00. Others may vary but in no case will you part with more than about \$90.00 for your rifle and scope.

Ammo comes store-bought at \$2.60 per box of fifty. That's what really makes it a working man's ideal. Put in your forty hours of hard work every week; spend the evenings with your family or doing whatever you like. Comes Saturday and a chance to go shooting, you can stop at the neighborhood sporting goods store and pick up a box or two without first stopping at the bank. You're in business for five cents a shot.

Many articles have been published about velocity, trajectory, and killing power, figured out on paper. If you are like me, your interest is in killing power in the field; proved, not assumed.

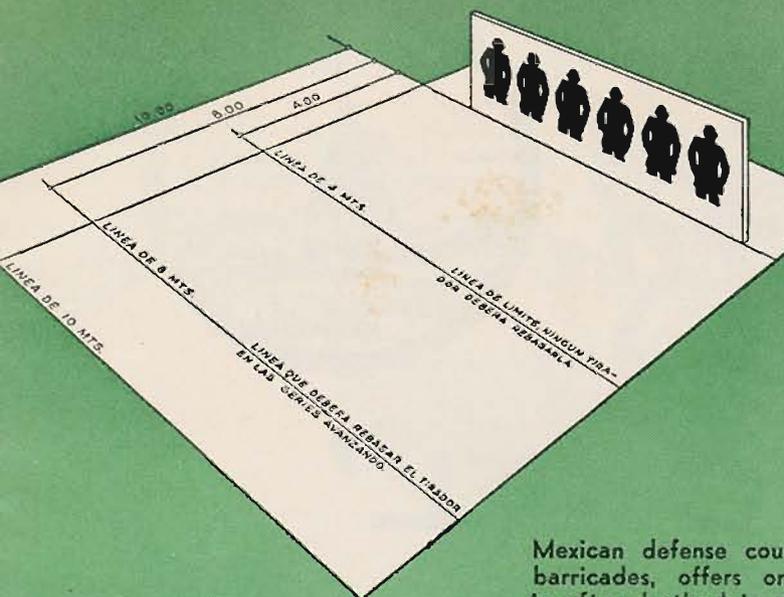
Our first go-round with the "five cents a varmint" set-up

took us to a south Texas ranch without having sighted in our varmint rig. Stopping in front of the house I put a piece of paper on a box, setting this against a terrace for a safe backstop. The distance was seventy steps. By using the car hood as rest, the rifle was sighted to hit point of aim at that distance. I decided to keep shots to no more than 100 yards until I could convince myself that the little slug was a killer at that range. I realize now that it was foolish to doubt it.

Our first opportunity on game came when my oldest son, Gerald, was shooting. A jack rabbit hopped up on a terrace about eighty yards away. Jerry missed him sitting, then connected on a running shot with his second round. His bullet hit too far back, but expanded nicely in Mr. Jack's rump. Vernon, the youngest member of our family, walked over and finished him off with his (Continued on page 62)



Author's son, Vernon, surveys the area for signs of ground squirrels, using 2½-5 power scope as spotter.



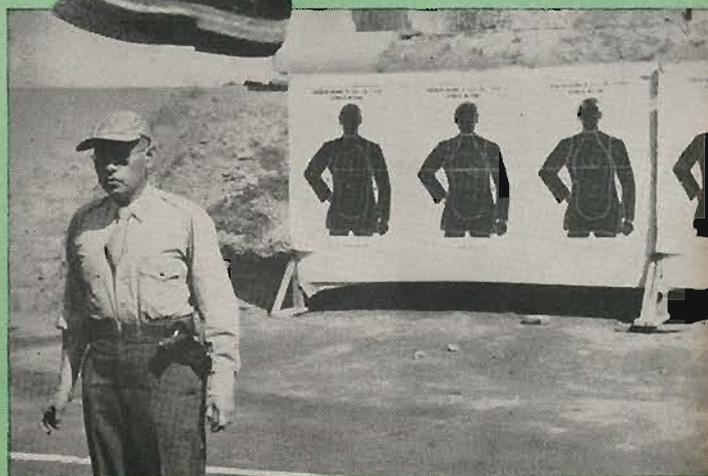
Mexican defense course layout lacks barricades, offers only guide lines, is often bathed in strong sunlight.

FIRING THE TOUGH *MEXICAN DEFENSE COURSE*

By BILL TONEY

FOR OVER 20 YEARS the Mexicans have been shooting a combat pistol course that still makes me wonder if we are on the right track with our method of teaching combat shooting. Whenever I see the Mexican course fired, I wonder if we are deluding ourselves, are teaching our law enforcement officers a course that is tough enough. In this business, regrets may be too late, and so I keep on wondering which combat course is better.

Around 1939 a crack pistol team from the Mexican National Police under the direction of Rafael Camara Anaya demonstrated the Mexican Defense Course while participating in the national pistol matches of the United States. Since then I have witnessed its firing many times at Mexican pistol tournaments. In 1954 as Director of Shoot-



ing Events in the Central American and Caribbean Games at Mexico City it was my duty to officiate, along with others, at the firing of this event.

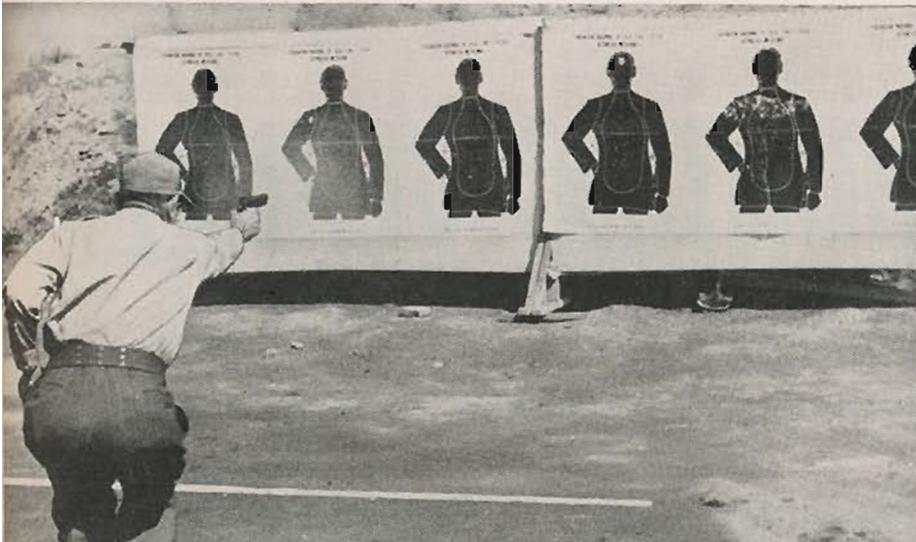
Directions for firing this course are found in Pages 1(h) through 7(h) of the "Rules of Shooting upon Targets and Silhouettes" published by the Federacion Mexicana de Caza, Tiro y Pesca (Mexican Hunting, Shooting, and Fishing Federation). This is the principal shooting organization of Mexico and is a member of the Mexican Sports Confederation, the Pan-American Shooting Union, and the International Shooting Union. The orderly regulation of this course of fire is in stark contrast with American combat pistol shooting.

There was no rulebook for the first National Police Pistol Championships in 1962, and rules were copied from the Colt's-Indiana University combat matches. Match officials operated under a "program" that appeared to have been

hastily and arbitrarily put together and the rules came dangerously close to strangulation by regulation. It has since been improved. A shooting program of such importance needs a set of complete, clear, democratically adopted rules. To avoid stagnation and loss of interest, the way should be left clear for experimentation and improvement in guns, ammunition, equipment, and technique.

The Mexican Defense Course is fired with the semi-automatic .45 caliber pistol with grip safety and safety lock. Any ammunition except tracers, incendiaries, explosive, or expanding may be used. The 1954 Central American and Caribbean champion, Lt. Col. Rafael Gallardo Vargas, used military ball ammunition of Mexican manufacture.

American combat shooters almost uniformly use .38 Special double action revolvers. Those chambered for the .357 Magnum cartridge are accepted when used with .38 or .38 Special ammunition (Continued on Page 39)



Bill Toney (right) about to inspect pistol of Mexican course competitor.

Moises Gonzales Moreno, Mexican civilian, advances on the target and fires. Note position of left foot and left hand. This Mexican Defense Course was a part of the Central American and Caribbean Games competition in Mexico City.

First shot of the Mexican course is fired with feet firmly planted and shooter standing still. The target to be fired on is assigned by the presiding range official.



HOW TO CHOOSE YOUR NEXT HUNTING VEHICLE

WHETHER IT HAS FOUR WHEELS OR FOUR LEGS, YOUR CHOICE
OF TRANSPORTATION CAN MAKE OR BREAK A HUNT



You can't beat a horse for getting you and your gun into rugged country like this, near Kelly, Wyoming.





Pickup coaches are available in several sizes. Larger models provide utmost comfort for traveling hunters.



The rugged Toyota Land Cruiser really goes where the game is, taking 60 per cent grades with no trouble.

By BYRON DALRYMPLE

THE WHOLE TRIP had not looked right from the beginning. I had agreed to go as one of a party of four and the other three had assured me everything was going to be fine. I could not back out. We left home and drove 1200 miles in a big comfortable station wagon. Everything was packed neatly, guns in softly padded cases. We stayed in motels, and finally arrived in Colorado at the small mountain village out of which we were to hunt.

"There's a pretty fair road running right up to our hunting country," one of the boys said. They had been there the year before. They had gone in a station wagon. Bluebird weather, almost too warm to hunt. Without guide or outfitter they had simply driven up this little mountain road, made a camp, and killed elk and deer.

But in mountain country it isn't *always* bluebird weather. In fact, it seldom is. You get snow or rain and that nice little mountain road becomes impassable in twenty minutes—to a station wagon. The rain and a little snow came while we slept comfortably in the motel at the foot of the little mountain road.

It wasn't bad, not by high-country standards. It was just bad enough so we couldn't go anywhere. What about horses? Every horse anywhere in the vicinity was already taken, and anyway these fellows were horse shy, hadn't ever ridden. The weather stayed, we were bogged in. Finally the time was up, and we went home.

When you go big-game hunting and even sometimes bird hunting there is one lesson to learn: Your gun is only as good as your transportation. If you can't get the gun to within shooting range of the game, you may as well stay home.

I have made at least a dozen trips on which the transport to the game fields was unsatisfactory, trips during which we failed to get what we wanted because we lacked transportation to get all the way to where we were going, or to get there the *best* way. I know a lot of hunters who go on trips to the western mountain states and wouldn't think of hiring

an outfitter because it is too expensive. They wouldn't dream of renting horses even at day rates, because that costs too much. Yet they will hunt the foothills popping spikes when the big boys are up just a two hour ride on a nag, and the nag rents for maybe ten bucks a day. They've already spent several days traveling, they'll spend a husky hunk on grub, rooms and various expenses, but then they'll say that horse rental costs too much!

It is sound business for every hunter who intends to go on a trip anywhere to have a firm idea of which modes of transporting hunter and gun to the hunting area are most logical. I have had a wonderful opportunity to try almost all of them, and from these experiences, I am able to offer you some advice.

Let's begin with the horse. For western mountain hunting there is no question that the horse is the best mode of transport. This is not derogatory to other means. But horses can get you to places no other means except your own legs can. And, most hunters nowadays couldn't walk to places where mountain horses can carry them, and still be in condition to hunt.

Not too long ago I hunted with guide Keith Stilson, out of Kelly, Wyoming. We left his headquarters mounted on big, sturdy horses that have spent all their lives in that stand-on-end country. We climbed what to them was probably an easy trail for a couple of hours. Then we entered the timber and made our way through the most horrendous criss-cross of down timber lying beneath standing timber that I have ever negotiated. A hunter on foot would have come out of it completely exhausted. No vehicle except a sixty-ton tank could have passed through. But the tough hay-burners just took their time, jumped logs too high to step over, carefully placed feet just so between jackstraw jumpiles, ducked under slanted stuff, and presently we emerged on an open slope.

I have ridden mountain horses along trails so narrow my hair stood on end, and led





Most outfitters stick to the short 4-wheel drive vehicles like the Jeep. They're fast, and rugged.

HUNTING VEHICLES



Tent campers, towed behind family car or pickup, have many advantages, and are easy to manipulate.



Small trailer, such as Scotsman, can't be pulled into rugged terrain, but makes a cozy base camp.

them down slides I could not possibly have ridden, then remounted and gone on. Most outfitters who furnish horses have good, sensible animals with some age on them, broad-backed, strong, and wise to their own terrain. I know there are many hunters who have never made a horseback hunt and who secretly dread it or avoid it. Let me assure all of these that even though you have never ridden a horse, don't let it worry you. This is the very best way to get you and your gun closest to your game.

The first-time rider, or one who rides seldom, should dismount every half hour and walk a little. This will avoid lameness. He should also make sure his stirrups are of proper length. Discomfort from having the reach too short or too long can be ruinous. All of which may sound like a far cry from a discussion of transporting you and your gun. But it isn't. The whole point is that the mountain horse *can* go where no vehicle can. It can transport your rifle safely and without messing up its sighting, right up to the place from which the shooting is done. There is another great advantage with horses. They never get flat tires, dead batteries, cracked oil pans, stripped gears, or punctured gas tanks.

If I were to consider the best mode of hunting transport for *most* hunters under the greatest *variety* of conditions, my choice would be instant. It is the pickup truck. Now before you argue that a 4-wheeler is better, look back at what I said—and wait a bit, we'll get to those. I would like to propose here that the pickup truck in either half-ton or three-quarter is absolutely the very best automotive buy on the market today. That is a first consideration.

Today most families have two vehicles. The modern pickup is good looking, rides beautifully. I drive mine much of the time even when I don't have to, and leave our car sitting in the yard. It has a foam rubber seat, torsion bar springing and coils. You can get power steering, power brakes—any optionals you want, including air conditioning. A 1,000 mile drive in a modern pickup will tire a driver less than the same drive in a passenger car. Want to bet? Try it! You sit with better posture and you have far better vision. It is *safer*.

A good pickup costs no more than \$2500, usually less. It will run a hundred thousand miles with no pain while your average car will be a heap at 30,000. The depreciation is far less, the resale value better, the gas mileage just as good. It will do all sorts of little suburban chores no other vehicle can do—and added to all these second-car advantages, there is nowadays utterly no stigma to driving one. And still we haven't got to the big thing: it will take you, as a hunter, almost anyplace you want to go, and I have been in a few whose drivers took me places I *didn't* want to go.

Last season I took my GMC pickup on an elk hunt. It has an automatic transmission, which is fine on the highway but not perfect in off-road country. I zoomed out to northern New Mexico at every mile of legal speed. It is nothing to drive a pickup 65 or 70 mph nowadays. They run like charms. We did not use horses on this hunt. There was another vehicle with us. It belonged to the ranch where we hunted. It was a 4-wheel drive Suburban. I took my pickup into the 11,000 foot country, over trails so bad only those who've done it would believe it.

I kept up with the 4-wheeler. I don't say I did as well. Far from it. But I did make it. Finally, on a slope so steep I could not climb even in low range, we jockeyed gently for some minutes to get turned around. Then we walked up another fifty yards and slid an enormous bull elk down to the pickup and carted him off down the mountain.

This particular hunt was (Continued on page 48)



THE FRONTIER GUN SHOP

BY JAMES M. TRIGGS

PIONEER AMERICAN HANDGUNS:

Remington & Colt Derringers

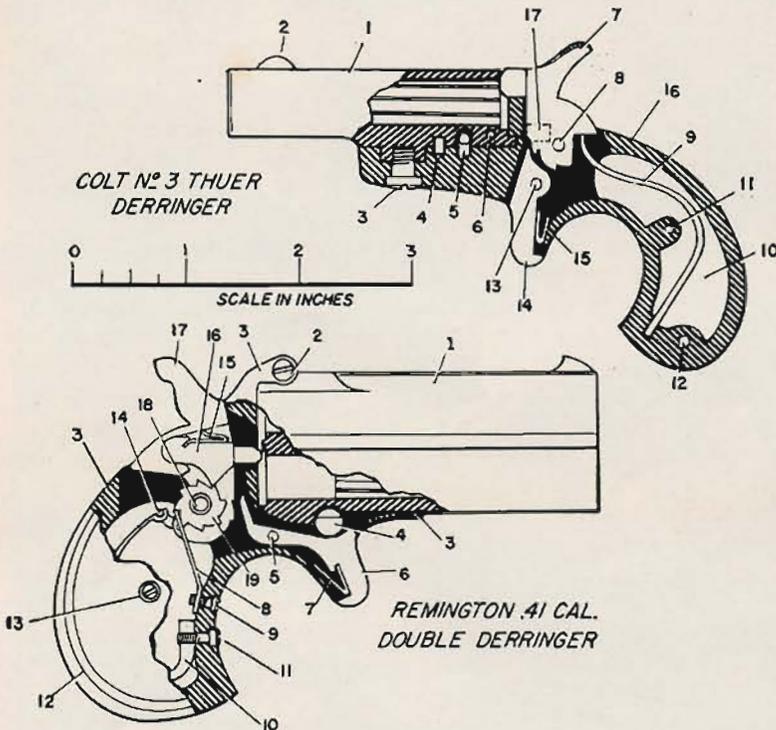
TWO OF THE most popular cartridge Derringers ever made after the Civil War were the Remington Double Derringer and the Colt No. 3 "Thuer" Derringer. Both pistols chambered the .41 rim-fire cartridge and they present an interesting comparison in their basic mechanisms.

The Remington Derringer, of which approximately 150,000 were manufactured from 1866 until 1935, was based on the William Elliot patent of 1865 which incorporated an oscillating firing pin operated by a cam for successive discharges. The double barrel hinged at its rear top surface to the frame and opened upward. The Remington double Derringer was a very popular arm in the days following the Civil War.

The Colt Company began manufacture of Derringer-type cartridge pistols in 1872. One of the most popular of these was the No. 3 "Thuer" Derringer which had been designed and patented for Colt by F. Alexander Thuer. The Colt No. 3 Derringer was a single shot arm with a simple lock. The barrel swung sidewise in the frame and incorporated an automatic ejector. From 1872 until 1912, more of the No. 3 Colt Derringers were made than any other American cartridge Derringer with the exception of the double Derringer made by Remington. Colt's resumed manufacture of this gun in .22 short caliber in 1960 as the Colt No. 4 Derringer.

Disassembly of the Remington Derringer is as follows: Remove barrel hinge screw (2) and remove barrel (1) from frame (3). Remove grip screw (13) and grips (12). Cock hammer and hold mainspring (10) compressed while releasing hammer to disengage mainspring from hammer stirrup (14). Remove firing pin ratchet screw (9) and drop out ratchet spring (8). Drive out hammer pin (18) and remove hammer (17) with ratchet (19), firing pin (16) and firing pin spring (15) from frame (3). Trigger (6) can be removed by drifting out trigger pin (5). Barrel lock (4) is removed by removing barrel lock screw (20) from left side of frame. Ejector on left side of barrel is removed by removing ejector screw. Reassemble in reverse order.

To disassemble the Colt No. 3 Derringer, remove barrel screw (3), half-cock hammer and swing rear of barrel to right and lift barrel (1) from frame (16). Press in barrel latch and ejector at lower rear end of barrel and remove their retaining screw to remove these parts. Disassembly of barrel latch bushing (17) is not recommended. Remove grip screw (11) and grips (10). Drive mainspring (9) out of its seat. Remove hammer screw (8), pull trigger and remove hammer (7) from frame. Remove trigger screw (13) and drop trigger (14) and spring out to bottom. Note: In some models of the No. 3 Colt Derringer, the trigger spring will be a small coil spring rather than the flat spring shown. Reassemble in reverse order.



PARTS LIST—COLT

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|---|
| 1. Barrel | 7. Hammer | 15. Trigger spring |
| 2. Front sight | 8. Hammer screw | 16. Frame |
| 3. Barrel screw | 9. Mainspring | 17. Barrel latch bushing |
| 4. Barrel stop pin | 10. Grips | 18. Barrel latch & ejector (not shown) |
| 5. Barrel latch release pin | 11. Grip screw | 19. Barrel latch & ejector spring (not shown) |
| 6. Barrel latch & ejector screw | 12. Grip pin | |
| | 13. Trigger screw | |
| | 14. Trigger | |

PARTS LIST—REMINGTON

- | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Barrel | 9. Ratchet spring screw | 16. Firing pin |
| 2. Barrel hinge screw | 10. Mainspring | 17. Hammer |
| 3. Frame | 11. Mainspring screw | 18. Hammer pin |
| 4. Barrel lock | 12. Stocks | 19. Firing pin ratchet |
| 5. Trigger pin | 13. Stock screw | 20. Barrel lock screw (not shown) |
| 6. Trigger | 14. Hammer stirrup and pin | 21. Ejector & screw (not shown) |
| 7. Trigger spring | 15. Firing pin spring | |
| 8. Ratchet spring | | |

THE QUESTION HAS been asked many times, "Is the wildcat cartridge dead or dying?" As might be expected of a question such as this, there are as many answers as there are people who ask it. One paradox which stands out amid the hue and cry of "More velocity!" is that not long ago Winchester produced its two and a half millionth Model 94, a lever gun whose cartridge, the venerable .30-30, has ballistics that are left in the dust of our modern magnums and "factory" wildcats. And yet, the lever action

rifles, for the most part, have been forgotten by the breeders of wildcats.

Forgotten, that is, except in the shop of Fred Wade's Gun Room in Phoenix, Arizona, where Wade and E. B. Van Houten developed their own breed of wildcats called Leverpower. While giving the Marlin 336 and the ancient Model 94 performances unavailable in customary loading, the Leverpower loads are notable for the absence of wild claims such as "most powerful," or "beats a .270." They are, however, a sort of ballistic fountain of youth. Let's

take a few examples of the increased performance of these Leverpowers.

In the .30 Leverpower, a 150 grain Sierra leaves the muzzle at 2700 fps, with 2428 fp of energy; the corresponding .30-30 figures are 2410 fps and 1930 fp. In .35 Leverpower, the 200 gr. Hornady gives 2600 fps and 3002 fp against 2210 fps and 2170 fp in .35 Remington. In .44 caliber, the tale is similar. Here, the 240 gr. Leverpower bullet reads 2400 fps and 3195 fp, while the .44 Magnum gives 1850 fps and 1820 fp, in the Ruger carbine.

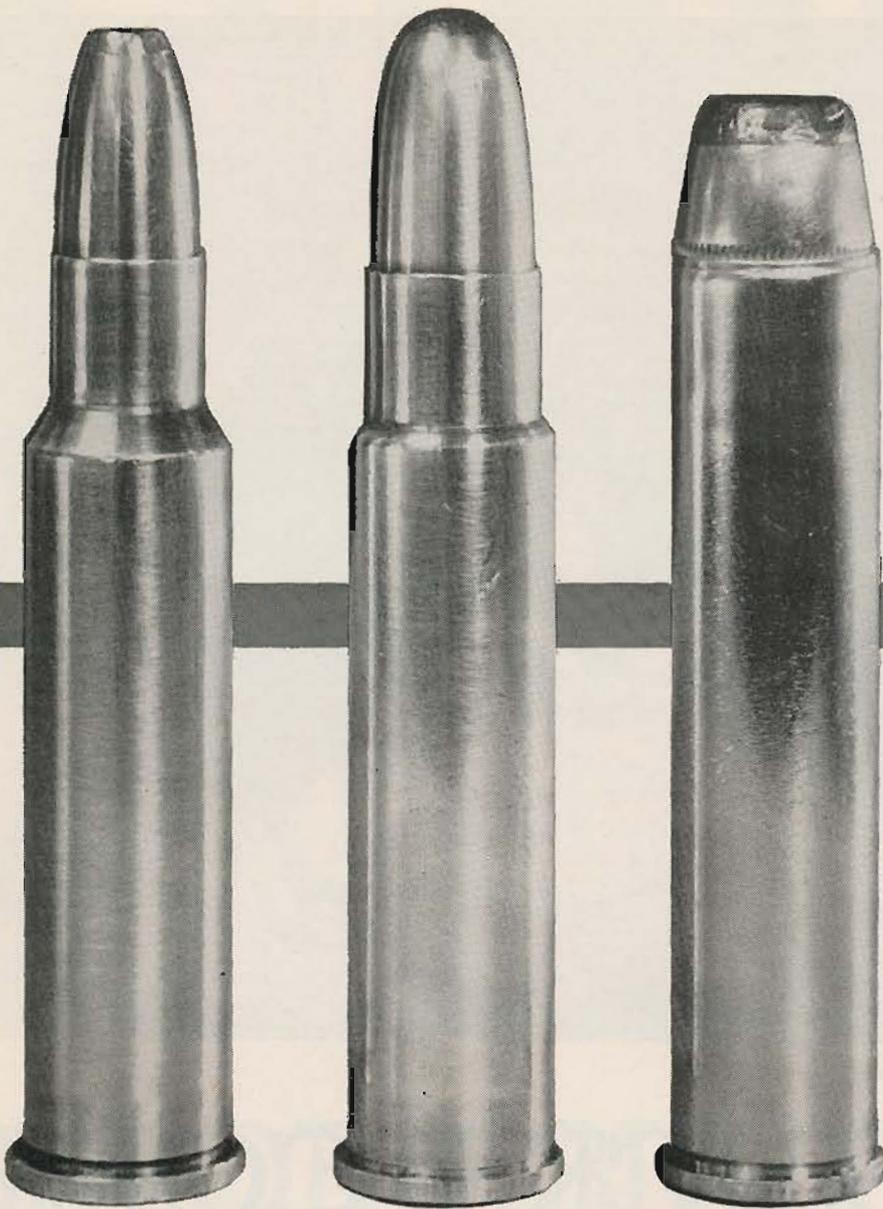
LEVERPOWER



John Thaxton probes heavy Arizona cover with his Model 94 Winchester that now fires the .30 Leverpower rounds.

THE LEVER ACTIONS ARE MAKING NEWS AGAIN—AND THIS TIME IT'S HOT, NEW BALLISTICS FOR BIG GAME

By JOHN B. PRESCOTT



And all this with honest respect for the accepted working pressures of these actions—around 40,000 psi.

Are these Leverpowers a throwback? From all we've heard of western hunting ranges, it would seem so. We've been told a thousand times that out here the ultra-velocity load locked up in magnum bolt actions reigns supreme, that a cross-canyon shot fired into the lavender distance may oblige a man to tote his bedroll with him when he takes to the trail to dress out his kill.

Despite all these legends, the simple truth pegs the average killing range of most southwestern game at well under 200 yards. For whitetail and mule deer, the seasonal scoreboards kept by sporting goods shops cut that figure in half with monotonous regularity. Elk and wild turkey also fall into this general pattern; as well as javelina, a desert creature which prefers the washes. And you can't see into those until you're there.

No doubt, a different case can be made for antelope and sheep, though even they are taken at ranges less than commonly thought. But these, at least in Arizona, are low-number permit species, with the latter a once-in-a-life-time proposition.

So in the main, southwestern hunting pressure bears on the manzanita thickets, the piñon foothills, the high ponderosa. Ranges run short to medium, and the clear, wide open shot is less expected than hoped for.

It is no (Continued on page 60)



Standard factory ammunition compared to the Leverpower cartridges. Left to right: .30-30 Winchester and .30 Leverpower; .35 Remington and .35 Leverpower; .44 Remington Magnum and big .44 Leverpower.

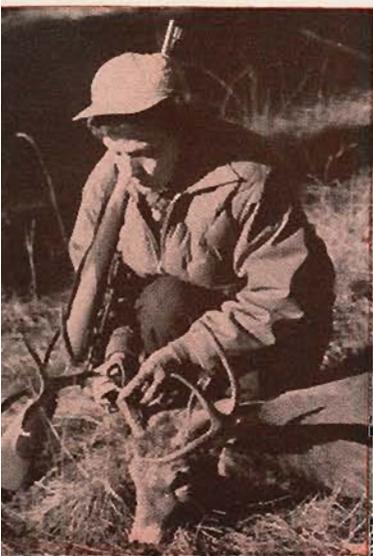


The author congratulates Bill on a superb 300 yard shot on a fine pronghorn.

WOODCHUCKS COME

GRADUATING FROM CHUCKS TO ANTELOPE, THE LADY BECOMES AN ABLE BIG GAME HUNTRESS

By BERT POPOWSKI



Bill Herbert proudly tags buck shot with .222 Sako.

THE PRONGHORN slowed his leisurely lope, trotted, then stopped. For a long moment all sound and motion was suspended. When the rifle boomed, I locked on the moving target with my 7x35 B&L binoculars, watching the buck sail off in desperate lunging leaps. His legs went into slow motion, started to buckle, and within 30 yards he plowed his nose into the South Dakota buffalo-grass and flipped over on his back.

"That," said "Bill" Herbert, first peering at the kill through the scope and then with naked eyes, "is the darndest shot I've ever seen!" The sigh of relief I'd been letting out turned into a roar of laughter. But she was so right. You can't argue with success, and no one had more right to applaud that grand shot than Bill herself.

Willella Herbert, "Bill" to her many friends, slowly shucked out the spent brass of



Left: Jerry Popowski congratulates Bill on coyote that fell to her Sako. Right: Hefty gobbler, another victim of Bill's gun.

Bill bagged this whitetail without help, but needed Jerry's muscle to drag it out.

the .300 Weatherby Magnum she'd just fired. "Just one heck of a shot," she said, almost dreamily. Then she cracked the whip. "Boy, dress out my buck!"

Frankly, I like few female hunters. They're generally too flip about the serious hunting of game and unwilling to put in the hours of practice to make them adequate marksmen. Ever since the dawn of recorded time men have been hunters, and women have fed their families with the meat their menfolks provided.

Bill Herbert was like that when I first knew her, but, when woodchucks began feeding on her vegetable garden, she got her dander up at the critters. Then, when they

moved into her beloved flowers, her ox was really gored.

"Shoot 'em yourself. They're your chucks and your gardens," I told her when she suggested I remove the pests. I even loaned her a fine little featherweight Sako .222 that was a tack-driver.

With a little off-and-on coaching during the next fortnight, Bill not only cleared her garden of woodchucks, she also set up an out-of-bounds limit for 100 yards surrounding her homestead. Any woodchuck that poked his snout into that restricted area was inviting a 50 grain slug in his boiler-room.

"Well, the woodchuck invasion (*Continued on page 42*)

BEFORE BIG GAME...



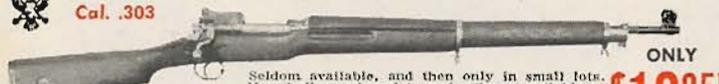
A good all-around huntress, Bill handles a shotgun as well as a rifle, as shown by bag of sharptail grouse.



Pensive look on Bill's face indicates that the season is over — and deer hunting must wait until next year.

WORLD'S LARGEST COLLECTION OF AMERICA'S GREATEST SHOOTERS' BARGAINS

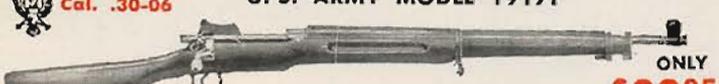
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Cal. .303



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U. S. ARMY MODEL 1917!
Cal. .30-06



ONLY **\$29.95!**

All milled parts—fresh from government cases. All G. V.G. or better. A few Excellent only \$5.00 additional. Genuine new Web Slings \$1.00—used .50. The world's strongest bolt action! Order yours today. If you prefer Remington or Winchester manufacture, a limited number \$3 more.

WORLD RENOWNED U. S. SPRINGFIELDS!
Cal. .30-06



High numbers ONLY **\$39.95!**

IN STOCK! All in very good or better condition! The greatest of them all, the INCOMPARABLE Springfield at the lowest price ever—for high numbers. These are NOT the crude, makeshift assembled jobs advertised by others; these are NOT the left-overs rotting in steaming South American jungles, but original Springfields in the finest condition ever. HIGH NUMBERS only \$39.95. HIGH NUMBERS WITH TARGET TYPE C STOCK \$42.95! New web slings \$1.00. .30-06 ammo \$6.00 per 100!

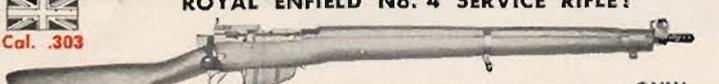
LATEST U.S. MODEL 03A3 SPRINGFIELDS!
Cal. .30-06



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Cal. .303



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Cal. .303



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Cal. 8MM



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NEW MAUSER LEATHER SLINGS \$1.95!

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Cal. 8 MM

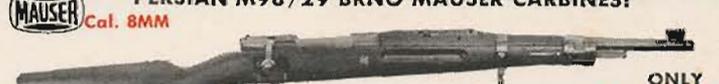


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Cal. 7.62 Russian



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7.62 Russian Soft Point (30 rds.)	\$4.50
7.65 Mauser Soft Point (20 rds.)	\$3.50
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FREE! • NEW LEATHER HOLSTER WITH MAGAZINE POCKET!
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Above: The Muzzle Loader Festival opens with the firing of the Civil War cannon. Right: Members of a skirmish team cloud the air with powder smoke.



By M. ROBERT BEASLEY

Below: An authentic costume adds realism. Right: A heavy bench rest rifle on the line.



A MUZZLE



Left: Team from the 4th Michigan Infantry Regiment split the stake, but shots outside of the mark disqualified them. Right: Targets, filled with black powder, explode in a puff of smoke.

AMERICANA COMES TO LIFE WHEN THE BLACK POWDER SHOOTERS CONVERGE ON MICHIGAN



Above: Gun crew prepares to fire one of the Civil War cannons entered. Left: "Frontier" ladies shoot, too.



shooting on the 50 yard range, the popular load for the big 50's is a 500 grain musket ball, charged by 40 grains of black powder. For longer distances, the 500 grain lead ball is frequently propelled by up to 65 grains of black powder.

The accuracy of these century old muzzleloaders, most of them with smooth bore, is amazing! Numerous shooters have scored 10 out of 10, shooting at a 26 inch bull's-eye—at ranges up to 1,000 yards!

The 450 muzzleloader shooters who participated last year blazed away through five different events at Greenfield Village. Shooting in teams of six, with 108 marksmen on the firing line simultaneously, the activities began with standard stationary clay pigeons at 50 yards. These were shattered almost as quickly as the marksmen could reload and fire their muskets.

The second contest, also at 50 yards, consists of six hanging, breakable targets, fired on by the entire six man team. The next event, also fired by the entire team, is shooting against the clock at six swinging cannisters, which contain a liquid material, that emits multi-colored spouts of foam when struck by musket balls.

The fourth shooting match requires the six man (Continued on page 51)

LOADER FESTIVAL

ON JUNE 20, the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village, in keeping with the objective to "bring American history back to life," will turn back time to re-live, for two thrilling days, the excitement of Civil War and frontier shooting activities.

Each year some 20,000 spectators converge on Dearborn, Michigan, to view the roaring cannon and blazing muskets as the annual Muzzle Loaders Festival holds forth in the activities area of this treasure of Americana.

This is undoubtedly one of the most colorful events regularly held at the Henry Ford Museum and Greenfield Village. Those who participate or witness the Festival agree that it is certainly one of the most exciting

shooting events of the year.

The entrance rules are unique among shooting events. All participants must be dressed in authentic Civil War or early American costume, and all arms must be of 1865 vintage or earlier, although replacement parts and some hand-made replica muzzle-loading guns are permitted.

The two day Festival, will open Saturday noon, with the firing of three Civil War cannons. As the cannon roar is still reverberating among the 100 early American buildings of Greenfield Village, caps begin to crack, and musket balls belch from the antique arms.

Most of the muzzle-loading rifles are Remingtons or Springfields, of either .52 or .58 caliber. During competitive



Pull!

BY DICK MILLER

SHOOTING PUNDITS HAVE almost invariably agreed that skeet shooting, small bore rifle shooting, and shooting the center-fires at game are not necessarily compatible.

A recent visit with Fred Copeland in San Antonio, Texas proves to this pundit (of sorts) that this just ain't so! Skeet shooters will remember Fred as the Class B National Sub-Junior skeet champ in the Dallas nationals at the age of 11. Also at the tender age of 11, Fred bagged the second largest buck in South Texas, along with numerous javelina. Now, a decade or so later, Fred racked up the small-bore championship in his Army Reserve division.

In Fred Copeland, from the big state of Texas, you have in one compact package, skeet, small-bore, and big game center-fire champion. If you believe in heredity, some of this shooting savvy had to rub off on Fred from his Dad, Bill Copeland, who is no mean shot with any kind of shooting iron. And, the Copelands, junior and senior, get a lot of benign support from Bill Van Hoogenhuyze with whom they are associated in selling shooting supplies to other Texans. The Van Hoogenhuyze organization seems to attract shooters. While looking at the Copeland trophies, I also had a good visit with Lowell Warnhoff, who shares with this writer a lot of thoughts and goals for making sure that coming generations know the fun of the shooting sports.

My king-size Texas tour also afforded a good visit with Grady Mathison in San Angelo, who adds a lot of savvy in the handgun field to know-how in either the field or over the traps. Grady shares his shooting acumen with customers of Findlater Hardware Co., operating in the San Angelo area.

From the other side of the Mississippi comes word of a real dog-fight at Wilmington Gun Club, Glasgow, Delaware. Casper Clough, from Price, Maryland, locked horns with Bill Barrow from Newark, and D. A. Sheets of Kirkwood. Clough cracked the first half-century, then weakened only once in the second 50 for a winning 99. The pressure went on him in the second half, when both Barrow and Sheets ran the 50 following their initial 48 and 47 efforts.

More shooting news from the East coast leads this column to conclude that the Eastern feminine trapshooting contingent is getting better, or the men are slipping.

Mrs. John Nicolls topped Cy Melikian and Pierre Houdry in a feature event at Aronimink Gun Club, by one target, and on the same day at the Philadelphia Gun Club, Mrs. J. B. Montgomery topped the best effort by the men (Fred Lyons) by three

clay targets (48x45, in a 50 bird event).

True to an earlier promise, we continue to support the Women's Interclub Trapshooting League in Pennsylvania by bringing results of another match. Torresdale-Frankford Gun Club, and Valley Forge Gun Club deadlocked at 226x250, with Torresdale winning the extra inning, 117-104. Members and scores for the winning quintet were: Mrs. Lewis Wolf 48; Mrs. William L. Battersby 46; and Mrs. George Siefert, Mrs. W. W. Remney, and Mrs. William Worthington, all with 44.

Leon Dembrocki topped the field in a bi-monthly feature at Roxborough Gun Club. Leon coasted home uncontested in the doubles, and insured the high-gun trophy by going straight along with C. J. Schenkel and Archie Di Paolo over the 16-yard course. C. H. Ziegler was high, from the 24 yard stripe, in the handicap event, and Mrs. Mary Christopher was high lady, just two targets off a perfect pace. Over at Torresdale-Frankford once more, Mrs. William L. (Florence) Battersby annexed the Ida Goldsmith Trophy after a shoot-off with three unnamed hopefuls.

Youth also had it's day in the East. Bob Buerki, 15-year-old Episcopal Academy student showed the way to his elders in a feature 16 yard event at the Philadelphia Gun Club. Mrs. H. D. Lafferty was high lady in the same contest. R. M. Hollingshead, Jr., and Mrs. J. B. Montgomery racked up perfect 50's each to win two extra added attractions in the form of handicap events.

The Upper Perkiomen Sportsmen's trapshooting event returned Bill Hunsberger the 16 yard winner. Pine Valley Gun Club's test for the date featured a tie involving J. H. Donhay and C. H. Ziegler in the singles contest. Jake Stavitsky was Handicap champ, and the doubles trophy went home with Cliff Leutholt.

Still another result from the Women's Interclub Trapshooting League indicates that all is not cut and dried in the ladies contest. Mrs. Bruce Ambler, the former Margaret Ogilby, fired a sparkling perfect 50 to lead her team to victory. Her 50 straight was the second recorded for the league. The 50 straight helped Huntingdon Valley to the trophy, with 229x250. In addition to Mrs. Ambler's 50 straight, Mrs. Andrew Webb fired a fine 48, Mrs. Joseph K. Doan and Mrs. Edwin A. Weihenmaker, Jr. tied at 44, and Mrs. K. C. Meinken scored 43.

In another trapshooting test, this time an

individual event, Mrs. Bonnie Jonas, wife of Villanova's Dr. Karl C. Jonas, won the Edwin H. Shearburn trophy at Gladwyne, after a shoot-off with Jack Lafore, Jr. and Mrs. H. D. Lafferty. Victor Cancelmo went straight to win the handicap event after the feature 16 yard Shearburn trophy contest.

Mrs. Robert McKenna won a shoot-off with Mrs. John L. Sbarbaro, to capture another East coast prize, the Tish Wasserman Memorial Shoot, held at Aronimink Gun Club.

Gale Smith, from Harrington, Delaware annexed high gun trophy at a recent Wilmington Target Shooter's Association set-to at Glasgow, Delaware, by capturing the doubles event alone, after deadlocking with four other 16 yard strippers all one target shy of a perfect mark. Gale at this point probably thinks you can separate the men from the boys by throwing targets two at a time. His doubles victory saved time and ammunition, for sure.

A later trapshooting bulletin further supports the question raised earlier in this month's column concerning the relative target-busting ability of men and the weaker sex on our Eastern shores. In a special match for the General L. W. T. Waller Trophy, the feminine contingent bested the male effort in a close contest, 119½ to 117¼. The only perfect score of the special contest was recorded by Mrs. Ogilby, and the men had to be content with R. H. Crompton's one miss for high male effort.

Pull! sends a special salute this month to the Shreveport, Louisiana, Gun Club for it's Fall Hunter's Special Turkey Shoot, which the club sponsors annually as a public service function of the club to non-trapshooting area residents. Any clay target club that fails to utilize the Hunter's Special event for it's club public relations value and shooting promotion event is missing a sure bet. This column will be happy to furnish Hunter's Special information to any club that needs the word.

June is a big month for state trapshooting tournaments. First one of the month is the Kansas title event, at Wichita Gun Club, June 4-7. Nebraska's champions will be decided at Central Nebraska Gun Club, Doniphan, June 11-14. Tennessee's Volunteers will gather at Nashville Gun Club on the same dates. Home grounds of the Grand American will host the Ohio State Shoot, one of the nation's largest, from the 17th through the 21st. Albuquerque Trap Club will host not only the state event but the ATA Southwestern Zone Shoot June 18-21. Colorado's state event is scheduled for the same dates, as is the Pennsylvania program, at Fayette Gun Club, Uniontown. Maryland winners will come from the Thurmont C&SC Club, June 19-21. Another of the nation's best attended events, the Illinois State Shoot, will be hosted by Art and Bob Stifal at Casey, the 25th through 28th. The Alaska event, and Wyoming championships, at Anchorage Gun Club, and Jackson Hole Trap Club share the 26th through 28th dates. Housatonic Gun Club, Stratford, Connecticut hosts the state shoot scheduled for June 27 and 28.

MEXICAN DEFENSE COURSE

(Continued from page 25)

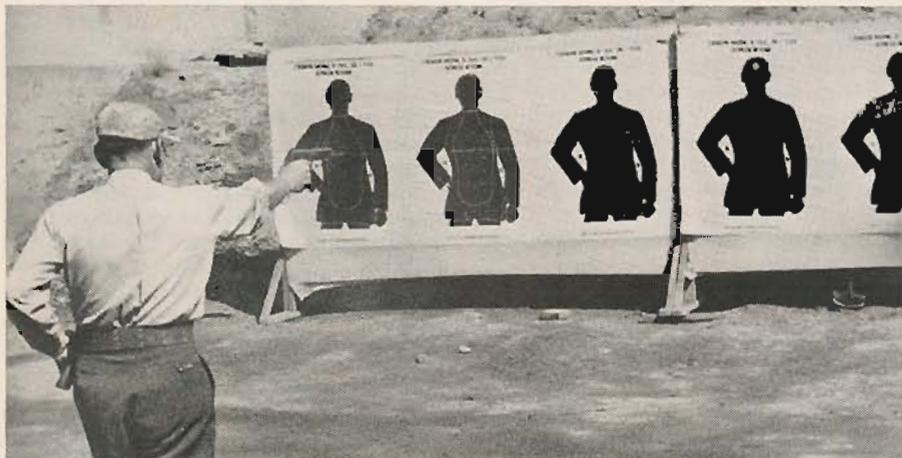
Midrange wadcutter ammunition with about half the muzzle energy of .45 ball is favored, and magnum ammunition is generally prohibited. In those few cases in which Americans shooters use .45 automatics over a combat course involving fast draw, built up "competition" safety locks are sometimes found, and some shooters are said to nullify grip safeties by pinning or taping them down. Nullification of the grip safety in the Mexican Defense Course is strictly prohibited with a penalty of disqualification for violation. Space does not permit a full discussion of the revolver vs. automatic in combat, but automatics do have some advantages, and .45 ball ammunition is far ahead of .38 midrange wadcutters as a load for the combat course.

Competitors reporting in civilian clothes use a holster standardized for this event with safety strap and a snap. The rules do not specify a crossdraw holster, but this style is used almost exclusively. In contrast, some of America's largest combat pistol matches

or ground, and numbered one to six.

The course of fire consists of four six-shot strings. The first is fired standing still upon a silhouette designated by the judge or range officer. The second string consists of six shots, standing still, one upon each silhouette always commencing from the left. The third string is fired advancing upon a target designated by the range officer. The first shot must be fired standing fast and the last with both feet planted flat on the ground after having recrossed the eight meter line but before crossing the four meter line. The fourth string consists of six shots advancing, one on each silhouette, the first and last ones fired as in the third string.

Five seconds are allowed for each six-shot string. The time starts when any part of the foot that crosses the ten meter line makes contact with the ground. When firing on automatic targets, shots fired as the targets are disappearing are counted, provided the bullet hole is no more than 23 milli-



Lt. Col. Rafael Gallardo Vargas, about to fire the final shot of a string. He is approaching the four meter line.

prohibit the crossdraw, clamshell and some other special holsters. The standard objection to these holsters is that they are not safe. Whether they are safe depends not upon the style of the holster but upon the manner in which the pistol is drawn from it. A safe draw can be made from a crossdraw holster as well as from a regular draw holster, and the crossdraw holster has some advantages.

Uniformed competitors use the Mexican Army holster, or one similar to it, with flap and snap, without laces or straps for the leg. It must not be tied down. In national championships, selection of teams, or in competitions of an international character, new holsters are issued by the organizer, according to the rules. There is not only no such thing as a "competition" holster, but a competitor cannot even "slick-up" or "work" his issue holster to make his drawing easier and smoother.

The targets used are silhouettes similar to Colt silhouettes with the kill zone counting ten points and the rest of the black area counts five points. They are mounted one meter apart from center to center with the top of the head 1.75 meters from the floor

meters wide, and they have the value of the first scoring zone the bullet enters.

In case of misfire or malfunction of the arm, through no fault of the shooter, he may have two refires in each group of 24 shots. After a competitor has had two refires before completing the four strings, he may, with the permission of the judge, load seven shots for each remaining string.

When a competitor is called to the firing line he takes his place behind the eight meter line, with his back to the center of the bank of silhouettes with the open pistol in one hand and the loaded magazine in the other. Upon the order of the range officer: "You may load," he raises his pistol with the barrel pointed upward, to the height of the eyes, inserts the magazine, loads a cartridge, puts the safety lock on, holsters, snaps the safety strap or flap into place. A judge learns to listen for the audible click of the safety lock and the holster snap. The holstered pistol hangs from a belt, properly adjusted to the waist and located precisely at the side of the competitor.

In the first string the judge will indicate the number of the silhouette to be fired upon, and the competitor positions himself in



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front of it. The Judge then asks, "Are you ready?", to which the shooter answers, "Ready." Within five seconds the Judge gives forth with a long whistle blast as the command to start walking, in a natural manner, toward the ten meter firing line. The competitor may not avail himself of the advantages of the specialized walk found useful by American fast draw competitors. The greatest variation from natural walking that I have ever seen a judge permit is walking with the arms hanging straight at the sides and not swinging.

When either of the feet of the competitor cross the ten meter line and any part of that foot touches the ground, the Judge sounds a short blast on his whistle and starts his stopwatch. Then and only then may the competitor place his hands upon his gun, make a half turn, and standing firm, fire a string of six shots. Touching the pistol before the whistle is penalized by the loss of ten points. However, the judge is obligated to blow the whistle at the instant the competitor's foot touches the ground. This avoids disrupting his timing or balance. At the end of five seconds the judge blows another short blast as order to cease fire.

On automatic targets, the machinery may be actuated by the shooter's breaking a light beam as he crosses the ten meter line, and the targets may turn at the end of the time limit.

Upon finishing the string, the competitor, still facing the targets, unloads his gun, leaves it open, removes the magazine, returns to the provisioning table at Raise Pistol, and makes ready to answer the next

command of the judge.

In the second string the same procedure is followed, except that the target number is not designated since one shot is fired on each target.

In the third string the procedure is the same as in the first except that the competitor will advance upon the target designated by the Judge after firing his first shot standing firm.

The fourth string is fired like the second but with the competitor advancing after firing the first shot standing firm.

Scoring in both individual and team matches is first by the number of silhouettes hit and second by the highest number of points, similar to the scoring that has been in effect at times for the International Rapid Fire Silhouette match. This makes it essential that a competitor fire all shots within the time limits and score some kind of a hit to stand a chance of winning.

Ties for both teams and individuals in both number of silhouettes hit and total score are decided by: (a) the sum of points scored in the fourth string during the days the competition lasted, (b) the sum of points scored in the third string, and (c) shooters or teams still tied will repeat the fourth string exclusively reducing the time to 4, 3, and 2 seconds for each string of six shots.

Ties do, of course, occur. Their incidence is reduced by the requirement that in national competition, team selection (presumably referring to international teams), and international competition, at least two courses will be fired, one per day. When it becomes necessary to repeat the fourth string with reduced time limits in order to break ties, I'd venture to guess that few will be left for the three and two second stages.

Perfect scores are sometimes fired on this course. The first one in official competition that I was aware of was fired by Juan Chavez of the Mexican National Police about 1940. This may look easy to a good .45 shooter who has fired the course informally but don't be misled. With a regulation pistol, holster, and belt stripped of "competition" short-cuts, with an unsympathetic Judge breathing down your neck, with a large group of spectators watching, and with an important championship hanging in the balance, those possibles are hard to get.

In the 1954 Central American and Caribbean Games Lt. Col. Rafael Gallardo Vargas won the Mexican Defense Course with a score of 470 out of 480, twice over the 24 shot course. He had fired possible scores, but on this occasion he was exposed to the limiting factors mentioned. Competitors for this event had a large gallery. In the bright sunlight of high-altitude Mexico City, with sand-colored backgrounds for the black silhouettes, each .45 caliber bullet hole was easily visible from a considerable distance, and spectators could easily keep informed on each shooter's performance. And the Mexican competitors, firing on their home grounds were under great pressure to win.

The emotional state of the crowd became contagious even to reporters and competitors. Of Gallardo's performance the Mexican magazine "Esto" of March 15, 1954, reported: "Very sure, serene, with great calm, even elegant, Lt. Col. Gallardo Vargas shot his four final strings with the greatest per-

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fection to give Mexico a noted triumph." Gallardo told a reporter as he was being congratulated after he fired, "...my last shots I fired for Mexico, and for her I won. I was fortunate and like everyone I felt tremendously nervous, but I was able to control myself and do well for my country."

The Mexicans have another course, called the Yaqui Defense Course fired with .38 or



.45 caliber semi-automatic pistols, any holster, in four six-shot strings at ranges of 5, 5, 8, and 10 meters, respectively, on regulation silhouettes mounted one meter apart center to center.

In this course, the competitor stands facing the targets, arms at his sides, pistol holstered, with no cartridge in the chamber. The Judge asks "Ready?" and immediately upon receiving an affirmative reply gives the order to fire with a short whistle blast. The competitor then may draw, chamber a cartridge, and, holding his elbow against his body, begin to fire.

In the first string he must have only one cartridge in the magazine. Each subsequent round of the six-shot string must be loaded and chambered singly. This string is fired at five meters, standing firm, upon one silhouette, in 1½ seconds per shot. In the succeeding strings the magazine is loaded with six rounds, making it necessary to chamber only the first round manually. The second six-shot string is fired on one silhouette, standing firm, in 3½ seconds, at 5 meters. The third string consists of two shots on each of three silhouettes, standing firm, in five seconds at 8 meters. The fourth string is fired on one silhouette, advancing, in five seconds, the first shot while standing firm beyond the 10 meter line, the following five advancing to within the 8 meter line.

In comparison with American combat pistol courses, these Mexican courses of fire have both advantages and disadvantages. Both the Americans and Mexicans are restrictive, one specifying revolvers, the other automatics. The Mexican holsters and belts are more practical than American "competition" leather, but are not as effective as many rigs worn by American police on duty.

The Mexican courses do not utilize the greater distances and varied positions of our Practical Pistol Course. They skip the re-loading phase which is of doubtful value at close range, and when they want a man to shoot from the hip—also of doubtful value—they clearly specify a hip-shooting position, that is the elbow resting against the body. In the Mexican Defense Course the shooter is left to decide for himself whether he should aim carefully, point from shoulder level, or shoot from the hip. That liberty of

choice is conducive to the development of the most effective technique for that course and for the personal combat which it seeks to simulate. Incidentally, the winners do not usually shoot from the hip—even when the time limits are short.

The short march before drawing in the Mexican Defense Course adds some action and difficulty as compared to events in which the shooter stands still and draws with eyes glued to the target. The march is not as diversified as the walking stages of the Bancroft Quickdraw Course where the competitor walks toward the targets, away from the targets, left to right, and right to left during the course. The Mexican Defense Course shooter knows he will get his firing order when his first foot touches ground past the ten-meter line.

As soon as he gets the signal he completes the step as quickly as possible, planting his other foot on the ground and executing something like the military *to the rear* movement. At the same time his hands are streaking for the gun and holster. The left hand grabs the holster to hold it in place, and the left thumb flips the safety strap loose. The right hand sweeps the gun straight toward the target, releasing the safety lock just before coming onto the target and squeezing the trigger.

With a bit of symbolism the *valiente mexicano*, whose ancestors would have disdained the blindfold and spat their final cigarettes at their executioners, does not hide behind an artificial barricade in a cramped position. He not only stands in the open, but turns his back on his target and walks away.

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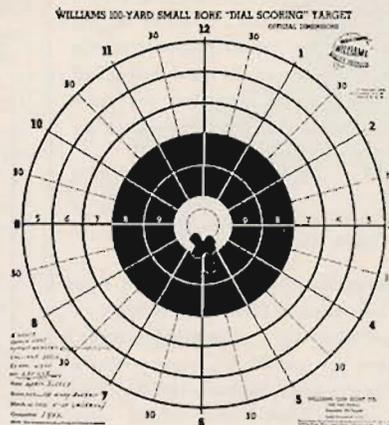
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WOODCHUCKS COME BEFORE BIG GAME

(Continued from page 33)

is over, at least temporarily," she mentioned one day. Then, somewhat wistfully, she added: "You know I've never shot a prairie dog. Are they really as tough targets as I've heard?"

Bill found the prairie dogs as advertised. She also learned about wind-drift on the wide-open plains. But she willingly accepted coaching and, in a half-dozen trips, was nailing eight dogs per ten shots at ranges nudging 200 yards. Before she'd burned up 100 rounds of .222 ammunition she was calling her own holds and then proving them with solid hits.

As the summer ran to an end and the foliage began to turn during a long stretch of Indian Summer, I sensed that the alchemy of hunting was bubbling in Bill's veins.

"Would this rifle kill a deer?" she asked. "Certainly. I've used a Remington 722 for both antelope and deer in this same caliber. If you hit 'em right they're killed just as neatly as with any well-placed bullet from bigger calibers."

When I grinned at her enthusiasm, she dug up a dozen illustrations of buck deer she'd collected from magazines and newspapers. "Where should this one be hit for a clean kill?" When I put an X on the two or three ideal sure-killing spots on each illustration, her next question was: "Why?" I wound up by drawing the locations of the vital organs, to point up the reasons for bullet strikes in the designated surface spots. While I was at it I also pointed out the areas to avoid where non-fatal crippling shots would result.

Bill's first whitetail buck was a breeze. We climbed a nearby mountain at the crack of dawn, put Bill on a stand, and I then cut around one flank to get deer moving. In this country, we just don't have enough brush in

the valleys to suit their skulking habits, so the deer climb mountains and hide and bed in dense stands of "dog-hair" jackpines on the slopes.

When I got back a half-hour later, Bill was nervously gnawing her fingernails. There was a guilty and furtive look about her.

"See anything?" I asked, easing down for a smoke.

"Four of them. Over there," gesturing to an open bench about 125 yards away. "One of them was a little buck."

"Why didn't you bust him? Young bucks make dandy venison."

"I know. I shot. But he ran off." Her face was so serious it showed strain. "I don't see how I missed him. I held right on the same spot you marked for me on the calendar."

"Did you have a steady hold?" I asked. "Like a rock. I rested the Sako over this down log, just as if I was holding on a prairie dog. But he ran off," she almost wailed. "He went right down hill, his tail waving goodbye."

"Well, let's have a look," I suggested, stubbing out my smoke. "Locate exactly where he was when you shot, and where he went afterwards."

"He was right next to that stump and went straight downhill from there," said Bill. "The two does and a fawn went off the same way they were heading, off to the right."

Deep hoof gouges had flung the pine needles aside from the spot Bill pointed out. Naturally, even on bare ground, a bullet-hit buck would go downhill. Here his trail was plain in the disturbed duff. I was ten yards ahead of Bill when I looked beyond a limb-studded log. The buck, as dead as last Saturday's cigar, was completely concealed from Bill.

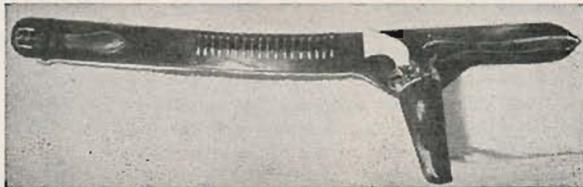
"Does that look like him?" I asked.

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Bill looked, goggled, then flew those remaining yards. "My first deer!" she marveled, stroking the buck's sleek coat. Then she made the classic remark she's never been allowed to forget. "Well, he isn't a trophy, but he's all my own!"

Since then Bill has progressed like a house afire. A woodchuck scarcely dares show his noggin on her premises. Magpies poke around her meadows at their own risk.

Black Powder Shoot

Folks in the greater Chicagoland area will have a chance to see a fine re-enactment of a Civil War skirmish on the weekend of June 6 and 7. Complete with firing cannon, smoking muskets, and authentic costumes, this two-day event will be held at Shabbona, Ill., about 60 miles due west of Chicago.

Sponsored by Battery A, Chicago Light Artillery, the various matches,



for cannon, musket, and percussion pistols, will be conducted under the rules of the North South Skirmish Association.

Cannons will be fired at 100, 150, and 200 yards, and an unusual target has been devised which will graphically demonstrate the power of cannon fire.

Spectators are welcome, and anyone who wants to participate should bring their favorite smoke-pole and entry fee is one dollar for each match entered.

Interested people should contact Paul F. Tasson, 2156 N. Keeler, Chicago, Ill. Photo by Bob Dienthal.

And, she has branched out in her big game hunting so she now adds an antelope buck to her list during South Dakota's alternate hunting seasons.

While my younger son, Jerry, was going through college he used to make my cabin his weekend home. One season, I recall, we three collected a total of 72 ducks of several species; and I do believe we ate every one of those quackers, from teal through mallards. Bill not only helped to shoot, pluck, and dress the birds, but tenderly tended them into magnificent meals.

Naturally, in such a congenial threesome, there were many hilarious moments, and some endearingly touching ones. On one sharptail grouse hunt we separated, the better to cover an extensive piece of choice cover. Mere chance led me to blunder into a veritable grouse convention, out of which I shucked my limit of three. Suspecting there

might be more birds ahead, I tried to wave Bill and Jerry toward me.

But those two were off on a safari of their own. Jerry had marked the spot where some of the dozen-odd birds I'd flushed had landed. That's where they headed, while I picked up my three and observed developments. They advanced cautiously, then stopped to fling arms and bob heads in heated argument. Finally Bill moved on, a Browning O-U 20 gauge poised and ready.

I later learned that Jerry had plain out-argued Bill. "You've never shot a sharptail so these are your birds," he said. "I'll never raise my gun or even follow you closely. When it flushes it's up to you to get it."

From 200 yards away I watched the odd advance, with Jerry to the rear and trailing his Ithaca in one hand, muzzle to his rear. Eventually, since sharptails don't move far in thick cover, the bird flushed. Bill leveled down, seemed to hold on for minutes, then the grouse fell like a sack of wet sand.

The bang of the Browning was immediately trailed by Jerry's exultant yell. "Wonderful shot, Bill! Absolutely perfect!" And then I was treated to the sight of those two idiots hugging each other in utter joy.

I've often thought of that since. I suppose that, during wide hunting experience, I've lost much of the thrill of scoring a "first" on any kind of game. They hadn't. That episode shocked me into the realization that a veteran hunter might better pass up a limit bag in order to permit beginners to savor the delight of first kills and first limits.

But Bill's major exploits were in the big-game field. She turned into a positive terror with that Sako .222. In fact, about the only time I see it is on a quarterly basis, when I check over all guns in a general cleanup; or when she occasionally uses it to clobber a raiding woodchuck or a careless magpie. Or, as has happened twice, a buck whitetail gets incautious within 200 yards of her home during the open seasons.

Her score on deer and antelope has reached a fantastic 12 kills with just 13 shots. The one shot she did blow wasn't a miss in the strict sense of the word. The target was a fine pronghorn at some 125 yards and Bill had a fine rest on the rocky hillside. But the buck ran at her shot and kept going.

We were both puzzled at that, until I carefully examined the area just ahead of her shooting site. There I found a tough little stem of sagebrush, scarcely ten feet ahead of the Sako's muzzle, cleanly sheared off by the bullet. Evidently the slug had blown into a shower of fragments on that obstruction and never came near its target.

No matter how many bucks Bill might take in the future, her last pronghorn will remain indelibly engraved on my memory. With my buck skinned out and cooling in the trunk, we had, almost, called it a day. Bill had already cased her pet Sako, but joined me in that famous "last look" over the next rise. What happened there I've already reported.

Bill may sometimes make a shot that, momentarily at least, will give her greater delight and satisfaction. But over the long haul of hunting years I can only paraphrase her original comment, that her 1962 pronghorn buck was truly taken by "the darndest shot I've ever seen."

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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.

Pinfire Value

I have a pinfire cartridge in my collection, and would like to know if it has any value, of what origin it is, and the caliber. The brass case has a diameter of 9 mm, the entire cartridge is 23 mm in length. It has a conical lead bullet that measures 9 mm in length. The case is 14 mm long and the pin is 5 mm long.

The shell is about the size of a .380 cartridge, but has a longer bullet. There is a 9 or a 6 stamped on the base of the shell.

I have been considering purchasing a Browning .380 auto. Would you consider this a good buy for a defense gun?

John E. Koob

Your pinfire cartridge is the 9 mm pinfire, and from what you say is of French manufacture. They are common and worth about 25¢.

The .380 Browning is an excellent defense arm at normal defense ranges.—C.B.

Remington Conversion

Is it possible to convert the Remington Model 25, .32-20 caliber to .357 Magnum? If so, who could do the work, and about how much would it cost?

Did Colt ever put out a .32-20 revolver on the Police Positive Special frame? Who might have one?

Norman McKinnon
Fairview Park, Ohio

In my opinion, a conversion of the Remington Model 25, .32-20, that was discontinued back in 1936, to the .357 Magnum is highly impractical, if not impossible.

Yes, Colt made a goodly number of Police Positive Special revolvers in .32-20. I do not know who might have one, but it should not be hard to find.—C.B.

Maynard Rifle

I recently acquired a Maynard rifle with an extra barrel. The markings on the left side of the frame are:

Edward Maynard
Patentee
May 27 1851 1873
Dec 6 1859

On the right side of the frame is:

Manufactured by
Mass Arms Co.
Chicopee Falls
1882

The barrel and the lever take down by withdrawing a pin from the right side of the

frame. The number 348 is on the lower tang and on the bottom of one barrel, which is not marked as to caliber, but is believed to be the .32-35 Stevens, and is 26 inches long. The other barrel (30 inches long) and lever are not marked in any way, but the barrel is claimed to be for the .38-55 Winchester cartridge which seems to fit the chamber well. The 30 inch barrel is five-sided at the chamber, and the rest is round; it weighs about 3 pounds and has a very narrow rear sight slot.

The over-all condition of this gun is very good. It has some rust stains and dark spots, and some blue, and the stock is near perfect—of course, it is made without a forearm.

Could you give me some idea what this gun is worth to a collector? Also, could you guess as to these calibers?

Could you give me a list of the Maynard cartridges and a brief history? I paid \$40 for this gun and am wondering if I got stuck.

Bob Norton

Belle Forche, So. Dak.

Your Maynard with the two barrels is worth about \$60, so you did alright when you bought it.

I would think the two cartridges involved are the .32-35 Maynard model of 1882 and the .38-50 Maynard, 1882. Both of these are heavy everlasting cases and are collector's items today.

The .32-35 Stevens is dimensionally the same as the .32-35 Maynard, 1882. The Stevens is a conventional case and not "everlasting."

A list of Maynard cartridges and a history of same would fill a small book.—C.B.

Potpourri

I need a good, hard, scratch resistant gun stock finish that will stand up to fairly rough treatment. I've tried rubbed lacquer, and some of the prepared linseed oils, but both have a tendency to scratch and dent fairly easily. What is recommended for this type of finish and how may I obtain it at little expense?

What is the best method for cold gun bluing? I've tried several brands with little success. How do I obtain the mirror-like finish before bluing, or does there need to be one?

What is the proper way to set a .22 rifle scope? I plan to shoot sitting targets such as prairie dogs and squirrels.

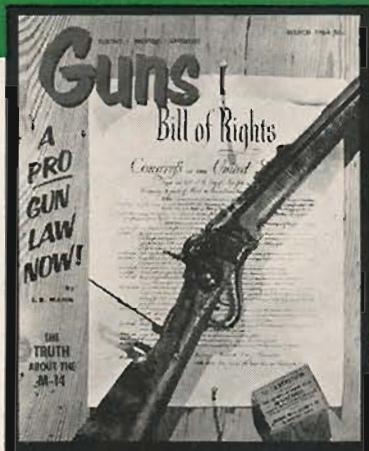
I have a Winchester Model 77 rifle; would you tell me where I can purchase a clip? I understand they make an 8-shot clip, but do they make a larger one?

Larry L. Pinkston
Wichita, Kansas

Usually, when someone tries a commercial product that "won't work" it's because they
(Continued on page 46)

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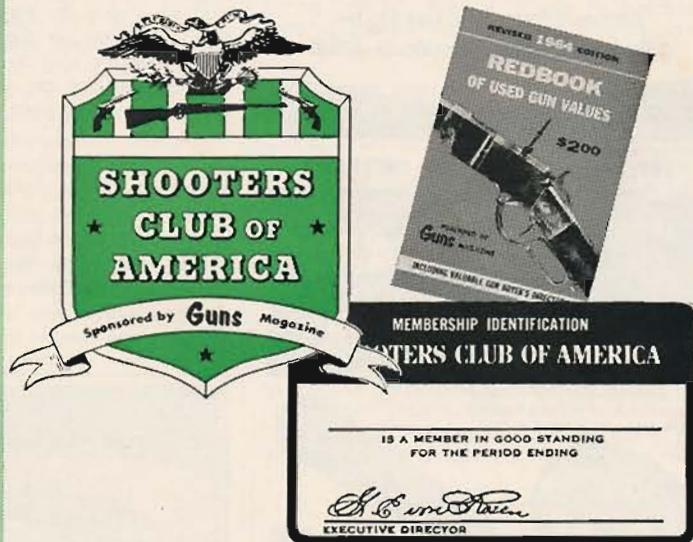
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(Continued from page 44)

use the product with higher hopes than the
manufacturer claims or they do not use the
product in the prescribed manner.

I would say that the best "good hard
scratch-resistant" finish is spar varnish ap-
plied in several thin coats and with plenty
of drying in between. If you want a softer-
looking finish it can be cut somewhat with
boiled linseed oil.

Good cold bluing is not easy. Most prod-
ucts can do a good job if the worker is very
careful and all aspects of the operation are
executed properly. Often the big problem
seems to be to rid the metal part of all oil.

I have my .22 squirrel rifle with six power
scope set so that I am 1/2 inch high at 50
feet (indoor range distance) this way I can
reach out and make kills, even by raising
my hold, at 100 yards.

I would write to Winchester first and ask
for the model 77 magazine. I believe that
the 8-shot clip is all that is available.—C.B.

H&A Single Shot

I have a rifle that appears to be a western
saddle gun. It has a 23 inch octagon barrel,
and is 38" over-all. The barrel is marked
"The Hopkins & Allen Arms Co., Norwich,
Conn. U.S.A." The trigger guard opens and
closes the action. It is a single shot in .32
caliber rim-fire. The numbers 23527 are
stamped under the breech and the numbers
3527 are inside the butt plate. There are no
other markings on the gun. It has an ex-
posed hammer with no apparent safety.

Could you give me any information about
this gun such as year of manufacture, use,
worth, etc?

Stanley R. Krok
Glendora, N.J.

The Hopkins & Allen firm dates back to
the 1860's but they did not produce the
single shot rifle you have until about 1888.
They made the rifle in several calibers and
the same system was used for shotguns. The
company was bought out during WW I.

If the piece is sound and clean with a
good bore it is unusual. The ammo in those
days really played hob with the rifling. Col-
lectors usually consider one of those pieces
to be worth about \$20 in sound but average
condition.—C.B.

Springfield Musket

Can you tell me where the Springfield
Model 1862 Rifled Musket was made, and
how it differs from the Model 1861 and
1863?

Charles E. Maher
Lexington Park, Md.

It is my understanding that there was no
"Model of 1862." Any such arms marked
with the date of 1862 are merely Model 1861
arms that were manufactured in the year
1862.

The U.S. Rifled Musket Model 1861 and
1861 Special were made in more than one
place. The government let out contracts with
a good number of concerns because the
Springfield Armory could not make enough
to meet demands. The ones marked U.S.
Springfield were made at the U.S. Armory
at Springfield, Mass.—C.B.

A 7.65 Mauser

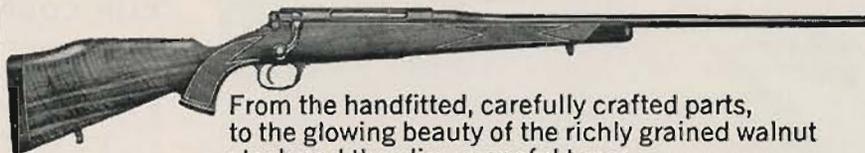
I would like some information on ammu-
nition for the German Mauser, Model 1891,
caliber 7.65 mm. What is the best suited
ammo for this gun? I tried to purchase
ammunition for this rifle at my sporting
goods store, but he doesn't seem to know
anything about this cartridge, except the
Luger type.

Richard W. Swintek
Chicago, Illinois

Since American manufacturers do not make
the 7.65 mm Mauser cartridge, you will have
to rely on imported ammunition. Hunter's
Lodge offers both surplus military and soft
point sporting ammo in this caliber. Norma
also offers sporting ammo
for your rifle.—C.B.

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THE MYSTERIOUS SPIW

(Continued from page 19)

The Defense Secretary had previously reported that 1.1 million rifles were on hand or due from the M14 program, 85,000 M16's on order, and more than a million M1's in storage.

Gun fans have been trying for more than a year to find out what the SPIW is. Officials have revealed only that it is an individual weapon that would enable the gunner "to engage area and point targets more effectively. The weapon could be used as both a shoulder-fired grenade launcher and a rifle. Fully loaded, it is expected to weigh no more than the current M14."

But much information has leaked out. As far back as an Infantry Conference in 1958, an early model was demonstrated. The demonstration was a closed circuit affair, so to speak, but officials at the time announced that .30 caliber duplex cartridges with a two-piece ball, and triplex caliber .30 cartridges with a three-piece ball were fired. Also disclosed "way back then" was a 32 dart 12 gauge flechette cartridge, fired from a reinforced shotgun. Some .30 caliber flechettes were also fired.

What are flechettes? They are tiny finned darts, more damaging in their tumbling action when they hit a target than a smooth ball. The darts, said to be an inch long and about as thick as the lead in a pencil, are stabilized in flight by the tiny fins. When they hit flesh they lose their stability and "cartwheel," causing a gaping wound that one early researcher said creates more of a job for graves registration than for a surgeon. The lethality is rumored to result from the tumbling action and the extremely high velocity of the projectile.

To make a cartridge, the needles are apparently imbedded in a sabot—a plug of plastic. This is then fixed, as a regular bullet, into a cartridge, carrying whatever the

power-producing substance is. On firing, the plastic sabot falls away.

Officials have not revealed whether the gun would fire a single needle, a burst of three, or an undetermined large number of flechettes. Based on our knowledge of what the Army wants for its riflemen, however, we would guess that the final model will be capable of firing in single, short, and full automatic bursts.

In 1960, after the Infantry Conference, Army officials gave Congress a few more details. The proposed gun, the testimony revealed, would be ultra-light. In fact, with 750 rounds of ammunition it would weigh no more than the M14 with 160 rounds of 7.62 mm NATO ammo. And the ammunition, witnesses said, would determine the configuration of the final weapon.

They also said they wanted a weapon that would kill, in the hands of expert marksmen, up to 500 or 600 meters and, in addition, be lethal up to 1000 meters.

In similar Congressional hearings during May 1963, the head of the Army Research and Development said the SPIW will have more potential per pound than any current rifle and "will significantly increase the hit probability per trigger pull." He also said that if production models lived up to expectations, the SPIW would leapfrog the M16 and M14, replacing all current Army rifles.

After the Army has made its selection from the prototypes delivered by the four companies, further developments will take place, followed by the usual engineering and service tests. Army officials won't say exactly when this is scheduled for.

General Wheeler wound up his enthusiastic report on the weapon with these words. "This weapon would be a considerable advance over any military small arms today."

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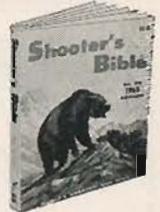
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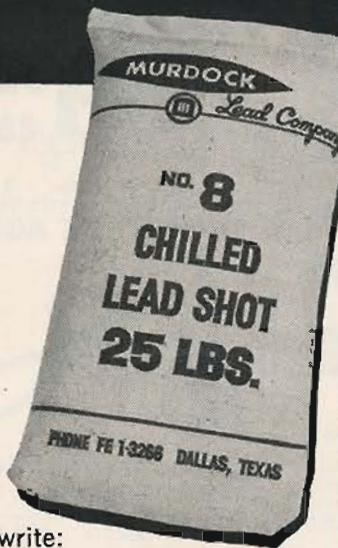
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HOW TO CHOOSE YOUR NEXT HUNTING VEHICLE

(Continued from page 28)

tremendously rough usage for a pickup. Did it do any harm? Well, I guess not. I've run the same pickup another 30,000 miles since, whanged it over boulders and through the brush and I still haven't had to have anything repaired. The light truck is a vehicle the average hunter who makes annual trips can afford to buy. He can use it as a second automobile and as his hunting car. It will be the most economical vehicle of his lifetime, and it will do almost anything he wants it to. There are places it won't go, but it does have an extremely broad range of use and awesome capabilities.

I had a big box built, of three-quarter-inch ply covered by galvanized metal, all seams soldered. This moisture-proof box, set in the bed of my GMC pickup right behind the cab, carries all my gear. I pad the bottom with a couple of old blankets. I arrange my duffle and that of any partner going with me, so that the guns are gently held and so well padded no jouncing can possibly affect them. I have carted guns tens of thousands of miles this way. It is a fine method for getting you and your gun to the game.

A switch on this is the cover for the pickup bed. I do not believe in canvas ones, not when so many excellent aluminum ones are made. I'm talking about the little "covers" that have windows and rest on and are bolted on the top edge of the bed. Padded gun racks can be put into these, you can put in a couple of bunks or mattresses and

sleep in them, and all told they make a good, economical, safe and dry way to transport firearms and duffle to or very near to the game fields. One caution, however, there are some covers or campers that have a rear door coming clear down to the bottom of the truck bed. You remove the tail gate for this kind. I have not had one of these yet that did not suck in dust terribly. It is almost impossible to seal the lower back edge. I like the kind best where the tailgate stays put.

In passing I want to recommend a couple of items for the pickup user. Outfit with tough tires, heavy ones. Carry some basic tools. Buy a pickup with a rear axle (known by various trade names) that doesn't spin both wheels at once—Power-Lok, I believe, is one trade name. This is great assistance when in sticky country. And, by all means put in a set of chains. In deep snow or mud, if you then load rocks or anything handy into the back to give you plenty of hold-down weight, you can grind out of places you'd hardly believe possible. Last of all, the best recommendation I know for the pickup is that a great many game departments furnish them to their personnel. I've hunted with many wardens in various states who put his pickup into places that looked just about impassable and impossible.

The so-called Suburban, which is a pickup truck with a stationwagon-like body, is also a pretty good bet for all around use. It

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(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.



(D) KENTUCKY-TYPE
FLINTLOCK PISTOLS:

The Kentucky Pistol is a unique Arm and is a very attractive one for the collector to acquire or for the shooter. This Flintlock is a typical "KENTUCKY" pistol, practically none of which are exactly alike. Many of the Kentuckies were made to order by local Riflemakers for customers to carry on Military Expeditions of the late 18th and early 19th Centuries. This handsome pistol has varnished wood, brass mountings and a casehardened lockplate. Caliber .44, Rifled Bore for shooting.

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makes a dandy second car, has plenty of room, keeps all the gear dry, and in it good gun racks can be placed along the side, say by the lefthand windows. In some ways, however, this model is not quite as handy out in the woods as the standard pickup. It would be much improved for general use if manufacturers would cease the abominable habit of furnishing these units with only two doors.

Ground clearance is of the utmost importance. On my pickup I replaced standard wheels with 17½ inch wheels and correspondingly large tires, 17-7.5. I can go over rocks most pickups cannot negotiate. There is a disadvantage, however. Just don't ruin a tire and try to buy a replacement wherever you happen to be. It's a major project. One further pickup notation, I like, and use, the long wheel base model with 8 foot bed because I like the added room. This is not, however, as good a bet for rugged going as the shorter wheel base and six-foot bed. The latter can go over a lot of humps that will hang the eight footer.

This gets us to four-wheel-drive. My reason for avoiding it up to now lies in the fact that the horse and the pickup are the two types of rough-country or wilderness transport that average sportsmen can come closest to affording. Horses can be rented, or are furnished by an outfitter. A pickup is often used by guides and outfitters after deer and antelope, but it can also be owned by many. Go one step further, to the 4-wheel drive pickup, and you have a tremendously useful, powerful vehicle that can get to a lot of places the standard pickup cannot. But here we are getting into specialized transport that

costs quite a bit of money. My personal feeling would be that given this much money to work with, I'd prefer a regular pickup, plus a smaller 4-wheel drive vehicle.

These units are probably the best and most popular back-country vehicles of all. This past season I drove a Toyota Land Cruiser some 3000 mountain miles. When I had finished, I came away convinced that this is a sensational piece of machinery and one that will make all the competition run to catch up or beat it. The Land Cruiser is a six-cylinder, short-coupled vehicle—the model I used—that comes in either hardtop or softtop. It can also be had in a somewhat longer wheel base as a pickup or station wagon. The gas mileage was good, and this wild-eyed little mountain climber is capable of running at 80 miles per hour or more all day long on the highway. Yet when dropped down into 4-wheel drive, a shift accomplished by a dash lever—you can do it with clutch depressed even while moving—there was practically no place we couldn't go.

I had been told the Toyota would climb a 65 per cent grade. That sounded a little bit like malarkey to me. So we took it out with a forester who knew the specs on several rocky, sage-covered mountainsides. From a standing start, in low-range 4-wheel, the gutty little critter marched up several 60 per cent grades like nothing. The wide track—very handy on turns on a steep mountain-side—and the extremely small turn radius, about 16 feet I believe—were wonderful. I could not praise it too highly.

The Land Cruiser, the British Land Rover, the Scout, and of course that good old



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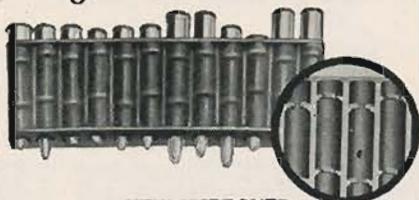
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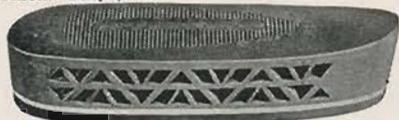
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stand-by the Jeep, are all such great gun-toters that it is impossible to say enough good things about them. I have been on a number of hunts that were absolutely saved by one of these fantastically tough little vehicles. They come closest to replacing the horse in back-country hunting.

Numerous friends of mine drive from Texas to Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, and tow a short-coupled 4-wheel drive vehicle. Some have a "lo-boy" trailer affair on which the 4-wheel is placed and towed. This saves much wear and tear on the vehicle itself. Once you're at the end of the line with your car, it is parked, everybody piles into the 4-wheeler, and up they go.

I have been places in them that are unbelievable. One time the Burnham brothers and I made a Colorado trip during which we got into a horrible mess of snow and mud. Hundreds of hunters were grounded in the foothills. Not us. We surged our way, bit by bit, clear up into the high country. The 4-wheeler took our guns to the game we were after. In fact, we met some of it coming down! In Montana three of us took the Toyota Land Cruiser up over a boulder-strewn trail that would give a horse trouble. We had none.

I want to interject here something about gun racks. Remember that when you go into rugged country with a horse, your scabbard carries the rifle nicely. But riding over tough terrain in a 4-wheel drive or a pickup gives guns a lot rougher handling. It is not satisfactory to lay cased rifles in a vehicle, unless they are carefully lashed down atop soft duff. Whenever possible, it is best to carry them in racks. There are a lot of car gun racks fashioned by people who, I'm sure, have never ridden from 5,000 to 10,000 feet in an off-the-road 4-wheeler. Be positive that the rack you use is properly padded, that the gun is held securely in it, and that it is set so that neither scope nor gun can keep whanging against the side of the vehicle or a window. My personal method when going up the rough stuff is to case my gun in a well-padded case, and roll it up inside my bedroll.

For a good many years I fiddled with small trailers. They are a pretty darned good camp for rough country hunters, if you pull them with a proper vehicle. It is surprising how far back in you can get with a small trailer pulled by truck or 4-wheeler. Then you park it, use it as a base camp, and hunt by horse or vehicle.

Better, however, is the pickup coach. The advent of this unique invention opened some entirely new vistas for hunters. I have run various pickup and coach rigs for a good

many thousands of miles all the way from Texas throughout the Rockies and far up to the end of the line in Manitoba. By using a pickup with a 4-speed transmission, you can get into almost any place because you have weight on the rear end that allows you to settle down and pull the grades. Rough trails make no difference. You just go slowly, that's all. We've even taken ours on brief off-the-road trips in the timberline country by careful, slow handling. This is getting your gun and your comfort pretty darned close to the game, and it may be just what you want.

There are two interesting variations on this theme. I know several hunters who have been going up into the back stuff with pickup and coach, but carrying along a set of removal jacks. Once in as far as they can comfortably go with their load, they take the coach off the pickup, set it up as a base camp, fan out from there with the empty pickup, or from it start backpacking. One of these acquaintances has a 4-wheel, drive pickup and when he gets the coach off at the 8000 foot marker, he just barges right on across country almost anywhere he wishes, coming back to a cozy "home" every night.

The other variation is the addition of a motor bike. A friend of mine has a "Dreamer Coach" on his pickup. This coach is made by Custom Coach Co., and they will, as the name implies, go along with any design scheme the customer devises. This man wanted a special rack built on the rear bumper of the coach. He got it—a bracket on which to set his Honda. He bucks the tough mountain one-way roads with his coach and pickup, makes a camp, then he uses the motor bike to replace the traditional mountain horse. He has brought several deer out on it, and again the beauty of this rig is that he has all the comforts of home to putt-putt back to each evening.

What is the best method of transport for getting you and your gun to the game? It has to be a personal choice. Your choice will depend on how you will use transport, and where, and for what. Consider that investment in a hunting vehicle may in the long run save you a lot of otherwise wasted money and coax you to take trips you haven't previously taken because you couldn't get to the game. A good woodsman can save money by making a lot of unguided mountain trips if he has proper transport. But I want to remind one and all that it is silly to plan all year on a vacation, drive or fly hundreds of miles, spend a sizeable hunk of dough, and then, rifle in hand, stand wistfully looking into game country that, for lack of proper transportation, you cannot enter!

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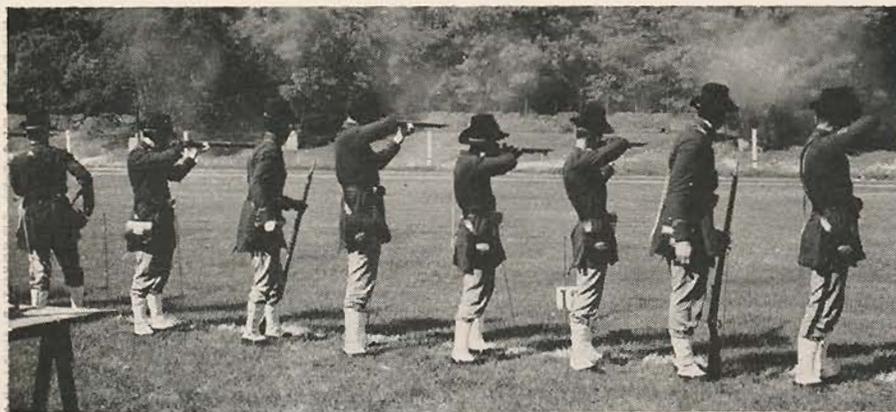
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A MUZZLE LOADER FESTIVAL

(Continued from page 37)



Team members, authentically clad in costumes of the period, put on a memorable show for spectators at Greenfield Village.

team, shooting together, to completely cut in half a 2 x 6 inch wooden stake at 50 yards. This requires 40 to 60 direct hits across the six inch face, within an area of a three inch strip. When the firing ceases, the stakes are examined carefully by judges; one bullet hole outside the three inch band results in disqualification of that team.

The last, and most spectacular match has the entire team shooting at exploding targets on the 50 yard range. The six bulls-eyes designated for each team each contain a charge of 200 grains of black powder. The most turbulent Civil War times are recreated as the 108 shooters blaze away, and targets explode with cannon-like blasts. Between the muzzle-loading rifles and the blasting targets, gunpowder smoke becomes so thick on the range it sometimes is difficult to see the six inch bulls-eye at 50 yards.

Interspersed with rifle shooting, muzzle-loading single shot pistols and six shot revolvers are also fired in 25 and 50 yard competition. These guns range in size from the gentleman's dueling pistol of .28 caliber to the ponderous Colt Dragoons and Walkers.

Last year, in commemoration of the Henry Ford Centennial, all previous muzzle-loader champions of the past eight years, engaged in a spectacular shoot-off. Paul Ellis, of Fort Mitchell, Ky., won the 25 yard off-hand contest, firing a .58 caliber 1863 Springfield rifled musket. The 50 yard off-hand match went to Richard Rowley, Dewitt, Michigan, firing a .456 caliber Remington, while the 50 yard bench rest contest was claimed by Ernest Swain, Dearborn, Michigan, with a home-made .52 caliber bench rest rifle which weighs 34 pounds.

The Championship of Champions in the

revolver tournaments were taken by Curt Roberts of Detroit in the 25 yard class; Bill Carver, National Muzzle Loader Revolver Champion for 1959, 1961 and 1962, walked off with top honors for the 50 yard shooting.

One of the most interesting aspects of the Muzzle Loader Festival is that women and children compete against the men with amazing results. David Swain, age 14, firing the same .52 caliber rifle used by his father, out-shot his champion Dad, Ernest Swain, by a narrow margin of 30-2X to 30-1X.

With 29 volunteer military units, and 5 groups of the North-South Skirmish Organization participating in the shooting, the 110th Ohio Volunteer Infantry of Springfield, Ohio, claimed first prize, with a total time of 535.5 seconds for the five different contests.

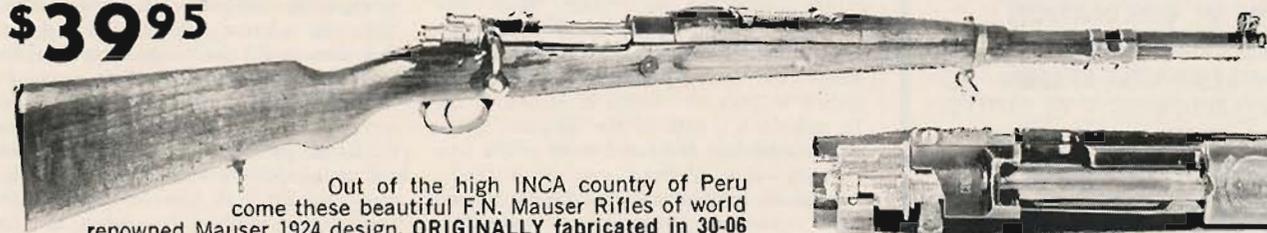
To capture the Colonial spirit of the early American life experienced by our forefathers, almost 500 of the estimated 1500 costumed participants turned their backs on modern conveniences and camped in tents and trailers in the wooded area of Greenfield Village.

Colonial social life was also recreated for the muzzleloaders and their families, with a costume ball, given in Lovett Hall, the beautiful early American ballroom at Greenfield Village.

With the pungent taste of gunpowder still fresh in their throats, the two day pioneers reluctantly folded their tents and silently faded into the night—to make the transition from 1863 back to the land of 1963.

If you like the acrid smell of black powder, and would enjoy witnessing a good old fashion rifle frolic and a host of other thrilling events, here's one program you won't want to miss. If you'd like to participate, toss Old Betsy into the back of the car, and head for Greenfield Village—but you'd better leave your modern duds at home, and bring your grandfather's buckskins.

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THE SAGA OF S&W

(Continued from page 18)

the war years, the company lacked the time for research and development. At this time Eli Whitney—who ruled an impressive gun making complex of his own—had more than a passing interest in a full size Smith & Wesson revolver. He wrote the company in 1864, observing, "It seems a pity not to have your military arm brought out during the war—it must be done very soon or not at all."

The welcome return of peace in no way diminished the popularity of the rim-fire .32 revolver which had acquired the appropriate nickname of the "officers' pistol." In 1865, a modified version, the Model No. 1½, was offered, but the officers' choice continued in production until 1874, when over 75,000 had been produced.

Much of the popularity of Smith & Wesson arms were due to the firm's pioneering efforts and their carefully made guns, but a still greater measure was due to the United States Patent Office which had granted Smith & Wesson the exclusive right to make cartridge revolvers up to the year 1869. In 1855, the newly formed partnership had signed a contract with Rollin White, who had secured a very broad patent for a revolver cylinder bored entirely through for use with self contained cartridges. (Previously, the rear of cylinder chambers were fitted with percussion cones or nipples to receive the caps.) This prolific inventor—the White sewing machine and White truck still bear his name—first took his idea to the foremost gunman in the field, Samuel Colt, who remained stoically unimpressed. White found Smith & Wesson considerably more receptive since their ambitious plans for metallic cartridges, and White's patent for the bored through cylinder, were not only complementary but virtually indispensable to each other.

A bargain was struck whereby White would receive 25 cents for every gun sold—provided that he would defend the patent against infringements. Unfortunately for White, his patent proved to be one of the most abused in the history of the Patent Office. The Lorelei call of an easy-to-make, popular seller proved too much for a few gunmakers who ignored the patent protection and promptly started to copy the Smith & Wesson arms. To uphold his part of the bargain, White started spending more and more of his time in court.

In Smith & Wesson's case, justice seemed to be served better than in most such alterations. The court ruled that all illegal copies

had to be turned over to the originators and re-stamped "Mfg. for Smith & Wesson" by whatever company had committed the intrusion. At least 18,000 revolvers were involved in these cases, the infringements being perpetrated chiefly by the companies of Lowell, Moore, Pond, and Warner. Today, although these guns are not technically Smith & Wesson products, they are much sought by collectors because of their significant role in the early history of the cartridge revolver.

A formidable number of small arms companies waited anxiously for the fateful day of April 3, 1869, when the White patent expired and piracy of S&W design could no longer be banned. Smith & Wesson, of course, petitioned for an extension of the patent, but less than 24 hours before the expiration, the Commissioner of Patents returned a negative verdict. Undaunted, the two partners and White somehow secured a Congressional bill which would grant them a rehearing. But, when the bill came to President Grant, he vetoed it. Ostensibly, his grounds were that it would force the U.S. "to pay to the parties, already well paid, a large royalty for altering its revolvers to use metallic cartridges." Despite the Chief Executive's less than cordial reception, S&W fought on, eventually reaching the Supreme Court.

With defeat at hand, and the right to manufacture cartridge revolvers now in the public domain, S&W was promptly met with a barrage of competitors who opened the floodgates on inexpensive cartridge guns, mainly in .22 and .32 caliber. But the New England acumen for doing business, and doing it well, had not deserted the wily pair of gunmakers. The big caliber military revolver was finally ready for the market, and it shortly proved to be well worth the wait.

The .44 caliber "American Model" of 1869 was no pocket pistol. Weighing the better part of three pounds with an eight inch barrel, it fired a husky 218 grain lead bullet powered by 28 grains of powder. But the real coup de grace which the S&W American delivered to all its competitors was deceptively invisible under cursory examination.

In 1869, S&W had concluded an arrangement with the farsighted inventor, Charles A. King, for the use of his simultaneous automatic ejector. With this remarkable advance the Smith & Wesson still remained a break open revolver, but when the barrel was unlatched and raised for loading, all of

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the spent cartridge cases were ejected at once.

It was this unique firearms design that had caught the eye of Duke Alexis, and it was almost solely through his dynamic interest that the second great Smith & Wesson (some still call it the greatest) gun was born. The giant order placed by the Russian was not for the same gun with which Alexis had slain buffalo on the American prairie. The Russians wanted some changes and, when a band of technicians swarmed over Springfield, there evolved a more streamlined revolver with a more efficient grip. At the Russians request a new .44 caliber cartridge

1866. The Turks had bought thousands of the American lever action repeaters and the application of the concept of interchangeable rifle and revolver ammunition was a clever piece of foresight.

Ironically, while Smith & Wessons, Winchester, Remingtons, and American-made Gatling guns were blasting into the pages of history from Siberia to Hong Kong, the American ordnance buyers continued their policy of holding back the tide of progress until the last possible second.

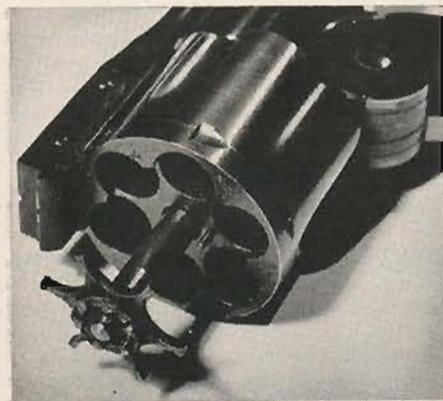
In an effort to convince the U.S. Army that it would do well to be armed at least as properly as the Russian, Turkish, and more obscure armies, Major George Schofield applied some of his own inventive features to the big Smith & Wesson and came up with a .45 that soon came to be known as the Schofield Model. Showing signs of emerging from their traditionally unimaginative shell, Ordnance examiners decided to pit the new Schofield .45 against the Colt Single Action .45 which had been adopted for cavalry use one year earlier in 1873.

For the test, a pair of expert cavalymen were mounted, one armed with the S&W, the other with the familiar Colt Six Shooter, and dispatched at full gallop. The S&W user, after firing the first six rounds, was able to eject all of the empties instantly and insert six fresh loads—all in 26 seconds! His Colt armed partner found it far more difficult to go through the twelve minimum motions of reloading, while at the same time handling his mount. He finally managed to reload after 60 seconds.

In another test, this one not on horseback, the S&W was able to rapid-fire 18 shots in just one second short of a minute, while the Colt and Remington guns took almost twice as long. The usually stone faced Ordnance people were visibly impressed with Major Schofield's alterations of the S&W product.

Subsequently, the recommendation was made that "a limited number of these pistols be placed in the hands of troops for a comparative trial with the Colt's and Smith & Wesson revolvers now in service and that, as far as possible, the different pistols be tried side by side in the same commands." (The reference to the S&W's "now in service" alludes to a few thousand .45 caliber revolvers on the lines of the American Model bought by the Government in 1872.)

Despite the mechanical superiority of the Smith & Wesson Schofield, it did have one rather significant shortcoming which, surprisingly enough, did not seem objectionable to the Ordnance examiners. This problem



S&W's famous ejection system.

with a 264 grain bullet propelled by 23 grains of powder, was designed for the emerging Smith & Wesson "Russian Model." The magic combination of steel, springs, and the lower powered, though more accurate cartridge shot better than any other revolver ever had before—in fact, it shot more like a target pistol than a service revolver.

Probably the first man to recognize this uncanny target pistol accuracy of Smith & Wesson's new .44 fully was Ira Hanson Paine. The American sharpshooter so impressed the European gentry with his fancy revolver shooting that the King of Portugal made him a *chevalier*.

While the enviable S&W Russian was figuring prominently in the exciting and exacting match shooting of the late 1800's (incidentally, some of these old records made with the early S&W stand yet unbroken), more conventional demands were rising elsewhere in the world.

Turkey, about to go to war again with its traditional enemy, Russia, hastily ordered 5000 Smith & Wessons of the Russian pattern, but chambered for the same .44 rim-fire cartridge used in the Winchester Model

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lay in the unique .45 Smith & Wesson cartridge which was somewhat shorter than the standard .45 Colt. The S&W ammunition could be used in the Colt, but the longer Colt .45 would not chamber in the Smith & Wesson cylinder. Since the difference was really so slight, it is surprising that Schofield did not design his gun to use cartridges that would have been truly interchangeable with those already in service.

The Army's quite cordial reception of the Smith & Wesson .45 changed by 1876. At that time the Army did a rapid about-face and was expressing a "decided preference" for the Colt as "the best adapted (arm) to meet all of the requirements of the military service." And so, in that festive Centennial year of 1876, a colorful and rather eccentric officer named George Armstrong Custer was

hustled off to placate the Sioux, armed with shiny new pistols that were but moderate improvements over the guns toted across the West by the Forty-Niners.

The line between antique and modern guns is often a very thin and nebulous one. But perhaps the beginning of that line was drawn in 1877 when Smith & Wesson introduced their first double action revolver, a .38 which resembled a small version of the Russian Model. It may seem odd to classify the double action mechanism as "modern" since it was in use decades earlier in guns ranging from ladies' tiny pocket and muff pistols to a relatively wide selection of English and American Civil War revolvers.

However, the merits of the double action system were something to be reckoned with in a small gun for defense purposes which should be fired rapidly. Colt, in the same year as Smith & Wesson, brought out a small .38 double action but that early gap between Colt and S&W still held firmly as Colt continued to favor the old, slow side ejector rod as used on the Frontier single action. Smith & Wesson continued with the automatic, simultaneous ejector originally featured on the first big bore of 1869. Finally, as the 20th century approached and the demand for faster shooting self-cocking revolvers steadily rose, quite a number of companies—both domestic and foreign—began to be influenced by the lines of the Smith & Wesson product and even today there are still a number of pieces around that look almost like twin brothers to the guns from Springfield.

With the exception of specialized collectors, vintage Smith & Wessons have been slighted somewhat by general collectors. There are a variety of reasons for this. Although two models of Smith & Wesson revolvers saw limited Civil War service they are not generally associated as Civil War guns, as are the big Colt or Remington cap and ball pistols. Secondly, when the bigger S&W guns missed acceptance as the official army revolver of the 1870's they were unfortunately excluded from the Indian Wars—and thereby almost totally from the TV and movie screens. But perhaps most important was the failure of the Smith & Wesson to meet the needs of the Western gunfighters. Fast reloading counted for next to nothing in this "market" since frontier falling-outs rarely required more than a full load of six shots. More significantly, the wide hammer spur of the Colt was ideally suited to the demands of the quick draw, far more so than the smaller hammer of Smith & Wesson guns. Consider too that thousands of Union soldiers had become intimately familiar with the name and the distinctive "feel" of Colt revolvers, and Sam Colt's flamboyant flair for showmanship which went a long way toward popularizing his products.

But, despite the fact that, in the eyes of the collectors, the Colt revolvers have a more glamorous historical background, the trend in collecting today seems to be moving more toward the preservation of pieces more directly connected with the technical advances in firearms history. When this becomes more wide-spread, I am sure that the break-open Smith & Wessons will gain deserved respect.

And, the history that S&W is making in today's firearms technology, will endear it to the collectors of some future generation.

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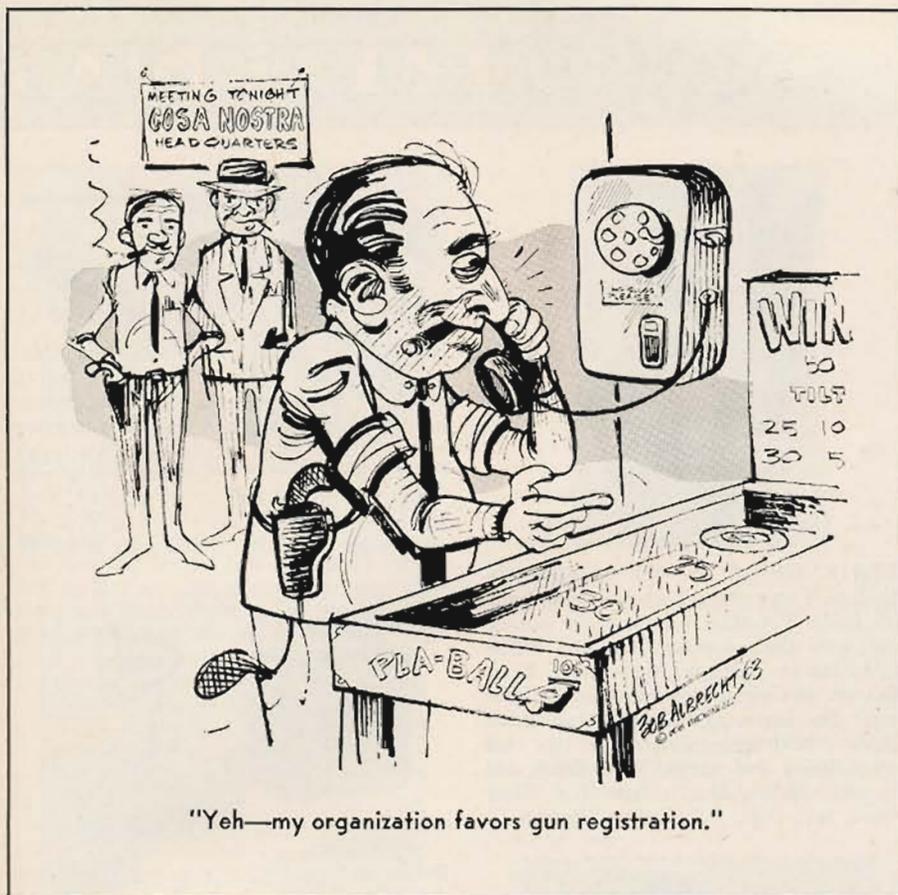
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THE PRO-GUN LAW IS ON THE MOVE

(Continued from page 11)

comment: "The Albany legislature's decision proves once again the vital role played by individual citizens as well as by united sportsmen's groups in a crisis such as this. (New York) legislators were swamped with letters from sportsmen, conservation groups, and rifle clubs..."

Aggressive sportsmen's groups organized specifically to combat legislative efforts damaging to gun enthusiasts and outdoor sports are making their weight felt in many states. Typical is the Florida Sportsmen's Association which has repeatedly prevented passage of harmful and unreasonable gun laws, and has, by an active campaign to educate both the public and the lawmakers, laid the groundwork for constructive legislation now being prepared.

Similarly, the Sportsmen's Legislative Action Committee in New Mexico has won all of the several legislative battles in which it has engaged to date, not only in preventing legislation detrimental to its interests but also in achieving drastic improvement in previously existing laws. This Committee works at state and local levels and only recently defeated an attempt to pass a semi-Sullivan Law ordinance in the city of Albuquerque.

These are only two of many similar groups, mentioned here only because they are the two with which we are most currently in contact.

Encouragement comes also from statements by influential people which are now appearing, in print and on the air (often in media reaching millions no gun magazine can hope

to reach)—statements pointedly refuting the rantings of the hysteria-mongers whose propaganda so shocked us all immediately following the presidential assassination. Here are a few of the many examples:

In a letter written to this magazine and bearing the United States Senate letterhead: "I have a strong personal interest in the use of firearms and appreciate the right we all have for the possession and correct use of them. Any legislation which would abridge this right will meet my strong opposition." The writer? Senator Barry Goldwater.

In a long, hard-hitting letter published in "Sports Illustrated:" "The record shows that areas with the most stringent firearms registration laws, such as New York, frequently if not invariably have the highest incidence of crimes of violence, including those perpetrated by firearms...I know of no legislation to restrict the sacred right of individuals to use firearms in a lawful manner which would have prevented the tragic death of President Kennedy." The writer? Congressman John D. Dingell of Michigan.

By Richard Starnes, widely syndicated newspaper columnist: "No gun law has ever been devised that would keep weapons out of the hands of individuals with criminal intent. New York's Sullivan Law...had never prevented anyone from obtaining a weapon for illegal use...Texas law prohibits murder; Dallas law prohibits discharging a firearm within the corporate limits; yet neither law saved Mr. Kennedy."

By Robert C. Ruark (Copyright 1963 United Feature Syndicate): "We built America with guns, ranging back from the boys at Concord and the shot heard round the world. We have a healthy economy based on hunting... The knowledge of guns and the handling of guns is basically a good thing for a kid to grow up with. The knowledge comes in especially handy in something like a war!"

Finally, from the Sarasota (Florida) "Herald Tribune" of a much earlier date, an editorial so cogent in its application to current affairs and to the basic principals of democratic government that it deserves wider reading than that newspaper or this magazine can give it: "Dade County is getting ready to require all residents who own a pistol or a repeating rifle to obtain a permit. It is doing this under an antiquated Florida statute... (which) a top Dade County enforcement official says 'is being enforced selectively and with the utmost discretion.' Let's assume that this is true. In that very fact lies a threat of direst proportions.

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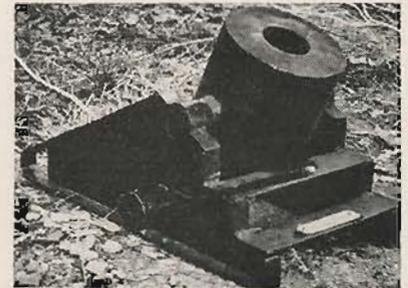
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WITH Guns

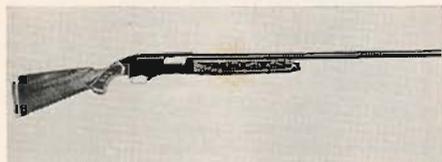


MAKE YOUR OWN moccasins with this kit from Tandy Leather Co., Box 791, Dept. G-6, Ft. Worth, Texas. Kit contains pre-attached cow hide insole, genuine bull hide uppers, and specially treated laces. All parts are pre-cut, so that you can assemble a pair in less than one hour. Available in men's sizes 7 through 12, the kit sells for only \$3.50.

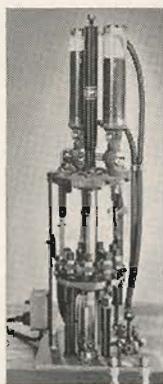


LEUPOLD & STEVENS INSTRUMENTS, Inc., Portland, Ore., has recently introduced their new Model M8-2X scope. With a non-critical eye relief of 8-20 inches, it was designed specifically for the Winchester Model 94 carbine. Mounted in front of the receiver, it does not interfere with the function of the carbine. The base fits the rear sight dovetail, and has its own windage and elevation adjustment screws. Information available from Leupold & Stevens, 4445 N.E. Glisan St., Dept. G-6, Portland, Oregon.

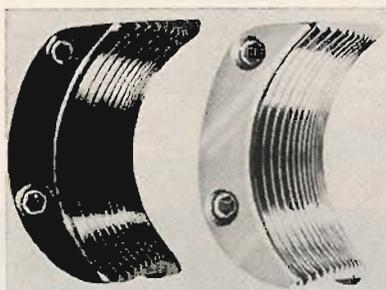
SHOTSHELL RELOADERS will welcome the new Poly-Wad made by Fordwad, Inc., Box 2772, Dept. G-6, Cleveland 11, Ohio. This one-piece wad acts as both a filler wad and over powder wad. Available for 12 gauge only, it is made in $\frac{5}{8}$ " and $\frac{7}{8}$ " sizes. Details and loading instructions are available on request.



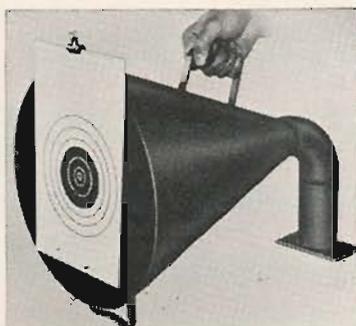
NEWEST WINCHESTER SHOTGUN is the Model 1400 autoloader, in 12 or 16 gauge. The unusual locking system locks the rotating bolt head directly to the barrel for added strength. The checkered stock features a rubber recoil pad and pistol grip cap. Receiver is made of rust-proof aluminum. Dealers will have this new Winchester after June 1, priced at \$134.95.



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GUN RACK

(Continued from page 6)

stock, and shooting it from the bench or in simulated snap shooting, the comb hits me directly under the eye, making the recoil downright unpleasant. Once a scope was mounted and the line of sight was raised, the gun was comfortable to shoot. The reverse, impressed checkering could be made much more appealing, and the free floating of the barrel gives the fore-end a clubby appearance. Of the shooters who fired the gun from the bench, only a few claimed to be comfortable on the stock, the others found that the new comb made the stock fit inadequate to absorb the recoil.

The trigger pull of our test gun was 7.5 lbs., but this was easily corrected and we set the trigger to break cleanly and crisply at 4 pounds. Without scope, the gun weighed just a shade under seven pounds, and we mounted a Redfield 3X-9X Variable in one of the new Conerol mounts. In function and accuracy tests, firing 30 rounds from the magazine, the gun failed to feed a cartridge three times, and there were no ejection failures. The first groups, fired from the bench, were downright disappointing. The best group measured 3.5" with Winchester's 180 grain ammo. Although we had checked all of the stock screws before firing the gun, a double check disclosed that the screws were loose again. After applying Loc-Tite and letting the gun sit for a spell, we fired the same lot of ammo on the same target.

Here we had a very pleasant surprise. With winds of 25-35 mph, we fired first a three shot, then a five shot, and still later a ten shot group. The three and the five shot groups went MOA on the button, the 10 shot group did spread to 2.25", but with the wind and the low temperatures, we rather suspect that this "spread" was the fault of a cold and hungry gun tester rather than that of the gun.

Summary: The Old Model 70 is no more, and those who have been addicted to it for lo these many years might as well console themselves that they'll have to get used to the new features of the new model. There is a brisk market in used Model 70's, partly because there are always some who must have the latest gun made, and partly because a great many of the old line guard are stockpiling the old Model 70 just as fast as they can. Our test gun did well in the tests, and a complete evaluation will have to wait for the next hunting season when the chips are down and gun performance can make or ruin a trip. One thing seems certain—there will probably be a great demand for custom stocks for the new Model 70. The factory stock fits too few shooters, lacks pleasing lines, and the fore-end with the free floated barrel is a first rate nuisance for collecting twigs, weed seeds, and other debris.

ITCC Chronographs

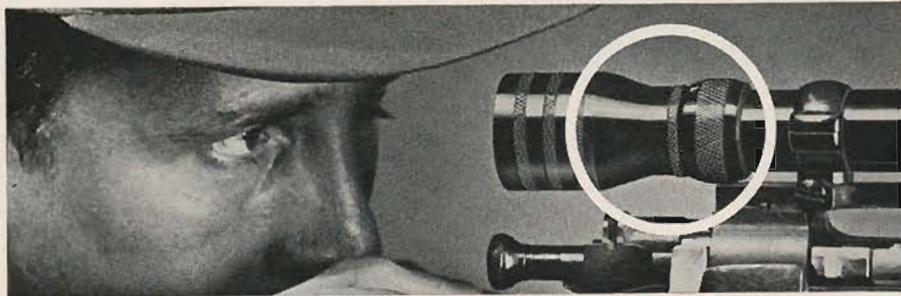
The Industrial Timers & Controls Co., 1125G Buena Vista Drive, Escondido, Cal., submitted two chronographs for tests several months ago. We have used the Model 240 and the Model 245 for almost six months, checking the results obtained with other chronographs.

Both machines are portable and are contained in strong plastic boxes. Battery operated, we found that shutting the units off while changing screens gives an almost unlimited life to the batteries, and even much-used batteries give full value readings (this was not the case with another experimental model we checked out at the same time, and where readings varied as the age of the battery increased). Both are all-transistor machines.

The Model 240 measures times of 0 to 10 milliseconds, and the time standard is a crystal controlled oscillator with an accuracy of plus or minus 0.3 per cent over the full operating range. The unit weighs only 4½ lbs. and measures 7"x8"x3". The Model 240 comes complete with screens, cables, operator's man-

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ual, and screen holders and is ready to go as soon as the hook-ups are made. Retail price of this model is \$129 plus \$2.00 postage.

The Model 245 is somewhat less expensive, retails for under \$100 plus postage, and the only difference between the two units is the read-out. On the 240, read-out is accomplished by turning the selector button and reading the hundreds, the tens, and units as they appear on the counter, while the Model 245, reads the units out directly. Both Models have reset, start, and stop buttons that facilitate their use.

Our tests were conducted indoors and on the outdoor range, and with several calibers and guns. As a brief example, here are the results of our tests with Winchester .22LR Superspeed ammo, lot TC 9. Listed factory velocity for this lot of ammo is 1336 fps, a velocity we were not able to duplicate with any of our chronographs, since we did not have the same test gun as was used in the Winchester ballistics lab. On the ITCC Model 240, forty readings gave an average of 1254.8 fps, while the Model 245 gave an average reading, for the same number of shots, of 1247.8 fps. The guns used were a H&R Sahara and a Remington Model 11, and muzzle distance from the first screen—we used not only standard screens but also experimental aluminum wire—was two inches. With the two counter chronographs as test units, our reading, again forty shots, averaged 1248 fps; the Model 240 indicated 6.4 fps more than the comparison chronographs, while the Model 245 gave almost the identical velocity data.

Using .38 Special handloads with 148 grain cast bullets and 3 grains of Bullseye, and using the 2½ inch Colt Python, the Model 245 gave an average 20 shot reading of 963 fps, while the Model 240 gave an average reading of 984 fps. For these loads, screen distances were reduced from 10 feet to five feet, and our counter chronographs gave virtually identical readings to those obtained from the Model 240. Further tests included handloads of known velocity with an '06, a 7 mm Remington Magnum, and a .257 Roberts.

The ITCC chronographs, after extensive tests, proved well worth the cost, and we found that they are as accurate as can be expected of a portable unit of this size and under the conditions under which they were tested. Given an airconditioned testing lab such as is used by Speer, Hornady, Weatherby, and the ammunition companies, it is conceivable that the readings obtained would have been even more accurate, but for the average handloader and ballistics buff, these readings are close enough to be valid.

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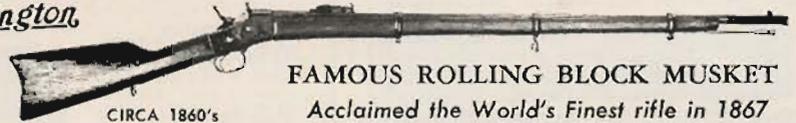
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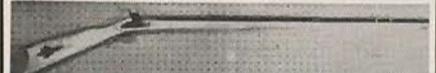
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LEVERPOWER

(Continued from page 31)

small wonder then that the brush-busting lever gun thrives, and still sells in greater volume than any other big game action, and that standard loads for the Model 94 and the Marlin 336 move faster than others from the dealers' shelves.

Some gun "experts" lay this durability to public apathy, or habit; the average buyer, they maintain, doesn't know any better or does not care. Others pin it on the image created by the TV Western, and cite the comeback of the single-action revolver as evidence. Still others point to heredity. Whatever its shortcomings may be, the lever action enjoys three generations of fame as the American deer rifle. And surely in the

bench-rest series of ten years ago. Designed for the old Sharps-Borchardt, Martini, and High-Wall Winchester actions, the cartridges, using the altered Krag case, gave a high order of accuracy and velocity at moderate pressures. For Van Houten's .44 caliber, it proved to be the medicine. But with that problem solved, Wade's interest, now alight, crown-fired toward creating an entire series of cartridges for the old lever actions.

While the Leverpowers are now available in several calibers, the heavy interest at present is in .30, .35, and .44. All are on the Krag case shortened to .30-30 length—two inches; and are fire-formed in the Leverpower chamber, where the body taper is mini-

TABLE A

Caliber	Bullet	Muzzle	Velocity			Energy			
			100 yds.	200 yds.	300 yds.	100 yds.	200 yds.	300 yds.	
.30/30	150	2410	2020	1700	1430	1930	1360	960	680
.30 Leverpower	150	2700	2287	1937	1641	2428	1885	1455	895
	170	2500	2150	1850	1600	2359	1800	1405	950
	170	2500	2150	1850	1600	2359	1800	1405	950
.35 Remington	150	2400	1960	1580	1280	1920	1280	835	545
.35 Leverpower	200	2600	2184	1835	1541	3002	2120	1494	1054
	250	2300	1950	1725	1490	2935	2155	1640	1305
.44 Magnum	240	1850	1450	1150	980	1820	1120	705	510
.44 Leverpower	240	2400	1968	1614	1324	3195	2062	1387	934

Mid-range trajectory (in inches)

Caliber	Bullet	100 yds.	200 yds.	300 yds.
.30/30	150 gr.	0.9	4.2	11.0
.30 Leverpower	150 gr.	0.6	3.0	9.0
	170 gr.	1.3	5.0	11.0
	170 gr.	1.3	5.0	11.0
.35 Remington	150 gr.	0.9	4.6	13.0
.35 Leverpower	200 gr.	0.7	3.3	10.7
	250 gr.	0.8	4.3	12.5
.44 Magnum	240 gr.	1.6	8.4	26.0
.44 Leverpower	240 gr.	0.9	4.4	13.5

TABLE B

Caliber	Bullet	Powder	Load	Velocity / fps
.24 6mm	100	4350	42	3000
.25	117	4350	43	2780
.26 6.5	129	4350	43	2680
.27	130	4320	43	2720
	150	4350	45	2640
.28 7mm	154	4350	45	2590
.32	170	4064	43	2575
.33	200	Hi Vel 2	43	2375
.375	235	3031	45	2300
	255	3031	44	2200

southwest, where history is so near, tradition has influence. It is the camp gun, the coyote gun, the handy saddle gun. Few true working ranches are without one. All these views will hold water, and each in its way contributes to the classic lever gun's enjoyment of a kind of grass-roots, self-renewing life.

It was knowing this, and the limitations of factory loads, that led Fred Wade toward the Leverpower idea, although the seed was planted earlier when E. B. Van Houten, a confirmed leverman, was looking for ways to give his trusty Model 94 a little more beef. Wade recalled his .270 and .30 caliber

mized in the 'improved' tradition. Shoulders vary from 30 degrees in .30 and .35, to zero in .44.

As to accuracy, the Leverpowers are engineered to the full potential of the actions in question. In general, and with standard chambers, the Marlin 336 is capable of 1 1/2" groups over a hundred yards, while the Model 94 may target nearer 2 1/2". This difference of around an inch would seem to be inherent in the design of the rifles, for the Leverpower loads respond likewise. Reports on local conversions tend to uphold the tendency as well as group size—although one recent .44 Leverpower Model 94 grouped

3/4". While this was shot at 50 yards, the figure would still remain below 2" for a hundred—plenty good enough for hunting accuracy.

Rifle conversion is simple, with alterations held to the chamber, guides, and carrier. As a rule, the frame is not touched. In .30 caliber, there is the option of a shallow, 1/16" notch in the receiver face to ease transfer from the magazine of long bullets, such as the 170 gr. Hornady, which can then be seated at .375" as against the .437" necessary otherwise. Thus case capacity may be increased, and better performance gained. In the same way, the notch allows the 150 gr. Sierra, for example, to be seated out at .310", rather than the customary .375".

The velocities given here were made in 20 inch barrels, and were measured at the Phoenix Rod and Gun Club rifle range, on a Hollywood chronograph. While Ackley lists a wide spread of Leverpower loads, these were the performance achieved:

In .30 caliber: 42 gr. of 4064 behind a 150 gr. Sierra bullet for 2700 fps.

In .35 caliber: 46 gr. of 3031 behind a 200 gr. Hornady bullet for 2600 fps.

In .44 caliber: 47 gr. of 4198 behind a 240 gr. Remington bullet for 2400 fps.

These are muzzle readings. Remaining velocities and energies are given in Table A.

The energy values were found by applying the velocities at the muzzle, at 100, 200, and 300 yards against bullet weight. Tables for this are standard, and may be found in many volumes on ballistics.

Figures for these same remaining values may also be computed from the well-known du Pont charts on Exterior Ballistics.

No load mentioned here gave evidence of stress on the action. Extractions were smooth and easy; primers and cases were free of pressure signs. The Leverpowers' aim is not to drive chain lightning from these older, time-honored actions, but simply to raise them to a higher capability.

In addition to these established calibers, Wade is well along in developing more members of the Leverpower family. For some of these, rebarreling or reboring is necessary; for others, the normal Leverpower changes are enough.

Calibers, along with their assigned tentative velocities in a 22 inch barrel, appear in table B.

Off and on, people claim that the lever action gun is on the wane, and they often point to the wildcat cartridge as a partial cause; its major characteristics, as inherent in today's high-intensity factory load, give pressures too muscular for these historic actions. Maybe so. But for arms consigned to obsolescence, they show an amazing capacity for survival.

Now, concern is felt in many quarters for the fate of the wildcat itself. With its merits made respectable through mass-production, it appears to be a victim of its own success. But tenacity of life is an old feline trait, and indications are that the wildcat is no exception.

Perhaps, on both counts, the omens are misleading; and prophecy may reckon all unknowing of the strange twists, the ironies, of fate. In this case, the Leverpowers—which combine the best of each to give new life to both.

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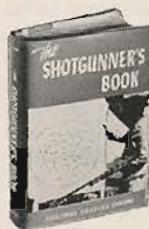
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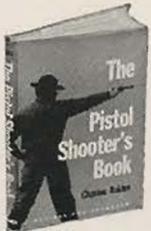
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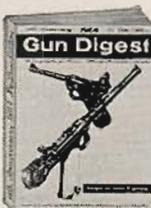
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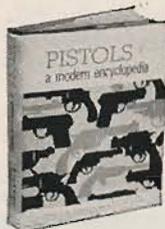
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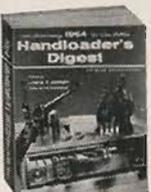


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VARMINTS FOR A NICKEL

(Continued from page 23)

Model 77, .22 Long Rifle. Our second jack was given away by the sun shining through his ears as they stuck up like periscopes above a clump of grass. I stepped out of the car and put the crosshairs where I thought that jack rabbit lived according to the position of his ears. "Craaaack" went the rifle, "plop" went the bullet, "kaput" went jack, who never got out of his crouch. The bullet went in behind his shoulder and came out back of his ribs. It was a 55 step shot.

Gerald again had the gun as our next opportunity arose. We were headed for home, when a jack hopped out and ran a short distance before he stopped and sat up. It was nearly dark, but that rabbit's head was sky-lined. The scope, inexpensive as it was, picked up enough light for Jerry to place his bullet through what he could see, for a devastating head shot. The range was paced off at 73 steps.

We were convinced of the Mossberg's ability to deliver that 40 gr. HP jacketed bullet where it would do the most damage. We were also convinced of the destruction wrapped up in that little pill at 2000 feet per second. That first day, all shots beyond one hundred yards were taken with my .243. After this the 6 mm would have to wait for the 150 yard shots. The "varmint for a nickel" set-up got its next work-out rather unexpectedly.

I was invited to try a new fishing spot

about 50 miles south of San Antonio; a beautiful 12 acre "tank," as we call them in Texas. I didn't have a thing in mind when I placed the little Mossberg on the rear seat of the car. I just know better than to go any place in south Texas without a rifle. We hadn't been fishing more than ten minutes when my host pointed to a swim-

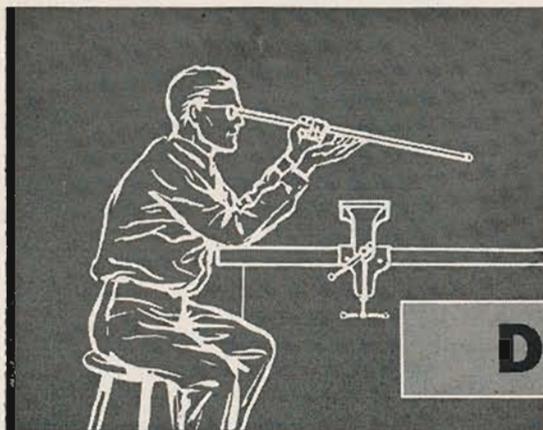


ming critter about 75 yards out. "Nutria," he said. "The dad-blamed things moved in here this spring. So far they haven't done me any harm, but from what I hear, I sure would like to get rid of them." He added, "But I never have a rifle when I need one." I took that for an open invitation to declare war, and made a dash for the car. By the time I returned with the rifle, the nutria was gone. About half an hour later I spotted one

swimming about 100 yards out and proceeded to show how good a shot I am not—I missed. I can always fall back on the fact that a swimming nutria shows only his head, which is actually a very small target.

Just before dark, I was cleaning my catch of bass when I spotted a movement on a small island. A glance through the scope showed a pair of nutria. They were not more than 90 yards away. Since a nutria is a rather large animal, weighing approximately 20 pounds, I wanted to place my bullet right with the first shot. The animal nearest to water was sitting up. My sitting position steadied the crosshairs on its throat. As the rifle cracked, he slumped down, and the other "critter" lumbered towards some brush back on the island. I picked it up in the scope and squeezed off my shot as it reached cover. There was a loud "plop," and the nutria fell over, kicking. Since I had no way to get out there, and didn't want to take a chance on a crippled animal getting away, I fired a second slug—all motion ceased. I feel certain that the bullet shot at the first animal went through the neck, where it was aimed, since he didn't move. I have no way of knowing where the second nutria was hit but do know that the 40 gr. bullet put it down, and I am reasonably sure the second shot was not necessary. Our five cent varmint load was doing a first class job.

How would the potent little bullet behave for meat hunting? To find out, we traveled 30 miles from home one morning, stepping into the woods about 15 minutes after sunup. We didn't get more than 50 yards, when the



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parently the bullet didn't blow up till it hit the dirt behind the squirrel. Two more misses led to another hit; this time at 85 steps. The shoulder shot did very little more damage than a regular .22 Long Rifle HP would be expected to inflict. This proved, to me at least, that explosive as the little 40 gr. bullet is, it still has to hit something as heavy as a cottontail or fox squirrel to come apart—the tiny ground squirrels just weren't big enough. One important thing was the fact that rifle and cartridge were accurate enough to connect with such small targets at those ranges. After all, such accuracy would do credit to a .222 or .243.

As we were leaving the ranch, a jack rabbit was spotted in a mowed field where he had absolutely no cover. He was hunched down, trying to become part of the ground he was on. It was a long shot, and I held on his back, just over his shoulder. There was a loud "plop" as the bullet connected, and Mr. Jack just settled down in a relaxed position. The shoulder shot had killed him instantly at 141 steps. The hottest wildcat in existence, fired from the best barrel available could have done no more.

And, remember, the majority of 300 and 400 yard shots you hear about, yes even the 200 yard ones, are "guesstimates," not "stepped off."

One thing I know for sure; my Winchester Model 70, .243, and my Remington 722 in .222 are going to get a rest. This little "varmint for a nickel" rig is just as efficient, up to 150 yards, and a whole lot cheaper to feed.

tip of a tail served notice that a squirrel was on the other side of a limb about 25 feet skyward. Picking up a stick, I tossed it beyond the tree. I didn't know if the bullet would be high or low at that range so held in the middle of the squirrel's cheek as he scooted to my side. Apparently I guessed pretty close, because the shot connected with the head. My next chance was at about 40 yards. The squirrel was sitting on a log, watching me, and as I squeezed off, he raised up still higher. The bullet hit a shoulder, left only his back legs and lower back for eating. So much for bushytails.

Two shots at cottontails proved further that the cartridge was OK for meat hunting, provided only head shots were taken. Body shots are out. These squirrels and rabbits were killed to point out that the cartridge and the rifle have the inherent accuracy to be used for such purposes, should the shooter see fit to try.

Another safari settled any doubts that I might have harbored concerning my \$65.00 "varmint for a nickel" outfit. While making our way to a jack rabbit field, we chanced on a field full of ground squirrels. They make wonderful targets simply because they aren't very big. The head is about an inch across, and when one stands up on his hind legs he might stretch to about six inches tall. When you think you're hot and can do no wrong with your rifle pointing, put your crosshairs on a ground squirrel's head at about 100 yards. Keep track of how many rounds it takes to make your first kill. I missed several before finally connecting at what proved to be 70 steps away. My bullet cut the animal's throat as if a knife had been used. There was no torn tissue. Ap-

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HANDLOADING BENCH

(Continued from page 14)

cases with 52 gr. Speer bullets. The pills were designed for bench resters, but are fine for varmints. The charge was 20.5 gr. IMR-4198 with CCI 400 primers. Fifty measured charges were within 0.3 gr., and 50 control charges were weighed as near zero as possible without splitting a powder kernel, so weight was within about one-sixth of 0.1 grain.

Both batches grouped in about 0.8" at 100 yards, darn good for a light sporter. We didn't know which loads were fired until the identification slips were opened. Lab charge weighing makes little difference beyond 500 yards, which should be reserved for targets, not hunting.

Some chaps own inaccurate measures, or can't be sure of every charge. The handy new RCBS \$3 "Powder Trickler" speeds weighing. Set your measure for a bit lighter charge than desired. Fill the Trickler with powder and turn the knob to "trickle" kernels in the scale pan for exact weight. The new hourglass design is better than the one shown in the current RCBS catalog, available on request.

Ray Riling, 6844 Gorsten St., Philadelphia, Pa., has a \$1 catalog of used arms books. Items include a few complete years of this magazine from \$12 for 1962 to \$25 for 1955. Shipments over 5 pounds sent express collect. A few scattered single copies are \$1.25 to \$2 each. Your subscription to GUNS will increase in value faster than any investment I know. Save every copy, that brings a higher price than any other magazine for back issues.

It's hard to load for 8mm Jap Nambu pistols. RCBS has 3 form and one trim die at \$5 each. Add \$13.50 loading dies and your investment is \$33.50. For limited shooting buy reloads from Geo. Spence, Steele Missouri, at \$5 for 50 plus express. Spence uses lathe altered .38 Special formed cases, with 3.2 grs. Bullseye, R-P primers and H & G No. 116 cast 105 gr. bullets. The undersize cases expand near the head and many split. This isn't dangerous, since pressure is very low. Velocity is near 925 fps, near issue ammo. General Nambu's creations had nothing to recommend them, except to an enemy. You could form cases from .30 or .32 Rem., and neck ream plus lathe work. Use .323 bullets.

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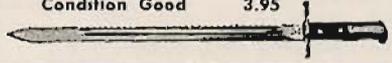
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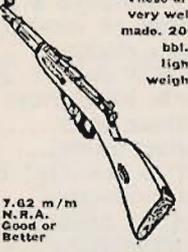
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- 5 Groove Bri.
- 25" Bri.

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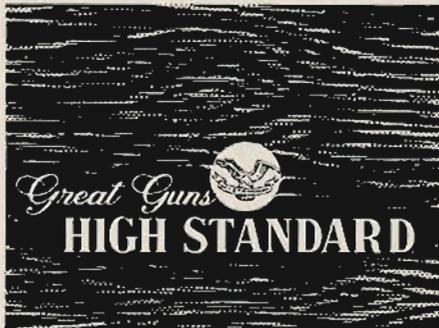
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REMINGTON TRAP LOADS

(Continued from page 21)

ington-Peters regular cases don't give this sort of case life, except in rare instances. The case did show a little wear, but nothing that could be termed really serious. First, three small splits about 1/8" long, developed in the crimp folds after the 13th reloading. These didn't lengthen during the remainder of the shooting. There was a small amount of gas leakage around the primer, which would be normal under the circumstances. There also was a small amount of gas leakage at the junction of the head and body—again nothing serious. Primers could be pushed in place with the fingers but weren't loose enough to fall out; neither were they thrown out when the shell was worked through the action of the gun several times. Just what the average case life will be remains to be seen.

Of the box of 25 factory loads, ten were carried in a hunter's coat pocket for a distance of 85 miles—wear and tear was practically nil. The load designation wasn't as clear as it was on a new shell, but it was still readable. The shells did show a slight amount of fuzziness at the mouth end but otherwise were in perfect condition. This speaks highly of their durability.

It isn't often that I get ecstatic about a new product, but this happens to be an exception, and my hat is off to the Remington people for bringing out an excellent new product, with so many features for shooters and reloaders.



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Here's Beckelhymer's answer to the demand for a dependable, but inexpensive pistol carrying case. This new "JUNIOR" box is made of the same top quality materials as used in our larger and more costly boxes. Same enduring beauty, ruggedness and appearance. Just the thing for keeping and carrying your guns, plus any of the small-type draw-tube spotting scopes. Holds 4 guns. ONLY \$19.95.

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INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

GUNS and AMMUNITION	
ROBERT ABELS.....	50
BADGER SHOOTERS SUPPLY.....	53
BROWNING ARMS CO.....	3
CENTENNIAL ARMS CORP.....	48
CROSMAN ARMS CO.....	7
DAISY MFG. CO.....	43
DIXIE GUN WORKS.....	60
NORM FLAYDERMAN ANTIQUE ARMS.....	52
HARRINGTON & RICHARDSON, INC.....	9
GIL HEBARD GUNS.....	53
HERTERS, INC.....	52
HIGH STANDARD MFG. CORP.....	66
HUNTERS LODGE.....	34, 35
MARSHALL HYDE, INC.....	52
MARS EQUIPMENT CORP.....	51
MCLAUGHLIN GUN MFG.....	41
O. F. MOSSBERG & SONS, INC.....	58
MUSEUM OF HISTORICAL ARMS.....	40
NORMA PRECISION.....	46
NUMRICH ARMS.....	14, 15
PARKER DISTRIBUTORS.....	52
POTOMAC ARMS.....	59
SEAPORT TRADERS.....	59
SERVICE ARMAMENT CORP.....	4
VALLEY GUN SHOP.....	65
VIC'S FOR GUNS.....	57
VIKING ARMS.....	65
WINCHESTER, WESTERN DIV.....	Cover 4
HANDLOADING EQUIPMENT	
CARBIDE DIE & MFG. CO.....	9
CASCADE CARTRIDGE.....	41
HERTER'S, INC.....	52
LYMAN GUN SIGHT CORP.....	Cover 3

MURDOCK LEAD CO.....	47
NORMA PRECISION.....	8
HOMER POWLEY.....	54
R. C. B. S.....	12
SAVAGE ARMS CORP.....	Cover 2
SPEER, INC.....	44
HOLSTERS, CASES, CABINETS	
BECKELHYMER'S.....	66
COLADONATO BROTHERS.....	55
HERRICK MACHINE WORKS.....	57
DON HUME LEATHER GOODS.....	65
S. D. MYRES SADDLE CO.....	59
WHITCO.....	42
SCOPES and SIGHTS	
BAUSCH & LOMB, INC.....	10
CRITERION CO.....	60
REDFIELD GUN SIGHT CO.....	58
W. R. WEAVER CO.....	40
STOCKS and GRIPS	
E. C. BISHOP & SONS, INC.....	65
CONTOUR GRIP CO.....	42
CREST CARVING CO.....	59
BOB FRIELICH.....	59
HERRETTS STOCKS.....	57
FRANK MITTERMEIER CO.....	56
ROYAL ARMS, INC.....	56
SPORTS, INC.....	55
TOOLS and ACCESSORIES	
GEO. BROTHERS.....	56
CUSTOM SHOOTER'S CENTER.....	65
DEM-BART CO.....	46

DREMEL MFG. CO.....	63
FEDERAL INSTRUMENT CORP.....	49
G & H RESEARCH CO.....	54
FRANK A. HOPPE, INC.....	69
JET-AER CORP.....	54
LYNX-LINE GUN PRODUCTS DIV.....	53
NEW METHOD MFG. CO.....	57
TIME PRODUCTS CO.....	46
MISCELLANEOUS	
AUSTIN BOOT CO.....	58
C. DANA CAHOON.....	58
R. J. COFFEY.....	48
COLORADO SCHOOL OF TRADES.....	60
G. R. DOUGLAS CO.....	62
DYMO INDUSTRIES, INC.....	6
EDWARDS-BARNES CAST PRODUCTS.....	65
INDUSTRIAL TIMERS & CONTROLS CO.....	53
LEONARD CORP.....	39
LYTLE NOVELTY CO.....	59
MAIL ORDER MFG.....	50
MERSON CO.....	50
MITCHELL SHOOTING GLASSES.....	49
NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOC.....	54
PENDLETON GUN SHOP.....	55
PUBLIC SPORT SHOPS.....	59
RAY RILING.....	41
J. HALL SHARON.....	65
SHOOTERS CLUB OF AMERICA.....	45
SHOTGUN NEWS.....	42
SIGMA ENGINEERING CO.....	41
STOEGER ARMS CORP.....	47
TRAVEL INDUSTRIES.....	48
TRINIDAD STATE JR. COLLEGE.....	58
WORLD OF GUNS.....	13



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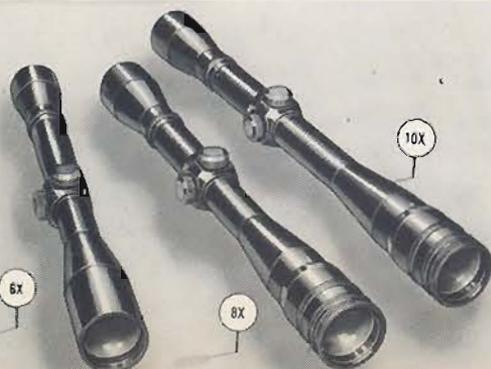
Just ask any reloading expert — he'll

tell you that this trusty "tong tool" goes with him on his hunting trips or out on the range . . . complements the heavy-duty bench equipment in his basement. Ask any novice — he'll tell you that it's easy as 1-2-3-4-5, as safe as houses. And *complete with dies*, the 310 tool costs just \$16.50.

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On safari in Tanganyika, professional hunter Ommanney holds a Winchester slide-action 22—one of three new 22 models he tested.

“How did I get to be a professional hunter? I guess it all began with a Winchester 22,” *says David Ommanney, our man in Africa.*

When we took our new rifles to Tanganyika, to prove them on safari, it was David Ommanney we chose to lead us.



Masai warrior who visited our camp learns to aim with new lever-action 22.

Few men know more about game and guns than Ommanney. And no professional hunter in East Africa is better liked and respected.

Our three 22 models were among the new rifles he helped test. “The ruggedness and accuracy of these hard-hitting rifles is amazing,” Ommanney said.

But it was what he said about his long experience with Winchester 22s that we wish all young hunters (and their parents) could have heard.

“I was just a kid,” he told us, “when I owned my first one. And no rifle I’ve handled since had so much to do with deciding my career.

“It wasn’t simply that I learned from it how to aim and squeeze a trigger. My first 22 taught me most of the things a true hunter must feel in his bones.

“Things like showing respect for his rifle—by always handling it safe-

ly, and never failing to keep it clean and in perfect shape.

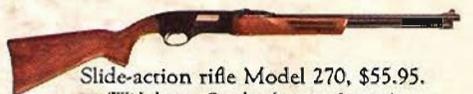
“Things like always being fair to the game he hunts—by never firing at anything until he’s pretty sure a single shot will drop it.”



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Give muscle to your 22. Be sure you ask for Winchester or Western rimfire ammo.

To this day, David Ommanney is never without a Winchester 22 in the rack of his Land-Rover. “It’s a real rifle,” he says. “And belongs in the safari battery.”