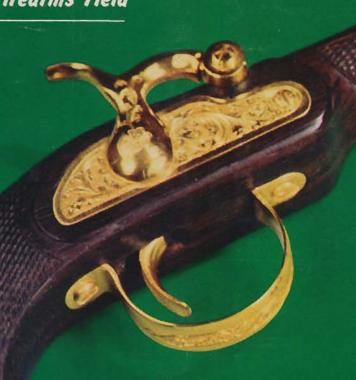


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THE \$6,000 GOLD GUN



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An all-new 3X-8X variable is featured in a complete line of Savage hunting scopes.

- This new scope z-o-o-m-s instantly from 3 to 8 power. Its Consta-Center reticle stays centered, does not magnify as power changes. Double-cam action maintains constant focus.
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The Browning Medalist .22 caliber Automatic was designed to shoot winning scores and many acquire it with marksmanship objectives. Many others have one for the sheer pleasure of precision plinking with fine equipment. And you would be surprised how many more buy one because it's such a unique, handsome piece they just can't resist. We caution you of the temptation (gun-buffs are easily afflicted) but, if you succumb, regardless of why, we're sure you'll agree . . . it's a masterpiece.

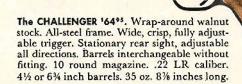
Should you prefer a holster pistol, the Challenger and Nomad .22 Automatics are of the same family and no less attention has been given their mechanical requisites.

The MEDALIST '120°. Contoured wrap-around walnut stock hand-checkered (right or left hand). Micrometer rear sight, click adjustable, all directions. Variable barrel weights interchangeable with walnut forearm. Fully adjustable trigger for weight of pull and backlash; wide, contoured, gold plated. Dry fire mechanism which permits easy practice firing for-hours merely by depressing a button after each trigger pull. Non-glare ventilated rib. Precisely balanced; weight 46 ounces; length 11½ inches. 10 round magazine. .22 LR caliber. Luxurious fitted case with lock, shell block and all attachments.

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ounces. 8% inches long.

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KNOW YOUR LAWMAKERS

Congressman Frank Horton 36th District, New York



No amendment to our Constitution has achieved such thorough neglect as our Second Amendment. Many gun laws have been enacted as a result of this neglect, on the shallow theory that one can remedy a social wrong by stifling the mechanism of the wrong-the gun-rather than the wrong itself-the criminal.

Many of us recognize, however, that the constitutional guaranty of the right to keep and bear arms is a prime political right. We have seen totalitarian forces act first to disarm the people before completely subjugating them. We have seen democracies hastily arm, again at

the last moment, before attack as a result of laying aside the right to keep and bear arms. The right of a person to own firearms is not the end of the story, however. We also know that the gun provides many Americans with many wholesome and absorbing hours of enjoyment the year around.

Congressman James G. Fulton Pennsylvania

It has been my clear position for years, as a member of our local sportsmens groups and as a member of the bi-partisan conservation bloc in the House of Representatives, that the proposed harsh restrictions on owning and possession of guns is completely unnecessary and ridiculous. Every item of general use, from a pop gun to a cannon, can be used constructively or for destructive and illegal purposes.

I certainly favor the immemorial and constitutional right of people having their legitimate freedom in respect to guns, gun collecting, hunting, and the shooting sports, as well as for the defense and protection of their homes and possessions.

When the Supreme Court declares prayers unconstitutional, it would make a person think prayers are dangerous! I hope the Courts and the Legislatures will permit the sportsman and the U.S. citizen to keep his freedom and guns, in case he so chooses.

Congressman Wm. Jennings Bryan Dorn South Carolina



Private ownership of guns is a basic fundamental and elemental freedom of the American people, Individual gun ownership is not only guaranteed by the Constitution but is traditional.

I shudder to think what will happen to our freedom if too much restrictive legislation is passed by the states and particularly the Federal Government. The first step Communist dictators take is the collection of all individually owned firearms. This is the principal reason why no major Communist government has been overthrown.

The right of a law abiding citizen should very defi-

nitely be protected to have a gun in his home and in his automobile. Of course, when any person abuses the privilege of owning a gun, then his ownership should be restricted. The preservation of freedom requires discipline, restraint, and responsibility on the part of the individual.

Readers Note: All Congressmen may be addressed at "House 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

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THE COVER

Entirely made by hand and of solid gold, this .38 caliber cap and ball gun is the work of a goldsmith whose hobby is guns. The gun has been fired with black powder and a gold ball on TV as well as in the workshop where the gun was made. For more details, see the article on page 16.

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EDITORIAL OFFICES: R. A. Steindler, Jerome Rakusan 8150 N. Central Park, Skokie, III., ORchard 5-5602. E. B. Mann, 1020 Parkland Pl., S. E., Albuquerque 87108, N. M., Kent Bellah, St. Jo, Texas. REPRESENTATIVE: NEW YORK, Eugene L. Pollock, 210 E. 53rd St., New York 22, N.Y., PL 3-1780. NATIONAL ADV. OFFICES, 8150 N. Central Park Ave., Skokie, III., ORchard 5-6967

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Australian "GROUP OF THE YEAR"

10 SHOTS 100 YARDS .475"



WITH

HORNADY BULLETS

The Contest: Australia's annual Minuteman competition—about as tough as a shooting game can get. A national bench rest-postal match open to all comers, all sporting rifles up to 10 lbs., all positions, all ranges 100 yards and over, any kind of sight, scopes no larger than 6 power. And any kind of bullets (in the '63 contest virtually all brands were represented). Shooters submit their best witnessed 10-shot groups.



The Winner: Reg McGowan of Warwick, Queensland, whose remarkable .475" 10-shot group (100 yards) stood well out from all other entries and easily brought him the coveted "Group of the Year" trophy.

The Winning Combination: Hornady 22 caliber 50 grain spire point bullets ahead of 34 grains 4740 (Australian) powder. The rifle, a 98 Mauser in 220 Swift. 4-power scope.

"This group was not a fluke," reports McGowan, "as I have shot several such groups under witnesses, with Hornady bullets." An experienced hunter as well as a veteran competitive rifleman, McGowan says further, "I find Hornadys not only accurate for target shooting, but a dependable game-stopping bullet as well."

"Accurate, deadly, dependable" — that's what Hornady bullets are to Reg McGowan—and what they can be to you, too—on targets, varmints, and game.



HORNADY MFG. CO. . DEPT. G . GRAND ISLAND, NEBR.



Willson's Newest

Willson Products, Division of the Ray-O-Vac Co., recently shipped us one of their new sets of bunnyears or, as they call them, Sound Silencer. The Model 150 is fully adjustable, and though light weight, it appears to be strongly made. The ear muffs are marked with an arrow, thus indicating which is front and rear. Sound protection offered is excellent, and hearing was not affected when we fired full loads of .30-06 hunting loads on our basement range.

Weatherby Rifles

Roy Weatherby recently shipped us two test guns—one was the much heralded Mark XXII .22 semi-automatic rifle, the other the Mark V Varmintmaster in .224 Weatherby Magnum.

A great deal has been written and said about Roy's rifles, and their appearances. We'll skip the descriptive details since the Varmintmaster does not differ from the other Weatherby rifles in stocking, bluing, or general appearance. But, boy oh boy, does that latest caliber shoot! Whenever Roy sends out a test gun, it arrives complete with scope, scope caps, and ammo, all set for a day at the bench. Our gun had a slick and silk-smooth action, a trigger that broke at exactly 3.5 lbs, without creep or backlash. The .224 Weatherby Magnum has a



very low noise level, somewhere around that of the time-honored .222 Rem., and if it recoils, we did not feel it.

Right out of the box and with only a patch passed through the bore, the 50 grain factory load shot MOA the first time around. Increasing winds up to 40 miles an hour finally stopped all shooting and our next session at the bench was blessed with a fairly calm and crisp day and a temperature of slightly over 30 degrees. The 50 grain pill printed on exactly the same spot on the target at it did the week before, but this time the 5 shot group went 0.80 inches. The 55 grain pills made a tidy little one inch group, and this load consistently printed slightly lower and to the left of the 50 grain bullet. Since the gun had to be returned pronto, no attempt was made to handload for Roy's latest hotshot caliber.

The Mark XXII is Weatherby's first entry

into the small-bore field. Externally the gun is finished in the traditional Weatherby blue and high gloss wood finish, comes complete with sling swivels and a 20 shot magazine



was added on the test gun for rapid fire function tests. A nice feature of the Mark XXII is the single shot selector. If you train a youngster, you can switch the selector so that the gun becomes a single shot, and the bolt will stay open after the empty hull is ejected. Another feature is the top tang safety that makes handling the gun a real pleasure, and the folding leaf rear sight, with leaves for 50, 75, and 100 yards does away with the Kentucky windage that is needed on most factory guns.

From the muzzle right down to the butt plate, the Mark XXII is an elegant little gun, and with a new Browning scope in the grooves, she did as well as any .22 rim-fire rifle we have ever shot, with the exception of a heavy barrel match rifle-and that would be asking a great deal of a sporter rifle. Although the price tag of \$89.50 may appear a bit steep, this is a high quality rifle that would add beauty to any gun cabinet. Best of all, in over 500 rounds of sundry lots of ammo, there was not a single malfunction of any kind, and the adjustable trigger-another one of Roy's extras-was so well adjusted that we left it alone for our testing, though we did bring it down to a hair trigger break for a check run,

Gun Vise

The 823 Gun Vise is the answer to the vise problem. Made by H. R. Wentzel of '823' Products, 120G Dellwood Ave., Dayton,



Ohio 45419, the 823 Gun Vise is suitable for gun cleaning, scope mounting, and any other work that requires clamping the gun, the

(Continued on page 14)



ACTUAL HIGH-SPEED PHOTO

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

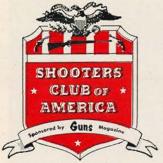
This new S&W .41 Magnum® revolver has 3¾ times the stopping power of a .38 Special! Enough power and penetration to knock any North American game animal flat. You can fire six powerful shots as fast as you can pull the trigger. And eject all six empties at once. Slip six fresh cartridges into the cylinder,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

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

Yet this heavy duty double-action revolver fires a standard velocity load that's nearly as mild as a .38 Special. Fire it single action for deliberate shooting, double-action when rapid fire counts. See this powerful new revolver today at your gun store or write Smith & Wesson, Inc. Dept C-7, Springfield, Mass. for a folder describing the gun, its Remington ammunition and other modern handguns made by Smith & Wesson.



SMITH & WESSON, INC.



SHOOTERS PUSH FOR ACTION ON PRO-GUN LAW

Comments and suggestions regarding the Pro-Gun Law continue to pour into this office from all over the nation-and from these, the gigantic task of rewriting the proposed version into an actual law has begun. Here are a few of the ideas and comments received

"I am 100% behind your 'pro-gun' law. Up till now we have been on the defensive and, although hold-ing our own, we have literally gained nothing. Now, with GUNS magazine fostering a 'pro-gun' law, we can now take the offensive and really put some teeth into our bite . . . Personally, I intend to read this 'pro-gun' law to my local gun club. In doing so, I hope we might be able to come up with some good suggestions."

Attwood Kerr Howes, Jr. Clark's Green, Pennsylvania

"I have one suggestion to make that I have not seen in print as yet. In proposing a National Pro-Gun Law I believe if we would call it 'A National Firearms and Anti-Criminal Law' we could enlist the aid of the so called Anti-Criminal . . This law should be people framed in such a way that it would guarantee our rights . . . But at the same time (And this is where our Anti-Criminal friends would come in) make this law so severe on the criminal who uses a firearm in the commission of a crime that it would pay them not to be caught with a firearm of any kind.

James M. Elder Jackson, Tennessee

"Enclosed is an editorial and newspaper clipping taken from a

Hearst newspaper. Since this newspaper is a syn-dicated one I thought I would pass this info along to you to alert your other readers and Shooters Club members across the country.

The 'Pro-Gun' law not only seems like a good idea, but it is apparently getting essential if we want to keep what little sport we have left.

Keep up the tremendous work you

are doing. It's bound to bear fruit, if we all get behind you."

> Robert H. Damrau Bronx, New York

"Most important, I think, is your concern for our right to bear arms. I share this concern with you and discuss it, whenever possible, with fellow gun-lovers, and urge them to write the NRA and SCA and encourage them to support their congressmen in this fight.

I agree with most of the points set forth in your 'Pro-Gun' law although I know it is impossible to outline a law that will satisfy everyone explicitly."

Erling Barsness Glenwood, Minnesota

"The right to 'keep and bear arms' is too precious and valuable to have taken away by a handful of do-good, uninformed lawmakers.

The gun itself cannot commit any crime. There must be a finger on the trigger, and no law can keep any criminal from obtaining

a gun, lawfully or otherwise.
You have my full support on this campaign, and if there is anything at all I can do, let me know."

C. R. Smith Dallas, Texas

"THE WORLD OF GUNS" TO SPARK PRO-GUN OFFENSIVE

The newly-announced publication, THE WORLD OF GUNS, has been quickly recognized as a valuable weapon in the pro-gun offensive. Orders for copies have been pouring in-along with comments, suggestions and requests for more information. Here, for your bene-fit, is the first partial listing of contents:

- The Firearms Industry in War and Peace.
- The Development and Importance of Gun Associations.
- The Story Behind the Development of Civilian Marksmanship.

- · A Complete History of Firearms Legislation.
- · Sportsmen, the Firearms Industry, and Our Natural Resources.
- The Development of Handloading.
- . The Boy, the Dog, and the Daisy.
- · Selling Guns by Mail.
- The Shooting Industry and Law Enforcement.
- · Shotgun Sports.
- · Guns in Today's Economy.
- Collecting is Big Business.
- · Guns and Public Safety.

THE WORLD OF GUNS is bringing together, as guest writers in this special publication, the foremost authorities from the firearms industry and the individual shooting sports-as well as outstanding public figures who are well qualified to authoritatively comment on firearms legislation and the role of firearms and the gun sportsman in a free society.

See Advertisement on Page 13

FIGHT ANTI-FIREARMS LEGISLATION IN YOUR STATE WITH A PERSONAL OPINION MESSAGE

You can now bring your opinion regarding pending anti-firearms legislation in your state to the immediate attention of your state lawmakers by utilizing Western Union's new low cost Personal Opinion Message Telegraph Serv-

The Personal Opinion Message could very easily become a potent weapon in the struggle against restrictive firearms legislation. Though it does not allow for a complete expression of opinion, as does a letter, it does contain all the best elements of a telegram—speed, impact, a sense of urgency, and a guarantee that it will be delivered.

The Personal Opinion Message can be directed to your Governor, Lt. Governor, or a member of the state Legislature, is limited to 15 words—plus the sender's name and address—costs 85¢ plus tax, and is usually delivered the same day, though because of the reduced rate, it may sometimes be delivered on the following day.

To qualify for the special rate, the message must be an expression of personal opinion on an issue of general interest-and this should provide us with a golden opportunity to effectively express our sentiments regarding anti-firearms legislation.



New dual cylinder Frontier Scout shoots .22 Long Rifle and .22 Magnum rounds

Something new has been added to Colt's classic .22 caliber Frontier Scout—interchangeable cylinders for .22 Long Rifle or Magnum rimfire ammunition.

Turn a single screw: switch cylinders in seconds. Now you've got a side arm that takes charge anywhere—target shooting, hunting, or plinking.

And with its new versatility, Colt's Frontier Scout retains the action-proved features that have made it one of America's most sought-after handguns. Same famous lines. Same dependable action.

Same superb balance and feel. Same economy.

Your Registered Colt Dealer has the latest facts on this newest Colt. See him soon. Find out just how much handgun \$57.50 can buy.

IMPORTANT. Deliveries now being made to your Registered Colt Dealer. Have you ordered yours?

*Also available: Nickel Scout at \$72.50, and Frontier Scout '62 (Staglite grips) at \$67.50.



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ROSSFIRE

Readers Respond

I am just writing to thank you very much for printing my plea for help in obtaining a Czech VZ 24 7.9mm Mauser rifle. (Guns, Dec., 1963) A number of your readers have written to me with generous offers of assistance and to them also I extend my grateful thanks.

I do hope that the people of the United States never have inflicted upon them the type of firearms regulations that we have in England. The pathetic part about these regulations is that there is a large number of un-licensed modern type pistols, rifles and ammunition floating around in England and a criminal (or anyone else) would have little difficulty in obtaining them. This being so, what useful purpose do these regulations serve? I do hope that your legislators will take this point into consideration.

I consider myself very lucky, because I have been granted a Firearms Certificate for a small collection of bolt-action military rifles. However, the police have informed me that I may not increase the number of weapons in my collection, so if I wish to obtain a new speciman, I must first dispose of one of the weapons I at present possess. I am not allowed to possess a pistol, 'though I have been fortunate enough to obtain a license for a pistol here in Kenya.

There is also a new regulation in England which forbids the sale by a dealer of any firearm which has not been Nitro Proved in England, or by a Proof House officially recognized by the British authorities. I am not quite sure of the exact terms of this new regulation, but, as I understand it, it would not be legal for a dealer to offer for sale, for example, a German Kar. '98, unless it had first been Nitro-Proved in England. This is a great blow to collectors, who may not want specimens with non-original proof marks.

Martin Button Kenya, East Africa

Canadian Double Shuffle

A Canadian from London, Ont., (Crossfire, March) appears to feel that our handgun laws are not repressive.

He informs us that handguns may be used for hunting in Ontario this season. The regulation reads, "Handguns may be used for hunting by residents, provided they have a valid hunting license, and the necessary credentials issued by the police authorities."

After two lengthly sessions in our local police station, I understood there are only two purposes for carrying a handgun in Ontario; target shooting and protection. The police officers in charge of gun registrations told me he knows of nowhere in Ontario where a police department will issue a handgun permit for hunting.

These police authorities did not know of the new hunting regulation, do not approve of it, and under the present day government policy, could not issue a permit for hunting.

Dave Pickrell Hamilton, Ont. Canada

Clubs Please Note!

At the last meeting of the Outer's Club, the subject of gun laws came up, with the usual blast at the anti-gun bigots. One new point came up. Would the prospect of gun laws drive a lot of people into gun clubs with the idea of being able to get gun club references if required by any new laws?

Our club handled this by amending bylaws to restrict such references to members who have been with the club for one year or more. This, plus careful membership committee check, should avoid complications. Actually, we hope that any proposed laws do not discourage membership applications. A good club can always use more shooters.

Simeon Costa Mt. Vernon, N.Y.

Gun Language

I just purchased the March issue of your excellent magazine, and wish to offer a toast to the unsung hero who attempted to clarify matters in "Trail and Target." As he noted, our American language is not made easier to understand by use of the dictionary.

When I was made a part of the U.S. Army, I was confused by several of their definitions. The M-1 Garand, I was informed, was a "weapon, rifle, or piece." When I casually mentioned that it didn't remotely resemble a "fieldpiece," I was placed on the earliest KP roster. I was carefully given the impression that a "gun" was a massive weapon. The Navy, I was told, has "battleship guns." (They later denied this, insisting on calling them 12, 14, or 16 inch "rifles.")

My solution is to call any firearm whose normal method of holding, aiming, and firing is with one hand, a handgun; any normally held, aimed, and fired with two hands, a rifle or shotgun. The rest of the words I would consign to the experts. From what I've read...they are as confused as the rest of us.

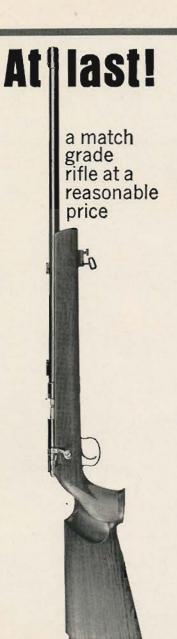
Jon W. Forsyth Anaheim, Calif.



...by Weatherby

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Here is an exceptional intermediate target rifle by Anschutz, famed builders of the smallbore rifles used in international matches by more competitors and by more of the winners-than all other makes combined.

The Model 64 has many special features that add up to X-ring accuracy: a satin smooth single-shot action; trigger adjustable for pull, creep and backlash; a precision rifled and handlapped medium-heavy barrel. Target stock has raised cheek-piece, deeply fluted comb, checkered contour pistol grip. Beavertail fore-end has long rail with instantly adjustable sliding swivel; adjustable rubber butt plate.

The Model 64 target rifle costs only \$75.00. (Sights extra) Left-hand stock slightly more. Price subject to change. For FREE Savage catalog write: Savage Arms, Westfield 43, Mass.



HANDLOADING BENCH

By KENT BELLAH



Rifle Cases

RIMLESS RIFLE CASES were designed to feed in box magazines. The vital head is weakened by an extractor cut. Headspace is on the shoulder datum line, a screwball method. Factory rounds are not a perfect chamber fit and headspace varies. After firing they fit and headspace correctly in that chamber. Velocity and ignition is more uniform for better accuracy. Check it by firing factory loads for group. Reload with charges and bullets from the same lot and watch groups tighten. They screw down still more with good reloads.

Ancient rim cases headspace on the rim, and "modern" belted types on the strong belt. They prevent the firing pin blow being cushioned, or driving cases in the chamber to goof headspace.

Excess rifle headspace may cause a case head separation that wrecks the gun. You get the same results in rimless reloads if a sizer or shell holder sets back the vital shoulder. Check for it. Blacken a case held above a match flame. The sizer should not touch the shoulder or all the neck. In very light rimless reloads the primer drives a case in the chamber, setting back the shoulder (headspace), so full charge reloads cause a head separation. Keep such shells for light squib loads only, identified with nail polish on the head face.

For good, safe reloads use quality dies. A \$4.50 Forster-Appelt Case Length & Headspace Gauge is highly recommended.

Excessive body sizing overworks brass. Heads may separate sooner or later. Minimum sizing gives long case life; a normal, harmless mouth split indicates failure. RCBS strongly advises against lapping their sizer necks, and I fully agree. They are correctly made. Set your trimmer for minimum gauge length. Discard hulls with gauge headspace. If they don't separate in one firing, the forward part grips the chamber as the body slams against the bolt. Pressure presses the stretched area against the chamber so it's invisible outside. The weak area fails later, causing trouble like Pandora's box.

Other contributing factors are faults in the brass, air pockets, laps, folds, or drawing marks. Soft heads expand the pocket or blow primers. Overloads increase all troubles.

In 1911 Holland & Holland created the strong belted .375 H & H case. Arms makers probably felt cheaper rimless cases were adequate for established calibers. Superior belted cases didn't catch on until modern cartridges started using the old H & H design. The newer .300 H & H, a necked down

.375, was a popular Hi-V flat trajectory .30 because it lacked competition. The body design was poor for our powders or reload-

Roy Weatherby, a wildcatter turned manufacturer, blew out a .300 H & H for the .300 Weatherby hot-shot. Huge powder capacity brought criticism from old-timers who felt if the Lo-V of black powder "daze" was good enough for grandpappy it was okay for them. Some won't admit it starts a bullet faster, shoots flatter, and hits harder than any other .30. It helped spark many modern cartridges on belted cases.

Wildcatters with American ingenuity, responsible for most worthwhile inventions, created many superb "short Magnums" on the case. As usual they were years ahead of giant arms makers. Norma made their versions for custom chambered rifles on standard (.30-06) length actions,

W-W made Magnum wildcat cartridges long ago. They had a fine line of new cartridges, the .264, .338, and .458, on short versions of the .375 H&H for Model 70 rifles. Their .300 Winchester, another "short Magnum," made an immediate hit, far superior to the .300 H & H. Efficiency nearly equals the largest .30, with less powder and recoil in a shorter case and action. Some 40 factory and wildcat cartridges use the .375 H&H case in one form or another today. One shell holder takes the growing list.

We need strong belted cases, that are now on many modern rounds from a little .224 Weatherby Magnum on up. Even the small gas volume in a tiny .22 Hornet can wreck a rifle.

Lack of reloading know-how causes premature belted case failures near the head, often in one reload. The undersize bodies give no trouble the first firing. Full length sizing reduces the body back, or nearly back, to factory dimensions for use in any rifle. Sloppy chambers won't take another firing. You may be surprised at the variation in capacity! Check by filling new and fired hulls from the same lot with water and weighing the contents.

Belted case life in your rifle increases up to 30 times by partial sizing, just enough for easy chambering. L. E. Wilson's \$8,25 case gauge has an adjustable sleeve to set your sizer by trial and error. Your rifle is a perfect gauge. Check sized cases until the bolt closes slightly harder than on a new shell. You can generally back the sizer off the shell holder one to 2 turns.

Auto, pump, and lever actions may need (Continued on page 41)



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(Continued from page 6)

stock, or even the action safely and without marring or marking. With the sturdy box type construction, you can exert enough pressure on the heavily padded jaws of the vise to get purchase, and the high tensil aluminum allov castings will not give under stress. The 823 Gun Vise clamps onto a bench or table top, up to 2 inches thick, and it has replaced our old machinist vise with its worn felt pads in a jiffy. This is one of the best investments you can make if you are a gun tinkerer, and even for the man who has no ambitions in this direction and limits himself to gun cleaning and shooting, the 323 Gun Vise is a good investment. You can get yours for \$28.50 postpaid, but Ohio residents must add 3 per cent sales tax.

Military Mausers

Mars Equipment Corp., 3318G Devon Ave., Chicago 45, Ill., recently received a large shipment of Peruvian Mausers chambered for the .30-06. The guns have a five-round magazine, all milled parts, turned down bolt handles, and 23 inch barrels. With the military sight and using GI ammo, we fired 5 inch groups repeatedly from the sitting position, and the temporary installation of a peepsight shrank the groups to 3.5 inches. The guns have the usual two stage military trigger and retail for \$39.95. We are planning to sporterize one of these guns in the near future and it would not be surprising if accuracy of the gun would equal that of most of the other '06's in our rack when the job is done.

MEC Tool, Accessories

With the advent of plastic shells, a number of requests for loading information for plastic hulls have come to this office, and even more arrived at the offices of Mayville Engineering, Mayville, Wisconsin. Here is the latest on this subject, directly from Ted Bachhuber, Plastic shells can be loaded on all of the MEC tools, and MEC now offers special Plasticrimp kits for all MEC tools. Complete instructions come with each kit, and they are clear and simple enough not to give you any troubles in setting your MEC up for loading and crimping the plastic hulls. MEC also offers charge bars that are adjustable for the reduction of powder charges that are recommended for the new components that have come on the market in recent months.

Since early January of this year, we have been using a prototype of the MEC 600. This is a progressive tool, and ours has an automatic primer feed. You can load any type shell on the 600 without adjustment, from paper to metal, from plastics to paperno matter what you seem to feed the 600, she'll turn out perfect shells every time. Ted showed us six loaded shells, defied us to tell the reloads from the factory rounds-he won the bet easily.

Conetrol Mounts

This is a new bridge mount that has some interesting features. Made by Conetrol Scope Mounts, Box 188G, Hwy 123S, Seguin, Texas, these mounts offer a number of new and interesting features. We were most impressed with the over-all appearance and the finish of the mount, and the fact that scope re-



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umrich WEST HURLEY 2, N.Y.

moval and remounting-though not as simple as it could be-can be accomplished in the field and the scope returns to its previous setting. To confirm this, we fired a five shot string with the new Model 70, starting the first shot with a zeroed-in scope, then removing and remounting the scope, firing the second shot, then again removing the scope, and remounting, until five shots were fired -the groups went MOA! George Miller Jr., of Conetrol, stressed the fact that the mounts automatically compensate for wear-a fact we could not confirm since we used the mount on only one gun and then for only three

Interesting are the split rings used in the Conetrol mount, and rings and mount are sleekly contured. On the whole, we found the Conetrol mount and rings very satisfactory, but have to admit that the mounting was not the easiest that we have ever tackled. It should be kept in mind however that most shooters do not remove mounts and scopes as often as we do from rifle to rifle, and that the mounting is, in most cases, a one time job. Best news from Conetrol are the prices. Bases will list for \$7.98, split rings for \$6.99 each, and one piece rings for \$3.99 each.

Winchester Plastic Shells

In the April issue of Guns, editor Mann reported on the new shells in some detail. We won't go into further details here, but (Continued on page 54)



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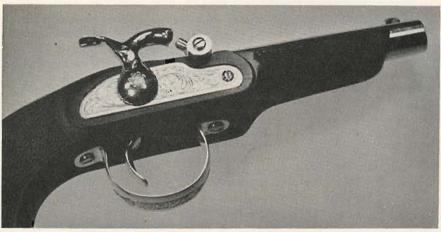
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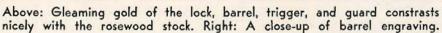
By R. A. STEINDLER

OVER THE YEARS, I have held a number of rare collector's guns in my hands, but never one that was strictly "one of a kind," one that was valued by its maker and owner at over \$6,000. The gold gun on the cover and shown on these pages is valued at this staggering figure, and it shoots solid gold balls! No applications for bullet trap cleaners are wanted—the job is spoken for!

Bill Heacock, a goldsmith in the Pacific Northwest, sent me a picture of the gun, but nobody who saw the picture believed that the gun was real, was made of 14 karat gold. Maybe this karat business should be explained. Pure gold, that is 24 karat gold, is very soft, and its softness rating is close to that of lead. The customary 14 karat gold is not pure gold, but contains 14 parts gold and ten parts alloy. In Europe and South America, most fine jewelry is made of 18 karat gold, that is 18 parts gold and six parts alloy. Relatively little known is the fact that 18 karat gold wears better than 14 karat gold, and long-wearing jewelry in China used to be made with 20 karat gold.







In talking about the gold gun, Bill Heacock told me some interesting details. Bill, by the way, is not only a gun collector, but also a hunter, and so it was only natural for a highly skilled goldsmith to make a gun in his favorite medium—gold.

As a youngster Bill began carving wooden pistols for fun. Lacking good tools, he made a few crude ones, then swapped the wooden gun models for tools, made more models for better tools, and finally he had a few really fine tools. With those, he tackled the making of brass muzzle-loaders and brass cannon. About 30 years ago he and a friend attended a gun show in his home town, Seattle. Imagine his surprise when he found one of his own models in a high-priced collection of "rare" pistols!

His natural skill and his constant study of guns, led Bill into carving a one inch long revolver, complete with revolv-

ing cylinder—and in ivory to boot! He showed this gun to a manufacturing jeweler, and was hired on the spot. This was at the height of the depression in 1933, and Bill is still following his first love—goldsmithing.

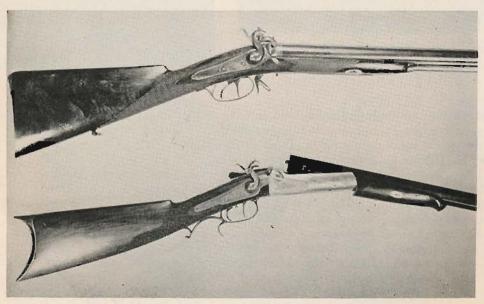
The gold gun was abuilding in Bill's homeworkshop for two and a half years during his spare time and on his days off. The gun is a .38 caliber cap and ball smoothbore, and screws, springs, and all metal parts are 14 karat gold. Inside springs and screws are white gold—that is gold with nickel, but all other gold parts are made of yellow gold. Here are some of the gun's specifications in case you have the time, leisure, and of course, the gold to duplicate this magnificent piece of craftsmanship.

The gun fires an 80 grain ball of .38 caliber, and takes a normal black powder load without trouble. The barrel measures 3.25 inches from (Continued on page 66)





When Jules Bekeart arrived in San Francisco in 1849, he brought with him a supply of Colt's Paterson pistols (below). However, the later, 1849 Model (top), proved to be more popular.



Above: A three-barreled Slotterbek caplock gun, patented in 1868. Below: His break-open cartridge rifle of 1880.

By JAMES E. SERVEN

ON JUNE 15, 1850, Captain S. E. Scott brought the sailing ship Palestine through the Golden Gate into San Francisco Bay. The Palestine had left New York December 6, 1849, and had had a long, hard voyage around the horn. Aboard was a gunmaker named Benjamin Bigelow, late of Rochester, N. Y., where, with his friend William Billinghurst, he had helped to make Rochester a center of fine gunmaking. Ben Bigelow had been fascinated by stories of the gold rush and of the fabulous new land beyond the Rockies; he came to see for himself if these stories of a richer life were true.

Bigelow was not the first gunmaker to head for the far west. Jules Bekeart had reached that same beautiful landlocked harbor aboard the Oregon on April first of 1849, and had promptly headed for Coloma where James W. Marshall bad discovered the first coarse gold in the race of John Sutter's Mill. Like others who engaged in the gunmaking trade, Bekeart decided there was more gold to be picked up in building, selling, and repairing guns than could be made with a pick and gold pan. His first gun shop was a shanty affair with a canvas roof. But here began the first of three Bekeart generations continuously active and eminently successful in California's gun trade.

Ben Bigelow selected Marysville, on the fringe of the upper gold fields, as the location for his gun shop and made guns there for the next 36 years. These were but two of the pioneers who headed west to become a part of what, in a few years, was the busiest gun-selling center in the nation.

The word "early" in describing western gunmakers is, of course, rela-

Rare seven shot pill-lock rifle, made by Benjamin Bigelow, Marysville, California.

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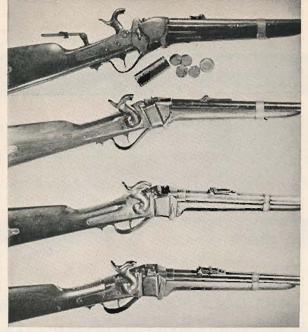
GUNS, PISTOLS

THE GOLD RUSH DAYS DREW MANY GUN MAKERS TO THE THRIVING WESTERN STATES



Advertisement (above) was taken from the 1862 San Francisco directory. These four examples of fine target rifles were made by California gunsmiths. Note special sights and false muzzles.

EARLY GUN TRADE



Sharps carbines, in several variations, were among the first saddle guns to enjoy a brisk sale to settlers of the frontier lands west of the Mississippi.

tive. Here we use it to describe that period between 1850 and 1900 when the trails of the Mountain Men were being turned into transcontinental roads paralleled by the steel rails which in 1869 firmly linked East and West—when men who came to dig raw gold from the mountains and creek beds and stayed to harvest the greater agricultural, mineral, and timber riches which the land produced. And they proceeded to build the towns and the cities. This half century was unique in our national history, involving one of the greatest mass migrations of all time.

The "Far West" is a somewhat elastic geographical term, and here I would like to stretch it a bit to include not only the western slopes of the Rocky Mountains, but also the eastern slopes including the frontier territories of Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico and Utah.

In the early years of this period, California and Oregon were the principal destinations for the argonauts and homesteaders. Wagon trains branched off beyond Fort Bridger, the gold seekers swinging southward for the passes into California and the homesteaders turning northward along the Snake River to the Oregon territory. For all these emigrants to the far west coastal lands, San

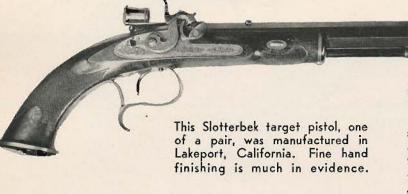
Francisco became the hub of trade. Here many who did not travel overland arrived by steamer or by sailing ship. The gun trade was centered in San Francisco and in the towns which sprang up within a relatively limited perimeter from that bustling city. A few years ago I was able to compile a list of almost 200 California

gunmakers and gun shops whose operations dated from 1849 and up to 1900!

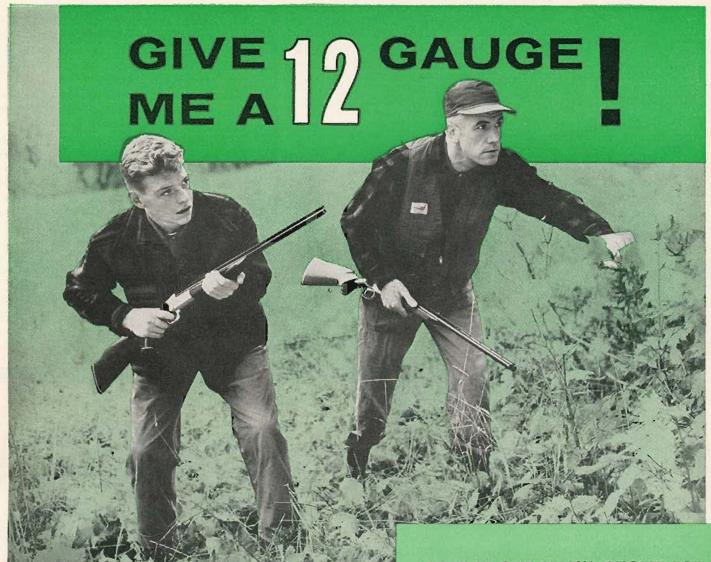
Prior to the discovery of gold in California, the western slope had been a rather sleepy pastoral country, visited occasionally by trading ships, these being the floating "general store" of the day. Firearms found in the area were either the old muskets of the Spanish or Mexican soldiers and colonists, or European trade guns from the ships. A few American-made guns came into the territory with venturesome Americans like Jedediah Smith and his band of trappers, but in all that vast country from the Gulf of California to Canada it is doubtful that a thousand American-made guns and pistols could be counted before the conquest of California by American forces in 1846-47.

Traditionally, New England, New York, and Pennsylvania have been the centers of armsmaking in America. first in hand-made arms, and then in machine-made guns. There was no western effort to compete with the East in machine-made guns, or in the manufacture of major gun supplies and accessories. The 1882 issue of "Commerce and Industries of the Pacific Coast" had this comment on the situation: "In firearms this coast cannot compete with the eastern states or England in manufacturing for the general market, and our local production has been limited to special and exceptional wants. Many fine rifles and shotguns have been put together here-many of the parts being manufactured in the East. This work was either done to order, or the weapons were of patterns which could not be matched among the goods manufactured elsewhere for the trade."

This statement is perhaps a little misleading. Patterns which could be matched elsewhere were made lock, stock, and barrel by some of the California gunmakers because the quality of their work could (Continued on page 61)







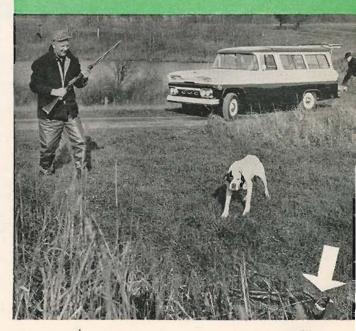
The author's choice of a shotgun for all-round use is the double barrel 12 — for all game from ducks to deer.

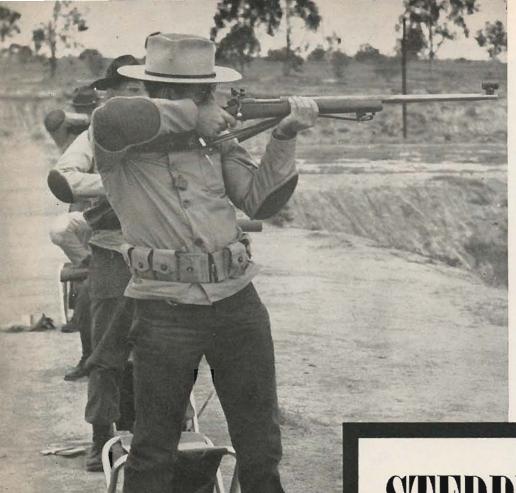
By JERRY CHIAPPETTA

When I WAS less than a dozen years old, I killed my first deer, in Elk County Pennsylvania, with a .35 Remington 141 Gamemaster, which we lovingly called "The Screwdriver." As the deer sneaked toward the spot my uncle and I occupied, Uncle Jim whispered, "Take him, kid." I was excited—but that was no excuse for my poor shot. The 200 grain bullet only broke a fore leg, and it took two more shots to bring the deer down. I didn't feel very proud—three shots to kill a 100 pound doe.

Later that same day, I made a swing through a hard-wood stand to "dog" deer for Uncle Jim and my father, who still didn't have their deer. It was during this little jaunt, I saw a real hunter.

I still remember him clearly. He wore shiny, oftenlaundered blue jeans, a full beard tinged with grey hair, a red leather hat, and a hunting jacket with a big red handkerchief tacked to the back. (Continued on page 63) A PRACTICAL GUN FOR ALL GAME





M. J. Hull fires the 200 yard off-hand course with a Model 70 National Match.

TOO MANY SHOOTERS who en-L joy target shooting, shy away from competing in the regional or state meets. The usual arguments run the gamut from "I am not good enough with a gun," to "those dad-blasted rules of the big matches confuse me." How do you know that your skill with a gun is not good enough? And the rules, well they may be a little more strictly enforced than on your club range, but it only means that all competitors get the same breaks, that all of them have to rely on their skill. Let's see what a state shoot is like, and don't forget that a state championship can lead you to bigger and better matches, including the U.S. Olympic team if and when you qualify.

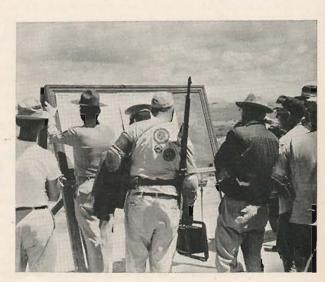
The California State Matches are held at Camp Mathews, a few miles north of San Diego. Camp Mathews is used by the Marines for training re-

STEPPING STONES TO THE OLYMPICS

By HAROLD E. NICHOLS



Left: Marine recruits do the scorekeeping on the 600 yard line. Right: A crowd gathers around the range's bulletin boards as the scores are posted.



cruits. Marine Corps personnel, under General Krulack, acted as hosts to the California Rifle and Pistol Association, sponsors of the NRA approved matches. The matches lasted three days. That the military are willing to co-operate to this extent with civilians in a sporting event, is little known, let alone appreciated by the average citizen.

The .30 caliber events must be fired on a 600 or 1000 yard range, and that means a large military range. Even if a private club had a 600 yard range, they usually do not have enough personnel or firing positions to handle all of the competitors.

This is a classified match, meaning that there are divisions of ability; beginning with Marksman and going up to Sharpshooter, Expert, and finally Master. The beginner will shoot as "unclassified" in his first match, and he'll get his qualification later by the

NRA. Henceforth he will compete with others in his own class. This system is intended to encourage the beginner, giving him an incentive to climb to a

higher classification.

Most beginners are overly concerned about the poor showing they might make in their first match. This is unnecessary, as every competitor has all he can do to take care of his own score. You will generally find that no one but the scorekeeper is interested in yours. Of course, it is best to have an experienced partner to coach you, but this is not absolutely necessary. In big matches there is always more than one relay, or more than one shooter for each firing point. Any shooter not firing will always be glad to lend a helping hand to the beginner.

The high powered rifle matches are confined to .30 caliber, because that is the caliber of our service rifle. The match is fired in two divisions: "A" for bolt action rifles, and "B" for service rifles, with separate awards for each of the divisions.

There are few restrictions on the rifle; it must be .30 caliber, with some form of iron sights, and a trigger pull of not less than three pounds. There were all kinds of rifles present at this match, from light hunting rifles to heavy barrel bull guns; some chambered for magnum cartridges. The only obstacle to using your pet magnum, is that you are allowed to use only one rifle in the entire match, and you would suffer considerably in the rapid fire events.

Most civilians, and a surprising number of Marines, were using the old Winchester Model 70 heavy barrel match rifle in .30-06. Certain team matches such as the California State Civilian (Continued on page 48)

COMPETITIVE RIFLE SHOOTING IS FUN, AND THE LOGICAL PLACES FOR A NOVICE COMPETITOR ARE THE STATE OR REGIONAL MATCHES



The 600 yard firing line at Camp Mathew Marine Corps range. Spotting scopes are a must at this distance.



Though many of the Bushmen carried ancient rifles, this one had a Winchester 70.

Bechwanaland Lions

LANGOLA

SOUTHWEST AFRICA



BECHUANALAND

A OKAVANGO BASIN

Above: Sungura hangs lion bait from tree. Right: Author and Andrew Holmberg brought down this buff with a .458.



BUSHMEN HUNTERS USE ANCIENT OR MODERN ARMS, BUT RELY MAINLY ON TRACKING SKILLS

By FRANK C. HIBBEN

THE OKAVANGO RIVER comes out of southern Angola and spreads out into the sands of the Kalahari Desert like a six fingered hand pointing southeast. As the channels of water lose themselves in the thirsty sand, they form thousands of marshy lagoons and swampy pools fringed by lush vegetation. The game animals of Bechuanaland concentrate around the Okavango swamps to crop the lush grass and grow fat. One of the largest and also one of the most persistent of the Okavango channels is the Kwaai.

Our white hunter, Andrew Holmberg, had scouted out a track by which we might skirt the Okavango marshes to the east and then turn westward along the comparatively solid sandy banks of the Kwaai itself. In this way we could reach the very heart of the game country. As we made our first camp, we heard the boom of a gun. We had seen no tracks or any sign of human habitation for many miles. We had driven past herds of sable, roan, greater kudu, lechwe, and buffalo that acted as though they had never seen a human being or a safari car before.

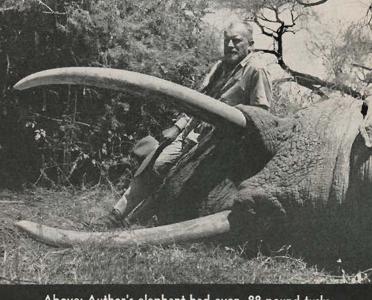
Andrew and I drove along the edge of the swamp towards the sound of the gun. Within a half mile we found a Bushman, still holding his gun, standing over the body of an impala. The gun was a smooth-bore cap and ball musket of crude manufacture. As I examined the gun, Andrew remarked sourly "I didn't know that these bloody fellows had guns." Andrew doesn't like to hunt near any one else, and the next day we pushed 50 miles up the Kwaai.

We found another hunting group, and then another, even though we moved northwestward up the Kwaai as far as we could go in the safari car. Some of the Bushmen in these camps were still using bows and poisoned arrows. We found three fellows who had 1887 Enfield Martini Henry guns, apparently left over from the Boer War of 1898.

We had heard from the natives that the Okavango lions have the biggest manes in Africa. As we visited a Bushman camp, we found a group of hunters feasting on the assorted plumbing from the insides of a lion which they had just killed with a poisoned arrow. One of our safari boys could talk a little of the peculiar click language of the Bushmen; we learned that they kill and eat lions regularly, so that the hunter may acquire the cunning and power of the king of beasts. The chief of the largest Bushman camp was named "Kweri." Andrew hired Kweri to show us where the lions were and to help us track them. Kweri entered enthusiastically into the job especially when our interpreter explained that if we got (Continued on page 57)

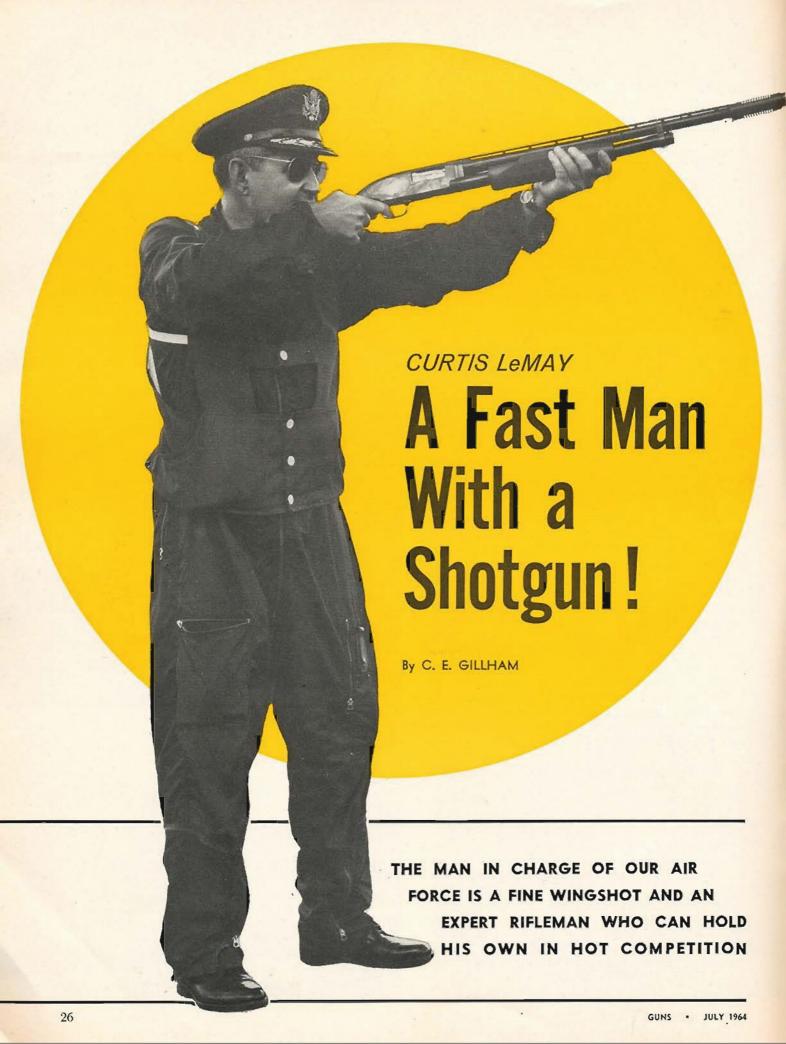


Above: Many trophy-size Sable antelope are to be found along the Kwaai. This one has 45 inch horns.



Above: Author's elephant had even, 88 pound tusks. Below: Bushman's poison arrow is lethal on game.





It WAS IN NOVEMBER, and we were attending the National Retriever Trials at the Weldon Springs Wildlife Area, Missouri. A dozen of us were acting as "guns," and shooting in pairs over the finest dogs. If one "gun" misses, his companion must clobber the bird; a miss by both is almost a disgrace. I glanced at my shooting companion, having just been introduced to him. His name—Curtis LeMay.

Bill Harder, from Omaha, was the Captain of the "guns." I had shot in the Nationals before, but I had never heard of General LeMay as being a retriever trial shooter. Also, once in a while in the Nationals, a gunner is chosen who is not quite up to snuff. Harder was a practical fellow in choosing his shooters, I decided. But putting this General on his list, just because he knew him, didn't give me

any appetite.

Driving rain, with sleety pellets intermixed, swirled directly across our line of fire. The General was to my left, a bird thrower stood between, and we were shooting ducks. The only thing LeMay wore that could identify him as Air Force was an old worn pair of GI boots. An unlighted cigar stuck upward at a 45 degree angle and he looked as pleasant as a bulldog with a heavy infestation of wood ticks, the mange, and no feed in two weeks. "Why the hell," I wondered, "do I draw this person in such numb-fingering weather—crosswind, sleet, and a guy who had never even shot in a small Podunk trial?"

Gunners take turns, when one shoots the other backs him. No doubt Bill Harder thought I was a fitting candidate to warm up with the General and that I could hit the birds he would miss. Normally, I would have cherished this great trust in me; as it was, I was mad as a hatter. The first dog on the line belonged to the man for whom I worked. At least I knew shooting etiquette. "Your shot, General," I told him, "I am backing." He didn't even answer me.

"Bird," the handler shouted when the judges gave the signal for the mallard to be airborne. The boy heaved the duck into the crosswind, and I glanced quickly to my left. Did you ever see a cat about to pounce upon a mouse—a man almost bite a thick cigar in two—a trap shot about to win the Grand American Handicap when he had broken 99 targets and had but one more to go? If you have, you know what concentration is. LeMay had nothing else but.

The thrown duck, true to all of his racial instincts, swung into the wind. I had my finger on the trigger, and almost pulled it off when the General cut him down. It was a great shot, one really under pressure. I suddenly realized I wasn't with one of those cocktail boys, but a rough, tough character who asked no quarter—and probably would give none. Then came the pheasants. These birds are exactly

Left to right: General Thomas D. White, Lt. General John McConnell, and General LeMay.







Left: LeMay is an ardent reloader. Right: Winchester craftsman prepares a grip cap for Model 50 presented to General LeMay as 1957 "Outdoorsman of the Year."

contrary to ducks. Thrown downwind, they take off, plunge for the tulles, really get up speed. To hit them is not too difficult, to kill them is something else. To drop them all at a given range, where the Judges want them, is rough.

LeMay never pulled a boo-boo in four days of gunning, and I was by his side a considerable portion of that time. Most interesting, all we gunners, and many of the dog handlers and owners, stopped in a motel at the outskirts of St. Louis. Bill Harder, General LeMay, and Andy Devine roomed together. Two or three times I actually saw this great movie and television comic make the General smile.

This was a most unusual thing.

One blustery, snowy day, as Andy Devine, Harder, the General, and I sat in a station wagon awaiting our turn to shoot, Andy turned to Bill Harder. "Bill," he gabbled in that high-pitched voice that only Devine owns, "Bill, I wish you would make the General shut up, he is talking me to death." That was really the big laugh of the four days — LeMay probably hadn't spoken a hundred words in the past week. He just doesn't talk; but he is a good and polite listener. Maybe this is the reason he is a great General.



With the shoot over, all gunners, dog handlers, and judges were invited to a two day wild mallard shoot, as guest of Mr. J. M. Olin of the Winchester-Western organization. He was my boss, and as we prepared to leave our tourist cabins, he told me to see to it that a company owned aircraft, a DC3, had all the guests aboard for whom I was responsible. Andy, the General, and Harder were three of them. I met Andy at the door of the cabin, in a high state of excitement. "You know what that General is doing in the bathroom??" he demanded in that high-pitched gravel voice. "He is washing the mud off my boots in the bathtub—that dog robber."

This I had to see. Andy was right. With a scrub brush that the General carries in his kit, he was down on his knees before the bathtub, carefully cleaning that Weldon Springs mud from his old GI boots and a couple of things, size 12, that Andy called his high-top shoes. What a hell

of a guy!

I suppose when one writes about a four star General he should mention all the decorations of the man—the things he did and whatnot. Probably all this has been written a hundred times, and because Curt (Continued on page 43)

Peepsights for

A HUNTING RIFLE IS ONLY AS GOOD AS

ITS SIGHTS, AND THE AUTHOR HAS

SOME STRONG OPINIONS ON THEIR SELECTION

ECTION

By TOM HAYES

SIGHTING DEVICES for rifles can be roughly divided into two classifications—iron, or more properly metallic, and glass or telescopic.

Metallic sights can further be divided into open and aperture (or peep) sights. There are many variations encountered in each of these types and, since the front sights used with either type is basically the same, let's concentrate on the rear sights.

The aperture rear sight is just what the name implies; a small hole, entirely surrounded by an opaque rim, through which the shooter aims. Any rear sight with a gap or slot which is not completely encircled by an opaque rim becomes an open sight.

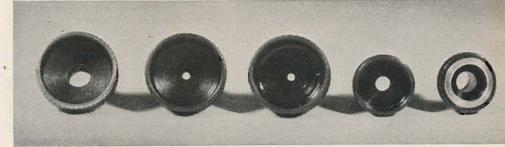
Early peep sights were mounted on the tang, quite close to the eye, a position best for precise, deliberate shooting. Tang-mounted aperture sights are still used on some rim-fire rifles, and even on hunting rifles which develop recoil no greater than that of a .30-30 cartridge. In theory, a sight positioned quite close to the eye would cut down the time required to get "on target," but it seldom works out that way in practice. Only when stock dimensions place the aiming eye exactly in line with the sights at the instant the butt hits the shoulder, when the shooter is uniformly positioned for each shot, and the quarry appears from an anticipated direction and on the same level as the shooter, only then will the closely positioned peep sight prove faster than one which is positioned

somewhat farther forward. However, a rear peep sight which is mounted too far forward is slow and inefficient.

I have found the best position for a hunting aperture sight to be approximately one inch to the rear of the trigger. The design of most bolt-action rifles, unfortunately, requires the aperture to be mounted ahead of the bolt handle, which, in turn, is ahead of the trigger. For this reason the aperture sight is not at its best on the usual bolt-action rifle. But even in this position, the peep sight is superior to any form of open sight on any rifle, except those used for stopping dangerous and big game.

The open sight operates on an optical principle entirely different from that of the aperture sight. It is mounted much farther forward, and the shooter must focus it sharply while taking aim; he must position the front sight, both vertically and horizontally, in the





Above: Lyman's 66 sight has quick release slide. Below: The smaller size apertures are for target shooting; larger holes are the best for hunting.

Hunting Rifles

notch of the rear sight and bring the top of the front sight to bear on the desired point of impact. Aiming with open sights requires the eye to shift rapidly back and forth between rear sight, front sight, and target, each in a different focal plane. No human eye can do a perfect job of aligning open sights, and few men become skilled in their use.

The good open sights have the horizontal sighting bar devoid of any side projections to blot out the view. Since the very best open sight blots out half the view, the semi-buckhorn and the "full" buckhorn sights should be avoid-

ed. A "U" notch is preferred over the "V" notch, although the sighting bar itself may be very slightly concave. Probably the best open sight for stopping dangerous game is one of the British types; a wide, sloping "V," having no notch at all. On these, a white, vertical line or diamond marks the apex of the "V." A very large front bead of gold or ivory is required for this combination.

The aperture sight is deliberately placed close to the eye so that focusing is not needed. The shooter simply looks through the aperture, places the top of the front sight on the spot he wants

to hit, and squeezes the trigger. Even though the shooter seems to see "all outdoors" through the aperture, accuracy is assured because the eye naturally seeks the spot of greatest visibility—the exact center of the aperture. The aperture is the most accurate and fastest metallic sight known.

Most aperture sights have an auxiliary screw-in disc with a small "peep" hole. This disc—with its tiny sighting hole—is for the deliberate shooting of black-and-white targets. It sharpens the contrast between the white paper and the black bull, but its small size contributes only very slightly toward increased accuracy.

The shooter should remove the screw-in disc while using his rifle while hunting. If the disc is left in place, the aperture becomes the poorest hunting sight known.

No rifle is better than its sights. For the hunting (Continued on page 53)

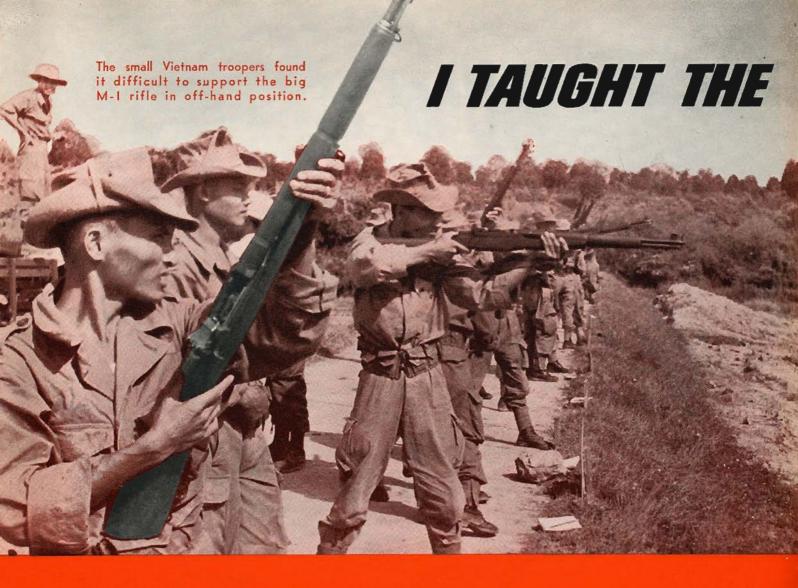




Williams "Foolproof" sight has screw slot adjustments. An optional "twilight" or "shotgun" aperture should be used.



Even the small game rifle is improved when open sights are replaced by peep, as on Remington 66.





Above: The Vietnamese were more interested in making noise than in hitting the bull's-eye. Right: Unique and practical Japanese rifle target frame. One target could be scored as the other was fired on.



VIETNAMESE TO SHOOT!

THE VIETNAMESE ARMY is fighting the Communists with worn out rifles. I was in Vietnam before the war hotted up and I fired hundreds of these M-1's, inspected thousands more. Their barrels are shot out. At combat yardages, that is to say out to 300 meters, these rifles cannot hit the enemy. Bullets will keyhole, groups are too large to stay on the silhouette target, and failure to eject is commonplace.

These M-1's, furnished to our Asian allies, were manufactured during 1940-43, were then issued for use in our training centers. Here each rifle went through a succession of owners, literally hundreds of users. Under the accelerated training program of the war years, the recruit was handed his rifle, was drilled with it, fired it, and then was rushed off to the combat theatre. The weapon stayed behind, was promptly issued to the next rookie.

After the war these rifles were issued in Vietnam. The French and their Vietnamese allies went to war against the Communists in Indo-China during 1946. The French, as a result of their surrender to Hitler in 1940, had no small arms of their own, and they turned to the U.S. for weapons. We dragged out our old recruit-abused M-1's and gave them thousands upon thousands of these old muskets.

The war began in 1946 and did not pinch out until 1954. During those eight years the American M-1's never cooled, and these old guns passed from Frenchman to Vietnam ally and back again. The debacle at Dien Bien Phu spelled the end for the French in Vietnam, and they were forced out of Indo-China. The South Vietnamese organized a new army of ten divisions and the American small arms, now some 14 years in use and wearing the deep scars of literally scores of owners, were passed over to the new forces.

The annual rainfall measures 300 inches in Vietnam. The M-1's, in the country since 1946, endured the annual monsoon with scant care and virtually no repairs. When I appeared on the scene in 1956, I found that most of them wouldn't hit a man-sized silhouette target at combat yardages, and it was a wonder that they would shoot at all!

During the 13 months I was in the country, I fired and inspected thousands of these weapons. We had no inside micrometers to check barrel wear, but we evolved some pretty definitive field-test expedients which told us all we needed to know. We'd pull a bullet from a .30-06 cartridge and force the bullet through the barrel with a ramrod. Many times bullets would emerge with absolutely no rifling marks on them!

Fired for group at 100, 200, and 300 yards, with selected rifles, I could expect one of these hand-picked rifles to group in an 8 inch ring at 100 yards, a 20 inch at 200 yards, and many shots would miss the target frame altogether at 300 yards. Keyholing was common and even the best of those (Continued on page 51)

ARE WORN OUT RIFLES AND LACK OF INTEREST IN MARKSMANSHIP KEEPING THE VIETNAMESE ARMY FROM VICTORY?

By COL. CHARLES ASKINS



Rifle butt, cut off 11/2 inches, proved too short even for the small statured Vietnamese querilla fighters.

GUNS • JULY 1964 · 31

HERE'S A UNIQUE, NEW METHOD FOR LOCATING

WARY GOBBLERS AND GETTING INTO CALLING POSITION



Left: Opal Cardin takes deep breath and "owls." Above: Opal's slate turkey call.



When gobbler is near, Opal switches from slate to piece of balloon for soft call.

Webster Cotton's gobbler was a big one, with a fine II inch beard. It weighed 21 pounds.

TRY 'OWLING' FOR GOBBLERS



By GRITS GRESHAM

"CAN YOU SHOOT lyin' down?" Opal Cardin whispered the question into my ear through his cupped hand. As I nodded "yes" another explosive gobble shattered the crisp April air, the hackles on the back of my neck rose to attention, and I bellied quietly into a prone position. I eased the twin tubes of the Model 21 into the right direction, nestled down into the stock, and fleetingly reflected that a decade of effort was about to end. The big bird was coming—fast!

Three days earlier I had driven into Malvern, Arkansas, for this rendezvous with gobbler destiny, and brought with me a long and frustrating history of turkey hunting experience.



Prone position, preterred by Opal Cardin, is used for close-in calling, and as a stable shooting position.

Over a period of some ten years I had made more hunts than I care to admit, in Louisiana and in Florida, with some of the very best turkey hunters, yet my no-hit record as a gobbler-gunner was firmly established. There were several hunts with Harvey Lee Spruill in the bottomlands of the Tensas River in northeast Louisiana. Harvey Lee is a great woodsman and a superb turkey caller, but when I was along he might as well have been a rank amateur. Two years in a row he killed big gobblers the day after I left.

Jim Spruill, who nurse-maids wildlife on the vast Chicago Mills Game Management Area in Louisiana, who knows every gobbler by name, who uses a turkey box with the same skill he has in making them . . . ole Jim struck out mightily when Grits was along.

The noble wild turkey is a trophy worth working for, I kept telling myself, and mid-April of 1963 found me driving from my home in Natchitoches, Louisiana, to Malvern, which lies in the foothills of the Ouachita Mountains 23 miles southeast of Hot Springs. I was joined there by Joe Linduska, who flew in from Chestertown, Maryland, where he is manager of the Remington Farms. Joe also wanted to loose a gobbler-directed volley with malice aforethought. How much "malice" I was only to learn later.

"If the weather's good in the morning," Hewell Selph said over dinner the first evening we were in town, "one of you should get a shot if you can keep still and be quief."

"Be up t'you t'hit him, though," added Opal Cardin with a chuckle.

These were the two "Malvernites" who were taking us in tow for the turkey safari, and when this pair speaks it pays to listen if you're looking for gobbler information.

Hewell is acknowledged as being the kingpin of the fraternity. With "more than a hundred" gobblers to his credit, he's earned the title. Hewell is such a recognized authority on turkeys and turkey hunting, in fact, (Continued on page 38)



Webster Cotton's call intrigues (L-R) Opal, Louis Cooper, Hewell Selph, and Joe Linduska.

. 33

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- Weight only 61/2 lbs.
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- Barrels AND receiver specially treated and forged from nickel chrome steel.
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Each pistol attractively boxed.

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MASON CITY, IOWA, is famed as the locale for the great "Music Man" epic. In the skeet shooting world, Mason City is the home of a family that made beautiful music with skeet guns not so many years ago.

Some of the chill of a spring visit to Iowa that coincided with some of the coldest weather of the year was removed for me by a warm visit with Dudley Decker at his

sporting goods outlet.

The Decker family ground up a lot of skeet targets before they racked their guns when Dudley Decker was grounded by ticker trouble. Five members of the family carried 90 per cent plus averages over several years, and Mrs. Decker owned the Corn State's Ladies trophies for about 14 years in succession. The entire Decker wrecking squad consisted of Dudley, wife Katherine, brother Emerson and wife Georgia, plus Decker's sister Dorothy. Both brothers won state titles, to prevent wife and sister-in-law from grabbing all the trophies.

Another swing through the Nation's midlands was brightened by a tour of the Simmons operations in Kansas City, wellknown to all of us who fire away at skeet and trap targets. Ernie Simmons Jr. reported that League shooting was thriving in the area, and the shooting picture looked good for all of 1964.

One of the real benefits that mean much to every fan of the clay target sports is that no matter where your travels take you, you are never far from someone who shares the love for smacking clays, and who is more than willing to post-mortem a few broken (or untouched) targets. Harold Workman and the writer broke several straights at lunch during a visit to his Topeka diggings. Harold is one of the trap stalwarts in the Topeka area, and keeps a lot of fellow shooters in good supply for the makings.

Dr. John W. Conover III, of Absecon, New Jersey, had his (shooting) scalpel tuned to a fine edge, when he cut down a field of 90 hopefuls to win the Atlantic City Gun Club's H. T. Bullock Testimonial Trapshoot. Dr. Conover edged Charles Hill of Merchantville by two targets on his way to the trophy. Karl Fuchs from Atco edged Dan Sorentino by a single target in the doubles race.

The shooting game bows to no other in the matter of producing unusual and colorful situations. Pennsylvanian Phil Johnston donated a trophy to his Huntington Valley Gun Club, then promptly broke 50 straight to win his own trophy. True to the games' traditions, Johnston refused to accept the trophy, which was duly awarded second-place winner Charles Schenkel. Schenkel went on to prove that he had not "backed into" the trophy, by winning the doubles event in the same program, for a clean sweep of the day's trophics.

Pennsylvania's Women's Club Mid-Winter Handicap League (trapshooting) has selected an all-league team. The Five ladies, all fine shots, are Mrs. Bruce Ambler, Mrs. K. C. Meinken, Mrs. W. E. Worthington, Mrs. Rhoda Wolf, and Mrs. W. W. Remmey.

When this column noted that the Quaker City Gun Club had held a George Washington birthday trapshoot, we wondered if contestants in this event kept their own scores, in keeping with Mr. Washington's penchant for honesty. We still don't know, but do know that Archie DiPaolo was top gun. Our news item did not describe the trophy, but it surely must have been a cherry tree, or at least a supply of silver dollars.

The latest Upper Perkiomen Sportsman's Club monthly trapshoot (as this is written) was won by William Hunsberger, who dropped just two targets over the 100 bird test. Mrs. Mary Christopher, at 95, was high lady in the same event.

Ye editor recently noted an item in "Skeet Shooting Review," calling attention to a claim by the Ludlow Fish & Game Club, Ludlow, Massachusetts, for five members with a record for most registered targets recorded in 1963. The Ludlow club can field a squad with total experience of 38,558 targets for 1963. The squad, and their targets: Edward Docherty, 9,133; George Docherty, Jr., 9,125; Joseph F. Sullivan, 7,475; Floyd E. Scott, 7,150, and George Page, 5,775. It may be that another club can field a squad with more registered targets, but I doubt it. In any case, from personal observation, this column can attest that the Ludlow Club is the most active in our experience. As mentioned in these pages earlier, the U. S. mails with their "rain, snow, and all kinds of weather" slogan has nothing on the hardy gunners, both male and female at Ludlow. Readers might gain a cooling sensation during this month by reading that I have seen shoots in progress at Ludlow when snow was falling so hard that it took better eyes than mine to separate targets from snowflakes of almost equal size.

This column has on several occasions

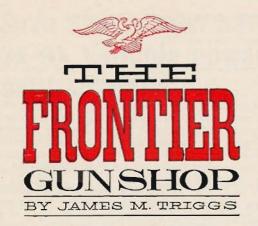
singled out some unusual program of worthwhile innovation by a gun club that we feel has been for the good of the game. This month's PULL! column praises, if rather late, Bob and Dorothy Davidson of the Long Beach-Dominguez Gun Club, Long Beach, California, for their annual "Appreciation Day" trap event, held just before Christmas. As reported in "Trap & Field", Bob and Dorothy threw 100 free handicap targets on December 15, with attractive trophies yet! Fellow shooters, can you think of a better way to say "Merry Christmas" and to show appreciation for a year's support! In your editor's humble opinion, gun clubs all across this land could well emulate the Long-Beach Dominguez example. This is club public relations at its best.

Last month's column drew attention to some of mid-summers state trapshooting tournaments. This month we turn the spotlight on skeet's state championship for July. Ent Rod & Gun Club, Ent AFB., Colorado Springs, Colorado, hosts the Colorado State and Open Championships (4 guns, 100 targets each) on July 11-12. Louisiana will return its champions from a 6 gun, 100 target each event at South Louisiana Gun Club, New Orleans, on July 17-19. Connecticut champs will be decided at Remington Gun Club, Lordship, on July 18-19. The 12 gauge race is 100 targets with 20, 28, and .410 races of the 50 bird variety.

Far off in another state on the same dates, Hawaii will use 250 targets and a 4 gun race to return its winners at Honolulu Skeet Club. River Bend Gun Club, in the Peach state, will host the Georgia state at Atlanta over a four gun, 100 target course, on July 25-26.

Observers of the clay target sports who are not shooters, and especially some of the information media men with whom I have had the pleasure of working, have always marveled at the very high level of sportsmanship exhibited by shooters in both the clay target games. These men have marveled at the honesty shown by contestants even when much was riding on the scoring of perhaps a single target, and could scarcely believe that so little supervision could be used beyond the personal honesty of the shooter.

All this comment concerning the sportsmanship of clay target gunners is prompted by an item revealing that Ed Willmerding, who was reported in these pages as having set a new world's record in skeet, has written the National Skeet Shooting Association asking that his record be stricken from the books. Willmerding, of St. Louis, Missouri, noted that his scores were not posted in the proper sequence to be considered in the longrun, or aggregate category, and since they were not in compliance with existing rules, asked that they be thrown out. Even though they were not recorded in the proper sequence to set an amazing world record, Ed's scores represented some of the greatest target smashing of all time, and since he is a relatively new shooter, this column predicts that he may yet set a new world mark, This time you can be sure that it will be all legal and binding. After all, Ed broke the targets, but he just didn't put the right days together. We predict that he will, and hope that this column may be the first to report that nice guys always win.

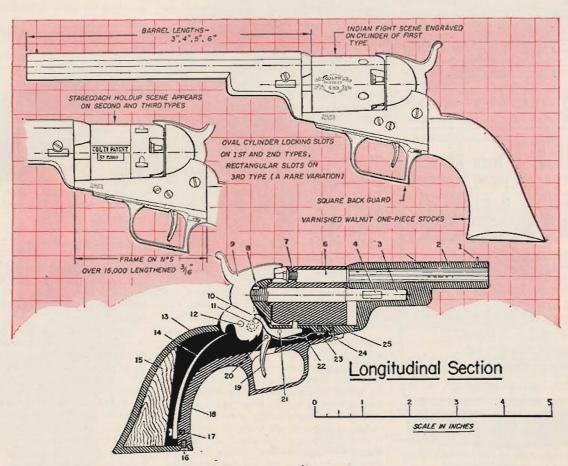


PIONEER AMERICAN HANDGUNS:

PVOLVED FROM the Dragoon pistol design, first manufactured by Samuel Colt in Hartford, Connecticut, the first Hartford pocket revolver was the Model 1848 "Baby Dragoon," in .31 caliber. One of the most notable points about this arm, which distinguishes it from later Colt pocket revolvers, is the square back trigger guard. As with other Colt models, the "Baby Dragoon" was manufactured in a number of variations; the more significant of these are detailed in the drawings. Later models of the "Baby Dragoon" were made with a permanently attached loading lever and these improvements to the Model 1848 led to the production of the Model 1849 pocket revolver which was produced in great quantities for many years. Design of the interior mechanism of later Colt percussion revolvers follows almost exactly that of the Model 1848 pocket revolvers.

Disassembly of the "Baby Dragoon" is accomplished as follows: Loosen wedge screw (5) on left side of barrel (2). Drive wedge (4) loose and pull barrel (2) forward off cylinder arbor (3) and frame (25). Remove backstrap screws (25) and butt screw (16) and remove backstrap (13) with grips (15) from frame. Remove mainspring screw (17) and mainspring (14). Remove rear trigger guard screws (27) and front trigger guard screw (24) and drop trigger guard (18) off frame. Remove cylinder stop and trigger spring screw (23) and spring (22). Remove cylinder stop screw (21) and cylinder stop (10). Remove trigger screw (20) and trigger (19). Remove hammer serew (12) and draw hammer (9) with hand and hand spring (11) out of frame. Cylinder (6) is drawn off cylinder arbor (3) to front. Removal of cylinder arbor from frame is not recommended. Reassemble in reverse order.

Colt Model 1848 "Baby Dragoon"



PARTS LIST

- 1. Front sight
- 2. Barrel
- 3. Cylinder arbor
- 4. Wedge
- 5. Wedge screw
- 6. Cylinder
- 7. Nipples
- 8. Cylinder arbor lock pin
- 9. Hammer
- 10. Cylinder stop
- 11. Hand & hand spring
- 12. Hammer screw
- 13. Backstrap
- 14. Mainspring
- 15. Grips
- 16. Butt screw
- 17. Mainspring screw
- 18. Trigger guard

- 19. Trigger
- 20. Trigger screw
- 21. Cylinder stop screw
- 22. Cylinder stop and trigger spring
- 23, Cylinder Stop and trigger spring screw
- 24. Trigger guard screw, front
- 26. Backstrap screws (2) (not shown)
- 27. Rear trigger guard screws (2) (not shown)

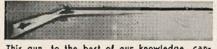
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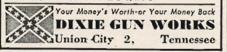
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TRY 'OWLING' FOR GOBBLERS

(Continued from page 33)

that his grocery store in Malvern is used by the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission as a turkey kill check station.

Opal picked Joe and me up at our motel at 3:30 the next morning, and Hewell met us for breakfast at an all-night restaurant just north of town. As the one cafe open at that hour this one proved to be headquarters for turkey hunters.

After breakfast, Opal drove east out of town while I looked at the countryside in the pre-dawn light. It is rolling terrain, a mixture of pine-hardwood forests, and vast blocks of land are owned by timber companies, and most of it is open to public hunting.

Ten miles out, after several twists and turns, Opal eased to a stop on a gravel road called the "Nix Trail." "Don't slam the door," he cautioned, then added, "Leave the gun. We'll listen a minute.'

The sounds of the forest coming alive floated in as we stood on the shoulder of the road-the clipped voice of a cardinal, the harsh rasp of a thrasher, and far in the distance the crow of a rooster that told us we hadn't completely left civilization.

With startling suddenness the booming hoot of a barred owl rocked the stillness. I spun around in surprise to see that the eeric call was coming from Opal. He was standing with his weight firmly planted on both feet, hands clasped loosely across his stomach, head thrown back.

When the last, drawn-out note of the resonant call ceased to echo across the hills, Opal continued to stand at attention, straining to hear some answer from the forests. I just continued to stand and stare at Opal, for never have I heard as perfect an imitation of a bird call as that which peeled from this man's lips.

But then we were hunting turkeys-not owls, and I was about to remind my partner of this when he lifted his head still higher and let fly once more. I watched and listened in fascination, then got another jolt-a welcome one-when a turkey gobbler answered. Opal looked at me and nodded, gave the far-reaching hoot of an owl once more, and immediately got another answering gobble.

"Sounds like he's about three ridges over," Opal headed back to the car. "Get your gun and let's get closer."

We collected our guns, eased the auto doors shut again, and headed into the woods. I followed Opal's ground-eating stride, heeding his warning against unnecessary noise or talk. He led down the ridge we were on for a couple of hundred yards, angled down into the valley and up on the next rise. There he hooted again, got his bearing from the return gobble, and plunged off into the next valley.

"This is close enough, I think," Opal leaned close to whisper, "That gobbler should be on the ridge we're on and not far away. Git yourself settled facing south, I'll call from about thirty feet back of you. Just don't move till you're ready t'shoot."

I settled into a comfortable shooting position, seated with my back against a stump, knees drawn up with shotgun resting over them. The unbelieveable mimicry of the owl boomed forth at my rear, and this time the answering gobble was so close it seemed to fill the woods. Opal waited a full five minutes-it seemed like an hour-before touching his cedar stick to slate. The soft, plaintive notes of the hen turkey floated out, and before they had died out the male we were after gobbled once-twice-three times in rapid succession. He was coming on the run, since each sound was closer than the last.

Blump!

The unmistakable sound of a truck door slamming broke the spell. For five or ten minutes I had been hearing the sound of a pickup growling up and down hill over to the west, and it was from that direction that the door-slam came.

Following that jarring crash came another sound. I later decided it most closely resembled a cow with asthma, but it was really a hunter trying to hoot like an owl. We sat another ten minutes, and Opal hit his slate another time or two, but it was hopeless.
"That character," Opal shook his head in a

mixture of wonder and disgust as we walked back to his car. "He must think a turkey is as stupid as he is. I heard him driving in over that old logging road, and was afraid that would happen. Now he'll go back to wherever he came from and say the turkeys weren't gobblin' this morning. Fact is, he couldn't get one t'gobble in a farmyard."
"Well," I rationalized to hide my dis-

appointment, he's a good friend of the tur-

key population."

"You bet he is! The more hunters are in the woods the safer a gobbler is. Especially hunters like that one."

We tried a couple of other spots before heading back to town, but the morning gobbling period was over, especially since the wind had risen considerably.

"What th'hell is this owl business?" I asked as we drove back in. "You scared the devil outta me back there."

"Owling?" Opal grinned. "That's just the best way t'locate a gobbler. He'll gobble at a good hoot just about every time. After ya know about where he is you can get into position t'start calling, Just about all the turkey hunters around here owl-if they can, that is."

Short and slight of build, Opal has been an enforcement agent and predator trapper for the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission for 18 years. He's 64 years of age, killed his first gobbler way back in 1914, and runs Hewell Selph a close second in the total number of the bearded gents he's potted. He is, in short, a helluva good turkey hunter.

Hewell and Joe were still out when we arrived at Hewell's grocery store, which is where a goodly share of the turkey hunters gather to autopsy the morning hunt, but they drove in half an hour later. Their faces told their tale before they got out of the car, and it wasn't one of success.

"We had him coming," Hewell reported, "but he just quit. I'm sure he had a hen with him already, and you know that 'bird in the hand' business.'

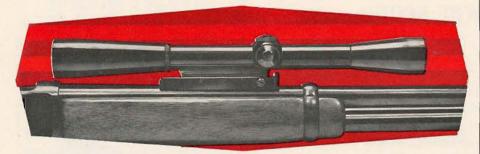
"Oh, I forgot t'tell you," Mrs. Selph broke in from her store-tending duties. "Jimmy Kriigel killed a big gobbler early and went (Continued on page 40)

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GUNS - JULY 1964 . 39

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(Continued from page 38)

on to school. It weighed over 21 pounds."

After school Jimmy brought the big gobbler out for us to see and photograph, and the 16 year old boy had made his first gobbler a good one. The bird weighed 21¼ pounds, had an 11 inch beard.

"I'm thinking my jinx is still with me," Joe Linduska said at dinner that night. "I've hunted turkeys in two of the best turkey states—Alabama and Pennsylvania, with some of the best turkey hunters, and have yet t'get a shot."

"Not you, too!" I reached for another biscuit. "I've done the same thing in Louisiana and Florida for ten years. Brother, with two strings like that going on this one hunt I'm afraid we're overloading Hewell and Opal."

"Well, you never can tell what'll happen,"
Opal broke in. "I was owling last year when
a big owl swooped down and took my
buddy's cap off."

When the alarm clock woke me the next morning I was fighting off a big owl, and the interruption was welcome since I was losing the fight.

"Not a very good morning," Opal headed the car out in the same direction we'd taken the day before. "This thunderstorm that kept us from hunting yesterday afternoon has hung around. Wind is pretty strong and it's cloudy. Wish you could stay longer."

"So do I, but this is it for Joe and for me. And, like you said last night, you can't tell what'll happen on a turkey hunt."

Opal "owled" at three spots without suc-

cess in the form of an answering gobble, and it looked as if the weather had us stymied. We made one more stop at an intersection where two logging roads crossed. Opal stood in the middle of the crossing and tossed his booming hoot's into the face of the rising wind . . . and a gobble came back.

"Let's ride," Opal didn't hesitate as he

"Let's ride," Opal didn't hesitate as he dove back into the car. "I can drive closer and we don't have much time. I know where that gobbler is."

We drove a quarter of a mile farther up the road, and I followed on Opal's heels as he piled out and started up the steep hillside. As we topped out he halted me with upraised hand and asked, "Can you shoot lyin' down?"



This gobbler made the mistake of responding to the "owling."

Most of the Malvern-area turkey hunters operate from a prone position when a gobbler is close. They insist, correctly so, that you just have less body showing to spook the bird, and require less movement to bring the gun into play. They want the turkey close, since his head is their target for a heavy load of 7½ shot.

Opal hit the slate with his magic touch and the explosive gobble came back. It was so close it probably would have rattled the leaves on the trees had the wind not already have taken care of that. Opal called again, hurrying his calls in the face of the approaching storm, and the gobbler responded again . . . closer . . . and again, still closer. "Ten years," I thought, straining my eyes

"Ten years," I thought, straining my eyes over the barrel to see the first snake-like movement of a turkey head coming through the underbrush. "Don't miss him."

I heard Opal switch from his slate call to the one he uses when the turkey is close. It's just a piece of rubber halloon which he presses against his lips with two fingers and sucks through. It's close-ranged, soft, and requires no movement. It's deadly.

I could hardly hear the soft call above the wind, which had now risen to storm proportions, but the gobbler could. His arrogant call sent shivers down my spine. He was within gun range but I couldn't see him, and then the rains came.

The gobbler answered three more times, but they were simply stairsteps as he went off the ridge, crossed the ridge road, and continued into the valley, "He wanted t'he somewhere else during the storm," was the way Opal put it.

A knot of hunters gathered under the overhanging eave of Selph's grocery, out of the rain, told of success for some hunter. In the midst of the group Webster Cotten held sway, holding the huge gobbler he'd killed at daybreak.

Webster's call was one I'd never seen before. It was simply a piece of plastic tubing, which he used by sucking through it while forming a sounding box around the lower end with his hands. The tubing? He got two pieces from aerosol spray cans and joined them together. The effect? In his hands, excellent!

"I guess it is good," Joe said. "Webster picked this bird from three gobblers which flew down from roost and landed near him."

Joe's hunt had been a repeat of the preceding day, except that this time another hunter had spooked the gobbler for them.

"Our double jinx is still as good as new." I shook hands with Joe as we were leaving Malvern that afternoon, he for Maryland and me for Louisiana. "Opal, I know that Arkansas is one of the coming turkey states and that y'all kill almost a thousand gobblers a year, but you and Hewell needn't feel badly about being unable to put Joe or me on a bird. You'd have thave turkeys as thick as mallards at Stuttgart to break through the greegree hex that hangs over us." Joe grinned. "Owling is a new word in my vocabulary. From now on when I hear a 'hoot' I'll think of turkeys instead of owls."

And so will I. Come spring, I hope to be back on a ridge in the Ouachitas as Opal plants himself firmly, throws his head back, and lets fly.

HANDLOADING BENCH

(Continued from page 12)

full length sizing for perfect functioning, or even a "tight" sizer. Some guns have a springy bolt, plus sloppy chambers and headspace, to permit only one or two reloads. Some take over 20, depending on the gun, caliber, loads, and cases.

Factory ammo goofs, generally in the case, are so rare many chaps never detect one. We fired a .30-06 without a flash hole. It drove in the chamber, collapsing the shoulder, indicating the primer's power, an unvented .30 Carbine wasn't damaged, as it headspaces on the length. Of course the charges didn't ignite. Soft heads and excessive headspace (below the danger point) may turn up. Large rims won't enter a shell holder.

"Dud" primers are rare. A live one misfired in a .30-06 factory load due to a deep pocket. Some handgun loads, especially .357 Magnums, have soft primers that flow in the firing pin hole. You can shear off the extrusion by turning the cylinder with both hands. Some have hard primers that misfire in guns with a light mainspring, or that have been tuned up.

Hard chambering of reloads may be due to a dirty gun. Greased or oily cases or chambers contribute to wild shots or case head separations. Degrease loads and chambers fully. Wipe oiled bores with a dry patch and foul with two rounds before shooting for groups or game.

Use good case lube. "Dry" graphite types in powder or evaporating solutions stay in brass pores. Don't use them. Excessive lube causes shoulder oil dents. Hulls stretch, stick in a die or pull apart with poor lube, or too little. Dry expanders stretch case shoulders or necks to goof headspace or length. An RCBS Case Neck Brush lightly lubes case necks far better than twisting a case mouth on your lubed finger.

A case is simply a chamber liner to seal the breech with fixed ammunition perfectly. Ammo factories feel they serve the purpose if they fire once with a perfect gas seal. You get terrific fringe benefits in reloading shells formed to your chamber with proved brass for better accuracy. Most brass defects appear on the first firing and are easily detected by inspection. Fired hulls in the same lot number, trimmed and reamed for safety and accuracy are superior to new ones. Treasure your lot of brass for your rifle!

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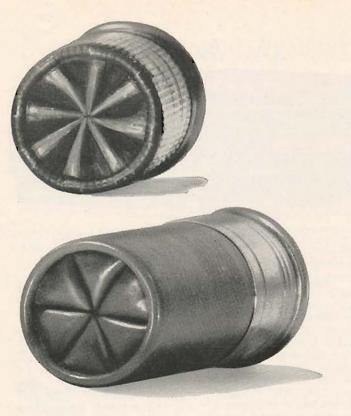
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MAYVILLE ENGINEERING COMPANY, INC. Mayville, Wisconsin Perfect cases have a hard head area to prevent mashing (flowing), yet are soft enough to resist firing and expand under excessive pressure. The forward part is soft enough to expand and grip the chamber for a perfect gas seal, yet hard enough to spring back a bit for easy extraction. Each firing and resizing changes brass structure a little or a lot, depending on the amount of sizing, tensile strength, breech pressure, and other factors.

Cases rupture if the elastic limit is exceeded in sloppy chambers or fire-forming wildcats. Excessive die forming overworks (compresses) brass until it breaks. Firing strains brass, especially if loads have higher pressures than intended for a particular caliber. Strains are greatly increased the first firing if a minimum case is fired in a maximum chamber, or reduced if the reverse.

"Cartridge grade" brass is 70:30 copperzinc. If rolled sheets pass spees they are blanked and cupped. Cups go through dozens of critical operations and inspections for various anneals, drawings, brightenings, washings, bumpings, and trimmings. Then pocketing, pocket sizing, venting, headstamping, head turning, necking, final neck anneal, trimming, polishing and inspections. If samples fail a final test the entire lot is scrapped.

Maximum case life is obtained with a good lot fired in a precision chamber with a minimum headspace, neck reamed and trimmed as necessary and near minimum sized. It's better to load down a bit in large cases than flat out in smaller ones. For example, a mild load is more sensible and efficient in a .300 Winchester than a hot one in a .30-06. Adding powder to a near full charge is an idiot method to improve ballistics.

Factory machines do critical primer seating better than most handloaders. All are seated below the case head face. Seat W-W .008 low, and R-P .003 low in normal depth pockets.

CCI primers, designed for our reloading tools, are not critical if they fully contact the pocket bottom in deep or shallow pockets. This helps correct sloppy priming, which is common. Slight extra pressure is desirable, as CCI compounds don't crumble easily. In our tests we obtained perfect ignition by scating .001 to .009 low. Some cases have rounded pocket bottoms to seat primers on the anvil, and some square bottoms for seating some brands on the cup. CCI primers work perfectly in either type pocket and all makes of cases.

Brass gets brittle with age, especially if overworked. Season cracks (neck splits) used to appear in some factory loads after months or years of storage. It's rare today, with softer necks, but may occur in reloads overworked by numerous firings. For important hunts size cases more than minimum, no more than 5 years old, fired once or twice at not more than normal pressure.

With these tips your case failures should be harmless mouth splits after a long useful life. An abused 15¢ case is your rifle's weakest component. Good ones are more than twice as valuable after being fire formed to fit your chamber. No other item costs so little that uses so much expensive material with so many carefully controlled operations, inspections and tests. How they sell for less than \$2 each is a mystery to me.

A FAST MAN WITH A SHOTGUN

(Continued from page 27)

just doesn't brag of his exploits, I do not know what they are. I do know LeMay, the outdoorsman, shotgunner, rifleman, and hunter. I might mention that I wouldn't ever want him gunning for me, whether I were a guy in uniform, a grizzly bear, or a nation aspiring

GUN DIGEST PRIZE WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The great Gun Digest Treasure Hunt Contest has come to a happy end for nearly 600 lucky participants. Their statements, on the subject of "The right to bear arms—what it means to



Ted Kindel, Vail, Colorado

me," have won for them prizes ranging from a safari in Africa to magazine subscriptions.

Space does not permit us to publish the complete list of prize winners, but here are the first five.

- Three week safari to Uganda and Tanganyika, outfitting by Jonas Brothers; Ted Kindel, Vail, Colorado.
- Custom stocked, engraved Winchester Model 70; John E. Villier, Graves. Texas.
- Browning Superposed, Pointer Grade; J. Wilson McDermand, Conrad, Montana.
- Choice of any Smith & Wesson handgun, fully engraved and gold inlaid; Charles L. Williams, Corpus Christi, Texas.
- Marlin 336 Texan and Model 39A, both with scope and mount; Major J. E. Braddock, Tucson, Arizona.

A complete list of the winners is available to anyone who will send a large, stamped, self-addressed envelope to Gun Digest Contest, 4540 W. Madison St., Chicago, III. 60624.

to conquer the world. In any case, he would hang my hide on a limb.

One day, I shot with the General at the Arkansas mallard hunting grounds. Our only other companion was an Arkansas guide who tooted the duck call. Here, I was sure the man would relax and I would be able to carry on the semblance of a two-sided conversation with him. He made a few inquiries—he is not one to ever tell you how to run the show—wanting to know how far down the pin oak pool I thought it was to a certain dead tree. When I told him, I could see the mental calculations going on—how far to lead, how high to hold over.

A mallard drake, knowing the exact range of all shotguns from Arkansas to the Athabaska Delta, traded across. The General rose from a pineboard seat in the blind, took his lead, doubled it, then held five feet high. The mallard fell, hit a dead snag, broke off a limb as big as a man's wrist. The guide, crouching in his pick-up boat behind us, bugged his eyes, and I heard him say but one word, "Gawd!"

I kept track of the man then in charge of SAC only through casual correspondence. Here is another LeMay first; when one does write him, a letter comes back almost faster than the airmail service he uses. Curt wrote that he was going to Africa with Arthur Godfrey. He just told me this, he didn't want a thing, but he said he was handloading his ammunition for this trip.

As a Winchester-Western man this gave me a slight pain. I wrote and asked him if he would take my .243 and a new .458 African rifle, try them out, and give me a report. He said he would, but he still wanted to handload his ammunition. Factory loaded ammunition is good enough for me, evidently the General had different ideas. He leaves nothing to chance. It's strange he didn't try to build his own bombers.

With typical LeMay promptness, I had a letter from him a few days after his return from Africa. Unlike many sportsmen who test our guns, the General gave me the 'straight skinny' as he saw it—not all was complimentary, either. He told of bullet performance and, yes, he shot his handloads with great success. On another occasion, when gunning in Europe, I asked him to bring back some of the foreign shotshells so we might test them in our arms. He did not forget. I think he sent some six boxes from various countries.

At our last meeting, Curt LeMay was number two man in the Air Force—now he's the Chief. I had held out a personal dim hope that he would be fired, and that this youngster would retire, anticipating many hunting trips together. Probably we will never again gauge the distance of a mallard in Arkansas, but I would like to work for LeMay.

I saw a newspaper release recently where someone asked the General if he thought he could carry on another Berlin airlift, if it became necessary. I could almost see him as he weighed the question, as he might weigh a powder charge. He said: "I think we can operate another airlift against Berlin. If we really have the will, we can do it."

And let this be a warning to the world. Curt LeMay is a good hunter, a good listener, a meticulous man. He can be as gentle as a lamb and as virulent as a cobra. I would hate to have this new Chief of the Air Force on my trail.



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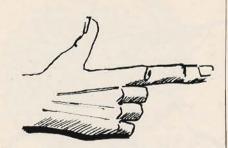


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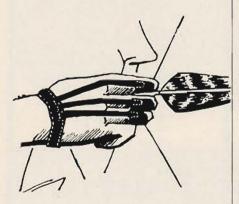
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QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

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.

Throckmorton Musket

I have a percussion smoothbore musket, with a 34 inch barrel. It seems to be about .36 caliber. The maker's name is W. A. Throck Morton, made in Marion, Ohio. I would like to know what year this musket was made, and how much it sold for when it was brand new.

Donald Olling Riverside, California

Many, many American gunsmiths are unlisted. If we keep studying and compiling information, in time we will know more than we do now, but our knowledge will never be complete.

W. A. Throckmorton of Marion, Ohio is one of those unlisted makers. I have made a note of your piece and will file it for future use.

The percussion period was from about 1835 until about 1870. The average good grade arm was sold for about \$14-\$20.—c.b.

German Drilling

Could you furnish information on a German Drilling, 16 X 16 X 7.57R. The barrels are marked "Krupp-Laufstahl—D.D." On top of the barrel is "Jmman Meffert—Suhl," and on the rib "A. Loscher Hamm." The gun is finely engraved and in good condition.

Ivan Holbrook Cumming, Ga.

J. Meffert was active at Suhl, Thuringia, Germany from 1922 to 1938—or in other words his commercial activity ceased when W. W. 11 started.

The other name on the rib is probably the man who retailed the piece.

Such a drilling, in good condition, is probably worth from \$150 to about \$200 but there is no heavy demand for them. One would have to seek out a buyer who would pay that much—G.B..

Hapgood Rifle

I have a muzzleloading rifle, percussion type. The name on side of plate near the hammer is "J. Hapgood". Could you please tell me some history as to date made, where, by whom, and amount made?

> Andee Messore Brooklyn, N.Y.

There was a Joab Hapgood who was a gun-

smith at Shrewsbury, Mass. during the entire percussion era. It is reported that he made all of the parts that he used in his products.

There also was a Joel Hapgood who operated a shop on Washington St. in Boston, from 1848 to 1856. He was a general gunsmith who made percussion rifles and shotguns.

Usually, when a name appears on the lockplate it means that man made the lock and was not the man who put the rifle together. The riflemaker's name was usually on the barrel. Often riflemakers simply did not mark their products, but I suggest you visually inspect the barrels underside and all.—G.B.

Hopkins & Allen

I would like some information on a .22 caliber rifle made by the Hopkins and Allen Arms Company, Norwich, Connecticut. The word Junior and number 922 are stamped on top of the barrel just forward of the receiver.

The finger lever, breechlock and ejector are missing from my rifle. The barrel, receiver and other parts of this rifle seem to be in good order. I would like to obtain a print of this action so I can have these parts machined. Is this possible? What happened to the Hopkins and Allen Arms Company? Is this action suitable and strong enough to be converted to the .22 Magnum?

Berry E. Brock, Jr. Fairburn, Georgia

I have no idea where you may find parts or even diagrams of your Hopkins & Allen 922. I would suggest that you contact collectors of American single shot rifles and try to borrow a specimen of the rifle and have a gunsmith make the parts you need. The II & A Co. was bought out by Marlin-Rockwell Corp. about 1914.

My advice would be to restore the piece if you see fit. It is not practical or suitable for conversion to .22 Magnum.—G.B.

Sling or Saddle Ring

Thank you for your reply to my inquiry on the Sharps carbine. In regards to the so-called saddle ring, I'm not trying to start a controversy but in my younger days I home-steaded for nine years in Campbell Co., Wyoming. My Model '94 Winchester .25-35 carbine was equipped with a saddle ring as were most of the lever action carbines of strictly civilian calibers that my neighbors had. The popular method of slinging a rifle to the saddle was to run one of the saddle strings (by the horn, either side) through the ring and secure with a single bow knot for quick release.

No doubt the earlier small arms were designed with military contracts in mind, both

(Continued on page 46)

The continuing pressure for anti-gun legislation has resulted in an equal demand for positive pro-gun information. Responding 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. As the first complete source of pro-gun information, THE WORLD OF GUNS will accomplish a much needed educational and public relations task for the shooter and the firearms industry.

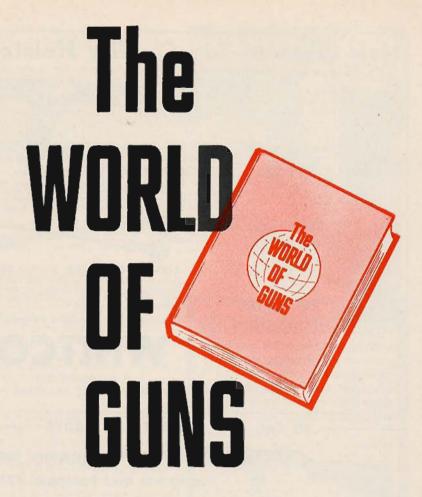
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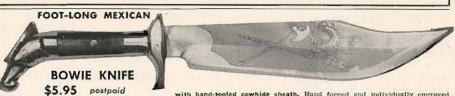


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GIL HEBARD GUNS

KNOXVILLE 3, ILLINOIS

(Continued from page 44)

as to calibers and adaptations, thus providing a ring for the use of a sling rather than the regulation infantry sling swivels which would prove a nuisance to mounted men with short barreled pieces. For civilian hunting arms designed for horseback mobility I feel that saddle ring is the proper term. Most of the gun owners I knew wouldn't have recognized a sling or known what to do with it if they had seen one.

> C. L. Innis Westminster, Mass.

I grant you that many arms were carried by people riding horseback and the "sling ring" was thouged to the saddle—hence the term "Saddle ring." But the origin of the ring on the side of a carbine came from the military use of a "sling," and the name of the ring should not be changed regardless how it was used by some people.

My 1907 Winchester catalog lists a "sling ring and staple" as a normal part for the

1873 carbine.

My 1933 Winchester catalog describes the model 1892 carbine as follows: "Receiver is equipped with sling ring on left side. Sling ring will be left off at extra price." Model 1894 carbine: "Not equipped with sling ring. Can be furnished with sling ring at extra price." Model 1895 carbine: "Sling ring will be attached at extra price."

If the original military terminology called the thing a "sling ring," and if Winchester also called it a "sling ring," I think the collectors should call it the same thing.

I also lived in Wyoming and I hunted the Laramie plains and Laramie peak area, the Greyball Valley, and the Absaroka Mts. 1 carried more than one Winchester on a horse or two, and I thonged my carbine to my saddle by using the sling ring. But I never called it a "saddle ring" and do not remember anyone else who ever called it such .- G.B.

Dreppert Rifle

I would like information concerning a percussion lock type rifle which I received recently.

It has a 42" octagon barrel with the name W-L-M Fordney inscribed on the top and DREPPERT stamped on the lock. It has an over-all length of 58", is approximately .50 caliber, and has a short sporter type stock. It is a single shot but has what appears to be double trigger, which seems strange to me.

Since this rifle has been in the family for many years, any information you could give me concerning the age, manufacture, and the reason for the double triggers would be of great interest to me.

> Ronald D. Benden Altoona, Pennsylvania

Your half-stock "Kentucky" rifle was probably made in the Lancaster, Pa. area. It could have originally been a flintlock. The lock was probably made by Henry Dreppert who worked in Lancaster from about 1775 until after the turn of the 19th century.

The barrel-and generally speaking-the rifle, was made by one of the Fordney family of Lancaster, Pa. The Fordney's were of French Huguenot descent. The name originally was "Fortenieux," and later, "Fortenee," and finally "Fordney."

The two triggers are not unusual. If the

piece is working properly you will notice that the rear trigger "sets" the forward trigger so that you have what people call a "hair trigger." Most of the good quality "Kentucky" rifles were made with set triggers.

If originally made as a percussion arm it probably dates back to the 1840's. If it was converted from flintlock it would of course be older. The Fordneys were active from about 1800 well into the 1840's or 1850's-G.B.

Bluing Techniques

I am interested in bluing some old rifles. Could you give me some suggestions for bluing formulas?

The commercial preparations for cold application are not satisfactory. The immersion technique is probably the best. What would be a good formula in using this method?

> Dr. C. A. Miner, D.V.M. Tecumseh, Nebraska

This brings up a point which may find people in controversy.

My opinion is that "old rifles" or any old gun that is at all valued for its age or place in history-should NOT be blued, or reblued.

The rebluing of a fairly modern arm that is just a hunting or shooting tool is something else.

The "hot blue" or immersion bluing is a messy task at best. The tanks, chemicals, and cooking space are such that even many gunsmiths avoid the work.

I suggest you contact your gunsmith and ask him about bluing solutions .- G.B.

Handgun Trio

I have the following guns and wish to know what value they are and who they are made by. Each is in good shape.

J. Rupurth, Philadelphia, Penn. Model Empire 38, serial number 72034, appears to be .38 caliber.

American Standard Tool Co. no model number, serial number 11799, appears to be .22 Short rim-fire.

Smith and Wesson, no model number, serial number 56206, appears to be .32 caliber. Larry A. Williams

Mesa, Arizona

Your descriptions are such that I cannot help you. When asking for information one should include a complete verbal description and all markings as well as dimensions.

I have never heard of "J. Rupurth, Philadelphia". I know of J. Rupertus, Philadelphia, but he made single shot percussion and cartridge pistols, four shot pistols, eight shot pistols, revolvers and rifles, and from what you have said you have a ".38 caliber gun" of what type I do not know!

The American Standard Tool Co. made both single-shot pistols and revolvers. Just which you have is not clear.

Smith & Wesson made a lot of different .32 caliber revolvers. A complete description as to type and all markings would be necessary before identification is possible-c.n.

Dangerous Shooting

Is there likely to be danger to people or animals on the farm when shooting a rifle

such as a .22 Magnum toward the tree tops? How much power does the bullet have when it returns to earth?

> C. J. Williams Lambert, Miss.

If we are to assume that the bullets in question fly out into the open air at a steep angle, then there is no danger. The bullet will expend itself and return to the earth as a free-falling object. It will have no more velocity than if the same bullet were dropped from an airplane and because of the usual lightness of such bullets they will be unable to do any damage.

On the other hand, if a bullet fired into a treetop strikes a limb at the proper angle it may ricochet and return to earth at quite a clip-and could cause damage .- G.B.

Luger Headstamps

I recently obtained some pistol ammo which I believe to be 9 mm Luger, I would like to know more about these before I fire them, Several types of head stamps are listed below. I would like to know if these are safe to fire; if they are non-corrosive; source or maker, and any other information possible. All have metal cased bullets.

D1 43 9 mm Brass primer with three

D1 44 9 mm Same primer, sealed with purple and green lacquer.

WRA 9 mm Nickle primer, crimped all around, purple lacquer.

B (arrow) E 43 9 mm Brass primer, conventional crimp, purple lacquer.

B (arrow) E 44 9 mm IIZ Primer same as above.

> Richard G. Munson Indio, California

All of the described 9 mm Luger rounds may be used in a Luger pistol that is in good mechanical condition.

The first two, "D 43" and "D 44" were made by Dominion in Canada in 1943 and 1944. The "WRA" round was made by Winchester, and the "BE" rounds were made in England. In WW II, the English and Canadian forces used the Sten gun, a submachine gun that used the 9 mm Luger cartridge.

I cannot tell you if the rounds are noncorrosive or not, but I know that I have used the English and Canadian cartridges with no ill effect. Clean the arm carefully and you will have no trouble-G.B.

CB Cap Erosion

Long Rifle ammo .- G.B.

Does the prolonged use of the 22 CB Cap harm a modern rifle chambered for the 22 Short, Long, and Long Rifle?

Robert Stenger Massapequa, N.Y.

The use of CB and BB Caps in .22 rifles chambered for the longer cartridges will in time erode part of the forward chamber so that the Long Rifle case may stick and extraction might be difficult.

Careful cleaning of the chamber after every use of the CB Caps will delay the process for many years. One must evaluate the advantages of using the CB Caps against the value of the rifle. I have one inexpensive ,22 that has fired thousands of CB Caps and will still function fine with .22



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.38 Spl. Wadcutter, Comm	5.00 per 100
41 Swiss Rim Fire	5.00 per 20
8mm Mauser, Military	4.00 per 100
.45 Auto Wadcutter, Comm	7.00 per 100
.455 Webley, Military	8.50 per 100
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STEPPING STONES TO THE OLYMPICS

(Continued from page 23)

Team match, are restricted to the service rifle, and GI ammo issued on the firing line.

"E," or Echo range at Camp Mathews has 100 firing positions, and they were full for three relays, the morning I attended. The match started promptly at 7:30 A.M. and all 100 of the first relay were ready, and on the line. Each competitor was allowed two sighting shots before firing for record, and these could be taken in any position the shooter desired. This was the 200 yd. line, and the firing position was off-hand, or standing. Twenty minutes were allowed for 20 shots, in the "200 Yard Slow Fire Match."

As each shot was fired, the Marine recruit assigned to each competitor would read the signal from the pit detail, announce the score, and enter it on the score card. At this short range the shooter can see the large spotting discs with the naked eye. The target fired in this event is known as the Army "A" target. It has a 12" black bull's-eye, with a four inch circle (called a "V" ring, used for breaking ties) in its center. A hit in, or touching this bull's-eye scores five points. The next ring, six inches wide scores four points, and a hit in the outer ring is worth three points. Any hit outside this area is a miss, or a zero.

The pit detail uses a large white disc to signal a five, a red disc for a four, and a white disk with a black cross for a three. A red flag is waved slowly across the target for a miss; this is the famous "Maggies Drawers."

The standing position is the toughest position of all, even at this relatively short range. Few men can shoot a perfect score off-hand, and that includes the champions. Some do it occasionally in practice, but very few can do it in big time competition. As a beginner, you should not take your score too seriously, remembering that with proper practice it will improve. Any man, shooting off-hand, who can put twenty .30 caliber bullets in a twelve inch bull's-eye at 200 yards, will be a champion in this match; for each position is a match unto itself with medals and awards.

After sweating out the off-hand match, most shooters are relieved to go into the rapid fire, sitting match. The average competitor fires his best score in this steady position, and approaches the firing line with confidence. The shooters get into their slings

for this one, each man squatting, and bracing his elbows between his knees; making a tripod of his body that is firm and solid. As this match is also shot at 200 yards, no sighting shots are necessary. After a few moments spent in preparation, the competitors stand up with eyes on the targets. Upon the command, "Load and lock," they shove a clip of ammo into the magazine. Then the range officer gives the alert signal, "Ready on the right. Ready on the left. All ready on the firing line." There are a few moments of quiet suspense, and then the targets appear.

All 100 men go into the sitting position. After much squirming, it seems they all fire at once. They have just 60 seconds to get off 10 shots, and though this seems a short time to the novice, it is actually more than enough. Most of them finish their string in about 55 seconds. The most amazing part of this performance is the fact that the men firing the bolt action rifles seem to finish at the same time as those firing semi-automatic

service rifles.

The pit detail lowers the targets at the end of 60 seconds and the competitor who takes too much time is left without a target. Spotting discs are placed in each bullet hole, and the targets are raised for scoring. This routine is repeated, so that each competitor fires 20 rounds. A great many people manage to get possibles in this match, especially those firing in the expert and master class.

After finishing this match, the competitors retire to the 300 yard line for the next event, known as the "300 Yard Rapid Match." This is fired in the prone position, and the time limit is increased to 70 seconds, to allow for a longer aiming period.

The shooters in the first relay adjust their slings and make sight changes. Firing GI ammo, you elevate the rear sight aperture three minutes-of-angle, or twelve 1/4' clicks to get into the bull at this range. If there is a cross or quarterly wind blowing, some windage must be added in the direction from which the wind is coming. The competitor is allowed two sighting shots with which to make finer adjustments.

During the readying period, you peer through your sights and discover that twelve inch bull's-eye has shrunken to the size of a pea. It will seem impossible, to the begin-

(Continued on page 50)



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

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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, bross mountings and a casehardened lockplate. Caliber .44, Rifled Bore for shooting.

CENTENNIAL ARMS CORP. 3318 West Devon Ave., Chicago 45, Illinois



(Continued from page 48)
ner, to hit it at all, but from this steadiest of
all positions it is really a cinch—if you keep
the sights aligned properly and squeeze the
trigger instead of jerking it.

Like the other rapid fire event, you slip a five shot clip of ammo into the magazine of your bolt rifle on the command of "Load and lock," keeping the other five shot clip where it can be quickly reached after firing the first five rounds. You should count your shots as you fire, to make sure you don't waste time firing on an empty chamber.

When changing clips, try not to hurry. Carefully steer the clip into the clip slot and press the ammo steadily into the magazine. A few extra seconds here may mean the difference between smooth loading and a jam, and remember that you are penalized five points for each round you do not fire. There are no alibis allowed for fumbling the ammo. You may be allowed an alibi if the cartridge misfires, if your rifle breaks down, or if someone fires on your target. In other words, for a cause beyond your control, you will be allowed to fire the event over if you claim an alibi.

At this range, you are too far from the target to see the spotters, and most shooters use a spotting scope to check their sighter shots and their group after firing the first ten shot string.

Many shooters, including myself, have a tendency to shoot the rapid fire events too fast and, as a consequence, jerk an occasional shot that could have been better aimed. When first learning rapid fire technique it is best to start slowly, deliberately

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using more time than allowed. You will quickly learn to shoot within the prescribed time limit.

After each relay has fired two 10 shot strings in the 300 yard event, the competitors retire to the 600 yard line, for the "600 Yard Slow Fire Match." This is fired from the prone position, and you are allowed one minute per round or 20 minutes for the match. You must use a heavier bullet here, and a competitor using the Frankford Arsenal match load, or a comparable handload, must elevate the rear sight 12 minutes or 48 clicks to get on the target. This is, of course, over and above previous sight settings. If there is a brisk breeze blowing at right angles to the range, he'll need at least four minutes of windage to get on the target.

At this range the spotting scope is needed to see the discs on the target and to correct your sighting shots. The target has now been changed from the "A" to the "B" target, which has a 20" bull's-eye. Each shot is signaled and scored individually the same as at the 200 yd. line, and, as you peer through your sights you will find that big bull's-eye has shrunk to the size of a pin head.

To the beginner, hitting such a small target with iron sights seems impossible, especially to the hunter who is used to a scope at much shorter distances. Most bolt action rifles, as well as the M-1 service rifle, prohibit the use of scopes, and fine scores proved that a scope is not necessary on a military range. When the beginner discovers he can fire as good, if not better, with first class iron sights as he did with a scope, his confidence in himself, and his satisfaction in the sport, will improve.

The wind is an important factor at this distance. As long as it remains steady, you will have no trouble, but winds will change. When this happens, your bullet will drift out for a four, or maybe a three. The experts counteract this by studying the mirage through their spotting scopes before firing. By using your scope slightly out of focus, you can see the mirage quite clearly. If the mirage changes its steady movement, you can either allow for the change or wait until it calms before firing. There are two complete matches fired at this distance, of 20 rounds apiece, usually in the afternoon.

It is good to see the ladies competing in these high-power rifle matches—if only to make those men who are hesitant about entering feel a bit foolish. Among the men there seems to be no age limit. This match was fired by youngsters of 17 as well as men who were 50 years their senior.

In California, where there are several large military ranges, the matches are shifted from one to another—the Army acting as hosts one year, the Marines the next. The NRA will be glad to give you the location of the match in your state.

Big bore rifle shooting is great fun, and anyone who likes to shoot should consider entering competitions. If you begin with the state matches, you'll be among beginners like yourself, and who knows, you might win! Once you do, or even score better than you had expected, you'll get the bug, and you won't be satisfied until you get to the Nationals.



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I TAUGHT THE VIETNAMESE TO SHOOT

(Continued from page 31)

selected rifles tipped bullets. These groups, when translated to certain combat hits, meant the sure-fire yardage was not more than 150 yards—and this with rifles I had inspected and knew to be among the best we had.

The Vietnamese had no spare barrels. Barrel replacements were needed, but you can't just put new barrels on and re-issue the guns.

The new arsenal barrel is chambered purposely short by a few thousands inch and after having been screwed into the receiver, a skilled mechanic must use a finishing reamer, setting the shoulder ahead. The rifle's breechbolt must then be headspaced to that chamber. The Vietnam ordnance corps had never done anything like this, but we felt sure we could teach them—if we could get barrels. But we did not get barrels, and today the same rifles are fighting an increasingly tough war.

For 13 months, I traveled an average of two thousand miles every 30 days, supervising the construction of firing ranges and teaching marksmanship to the diminutive Vietnam soldiers. It was during this tour of duty that I found out the truth about the worn-out M-1 rifles. The 10 division army, scattered over the entire country, had one small rifle range, there was no rifle marksmanship program, there were no qualified instructors, no courses of fire, no schools of instruction, no manuals in the Vietnamese language on riflery.

Working my way through the interior, I sometimes met up, with herds of wild elephant, saw buffalo as they grazed or soaked in ponds, spooked gaur, and occasionally I'd catch the barest glimpse of tiger, leopard, and wild boar. There were seven varieties of deer, ranging downward from the lordly sambhar to the diminutive mouse deer. And throughout all this marvelous hunting land were the Moi—the jungle savages of the high mountains. Each weekend, regardless of where I might be, I organized a shikar.

In 13 months I built 34 firing ranges, had 32 in process of completion when I finished my tour and quit Indo-China. These weren't all simply rifle ranges, but included machine gun ranges, pistol ranges, field firing ranges, artillery ranges, bayonet courses, grenade courts, and mortar ranges.

The M-1 rifle weighs 10½ pounds and is a fearful handful for the little Vietnamese. I weighed and measured 100 combat infantrymen and found that the average soldier was 5'2" and weighed 110 lbs. To then give them a rifle which weighed almost 1/10th of the weight of the owner was a terrible burden. Today, some eight years later, the Vietnamese army is getting the M-16, a 6 lb. weapon firing the .223 round.

There was little money for range construction and we cut most of the logs and other materials needed to build butts and firing points from the jungle. The Japanese, during their occupation of WW II, had taught the Vietnamese how to make a simple rifle target. This consisted of a double frame, a target at either end, the crossbar between the targets drilled for a 3k" bolt. The target spun on this bolt which was passed through a sturdy 6"x6" post. It turned like a roulette wheel, one target exposed while the other was in

the pits to be scored. It was simple and entirely practical, and I immediately adopted it for our ranges.

When I arrived, the infantry training center on the outskirts of Saigon had the only rifle range worthy of the name in the country. It had 75 targets and these were operated from a concrete pit which had been designed by some long departed American officer. This pit was 8 feet deep and 600 feet long. When it rained our range pit would fill with water. To use it, we'd have to put pumps at either end and keep them going constantly while the shooting was in progress.

The best marksmen were not Vietnamese, but a clan of giant Chinese, the Nung. These mountain people average 6 feet in height, are warriors through a tradition ten thousand years in the making. The former French Nung division, when the war ended, joined the South Vietnamese. Quick to accept marksmanship training, keen and alert, they built ranges before the other divisions, were ahead in the schooling of instructors, were first to show good progress in their shooting.

Since it was a waste of time to shoot just any M-1 due to the shot-out condition of so many bores, we hit on an inspection system. We selected, out of every division, those rifles which were our better weapons. These were earmarked for range firing.

The average Vietnam soldier did not care if he shot a pinwheel 5 or was waved the





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red flag. "It's the noise that counts," the translator told me one day. I had rumors of this before, but this was the first time I had been told the noise was worth more than the bullet. It was next to impossible to imbue the average soldier with competitive urge. I could not hit on any stratagem which would provide that spark necessary to generate a real interest in hitting the bulls-eye. "It's the noise that counts," I was told by more than one.

Everywhere I heard complaints that the M-1 was too heavy, too long, too burdensome. I agreed, but there wasn't much I could do about it. The M-1 carbine was available but it is such a worthless arm that I would not consider it. There was one thing we could do-we shortened the stock on the M-1,

As a trial I had shortened 100 stocks. The length of pull on the M-1 is 131/8 inches. If we whacked one inch off the butt it would make the stock just about right for our foreshortened troopers. But top brass ordered 11/2 inches taken off. Such a reduction caused problems. The M-1 carries a steel buttplate and when the stock is whittled back a full 11/2 inches, the buttplate won't fit anymore. We modified it and made it fit on 100 carefully selected rifles.

I selected 100 combat infantrymen from one of the divisions and with these fellows we fired a simple course. We fired over the course first with the standard stock, then removed it, and shot with the shortened version. This we did three times with each stock. The advantage in favor of the chopped-off stock amounted to only 5.6 per cent improvement. This was disappointing, and I attribute the small improvement to the orders that the stocks be whacked off 11/2 inches. I am convinced that only a I inch reduction would have been better. My observation of the little soldiers while they were firing these guns was that the stocks were actually too short. We had defeated our very purpose. A stock that is too short will deliver a nasty helt to jaw and shoulder. This had happened to many of my students and it did not improve their shooting.

Many things remained to be done. A centralized school of instruction was needed, we needed a manual, written in Vietnamese: we needed annual national matches so there would be an incentive to improve the shooting. I held out for incentive pay for the marksman, the sharpshooter and the expert, and badges to denote that these were the hotrock shooters in each outfit.

Some of these things I accomplished and some were still on the griddle when my time to return to the States finally arrived. My replacement came in a month early and I gave him the grand tour. I took him from one end of Vietnam to the other and I got him thoroughly zeroed in on all my plans for the future and everything we sought to accomplish. A week after I departed the country he was relieved and assigned to another job. Who finally got the marksmanship training program I have never heard. Today, vets returning from Vietnam tell me that the ranges are returned to the jungle, the old M-1s still plunk the slugs through the target sidewise, and everyone is too busy fighting the Viet Cong to get excited about marksmanship training.

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PEEPSIGHTS FOR HUNTING RIFLES

(Continued from page 29)

rifle, choose an aperture sight with micrometer adjustments and unobtrusive, hunter-type knobs which require the use of a coin or screwdriver for adjustment changes. Not only are such knobs less subject to catching on brush or clothing, but they resist the fiddling fingers of well-meaning "friends." The best receiver sights are those made by Williams, Redfield, and Lyman. Incidentally, the better receiver sights have bevel-edge elevation staffs which operate in dovetail cuts in the frame. Not all receiver sights are made this way.

Aside from its optical inefficiency, the usual open sight is quite difficult to adjust as compared with the better receiver sight. In fact, the ordinary open sight usually requires such a large number of shots to be fired during the sighting-in process that it may be cheaper in the long run if the open sight is replaced with a quality peep before the rifle is fired.

The usual set of open sights is comprised of a fixed front and a step-elevated rear. Lateral (windage) adjustments must be made with a hammer and a brass drift to knock the front sight either right or left the proper amount. And, unless one of the steps on the elevator happens to produce the exactly desired vertical impact point, the next higher step must be filed down. Even the very best open sights, which are described as "fully adjustable," are relatively difficult to adjust, and seldom provide a wide range of adjustments. .

The owner of a micrometer sight quickly learns the different dial settings for various loads, brands of ammunition, and range distances, and he can instantly and accurately turn the sight adjustments to the required combination. The open-sight user seldom has his rifle correctly sighted-in for even one range and type of ammunition, and quickchanging of sights for different loads and ranges is completely out of the question.

All of the better aperture sights are calibrated in minutes-of-angle or fractions thereof. A minute-of-angle subtends almost exactly one inch at 100 yards. Therefore, using a quality, calibrated sight, the point of bullet impact may be shifted in any desired direction by a predetermined amount. If, for instance, you are shooting at 100 yards and your bullets are striking three inches low and four inches to the right of the desired impact point, a three minute upward elevation correction and a four minute left windage

change should put your next shots in the bull. Remember, a minute-of-angle represents one inch for every 100 yards of range distance; at 50 yards, a one minute shift will move the point of bullet impact 1/2 inch, but the same one minute shift will move the point of bullet impact six inches at a range of 600 vards.

The dials of the better micrometer-adjustable sighting devices are clearly marked, as to the direction they must be turned. The direction of bullet shift will follow the direction in which the sight is shifted; "up" the sight, and you "up" the point of impact. In the case of a front sight, however, exactly the reverse is true. To correct a left-shooting rifle, the front sight must be moved to the left. A rifle which shoots high (provided the rear sight is set as low as possible) requires a higher front sight.

I know of no worthwhile sight which has calibration marks coarser than 1/2 minute, and 1/4 minute reference marks are quite common. The better sights are provided with a positive, easily-felt click as they are turned past each division. This feature is quite helpful in making accurate and fast sight adjustments.

We've seen here some of the advantages of the peep over the open sight, but there is still one more. The open sight's practical usefulness is limited to the one person who has adjusted it. Aperture sights may be seen slightly differently by different persons, and each may get a group center somewhat removed from that of another person using the rifle. However, if all of the shooters have reasonably good eyesight, deviation among the group centers will be so slight as to preclude misses from this source on large game at reasonable ranges. Open sights, on the other hand, are seen so differently by different persons as to make the usual open-sighted rifle virtually useless to another shooter.

My personal preference for a front sight is the Redfield Sourdough. While it has the same parallel sides of the Patridge sight, the modified upper portion, with its sloping gold insert is designed to catch the faintest trace of sky light. Combining the accuracy of the Patridge with the aiming speed of the gold bead, the Sourdough, in my opinion, obsoletes many other types of front sights.

In rifle sights, only the very best is good enough. Any experienced hunter will prefer a cheap rifle with fine sights to a fine rifle equipped with cheap sights.



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GUN RACK

(Continued from page 14)



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Division of Professional Tape Co., Inc. 385D Burlington Rd., Riverside, III. 60546 would like to report on the reloadability of these shells. We broke our shipment of test ammo into two lots, one was used by us, another shooter took over the chore of shooting and loading, and more shooting and more loading on the other five boxes. He used the trap loads on the trap field, then loaded his shells for skeet, while we continued to load our hulls for trap. First case failure was encountered on the 10th loading by us, on the 11th loading by the other shooter. Both "failures" were minute cracks at the mouth, and these cases were then segregated. Two of them were reloaded five more times, but another case failed completely at the third loading-all in all, 14 loadings before the first failure occurred that made the hull un-reloadable. The test is still going on, and we shall report on it as soon as hulls are non-reusable. All in all, the new W-W hulls have lived up to their expectations.

German Rifles, Shotguns

The Benet Arms Co., 977G Filbert St., San Francisco, Cal., recently submitted one of the German guns they are now importing for extensive tests. These guns are made by the Hege Jagd-u. Sportwaffen Company, and the samples we examined as well as the test gun, looked extremely good. The test gun, a rifle-shotgun combination chambered for .222 Remington and 20 gauge, handled like a dream and would, in our opinion, make a fine turkey gun. The best news about this gun lies in the fact that additional barrels in a wide choice of calibers and gauges are available, thus making it possible for the owner to have extra barrels for the widest possible choices of game, for trap, and for skeet. Write to Benet Arms for the folder-you'll be pleasantly surprised at the fine arms and the reasonable prices.

Chicago Derringer

This modern replica of the Sharps four-barrel pistol has a new safety feature. In order to slide the barrel, or rather the barrels, forward, a safety latch on the right side of the gun must be flipped, and the hammer must be moved rearward to the half-cock position. The gun also has an extractor that removes the four fired cases easily and speedily. Chambered for the .22 LR cartridge our test gun was fired with various lots and makes of ammo. Grouping was good, though of course not on a par with a target



gun, and the gun functioned well. In all, 300 rounds of ammo were fired to see if the gun would remain tight, and extract the empties. The gun showed no wear and tear, groups remained the same. The grips of the Chicago Derringer are made of a tough plastic, and

though the gun is not highly polished or blued, it has a very pleasing appearance. Your gun shop will have these guns, and if



you want one, your gunsmith can order it from the Chicago Derringer Corp., Box 54G, Bensenville, Ill. The retail price of the gun is \$34.95.

The Remington 600

When rumors about a new Remington rifle reached us, we made a small bet about it. The bet was that this new rifle would be an offspring of the XP 100 pistol, and we won the bet.

The new carbine weighs in at 51/2 lbs. and was designed for scabbard use and brush hunting. Originally, the Model 600 will be chambered for the .308 Win., the .35 Rem., and the .222 Remington, and other calibers are to follow. The first thing that hits the eye is the plastic ventilated rib on top of the short barrel, and the dogleg bolt handle that comes straight from the XP 100. The stock, though shorter, is a derivative of the Model 700 stock, from the impressed checkering to the wood finish. There is no bottom-opening magazine, sling swivels are lacking, and the trigger guard is plastic. When our test gun arrived, temperatures were in the low 20's and we stored the gun in the unheated garage to see how the plastic would take the cold. On bringing the gun into a warm room, the plastic gave off with some creaky noises, but otherwise is seemed unaffected by temperature and weather conditions.

The 18½ inch barrel has a one in 10 twist with 6 right hand grooves. The front sight is a gold bead ramp sight, the rear open leaf sight is adjustable for windage and elevation. The sight radius of 13½ inches gives you the feeling of looking down a Buntline barrel, and scope mounting requires removal of the rear sight. The barrel is free floated, and the trigger of the test gun broke without backlash or creep at 2.5 lbs. Bolt removal is more complicated than on other Remington guns and it takes some practice to remove the bolt easily and without fuss.

We used Jr. XP 100 Redfield mount and the recently released 2X-7X Redfield scope. When we mounted the gun to the shoulder with the factory sights in place, it became obvious that the scope would have to be mounted as much forward as possible since the stock was somewhat short for us. Consequently, we placed the scope rings as close to the variable power ring as possible, but despite this precaution, the recoil of the gun from the bench was enough to knock our shooting glasses awry every time we pulled the trigger. Although

(Continued on page 56)





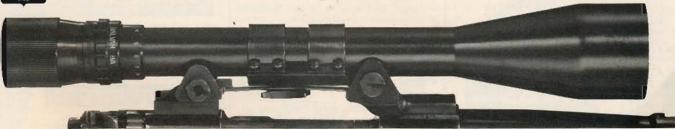
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SLIGHTLY HIGHER IN CANADA



(Continued from page 54)

we are not especially prone to recoil, we felt that kick of this gun more than that of another .308 Winchester that we took out for comparison. The 150 gr. Remington Core-Lokt ammo, lot B23GD, on the first go around gave us groups of 1.75 inches at 100 yards in repeated 5 shot strings. Temperatures were hovering around 25 degrees, and shifting winds averaged 15-20 mph. Another session at the bench, with almost no wind and slightly higher temperatures produced some unexplainable groups. Out of the first five shot string, the first two bullets hit the target less than 0.25 inches apart. The third shot registered 4 inches away from the first two shots, and we called this as pulled. However, the fourth shot was right next to the third shot, and the fifth shot in the string was again 3 inches to the right of the third and fourth shot. The obvious answer was a loose scope or bedding screw. We checked all screws, found them to be tight, and blamed the group on human failure. However, five different five shot strings produced almost identical results, and we were unable to duplicate the 1.75 inch group that we shot the first time. When we ran out of Remington ammo we switched over to Federal ammo, but groups did not improve. We finally went to our loading bench and cooked up some .308 loads, using brass that had been saved from the factory ammo that was fired in this gun. Using Speer's 150 grain bullets and CCI 200 primers, we weighed each charge of H380, and seated the bullets after weighing and miking each. Groups improved only slightly, and best groups measured just under two inches, center to center. Since this gun was not designed as a long range gun but as a handy brush gun, we feel that accuracy need not be MOA, although it is of course nice to be able to boast about tight groups. Our test gun was an early production rifle, and the few bugs that might have got into some of the earlier guns will have been ironed out by the time you get your Model 600.

Cannon Models

There has been a considerable interest by the do-it-yourself gun tinkerers in making cannon models. The how-to and plans are now available from Verheul and Brake Models, 9055G East Ave., R-12, Littlerock, Cal. Complete plans and how-to instructions for building four different types of Civil War cannon are offered at \$9.95 ppd., and Fred Brake guarantees that the end result will be 100 per cent authentic. We are building one of these models, and although we are not overly skilled in model making, the job is

coming along very well and we anticipate no trouble whatsoever. All in all, it looks like that making these models is going to be real fun, and Fred offers some help in form of advice; the company can have cannon barrels east for anyone who wants to have the job done.

Winslow Rifle

The Arms Division of the Winslow Company, Box 1507G, Venice, Fla., recently shipped us a custom rifle in caliber .243. The company makes extremely fine custom-grade rifles in all U.S. calibers, and workmanship of the guns we examined was outstanding. Built on FN actions, the barrels are finely



streamlined and uncluttered by useless factory sights, finish and inletting are of the highest quality, Before mounting a Redfield scope, we took the gun apart, and detailed examination led us to believe that these guns are hand finished. Prices start at \$265, and although this might appear a bit steep, I am convinced that the gun is worth every cent.

After fitting a Redfield 2X-7X on the Commander, we took some Federal and a couple of boxes of C-I-L ammo to the range. After one fouling shot, the Federal ammo fired four 3 shot groups that measured on the average just over 0.65 inch, while the C-I-L ammo groups average 0.70". We had some handloads along, but weather conditions made further shooting impossible. We got permission from John Winslow to retain the gun for some months to see if the extreme humidity would, in any way, affect the bedding of the rifle. This was done since we have had the experience that tightly fitted fore-ends often warped in this climate, and a number of our personal guns had to be free-floated to relieve fore-end pressure so that some resemblance of accuracy could again be achieved. Write to the Winslow Company for their folder-and if you have a special stock design, they can make it up for you. Special inletting and checkering is also available.

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BECHUANALAND LIONS

(Continued from page 25)

a good lion, he could eat it.

Andrew still insisted on camping as far away from the Bushman hunting groups as possible, so we took Kweri in the hunting car and moved northwestward another 20 miles. It was amazing how much game we saw along the Kwaai. In a single day, and by actual count, we saw over a thousand animals of 15 different species. It was no wonder that the Bushman hunters came into this paradise, Our Bushman friends hadn't killed all of the lions either. The first evening in our new camp, just as the moon was coming up, we heard a series of roars. "Tao, tao," said Kweri and nodded his head in satisfaction.

Andrew and I had dealt with lions before and these Kwaai lions were going to be our meat, or rather, Kweri's meat, in jig time. I shot a very nice sable with a 43 inch head and a waterbuck which will probably go into the records. In two days of scouting, we had found the signs of about eight lions with one tremendous male apparently the king of the pride. The lions usually watered on the far side of a lagoon or at another place a couple of miles up the Kwaai that we called Sable Lagoon. We hung up the sable carcass at one place and the waterbuck in another in classic safari fashion.

We hung the baits just right so that wherever the lion pride came down to drink. the easterly wind would carry the delicious scent of rotten sable or stinking waterbuck to their nostrils. That night we heard the pride roar about a mile up the river.

In the morning we cautiously approached our baits just at daylight. There were lion tracks around both carcasses. At the waterbuck we could see where old Kwaai himself had walked right up to the bait, reared up and raked great chunks of bark out of the tree trunk. He hadn't touched the meat.

Kweri had managed to convey to us, with a great deal of difficulty, that Bushman hunters always tracked the lions, found them asleep during the middle of the day, then shot them with a poisoned arrow.

Our two gun bearers in Andrew's retinue, Sungura and Legiria, were accomplished trackers, but Kweri was the lion man. As we followed the huge imprints of old Kwaai, Kweri smacked his lips from time to time and muttered Bushman prayers to the god of all lions to let us have a look at the big cat. With difficulty we persuaded Kweri to leave his muzzle-loader at camp, and Sungura and Legiria also were unarmed. I had the feeling that I was hunting over three well-trained dogs. They cast ahead of me, bent over, ranged in half circles looking for tracks like well trained pointers, Andrew had cautioned me not to look down. I held my Weatherby .300 Magnum at the ready, walking and looking at every bush and clump of dry grass as we went.

"Remember," Andrew had said for the tenth time, "when we see him, he'll either charge or run. We've got to see him first.'

We didn't though, and it was my fault. On the morning after we had successfully baited the crocodile, we heard old Kwaai roar about four in the morning. At daybreak we were on his trail. Muddy water was still sceping into the splayed imprints where the old monarch had squatted to lap up water.

I clutched my rifle tightly and stalked ahead as our three trackers followed the imprints across the open meadow, at the lagoon's edge and into the brush. An hour later we were still tracking. Another hour later, we ran headlong into a herd of two or three hundred buffalo coming to water. We had to detour to get around them. Apparently old Kwaai had done the same. It took a long time to find his tracks again. By this time the sun was high and many animals were coming down the game trails to drink. We lost the track again and again. Twice I found the track myself. Each time I looked down, Andrew prodded me from behind and pointed ahead. A minute later, I looked down again. Andrew punched me from behind and pointed. In the game trail 50 feet away stood the lion. Legiria flattened so I could shoot over him. The lion's head looked like a haystack, his mane was blond over his eyes and black farther back. I raised the gun. Old Kwaai turned sideways. In a single leap, he was gone. I leveled my sight on his tail as it disappeared in the brush.

Andrew quickly sent Sungura up a tree. Sungura indicated that he could see the lion moving away. Then he signaled he could see (Continued on page 60)





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NORM THOMPSON PIONEER knife is entirely hand-made, by one man—Clarence Heath. The quarter inch thick steel blade measures 6½ inches, and the knife is 11 inches over-all. The handle is shaped from costly Coco Bolo wood. Knife, with a saddle leather sheath, is priced at \$35.00 postpaid, and is available only from Norm Thompson, 1805 N.W. Thurman, Dept. G-7, Portland, Oregon.



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P.S. OLT COMPANY, Pekin, Illinois, has a new line of fine hardwood game and bird calls that are hand-made and hand-tuned, by Olt's experts for absolute tonal accuracy. Included in the line are duck, goose, deer, crow, and predator calls. The new Hardwood Game and Bird calls are available at your nearest sporting goods store, and range in price from \$3.95 to \$18.00.

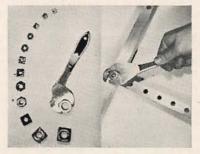


PRECISION MADE binoculars, in the popular 7x50 size, feature color corrected coated lenses, center focus, and come complete with genuine leather case, carrying straps and plastic lens covers. Ideal for spectator sports, hunters, and outdoorsmen. Priced at only \$16.95, from Eckart's, Dept. G-7, 19 Washington Avenue, Port Jervis, N.Y.

NEW, FOUR-PURPOSE SPRAY lubricates, cleans, climinates moisture, and prevents rust. This new product, called MASK, is supplied in a handy aersol container that fits into gun case or pocket. The unique penetrating and spreading powers of Mask make it ideal for use on trigger and ejection mechanisms. It is resistant to salt water, will not thicken in cold weather. A product of Corrosion Reaction Consultants, Inc., Dept. G-7, Limekiln Pike, Dresher, Pennsylvania.



SHOTSHELL RELOADING is simplified with the new Pacific Wad Column Indicator. Made in 12 gauge only, it determines the exact wad column length needed with any powder load. It also indicates proper shot level for perfect crimp. Made by the Pacific Gun Sight Co., Box 4495, Dept. G-7, Lincoln, Nebraska, the Wad Column Indicator sells for \$2.50.



JUST A FLICK of the wrist is all that is needed to tighten or loosen the "Flikit" wrench. The jaws close automatically on any size nut or bolt. The Flikit wrench is made of the finest imported steel and comes in two sizes to handle any work from 3/16" to 11%". Special Introductory offer brings you both sizes for only \$5.00 prepaid (a \$7.20 value). Custantite Corp., Dept. G-7, 1225 Utica Ave., Brooklyn 3, N.Y.

DELUXE OUTDOORSMAN sporting glasses are made of shatterproof Dow plastic. They feature a brow rest which permits them to be worn over prescription eye glasses; adjustable temples; universal bridge which fits all faces and panoramic lenses for an unobstructed field of view. Glasses are available in green, amber, or clear, and are priced at only \$3.00 prepaid. From United Binocular Co., Dept. G-7, 9043 S. Western Ave., Chicago 20, Ill.

WYITE Guns

THREE NEW SHOTGUN POWDERS grace the line of B.E. Hodgdon, Inc., Dept. G-7, Shawnee Mission, Kansas. These are: Top Mark, for light field and trap loads; HS-5, a heavy field load spherical powder, and HS-6, a dense spherical propellant for magnum loads. Complete details on these and other famous Hodgdon powders on request.



LITTLE CHIEF CAMPER provides off-theground sleeping for six people. This rugged camp trailer is made of heavy duty 16 gauge steel, comes equipped with 10.10 ounce Otis Permasol tent that is waterproof, preshrunk, mildew resistant. Tent features plenty of windows and contoured corners that overlap the bed boards by three inches. The Little Chief is easily converted to a utility trailer. Price, \$424.50. Norjack, Inc., Dept. G-7, 600 S. 108th St., Milwaukee, Wisc.

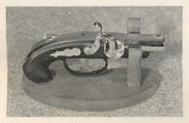
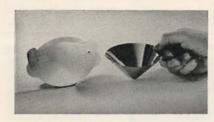


TABLE LIGHTER in gleaming chrome and black is perfect for den or cocktail table. The authentically styled percussion pistol lights with a flick of the trigger. Comes gift boxed with oak stand. Price, \$5.95, or two for \$10.00 from Ballard Unique Imports, Dept. G-7, 310 Berkeley Ave., Evansville 10,



MINIATURE GUN COLLECTION includes eleven famous firearms. The guns are mounted on a perforated display board which has an engraved plate with the owner's name. Complete collection sells for \$12.95 and includes such famous guns as the Winchester 94, Luger, Remington Derringer, and Savage 99. From Faron International, Box 7065, Dept. G-7, Walbrook Station, Baltimore 16, HAVE YOU EVER HEARD the distress cries of a dying crow? Johnny Stewart, Dept. G-7, 925 N. 22nd, Waco, Texas, has recorded this and it is the most effective means of crow calling you have ever heard. It can be played on any phonograph, but was designed for use on Stewart's "Electri-Call." The record is priced at \$4.95, and complete details on all of Stewart's equipment is available on request,



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NEW DISPENSER for .22 RF cartridges is made of rugged Cycolac in bright yellow color. It holds a full box of .22 Long or Long Rifle cartridges and feeds one shell at a time into the shooter's hand as the dial is turned. Made by Flambeau Plastics Corp., Barahoo, Wisc., it is available at most sporting goods stores for only \$2.98.



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PAULIN INFRA-RED Heater and Cooker completely eliminates smoke, odor, and fumes. Unique heat converter uses bottled gas to heat tents, cabins or trailers with safety, or to quickly cook an outdoor meal. One standard 14 ounce cylinder of gas will operate the heater from four to six hours. The Paulin Portable Infra-Red Heater and Cooker is available for \$24.95 from your dealer or direct from: Paulin Infra-Red Products Co., Dept. G-7, 2536 St. Clair Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio.



ALASKA CARRY-ALL bag is made of durable, extra heavy, water repellent 100 per cent duck. Two heavy duty zippers extend across the top, and half way down the sides, for easy access to any article. Bag is 20 inches wide, 15 inches high, and 9 inches thick. Five inside pockets keep smaller items handy. Handles, of 100 per cent cotton webbing, extend completely around bag for added strength. Price: \$9.95 postpaid. Alaska Sleeping Bag Co., 334 N.W. 11th Ave., Dept. G-7, Portland, Oregon.

(Continued from page 57)

six other lions. Sungura told us that he could see the lions clearly. There were three lionesses and three cubs. Sungura added that old Kwaai was the biggest maned lion he had ever seen.

The next morning we heard the lion roar and heard his females answer in the distance. We thought we could hear a strange voice in the predawn chorus. When we walked along the edge of the water above Sable Lagoon, there were old Kwaai's tracks in the mud and on one side, the imprints of another large male. Old Kwaai had come back out of the swamps some time during the night with either a friend or a rival.

As we stood whispering in the dawn light, old Kwaai roared just behind us. I clutched the rifle and swung around. Andrew waved his arm to the three trackers and we moved off towards the sound. We soon found the imprints of the two males, and again we heard them roar. First one sounded a low rumbling cough. Then the other answered.

We moved up quickly. I held my rifle forward over the backs of the trackers as they signaled to each other as first one and then another found the track and moved ahead at a quiet trot.

Just over Legiria's back I saw a movement. I stepped forward and thrust my rifle through the brush. Just beyond was a lion. He was perhaps two feet long and spotted. He jerked his head around with inquisitive eyes and ears, and I hissed at Legiria. I motioned to the others to stop. Just beyond the first cub was another, walking slowly, and just beyond that was a large lioness. Somehow we had walked into the main pride.

We crouched behind the bush and waited several minutes. Sungura went up a tree. From a low crotch he motioned that he could see the lions and they were lying down. Sungura dropped silently to the ground and told us in whispers that old Kwaai and the other male were not with the pride.

We backtracked, began a wide circle. In a few minutes we found the trails of the two males.

It wasn't that I relaxed or forgot to keep a vigilant watch ahead. It was getting hot and we were tired from the tension, and several times Sungura scaled a tree to look ahead. The two lions were following an elephant trail and seemed to be going somewhere. We had already tracked them four or five miles from the water. As the hours wore on, the tracks continued along the same elephant trail. We fell into single file. Kweri was first, I was second with my rifle barrel still thrust forward. Sungura and Legiria were behind, Andrew brought up the rear.

There was a movement behind me. A rifle barrel punched my shoulder. I half turned. Andrew pointed with his gun beside us and behind. There was old Kwaai, fast asleep and not 20 feet away.

"Shoot him!" said Andrew in a hoarse whisper. Mechanically I raised the rifle. In that second old Kwaai raised up. I jerked the trigger. The bullet knocked the lion flat. With a rumbling growl, he got to his feet and lurched for us. I cranked another shell into the chamber and fired with the same movement. The shot knocked Kwaai backwards. Again he reared up. I bolted the third and last shot into the chamber and fired at the base of his neck. He still stood on three feet. Andrew raised his double rifle. Old Kwaai reached forward, grasped a small tree between his teeth, bit it off, and died.

It seemed only minutes after we had shot old Kwaai that a couple of strange Bushmen showed up. At the rustle of sound we whirled, thinking it was the second lion coming to help his friend. One of the Bushmen carried a comparatively modern Winchester rifle. The two new arrivals clicked happily with Kweri about the coming feast.

"Next safari, I'm going north to the Cevauti," Andrew muttered to no one in particular. "There are too many guns along the Kwaai."





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EARLY GUN TRADE OF THE WEST

(Continued from page 20)

not be surpassed and in many cases might not be equalled by imports from the East or the Old World. This should not be surprising because some of the finest craftsmen of the East, having learned their trade in Rochester, Boston, Philadelphia, or other eastern gunmaking centers, were now transplanted to western soil.

When we speak of the western gun trade, we have to break this down into three classes. There were the men whose skill was primarily that of a gunmaker and who could turn out a complete gun or pistol from wood blanks and bars of iron; then there were men who divided their time between making up a few guns, repairing guns, and selling some of the manufactured products of the larger gun manufactories; the third class were the merchants who carried a large stock of weapons imported from the world's manufacturing centers and who were strictly dealby these and other California makers of caplock arms, as well as those few who worked up in Oregon territory, I reserve for special mention three men whose work could not be excelled anywhere, East or West. The most versatile was Charles Slotterbek, who appeared on the San Francisco scene about 1859. He was a native of Wurtemburg, Germany, and became a United States citizen in 1861. Give Slotterbek a bar of steel and a plank of wood and he could build any kind of gun you wanted. Examples of his beautifully wrought derringer pistols, target pistols, and rifles now in collections give a positive record of his artistry and skill. Added to his craftsmanship, Slotterbek was an inventor. Among the patents granted to him were No. 84,224 for a three barrel gun in 1868, No. 208,765 for an offset scope mount on lever action rifles in 1878, and on October 5, 1880 he was granted a patent on a beauti-



Five western favorites, top to bottom: Spencer rifle with Plate barrel, Henry rifle, 1866 Winchester, a Model 1873 Winchester, a 1876 Winchester with Slotterbek scope mount.

ers-some of these men served as special distributing agents for the various major manufacturers. A few of the leading eastern gun supply houses like Schuyler, Hartley, and Graham opened branches in San Francisco.

The western gun trade busied itself at first with caplock arms. The day of the flintlock was past and most of those original flintlock guns which remained in use had been changed over to employ percussion caps. After the War Between the States, cartridge arms soon began pushing the caplock arms into the discard. But the caplock era saw some exceedingly beautiful rifles come from the benches of the California gunmakers. Among the numerous makers of fine caplock guns were Bach, Browning, Flohr, Hellinghaus, Kersey, Kingsley, Jenner, Klepzig, Koppekus, Lagoarde, Leonard, Liddle, Nordheim, Schneider, Severin, Smith, Van Vlear, Villegia, and Wilson.

Without detracting from fine work done

fully designed break-open cartridge rifle. At varying periods in his career Slotterbek worked in San Francisco and in Lakeport, California. When Charles Slotterbek turned over a gun or pistol to a purchaser it was a handsome thing to behold, sure and safe in operation.

Next on this special honor roll in versatility was Benjamin Bigelow. As mentioned, Bigelow was a California pioneer, arriving on the far west scene at the beginning of the gold rush. He was a highly skilled gunmaker at the time of his arrival. The beautiful and rare double barrel cylinder rifle illustrated here, bearing his earliest Rochester address, attests to that fact. This was Bigelow's own personal gun and had been owned only by him and his nephew before it became the property of a prominent Sacramento doctor; the gun was recently added to the author's collection.

No record has been found of Bigelow's making double barrel cylinder rifles in Cali-



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fornia, but he did make a number of the single barrel seven-shot revolving cylinder rifles at his Marysville shop. He also made fine single and double barrel rifles and shotguns. A Bigelow gun was greatly prized in the 1850-80 era and is eagerly sought by collectors of today.

collectors of today.

Last of the three distinguished California gunmakers whose work is so highly regarded is Horace Hall Rowell. Like Bigelow, Rowell made his appearance early on the west coast, a few years after his brother Gilman who had arrived in 1849. Rowell was a native of New Hampshire. Unlike many other California gunmakers, Rowell developed his gunmaking skill to its high degree right in California.

Horace Rowell was a quiet, kindly man, quite satisfied to proceed slowly, always finding time for hunting or match shooting at which he excelled. One of his friends once said, "Horace made his guns for sport and skill, not for holdups, and thus gained but little publicity in the dramatic times in which he lived." Rowell rifles were shooting machines designed for superb accuracy, and mostly for bench shooting. The author's specimen was made by Rowell at Sonora, California, in 1876 and weighs twenty pounds. It is as fine as any of the reknowned New England or New York match rifles of the Brockway, James, Ferris era.

It should perhaps be mentioned that firearms were used in many ways by men of the far west. The primary functions of guns were to provide self protection and as game getters, but there developed a great interest in competitive match shooting. Guns being such important tools in man's everyday life, skill with them became a matter of necessity and great pride, and competition in shooting matches became very keen. As early as 1853, the Sacramento Swiss Rifle Club was formed, and with the years target shooting experienced a great upsurge. San Francisco alone finally had thirteen shooting clubs affiliated with the Nationaler Schuetzen-Bund, a nation-wide organization of target shooters.

We shall now turn to the gun dealers whose business it was to supply (as advertised by A. J. Plate): "Double barrel guns, rifles, pistols, gun trimmings, powder, shot, lead, and caps."

Adolphus J. Plate was in on the ground floor when it came to dealing in guns, arriving at San Francisco in 1849. Like Slotterbek, be was a native of Germany. After a small start, by 1855 he had built his business to sizeable proportions and was firmly established as an importer and jobber of arms and ammunition. The Plate firm prospered under Adolphus Plate's direction for many years, and was continued by his sons after his death. As an indication of their large stock of merchandise, there is in my file an 1877 letter written to the Sharps Rifle Mfg. Co. in which Plate mentions having on hand two hundred Sharps "linen" carbines. The "linen," of course, refers to the linen cartridges used in early caplock Sharps guns prior to metallic ammunition.

Plate's most serious competition was from the firm operated by Nathaniel and Charles Curry, founded in 1852. The Currys came from Philadelphia, where they had previously engaged in the gun business. There was great rivalry between Plate and Curry not only in serving the trade, but also in obtaining favorable exclusive agencies for the arms of castern or European manufacturers.

With the years, rivalry among western gun dealers became more keen. Among other firms to come on the scene were Claybrough & Golcher, Wilson & Evans, Liddle & Kaeding, Macondray & Co., C. D. Ladd-and up in Oregon Wm. Beck & Son and H. T. Hudson came in for a share of the trade. As the trend drifted from the caplock arms, major trade in the far west involved the Colt and Smith & Wesson pistols, Sharps, Remington, and Winchester rifles, breechloading shotguns, and all the accessories and necessary components. The Jules Bekeart gun business, progressing from a little canvas-roofed shanty in Coloma, became a prominent gun jobbing firm in San Francisco, representing eastern manufacturers. (To be continued)

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GIVE ME A 12 GAUGE

(Continued from page 21)

This old timer didn't impress me very much at first. The main reason was his gun: a 12 gauge double of unknown vintage.

"Fine little gun you got there boy," I remember the old stranger saying as I nodded hello. "That 'screwdriver' ain't good for much aside deer and bear here 'bouts." Maybe the old fellow was reading my mind because I was thinking: What kind of sportsman would hunt these big Pennsylvania deer with a lowly shotgun?

"Now this here Betsy...she'll do most anything up right," he said, rubbing the snow off the barrels, and punctuating his remark with a spit into the snow.

Just about then, he motioned me to be quiet—several deer were coming our way. The old man raised his gun and swung on each deer as it came up to a strand of barbed wire on the edge of the woods, paused and then leaped across. Three or four does, then a small spike horn. I expected the old man to shoot because any deer was legal, but he didn't.

Then I saw why. A nice eight-pointer was showing himself. He let the other deer lead the way; run interference for him. When the big buck was in mid-air, the old double exploded, and a one ounce ball of lead went sailing into the deer's shoulder.

That was many years ago, and I have seen many deer shot since that cold December day in Elk County, but I'll be darned if I ever saw a deer hit as hard and fall as fast as that old man's buck.

The old man looked over to me and smiled a kind of reserved excitment, He said: "Come on, kid, I'll show you how to dress out a big buck."

The old fellow made quite an impression on me. More importantly, in a few minutes he convinced me that there is no more



deadly deer gun going today than a 12 gauge shotgun with a rifled slug, when shooting under 100 yards.

I recalled the old man's advice recently when I received a letter from a 15-year old boy. The youngster wrote:

"Dear Outdoor Editor: I'm only 15 and don't have much money, but I want to buy one gun to use on pheasants, rabbits and deer. My dad says if I do okay on deer and small game he might take me bear hunting, too. Can you suggest a gun for me?"

He had written to me at the "State Jour-

nal" at Lansing, Mich., where I am Outdoor Editor. What was I to tell this young fellow, who went on to explain that the \$40 he had saved came hard—from an after-school job setting pins in a bowling alley?

Of course, the easiest thing would have been to tell him to buy several guns; one for deer and bear, another for small game, and maybe a .22 for squirrels, but I knew he could not afford this.

I suggested he buy a good used 12 gauge shotgun and a variety of shells for it—6's for rabbits, 4's for ducks, 2's for geese, 7½'s for grouse, woodcock and snipe, buckshot for Michigan bobcats, coyotes and foxes, and rifled slugs for deer and bear.

With this one gun, and loads for it, you could no doubt successfully hunt anything with fur or feathers in North or South America, short of the big bears—Brownies and Polars. You would be handicapped on elk and moose, due to the long ranges, especially with elk. However, this is not to say that the one ounce slug would not do the job. Here is where the argument starts. Of course, there are guns better suited for these bigger animals, but remember, we are considering a single "all-round, practical gun."

Let's put it another way. If you had but one gun with which to do all your hunting or, if you could have only one gun on which your life depended—for both food and protection—which would you pick?

In southern Michigan, like in many areas of the United States, game regulations limit you to a shotgun with buckshot or rifled slugs for deer hunting. Legislators have the

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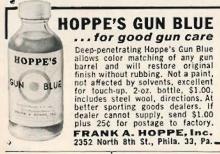
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mistaken idea that shotguns are safer than high-powered rifles in populated areas. I don't want to open that debate here, but it has been proved that hunters, especially stupid ones, and not the firearms cause the accidents. There is no evidence that restrictions on one type of gun or another make hunting safer.

However, we must live with these regulations, and use shotguns more and more in relatively "crowded" farm country. And, though they will do the job, and do it better than a lot of your so-called deer rifles, I just don't like some misinformed legislator telling me what gun I must use in my hunting.

In checking on some of the laws, I found that practically all North American whitetail deer are shot within 100 yards. Over half are closer than 50 yards. Ask yourself this question: How many deer have I killed beyond 50 or 100 yards? Answer it honestly nowno one is looking over your shoulder. Next, think back and recall how many yards you added to the story each time you told about killing your last deer?

With my Remington 58 Sportsman I can consistently shoot eight inch groups at 70 yards, and 12 inch groups at 100 yards. Though my accuracy drops off quickly after that, I have known other shotgunners who do much better than this.

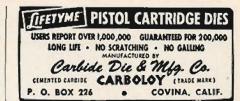
The action you choose on this "all-round" hunting arm is up to your individual tastes. I realize some states put restrictions on semiautomatic guns, but they really are not much faster handling than a good pump gun, and I've found that if you keep your action simple, you can cut down on malfunctions.

The ultimate choice in a shotgun would be, for my money anyway, a double barreled with modified and improved cylinder chokes. Savage recently announced the introduction of their .22 Magnum-20 gauge combination rifle-shotgun, and this gun has claimed a lot of advocates who will call it the perfect all-round gun. But I still contend that the 12 gauge slug will do a better job on big game than the 20 gauge. This factor would put my 12 gauge nomination at the head of the list.

Some companies are putting out a 1X "shotgun scope" which, I understand, is popular with the deer hunters living in areas where slugs or buckshot are mandatory under the law. However, I believe a peep sight offers a better all-round deal.

In all phases of the shooting game there is nothing that triggers more lip flapping (and typewriter tapping) than opening up the argument about the mythical all-round gun. But, I have owned and still own more guns than I have a right to, and I just want to make it clear that I don't advocate hunting everything on the continent with a 12 gauge shotguñ. But, if I had to use only one type of gun that would be it. You show me a better, more versatile firearm, and I'll buy it.

Recently, I received a note of thanks from my 15 year old pen pal. He said he shot his limits of ringnecks almost every time he went out, and brought down his first buck-all with the same shotgun. The last time I heard from him he was having a bang up time on rabbits and snowshoe hares in the Michigan swamps.









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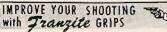
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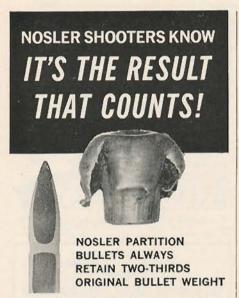
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THE \$6,000 GOLD GUN

(Continued from page 17)

the hammer screw, and was made from a solid gold rod that weighed 22 ounces. It was drilled and shaped by hand, but hammer and trigger were cast from lead moulds which were made from hand-made lead models. The triggerguard, nipple, and screws were made from flat plate stock or forged and drawn from solid gold rods. The loading and cleaning tools are capped with 14 karat gold accessories, including a powder measure, a ram rod, and cleaning rod that has provisions for fastening a patch. The grips of the gun and the tool handles are rosewood. and Bill did the checkering on the grips. Modestly, he claims that his skills do not extend to woodworking, but a painstaking examination of the checkering showed that there was not a single slip of the checkering tool, that the edges of the checkering are clean and sharp.

The gun and tools are fitted into a beautifully finished and fitted, gold embossed Morocco leather case. Unfortunately, this case was badly damaged when Bill shipped the gun to me for study and photography, and the replacement value of the case is well over \$100.

Bill claims that his engraving skill is not outstanding, and the engraving on the unique gold gun was done by one of Bill's best friends, Joe Kempston. Joe, who works with Bill, has been an engraver for over 50 years. Fortunately for Heacock, Joe is a gun nut and has a fine sense of appreciation for guns and the right technical knowledge for the engraving job. The results speak for themselves; the engraving, though not typical of gun engraving, is outstanding according to the experts who had a chance to examine it. Joe. 75, is an avid hunter and last year returned from an extended African safari, determined to hunt in Africa again soon.

Now that the gold gun has been finished for a while, Bill is casting about for some-



thing new to tackle. Last I heard, he is now contemplating the making of a full-sized revolver, working of course, in white gold. All he needs is time and a lathe fine enough to do the job. Who knows, he might make that and the other tools needed too-he made most of his other tools to build the gold cap and ball gun!

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a 230 grain .44 bullet coasted into this tin can at 385 f.p.s. with 3 grains of Bullseye powder behind it that's the same size slug slamming into a water-filled container at 1800 f.p.s. driven by a red hot magnum load of 25 grains of 2400 powder

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The same gun did both jobs; only the charge was changed—with sensational results.

With Lyman-loading, you can shoot targets in your basement with only a couple magazines for backstops ... you can introduce youngsters to big bore shooting without flinching ... you can drill varmints with pinpoint accuracy ... and knock over bear and moose at long range WITH THE SAME GUN.

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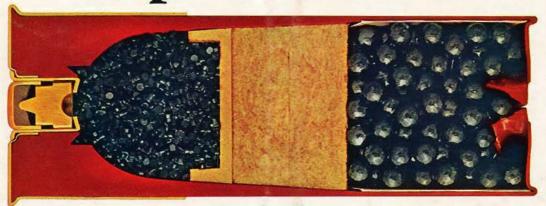
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Announcing the new Super-Speed and Super-X

"Compression-formed" Mark 5 plastic shot shell.



Strong shoulders. Note the absence of a base wad. Where a normal base wad would be, this new shell's plastic sidewalls thicken into solid shoulders, forming a reinforced "vault" for the powder. The base of this shell is so strong that its high brass isn't actually needed.

Unitized construction. Pressed out—in one piece—from rugged plastic, this new hull has a measured tensile strength exceeding 35,000 pounds per square inch. Its plastic is scuffproof and completely waterproof. This new Mark 5 shot shell is now available in 12, 16 and 20 gauge.

Harnessed power. Up front, inside the plastic hull, a thin protective strip encloses the shot—stays wrapped around it until after it has left the barrel. This keeps the pellets round and polished for true flight; stops lateral dispersion; gives up to a 10% denser pattern.



Read how this remarkable new Winchester and Western shell—the first sweeping change in the history of shot shell design—was field-tested and proved on safari. "I never saw a shell made like it . . . or one that shoots so hard—so far," says David Ommanney, our man in Africa.

Product changes as far-reaching as this are very rare in our business.

That's why we wanted absolute proof—before putting our plastic Mark 5 on sale—that it outperforms every other shot shell ever made. And why we decided to make Africa its proving ground.

In Tanganyika, bird limits are liberal—and game is plentiful and varied. Nowhere else could this new plastic shell be given such a thorough testing. What's more, we wanted to get David Ommanney's opinion.

Few men know more about game and guns than this famous professional hunter, whom we chose to lead us on safari. At first, as we expected, Ommanney was cautious. He was very much impressed by the new shell's one-piece construction and "strong

shoulders." But he found it hard to believe any shot shell could be more effective than the latest paper Mark 5s he'd been using.

But it didn't take long to convince him, when he saw how this new Mark 5 stopped sand grouse at all ranges—dropping them consistently and cleanly.

"It seems almost un-

fair," said Ommanney, "that a shell should shoot this hard and far. Virtually every shot did the job cleanly, quickly. What could be fairer than that?"

Another new plastic shell from Winchester and Western. For trap, skeet and upland shooting, Ranger and Xpert Mark 5 is available in a poly-formed weather-proof plastic tube. This rugged, low-brass shell matches the premium priced loads of other manufacturers.

And does it at regular load prices.



shot shell's range and power is the way it stopped these fast, high-flying sand grouse.