

Guns

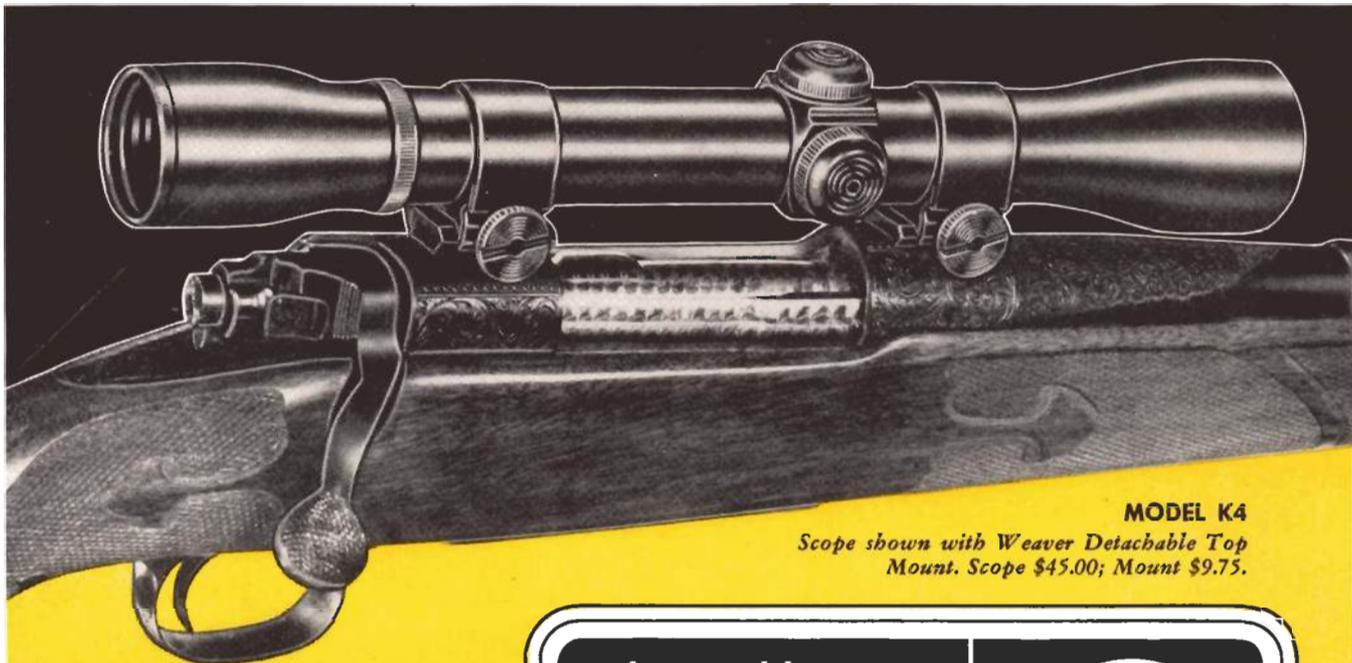
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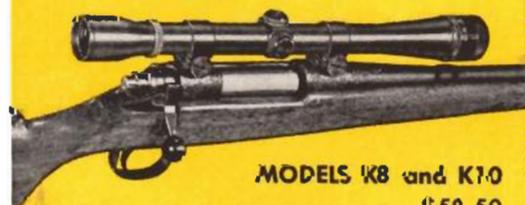
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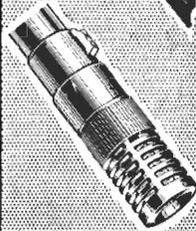
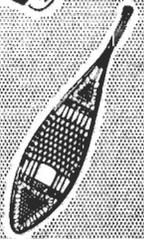
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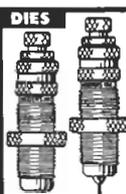
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CROSSFIRE

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Davy Crockett Rifle

Well, I see Hollywood hauled off and did it again.

On Page 29 of your May issue here's ol' Fess (Davy Crockett) Parker with an 1873 Springfield converted to flintlock. That's quite a trick, now, ain't it?

And, in the opposite corner, is that one-time contender George (he's Davy, too) Montgomery picking off them pesky Redskins with what appears to be a Springfield of about the same vintage.

Why, in the name of Sam'l Colt, don't somebody organize a Citizens' Committee to Inform Hollywood on Proper Use of Firearms?

There's a lot of us gun bugs that kind of quiver when we see Hollywood versions of the Battle of Gettysburg being fought with lever-action Winchesters and Colt Frontiers.

Dick House
Cleveland, Ohio

Russian Wolf Hunt

I have just finished reading a copy of the May issue of GUNS Magazine and enjoyed it immensely. I particularly liked the article "Russian Wolf Hunt" by Roger Carver. Also, I plan to make a rifle rack, as shown in the article by James Cranbrook. Thank you so much for your splendid magazine.

Harold R. Dean
Pocatello, Idaho

Cartridge Tests

Colonel Askins' article in the July issue of GUNS was extremely interesting and informative. We note his tests included cartridges with zinc alloy bullets and that board penetration tests were not good.

The tensile strength of the zinc alloy used for handgun bullets is approximately 40,000 psi, as compared to 9,000 for lead. This difference in strength accounts for the zinc alloys' ability to resist deformation; also there is a difference in weight. A zinc alloy bullet of the same size as the 158 grain .357 lead bullet will weigh approximately 90 grains.

Velocity and pressure tests in the .357 Magnum revealed that commercial loads with 158 grain bullet develop pressures of approximately 43,000 psi, and M.V. of approximately 1650 as compared to a 90 grain zinc alloy bullet ahead of 18.0 grains of 2400 which developed approximately 28,000 psi. pressure and M.V. of 1925 F.S.

Several years ago the late Al Barr used 3 grains of Bullseye as a booster charge with 14.0 grains 2400 and a 105 grain zinc alloy bullet in the .357 Magnum and got more penetration in steel than any other load.

In comparative tests of zinc alloy, cast lead and jacketed bullets the zinc alloy

bullets were consistently higher in M.V. and developed lower pressures. Because of the difference in weight they lose velocity more rapidly but when loaded to the same pressures, they consistently gave better penetration.

Zinc alloy, to some extent, is too fast a bullet for some handguns such as the .45 ACP which is designed for heavy bullets and relatively low pressures and velocities. They should not, however, be entirely counted out because for some applications they are hard to beat when properly loaded. The fact that zinc alloy loads are not shown on ballistic charts is evidence that the arms companies and ordnance department know little or nothing about them. The secret of producing a stable zinc alloy was not discovered until fairly recently, at any rate the idea appears to be a bit too new for the American arms industry. Any inquiry directed to them seems only to afford them the opportunity to give forth with a sermon implying that such inquiries are not worthy of consideration.

Zinc alloy bullets in .22 caliber rifle have been checked at near 6,000 F.S. in .300 Magnum at a little over 4,000 F.S. Aircraft have been flown at approximately 2420 F.S. and the best handgun velocity nears 2,000 F.S.

Through the generosity and kindness of the American people we grant Marshall Plan aid to finance and encourage private small arms manufacturing enterprises in Europe. At home we discourage small arms research, ridicule new ideas and tool up to manufacture antique arms. The 9 M/M cartridge fits in perfectly with this sort of thinking, being an old cartridge not of American origin it's safe to go all out for it.

C. W. Kritzer
Cladaly Bullet Co.

President's Bodyguards

I'm a boy of 13 who loves guns and all the literature I can get on them. I have missed only one of your magazines, the January issue. GUNS magazines are the best.

It might be interesting for you to run an article on the President's personal bodyguards and their training.

Mike Neil
Joplin, Missouri

Heroes Of Old West

Am enjoying GUNS very much. Seems I've finally found the answer to my problems. I have looked for years for a place or a way to learn more about firearms. GUNS is my answer. How about some articles on heroes of the "old west" and pioneer days.

R. G. Higginbotham
Camp LeJeune, North Carolina

SHOP BY MAIL AND SAVE!



Milt Klein Says:

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Our Easy Credit Plan is open to Gun Traders. Take 6 months to pay the balance due, if any.

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MY FAVORITE GUN

By DUNCAN RENALDO, the Cisco Kid of the popular television program.

SINCE the advent of television, there has been a tremendous resurgence of interest in Frontier model guns. The better part of this interest has been kindled among "our little cowboys" who religiously view our television shows.

I remember as a child that I was just as fascinated with a gun as every kid is today. That fascination has never left me and many times I have tried to analyze the why of this phenomenon. The explanation probably is that from such a little implement so much power and psychological influence can be exerted. As I grew older I began to appreciate the immense destructive power of the gun and to evaluate the proper function of a weapon. With that in mind, when I was designing a costume and select-



ing the implements for the characterization of the Cisco Kid, I tried to symbolize in every possible detail the maximum function, both of the costume and the weapons.

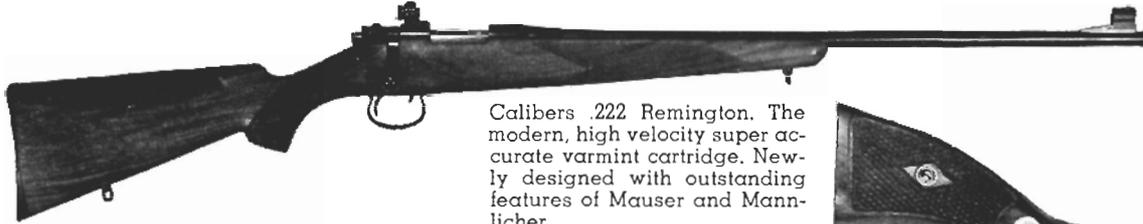
I use a Frontier-type single-action Colt .45 and use only one gun. I feel that one gun is enough for anybody since the primary purpose of my gun is self-defense and not for aggressive purpose. If a man is not a good enough shot to defend himself with six well-placed bullets, then he should never touch a gun. He suddenly becomes dangerous to everyone and mostly to himself.

It is my feeling that the Almighty put us together in a very miraculous and beautiful way and any time that we take in our hands to destroy this fantastic, complex creation that calls himself a man, or an animal, we commit the most sacrilegious and barbaric deed.

From this you may get the idea that I am an utter pacifist, but my understanding of this word is that one cannot be an accomplished pacifist unless he is extremely well-versed in the art of (Continued on page 62)

A Few Selected Items from our Catalogue

SAKO SHORT-ACTION MAUSER PRECISION VARMINT RIFLES



Calibers .222 Remington. The modern, high velocity super accurate varmint cartridge. Newly designed with outstanding features of Mauser and Mannlicher.

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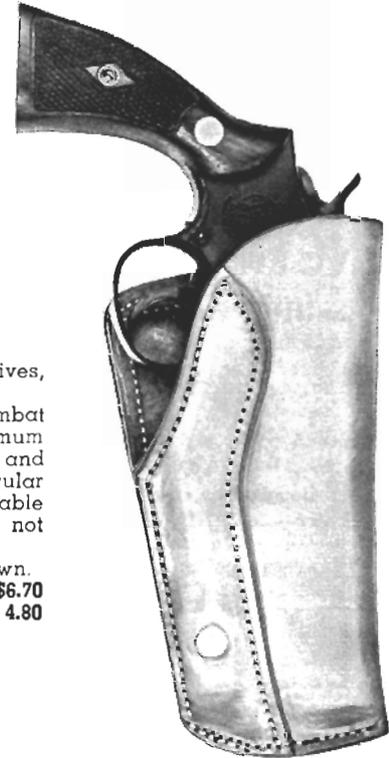
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- .38 Special 148 grain, WC 100.... 2.10
- .45 ACP 200 grain, Semi-WC 100 2.35
- .45 ACP 215 grain, Semi-WC 100 2.35
- .45 AC 230 grain RN 100..... 2.50

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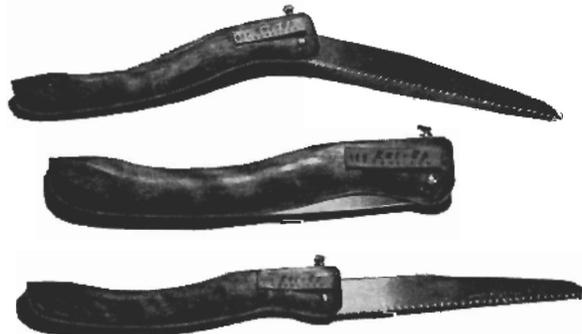
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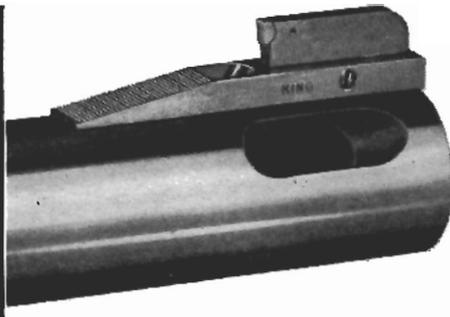
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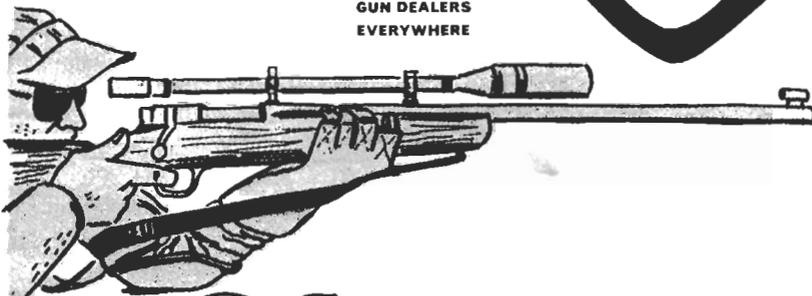
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GUNS in the NEWS

[Special]—

At Ozark, Ala., Lester Matthews, a devoted squirrel hunter who is paralyzed from the waist down as the result of an accident, still manages to hunt by rolling his wheel chair through the woods. He is a crack shot with his .33 calibre rifle and has won many prizes for expert shooting from his wheel chair.

A proud hunter at Omaha, Nat Wilson, received a shock when he opened the luggage compartment of the car to show friends the gaudy pheasant he had bagged. The bird—only stunned by the shot—had revived on the trip home and hopped out of the compartment and went winging down an alley.

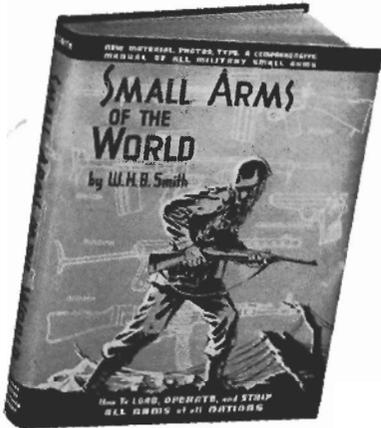
In the Sherman, Conn., area, two sportsmen weathered the trials and tribulations of a hunting trip all right but wound up with writer's cramp. Arrested for hunting without licenses, they were ordered to write reviews of the state's game laws by Judge Geoffrey Graham.

When Dr. M. Gangulli came upon a seven-foot man-eating cheetah in the Badampahar Hills of India, he promptly fired away at it but without any luck. He then engaged in a 100-minute "hand-to-claw" struggle with the beast and finally killed it. Dr. Gangulli was badly mauled himself but, for whatever consolation it might bring him, the Indian government decorated him for "extraordinary valor" for his feat.

Mrs. Mary Christopher, of Lamesa, Tex., bagged a deer on her first hunting trip—at the age of 86.

Wild geese which regularly raid the crops of farms near Darwin, Australia, are not even intimidated by the noise of an automatic bird-scaring gun. They wait for the periodic explosion and then swarm down, some even sitting on the gun.

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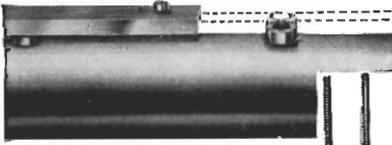
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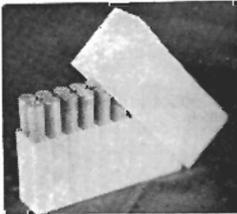
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SEPTEMBER
1955
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Guns



MAGAZINE

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COVER

Supreme in the gunmaker's art are the superlative examples of Colt's finest craftsmanship—the Royal Colt's presented to European monarchs by President Lincoln during the Civil War. Presentation is inscribed on silver grip plates and U.S. coat of arms appears on butts. Two 1860 Army Colts are believed to be engraved by Joseph Wolf of New York, whose mark was wolf's head.

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How I foxed the Navy

by Arthur Godfrey



The Navy almost scuttled me. I shudder to think of it. My crazy career could have ended right then and there.

To be scuttled by the Navy you've either got to do something wrong or neglect to do something right. They've got you both ways. For my part, I neglected to finish high school.

Ordinarily, a man can get along without a high school diploma. Plenty of men have. But not in the Navy. At least not in the U. S. Navy Materiel School at Bellevue, D. C., back in 1929. In those days a bluejacket had to have a mind like Einstein's. And I didn't.

"Godfrey," said the lieutenant a few days after I'd checked in, "either you learn mathematics and learn it *fast* or out you go. I'll give you six weeks." This, I figured, was it. For a guy who had to take off his shoes to count

above ten, it was an impossible assignment.

I was ready to turn in my bell-bottoms. But an ad in a magazine stopped me. Here, it said, is your chance to get special training in almost any subject—mathematics included. I hopped on it. Within a week I was enrolled with the International Correspondence Schools studying algebra, geometry and trig for all I was worth.

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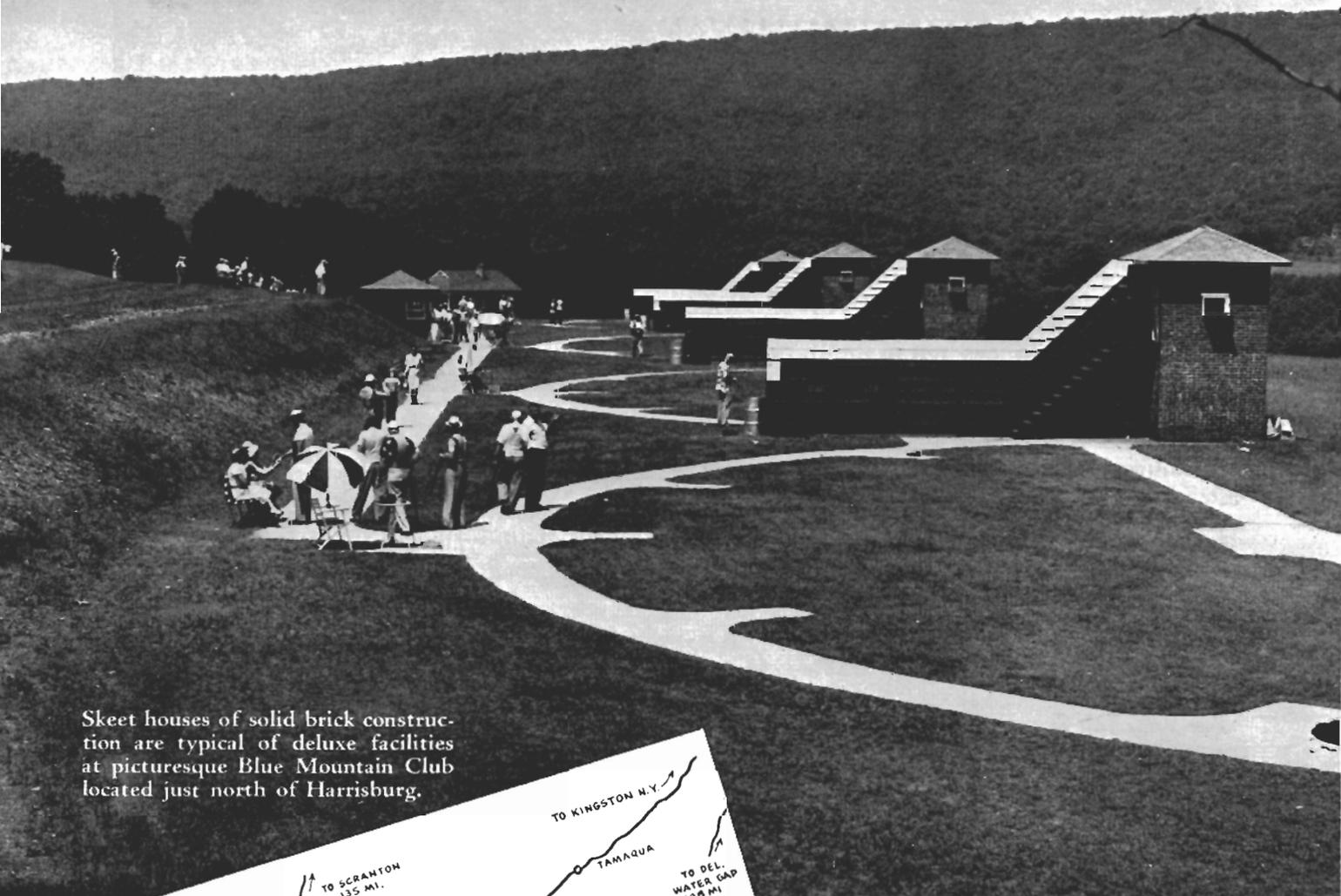
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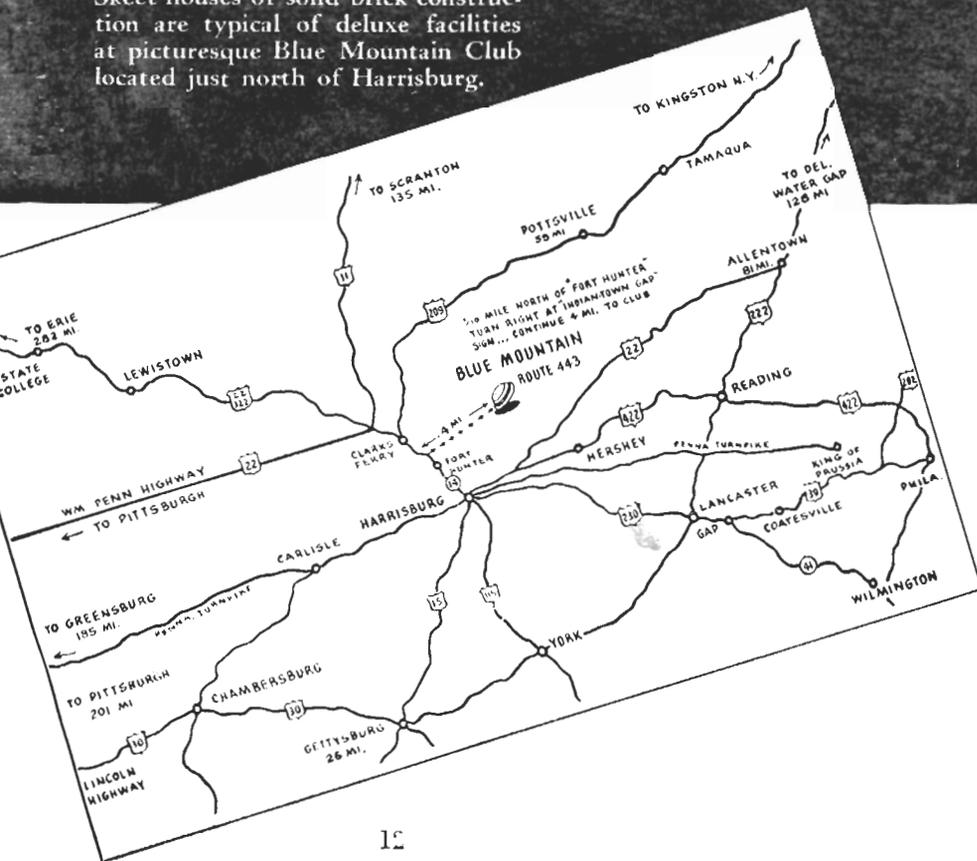
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SKEETSHOOT HEAVEN



Skeet houses of solid brick construction are typical of deluxe facilities at picturesque Blue Mountain Club located just north of Harrisburg.



**BLUE MOUNTAIN CLUB IS
\$200,000 MECCA WITH
DREAM LAYOUT FOR
SCATTERGUN FANS**

By JOE CARRICATO

THEY USED to say that "Good Americans, when they die, go to Paris," but there's an exception to that nowadays. It might be paraphrased that "All good scattergunners go to the Blue Mountain Trap and Skeet Club . . ." The difference is, you can go there while you're still lively enough to enjoy it.

Nestled in the lush, verdant beauty of Pennsylvania's Fishing Creek valley 14 miles north of Harrisburg, the Blue Mountain Club is fast becoming a mecca for the more discriminating skeet shoot fans. This magnificent shotgun layout is an expression of the tremendous interest in shotgun shooting which has boomed trap and skeet along its way to the top of competitor sports in America. If there is one fault with this dream layout, it is that it is too good. Anyone describing the site runs off with superlatives . . . "magnificent, efficient, modern, scenic." It's all of that and then some, for the Blue Mountain Club was planned and built by a family of shooters for shooters and their families.

Owners and operators of the lavish \$200,000 bird-bustin' palace are Mr. and Mrs. William M. Hollinger, son Franklin and his wife Dorothy. And it won't be long before two tiny male Hollingers will be hollering "pull." The same drive and energy that built a successful housing development business is reflected in the Hollinger trap and skeet project.

It all started back in 1947 when papa Bill became curious about the new-found hobby taking up so much of Franklin's time. All Bill got for his trouble in investigating the mysterious attraction was a big fat skeet-bug bite. The father-son team began competing locally and they soon hit the skeet circuit together.

With an accumulation of trophies (Frank's NSSA rating is AA; Bill competes in B), came the realization that existing shooting sites (there are approximately 1,000 in the U. S.) left much to be desired. They began dreaming of the perfect trap and skeet field. In all the travels their business duties would permit, such a field could not be found. Bill decided he'd build one.

Competitive scattergunners are a finicky lot. They have their own brand of tantrums when something on the field even remotely threatens a hot streak. Holding up a match to hush a yapping puppy or to silence a squeak-



Heading out to skeet field, are lady shooters Syles Fralick of Winnetka, Ill., Chris Pezas of Greenwich, Conn. and Madeline Forgue of Chicago.

ing hinge is not at all unusual. These fellows like to take home a piece of silverware and they want all the odds with them. Spectators yakking and crowding at shooters' elbows, uneven grounds, faulty trap equipment, lack of toilet and lounging facilities for the ladies and kids—none of this would ever crop up on the Hollinger field by gum. And it hasn't.

The Blue Mountain Club exists in a luxurious setting, in a class all of its own. The club house and field occupies 10 of 230 beautifully-landscaped acres. In terracing the mountainside, 150,000 cubic yards of earth were moved. The rolling fields of pines and grasses are broken by a mile and a half of macadam road, 3,500 feet of broad concrete walks, and more than

Aerial view of Blue Mountain Club shows skeet and practice ranges in foreground and skeet circles in background. Clubhouse where Hollingers live is at left.





Clubhouse with its spacious dining room faces out on grounds, with open view of skeet houses. Owner plans to construct three lakes on layout for fishing.



Cocktail bar is favorite spot of shooters for bull sessions after their turns on the skeet field. Intemperate drinking will bar visitors from range.

25,000 shrubs. All the electric power in the club house and on the shooting field is supplied through underground conduit. When Bill tells you the layout is worth \$200,000, it doesn't strain the imagination.

How does all this affect the shooters who are finding this is *the* place? Brother, these gunners never had it so good!

First of all, Bill surveyed the valley by airplane before he purchased the land. He chose a site having the greatest distance between the two ranges for perfect gunning visibility.

In planning the shooting fields, the Hollinger construction know-how and personal skeet experiences were supplemented by capable friends and advisors. The arms and ammunition people lent a hand. So did well-known shooters like John C. Dalton, Jr., Jim Karrick, George Deyoe and others.

The total area for registered shoots consists of four skeet and four trap fields. Practice fields occupy an area away from competitive action. This past April, the Hollingers installed eight automatic, self-loading traps in the skeet houses. Each trap holds 75 birds. In place of the normal amount of "help," only one boy is needed to reload the traps at two fields. The referee is the 'puller' by means of three buttons on his scoresheet clipboard—one button each for high, low, and doubles. The electric cord running from the clipboard to the underground controls is long enough for the referee to roam the positions on the field.

Frank Hollinger feels the innovation will save the shooters some \$1500 annually. The new traps will also eliminate a skeet gripe common to both the prima donna and the less perturbable shooter. There are no delayed targets now. The gunner can take a gander at his score on the ref's clipboard, turn, bring his gun to "ready," and mutter "pull" or "mark" even with his mouth full of loose dentures (or marbles). The referee is close enough to hear and a flick of the finger sends a bird flying immediately.

The occasional tricky updrafts from the valley may test the shooters' mettle. But there's no danger of the bird varying from its prescribed course due to faulty equipment.

Young Frank, who manages the shoots, is a 33-year old fellow who has packed a lot of shooting experience into eight years of campaigning. Frank estimates he must have shot at more targets than any skeet man in

the U.S. last year. From Pennsylvania to Maryland, Delaware, Virginia, North and South Carolina, Washington, D. C., New York, Ohio, Louisiana, and Florida, Frank swung on 16,000 clay targets.

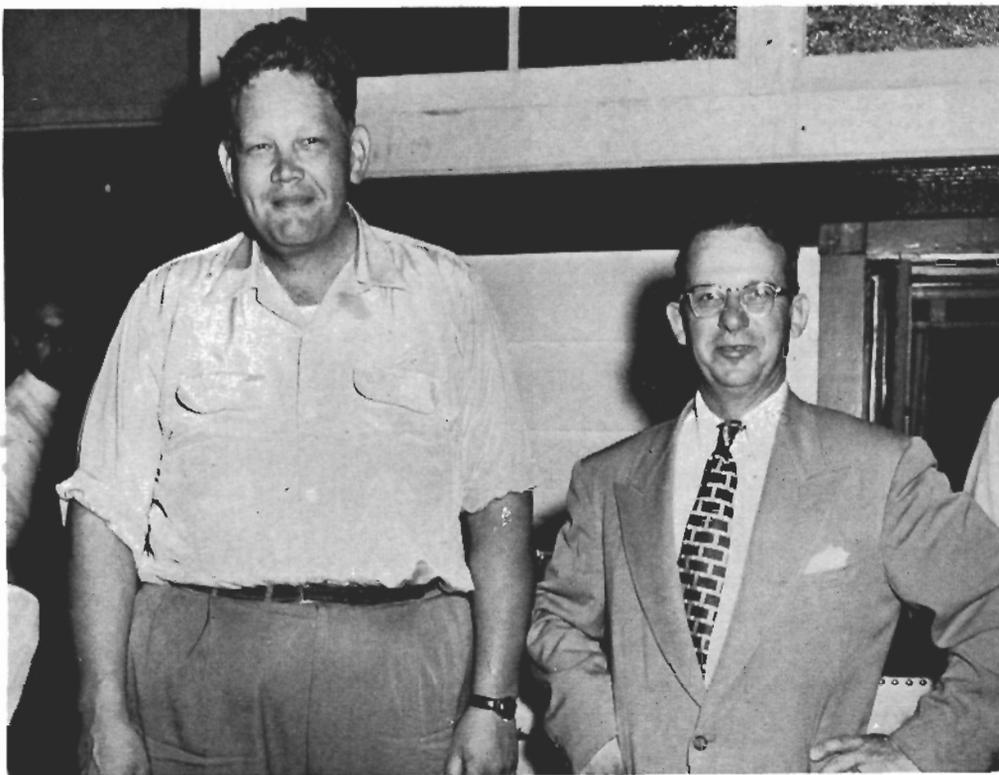
In preparing for a registered shoot at Blue Mountain, oil is changed on the traps. Rubber or metal parts showing the least wear are replaced. All the underground wiring is tested for shorts and breaks. Finally, Frank lines up the shoot managers: John and Betty Waters, pusher and cashier respectively; and chief referee George Deyoe. This team has handled 164 shooters in a day with an efficiency which attests to their experience. John, the pusher, has the ability of a drill sergeant without the dour disposition usually associated with that rank. He has the happy faculty of giving 'em hell and making them like it as he cajoles and orders the gunners through their stations.

The Hollingers estimate that each of the skeet fields, with the spanking new traps, represents an investment of \$4000 (excluding land). The four trap fields and the practice fields represent an estimated cost of \$1200 each.

The four 16-yard trap fields are equipped with automatic, but not self-loading, traps. The concrete trap houses are built into a terrace and they blend into the landscape. There are several interesting structural features in the skeet houses. The 8 x 8 x 15-foot houses were built extra-size for comfort, utility, appearance and safety. Until the new traps eliminated the trap boys, electric fans and heaters assured comfort in summer and winter. The extra roominess made working conditions pleasant. The spaciousness in the houses permits the storage of 100,000 targets.

Concrete foundations, concrete block, finished with exterior brick matching other structures, served beauty and utility. It is felt the savings in maintenance over wood structures have absorbed the higher initial cost. Oak floors on 4 x 4 oak planks securely anchor the traps, avoiding vibration and subsequent variation in target flight. There's rarely any need for high and low bird rulings in this setup.

Bill and Frank Hollinger readily admit there isn't the slightest chance of making money on their project. As if the facilities alone are not sufficient attraction for gunners to flock to the two big annual events, the fees are



Blue Mountain Club owner Bill Hollinger shows club facilities to Walt Metcalf of Chiltenango, N. Y., who is president of New York State Skeet Association.

normal while the prizes are super-duper. In April of every other year, the Pennsylvania State Skeet Championships are held. In the off year, an open event is held. The "Blue Mountain Open" is an annual August shotgun *fest*.

The fee for the major events is \$15 of which 50 cents is paid to NSSA, 50 cents to PSSA, and \$6 for targets, the remaining \$8 is thrown back into the pot, as a token payment toward the Hollinger prizes. Last year's Blue Mountain Open offered \$3,000 worth of silver and brassards. Everybody gets into the prize act. For the .410 and 28 gauge championship, there are 14 prizes—champion, runner-up, first, second and third in four classes. In the 20 gauge there are 17 prizes and the all-gauge offers a total of 22 prizes in five classes! The women's championship offers 10 prizes. The entry fee for this and other special events is \$5. Special events include: all-gauge two and five man teams; husband and wife; parent and child; junior; and service man.

Shooting is not confined to the two big annual events. There are ham and grocery shoots for the locals throughout the year. Groups of shooters from various industries make regular visits.

Members of Philadelphia's Penn

Athletic Club can be found on the premises every weekend from October to February 28. This period was chosen because it is the season for Pennsylvania's regulated shooting grounds. Penn members will spend a morning bagging live birds at Warren Berger's Blue Mountain Pheasantry a mile or so down the road. Out-of-state shooters can purchase special three-day licenses at \$3.15 on the pheasantry premises. In the afternoon, the boys begin banging away at the clay birds.

What are mama and the kids and the old folks doing while papa's burning powder? If they're not taking in the sights along the Susquehanna River, or shopping in downtown Harrisburg or nearby Chocolatetown (Hershey, Pa.), they'll probably be found in the clubhouse 200 yards from the shooting fields. This three-story, brick structure is a beaut!

With the exception of the ground floor which houses scoreboard and snack stands, everything's knotty pine and asphalt tile. Elsewhere on the ground floor are men's and ladies' comfort rooms, each with two tiled shower stalls. Another small room houses the Hollingers' private pine and cedar locker room. This room has often furnished guns or other equipment for visi- (Continued on page 60)

THE FINEST COLT EVER MADE



Anchor designs carved on the grips are but one of the many mythical or allegorical motifs in the profuse decoration of these engraved and gold inlaid pistols prepared as royal gifts to the king of Norway. Anchor symbolizes the sea, from which many Norse earn their living.

ROYAL PISTOLS MADE ON ORDER OF PRESIDENT LINCOLN IN 1862 AS GIFTS FOR FOREIGN RULER ARE AMONG FINEST ART TREASURES OF WORLD

By TORSTEN LENK

CERTAINLY no finer finished Colt revolvers have ever been made than the several elaborate Model 1860 Arms made for President Lincoln to present to the King of Sweden and the King of Denmark. At the time of the presentation in 1863 they were a new model of gun. Today they are antiques, preserved in the royal museums of Sweden and Denmark, and they rate among the great art treasures of the world.

Sam Colt in Hartford was contacted about the order shortly before his death. In Colt's cabinet of arms in the museum at Hartford, there is an empty envelope addressed

to him, undated, bearing the corner frank "A Lincoln-Free." The letter it contained is lost. Possibly it was this envelope which conveyed the order. During the winter of 1861-62, Sam Colt was a sick man. He died on January 14, 1862, but his factory and organization built around his works manager, Elisha Root, continued unfalteringly. Probably the order for these four guns—a pair for Charles XV, and a pair for Frederick VII—was one of the last things he attended to. He was active almost until his last day alive, issuing orders and writing letters at his home, "Armsmead."

Two complete New Model Army .44 revolvers, No. 31906 and No. 31907, were set aside to be decorated as gifts for Charles XV. A similar pair were ordered for Frederick. They are of the so-called "civilian" model, and the absence of the standing breech cuts for shoulder stock fitting indicates that they were special order from the beginning, as all frames in this series usually have these cuts.

Engraving the four guns took nearly a year. The name of the engraver is not on record, but he appears to have left his own signature on the guns. Owners of engraved Colt revolvers have noticed a dog or "wolf's" head in the otherwise straight floral and scroll pattern of engraving. This is supposed to be the mark of Joseph Wolf, a New York engraver who lived at 67 Forsyth Street, from about 1859 through 1867. Since the early days when Colt first got started gunmaking in Hartford, he had worked with New York engravers, notably W. L. Ormsby, who designed the cylinder dies which stamped the ordinary Colt guns with some decoration.

The usual cylinder stamping, which shows a fleet of warships engaging in battle, or a stage coach holdup in progress, is like a blank piece of metal compared to the elaborate and profuse engraving and inlay of these royal Colts. The development of the floral curves and the growth

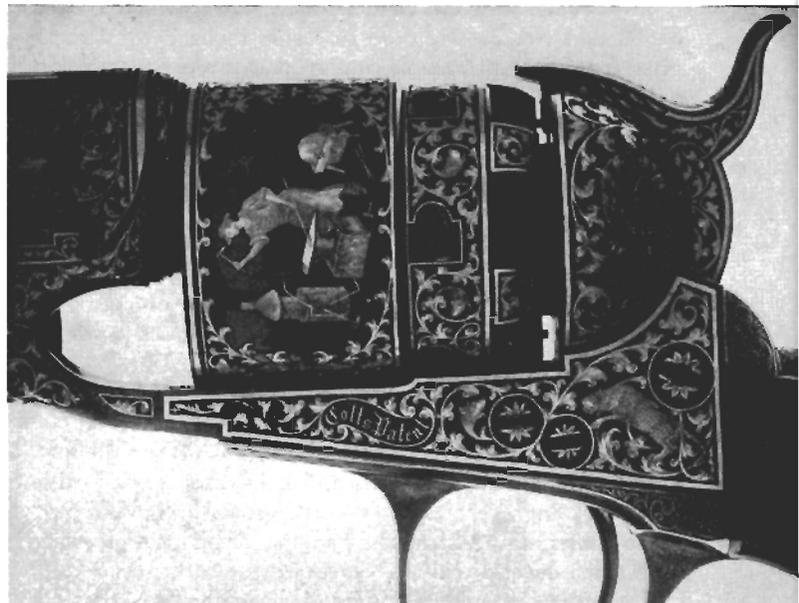
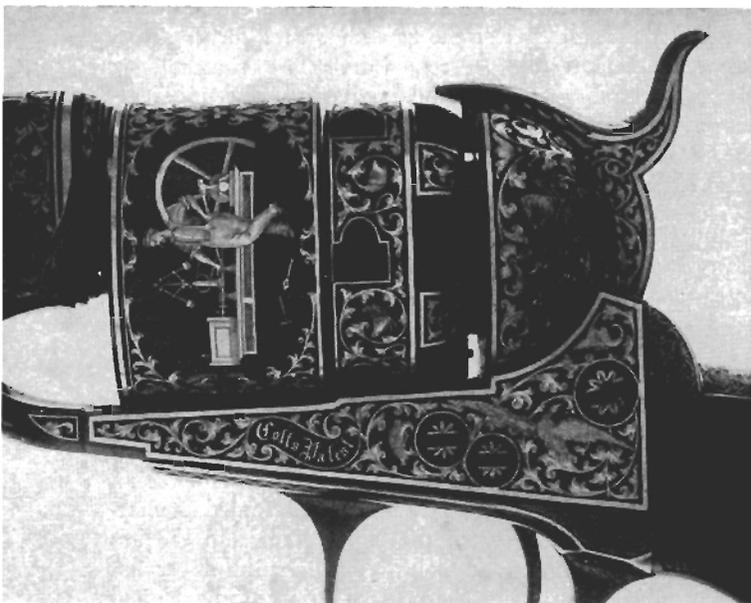
of the vinelike pattern over almost every part of the metal, except an inch or two of the smooth barrel for contrast, seems mathematically perfect. Curves are constant, or else they change with beautiful regularity. The undercutting of the steel into which the gold wire is tapped to make the design has no running over or sloppy cutting. Each edge is true and parallel to the other side of the groove.

The naval battle scene was omitted on these guns, and pictures more peaceful in nature substituted. Scenes done with bank-note realism depict agriculture, commerce, shipping, handicraft arts and industry. Even Watt's steam engine with the governor flying around is faithfully pictured. The carved, checkered walnut grips are bound with straps of silver. A silver plaque on the left side of each grip carried the sentiment of presentation: "The President of the United States of America to his Majesty The King of Sweden and Norway." The right grip of the Norwegian guns were engraved with a bee-hive and fouled anchor, representing the activity of the Norwegians and the sea which furnished much of their living. On the silver flat of the butt of each gun the coat of arms of the United States was carved.

The metal finishing of these guns, actually too beautiful to be called "weapons," is superb. The exposed steel surfaces are polished to a jewel lustre, and the bluing is a

Royal Colts are boxed in the double pistol casing at Royal Armory in Stockholm. Partitions set off spaces for flask, percussion caps, bullets, and other accessories. While guns are of top workmanship, interior is lined in ordinary way.





Steam engine and blacksmith with anvil symbolizing industry are inlaid in several colors of carved gold. Tiny "wolf's head" signature of Wolf engraver is inlaid in gold between screw head and "Colts Patent" marking.

deep jet blue-black, like spilled ink. The perfect metal polish is astonishing. The metal was completely polished before it was engraved. Yet during the subsequent handling, Wolf removed only the metal he wanted to engrave, and did not carelessly scratch the finish. The bluing was done by the heat process, generally known as "charcoal bluing." It has been years since any American factory finished guns by this process, though it gives the very best color finish of all processes ever used. A laborious handcraft method, this heat blue process produced a perfect finish on the barrels and cylinders: the frames were case-hardened as was customary. The blue, mottled colors of the casehardening, and silver finish of the straps combined to produce a firearm with color appeal as well as streamlined symmetry.

To display such examples of Presidential opulence, a properly fitted case was necessary for each pair. Made of lusterously polished rosewood with silver corners, they were lined inside with red velvet. Like the more common plain mahogany cases, these were probably not made at the Colt factory. However,

the difference in workmanship between the handsome case and the ordinary partitioning may mean that this latter work was done at the factory. The pattern of the partitions, similar to other, plainer double cases, is regular and rather crude in workmanship.

With the guns for Charles XV went everything necessary to make them shoot, except perhaps a bullet mould! A box of Eley Brothers percussion caps, a powder flask of standard pattern holding about a pound of powder, a couple of dozen cast bullets, and two packets of Colt's combustible cartridges (12 shots in all) were included. An odd accessory very seldom seen with cased Colts is the powder measure, adjustable and used particularly when fine shooting was wanted, where the charges should be measured instead of simply taking the charge the flask would throw. If a bullet mould was ever included, it is lost now. The space which it would occupy is crammed with enough spare parts to keep the guns firing for a whole battle. Actually, twelve shots appear to have been fired. Then the guns were carefully cleaned as they are in perfect condition now.



Royal Colt's case held a box of percussion caps (left) and packets of Colt cartridges (right) made of goldbeater's skin pouches containing powder glued to the bullet. Extremely rare Colt revolver accessory is the adjustable powder measure (center) to use with powder flask for measuring small charges.

Presentation of the Colts represented a diplomatic gesture important to the outcome of the Civil War. At the fall of Fort Sumter, all the nations of Europe were interested observers. Many countries still were monarchies, and the "American democratic experiment" begun in 1776 was being studied. Many felt all along that it could not last, and expected to see the system of states dissolve into petty nations which might still be subject to European colonial expansion, even as Africa and the Orient were being explored by Europeans then.

One of Lincoln's greatest battles was fought in the palaces and embassies over the world, through the long arm of American diplomacy. Recognition of the Confederate States as a sovereign nation by Great Britain was believed imminent. France and other Continental powers were in sympathy with the South. French arms were being run through the blockade. Belgium was a gunmaking center giving the Confederacy its total output. Even the slightest success in gaining the favor of a European nation for the side of the Union was a worthwhile venture to interest Mr. Lincoln.

Lincoln did not have to worry too much about any other true democracies. His fear was that the nobility of other nations would feel allied to the Confederates in a sort of "class struggle." No matter what the causes were of the Civil War, they paled into insignificance against the horrible truth: that the South was fighting to preserve a system of slavery worse than any in the absolute monarchies of Europe. If some misguided feeling of kinship with the aristocracy of the South should put other nations on her side, the United States might be accused of invading and conquering a former part of Britain. And if Great Britain recognized the South, other monarchies like Denmark and Sweden might follow suit. The personal friendship of these kings could be as real an aid to the Union as guns and ammunition. If they would stay neutral and friendly to the U.S., the Union armies could put their house in order without intervention.

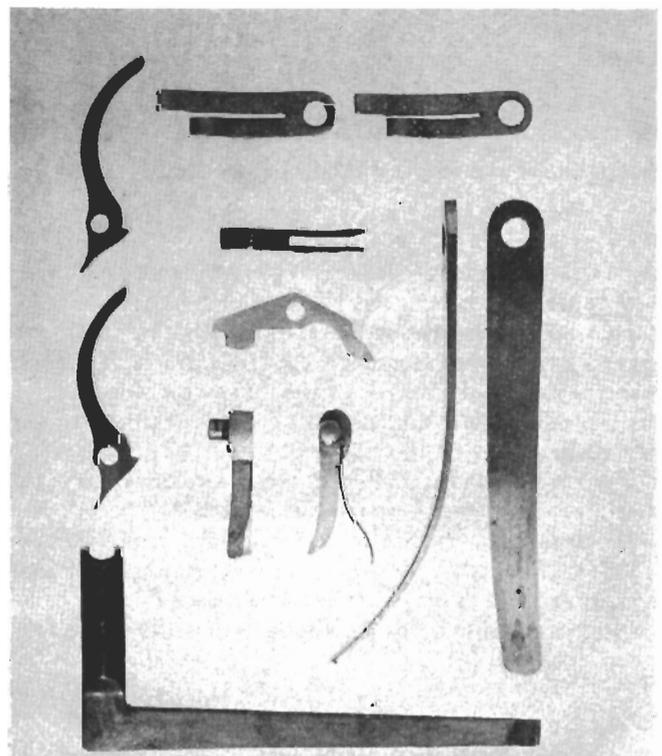
In 1862 the kingdoms of Sweden and Norway were united under the rule of Charles XV, while Frederick VII ruled Denmark. Neutrality of these two nations would insure the continuing neutrality of Prussia and Russia, by closing their Baltic Sea ports. Strategically located, these were two nations potentially sympathetic to the Union cause. Recently absolute monarchy had been abolished. Frederick VII had given his people so many civil rights that they were considered the freest people in Europe with the exception of the British.

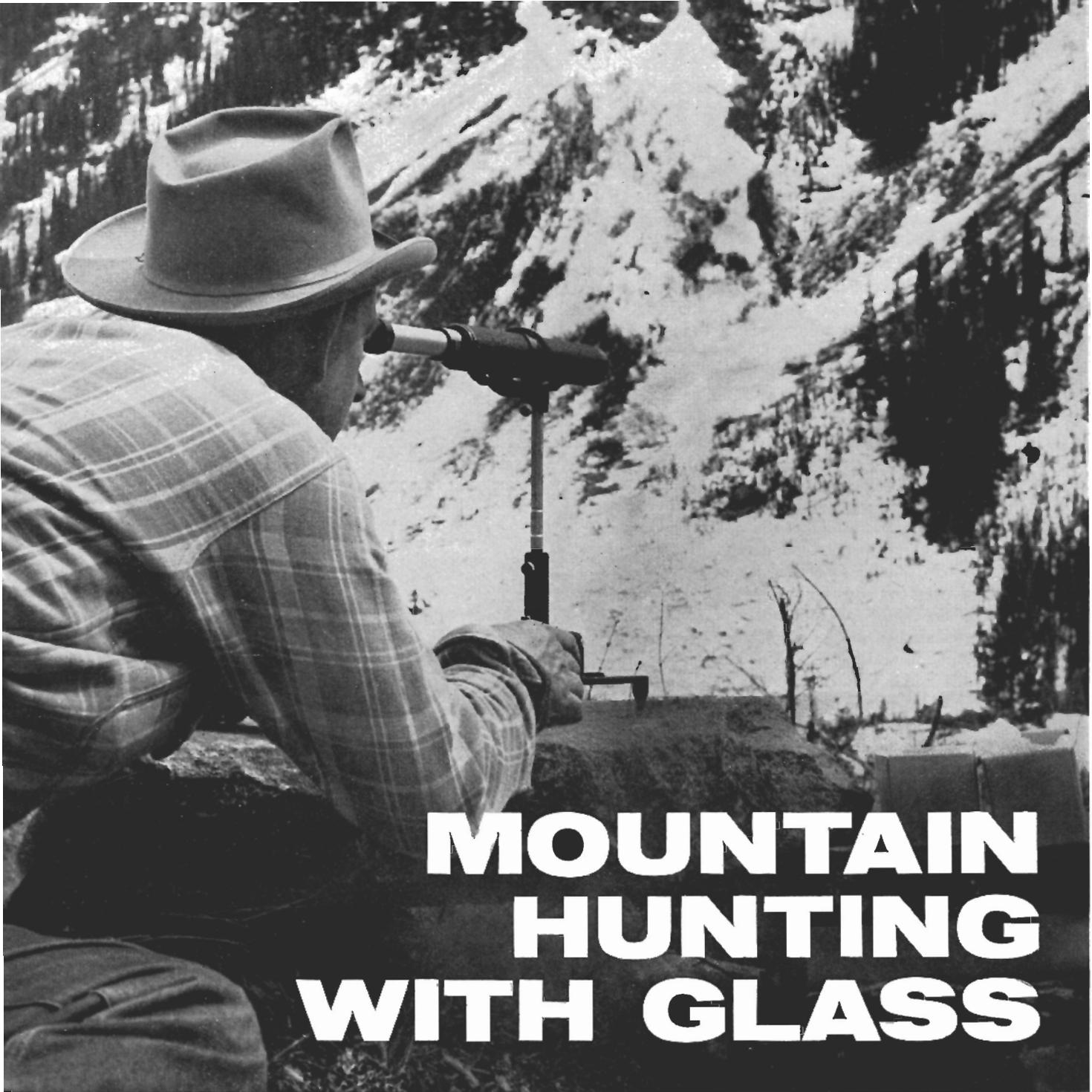
To both Charles XV and Frederick VII gifts from President Lincoln were in order. There were no noble titles which Lincoln could bestow, but the Danish king happened to be a gun collector. U.S. Minister Bradford Wood at Copenhagen told Lincoln that a pair of pistols would be very enthusiastically received. The American Minister to Stockholm, J. S. Halderman, also reported that a pair of Colts for Charles would delight him. Halderman had been told by Count L. Manderstrom that Charles had a fine collection of old and modern guns, and "a pair of Colt's New Model revolvers, of such a widely famed make, would be highly appreciated in itself, irrespective of the fact that the gift would be the expression of the valued friendship of the President."

Though Colt only had a partial connection with the origination of the gift, the real idea having come from the American ministers abroad, he *(Continued on page 58)*



Powder flask with design of Bowie knife, Lone Star flag, San Jacinto cannon symbolizes Texas War of Independence which years before established Sam Colt's gun business. Spare parts (below) to keep guns firing were included.





MOUNTAIN HUNTING WITH GLASS

Saving lungs and legs, mountain hunter studies snowy hillside carefully for animal tracks before setting out for game.

NO MATTER how accurate his gun, no man can shoot better than he can see. With modern-day optics, the hunter no longer merely buys a flat-shooting rifle and expects a miracle of accuracy from crude iron sights. Since man has increased his sense of sight many times with glass, the sensible shooter forgets iron sights and turns to the rifle scope.

Hunters know this well and scopes are invariably the first accessory bought after the rifle itself.

If varmint hunting is on the schedule, many hunters will settle for nothing less than an eight power scope and even go as high as 30 power in some cases. For big game hunting, the majority of woodsman will settle for a four

power scope. Practically all manufacturers make the four power hunting scope and all are good, but some may be better than others for specific reasons—for instance, waterproofing. For mountain hunting where weather is temperamental, the choice should be a scope that is waterproof. This is of extreme importance, for once moisture condenses on the inside of the lenses, the rifle is useless. Auxiliary sights are a necessity when this happens.

Scope reticules are of several designs, but the favorite is the crosshair. Next in popularity is the vertical post, and then the "dot," which is becoming more common in certain makes of scopes.

For long range shooting the post is the worst of the

SENSIBLE HUNTER KNOWS SCOPE CAN SEE FARTHER THAN HIS EYES AND WILL NOT TRACK BIG MOUNTAIN GAME WITHOUT FULL GLASS EQUIPMENT

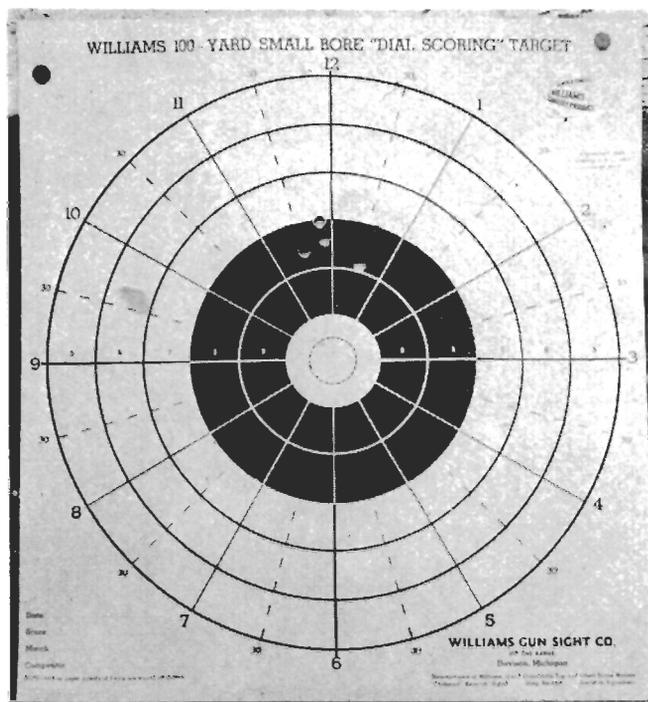
By ALFRED J. GOERG

three. At ranges farther than the gun is sighted for, it is necessary to "hold over" the target and the post will blot out the mark so it is impossible to see just how much higher the gun is being pointed.

The dot reticule has the advantage of acting as a range finder, once the size of the dot is known in comparison with standard objects at the usual ranges. Medium crosshairs are also recommended. Too-thin crosshairs may dissolve or fade in poor light, but medium crosshairs are readily seen in the weak light of early dawn or dusk, and they are not too wide to blot out the target.

In flat woodland most shots are less than fifty yards. But mountainous country on the other hand offers longer ranges for big game shooting and it is wise to sight in at 200 yards. Sighting in at 200 yards makes the majority of rifles, the .257 Roberts through .300 H & H Magnums, strike 2½ inches to 3 inches high at 100 yards. If longer range shots are expected, it would be wise to do some long range practicing before venturing after game.

Whenever I think that the range is around 300 yards instead of 200, I hold fairly even with the top of the back, over the rib cage. Any drop of the bullet will then fall into the lung area. If I have underestimated the range a bit the bullet may drop as far down as to hit the heart. My longest one-shot kill was made at 400 yards with a 130



Long mountain shots can be set up by sighting in rifle at 100 yards to shoot high and get bullseye at 200 yards.

grain .270 on a black bear. The bear was facing me when I held the lateral crosshair even with the top of the bear's head between his ears. I later retrieved this bullet from the base of his neck.

When sighting in your rifle a spotting scope will save time and trouble. You can spot your shots and make corrections without getting off your stomach or moving from the bench. The 20 power spotting scope is the size usually made, and is as much useful in the mountains for glassing the terrain as it is on the target range. If you are after a trophy, a spotting scope will save hours of hard

Author Goerg sighting-in his new Husqvarna .270 uses at least five separate and distinct lenses to see his target. Perfect eyesight would not give a man the tremendous visual advantage in shooting that these scopes offer hunter.





Shot at a feeding bear on far slope took a little "Tennessee elevation" to get him at 400-yard range over valley.

Hunter prepares to shoot head off spruce grouse. This takes rifle properly sighted in as well as good sight.



labor looking for and finding game. Once spotted, it then is easy to tell whether there is a trophy head among them. A whole day can be wasted by stalking "goats" which turn out to be once-distant snow patches.

Once the country has been thoroughly glassed and the game is located, the 6x or 8x binocular takes over where the spotting scope left off. Customarily worn around the neck where it is handy, binoculars make it possible to keep check on the animal at intervals while the stalk is being made. Glasses also let you search for the best path by which to make the stalk, both for ease and accessibility, and a noiseless approach.

Glasses are not the solution to every problem, and once you have obtained the finest in sights and scopes, don't expect them to do your thinking for you. One time my guide and I were about a mile up river from base camp in the British Columbia Rockies. It was late afternoon, and I was on my spring bear hunt. We had stopped on a rock slide to finish the last of our noon lunch. From our vantage point among the large boulders we mastered a vast view of the alder-covered slides where the winter snow was receding. Bits of green were showing right to the very edge of the snow.

Suddenly Mike, the guide, dropped his sandwich, picked up his binoculars, and took a long look at the hill. "Might be a black bear on the top edge of the alders near that alpine spruce," he observed.

Quickly I grabbed my binoculars, and sure enough, I could make out a black shape working in the yellow avalanche lillies where Mike had pointed. I looked for a route to make my stalk, and was on my way.

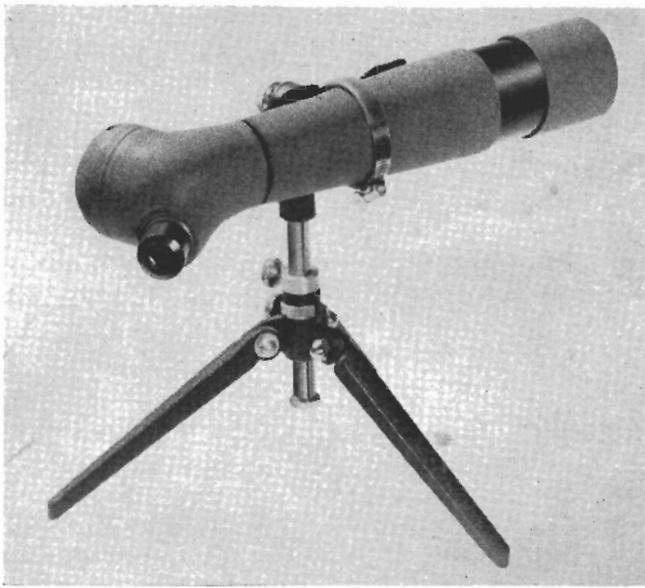
Sometime later I reached the same elevation as the bear which was but a couple of small ridges distant. Being able to see him as a blob of black, through the fringe of alder on one of the ridges between us, I aimed carefully and fired. There was a glimpse of rolling black and everything went quiet except for the fading rifle blast echoing and re-echoing down the long valley.

In a few minutes I was at the spot where the bear had been when I fired. There was a trail of blood into a small, deep ravine. As I reached the bottom, there was my "trophy"—a large, *black* porcupine! We had mistaken an off-color porky for a bear.

Even with the use of optical aids, it is possible to make an error if the view is slightly obstructed. In this case the one thing that had fooled us both was the alpine spruce which was a young tree but had the same shape as the large ones. Seen through the glasses this made the "bear" appear much larger. In addition, the porky was working out in the open like a bear instead of in the timber eating bark like a respectable porcupine should.

With the aid of binoculars, it is possible to distinguish burnt stumps from sleeping bear, a rock from a mule deer, antlers from branches. Even if a spotting scope is not obtainable, it would be foolhardy to forget to take along binoculars. At least then you won't be complaining that there was "game all around us, if I had only seen it," for with glasses you've had every chance to look.

But as a man climbs over rock, across slides and up mountain slopes for long days without having fired a shot because he didn't see anything worth while, he becomes somewhat itchy to "line up" on something. "Is my gun still holding its zero?" he'll think. When he reaches this stage, a fellow is entitled to some outlet. The one that I usually resort to is on the return to camp at the end of the



Range spotting scopes like this 45° Bushnell Spacemaster are useful for searching far hillsides for game trophies.

day. When a grouse is flushed into a tall spruce, take careful aim bearing in mind that the bullet will be slightly above aim, and then take off his head.

This bit of showmanship is a wonderful, though egotistical morale builder and it does show the guide what you are capable of. So, when you finally do see your trophy after long days of tracking, and it is 300 yards away and nearly impossible to shorten the distance, he'll place his hand on your shoulder and confidently say, "Take him, partner, he's yours." ©



Grouse picked off from spruce tree is test of skill and restores hunter's confidence after poor day's hunting.

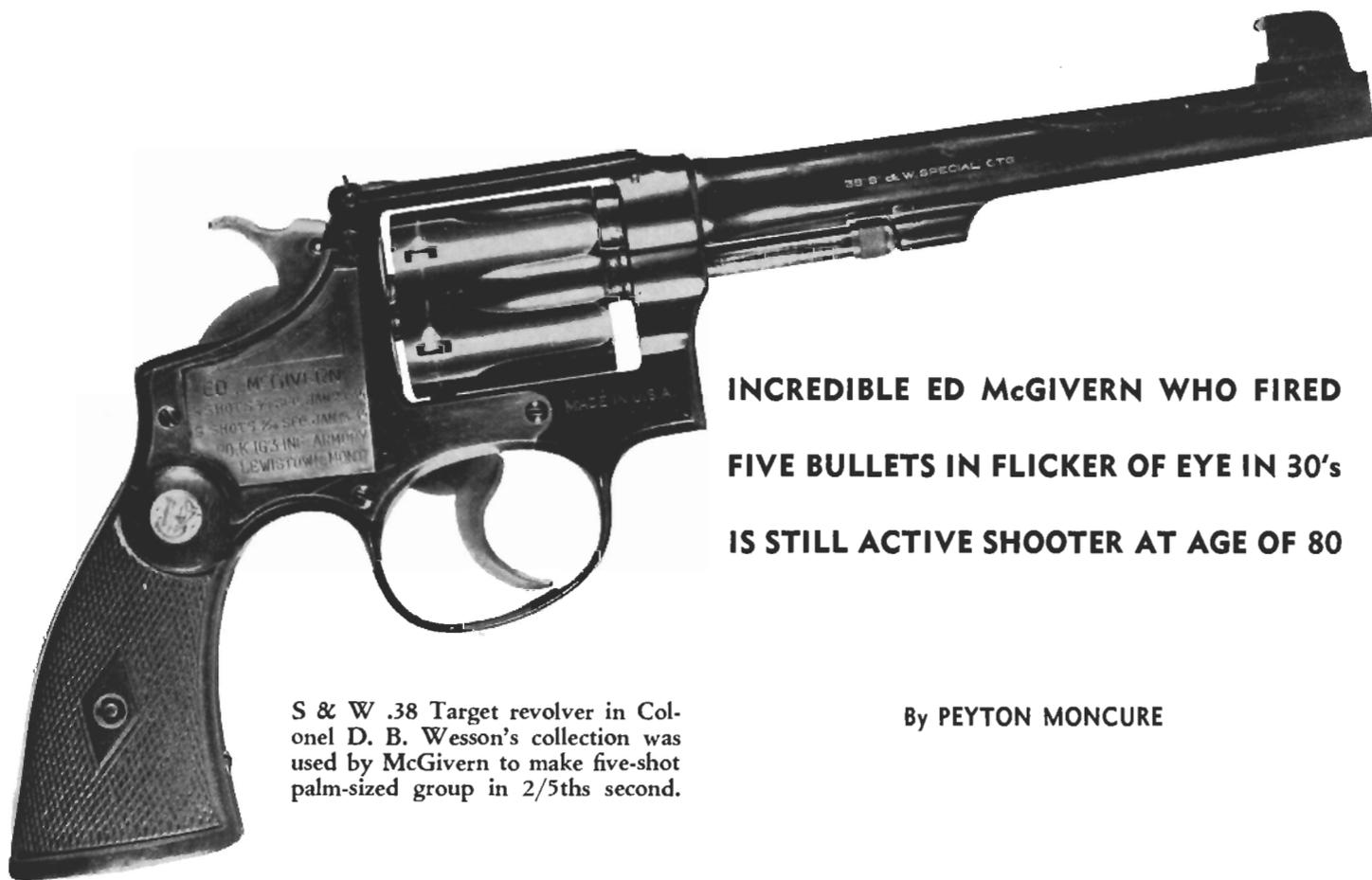
Getting big black bear at 250 yards with outfit like Leupold 4x on HVA caps thrill and enjoyment of successful hunt. With right sight accurate shooting is virtually matter-of-fact for any hunter with a little experience and good rifle.





Legendary "fanning" of six-shooter is performed by Ed McGivern who has aged little in 20 years since these photos

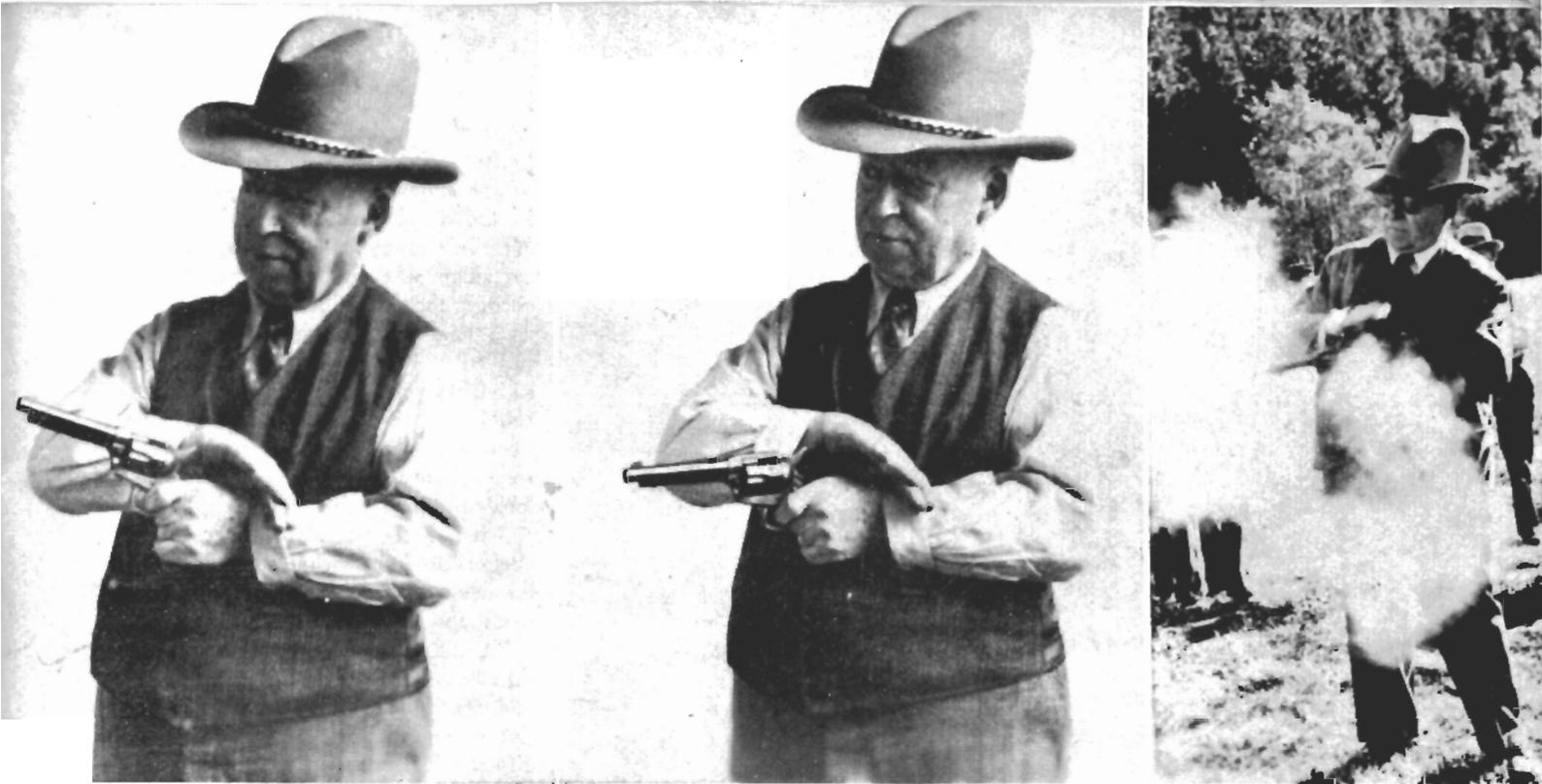
THE FASTEST



**INCREDIBLE ED MCGIVERN WHO FIRED
FIVE BULLETS IN FLICKER OF EYE IN 30's
IS STILL ACTIVE SHOOTER AT AGE OF 80**

S & W .38 Target revolver in Colonel D. B. Wesson's collection was used by McGivern to make five-shot palm-sized group in 2/5ths second.

By PEYTON MONCURE



were taken. Fastest way to shoot the Single Action, fanning harms lockwork and lays down black powder smokescreen.

SHOOTER ALIVE

AT THE AGE of 80, Ed McGivern is still the fastest shooter alive. The old master of speedy and fancy revolver shooting is alert and even radiant whenever guns are mentioned in his home in Great Falls, Montana. I recently visited the master shooter and his clear, blue eyes and fervent voice radiated self assurance as he recollected some of his achievements with guns in past years.

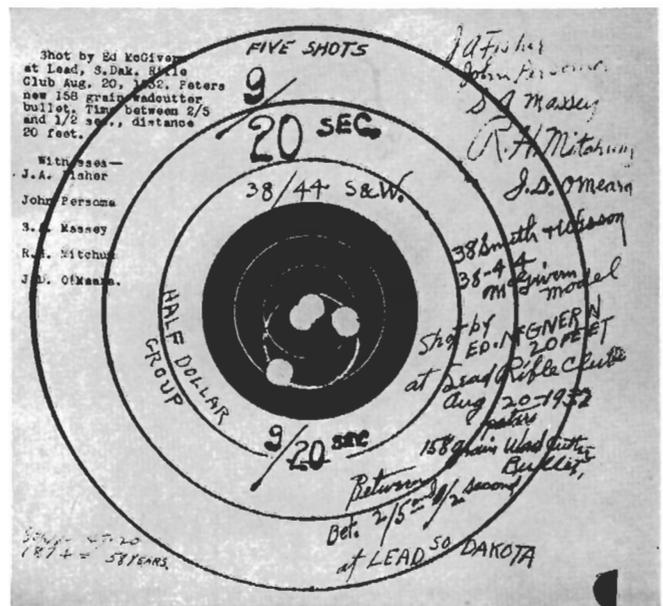
His book on "Fast and Fancy Revolver Shooting" is recognized as a classic on the subject and he fondly likes to recall some of the chapters in the volume. "This is probably still one of my greatest accomplishments," he noted, as he pointed to a photo in the book. "A quick draw with two guns and firing ten shots in a total time of one and a fifth seconds, firing five shots from each gun, each group completely covered by an ordinary playing card."

Using one revolver, he placed five shots on a playing card at 15 feet in two-fifths of a second (five shots is considered a group in official shooting, and the cylinder of the revolver is never loaded with more than five cartridges). McGivern, in differentiating between "timed fire" and "rapid fire," points out that five shots in 20 seconds is classified as "timed fire," while five shots in 10 seconds constitutes "rapid fire." In both cases the gun is brought up level with the eye and careful sighting made before firing.

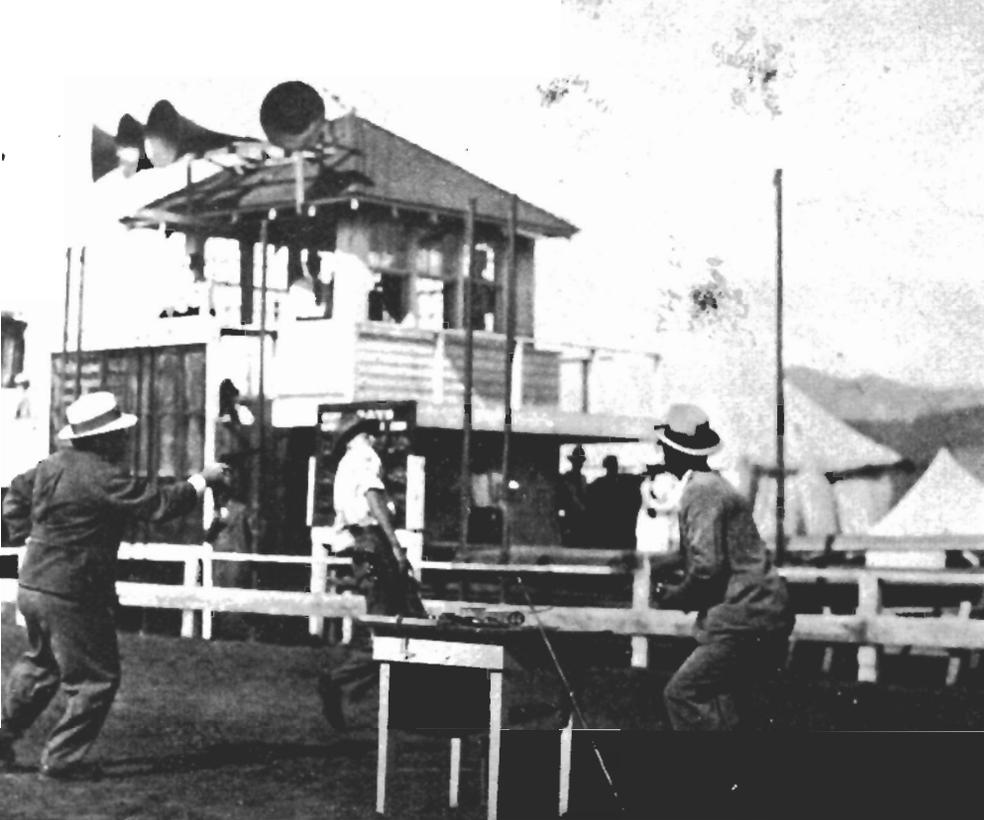
One of his favorite exhibition stunts even today is having an assistant throw five clay pigeons in the air at the same time. He breaks them all while still in the air. Another is hitting lead discs the size of a dime which are tossed in the air across his field of vision. Still others are

cutting cards in two edgewise as they are tossed upright in front of him; and putting six shots in a tin can when tossed in the air. One of his more difficult stunts is covering the hole of ordinary steel washers with white paper and then putting a bullet hole through the white paper as the washers are tossed in the air facing him.

Throughout the years until 1935 when McGivern's



Witnesses signed target establishing authenticity of McGivern's shooting of five shots in 9/20's second.



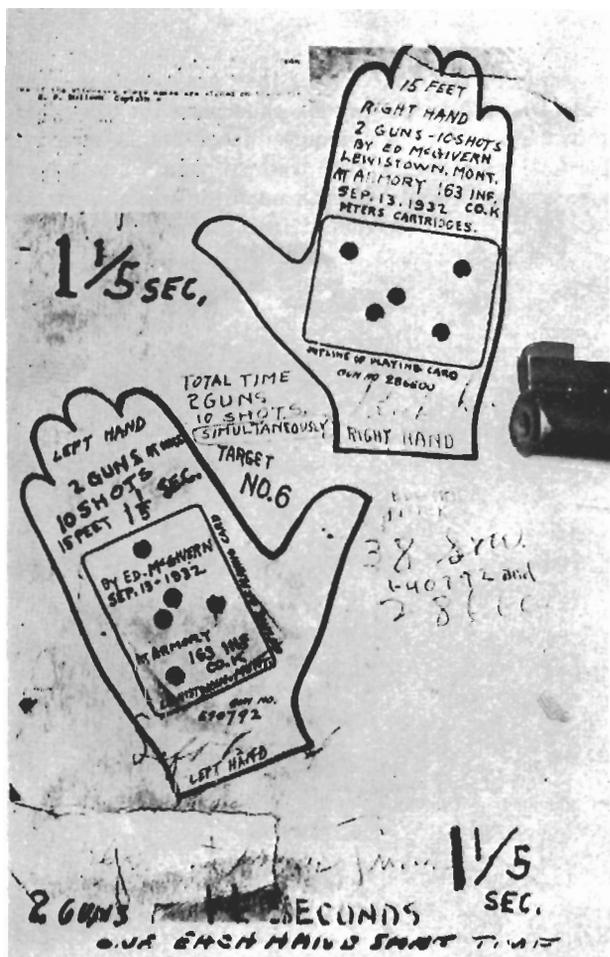
At Central Montana Fair in 1931 McGivern astonished viewers by simultaneously shattering with bullets, five clay birds thrown into the air.

book, "Fast & Fancy Revolver Shooting" was published, he worked with Smith & Wesson as well as Colts. Some of the shooting up to 600-yards done in the development of Colonel Doug Wesson's great .357 Magnum revolver cartridge was by McGivern, demonstrating the possibilities of the revolver as a long-range weapon. Other work proved Smith & Wessons were entirely satisfactory for speed shooting, and refuted McGivern's earlier flat-out statement about the Colt superiority in the speed shooting field. S & W had made lockwork changes in the interim.

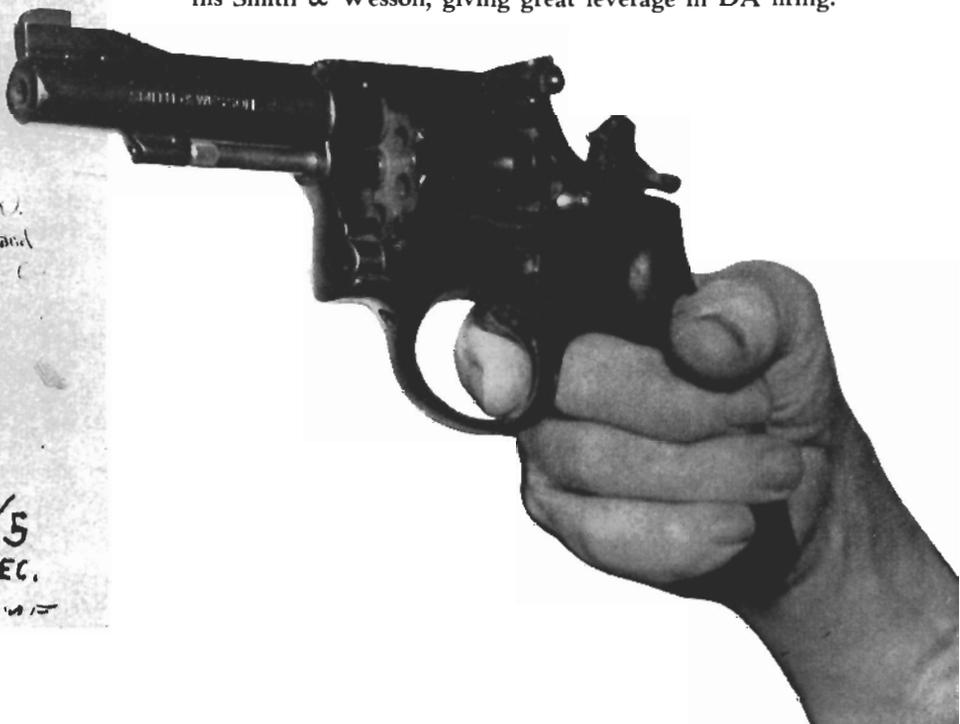
When I visited Ed McGivern I was curious to know what this master of the trigger finger science would recommend for a beginner, and why.

"A .22 caliber for beginners. For three reasons: less recoil, less noise, and sensible economy. The combination of recoil and noise throws the beginner off. In our early training we always use .22 caliber double action revolvers chambered for .22 long rifle, but we can use shorts for practice because they're cheaper and their range on aerial target is shorter and safer."

In his experience the use of shorts in a gun chambered for long rifles didn't harm the gun; the gun needed only to be carefully cleaned after using. And the best all-around barrel length, he believes, is the four-inch and the six-inch. The shorter the barrel the quicker the draw; the longer the bar-



Draw and fire 10 shots with two guns in 1 1/5 seconds was stunt repeated by McGivern several times. Such trigger speed could only be obtained by McGivern putting his short, chunky finger tip low on the trigger of his Smith & Wesson, giving great leverage in DA firing.



rel the more accurate the pointing.

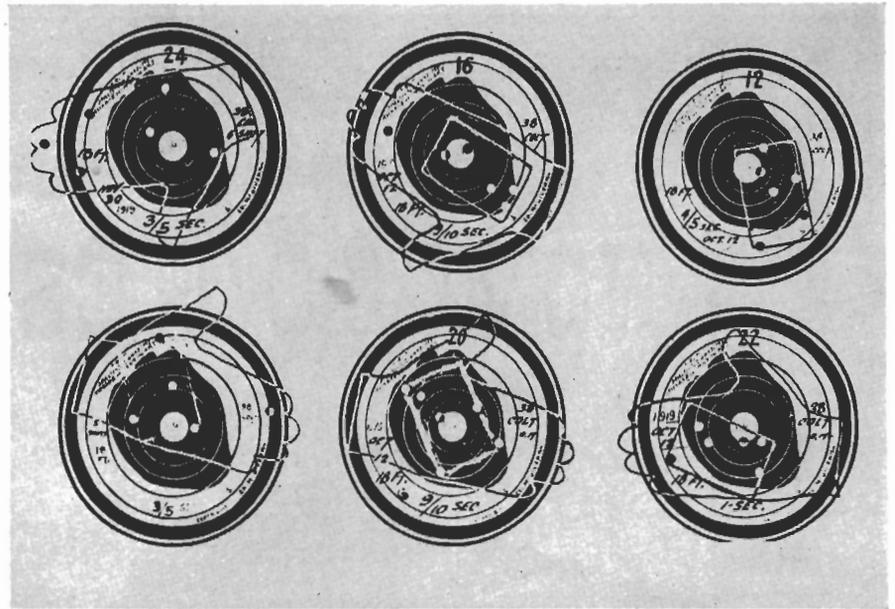
"The best all around gun for the advanced shooter is the .38 special," says McGivern. "It is also a very good gun for self protection. The .45 caliber is used to a lesser extent by the general public. The .357 magnum brass shell is $\frac{1}{10}$ of an inch longer than the ordinary .38 special shell and uses different powder. It's no gun for the beginner, but strictly for the graduate shooter, also for police work, and for game shooting."

Since Ed McGivern is a recognized authority on both fast and fancy shooting with accuracy combined, I asked him how—aside from the constant practice, of course—he achieved his unusual ability.

"The main thing in the quick draw is *economy of movement* and *minimizing of motions*. In other words, it's easier to move your finger only one inch than it is to move it two or three inches. As soon as you grasp the gun in its holster, that should be the deciding factor. Don't shift your grip or change position of your hand on the grip when you draw the gun from the holster."

Ed McGivern first became active in fancy shooting at a time when American firearms were emerging from the age of single action guns—the famous Colt Army, the accurate Smith & Wesson "Americans" and lighter single shot target arms. Both double action revolvers and the entire field of automatics had hardly 20 years behind them.

Those were the days of the rifle and shotgun exhibition shooters—professionals and amateurs. Colonel Cody's Wild West (Continued on page 39)



Targets shot at Denver, Colorado, in 1919 represent first of public performances by McGivern. Gun was Colt Officers .38 Special with 6 inch barrel.



Electric timing equipment of McGivern used on both Colt and Smith & Wesson revolvers gave precise shooting times.



Precise aim possible with DA revolver shooting is shown in McGivern's Buffalo Bill drawn with .22 S & W's.



HOW TO RESTORE

OLD GUNS

Once heavily rusted, early 17th Century Brescian pistol has been cleaned by an expert, who has removed the dirt and grime but retained important engraving details, marks like the stockmaker's name below lock.

UNKNOWING AND UNCARING DEALERS OFTEN BUTCHER FINE, OLD WEAPONS BY DESTROYING ORIGINAL SHAPE OR MARKS IMPORTANT TO COLLECTORS

By KINGSLEY P. KARNOPP

ONCE A MAN painted his house at a cost of a few hundred bucks, and got \$2,000 more for it. Then he used a little of his profit to start a gun collection. He bought a Civil War revolver at a fair price—the finish was worn off but the mechanism and bore were in good shape. Noticing that the cowboys in the never-never land of Hollywood always had real shiny guns, he spent a few bucks more and had the gun chrome plated. Later on, he got tired of his shiny wonder and took it to a meeting of the Dismal Swamp Gun Collectors Association. “Surely,” thought he, “I can make a fast buck on this fine gun over and above my cost and the cost of the plating.” He was rudely disappointed when the best offer he got was

less than he had paid for the gun when he bought it.

“Look, buster,” a critical collector told him, “nobody ever heard of chrome plating before 1928 and on your 1861 pistol it looks as much in place as headlights on a covered wagon. You just loused up a good gun.”

“Restoration” like this is a double crime, because it reduces the collector’s own value in the gun and reduces the total number of collector’s guns by one. Piece by piece unknowing collectors or uncaring dealers have butchered fine old guns to the point where originality ends and faking begins.

At a recent gun collectors meeting I attended, a gold-plated Dragoon Colt was offered for sale. I don’t know the

price, but there was a hundred dollars worth of gold plating on that gun. It had fallen into the hands of some joker with a buffing wheel, a large supply of coarse polishing paste and lots of muscle, nerve and endurance. By the time this character backed off from the wheel he had removed all the exterior rust and pits, and also the stamped markings and even the shape of the gun had been changed. It is no longer the same gun it used to be, and even with the new gold it seems nearly four ounces lighter. A fresh "paint job" may look good on a house, a car or a woman, but it isn't necessarily the best thing for an old gun.

Modern style rebluing is another common crime. There are few artists in wood and metal who can recondition an old firearm satisfactorily, and these are hard to find and expensive to employ. Modern caustic bluing is commonly used. The old "rust process" finish takes much longer to apply and is more expensive. The early heat "charcoal blue" is almost a lost art. Since the modern shooter is satisfied with caustic bluing, hardly anyone uses the old methods. Even then, restoring involves more than just the right blue. Proper metal preparation is a must.

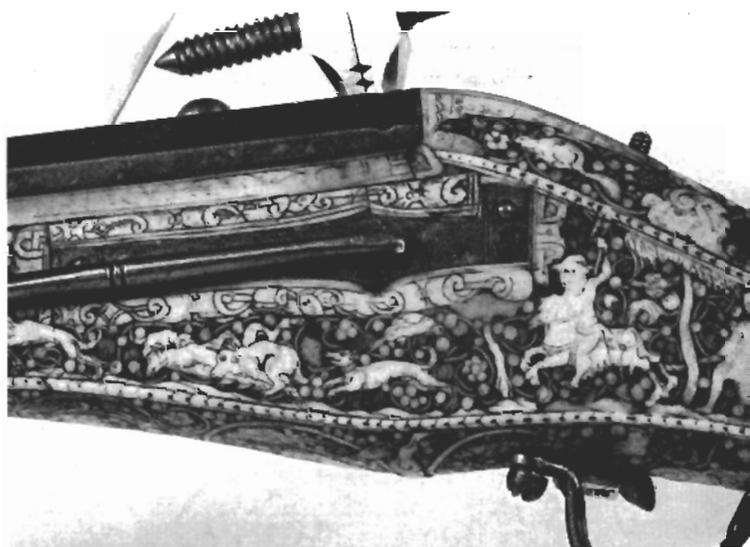
The gun factories once had men who spent their lives in metal finishing and could put a high polish on a piece without loss of lines and corners, which are inevitably buffed off by the modern 40-hour-week polisher. Few people are working today who can properly "blind polish" a flat side, say of an octagonal Colt cap-and-ball barrel, by using the underside of a leather and grit wheel.

Some gunsmiths can do a nice job of re-casehardening pistol and rifle frames, but the results seldom duplicate the original patterns and colors. The modern cyanide process leaves a wear-resisting "case" but the colors are thin and lack the contrast of old-time bone and leather pack hardening. Also, there is a possibility that the frame will warp and be a complete loss.

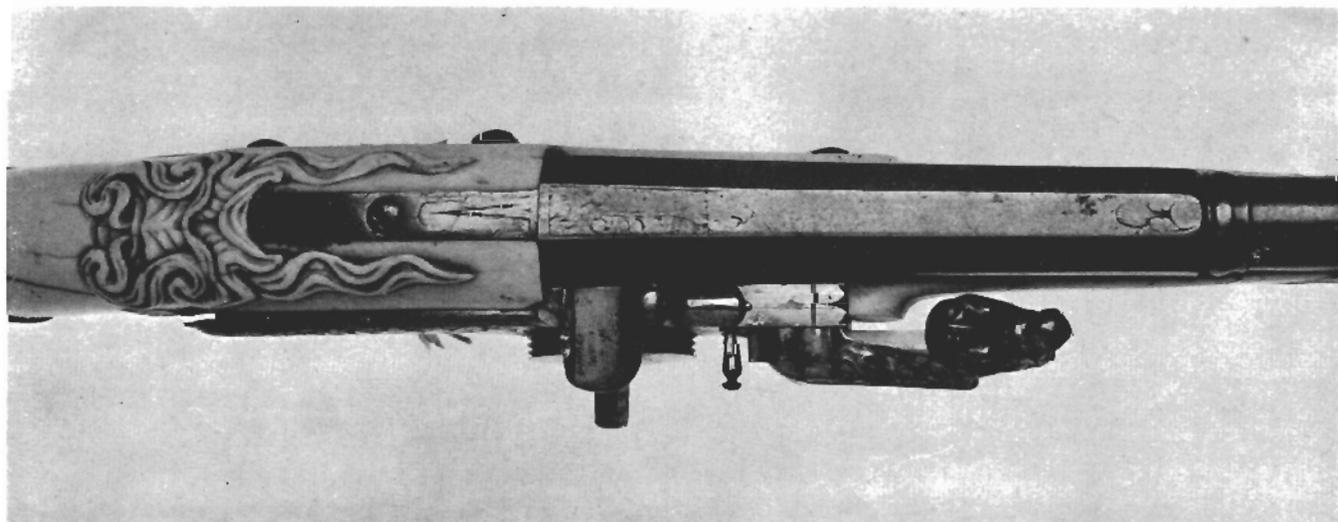
Remington frames are typical in this condition, if some joker has thought that his old Remington would look better with a case-colored frame. They were not finished this way at the factory, and the worst case of warping I ever saw was on what had probably been a pretty good .44 Army whose mis-guided owner had it color hardened. When he brought it to me to fix up his troubles, none of the chambers would line up with the barrel, and that pointed distinctly SE by E.



Contrast in collectors' guns is seen in worn Colt Police Pistol (top) which saw service with Civil War officer. Pocket Model (bottom) is nearly new, was old maid's.



European wheellocks with fine, intricate ivory and pearl inlaid stocks offer maximum problem to the restorer. Few are alive today who can do this work.



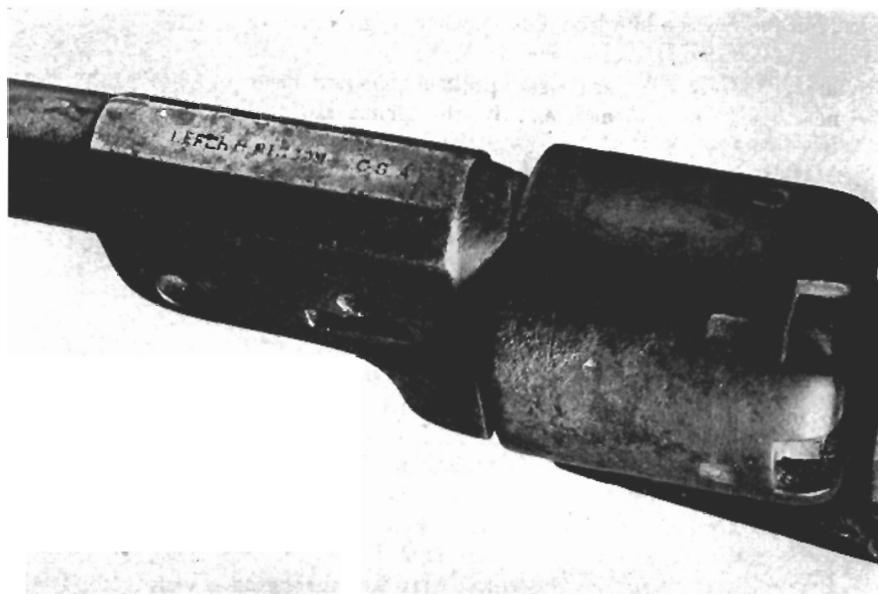
Incompetent restorer heavily buffed the engraved barrel of rare ivory-stocked wheellock Dutch pistol, removing most of the decorative engraving and leaving it highly polished before rebluing by modern method.

Generally speaking there are three kinds of people interested in the old guns. The original type is the pure collector. He wants nothing but the finest firearms in the same condition as when they left the factory a century or more ago. He puts his collection under glass and wouldn't dream of shooting any of the guns, although usually guns in fine outside condition are also good shooters.

Then there is the shooter-collector. He likes them in good outside condition but his first demand is that the bore be shootable. He will take a look and the brighter the bore, the brighter his smile. He wants to shoot this piece to see if he can do as well as grandpa did. He sticks to the methods of bygone years and wants the gun just the way it was made years ago.

The last type of collector has sprung up in only the past few years. He likes to shoot targets or game with muzzle-loading firearms but is happy with a brand new modern piece with chromemoly barrel and modern micrometer sights. If he can pick up an old timer in fine shape, he sees no harm in putting new slots in the barrel or screw holes in the tang for modern sights which are usually superior to original equipment.

Each class thinks the other is a trifle tetchy, but it is possible for all to collect and enjoy black-powder shooting in peace with the others. There is a



Very rare "Leech & Rigdon C S A" Navy revolver could be seriously affected in value by too-heavily cleaning lightly-stamped barrel markings.

unifying factor, what real estate men call "your equity in your property." It amounts to simple cash terms, that when you have bought a gun, restored, rusty, or brand spanking new, it represents dollars to you and a constant value which will not decrease. In fact, it may increase as the years go by. Any collector or shooter hates to take a beating on selling guns. Care and an appreciation of what others find valuable in an old gun may go a long way

toward making the difference between a finely restored profit or a chrome-plated loss.

Many interesting guns can still be picked up from junk shops, attics and basements, or from old, long-neglected collections. The rust and dust of scores of years may be on them, or the results of generations of juvenile dry firing all too apparent. What should be done to these pieces in restoring that will satisfy the collector? (Continued on page 42)



Delicate engraving on Colt New Police Pistol (shown about four times natural size) is very shallow. No abrasive cloth should ever be used to clean such guns, but only a little fine steel wool with oil.



THE MOST DANGEROUS GAME

Armed with spear and gun, two loyal Africans stand guard in Kenya stronghold fortified with sharpened bamboo stakes.

RELENTLESS HUNT FOR MAU MAU TERRORISTS GOES ON IN EAST AFRICAN COLONY OF KENYA WHERE EVERY WHITE MAN MUST CONTINUALLY CARRY GUN

By HARVEY BRANDT

THE ONE COUNTRY in the world where everyone—at least everyone white—carries a gun is Kenya, the British colony in East Africa. Here in the wild brush of the back-country as well as in the city streets of Nairobi, a relentless hunt continually goes on for the world's most dangerous game—man!

The lions and rhinoceros hunted on safari in the up-

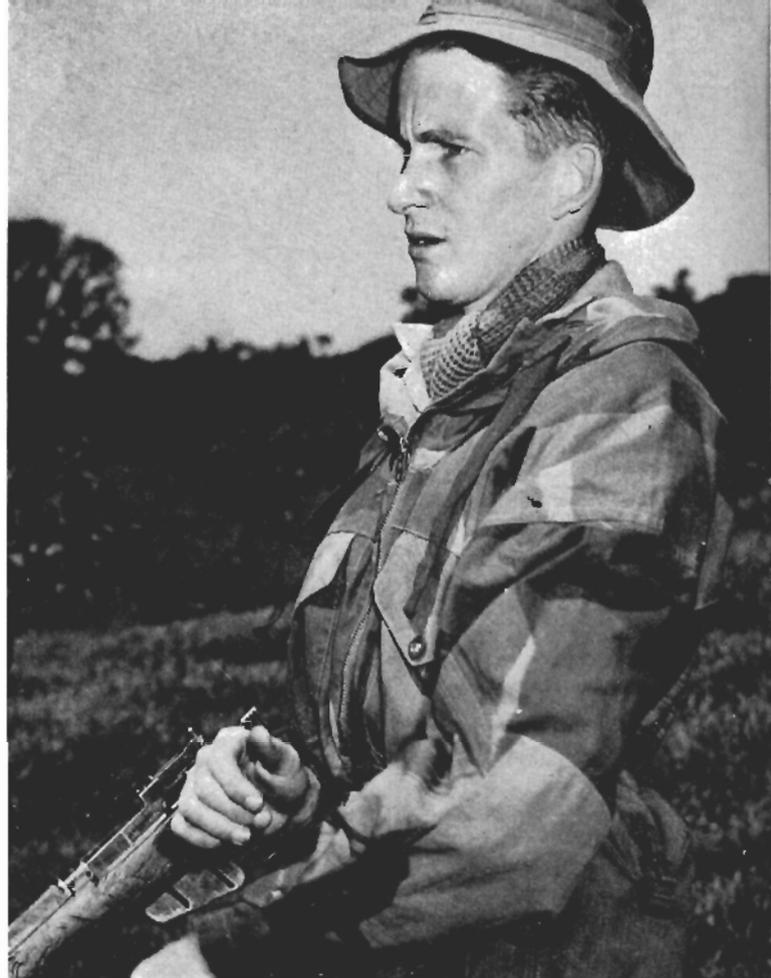
land jungles of Kenya are meek, easily-caught prey compared to the quarry called the Mau Mau. They are native Kikuyu tribesmen, revolting against colonial rule of white men in Africa and embarked on a reign of blood and savagery. For four years thousands of troops as well as civilians have hunted down the hidden Mau Mau but still they lurk behind every tree in the jungle.



Home-made Mau Mau gun has gas-pipe barrel fitted onto well-carved stock. Breech mechanism, modelled on Enfield rifle, was made on lathe. Many guns are dangerous to shooter.



Out on patrol in jungle, loyalist militia is led by British officer carrying Patchett automatic, improved version of Sten.



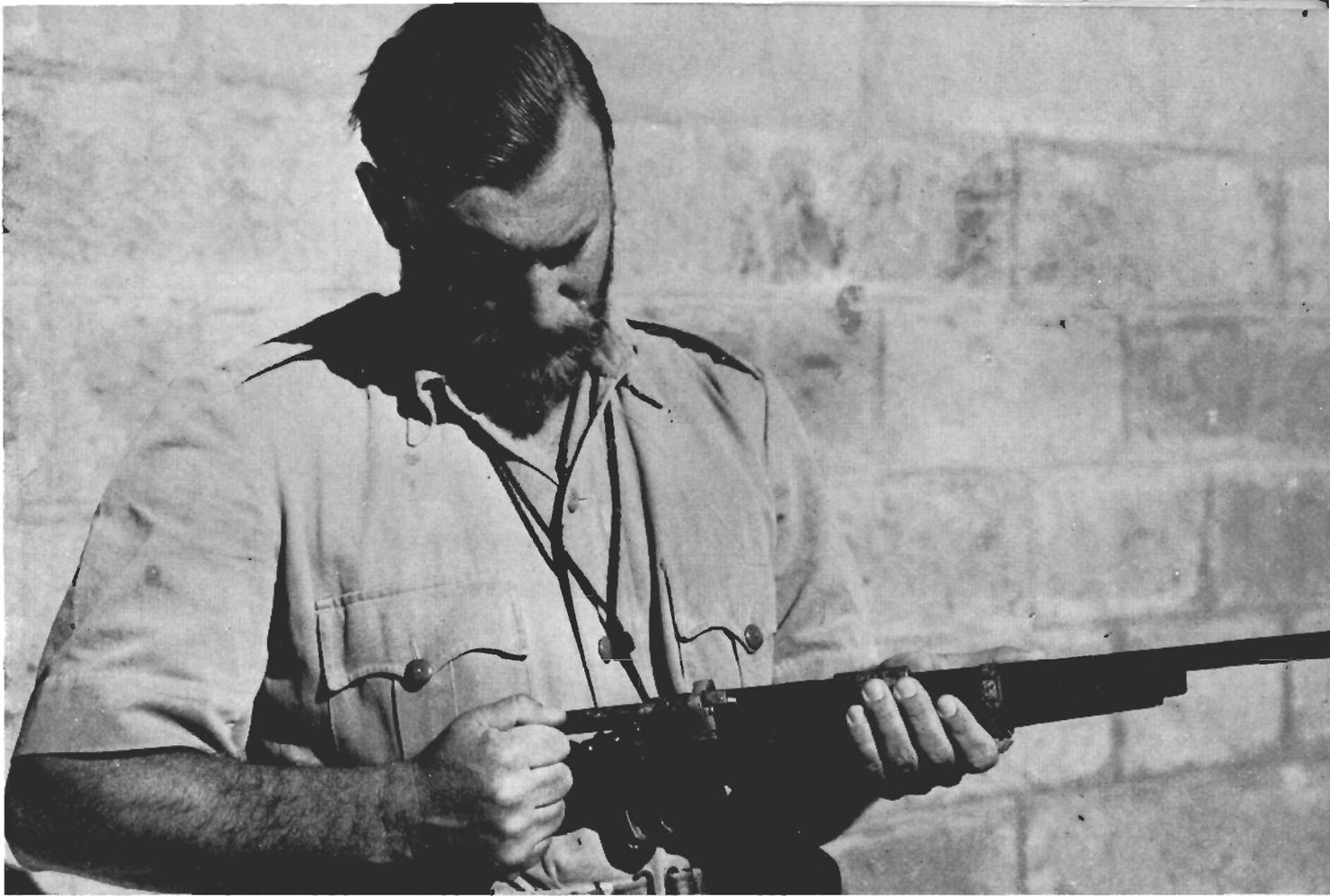
Dressed in standard jungle fighting dress of green and brown, soldier carries beat-up Lee Enfield .303 rifle.



Blockhouse-type structure similar to those of early American colonial days are used in Kenya to fight off Mau Mau and protect villages in 24-hour vigil.

Continual raids by Mau Mau gangs recall the days of Indian fighting on the American plains a century ago. Small farms are armed camps and above the leafy green of tropical trees on every farm rises a stone or brick tower with gun slits at the top. Well stocked with food, water, and ammunition, this tower is the refuge in case of attack. With his Bren gun at hand, a guard stands constant vigil over the farm ready to sound an alarm if Mau Mau gangs approach. One feature of clothing has become a constant: every one carries a revolver no matter what they are doing or where they may be.

This is a stern lesson, learned from police reports of dead victims of Mau Mau frenzy. One man was found hacked almost beyond identification with the heavy Mau Mau short sword, the *simi*. He lay near his book case. Ten feet away was his revolver, lying on a smoking stand near his easy chair. He had merely crossed the room to get a book, and watching terrorists had broken in on him. The two Mau Maus were killed by people from the next room, but this did not save the



Gun captured from Mau Mau is examined by British officer. Such well-made guns are unusual. Most use rubber bands for springs, are more dangerous to user than target shot at. One out of seven Mau Maus may be equipped with good gun.

farmer who laid his pistol down in a moment of carelessness.

The attacks by the Mau Mau gangs became so severe that in October of 1952, a state of emergency was declared. Literally overnight Nairobi became an armed city. The stores were doing a rush business in every sort of firearm of every vintage. Even an 1847 Walker Colt from the days of the American war with Mexico turned up in the colony-wide scramble for guns!

Regulations were passed permitting the open carrying of pistols and revolvers. While many sported belted weapons just out of "cowboyism," the danger was there, all about them. It was not safe to be without a gun, even in the "privacy" of one's own home. Devoted house servants had been known to secretly take the Mau Mau oath, and kill their employers.

As a consequence, every home owner, every businessman, young ladies waiting for their escorts in the cocktail lounges of fashionable Nairobi clubs carried loaded pistols or submachine guns constantly.

During the early part of 1952 large export houses of England got hurry-up calls for small arms and the Kenya market soon depleted the cream of the war-surplus weapons in England. Thousands of Colt and Smith & Wesson revolvers obtained by Britain under lend lease, and selected from government sales and held for delivery to American buyers, were diverted to Kenya.

One firm possessed some 80 Smith & Wesson Model 1899 Navy revolvers of a type so rare that all the listed

descriptions of this model in the collector reference books are incorrect; even the "experts" had never seen one. Twelve of these guns were shipped to America, but the balance of the lot, along with 300 Smith & Wesson .38 special revolvers, first offered for \$8.40 each, were sent on to Kenya for twice that price. Sten guns and the more modern version, the Patchett, were issued by Army units to farmers, awaiting the shiploads of Lee-Enfields, Webleys and Bren guns sent on from England.

The Mau Mau managed to get a few guns, too. Their main source was from mass raids on police patrols or farmhouses. Talk of any outside influence aiding the gangs was denied, and the shoddy equipment of the Mau Maus, varied with an occasional British weapon, indicated their sources of supply were local.

The Mau Mau were poorly armed, roughly one precision weapon—which may be a revolver, shotgun or rifle—to each seven natives. The rank and file carried the short sword or *simi*, or home-made guns like the "zip guns" of American hoodlums. These were fabricated from curtain rods and inner tube rubber, with crudely-fashioned wooden stocks.

In most cases these guns are more dangerous to the firer than to the British target. Ammunition of any size, including high-powered rifle cartridges, is jammed into the breech of the "zip gun" and a rubber-powered nail acts as a firing pin. Some of the better-constructed weapons do manage to send a bullet out of the barrel. British soldiers can always distinguish (*Continued on page 54*)

KENTUCKY RIFLES: 1955 MODEL

By ROBERT J. KINDLEY

R. HICKS -- GUNSMITH
Maker of Flintlock and Percussion
Rifle Guns and Pistols.
Kentucky Rifles and Pistols
Restored and Repaired.

THIS SIGN outside a little store in Albuquerque, New Mexico, is no antique, but a fresh-painted sign outside the gun shop of Richard Hicks. Here, 2,000 miles from Kentucky's dark and bloody ground where the famous rifle first made its appearance, and two hundred years removed in time, are being made exact replicas of the traditional Kentucky rifle, lock, stock and barrel.

When I first visited Hick's shop I rather expected the gunsmith to be a crusty old craftsman, temperamental and close-mouthed. Surprisingly Dick turned out to be a pleasant 32-year-old ex-Marine. He was very willing to talk as long as the conversation centered around the long muzzle-loading rifles of our pioneer ancestors. Like the traditional gunmakers who originated the Kentucky, Dick is a busy and energetic craftsman. His shop is the hangout of every black powder enthusiast in Albuquerque.

At present Dick turns out about three completely-finished rifles a month plus finding time to sandwich a few of his fine flintlock pistols in between. In addition he repairs and restores original Kentuckies for collectors and shooters—restocking, "freshing out" bores, repairing and rebuilding locks, and boring out and re-rifling badly pitted or "shot out" barrels.

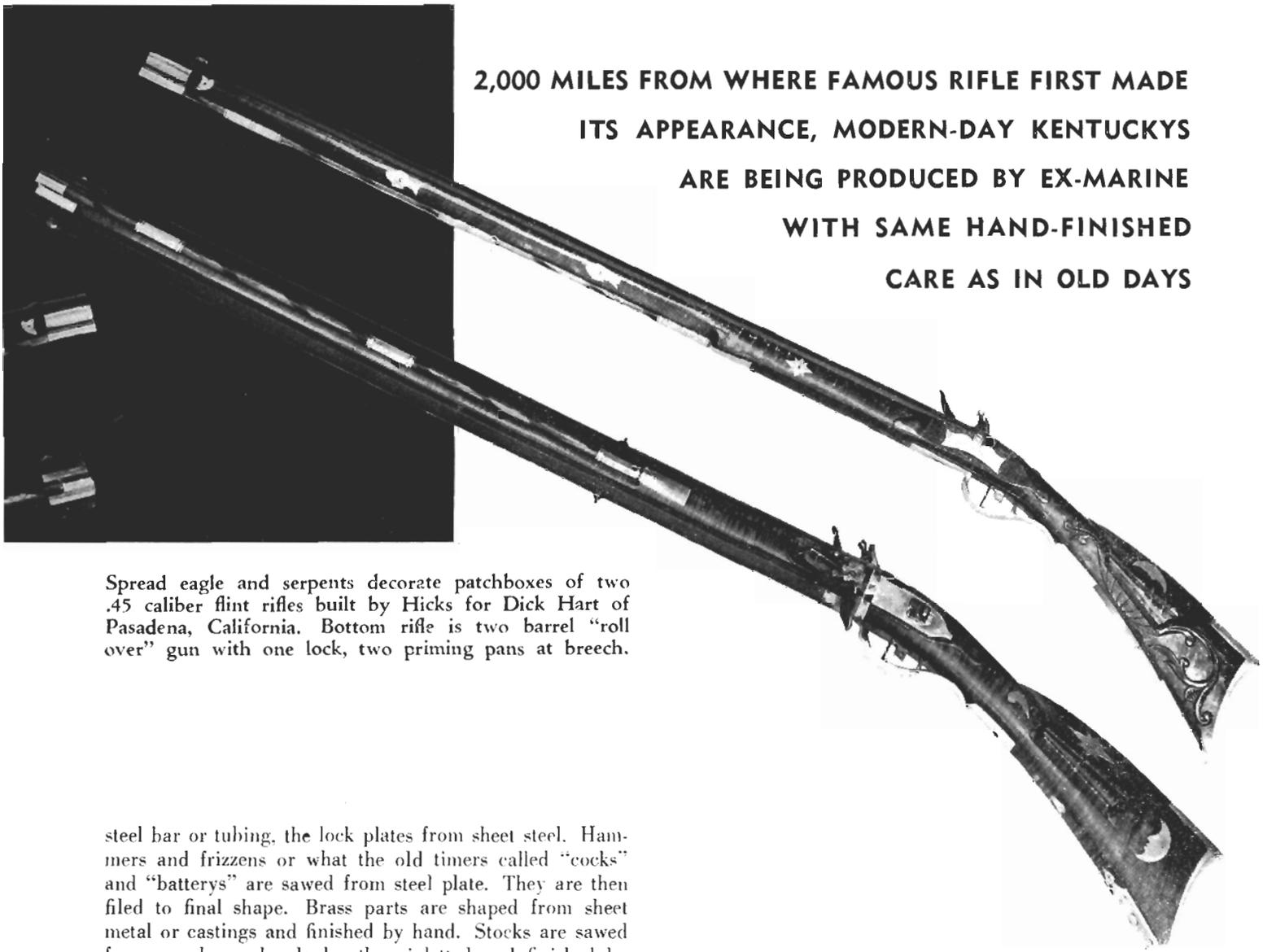
This Southwest gunmaker takes great pride in the fact that he builds his entire 1955 version Kentucky rifle from the raw material to the finished piece. He is one of the very few gunsmiths in the country doing this sort of work.

The barrels of Hicks rifles are made from suitable



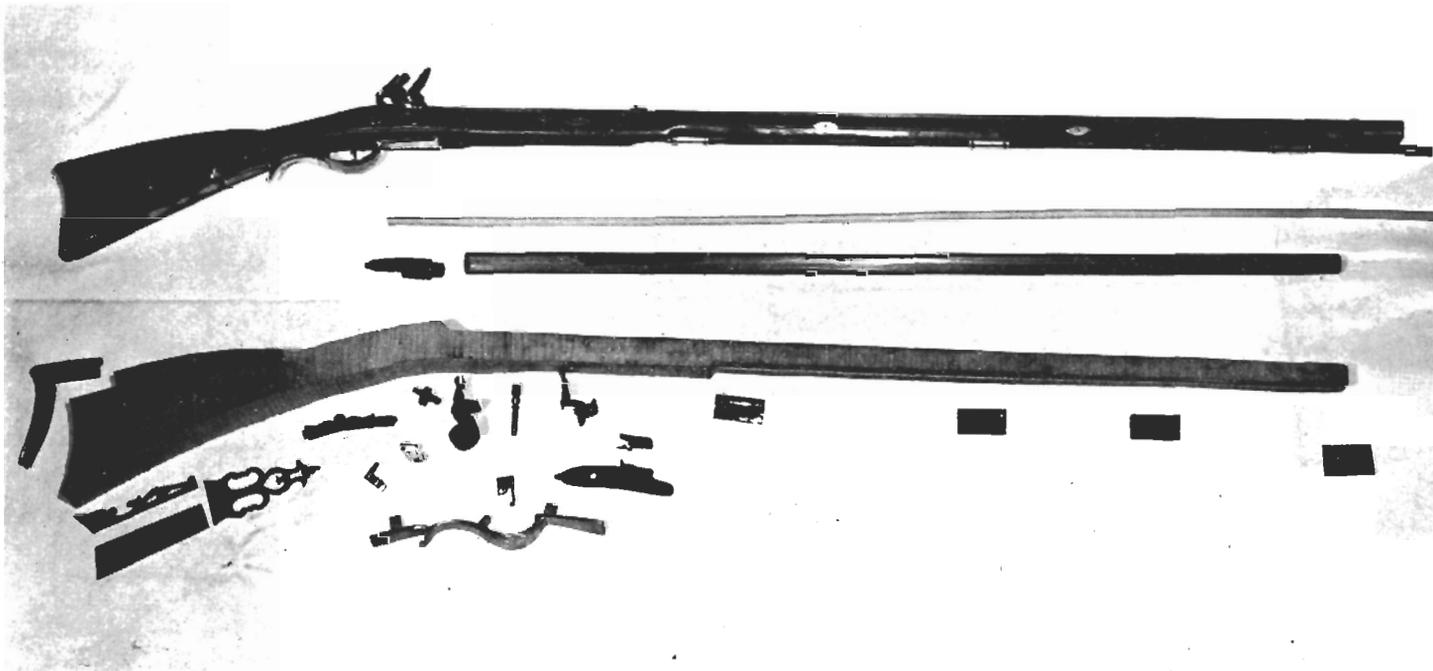
In his Albuquerque shop, riflesmith Dick Hicks cuts rifling grooves in barrel blank moving cutter by hand.

2,000 MILES FROM WHERE FAMOUS RIFLE FIRST MADE
ITS APPEARANCE, MODERN-DAY KENTUCKYS
ARE BEING PRODUCED BY EX-MARINE
WITH SAME HAND-FINISHED
CARE AS IN OLD DAYS

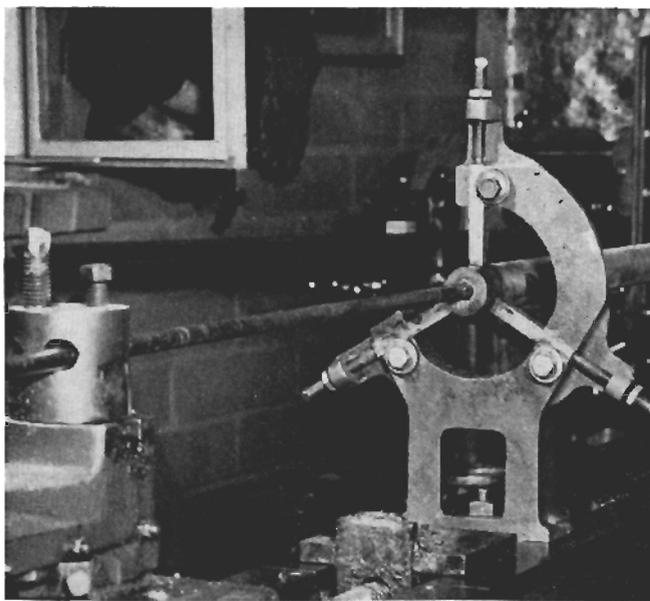


Spread eagle and serpents decorate patchboxes of two .45 caliber flint rifles built by Hicks for Dick Hart of Pasadena, California. Bottom rifle is two barrel "roll over" gun with one lock, two priming pans at breech.

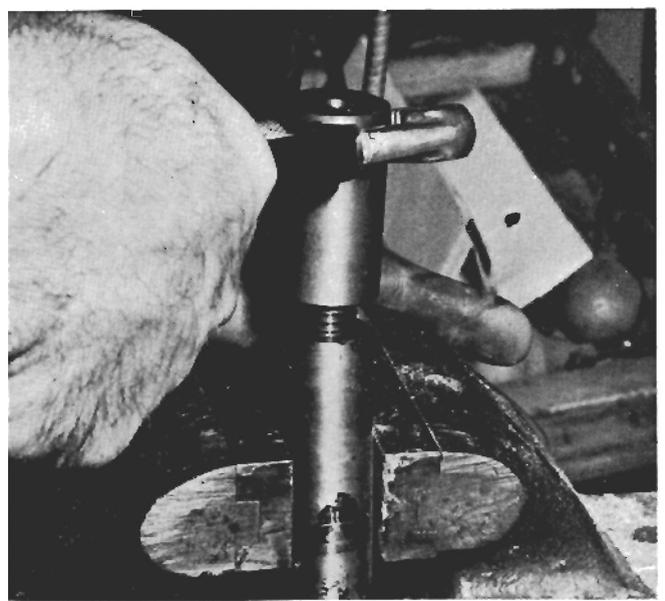
steel bar or tubing, the lock plates from sheet steel. Hammers and frizzens or what the old timers called "cocks" and "battery's" are sawed from steel plate. They are then filed to final shape. Brass parts are shaped from sheet metal or castings and finished by hand. Stocks are sawed from rough maple planks, then inletted and finished by hand. Dick does not cast his own triggerguards or butt



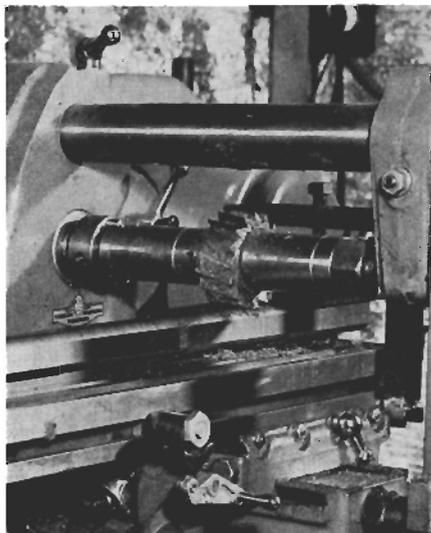
From raw sawed wood and metal parts to the finished rifle there are many steps. Patient hand filing and draw knifing, followed by careful polishing and finishing with an eye to color and contour are skills needed to "carve" the rifle.



Starting with round solid bar, Hicks drills, reams and rifles barrels entirely within own shop with power tools.



Breech screw plug is fitted before barrel tang which holds barrel in stock is cut and filed from plug end.



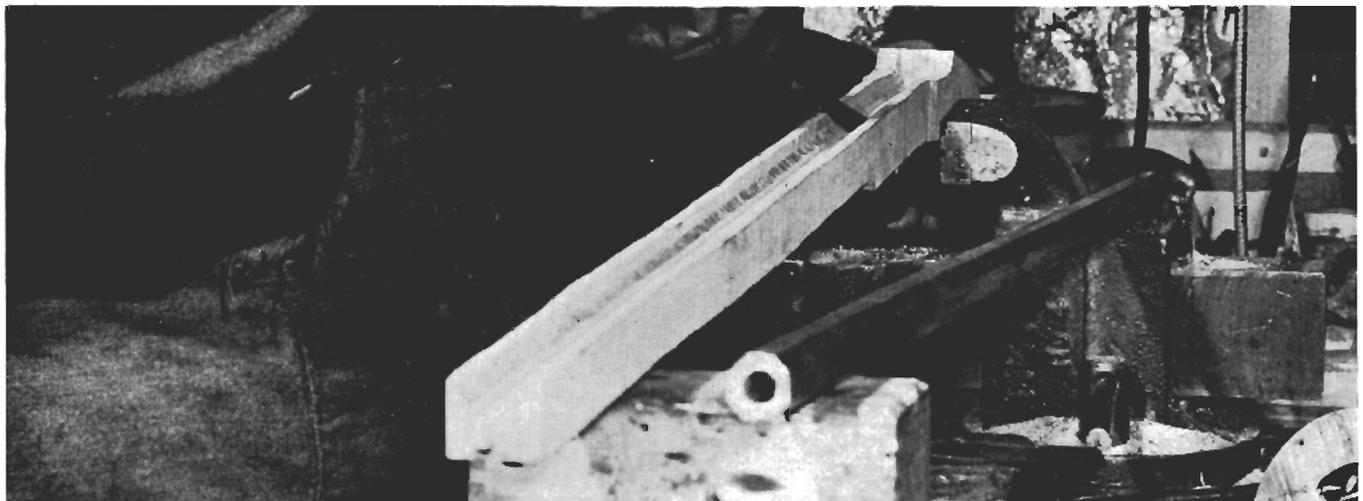
Modern milling machine is used to cut the eight sides of the barrel.



Hammer and frizzen are jig-sawed from steel plate and filed to shape.



Hicks' lock design replaces old, fragile flat spring with durable wire coil.

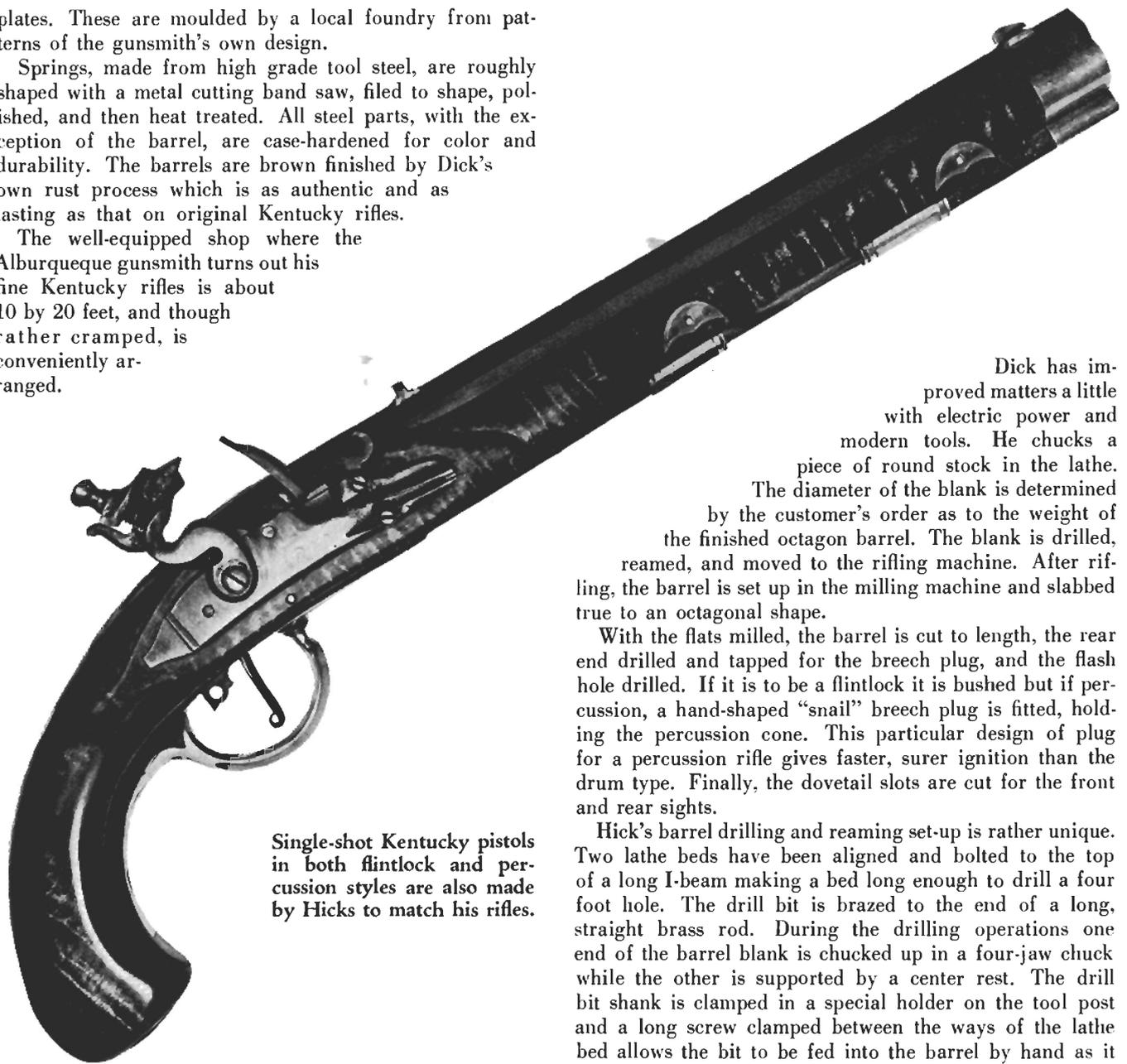


After metal parts have been finished, they are let into stock which is carefully chiseled and sanded to shape.

plates. These are moulded by a local foundry from patterns of the gunsmith's own design.

Springs, made from high grade tool steel, are roughly shaped with a metal cutting band saw, filed to shape, polished, and then heat treated. All steel parts, with the exception of the barrel, are case-hardened for color and durability. The barrels are brown finished by Dick's own rust process which is as authentic and as lasting as that on original Kentucky rifles.

The well-equipped shop where the Albuquerque gunsmith turns out his fine Kentucky rifles is about 10 by 20 feet, and though rather cramped, is conveniently arranged.



Single-shot Kentucky pistols in both flintlock and percussion styles are also made by Hicks to match his rifles.

His equipment includes a rifling machine, a lathe with a long bed for drilling and reaming barrels, a milling machine, a small bench lathe, metal cutting band saw, drill press, belt and disc sander, various grinding and polishing tools, an acetylene brazing outfit, and a high speed router. The wall behind the bench where he does his stock work is covered by scores of hand tools—chisels, gouges, scrapers, rasps, and racks of files of various shapes and sizes. With this array of power and hand tools and “know how” acquired by experience, he is equipped to reproduce any flintlock or percussion rifle or pistol.

In making a rifle, either percussion or flintlock Dick starts with the barrel. Gunsmiths of an earlier day used to laboriously hand-forged their barrel blanks from scrap metal around an iron mandrel, which was knocked out prior to drilling and reaming. Afterwards, the rough barrel which had been hammered into an irregular octagon shape, was ground on a water-powered grindstone to make the eight barrel flats true. Final finishing was done by slow, tedious draw filing, striking up the barrel till it was true by “eye.”

Dick has improved matters a little with electric power and modern tools. He chucks a piece of round stock in the lathe. The diameter of the blank is determined by the customer's order as to the weight of the finished octagon barrel. The blank is drilled, reamed, and moved to the rifling machine. After rifling, the barrel is set up in the milling machine and slabbed true to an octagonal shape.

With the flats milled, the barrel is cut to length, the rear end drilled and tapped for the breech plug, and the flash hole drilled. If it is to be a flintlock it is bushed but if percussion, a hand-shaped “snail” breech plug is fitted, holding the percussion cone. This particular design of plug for a percussion rifle gives faster, surer ignition than the drum type. Finally, the dovetail slots are cut for the front and rear sights.

Hick's barrel drilling and reaming set-up is rather unique. Two lathe beds have been aligned and bolted to the top of a long I-beam making a bed long enough to drill a four foot hole. The drill bit is brazed to the end of a long, straight brass rod. During the drilling operations one end of the barrel blank is chucked up in a four-jaw chuck while the other is supported by a center rest. The drill bit shank is clamped in a special holder on the tool post and a long screw clamped between the ways of the lathe bed allows the bit to be fed into the barrel by hand as it revolves.

Hicks' barrels are drilled by modern deep-hole drills, but in reaming he resorts to one of the oldest tools of the trade, the armorer's bit. This is simply a squared piece of ground and hardened steel, mounted on a long rod. This reamer gives a mirror-finish bore with a slight choke at the muzzle end.

Rifling is done using a hand-powered rifling machine. The cutter is mounted on a long rod and is pulled, rather than pushed, through the bore. It is an extension of a drum which carries a curved rod spotted to its outside. This rod makes a curve equivalent to one turn in 48", and the rifling cutter follows this path through the reamed bore, cutting the groove to the same pitch. Grooves are cut .007" to .008", and the .45 caliber rifling is one turn in 48", which Dick feels is correct for that size of round ball.

Judging from the accuracy of his rifles, his feeling is right.

Most of Hick's rifles are .45 caliber, a size which was a favorite among Kentucky riflemen. Other popular calibers made are .38, .41 and .50's. An average rifle has a 40" barrel, but any reasonable length can (Continued on page 48)



By STUART MILLER

Confederate Gardner Cartridge

RAREST of American cartridges as a class are those made by the Confederacy. Compared with the many types of cartridges used by Union forces in the Civil War, the Confederates didn't come up with many new ones. One they were rather proud of was the "Gardner." A footnote in the Confederate Ordnance Manual states: "A method of attaching the paper cartridges directly to the ball has been invented by F. J. Gardner and is in use at the Confederate Laboratory at Richmond."

The Gardner bullet had quite a cavity in the base, something on the order of the Minie bullet. The upper end of the paper envelope that was to contain the powder charge was inserted into this cavity. It was held in place by a thin lead cup that was forced into the cavity, wedging the paper in place. The powder was then inserted and the other end of the paper envelope folded in the usual manner.

The cartridge shown was for use in the "Mississippi Rifle," or other caliber .54 rifle. Other Gardner cartridges were made in .57 or .58 caliber for use in the captured .58 Springfields, or the common imported Enfield rifles. These cartridges were much more difficult to manufacture than the usual folded and rolled type and were never common, even then.

The cartridge information in the Confederate Ordnance Manual is disappointing. It duplicates the U. S. Ordnance Manual of 1861 in all but a few places. The book's preface states: "It may be added that the labor of Ordnance officers now in the service of the Confederate states has contributed to this new edition of the United States Manual." Historically, I like my copy very much as it was owned by "S. H.



Coleman, 1st Lieutenant, Artry, P. A. C. S. April 23, 1863. Army of Northern Virginia." Some day I may find out something about him.

One thing the Manual missed was a description of the Sharps cartridge. A Virginia collector writes that he has secured an empty wooden ammunition case marked "1000 Sharps rifle cartridges Cal. 52 Richmond Arsenal, July 1864." Seems that the Sharps was popular with both sides, but there were not any cartridges left in the case. It leaves us wondering how the southern variety differed from the usual ones.

Plastic Cartridges

Solid plastic cartridges were used by the Germans in World War II to reduce military consumption of metal for non-shooting ammunition. Both 8mm rifle and 9mm pistol training dummies are fairly common, and were used to familiarize rookies—or whatever they were called in the German army—with the method of loading their weapons without any danger of accidental firing.

In order to prolong the life of the cartridge they were made with steel heads having a rim for the extractor and

a hole to allow the firing pin to fly forward undamaged. The 9mm and 8mm dummies have been found in both red and black plastic; there appears to be no special significance to the colors. Bill Woodin of Tucson, Arizona—a specialist in this field—tells me that plastic and steel dummies were also made for the huge 7.92mm antitank rifle, the 20mm Solothurn, and the 20mm Oerlikon flak



shells. While the cartridges are strong, they are also brittle, and it is common to find examples with the bullet noses chipped due to feeding difficulties.

Experimental work has been done in Germany and elsewhere on plastic shotshells. A Holland firm has been producing the "Robijn" shell with a clear plastic case so that the shot size can be seen at a glance. However, these German training rounds seem to be the only plastic cartridges that got into production during the war. I've wondered if they were ever made in any other common calibers, such as the 7.9mm Kurz for the MP 43 or 44 machine pistols or the 13mm and 15mm machine guns.

Caveat Emptor

Fakes are invading the field of cartridge collecting. An Eastern collector was complaining about the number of faked specimens of the monster 70-150 Winchester cartridge being sold in his part of the country. The big .70 caliber shell was made for a unique special rifled Winchester lever action shotgun, back in the 1880's. It was strictly a toolroom job, and was never produced, but the Winchester crew put samples of the ammunition on their display cartridge boards.

Often this cartridge, which apparently was only issued from the factory on a cartridge board, is offered separately. These are usually made from brass 12 gauge shot shells nicked to the proper dimensions and loaded. The one that I saw was a good copy as far as case measurements went, but the bullet profile was not right and it was easy to spot when compared with the authentic cartridge board dummy. If these shells were made, marked and sold as "replicas," it would be bad enough, but they are peddled at a fancy price as genuine specimens.

Question Marks

"I enjoyed Major Dowell's article on the seven-barelled crow's nest guns in the June issue of GUNS, very much. But can you supply any more information on the cartridges for this weapon?" J. T., Pontiac, Mich.

In Adye's "The Bombardier and Pocket Gunner," first edition (London) 1801, under "Cartridges for Small Arms," they list: "7 bar. guns—1 1/2 drms powder contained in each cartridge. 14 cartridges packed in one bundle. 1000 contained in one keg." Then under the heading of "Balls-of lead of different natures," the book lists: "7 barrel guns 46 1/2 balls to the pound. .46 diameter in inches. 104160 made from one ton of lead. Lead balls are packed in boxes each containing one cwt. (Continued on page 41)

THE FASTEST SHOOTER ALIVE

(Continued from page 27)

Show was thrilling millions, while Ad and Plinky Topperwein toured the nation putting on exhibition shoots for their sponsor, the Winchester Company. Such showmen-marksman proved a thousand times over that American rifles, shotguns and ammunition could shoot dependably, accurately, and lightning fast. Breaking several clay birds tossed into the air with a pump shotgun was an occasional feat, while "drawing" a profile of an Indian or cowboy on a sheet of tin with .22 rifle shots drew large audiences. Rush Razee, exhibition shooter for Remington Arms Co., and Captain A. H. Hardy, the noted marksman formerly of Denver, Colorado, all influenced Ed McGivern's interest in what was to be more than a hobby.

McGivern devoted most of his life to experimenting and proving that the unbelievable and impossible in pistol shooting could actually be performed. So incredible were some of his exploits that there were many skeptics. People wouldn't believe that McGivern could do some of his shooting stunts without some magic or mystery—some gimmick. His frequent articles which appeared in various outdoor magazines in the 20's spent much time trying to show that there was no "trick" but hard work.

Practice on thrown clay birds revealed some facts to McGivern that ordinary shooting would never have shown. He reached a "turn in the road" as he called it, after which he really progressed towards becoming an expert shot.

"I had learned to 'squeeze and control the trigger,'" he recalls. "I also had learned to align the sights about even with the bottom of the marble, or any other target, letting it sort of ride on the top of the sights somewhat as military shooting is done. In this way, if a good central line shot was made, the target while falling had to cross its entire diameter in front of the gun muzzle or line of the bullet's flight to escape being hit, something it found it could not, or at least did not, do. Here enters in a big way the time factor.

"Soon I learned that if the gun was held in that position in relation to the marble or other small target, and the body was very gradually bent forward, thus gradually moving muzzle of gun downward, this action would enable the shooter to keep the muzzle of the gun in correct alignment, and also in correct relation to the downward, or falling, movement of the marble for a very short distance during which time the trigger was being squeezed, the hammer falling, the ignition taking place and the bullet speeding out to connect with the target."

McGivern's appreciation of the need for correct timing in following through is something shotgunners and golfers know about, but pistol shooters trained on stationary targets can develop habits of control which will make shooting at moving targets difficult.

His "secrets" in this were summed up by McGivern as: learn to use the sights quickly and accurately on moving targets; squeeze and control the trigger properly and coordinate this with the pistol motion; learn to fire a perfect line shot and do it in a regular and approximately uniform space of time. Following these goals will bring the shooter

to a highly developed degree of skill on aerial targets. Although shooting distances less than the sixty to 150 feet of static pistol shooting, aerial targets are far from easy. When you do get to bust 'em every time, there is a rewarding feeling not present in mere hole-punching at paper targets.

Selection of a proper firearm for his work led McGivern into an interesting field of study: mechanical speed of operation of manually-operated revolvers. Previously, McGivern had used automatics such as the Savage 10-shot .32's for some of his work. Surprisingly, he discovered that they could not be fired fast enough for his type of shooting. With the automatic pistol held more or less vertically, for overhead shots at thrown marbles or "birds," gravity alone might have slowed the slide in counter-recoil. Revolvers were plainly the answer, for McGivern's stubby, powerful trigger finger could just twitch that trigger faster than an auto pistol could function. So he decided to test some revolvers.

There were of course only two makes of revolvers worth considering in the knock-down-and-drag-out sort of endurance shooting he planned to try. One was the Colt Officer's Model with adjustable sights in .38 Special caliber; the other was the Smith & Wesson target model (adjustable sights) Military and Police, the forerunner of today's K-38 models.

Timing was critical . . . a second was a long, long space of time to McGivern's itchy trigger finger. Electric contact devices were made to install on the trigger guard, regulated so that the trigger in full rear position with the hammer just releasing would trip the circuit. Stop watch timing, even by many witnesses, had proved to be entirely too slow to check out the five shot bursts which McGivern and other shooters triggered off. C. M. McCutcheon, an expert pistol shooter of the 1920's, had tried this and McGivern felt that he was handicapping himself unnecessarily by poor visual timing. The electric timers which McGivern worked out could not err: they gave the correct time to a tenth of a second for each shot or burst of shots.

To see which firearm was most suitable for his needs, McGivern made a crank testing stand. The revolver was clamped solidly into the stand, and an arm pivoted to an eccentric connected to the trigger. By turning the crank the gun could be made to click very rapidly. Both Colts and S & W's were clamped into this rig for testing.

"The timer was used in connection with the rapid fire machine which gave us 1/5 second for six shots," says McGivern, "this being as near accurate as any mechanical means can be arranged to catch it. The Colt gun was the only one that stood this extreme speed and functioned properly. No one was able to tie up the .38 Officer's Model Colt loaded or empty. Continuous running of the machine with this revolver attached failed to show any balk in the gun of any kind."

McGivern had heard that the Smith & Wesson .38 target revolver was the fastest hand operated gun on the market. "Not being inclined, from my own experience along this line, to believe it, I decided to

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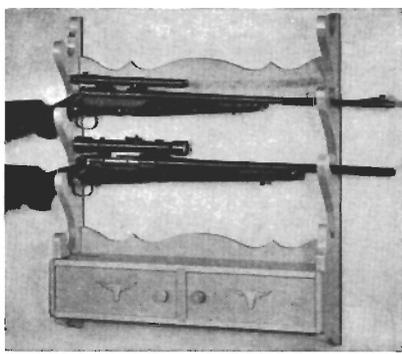
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have the machine built to handle the guns just as they would be handled by the human hand, without the uncertain muscular action of the hand to contend with," notes McGivern. He tested the Colt both empty and loaded. First primed shells only were used, but the primers set back and caused the cylinder to bind. Blanks were next tried, and proved satisfactory.

He adds: "We kept increasing the speed with each loading until we could not turn it any faster; everything so far okay." He worked up to 158 grain factory loads, firing about 200 of these with excellent results. No lead shaving in the slightest was observed: all primers were centrally struck. Top speed gave reports so close together that none of his 16 witnesses could tell how many shots had actually been fired from the cylinder. Five Colts were tested in all with practically the same results.

Replacing the Colts by Smith & Wessons of the M & P model gave some interesting

results. With gun empty, at high speed, it stuck. Three S & W's were tested, all sticking at high speed. With blanks at high speed, the cylinder passed the stops or "thrown by" and the cartridges did not fire, the firing pin striking off center. At no time could they get the gun going for less than ⅓ seconds for six shots, barely 50 percent as fast as the Colt.

McGivern reported that with service loads, "Smith & Wesson stuck several times, stopping the machine entirely, breaking the end of the rod that runs from the trigger to small wheel four different times. Naturally we concluded and still think, with mighty good reason, that the Colt mechanism is far superior to any other made today for rapid fire purposes." That statement was made in 1918. It gives rise to some interesting speculation as to the reaction of the Smith & Wesson Company when this was published.

Whether Messrs. Harold and Douglas Wesson were directly concerned with Ed McGivern's use of their revolvers before this speed test is not known, but they certainly were afterwards. The records which McGivern subsequently hung up—all with Smith & Wesson revolvers—testifies to the fact that some changes were made.

McGivern's ability to shoot accurately from the hip prompted me to ask how he knew he had the gun pointed accurately at an object without deliberate aiming with the sights.

"You know you have it pointed accurately by the way it feels in your hand through subconscious control developed as a result of constant practice," he said. "You have to learn how to hold the gun correctly first by deliberate aiming practice on a target, get-

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ting used to holding it and pointing it the correct way so that when you shoot from the waist you subconsciously control the gun correctly. You can't start out shooting from the hip or the waist; you have to work up to it systematically. You have to use the sights first to get the right 'feel' of the gun. And keep the arms close to the body near the belt; don't flap your arms around. In two-gun shooting, keep the guns quite close together and arms close to body while pointing them straight ahead. And very important, to correct a poor aim for the second and following shots do not move the hands or arms separately, but twist the body slightly to the left or right to correct the aim; also forward or back to correct elevation."

McGovern has a specially-constructed quick draw holster cut in below the trigger guard "so that you can place your finger correctly on the trigger while the gun is still in the holster." He points out: "The first grip on the gun is the one that you carry through with—without changing. The top rear part of the holster is cut away so that the end of the barrel can clear the holster quicker.

"When you are drawing the gun out, you also press the grip down so that as the barrel clears the holster, it is already pointed forward. Everything is directed to eliminating unnecessary motion and consequent loss of speed. And you twist your hip slightly so that the holster is drawn away from the gun."

CARTRIDGES

(Continued from page 38)

About four pounds of lead in a cwt are generally lost in casting."

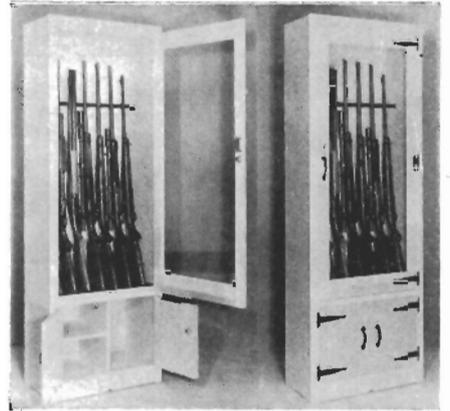
As this was written six years before the gun was introduced into the navy, I wrote Major Dowell, and asked his opinion as to what the army used them for. He has not been able to find anything definite on it yet, but he imagined that they were issued to the artillery to protect gun batteries from cavalry charges.

"I have just received a couple of .380 auto pistol cartridges with odd headstamps. One is 'S.A.C.O. .380 A.S.P.' The other is 'REM-UMC .380 C.A.P.H.' What is their translations?"—C.L., Minneapolis.

The first is by the Savage Arms Company, and is for their .380 Automatic Savage Pistol. The other is for the .380 Colt Automatic Pistol Hammerless model. First introduced around 1908-9.

PHOTO CREDITS: 12 to 15—Joe Carricato; 16 to 19—Royal Army, Stockholm; 20 to 22—Alfred J. Goerg; 23—Bushnell & Co., Alfred J. Goerg; 24—Ed McGivern, Smith & Wesson; 25—Ed McGivern; 26—Ed McGivern, June Monure; 27—Ed McGivern; 28—Walters Art Gallery; 29—Doc Davis, Walters Art Gallery, Royal Museum, Stockholm; 30—D. F. Stein, F. D. Roosevelt Library; 31 to 33—British Information Service; 34 to 37—Dean Heath; 38—Stan Holden.

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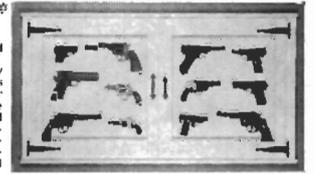
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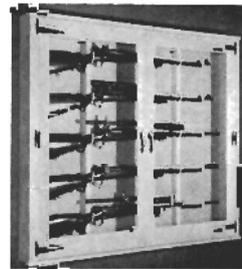
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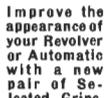
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OLD GUNS

(Continued from page 30)

tor-shooter, or modern muzzle-gun fan?

The beginner's first impulse when he gets a rusty old gun is to rush to the nearest steel power brush and scour the metal parts. Or with coarse emery cloth he scratches away until the surface is bright, although probably not smooth. He then uses lots of muscle and sandpaper on the stock, and on the brass inlays, if any.

When he is through the results are fearful and wonderful to behold, and later he wishes he hadn't done it.

To clean the steel parts of an old gun the best tool is a piece of scrap brass held easily in the hand, with one edge sharpened by filing square. Used like a wood plane or spokeshave this simply planes the high rust spots off. The brass will need frequent re-sharpening but it will not harm the basic finish. It may leave traces of brass on the surface but these can be wiped off with an oily rag. It is amazing how smooth even the finish can be made without scratching down to bare metal. If the original finish was blue, a pleasant surprise may result, with much more color showing up than one might expect. If brown, the original smooth light color can sometimes be restored.

Very fine 000 or 0000 steel wool with oil on it will help in the final stages, but be careful not to overdo with this. Sometimes even a motor-driven circular steel brush may be used without harm, provided the wire size does not exceed .005" and *only light pressure* is used. This is particularly useful in cleaning out checkered surfaces such as the thumbpiece of hammers.

One very common problem is worn and rounded screw-slots. Don't compound the

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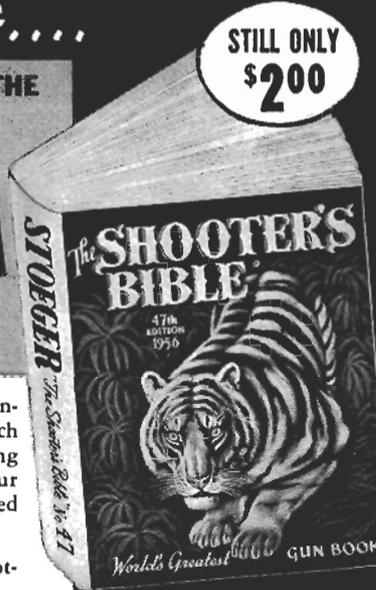
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felony by using a screwdriver with a rounded point. See that the point is filed sharp and square. When the screw is out, clamp it gently in a vise with the head resting on the jaws. With a light hammer peen the upset edges back toward the slot. Quite a bit of metal can be pushed back where it belongs in this way. With a knife-edge file widen and deepen the slot a little to square it up.

Do not damage the thread in the frame or other part by trying to force in a screw that "looks about right." Most screws for Colts and Remingtons are available from dealers in antique gun repair parts. These sometimes will fit other makes. Careful study and measurement may make possible re-tapping the hole with a larger standard tap.

On brass or German silver inlays, guards and the like, do not try for a high polish. It will look too new compared with the rest of the gun, and will soon dull anyway. Remove the worst tarnish by rubbing very lightly with fine steel wool. Stop before the bare metal shows. The patina of age is attractive on old brass and has a mellow look that highly-polished metal cannot equal.

Concerning wood, sandpaper is almost never advised. First try washing the stock with thick soapsuds used sparingly on a rag. Sometimes a lot of gummy dirt that has been hiding the original finish comes off this way. If the stock has had an amateur varnish job, try rubbing with a greasy rag and pumice stone to cut through to the basic finish. As a last resort, use varnish-remover sparingly.

The fellow who likes to shoot and yet does not want to reduce the value of his gun in the eyes of the pure collector does not have

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to butcher a good gun. To take one of the most common situations, let's assume he has acquired a fine Navy Colt. Like all percussion revolvers, the Navy has a front sight that is far too low to group in the black at the shorter pistol ranges. Because of this many Navys are floating around the country with dovetail slots cut in the barrel and a higher front sight installed. On the other hand there are many collectors doing poor shooting because they do not want to alter their guns in this way.

There is a happy solution to this situation. A detachable sight can be made to slip on for shooting and off for collecting and does the gun no harm. A heavy ring of steel or brass can be fitted to the muzzle. It has a blade welded or soldered to the top side. On the opposite side is a brass setscrew to tighten it on the barrel. A notch filed on the inside under the blade will accommodate the original front sight and center the temporary one on it. The blade can be filed to correct height, and bent for lateral adjustment.

The sighting notch on the Colt hammer nose may need to be filed a little to open it up. There is no objection to this if not overdone. The big Remingtons have a reasonably good sighting notch in the frame and can be let alone in this respect, but they can use the higher front sight too. A new sight for a Remington is a little easier proposition. They are big and hefty and can be screwed out. A new sight of the proper height can be made and substituted.

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ton frame, even if the rest of the gun is in junk condition, can be rebuilt to mechanical perfection. New parts, barrels, cylinders, grips and small parts can be fitted along with adjustable sights. Add a new blue job and the shooter will then have a good gun for blazing at targets. He will not have had to damage a collector's item to get one.

"Who used it" brings up another point. There is a romance to the old guns, which is much of the reason for collecting them.

I have an almost new pocket 1949 model Colt which has about as tame a history as any gun ever made. Years ago there was a riot scare in Boston. My maiden aunt bought this gun and laid it away in a bureau drawer "for protection." I don't think it has ever been loaded. It is in beautiful condition and I'm happy to have it, but it has no romance.

On the other hand, I have an 1862 pocket Colt with the backstrap engraved with the name of a Union army captain and his organization. Well worn and with its blue rusted to a smooth brown, this gun did not get that way behind a Washington office desk. It travelled the long bloody trail from Bull Run to Appomatox. The really interesting guns were used, saw service, and honest marks of wear should not be removed merely to make the gun look all bright and shiny.

An old gun should be carefully cleaned of the grime of ages, and operating parts restored to good mechanical condition. But no amount of heavy buffing will fool the critic, and it will decrease the value of the gun in a resale. Restoring a gun is not like painting a house, and the "collector" who does not understand that should take up stamp collecting.

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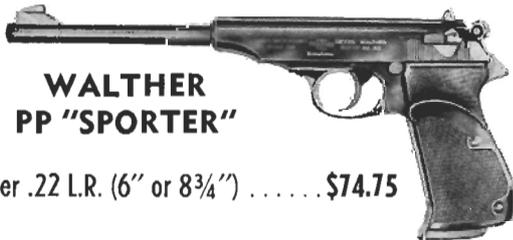
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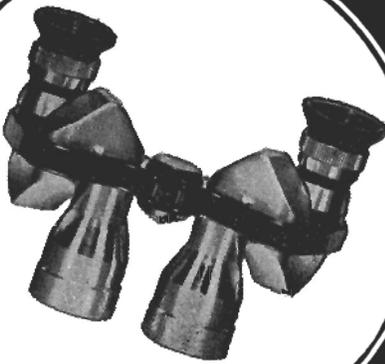


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KENTUCKY RIFLES

(Continued from page 37)

be built on order by Hicks in his shop.

Hicks makes the locks the hard way. Old-time gunmakers bought theirs ready-made. Over 90 per cent of the locks used in America before 1850 came from the English lock-makers, and were imported by the ton for American gunsmiths to use. Hick's locks are chopped out of solid steel by himself. The parts are shaped out on a hand saw, and then each individual part is hand-filed to its final shape. He has perfected an inside mechanism which gives much faster lock time than the old style lock, and uses a coil spring instead of the leaf springs which used to be a main source of trouble in old-time locks. The lock is assembled and all parts fitted till the lock works smoothly. Then it is disassembled, and all parts polished to a high glossy and skillfully case-hardened to a beautiful finish.

The long, graceful stocks which lend so much beauty to the traditional Kentucky form are made of eastern maple. This wood is carefully selected in New York and Pennsylvania by Dick's father, who is an expert cabinetmaker. Each rough plank is checked for defects and rejected for gunstock use if any are found. Only choice maple finds its way into Hicks rifles, but of course walnut or cherry can be specified if a customer desires.

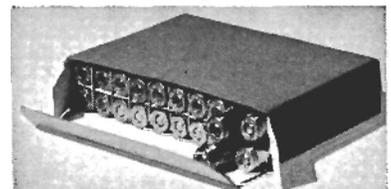
The stock blanks are roughly sawed to shape. Then all parts, patch box cover, inlays, butt plates, trigger guard, and barrel—are carefully inletted and the final shaping done by hand. The barrel groove is first

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Powerless type. Light weight brilliantly finished.

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roughed out with a high speed router. The final mating of the wood with the metal is a hand-fitted operation. Any relief carving to be done on the stock is completed and the wood sanded smooth. Before the final finish is applied, the stock is darkened with an acid base stain to bring out the beautiful, characteristic "tiger-stripe" effect of the maple. Then a special oil finish is patiently rubbed into the stock by hand until it takes on a deep, velvety glow.

On one visit to Dick's shop, I found him putting the finishing touches to what he considers his finest piece of work. This particular rifle, a beautiful reproduction of a flintlock swivel gun was made for Dick Hart of Pasadena, California. It has a pair of superposed .45 caliber barrels, 38" long. These have been expertly let into the top and bottom of a piece of maple and are pinned in place. The breech ends of the barrels are held together by screws through a plate. A stud brazed to this plate passes through a close fitting hole in an identical plate in the butt-stock. A nut is drawn up on this stud until the barrels swivel smoothly and snugly about it. Each barrel has its own lock and priming pan. A spring loaded latch and pin locks the barrels into position.

The patch box is a reproduction of a favorite design among the pioneer gunmakers. A spread eagle holds in its claws a banner with the word "Victory." The opposite side has the characteristic eight-pointed star of David in the cheek piece and a typical crescent moon towards the butt plate.

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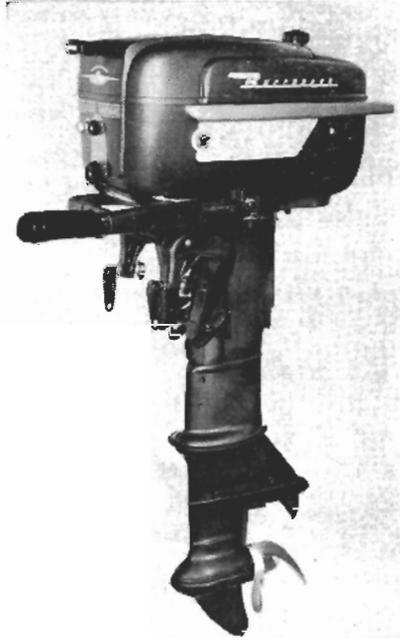


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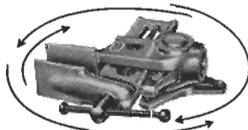
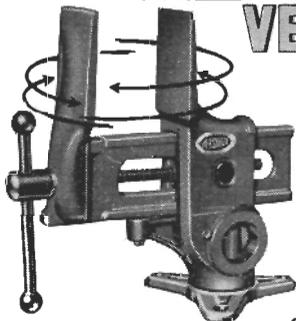
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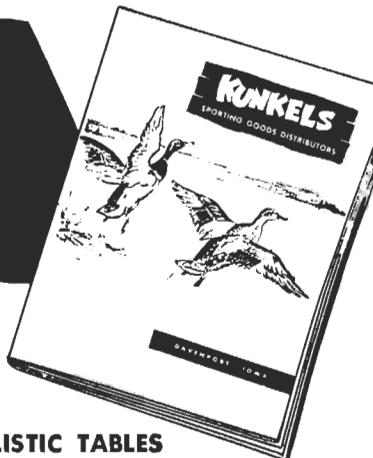
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This weapon is unusual in that it gives the shooter a relatively quick second shot. To fire, both barrels are loaded and primed. The ingeniously fitted frizzzen locks down over the priming pan of the lower barrel so that the fine-grained priming powder does not fall out. When the top barrel has been fired the hammer is cocked. The latch button is then pushed to the rear retracting the pin that locks the barrels in position. The barrels are swiveled through 180 degrees bringing the second barrel into position and the spring loaded latch pin allowed to slide home.

Dick is justly proud of his workmanship in this rifle due to the fact that it was built entirely from some faded old photographs and a very rough sketch of the locking system. The accuracy of this fine rifle lives up to the pride that Dick has in it. Mr. Hart reports consistent 5-shot groups of 3" at 100 yards with this piece.

Hicks rifles are accurate. H. Phillip Orem of the Blue Mountain Muzzle Loading Rifle Club won the 1949 Pennsylvania State Championship at Shartlesville using a 20-pound, .45 caliber bench rifle made by Dick. In an informal shoot at the same match a Mr. Heister sat down with the same rifle and shot a 50 x 50, 5X possible at 50 yards.

Dick's pistols are made in the same manner and style as his rifles. These weapons are excellent reproductions of sidearms made by the pioneer gunsmiths. The majority are .45 caliber, 10" barrels, but Dick will make a pistol to any caliber and barrel length specified and either flintlock or percussion.

Hicks' pistols hold their own in competi-

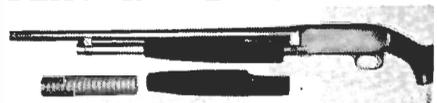
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tion accuracy. In the 1954 national muzzle-loading matches held at Friendship, Indiana, Robert Furst of Pasadena, California, placed in three of the matches using a Hicks flint-lock pistol.

Each Hicks rifle is test fired and the sights adjusted to shoot center at 50 yards. When it finally is shipped to its new owner, it goes equipped with a modern bullet mold, extra nipples or flints depending upon the type of rifle, patching material suitable to the particular rifle, instructions as to the care, use, and loading, the load used to sight it in, and the target shot while sighting in. All accessories—powder horns, shot pouches, hunting bags, patch knives, and powder measures—while made in Dick's shop, are extra equipment. These are made to order.

Dick readily admits that one man could not turn out the amount of work that flows from his shop each week. He has two helpers, one full time, and the other, a University of New Mexico geology student, fills in part time. These two do most of the rough work leaving the finishing jobs to Dick. The rest of the business is a family affair with Dick's wife, Shirley, helping with the typing, bookkeeping, correspondence, and leather work.

The way Dick got his start building guns which have been out of fashion for more than a century is interesting. From the nature of his work one would expect to find

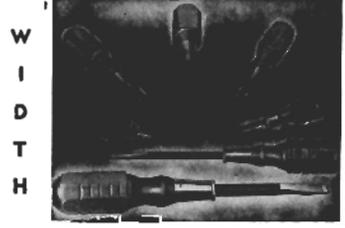
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a man who had a life-long love of guns and had studied the Kentucky extensively before deciding to build one. This is far from the case with Hicks.

"When I came home from the Pacific," Dick told me, "I brought a Jap rifle with me as a souvenir. I hung it above the mantle and, you know, every time I saw the darned thing I could feel the hair on the back of my neck bristle. I could almost smell the beaches and taste salt water and hear the whistle of Jap shells and bullets. It brought back so many unpleasant memories that I finally decided to trade it off.

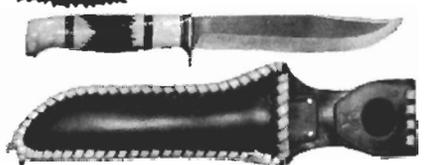
"In exchange I got a fine Leman Pennsylvania flintlock with a cracked stock. I dismantled this fine old piece to clean it up and restock it and became so interested in the excellent workmanship that I decided to see if I could duplicate it."

His carved maple and filed steel rifles are highly prized by their proud owners. These rifles fill the place of a shooting firearm for those who like the best in workmanship and have the urge to burn black powder and see just what it was that Dan'l Boone and Davy Crockett were really up against with their long rifles. At a relatively young age, Hicks seems to have mastered the secret of the famous Kentucky rifle, and what made it such an excellent weapon. By a combination of modern and pioneer methods, he has succeeded in reproducing flint and cap-lock rifles and pistols that any pioneer gunsmith would be proud to call his own.

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THE MOST DANGEROUS GAME

(Continued from page 33)

the sluggish whirring of lead fired by a home-made gun from the whine of the precision-driven bullet, which is sometimes a help in estimating the size of an attacking force.

What would have been a windfall to the Mau Mau and might have resulted in a flare-up of fighting around Nairobi was discovered by police several months ago. Terrorist activity in the neighborhood caused a fire, destroying a white man's home. In the ashes of an outbuilding, about 500 gun barrels, some with Lee-Enfield actions, and some stripped, were discovered. These had been bought in 1948 by the owner of the house to use in reinforcing a concrete

bridge, at their price as iron scrap. The bridge project never materialized, and the gun barrels remained rusting away in his shed. They could have been put in serviceable order, and would have greatly increased terrorist strength. Fortunately, they were never discovered and the Mau Mau had to continue fighting with their home-made guns. There are few of these, and fewer serviceable firearms. The main weapon is still from a thousand years ago—the tribal short sword.

One weapon which the Mau Mau thought they could depend on has proved to be two-edged—that is, support for their reign of terror by the ordinary Kikuyu. From the

start the Mau Mau demanded food and supplies from the Kikuyu farmers, but their demands were never-ending. Money was wanted, a levy of up to \$8 a month on a family earning \$9. Food, cattle, sheep and women were all needed by the gangs. Kikuyu cattlemen laid ambushes to counteract the rustling Mau Maus, hiding out in old skin-draped ox carts with rifles and machine guns waiting.

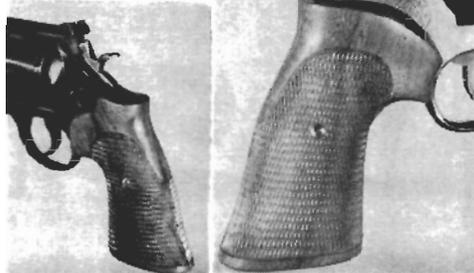
This determined resistance by scattered bands of loyalists early in the emergency crystallized into the formation of the Kikuyu Guard. Under the direction of an Australian officer, Colonel P. A. Morcombe, this volunteer unpaid force of African police is based at a series of over 500 strongly fortified posts scattered through the Kikuyu area.

These police forts are like something out of the dark ages. They are surrounded by deep moats filled with water during the wet season. Sharp palings are pointed outwards so that an attacking mob must first clamber over needle spikes before getting anywhere near the walls. High lookout towers with machine guns keep watch over peaceful Kikuyu villages, and Kikuyu Guardsmen, some with the long leaf-bladed spears, and others with modern Enfields, protect the uneasy peace which may be broken at any time by a Mau Mau terrorist attack.

Mau Mau oath takers go in secret from

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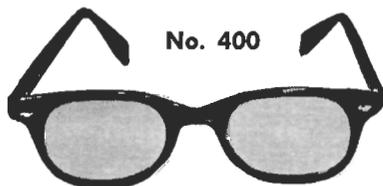
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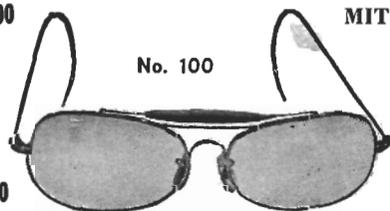
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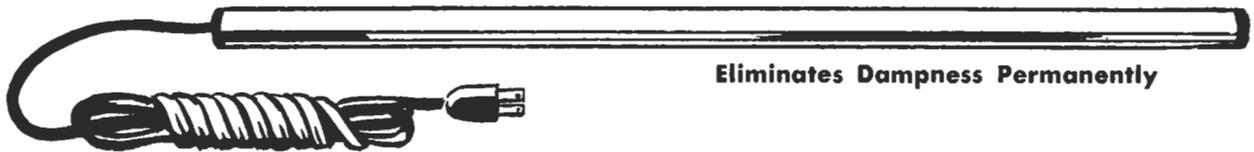
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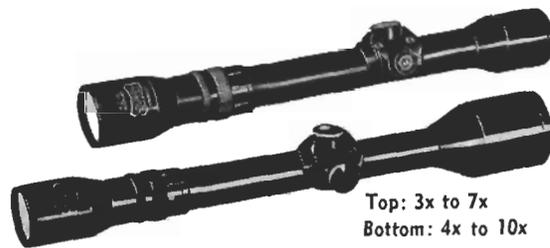
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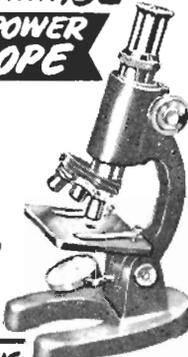
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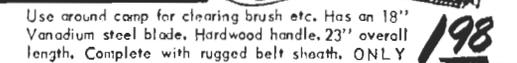
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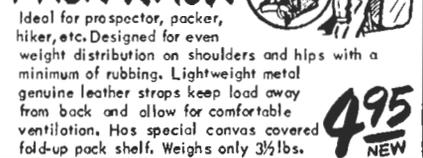
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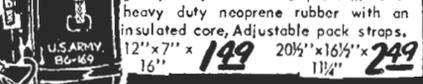
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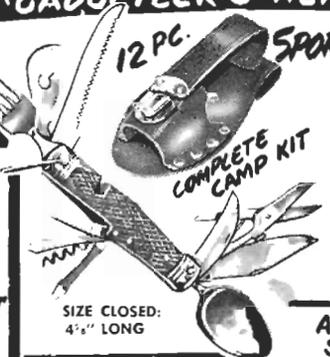
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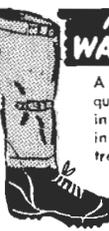
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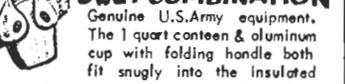
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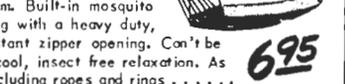
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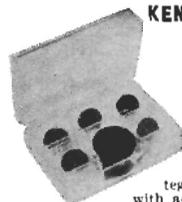
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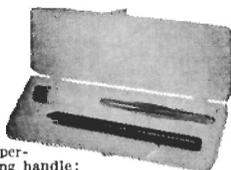
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FINEST COLT

(Continued from page 19)

was not unaware of the possibilities for himself which these pistols (paid for at government expense) would open up. In earlier times he had distributed gift pistols with a prodigal hand, and the returns from foreign governments had been good. Now he proposed to allow Lincoln to pay for these fine guns, but arrange if possible to get some benefit himself from the gift. As he was much too ill to go abroad, the next best thing was to have a trusted friend work for him.

The pair destined for Frederick of Denmark were delivered to the American Legation by Henry Adams, son of the American Minister to London. Adams was a friend of Colt, and had been so for at least five years. In 1856 Sam Colt had thrown a Thanksgiving Party for some 20 Americans in London. Adams was among them. As Sam later wrote, all "ate Yankee hickory nuts, apples, and went home comfortably drunk." Now Adams went to Denmark to convey Sam Colt's best wishes to the King, and probably suggest a purchase of revolvers for his army and navy.

Unfortunately, the presentation was somewhat more formal. In the speeches which took place in Fredensborg Palace on the 1st of January, 1863, Minister Wood left no doubt as to the political nature of the gift. He closed his address by expressing the conviction that nothing would occur to disturb the peaceful relations existing between his government and that of the King of Denmark.

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Frederick upon receiving the case containing his pistols replied in an almost identical manner, commenting on the terrible war which was going on in America and remarking that he hoped the new year might bring with it an end to the struggle. Frederick later placed the case in his armory, along with another Colt-type revolver made by a Danish gunsmith. Apparently young Henry Adams was shut out of the presentation conference, for Frederick did not seem to think that Colts were essential for arming his forces. Unfortunately, the next year was to see Denmark engaged in a war, where revolvers would have been very useful to the small armies of the country.

The newspapers carried notices of the presentation to Frederick, but the Swedish presentation had to await the return of Minister Halderman from Italy to Stockholm. Finally on May 12th, Halderman was called to an audience with Charles XV. The king received him in his private armory at the palace in Stockholm, informally and politely. He found great pleasure in the President's gift, and repeatedly expressed his great joy. A confidante of the king had previously written to Halderman: "The President could not have given a proof of his good will to His Majesty which would be more favorably received and more highly appreciated."

Today these pairs of revolvers are state treasures of Denmark and Sweden. The pair of Frederick VII are now on display at Jaegerspris Castle and belong to the foundation established by Countess Danner. Charles XV's pistols may be seen at the Royal Armory in Stockholm.

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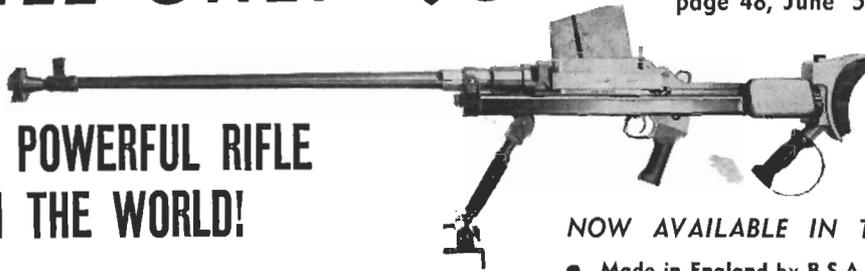
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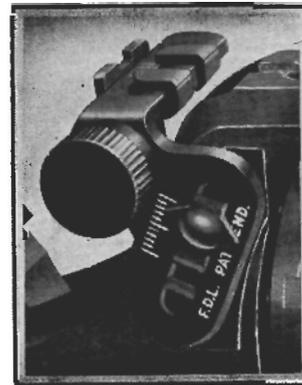
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SAVE UP TO 50%

On These Surplus Tool Bargains

41 SURPLUS TWIST DRILLS

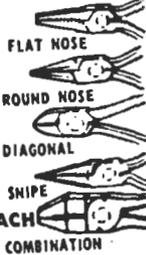


For hand or electric drills. Brand new genuine hardened carbon tool steel drills from 1/16" through 1/4". Each drill designed and tempered to give up to 1800 drillings through steel, aluminum, iron, wood, plastic. Sells in the stores for up to \$6. Set of 41 drills \$2.00.

\$2

5 PLIER SET

For jewelers, optical workers, hobbyists. These superb German instruments are of drop-forged, high-quality tool steel. All ground and smooth working joints with just right tension, jaws meet perfectly to safely and securely hold most delicate objects. Each plier is 4" long and a veritable gem of precision and strength.



75¢ EACH

All 5 for \$3.50

CIRCLE CUTTER

Adjustment of from 7/8" to 4", equipped with high speed ground tool bit; body and cross bar are made of hardened tool steel; centers ground and polished; the combination 1/4" round and square shank permits its use in either drill chuck or hand brace.

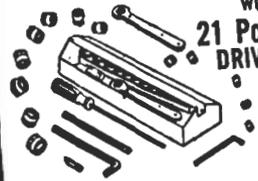
ONLY \$1.89

The GREATEST value we've offered!

21 Pc. 1/4" & 1/2" DRIVE SOCKET SET

A \$14.95 Value OUR PRICE \$5.95

Perfect for AUTOMOTIVE, TV, RADIO & HOME APPLIANCE Repair!



This complete 21 piece socket set has eight 12 point sockets, sizes 7/16", 1/2", 9/16", 5/8", 11/16", 3/4", 7/8" and 15/16", plus an 8" extension, L handle, reversible ratchet, and reversible screw driver. Also six 1/4" Drive Sockets, size 1/4", 5/16", 11/32", 3/8", 7/16" and 1/4" square, L-handle and extra large extension with shock-proof plastic handle. All sockets, extensions, wrenches, ratchets, etc., fit snugly and easily into a handy metal carrying tray—all bright finished and precision constructed for long life—unconditionally guaranteed.

Gov't. Surplus DuPont NYLON CORDS BELOW MANUFACTURER'S COST

Light, strong, durable, quick-drying, will not rot or mildew. Ideal for indoor or outdoor use. Camping, boating, hunting, clothesline and venetian blinds. Perfect for tent ropes, light anchors, deer cord, trot lines, crabbing, etc.

OUTWEARS ORDINARY ROPE 10 to 1

NYLON BRAIDED CORD
1/16" dia.—100 lb. test—white 1 1/2¢ per ft.
1/8" dia.—375 lb. test—white 2¢ per ft.
3/16" dia.—550 lb. test—olive drab per ft. 2 1/2¢
In 100, 200, 300, 400, 500 ft. and over lengths.

NYLON BRAIDED LINE
1/4" dia.—1000 lb. test—olive drab 3¢ per ft.
In 30 and 50 ft. lengths.

NYLON ROPE
3/8" dia.—2,700 lb. test. Any length to 1200 ft. 18¢ per ft.

7/16" dia.—3,800 lb. test. 18¢ per ft.

Any length from 20 to 120 ft. Minimum Order \$1.00. Send check or M.O. C.O.D. plus fee. Money back guaranteed.

NYLON FISH LINE
Proven best by experienced fishermen. Heat stretched. Will not kink, twist or unravel. 25 lb. test. 300 ft. reg. \$1. NOW 50¢ per spool.

NYLON WEB STRAPS
with sturdy steel buckles Perfect for luggage straps, car tow-lines, car carrying straps, boat trailer straps, etc. Tie heavy equipment and machinery with greater ease and safety... at far less cost. Just the thing for the garage or workshop.

1" wide—3,000 lb. test—10¢ per foot

1 1/2" wide—6,000 lb. test—18¢ per foot

In 5, 6, 8, 10, 12 ft. lengths.

36" FLEXIBLE SHAFT



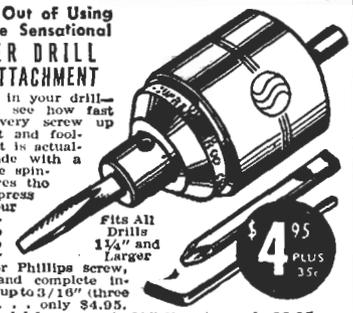
with 100 Pc. ACCESSORY KIT At \$12.95 Value OUR PRICE **\$4.98**

Does a thousand and one jobs. This handy flexible shaft with complete handle increases the utility of your electric drill, electric motor, grinder or drill press where 1/4" shank can be attached. Easily attached to do grinding, carving, drilling, sanding, polishing, buffing, slotting, engraving, etching, etc., on wood, metal, glass and plastics. The Flexible Shaft is tamper proof, sealed and designed for lifetime service. Can be operated at speeds up to 6000 RPM. Accessories include 2 shanks, sanding discs, buffers, pads, etc.

Take The Work Out of Using Screws With The Sensational

Supreme POWER DRILL SCREWDRIVER ATTACHMENT

Clamp this new unit in your drill—just like a bit, and see how fast and easy it runs every screw up tight! Light, compact and fool-proof, this attachment is actually a screwdriver blade with a built-in clutch... the spinning drill chuck drives the screw only when you press with drill. Release your pressure, and the friction clutch releases the screw end. Changeable blades included for either slotted head or Phillips screw, with Allen wrench and complete instructions. For screws up to 3/16" (three sixteenths) diameter... only \$4.05. Also Heavier Duty model for screws to 1/4" diameter—only \$6.95.



Fits All Drills 1/4" and Larger

\$4.95 PLUS 3¢

10 WAY UTILITY WRENCH 59¢



One of the handiest tools you'll ever buy! Has 10 9 pt. openings from 1/4" to 3/16"; sturdy construction. Cadmium plating guarantees against rust. 4" long yet fits 95% of all nuts and bolts. Reg. \$1.25—now 59¢ ppd.

Set of 6 Swivel Top Precision Swiss Screw Drivers—\$1.25



This complete kit of 6 imported Swiss screw drivers are yours for knurled body grip only \$1.25. They are Swiss imported. Precision made by the famous Swiss Watch toolmakers. Handy and useful for small screws, especially for delicate objects when modeling and other handy crafts. The 6 assorted sizes No. 3-4-5-6-8-10 accommodate practically every type of small screw.



3 PLIER SET

Finest drop forged imported steel. Ground and polished heads, polished finish, and knurled handles for easier grip. Individually packaged in heat sealed plastic kit.

- 1—Linesman Slip Joint, 7"
- 1—Long Nose, 5 1/2"
- 1—Diagonal, 5 3/4"

Complete Set Postpaid \$2.98

11 Pc. Drafting Set



High lustre chrome plated instruments of outstanding quality and accuracy. Set includes Plain and Ringhead Bow Dividers, Compasses for use with ink or pencil, Ruling Pen and all necessary parts. Packed in a velvet lined, snap button closure, simulated leather case. \$3.29

29-Piece Vanadium Chrome

DRILL SET



Especially for speed drilling. Finest alloy steel, hardened and precision ground; will easily bite through hardwoods, plastics, aluminum, iron and toughest steels. Full jobber length. Sizes by 64th from 1/16" to 1/2". NOW \$6.95. Also Available In Turned Down Shank So All Sizes Fit 1/4" Electric Drills \$8.95

POWER



Auger Bit

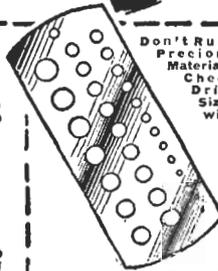
Made of finest tool steel specially tempered and hardened to give clean, easy drilling. Shanks fit all electric drills. Packed in sturdy, plastic tool roll. Sizes: 3/8", 1/2", 5/8", 3/4", 7/8" and 1".

\$2.29

NEEDLE FILES



Made from the best quality tool steel designed for mechanics, watch, jewelry craftsmen. Compartmented plastic kit contains 5-1/2" needle files with round shanks and high test cutting qualities: round, half-round, flat, oval knife, square 98¢ complete set postpaid.



DRILL GAGE

Reg. \$1.49 NOW 69¢ ppd. Heavy 8 oz. polished steel gage plate measures 29 different drill sizes from 1/16" to 1/2" and in numerals from .062 to .500. Precision machined measurements assure the right drill for the right job. Don't chance ruining your next wood or metal job by using the wrong size drill. PLAY SAFE use the JOBBER DRILL GAGE.

Don't Ruin Precious Materials Check Drill Sizes with

JOBBERS



4 Pc. DROP-FORGED TANG CHISEL SET

Swedish pattern, of high quality tempered and hardened tool steel. Blades beveled and polished. Hardwood, leather tipped handles. Set contains one each 1/4", 1/2", 3/4" and 1" chisel in plastic compartment kit. Complete Set—\$2.05 postpaid.

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Order now at these new low prices. All surplus and direct imports. Sold on money back guarantee. Send check or money order with name and address. We pay postage. If C.O.D. you pay postage and C.O.D. charges. Money back guarantee protects you fully. Rush orders today.

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611 Broadway, New York 12, N. Y.

Send the following order as advertised at once. It is understood I must be 100% delighted or I'll return tools in 10 days for prompt refund of full purchase price.

Total amount of this order \$.....

Enclosed find \$..... in full payment.

Send C.O.D. I'll pay postman \$..... plus postage and C.O.D. fee.

Name.....

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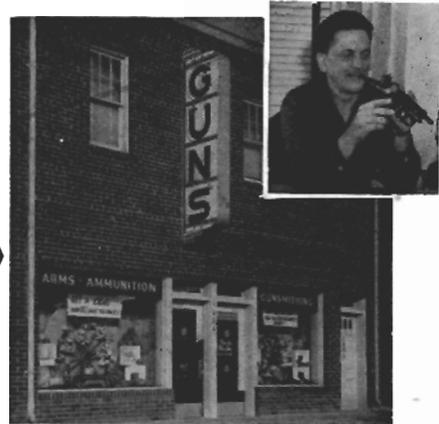
NOTE: This offer will be withdrawn when supplies are exhausted.

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FOR THREE GENERATIONS..."

Always Satisfaction Guaranteed!



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Frame

Model 1917 .45 Cal. A.C.P.

(NOT WORKED-OVER 455'S)

With plain wood military Grips →

With GENUINE STAG GRIPS, as illustrated \$31.90. (Stag grips not sold separately).

Two half-moon clips included FREE. All guns have been orsenol overhauled. Dull finish, 5 1/2" barrels, tight actions. Good shooters & backed by our money back guarantee.



We can supply new parts to convert the Model 1917 .45 ACP to other call-bers.

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HOLSTERS FOR MODEL 1917: Sold with gun only. Special cowhide — a \$7.50 value for only \$3.95. Or fancy carved leather holsters — a \$14.00 value for only \$6.95. Nono sold separately at these special prices.



NEW!
.22 SHORT
ONE-YEAR
GUARANTEE

ASTRA "CUB" \$29.90

The LOWEST priced semi-auto pistol "PLINK" AT LESS THAN A PENNY A SHOT! Compact, (only 4 7/16"), and light weight, (12 oz.) the "Cub" fits handily in tackle box or pocket. Ideal for the outdoorsman, hunter, trapper.

- Outside Hammer • Dependable, Rugged
- Simulated Ivory Stocks • 4 Positive Safeties
- Six Shots — Surprisingly Accurate

.38 S&W caliber
MILITARY REVOLVER

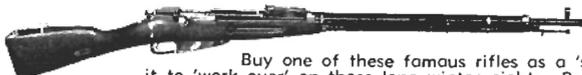


A Sturdy
Six-Shooter

\$29.95

FAMOUS SERVICE MODEL double action 6-shooter with swing-out cylinder. Positive locking. Walnut grips. 5" barrel with fixed sights. Weight 31 oz. Very good to excellent. Bore perfect. An unmatched value while they last.

While they last! RUSSIAN MOISIN 7.62 CALIBER



Only \$11.95

Buy one of these famous rifles as a 'spare gun' or 'loaner'. Or use it to 'work-over' on those long winter nights. Bores and stocks are rough, but guns are complete—and some are surprisingly accurate. One to a customer.

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Only \$19.95

Low serial numbers. Headspace checked. Receiver can be replaced at a nominal fee. Bores are only fair, but guns are complete and ready to shoot.

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WILL FIT MAUSER AND F.N. ACTIONS—.30-06 & .270 CALIBERS
Threaded, finish-chambered, blued, chrome-lined—ready for fitting with minimum effort—while they last \$14.95
OR, FITTED TO YOUR ACTION. . . . \$19.95

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WESTERN



Single Action
THE DEPUTY

. . . has a full ramp sight of unique design with micrometer adjustment for windage and elevation. This new model is made in the Service Type with 4" barrel and in a Target Model with 6" barrel.

\$75.00 .22 and .38 Spec. .357 ATOMIC CALIBERS At \$98.95

THE NEW
GREAT
WESTERN



DOUBLE
BARREL
DERRINGER

. . . chambered for the .38 S&W C.F. cartridge, blue satin finish, black checkered grips as on the original model. \$49.95

. . . other Super Special '98 Mauser parts

- Trigger Guards, beautifully blued, milled steel, stripped, each \$3.95.
- Complete Trigger Guards, each, \$5.95.
- Bolts, stripped, each, \$3.95
- Bolts, new, for low scope, checkered bolt knob—commercial type, each, \$7.95.
- "STREBCO" Imported Set-Triggers, with sear, each \$7.95.
- Bolt Sleeve, each 50c.
- Low Safety with Bolt Sleeve, new, complete unit, each \$3.95.
- '98 Trigger Unit, includes sear, spring and pins, complete unit, each \$1.98.
- Screws, each, 25c.

MINIMUM ORDER \$10.00—NO COD'S

IMPORTANT! Send pistol affidavit with order—pistol shipped by express.

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PARTS SPECIAL

- Extractors, Trigger Guards, stripped Bolts, stripped Triggers, Sears, Followers, milled, Firing Pins.

ALL \$1.00 EACH

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There is no single action revolver made, nor has a gun of this kind ever been made, which can compare with the RUGER Single-Six. We mean this on the basis of durability, reliability, accuracy, and accurate fitting of component parts. Materials throughout are the best for the purpose that can be obtained. The finish is neat and uniform, as only the most experienced polishers can make it. The lines of the gun are handsome—its balance superb. Grips, sights, trigger, every detail, in fact, which contributes to real performance has been designed by and for experts.

Although it conforms to tradition in appearance, the Single-Six is no mere reproduction of an older gun, nor is it an antique collectors substitute for the real thing. It was not built for keeping in a bureau drawer. The idea behind the RUGER Single-Six is that it should be carried and used by practical shooters who will fire many thousands of rounds a year and who judge guns by performance and by sensible design.

All prices subject to change without notice.

Write Dept. G-6 for descriptive literature.

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