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MY FAVORITE GUN

By JEANNE CARMEN
Starlet & Model

A WOLFF-engraved cap-and-ball revolver is the most treasured item in my antique weapon collection. Like all original Wolff revolvers, the hammer is in the shape of a wolf's head. The revolver is an Army Colt .44, Model 1860. Although it is 14 1/2" long and weighs 2 lbs. 11 oz., I have found it to be a very accurate weapon and have been able to fire six rounds in four seconds. Instead of photographing this revolver, which generally looks very much like a quarter million other 1860 Colts produced (though few are as nice as mine), I chose to illustrate my fine European snaphaunce flintlock pistol—probably an Italian pistol of about 1650. It predates the later "true" flintlock and is just as accurate as any revolver being made today. At the Los Angeles Police range last May, I chalked up six out of seven bullseyes with the snaphaunce before several rather amazed rookie patrolmen.

By CAPT. JOHN E. PEGG, USAFE

SINCE being stationed in Europe I have had the opportunity to add some interesting firearms to my collection. I have about twenty long guns, including two of the French "Charleville Model 1763" muskets that were the patterns for our first Springfield muskets and such as were used by Americans in our Revolution. I have a couple of Flobert breech loading "saloon" rifles, and an interesting poacher's gun. But one which I currently rate as "favorite" is the heavy dragoon pistol I hold in the photo. Proper identification of the gun was difficult. I obtained the gun for a small sum near my base at Troyes, France. Finally I discovered it to be one of the detonating-lock Augustin pistols, which were made for the German states and Austria about 1840 but were not successful. Most were converted, as this one has been, to cap lock. The new breech plug is dated "1850." Instead of the special part to hold the Augustin detonator tube in place, a curious safety to hold the hammer off the capped nipple has been fitted. To fire the gun, you fold the safety limb forward, against tension of a spring.

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knowing your legislators' association. Knowing your

Law Enforcers.

Lawmakers is important, but you should also know your

Pocket Drawing

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THE GUN MARKET

72

Two off-beat items in this issue: for pistol

men, notes on defense sidearms, plus picture sequence of a novel, surprise, out

pocket draw. This one may not be fast as

leather slapping, but it guarantees the ad

vantage of surprise.

Second off-beat is Bob Kindley's thoroughly

researched article on Single Shot Rifles

their care and feeding. Recent publication

by Morrow of the second of Jim Grant's de

tailed books on single shot rifles makes the

subject of more than minor interest in a

magazine. Kindley digs into the background

of these one-top models in American fire

arms, still sought by knowing shooters for

their precise accuracy today.

Hunters will relish this section of Bert

Popowski's informative survey of trophies

and where to get them, page 31. His facts

will save you money, if you wisely apply his

recommendations on where to hunt. Popow

ski, resident of that God's Country of Wyo

ming, is a staff contributor of the N.R.A.

Last but not least is Know Your Law

makers. But this month we have substituted

a statement of policy by a major police off

icers' association. Knowing your Law

makers is important, but you should also know your

Law Enforcers. The best laws can be cor

ruped by inadequate or inept enforcers, and even the worst laws can be med

ified by understanding administration by intelligent

enforcers. You should save this page and use it when talking with legislators and/or

police officers. Mail it to your Congressman. Only you, through influencing your elected

legislative representative, can make laws. If you find existing laws restricting firearms

unnatural or unfairly administered, you have only yourself to blame. Often, by so simple

a tool as a letter to your Congressman, you can get action.

Don't waste your Congressman's time with

long-winded tirades about guns and gun

laws. He hears enough wind in sessions of the Congress. But simple statements of your

wishes and opinions will help him to do the job of representing you that he "volun

teer"ed" to do.
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Back in 1926, 27, and 28, Harold Croft and I, and later J. D. O'Meara, had several single action Colt .44 and .45 caliber guns made up embodying our ideas of what a modern single action should be. R. F. Sedgley, Neal Houchins, and O'Meara did the work. We flat-topped the frames, similar to the old Bisley and S.A. Army flat-top target models, but we extended the frame farther to the rear and made the flat top much thicker and heavier. The top of the hammer was cut off so it would go under the extended rear end of the frame. The front sight was fitted in a band encircling the barrel, and we used some of the very first ramp-type front sights giving maximum sight radius. I designed a new base pin catch similar to the lever latch on the old Model 1874 Sharps rifle.

Croft designed his No. 3 grip—a combination of the Bisley back strap cut off and changed in angle to be more like the S.A. Army back strap but coming up higher on the frame. This was used with a regular S.A. Army trigger guard. I further changed and improved the design in our No. 5 grip with more flare at the extreme lower corner of the back strap. Even then, we agreed that the best grip ever, especially for handling the recoil of very heavy loads, was the grip and straps on the old 2nd model Colt Dragoon. However, Dragoons were valuable property even then, and we could not wreck one to get the stocks and straps; so we did the best we could with the Bisley and S.A. Army back strap and trigger guard.

The base pin was improved and a large-headed one made up that could be easily grasped with the fingers, ending the need for pliers to pull out the base pin. Croft designed a main spring similar in shape to the Colt double action main spring, and the culmination of our efforts was my No. 5 S.A. Colt.

We tried to get the Colt company interested enough to bring them out, but without success. No. 5 was made up and left plain purposely until I had thoroughly tested it. That winter of 1927, I killed 42 great horned owls with that gun alone while running a coyote line. It was so much superior to all other single actions I had used that I sent it back to Croft for engraving and ivory stocks. I believe it is still the finest S.A. Colt in existence.

The late Chauncey Thomas and Ashley Haines and I corresponded a great deal at the time on ways to improve the old S.A. Colt. My friend, Gus Petet, went even further. He designed and had made up a swing-out cylinder, simultaneous-ejection single action, which he still has. Our combined efforts, however, failed to impress the Colt company, even though I offered them the loan of all my flat top guns as models, with all their improvements. At the same time, I worked out the design of my .44 Special bullet (Ideal 10 .429431 in 250 grain), and perfected heavy loads, first with 12 grains of No. 80 powder and later with 2400 when that powder came on the market in the '30s.

During the Annual N.R.A. Convention in Jacksonville, Fla., in August, 1951, Bill Ruger made a trip to Idaho in his little Jaguar car, stopping at Salmon, Idaho, to see me and Judge Don Martin. I had joined the N.R.A. technical staff in January of 1950, and was away at the convention at the time, but Judge Martin obtained my keys, showed Bill Ruger all my flat-topped S.A. Colts, and urged him, as I had been doing by letter, to bring out a modern single action revolver. Not so long thereafter, Bill brought out his famous Single Six. I criticized the flat-top frame, the forward position of the rear sight, and the lack of a proper loading gate and extractor button, and urged him to redesign the gun and bring it out in a larger version for the .44 Special with the improvements.
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Researcher Offers Advice

Your articles on riflemen in Civil Defense, which I have thoroughly enjoyed, have been an inspiration to me. It was a pleasure to learn that there are others who realize the importance and need for “Home Guard” movements.

I have been doing part-time research in Guerrilla Warfare at the Washington, D. C., Central Library and also the Congressional Library. Like you, I feel that it is important for the public to know as much about this type of warfare as possible. I am interested in passing on to you and any of your readers information regarding Guerrilla Warfare, which I have acquired during my research.

William C. Ekeland
3903 Ene St. S.E.,
Washington 20, D. C.

Mississippi Law

I like your magazine fine. As a student of firearms I find Guns one of the most valuable texts I can obtain.

About the statutes of Mississippi: First, the Federal Government is doing and has been doing just what Mississippi is accused of except they want all firearms cataloged by the dealer before sale. Second, I live in Mississippi and I own any firearms I want and can afford. I ask no one and register them with no one, as do all other gun owners in this state.

The law referred to in “Crossfire” a few months ago was put in force quite a few years ago when the high powered rifle put fear in the hearts of all; but now it has been out voted by popular demand.

James H. Luper
Crystal Springs, Miss.

He Likes Us—Like Us Not

Recently you have concentrated on articles on hunting and sport shooting as opposed to the military and collecting aspect of firearms. I don’t like it.

It seems you’ve drifted away from the military. I have a few of your back issues and they are literally crammed with info. Now, instead of having a cover bedecked with the latest and meanest for the soldier you have a cowpoke fooling with a lever action. Shades of Argosy!

The Mossberg is a darn good weapon—if equipped with good sights. I installed a Lyman 57 M5 on the receiver and a Lyman 17 up front. Lyman makes a special ramp to adapt the single set-screw of the Mossberg to a standard dovetail. If one takes out the reticle in front and the small peep in the back, it becomes a good sporting sight. With the reticle and small peep the sight combination becomes one of target calibers.

Arne Eastman Jr.
New York 21, New York

P.S. I like your mag anyway—even if you don’t print this.

It’s printed. And we’ll print articles on military and collector guns too, as space and quality of material permit.—Editors

Why Don’t More Clubs Do It?

Classes in Hunter Safety and Rifle Marksmanship are being sponsored by the Overland Park Optimist club and Mission Township Police Department, Kansas City, Mo. Classes meet at 4:30 p. m. every Saturday; are conducted by expert instructors.

Guns are furnished for those who do not own a gun, and free ammunition is furnished for boys of high school age, by the Overland Park Optimist club. The meeting place is at 7331 West 80th St., Overland Park, Kansas, near both Kansas City, Missouri, and Kansas City, Kansas.

The project is promoted and sponsored for the purpose of insuring a greater degree of Safety in handling guns, and in an effort to save lives on hunting trips. Too often the accidental firing of guns has fatal results, and such grief is the result from a lack of “know-how” in handling and firing a gun.

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Four times National Fast Draw Champion, Dee Woollem cocks gun, knocks it back out of holster into firing position, without ever letting muzzle point at shooter's leg. Best time: .12 of a second. At right, Woollem demonstrates one of the fancy spins and twirls that make up his popular stage repertoire.
I'M A GUNSLINGER. It's a word some of us dislike, maybe because it has a reckless, slap-dash sound that we feel is beneath the dignity of a legitimate and hard-won manual skill—but if that's the word you want to use to describe a quick draw addict, I'm one. I've been one for more than 25 years; a product, not of TV "adult westerns" but of Zane Grey, William McLeod Raine, and the tales of the old time gunmen, fictional and factual. (Even then, there was feeling about words and their shades of meaning. "Gunmen," "gunfighter," meant different things to different people, and the wrong usage was resented.)

My boyhood heroes were Lassiter, Buckey Duane, Hopalong Cassidy, and Wyatt Earp and his ilk—not the present pros of triggernometry like Hugh O'Brian, Clint Walker, Kelo Henderson, or even Arvo Ojala and Rodd Redwing and Joe Bodrie and Dee Woolam who have done so much to spark our present fast draw boom. I was more than just a reading worshipper; early on, I wanted to imitate my heroes. I started practicing quick draw long, long before it was a national pastime; and I came up the hard way, expending thousands upon thousands of rounds of ammunition, making all the blunders common to the experimentation of a man who is "going it alone." I even made the worst blunder of all, the one that still happens and is giving quick draw a bad name unnecessarily. I earned what the cynics are calling "the badge of the gunslinger," the right leg limp, by shooting myself in the leg with a .45 caliber bullet. Actually, this is the badge of the bad gunslinger. No man need wear it, or even risk it. I know better now; but things are much different for today's gunslingers than they were when I earned my badge for bad gun manners. Now, there's no excuse for accidents.

Twenty-five years ago there were no how-to articles, no books, no clubs, no instructors in the art of the fast draw. The only references were those in the book and
New and old get together, compare gas-operated Hahn "45" with original Colt's Navy.

"He stood tense, bending forward a little, both arms bent, his hands hooked like a hawk's claws." Many of those stories were written by men who had never fired a gun, much less qualified as fast draw experts.

Today's fast draw addicts can learn much faster, much easier, much cheaper than I did—and without acquiring that Hopalong Cassidy limp. Today, you can learn fast draw under the tutelage (personal or printed) of experts—and real experts they are: men who have devoted both scientific study and rigorous practice to the development of this new-old art. You can begin with holsters perfected for quick draw, with refinements never even dreamed of when I started. You can watch and consult with gun wizards like Dee Woolen, four times National Fast Draw Pistol Shooting Champion, and other professionals. You can read articles like this and others, published and to come in this magazine. You can study that handgunner's textbook, "Fast and Fancy Revolver Shooting," by the late Ed McGivern. You can join fast draw clubs where the experience of other shooters will help you. And—with the new Hahn "45" gas-operated-single action BB revolver, or with the even newer Crosman gas-operated .22 Single Action Six, you can practice for pennies instead of spending hard-earned dollars as I did. All this, with absolute safety thrown in. You don't even need to use pellets, because these guns "fire" even when empty, with force enough in the gas charge alone to stop a timer.

Shooting is fun, and for my money, fast draw is tops in shooting fun. But let's face it—fast draw, like most other human efforts in which speed is a prime factor, is dangerous if done wrong. And live ball ammunition is wrong! Practicing fast draw with ball ammunition is as stupid as going into a wringer head first. It can cost you, and it can damage all shooting sports, penalize all shooters, by stirring up bad publicity and adverse legislation. Don't do it! You can be just as fast, you can prove speed and accuracy by

Safe for fast draw since gas blast alone will stop timer, new Crosman Single Action Six in .22 Cal. is low priced but accurate.
Classic among demonstrations of gun speed is drop-draw-and-hit trick enacted (but without trickery) by Woolem in high-speed picture sequence by Detroit "News" photographer using a Fastex camera. Gun fires from lip of holster; blast of blank knocks cup left and downward.

stopping timers or marking targets, with blanks or wax bullets or best and safest of all with the Hahn gas operated revolver (with or without pellets)—and you can learn faster because you can work without the fear handicap.

There are three objectives in quick draw shooting: recreation or fun shooting, proficiency as a tool in law enforcement, and a career as a quick draw instructor or exhibition shooter. Only a few can attain the blinding speed, the prestidigitator's skill needed for instruction and exhibition work; most of us have jobs of our own to do. Quick draw can be a priceless asset to a police officer, but—quick draw alone won't get him a job on any police force. It might have in the 1880s, but not now. For every man interested in quick draw for these reasons, a thousand are fascinated with it because it's fun—and fun it is.

I spent years working out a system of my own for a really fast yet safe draw. I experimented with many kinds of belts and holsters, some that tipped the butt of the gun forward, some that held the gun vertical, a few that slanted the barrel forward and the butt back. I tried dozens of positions for gun height, from waist to knee. I cut holsters and belts to weird shapes until I ran out of leather; then bought new ones and started over. I "tuned up" my single actions, first one way and then another. I learned a little here and a little there, and some of what I learned for sure was wrong, as I found out later; but what I did gain over the years was a certain degree of manual dexterity that helps with each experiment with a new method.

One thing I did stick to was a determination to play it safe, and my version of safety was—cock after the gun leaves the holster and slip-hammer the first shot so that the finger can be kept away from the trigger. I still believe in this method, in spite of things learned recently and which I'll discuss later. It's safe if you stick strictly to the rule as written; and it's fast, as I proved.

Cocking with the draw was what got me the bullet wound in my leg. I was trying for speed beyond that which I could handle safely. Result: I cocked sooner than I intended, the gun failed to clear leather, my thumb slipped, and the gun fired.

When hammer-slapping came into vogue among the Hollywood gunmen, I branded it as doubly dangerous. This involves slapping the hammer back to cock while the gun is still holstered, before even starting to lift it out of the leather. With a low holster, it means that your entire draw—lifting the gun, pointing it, finding the trigger—must be done with the gun at full cock. I still say, this is asking for trouble. I still say it, though I know now what I didn't realize at first—that the danger lies in the low gun position and the necessity of lifting it out of the holster, not necessarily in the method of cocking. Again, more of this later.

A few weeks ago, I got the enviable assignment of interviewing Dee Woolem, four times National Fast Draw champ since 1955, now the traveling representative for Crosman Arms Company, makers of the new Hahn "45" gas operated single action BB revolver and the Crosman gas operated .22 Single Action Six. I knew Dee was blazingly fast; he had to be, to win those four national titles in open competition. I knew too that he was a hammer-slapper. Frankly, that last fact nearly scared me off of the assignment. Fanatic as I am about safety, I had a chip on my shoulder about hammer-slapping and I was afraid Dee and I would arrive at nothing but disagreement.

I did some research on Dee before I started, and what I learned was impressive. At the Erie County Sheriff's Department range, Buffalo, New York, with Dave Sheldon, designer of a robot-type timer action as witness, Dee recorded a draw-and-fire mark (including reaction time) of .37 of a second. He scored another .37 second shot at Frontier City, Oklahoma, against a Mythen timer. And for draw time only, not counting reaction time, Dee holds a record of .12 of a second, set during Helldorado Days, Las Vegas, Nevada, in June, 1951, in national competition before 10,000 witnesses. (Continued on page 40)
THE SINGLE-SHOT

Kindley holds Haenel-built German Schuetzen rifle of hammerless Aydt design. Sculptured cheekrest stock is typical of these 200-meter rifles.

By ROBERT J. KINDLEY

THE AMERICAN SINGLE SHOT RIFLE was once the finest firearm made in this country. Today, the old timers still have their following among shooters who know. Yearly on the old range at Warsaw, Indiana, the enthusiasts of the American Single Shot Rifle Association gather to fire offhand and from rest for accuracy at the difficult "German Ring" targets, 100 to 200 yards, scope sights. Mention Ballard, Stevens "Ideal", Sharps-Borchardt or Remington-Hepburn to this group of modern gun nuts and watch the ears perk up. Unfortunately, most younger shooters know little about these fine old rifles. But experienced shooters argue

FAMOUS OLD SINGLE SHOTS ARE STILL IN DEMAND, STILL HARD TO BEAT FOR THEIR ACCURACY AND CONVERTIBILITY TO MODERN LOADS
Single shot loading procedure starts with bullet being dropped into rifling. Slug is best unsized, just lubricated with soft, tacky mixture. Then kinked seater is used (right) to push bullet into start of rifling.

that, had the development continued after World War I, competition between the single shots and today's bench rest rifles would have been close indeed in the field of accuracy.

American single shot rifles reached their peak in design and use during a bygone period when we were indeed a "nation of riflemen." Shooting was the national sport, as popular as baseball is today. Accuracy was the ideal; velocity or rapidity of fire of little consequence. The man with a single shot rifle liked to shoot all day, keeping ten shots inside a 2½" circle, from rest, at 200 yards. This demand for accuracy produced some of the most famous shooters and rifle-makers our game has known.

The history of the single shot rifle is sprinkled with names synonymous with accuracy. The old maestro Harry Pope, George Schoyen, A. O. Zischang, George Schalk, and A. W. Peterson were barrel-makers topped by none. A single shot rifle barreled by any of these craftsmen is a prized item among gun nuts today. Dr. Hudson and F. J. Rabbeth, both excellent shots, were renowned for their excellent cast bullet designs. E. A. Leopold experimented extensively with bullet lubricants, a very important item for cast bullet accuracy. Dr. Franklin W. Mann, one of our most noted ballistics experts, was a single shot advocate.

Along with the single shot rifle were developed some of America's most outstanding marksmen. Chris Westergaard, Arthur Hubalek, Col. Tewes, C. W. Rowland, and an old German named Katzenellenbogen, were all famous offhand champions. The ability of these men to hit the 25-ring consistently at 200 yards is still remembered today. Remember, the standard target had a 12" bull with a 25-ring only 1½" across. Each succeeding ring was 1½" larger.
German Martini 8.15x46 gave slightly wider spread (left) but minimum vertical, compared to Ballard .32-40 group.

For Schuetzen fun, take off-hand Swiss butt single shot rifle (Ballard) plus tools, bullets, powder. Shoot standing.

Thus the 24-ring was 3", the 23-ring 4\(\frac{1}{2}\)". All of the above named shooters could score 220 or better on this target, shooting ten shots offhand.

You can’t talk about single shot rifles without mentioning the “Schuetzen” game. This type of shooting was one of the greatest single factors contributing to the development of the single shot. About 1850 a group of Swiss immigrants near St. Louis at Highland, Illinois, organized a sharp-shooter’s society called the Helvetia Schuetzen Gesellschaft. One of the first shooting clubs in the country, it became one of the most renowned and as The Highland Sharpshooter’s Society is still in existence today. One of its greatest honors is that the first National Offhand Tournament was held on its range.

The Schuetzen game flourished. From 1850 until the first War this type of shooting became a national past time. At the start of World War I, national sentiment against anything German was responsible for its decline. The entire theme was German; so much so that German was the shooters’ language. About the only native thing about this type of shooting was the rifle itself. The majority of Schuetzen men chose one of the fine single shots designed specifically for this type of shooting. A National Schuetzenfest was held biennially and turned out to be quite some affair.

Any Schuetzenfest, whether a Sunday shoot or a National Tournament, was a real shindig. Most ranges were located so that Mom and the family could enjoy a picnic while the old man shot. Prizes were sensible. A good shot could more than make expenses, often taking home enough for the next week’s groceries. The 3-shot Honor Match, the 3-shot Center, and the 10-shot King Match were the most popular. The 3-shot Honor Match was limited to exactly 3 shots. The highest possible score in this match was 75, which called for three consecutive shots into the 1\(\frac{1}{2}\)" 25-ring. This was at 200 yards offhand. Top prize for this match was usually $100.00—the price of a rifle—and competition in any shoot was high.

The 3-shot Center Match was shot on a nine inch diameter black cardboard. The cards were kept until the end of the match, when they were all measured. The man with a shot nearest dead center was the winner of the grand prize. Any shooter who placed all three of his shots on the 9" disc received three dollars.

The 10-shot King Match was the highlight of any Schuetzenfest. The competition was rough and the winner was awarded the most coveted honor: he was named King of the Shoot—"Schuetzenkoenig."

Rifles for the Schuetzen game had practically no restrictions. Weight, caliber, and barrel length were matters of personal choice. The only rule was that a man be able to stand on his "hind laigs" and shoot it. Average weight of a Schuetzen rifle was about 15 pounds, although many tipped the scales at 20 pounds or more. Single or double set triggers were standard equipment, as was the deep-pronged "Swiss" butt plate. Many riflemen used a palm rest, which allowed the shooter to rest his left elbow on his hip while shooting offhand.

Sights on Schuetzen rifles were the best iron sights that were available. For many years the use of telescopic sights was not allowed. Receiver rear sights were made with vernier screw adjustments for elevation, which allowed a very fine adjustment. Front sights were of the globe type with a pin-head bead on a paper-thin blade (so that all that was in the sight picture was the bead itself.) Some shooters used an aperture front. Front sights were often adjustable for windage; many had spirit levels to prevent a shooter from canting his rifle.

Most popular calibers were the .32-40 and the .38-55. Both were accurate but, due to lesser recoil, the .32-40 was favored. Some of the matches called for 100 shots in a day, and recoil figured heavily in the final score.

Most modern shooters are familiar with a few of the old single shot actions; the Winchester Hi-Wall in particular. This is probably due to the fact that many fine varminters have been built around this particular single shot. But there were many makes of single shot rifles. Fine match rifles included the Ballard, Stevens .44 and .44\(\frac{1}{2}\), Sharps and Sharps-Borchardt, Maynard, Wurfflein, the Frank Wesson rifles, Winchester Hi-Wall, the Remington rolling block, Remington. (Continued on page 42)
One-Man Practice Sharpens Shotgun Skill

By PHILLIP D. RUSH

Walking into line which is attached to trap catch, shooter can gain the effect of a "surprise" throw without needing to have a helper at the trap. Foot release set-up is variation: rope is tied to peg, tripped by shooter's foot.

YOU DON'T NEED A THROWER TO PRACTICE FOR SKEET, TRAP, OR FIELD GUNNING. A LENGTH OF ROPE DOES IT

SINGLE-HANDED SHOTGUN PRACTICE is difficult. Holding a trap in one hand and flinging the clay, then swinging up to bust it, is not a really satisfactory way of improving your shotgun shooting. The rifle shooter can operate his rig all by himself. When the season opens, his shooting eye is "in" and game falls or scores rise because of his ability to practice, if necessary, without helpers. But the shotgunner usually has to dig up some help to operate a trap, or must have some affiliation with a gun club, to practice on clay pigeons. It isn't always easy to find a friend whose time matches yours when you want to shoot a few rounds, and a gun club may be miles away, too far to reach in the short daylight afterwork hours.

One solution is to become a do-it-yourself trapshooter, by operating your own trap with a thirty or forty foot line. A trap will cost only about twenty-five dollars and will last a lifetime. The base should be mounted on a post, and the trap proper may be removed in seconds when not being used. We won't even figure the cost of the rope; you can annex part of your wife's clothesline. The plastic type is excellent. Targets and shells are the only other expense, and quite a savings may be realized if you do your own re-loading.

Now you are all set up to shoot without assistance from anyone, providing your shooting area isn't too far away. The writer has found three basic methods for tripping the release catch on the trap. These might be termed "walk into," "walk away from," and (Continued on page 66)
WHITE HUNTER SAYS AFRICA'S MOST
DANGEROUS BEAST IS—THE ONE
THAT COMES CLOSEST TO KILLING YOU! FACE ANY ONE OF THEM, AND

When He Charges,
Magnificent African black-maned lion is first prize for sportsmen on safari, who find placid beast can spring to charge in 30' leaps in seconds.

You Hit—Or Else!

By WILLIAM M. JENVEY

ANY YEARS AGO, old professional hunter T. Murray Smith told me, “One learns something new on every safari; if not about game, then about people.” He was right. I have found that one can add an “est” to nearly every safari, too. Either about the safari itself, or about the clients or the game, a safari will be remembered as the best, the shortest, the hardest, the easiest—or something. These stories are about “the closest”... the close calls with death.

Every professional hunter has been asked what animal he thinks is most dangerous: elephant, rhino, lion, leopard, or buffalo? With most, the title probably goes to the animal which came nearest to “getting” the hunter concerned. The old pre-historic looking rhino comes well down on most professionals’ list. It has the weight and speed, but lacks in brain power. But, and here is a point: given the right circumstance he can be as deadly as any! The above mentioned Capt. Murray Smith can testify to this, and did. Two incidents moved old jaru from low to high on Smith’s list.

The first incident happened down in the Yaida Valley in the days when only the bold ventured over the valley rim and faced the appalling, boulder strewn track. Few safaris got down without bursting at least a tyre, and none get back up without trouble. Since then, a decent road has been made, and bush clearing for tsetse fly control has altered the valley’s appearance; but in those days it was truly wild.

It was from a camp in this valley that Murray led his client up to a rhino as it fed along between clumps of thick bush. He worked his way carefully to one side and, when a clear shot presented itself, told the sportsman to shoot. On the shot, the rhino took off, snorting loudly and bearing to the right around a thick clump of bush which hid it from view. Murray, then an agile 65 or so, dived around the other side of the bush too, real close, hugging the bush like Murray was. They met head on. Murray had guessed wrong once, and he guessed wrong again as he frantically...
Old faru moved to top of white hunter’s “danger” list when rhino unpredictably drove through brush, instead of circling it, put battered hunter Murray in hospital.

Pre-dawn safari camp is idyllic, peaceful, but day may hold high adventure or sudden death in tangle with game.

Plain Westley Richards (top) or engraved India Royal Holland & Holland differ in finish but both throw massive .470-.465 slugs to put down African heavy game with knockout one-two punches.

London’s John Rigby, “riflemakers to H.M. the Queen,” build light .275’s for deer stalking and heavy double .470’s (shown) for Africa.
Every year two opposing forces meet in the legislatures of our nation's states and in our capital to ponder the question of firearms control. By control I mean the power to determine who shall have the right to purchase handguns and rifles. In turn, we are asked to state our position in the matter as a representative of thousands of law enforcement officers throughout the United States. We have given the matter considerable thought. We have heard and read many views on the subject. Some of the proposals are to restrict the purchase of handguns (such as revolvers) to police officers and such persons as licensed by the police department. The latter would involve a check into the character of each person making such a purchase and is intended to place firearms in the hands of good and honest citizens. In many cities and states such a system exists to some degree or another. The laws vary so much, however, that the citizen hesitates when he travels to another state to carry his firearm.

Another proposal is the registration of firearms (in some cities this is a voluntary program). This gives the police a record of the weapons purchased and to whom they were sold. Advocates of stronger laws would abolish the right of citizens to have firearms at all and limit their use to police officers. On the other hand such organizations as the National Rifle Association advocate the right of the individual to "bear arms" as a guarantee of the Constitution. Others say that it's plain foolish to limit the use and purchase of firearms to policemen as a means to reduce violent deaths and accessibility of firearms to criminals. If a man wants a gun to use for a crime, a law against having a gun is not enough to deter him from its use or availability through underworld sources.

Without appearing to sit on the fence we feel that an American citizen of voting age and of good character should have the right to purchase without restriction a handgun, pistol, revolver, rifle, shotgun, or a like item without interference by a government body. A record of the purchased, the serial number, its intended use, and perhaps a test bullet from the weapon might be required for the police department as an aid in solving any crimes that might be traced to the firearm in the future. But to place the purchase of firearms in the hands of one official would give cause in some cases to abuse.

The history of our nation has been written by volunteer militia who relied on their own weapons. The professional soldiers are so few in number that of necessity they must depend on trained volunteers who are capable of handling firearms. Even today with the threat of gigantic H-bombs, the knowledge that millions of firearms of all sizes are stored in homes throughout the United States might well discourage an aggressor from our shores. It would be the means of fighting back by the civilian population in time of war or invasion. We have thousands upon thousands of gun clubs and sporting groups throughout the United States. These men and women in the last few years have strengthened their programs to teach gun safety to the youth of America. For every criminal that uses a gun to rob and kill, we have ten times that number of armed citizens who are able to assist the police in capturing these potential killers because they are armed.

Let's tie red tape around the hammer of the handgun and restrict good men and women from owning firearms. We must keep American strong in every way and to take away the heritage of the "Minuteman" by such laws is foolish and an aid to the enemy we are fighting daily in our war against crime.

When do-gooders tell you that guns are a menace to law enforcement, show them this statement by the national association of the men responsible for law enforcement. And if anti-gun legislation rears its ugly head in your area, present this statement "in evidence" —and ask any police exponent of the bill why he strays so far from the avowed belief of his "guild."
NEW HUNTING CONDITIONS

HAVE CHANGED QUAIL HABITS, MEAN

HUNTERS MUST ADAPT GUNS AND

GUNNERY TO NEW NEEDS
worked well ahead of the guns, and almost all of the shots were made in the open. After a covey rise, the singles would go down close enough so we could mark where they landed and go right after them.

All of this is changed now, and I think the change is because farming methods have become so different. Quail like weed seeds. Extensive checks by game biologists have proved that ragweed seeds make up a major item in the quail’s diet during the hunting season. Along with weeds to eat, they need good heavy cover in which they can hide from their enemies.

Both the heavy cover and weeds used to be found on small farms where mules and human muscles provided the power for farm work. Thick hedges were common, and crops were often left standing after they ripened, giving birds both food and cover until the farmer could get around to his harvest.

Now, the average farm is much larger, the old fences and hedges have been ripped out, and the farm field may reach a mile or more between covers. Pastures are clipped close; tilled land is cultivated by tractors; weeds are kept out; crops are harvested as soon as they are ripe by machines which leave nothing in the fields except stubble. Often large amounts of shattered grain are left, but no amount of grain can keep quail on the land if there isn’t enough cover.

A few landowners who like to hunt, or who realize the value of birds in controlling insects, try to remedy the situation by making plantings of cover crops along the edges of cultivated fields and in clearings. If they are left standing all winter, and if the cover is really adequate, these plantings can be a big help in keeping quail around. As yet, however, they have been made on much too small a scale to have any great effect on the quail population.

This means that the man who wants to hunt quail will simply have to forget about the farming country where he used to find birds, and go where they have gone. That’s what I did last season.

The first areas I hunted were the tracts of mature woodland near farming sections. I found a few quail here, but not enough. I think those quail were only there by chance, perhaps fleeing from fields that had just been stripped bare of cover, but not finding enough of food in the woods to make their new home.

The only places I did find the birds in large quantities were the blocks of woodland that had been timbered anywhere from two to about eight years before. This land is a wild tangle of weeds, brush, honeysuckles, laurel, and wild azaleas. Ragweed comes up fast here, and grows thick enough to keep quail fat and happy all through the winter. Ragweed mixed with brush and briars and small trees coming back after the logging offer an ideal combination of food and cover. These were the only places, with the exception of managed game preserves, where I found quail plentiful.

Hunting here is completely different from hunting in open farmland. This land is rough, badly eroded, choked with deep gulleys. Stumps are hidden under the honeysuckle vines, and there are piles of brittle top wood from the cut trees and a tight growth of brush and scrub trees and briars through which dogs and hunters must fight. Leather faced brush pants are almost essential; and the wide-ranging dog that used to be so good out in the open fields won’t help you here. Visibility is cut to well under 50 yards in most places, and to a matter of only a few feet in many. No matter (Continued on page 37)

End of perfect day! Author studied many guns, found slide Remingtons (M31 shown), Ithacas, among best U.S. quail guns.
Plainclothes firepower is brace of snubbed Smith Chiefs Specials packing total of ten .38 Special Hi-Speed hollow points for concealability plus good close-in stopping power.

Pistols for Plainclothesmen

FINDING BEST COMPROMISE BETWEEN POWER, DEPENDABILITY, AND SIZE GOVERNS CHOICE OF PLAINCLOTHES GUN

By ALLAN SKELTON

THE average police officer, arriving home after a day of pounding the pavement, is ready and eager to shuck off his heavy Sam Brown and service revolver. When he dons mufti for a trip to the supermarket, he ponders with something less than relish the regulation which requires him to tote his artillery. His big revolver is a tough item to pack when the object is to keep it out of view. The long handle of the arm, perhaps made larger with hand-filling grips, is as conspicuous as rat sign in the sugar bowl, whether the iron is stuffed in the waistband, slung under the arm, or attached to the pants belt in a cutaway holster. And dropping the big persuader into the side pants pocket leaves the cop in danger of finding his trousers at half-mast, to say nothing of the likelihood of ripping the pocket out with the hammer spur if a quick draw is attempted.

Off-duty officer needs small-butt pocket revolver which packs punch. Skelton carries nickel Colt .38.
Small town officers who are not bound by departmental rules to carry weapons at all times, still face the same problem, for different reasons. Recognized by one and all as “the law,” the law enforcement officer of a small town or community is frequently called to duty from church, the movies, or anywhere he may be found. Not knowing what he will face on such a call, it is imperative that this officer be armed, and a bulky, eye-catching gunbelt is not desirable.

And, let's face it, police in plain clothes are not the only ones to whom ways to carry a gun concealed are of interest. The prevalence of hitch-hike murder and kidnapping, of gang muggings and unprovoked and unpredictable attacks, are making many good citizens, men and women alike, consider the desirability of “carrying the difference.” Here again, a large holstered gun draws suspicion, even police interference.

There is nothing wrong, per se, with the concealed weapon; the wrong depends on the intent of the wearer. In some states and many municipalities, laws make it “wrong” to carry any concealed weapon; but weapons for self defense have been carried, concealed or otherwise, since time immemorial. Since small firearms came into existence, they have been so used. Stagecoach riders in England and the Colonies looked with favor on large caliber, single shot, flintlock pistols, often carried in pairs. The invention

Hideaway battery includes author's nickel Colt Detective Special .38 which won't rust in pocket. Steel Chief's (left), and Airweight (top), Bodyguard with cut guard and Herrett grips, and M & P 2" with Pachmayr adaptor, are good pocket guns.
Old time belly gun for maximum effect in minimum packages is Frontier Colt .45 with barrel taken off frame.

COAT POCKET DRAW

Pocket pistol is drawn from inside jacket in surprise move. Coat is first pulled open by hand...

1. Pocket pistol is drawn from inside jacket in surprise move. Coat is first pulled open by hand...

2. ... And muzzle of revolver grasped, and pulled out into waiting right palm...

3. ... Which curls around .38 in swift gesture substituting surprise for speed.

4. Left hand falls away as right hand secures hold to trigger the "snub" gun.

Every lover of firearms history is familiar with the still-popular .41 Remington over-under and its dwarf cartridges. Kept alive by tales of western derring-do, it is still packed by belly gunners and little old ladies with lace shirtwaists and steel eyes. It was, and is, woefully inadequate as a serious defense weapon. During one period on the Arizona border I toted one as a second to my holstered .357 Magnum—until a practice shot which stuck about 3/4 inch into a telephone pole, leaving the hollow base of the slug exposed for all to see, convinced me that the .41 short rimfire was not a load on which to bet my blue chips. The range for this eye-opening shot was three feet.

From Reconstruction days until the early 20th century, those wanting a small hideaway gun chose from the rimfire, and later centerfire, .22’s, .32’s, .38’s, and .41’s. These were produced in large quantities by Colt in their Cop and Thug and Cloverleaf models, by Smith and Wesson with their old tip-up and later break-top versions, by Hopkins and Allen with their finely made Merwin and Hulbert single actions, and by many other smaller companies.

Until the coming of the .38 Special with its smokeless powder loadings, no production model pocket gun using metallic cartridges was manufactured that could be relied on as a manstopper. The only possible exception to this would be the little-known Sheriff’s Model Single Action Army Colt in .45, .44-40, and
WHERE AND HOW

By BERT POPOWSKI

WHEREAS THE DEER HUNTERS trample each other for shooting room, the sheep-goat-bear breeds of trophy hunters have the country pretty much to themselves. The raw ruggedness of the sport sees to that; it separates the men from the boys so rapidly that only a handful of the thousands that start out ever get to where the top trophies live.

It isn’t enough that the hunter of these species have a fine rifle, excellent optical accessories, and a willing-to-learn receptiveness; he must also have a good heart, good lungs, good legs and a willingness to use them—stamina to endure some privation, and a certain mental stability that will not desert him under pressure. For this type of hunting may take a man into country so rugged that he must camp with only the barest necessities (sleeping bag, fire, and scant food), and in extreme cases he may have to do without even these. He may have to inch his way along treacherous trails where a slip could tumble him hundreds of feet to his death. Or he may have to face a bear that would like nothing better than to swing a left hook, with...
Big sheep trophies, highly prized by hunters, are found in high back-country "where weather is born."

Neither size of track nor size of bear necessarily indicates rank of trophy; size of skull only counts. Best hunter can do is pick biggest male bear in sight and hope skull measures up.

Record goat has only 12" horns, but the hunter who tops it will have to match a big billy's own climbing skill.

the hunter's head as the target.

Under such circumstances, it is plain stupid for one or two hunters, strangers to the country, to try it on their own. They must have a woods- and mountain-wise guide. A good one is worth his weight in gold. Without a proper guide, the mountain hunting of sheep, goats, and bear can be fraught with frustrations and assorted dangers.

All three of these species require a good, sound rifle of proven caliber, one that can perform well up to maximum ranges. This is no sport for the testing of unproven and unfamiliar armament. Most of the shots will be well inside the 200-yard range, and some of the most critical ones may be at 50 to 100 yards. But your only chance for a fine trophy may be too far out for any but the finest, long-reaching rifle, so you should go well-heeled.

You sometimes get some odd shots in this kind of hunting. A sheep-hunting friend once killed a pair of fine rams on a ledge only 30 feet below the rock catwalk on which he was standing. At the opposite extreme, another friend and I took a portly billy goat at an estimated 425 yards, and at a 45-degree angle above us. When he went down, it took us an hour and a half to climb up to where he lay, within eight feet of a 90-foot sheer drop.

All of these species can be mighty tough to find and even harder to kill. A keen-eyed sheep may be located in such a spot that it cannot be approached to any but extreme range. Goats, on a pound-for-pound basis, can be terrifically tough to bring down, even after the hunter has worked his way on feet, hands, and finger-tips to the cliffs and crags on which they live. And a grizzly, or an Alaskan Brownie, has a barrelful of courage and the physical equipment to make taking him a job of steady nerves and cool marksmanship. Taking all these things together, the hunter of sheep, goats, and bear needs a substantial supply of what is delicately referred to as "intestinal fortitude," plus gun skill. If he is short on either commodity, he'd better stick to other types of hunting.
Snow-filled high mountain canyons sometimes smooth hunter’s way but may prove hazardous.

Big American lion may measure 9' tip to tip, are also found in rugged country, are usually hunted on horseback with dogs.

Even the weather in such country can be a real hazard. Sheep, goat, and bear live in country where weather is born. I've seen a placid and sun-smiling day turn into a heavy wind-driven snowfall that was as blinding as a blanket. Concealed behind high and spiny ridges of rock, the Weatherman can, with little warning, turn into a treacherous assassin.

I once spent a 20-below-zero night in the shelter of two spruce trees, three of us taking turns in one lone sleeping bag spread on a cedar-bough bed to keep it off the ice-hard snow. We could have camped in far more comfort in a valley a half-mile away, but if we had we might have spooked (or been spooked by!) a grizzly the guide had described as being “As big as a (Continued on page 48)

Black bear, including his cinnamon and brown color phases, is found in great number over wide areas. This 325 pound black was taken by Chet Kimble with .30-06.
Russians are not the only ones, nor the first, to try upside-down guns. Cut-out in stock permits removal of bolt.

**UNIQUE UPSIDE-DOWN ENFIELD IS ONE SOLUTION TO LEFT-HANDERS' BOLT ACTION PROBLEM**

By JOHN P. NORTON

CERTAINLY one of the most unusual solutions to the problem of bolt action rifles for left-handed shooters is this upside-down Enfield. In spite of its appearance, the rifle handles rather well.

Loading is done from the top through a hinged floor plate. To prevent the cartridges from falling all the way through when the bolt is open, a piece of steel was carefully fitted over the loading port from the receiver ring to the clip slots. The rear sight ears have been milled off to form a flat base for the trigger assembly. A hook shaped piece of steel fitted to the top of the cocking piece forms the sear. While smooth, the trigger pull is long and soft; but since the action of the trigger is clearly visible, it is possible to get a clean, crisp let-off by taking up the trigger until you can see that it is about to disengage, then aim and apply the last ounces of pressure. There is no safety.

The front sight is adjustable for elevation. It is three inches high in the lowest position, and four and one-half inches high when fully extended. The rear sight is adjustable for elevation and windage, and is mounted just to the rear of the magazine with wood screws.

There is barely enough room in the cut out portion of the stock to remove the bolt. The rifle can be cleaned from the rear by running the rod through a hole that extends lengthwise through the stock.

The magazine has five shot capacity, the barrel measures 21 1/2 inches, and the rifle weighs 8 1/2 pounds.

The identity of the imaginative maker is not known, but the rifle has accounted for many Idaho deer and elk.
James guns at Huntington are New Model Remington .44 and 1853 Lefaucheux 12 mm. with added spring ejector.

By HERMAN P. DEAN

WHEN THE JAMES GANG ROBBED
HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA, BANK,
THEY LEFT BEHIND THEM

THESE TWO GUNS, NOW DISPLAYED IN HUNTINGTON GALLERIES

When the Jesse James gang rode through Huntington, West Virginia, at high noon on September 6, 1875, they took with them $14,000 from the Bank of Huntington safe, and they left behind them three mementos of this daring robbery: three revolvers—one a Colt, another a Remington Civil War army-type percussion, and the other a French Lefaucheux. The Colt is owned by a Charleston, West Virginia, collector. The Remington and the Lefaucheux are among the exhibits on display at Huntington Galleries. The guns were dropped on the floor of the bank vault at the time of the robbery, and were important items of the evidence which secured a conviction for the members of the robbery band who were apprehended.

History records that the Huntington robbery gang was led by the James brothers, Jesse and Frank. However, there is some doubt whether or not “the James boys” themselves actually participated in this particular hold-up. Some authorities contend that they sent their men into Huntington and joined them later, after the robbery.

One of the leaders of the outlaw gang was a man named Webb, who carried the Remington percussion pistol now on display at Huntington Galleries. Webb was later captured by a Tennessee sheriff while having his horse shod in a blacksmith shop. This was shortly after the Huntington robbery, and $5,000.00 in currency was recovered from the money belt he wore when arrested. Webb was brought back to Huntington, tried for his part in the robbery, and sentenced to twenty years in the West Virginia penitentiary. It is recorded that he served his term as a model prisoner and afterwards took up religious work and became a minister of the gospel in his declining years. (Continued on page 36)
Cole Younger, another westerner of bank robbing fame, is reputed to have been a member of the gang that robbed the Bank of Huntington, but he was never tried.

John Hooe Russell was President of the Bank of Huntington at the time of the robbery and Robert T. Oney was Cashier. The robbers entered into Huntington on horseback and tied their horses at the hitching rack in front of the bank. Mr. Russell was at lunch at the time, but Mr. Oney, the Cashier, was held up at gunpoint and required to produce a key that locked the bank's safe. The robbers were professional and they executed their job with dispatch and without fanfare, leaving the bank quickly to mount their horses.

But in the excitement of making their getaway, they did drop the three guns mentioned in this report.

They rode toward Fourpole Creek and through Wayne County, West Virginia, in the direction of Louisa, Kentucky, on a route which eventually led them into Southern Kentucky and Tennessee. John Hooe Russell, president of the bank, had left a very fine ivory-handled revolver on his desk when he left the bank for lunch. One of the robbers spied this and stole the revolver. It was recovered when the gang was arrested.

John R. Gibson was one of the several local persons who witnessed the robbery in detail. He reported that the four men who entered the bank were broadrimmed hats and linen dusters and were otherwise attired in western style. This same quartet had been observed on the streets of Huntington for a week, casing the bank. They described themselves as cattle buyers and horse traders.

Gibson reported that the most frightened man on the scene of the robbery was Jim Carter, the bank's colored porter who walked into the bank from the post office in the midst of the robbery. If so, Carter was not alone. The James brothers and Cole Younger and their bank robbing gang threw fear into the hearts of thousands along the western frontier before their reign ended, and the Huntington robbery was only one of a great many similar episodes attributed to them.

The Remington and Lefaucheaux guns in the Huntington Galleries, and the Colt in Charleston, are the only tangible mementos of the robbery, with the exception of a few silver dollars which pioneer citizens of adjoining Wayne County, West Virginia, claim were given out by the retreating gang.

The arms collection in Huntington Galleries is reputed to be one of the best to be found in any museum in the country, and has been the leading attraction of the Galleries. People have come from most of the states and from several foreign countries to view the display, which is designed primarily to illustrate fine arms in arms manufacturing and to portray the progress of unusual firearms evolution through different types of mechanism. The historic angle of the firearms collection is only incidental to its total purpose; but in addition to the James gang guns, there are numerous other firearms of historic interest, including a rifle owned by Daniel Boone, another owned by Simon Keaton, a Winchester owned by Johnsen Hatfield and used in the famous Hatfield-McCoy feud, and an elaborately engraved double barrel shotgun given to an American major by Herman Goering just before this German warlord committed suicide in Nuremberg prison following World War II.

A MINING OPERATION helps support the Amateur Trapshooting Association, the governing organization of trapshooting in the United States.

The ATA rarely makes a profit from conducting the annual Grand American Tournament, but it does receive some income from an unusual mining process. No, ATA officials did not invest shooters' funds in mining stock, nor did some ATA member bequeath shares in a lead mine to his favorite organization. But it can be said truthfully that the ATA is in the lead mining business.

Each year, after the Grand American Tournament is held, the soil in front of seven of the thirty-six trap fields is mined to recover lead deposited there during the fabulous shooting event. Over a five-year cycle, thirty-five of the thirty-six traps are mined. The annual yield is from 25 to 30 tons of shot.

If this sounds like a major mining operation, it is because 1,400,000 shotgun shells are fired during the Grand, and that's a lot of shot! Could that be prices on the lead market might even fluctuate as a result of harvesting lead from the 60th annual Grand American, held this year from August 21 through August 29 at the Vandalia, Ohio grounds, because the 60th Grand is expected to surpass all the records set in earlier tournaments.

During the Grand American Handicap event on Friday of 1958's shoot, 2,202 shooters fired 100 shots each between the hours of eight A.M. and six P.M. It is expected that 2,500 gunners will toe the mark in the 1959 running of this, the oldest participation sport in the United States excepting tennis. A national tennis tournament was held in 1881, which predates the Grand; but the tennis tournaments were suspended during some war years, and the Grand wasn't. No other sport equals the record of trap in holding 60 consecutive annual tournaments.

Thousands of words have been written and spoken in an attempt to portray the color, the excitement, and the unpredictability of the Grand. Trapshooting is for the most part an individual sport. Age, sex, physical handicaps and financial status have no bearing on the final results. Only twice in the sixty years has a nationally known shooter won the richest event of the tournament, the Grand American Handicap Championship, which will be held this year on Friday, August 28. In all other years, some unknown shooter, "shooting over his head," won the event.

In 1958, Emerson Clark, the first Canadian to win the biggest event, fired a score of 99 to win. His average for 1953, including the pot-winning 99, was a modest 86. In 1957, his year's norm was an unexciting .8266.

Championships have been won by shooters competing from a wheel chair, or with an arm, leg, or eye missing. An oil millionaire, an interior decorator, and a metal plater squared away for a shootoff in one event, which went to the metal plater. One major title went to a truck driver who stopped his rig long enough to pick up a fat bonus for his day's work.

The Grand is homecoming for shooters and their families from widely separated areas of the country, who see each other only at the Grand, and look forward to the meeting from year to year.

For these and other reasons, it's clear that no one can capture all the appeal of the Grand in words. You owe yourself and your family a trip to the Grand. This year, the 60th, would be appropriate. And, who can say that you will not be the winner, after all the shooters have made their deposit in the ATA's lead mine? Lead is supposed to be a base metal, but it can be gold for you.

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Trios for a skeet team to represent the National Skeet Shooting Association and the United States in the Pan-American Games will be held Sunday and Monday following the 1959 NSSA World Championship Skeet Tournament at the Princess Anne Gun Club, Lynnhaven, Virginia, Aug. 28. The Pan-American skeet shooting championships will be hosted by Chicago's Lincoln Park Gun Club on Chicago's lakefront, August 27 to September 7.

Skeet shooters will want to arrange summer vacation tours to include Virginia hospitality and a swing to the booming Windy City.

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It's a big year for all the clay target gunners, what with the 60th Grand, the NSSA World event for the first time in Virginia, and the Pan-American Games in the nation's heartland. The boom is on, literally and figuratively.

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Production lines in Chicago will soon buzz with talk of missed (or hit) right-angle targets, slow and/or fast pulls, handicap yardages, or station eight troubles. Hilldale, formerly Fieldale, is opening its fabulous shooting facilities to the industrial leagues.

The Hilldale Club, on Illinois Route 72, just north of Route 58, was purchased from the former operator, Marshall Field & Co., and is open to the public for clay target and simulated game hunting from Wednesday through Sunday of each week. The National Industrial Recreation Association in Chicago is carrying the word of Hilldale's invitation to production line sportsmen via newsletter.
NEW QUIRKS FOR QUAIL  
(Continued from page 27)

how good the dog may be at finding birds, he will be just a hindrance if he goes on point out of sight and you have to spend most of the day finding him.

The dog that worked best for us was a Brittany spaniel. This one was a natural born brush dog who actually preferred to squirm through briar patches and brush heaps when it would have been easier to go around them. He worked slowly, checking every scent carefully before he moved in on it. By staying within sight all the time and working the tightest of the covers thoroughly, he found birds and gave us shots when the wide-ranging dogs were useless.

Although the dog should be one that works slowly, the hunter has to keep himself ready with the shot gun at all times. The dog may have pointed a bird, but the hunter has to be ready to swing his gun muzzle for an opening.

The calls did not work well early in the day. But from about three o'clock in the afternoon on, the quail normally begin to covey up for the night, they answer the call at intervals of several minutes. When a quail answered the call, we took the dogs to the spot the answer came from and hunted in another wide circle around it. We found that the birds usually flew half a mile or more from the spot where they had been flushed. They generally landed in thick cover, spread through an area of several acres, with occasionally one or two singles going out into open fields near the cut-over lands.

The singles often flushed wild, in contrast to the coveys which held well to the point. They might be found practically anywhere, even in the tops of small trees. The birds that landed in trees were usually useless.

Some singles would start flying before the birds disappeared.

In this tight cover, it is easy to fall. When the dog has pointed a bird, the hunter can be ready to swing his gun muzzle up to clear the brush. With a double, the thumb should be on the safety, and the forefinger should be against the trigger guard, ready to slide in to the trigger as the gun is brought up. With a slide action or autoloading shotgun, the forefinger should be on the safety button, ready to press it off and slide in to the trigger while the gun muzzle is swinging in line with the bird. Keep that safety off until the very last instant! In this tight cover, it is easy to fall. When you fall, the gun can go off by accident.

All of this shooting is so fast that, in my opinion, no gun can equal a well balanced side-by-side double with 26 inch barrels, bored improved cylinder and modified choke, or even cylinder and improved cylinder. On a couple of the hunts I used a borrowed LeFevre 20 gauge, with 26 inch barrels bored improved cylinder and modified. It was by far the fastest handling gun I used all season.

I also used an old Ithaca 12 gauge side-by-side double of my own, with 28 inch barrels bored modified and full choke; a Remington 870 16 gauge side action with a 26 inch plain barrel bored improved cylinder; and a Remington 870 12 gauge with a Cutts Compensator on the ribbed barrel. (The total length with the spreader tube in place is only 2½ inches.) Both of these Remington guns were new. Recoil pads had been installed on both stocks after they were shortened to give a total length of pull of 13½ inches. Both guns have beavertail foreends which I slimmed down a bit and checkered, and both have pistol grip stocks which I also slimmed down to fit my hand and checkered. Both of them fit me right and point naturally. Both were faster handling than any other U.S. made guns I tried, but they were still just a bit slower than the two old side-by-side doubles.

I made no attempt to time the shots with a stop watch, but I did notice the range at which the first shot killed a bird. The 20 gauge with the 26 inch barrels consistently dropped the first bird a few feet closer than any of the others. The 12 gauge Ithaca dropped that first bird next closest, but with its longer chokes it also missed sometimes, and sometimes shot the ones it hit all to pieces. The 16 gauge Remington was third, and the 12 gauge Remington with the Compensator was fourth, with both of these guns making more kills than the tight-bored Ithaca and not shooting up the birds so badly.

This convinced me that, for this kind of shooting, guns must be very well balanced and feel exactly 'right' to the shooter. Since I am small in build and fairly light in weight, I need a shot gun that fits me, a light gun, however, is unquestionably faster than a heavy one. The Remington and Ithaca slide action guns fill this bill about as well as any shotgun currently being made in the U.S., with the exception of the Winchester Model 21.

The Remington and Ithaca slide actions, and old side-by-side doubles made by Parker, L. C. Smith, Ithaca, LeFevre, and similar makers now out of business, are the most popular guns among quail hunters in the upper South today. Such imported doubles as those made by Beretta of Italy and AyA of Spain, and the Browning lightweight over-under, are also well adapted to this use. The only autoloader I tried that had a good 'feel' for me was the Browning 20 gauge. This gun has plenty of killing power for these short range shots on quail, and a 28 gauge would probably do equally well in the hands of someone thoroughly familiar with it.

The day we started, I tried out half a dozen commercial loads in my three guns, patterning them on brown wrapping paper. The Remington Target Loads with number 9 shot made the most even patterns in all three guns. This is the load with the equivalent of 3 drams of powder and 1¾ ounces of shot in the 12 gauge, and the equivalent of 2½ drams of powder and an ounce of shot in the 16 gauge. Next in pattern performance, and best with number 8 shot, was the Winchester Ranger field load with the same powder and powder charge, four drams in the 12 gauge. The Remington field load and number 8 shot ranked second with the 16. I did not have an opportunity to pattern any loads for the 20. I simply borrowed the gun and used Remington field loads with number 9 shot getting ten patterns.

The differences between various makes of shotgun shells that I tried was slight, much less than the differences between the patterns thrown by various sizes of shot. I am positive that number 9 is perfectly adequate for quail. They're easy birds to kill at these short ranges, usually without more than a single shot. The trick is to hit them. For that, the full, even patterns thrown by number 9's worked best for me.
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In St. • Alexandria 2, Va.
FAST DRAW—NO BLOODSHOT
(Continued from page 17)

We met, and after a few "feeler" jabs at each other, settled ourselves in the saddles, pulled our hands tight, with the intent to "ride 'er out" on the subject of fast draw.

I guess I started it by some crack about hammer-slapping. Dee grinned and said, "I'm a hammer-slapper, and my draw is the safest there is, bar none."

I said, "Prove it." I was going to be damned hard to convince, that much was certain. And Dee knew it.

He buckled on his rig and, after a few preliminary passes which, naturally, were too fast for my eye to follow, he cut his movements to slow motion so that I could watch every detail of his draw. "See? I've done super-high-speed films of Dee's draw, and I know that what he showed me is the way he really does it, even at top speed and under pressure. And I was forced finally to acknowledge, as gracefully as ten years of personal positionality to the contrary would permit, that Dee's draw is terrifically fast (the fastest I have ever seen), and—that it is safe!

This is going to take a bit of explaining, and it starts with holster position. Dee and I agreed on that, right from the beginning. His gun is worn high, almost exactly as I wear mine: high enough so that the upward butt of the Single Action touches his arm midway between wrist and elbow or a trifle higher.

You think this is crazy? Well, the fact is, Hollywood and the western story writers to the contrary notwithstanding, that the low-slung holster is not the fastest. I suppose it would kick up needless and endless argument if I said the old time gunfighters didn't wear their guns down around their knees, the natural stance with the feet about a foot shoulder slightly forward. The thumb should be fully cocked before the first joint of the thumb as the shoulder, and arm and hand are pulled sharply backward. Minimizing body or arm movement is of little consequence; it's the distance the gun has to travel that counts.

But when you press for speed, you cock your hammer. Like the old saying, "Don't go off half-cocked," a half-cocked gun won't be of any value. And, no one should ever rely on the half-cock notch to catch a hammer that has slipped from the full-cock position. To be sure, the hammer must be fully cocked before the hand comes into actual contact with the gun's grips. Like the old saying, "I won't go off half-cocked," a half-cocked gun won't go off, won't be of any value. And, no one should ever rely on the half-cock notch to catch a hammer that has slipped from the full-cock position. If the half-cock notch had not been buried out of sight, the hammer, the first joint of the thumb as the shoulder, and hand are pulled sharply backward. Minimizing body or arm movement is of little consequence; it's the distance the gun has to travel that counts.

The thumb must strike the hammer with considerable force, not because any particular force is required for cocking the gun, but to knock the gun backwards out of the holster. To be sure, the hammer must be fully cocked before the hand comes into actual contact with the gun's grips. Like the old saying, "I won't go off half-cocked," a half-cocked gun won't go off, won't be of any value. And, no one should ever rely on the half-cock notch to catch a hammer that has slipped from the full-cock position. If the half-cock notch had not been buried out of sight, the hammer, the first joint of the thumb as the shoulder, and hand are pulled sharply backward. Minimizing body or arm movement is of little consequence; it's the distance the gun has to travel that counts.

The thumb must strike the hammer with considerable force, not because any particular force is required for cocking the gun, but to knock the gun backwards out of the holster. To be sure, the hammer must be fully cocked before the hand comes into actual contact with the gun's grips. Like the old saying, "I won't go off half-cocked," a half-cocked gun won't go off, won't be of any value. And, no one should ever rely on the half-cock notch to catch a hammer that has slipped from the full-cock position. If the half-cock notch had not been buried out of sight, the hammer, the first joint of the thumb as the shoulder, and hand are pulled sharply backward. Minimizing body or arm movement is of little consequence; it's the distance the gun has to travel that counts.

My hand is pointed out to you. Dee points it out. He says, "You shoot from hip level. You can't hit much if you shoot from down around your knee! So, from a low holster, you must lift the gun and swing it up through an arc, to hip level. I carry my gun as near as possible to where I'll shoot it. The gun has less distance to travel. If you are anywhere near as fast as his, I'll beat the low-gun wearer."

Dee's holster and contoured belt, both designed by him, are tops for correct gun carry. The holster is metal-lined, open top of course. Western style, generally similar to but still distinct from the other metal-lined or "stiffened" holsters now accepted as best for top draw speed. Dee "ties down," to prevent even the slight but still possibly disconcerting holster movement that will (or can) occur even with the stiffest rigs. In any event of this height of his carry, the tie-down thong goes high up in his crotch. I'm told that the Dee Wooletem type holster may be commercially available soon, economically priced, through Growmen Arms; but now suffice it to say that it has certain refinements not found in other holsters. They sure must suit Dee; his speed proves it.

The how-to of drawing a gun from this position goes something like this: Assume a natural stance with the feet about a foot apart, elbow slightly out from the side, shoulder slightly forward. The thumb should be approximately four inches below and two inches forward of the hammer spur. (Many competitive fast draw rules require this as a minimum). Cocking the gun is accomplished by hitting the hammer with the first joint of the thumb as the shoulder, hand and arm are pulled sharply backward. Minimizing body or arm movement is of little consequence; it's the distance the gun has to travel that counts.

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THE SINGLE SHOT RIFLE SAGA

(Continued from page 20)

Ilephum, and the Remington-Walker. Along with these old timers is the modern Vermetzmade Hauk and an imported one, the Heeren.

Both of these modern actions are built to take our present high-intensity cartridges. The Hauk is an excellently designed action using alloy, heat-treated steels. The modern Heeren action is manufactured by the Swiss firm of W. Glaser and is used there in fine single shot hunting rifles.

Added to these are the hundreds of fine German Schuetzen rifles "liberated" by our GIs. These are strictly off-hand rifles, built to individual specifications for target work. The majority will be in the 8.15 x 46 mm. caliber, a short bottle-necked cartridge very similar to our .32-40. Cases for these present no problem. .32-40 brass is cut off to an overall length of 1.81" and then fire-formed. The majority will be in the 8.15 x 46 mm.

Ballard in .45-90. A favorite load was a 405-grain slug cast 50-to-1 and seated into the recoil. So will the little Stevens rifles and the Remington-Walker. Along with these old timers is the modern Vermetzmade Hauk and an imported one, the Heeren.

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STURDY CONSTRUCTION—No delicate internal parts to jar loose; adjustments are made in the mount. Will not knock out of zero. Guaranteed permanently fog proof.

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FREE! “FACTS ABOUT TELESCOPIC SIGHTS”—Be an expert on telescopic sights. Send for this most authoritative, 96-page manual containing valuable information about scopes and scope shooting. Write to Bausch & Lomb Optical Co., Rochester 2, N. Y.
(Continued from page 42)

Vaseline. This lubricant has given excellent results in all of my single shots. I mix just enough Vaseline so the mixture can be rather easily dealt with the thumb after cooling. Experiment with the proportions for your individual rifle. Each weapon will be temperamental when it comes to lubricant.

The single shot target rifles were loaded in one of two ways. The fine Schuetzen were often muzzle-loaded, through a false muzzle. This short removable piece of barrel was pinned in place; bored, reamed, and rifled at the same time as the barrel. In use, the false muzzle was placed on the barrel. Then a lubricated bullet was dropped into it and forced into the bore by a sharp push on a short rod. The false muzzle was then removed, and the bullet forced the rest of the way down the barrel by a strong, steady push on a close fitting ramrod. The bullet seated against a shell in the chamber.

Loading from a false muzzle had quite a few advantages. The slug was lined up perfectly in the bore. All fouling from the previous shot was wiped down; thus the bullet had a perfectly clean bore to traverse. The bullet had already taken the rifling, so there would be no jump across the throat to help upset the slug.

The other method of loading used a bullet seater. This little gadget was sometimes empty case fitted with a close-fitting dowel which extended about 1/16" beyond the mouth of the case. With the bullet seated the bullet was forced up into the rifling ahead of the chamber.

In these methods of loading, one cartridge case can be used, reloaded for each shot.

Mark the rim so it is inserted into the chamber in the same position. The more uniform each operation is from shot to shot, the closer will be the group. A case that has been fired in a good, smooth chamber forms a perfect seal once it has been fired, making resizing unnecessary.

Reloading at the bench isn't as complicated as it may sound. With a Lyman tool, all the necessary reloading operations can be performed. Fix up your bench or the trunk of the car so that a powder measure can be mounted, and your in business.

A very good load for any of these single shots is about five to seven grains of DuPont bulk shotgun smokeless as a priming charge and the rest of the case filled with FG blackpowder. This is a very clean-shooting low pressure load, and one that is about as accurate as I have found. To load at the bench, I carry a supply of priming charges weighed out and placed in small plastic pill vials. These can be obtained from any corner drugstore for a few cents. Then all I have to do is dump one of the priming charges into the case and fill it with FG from my own stock.

If DuPont shotgun bulk smokeless powder is used for the entire charge, it should be sifed. This will remove the very fine grains that cause trouble with target rifles. Get a couple of ten-cent store tea strainers, one with about 20-20 mesh and the other with a 30-30 mesh. Sift the entire can of powder through the 18-20 strainer, first, separating the coarse grains. Use these just as is. About 13 grains in my .32-40 is an excellent load. Now sift the remainder of the can through the finer strainer, removing the very fine grains. The powder that did not pass makes excellent priming charges when used with FG black.

Another piece of equipment to make your single shot perform the way it should, is a wad-cutter. Some rifles group best with a small amount of pressure on the powder charge, especially with black powder. A simple wad-cutter can be made from a piece of tubing with a hole a few thousandths smaller than the diameter of your bullet. Sharpen one end so that it will cut a clean wad when tapped with a mallet. For wad material, I find that plain ink blotting paper works well. Sift the wad from an old hat. I usually seat the wad very lightly on top of the powder charge, forcing it into place with a pencil eraser. I also use wads when loading light loads of 2400 or Unique, to keep the charge back close to the primer flash.

This then, is the story of single shot rifles among the finest that American gunsmiths have produced. It's a rifle for these with patience enough to enjoy shooting at its best; a rifle so popular that Stevens Arms Co. once devoted a department under Harry Pope's supervision to the production of super-accurate barrels. Single shots were the only factory made rifles ever to carry a guarantee of accuracy, something that just doesn't appear on modern factory rifles.

If you like to shoot and want to get away from the mile-a-minute pace of this modern world, get a good single shot rifle. Shoot it the way the old timers did. Be patient and see just how close it will group with a good load you've developed yourself. You'll be pleased by some of the most enjoyable shooting available, using the American single shot rifles.
.38-40 calibers. This gun was normally supplied with a 3 inch or longer barrel, but a few with 2 inch tubes are known to have been carried by the old time gunsmingers. The double action Colt Lightning in .41 caliber could be rated fair in shocking power, but it, like the Sheriff's Model, was too bulky for complete concealment.

Of course, many of the standard big caliber hogslegs were cut down by their owners for pocket use, and this is still done with our more modern heavy caliber double actions; but the lumpy look of it in the wearer's clothing suggests that nothing much was gained by butchering the gun. Pocket automatics won tremendous popularity in the first 40 years of this country. Hundreds of thousands of them were produced and sold in .25, .32, and .380 calibers. The market for these flat-carrying little equalizers was flooded with a myriad of foreign jobs, including the Brownings, Mausers, Walthers, Ortgies, and other middle-European exports, and the cheaper Spanish, Italian, and Belgian products. But these little autos, while for the most part well made and reliable, were as lacking in power as their .32 and .38 counterparts of the 1880's.

If you like handguns, the odds are that you either have a pocket gun or want one. If you are a traveler on our thug-infested highways, you ought to have one. If you are a law enforcement officer, you'd damn well better have or want one if you want to stay healthy. But—what gun?

Specifications for an efficient pocket gun are easy to outline but difficult to attain. The weapon must: (1) be easily and completely concealed in a quickly accessible position; (2) be capable of being drawn and fired rapidly, without danger of malfunction; and (3) possess sufficient stopping power. It is a big order to comply with the last two requirements without losing out on the first.

Taking the above qualities one at a time, we find ourselves confronted first with the problem of compactness and portability. Any pistol with a barrel over 3 inches in length (2 inches is better) has little or no advantage over a longer weapon insofar as "hideability" goes. So let's limit our barrel to 3 inches. Any excessive size in the grip is to be avoided, since that will produce hard-to-hide lumps in the clothing. The larger automatics are disqualified due to the bulky, hulking outline of their handles. And the big .43 frame revolvers, while generally desirable because of their power, are difficult to conceal because of their huge cylinders. All this narrows the field to the Smith & Wesson .38 frame and Colt .38 and .41 frame revolvers, the .25, .32, and .380 automatics and the numerous foreign autos in this caliber classification, and the new Smith 9 mm, which comes in just under the wire as to bulk.

Rule number two thins the ranks still further. All of the Colt and Smith revolvers that met qualification number one will pass the test of being handled with speed and reliability, but here we begin to lose the autoloaders. The small hammerless auto can be drawn fast, but have you ever thumb-fumbled for the tiny safety on one of these critters with bullets whistling past your ears and adrenalin coursing through your veins?
The safety catch can be built up by welding into any desired shape to correct this flaw, but there are other considerations, which force us to drop our streamlined beauties back into the bureau with a sigh.

To eliminate malfunctioning as finally as possible, we must do away with any possibility of a gun-stopping jam. Lovers of the automatics will bawl, but I am one who just can't forget that one faulty round of ammunition can put the autoloader out of a fight.

I know this doesn't happen often, but it can happen. Automatics will howl, but I am one who just can't throw the autoloader out of a fight.

The gun that can be gotten into action fastest from a pocket, waistband, or shoulder holster is worn, and is also a black mark against target sights. At least one snub-nose .38 has been produced with high-riding click sights which no doubt increased its accuracy, but made it next to impossible to draw from a side pocket. Carried in the side pants pocket (in my opinion, the best place for a hideout in the summer when no coat is worn), the hammer spur will invariably catch in the top of the pocket unless the thumb is thrust down over it to shield it. If you wear larger than a 6½ glove, trying this will cause you to resemble the monkey with his fist in the jar. A friend once cut a Colt .357 Trooper to 2" and replaced the factory ramp front sight. It shot nice for a snub, but he found it necessary to hang it on his belt in a quick draw holster, taking it out of the pocket class.

If you accept the limitations as inherent in the .38, you will find that other than a Smith & Wesson or Colt revolver, with fixed sights and a two-inch barrel, in .41 Long Colt caliber or smaller in the Colt, and .38 Special or smaller in the Smith. A hard look at these calibers leaves something to be desired by a ballistic-wise shooter, so far as factory loads are concerned.

The .41 isn't too bad; and the best factory .38 Special load, for my money, is the blunt 200 grain manstopper load. Properly handloaded, with heavy, flat-nosed slugs, both these cartridges give the gunman a chance of collecting his old age pension. Hollow point bullets, cast butter-soft, will generally stop somewhere in a man-sized animal when fired at 900 feet a second, which is about tops for the .38 Special. Energy and shock are expended right where they should be expended. Even solid semi-wadcutter bullets are much superior to the pointed factory pills, which frequently slip right on through, expending little or no energy and leaving the target still on its feet. Cartridges must be charged with a healthy dose of hot pistol powder to get the velocity needed from short barrels to expand hollow point bullets, so lay off the light plinking loads.

Any revolver smaller than .38 Special had best be used to kill tomato cans. And except for the .45 ACP, I do not consider any presently manufactured commercial load for automatic pistols adequate for defense use. Hollow point cans be handloaded for these guns, but lead bullets dangerously increase jamming if they are cast soft enough to expand satisfactorily.

Get yourself a snubnosed Colt or Smith & Wesson. If it has an exposed hammer spur, grind it off. The trigger guard is best left intact unless you have extremely large fingers. Revolvers with grip adapters can easily be twisted from your hand in a scuffle, so leave the adapters to the target shooters.

Learn to handle your gun double action. The Military and Police Smith & Wesson has the lightest, smoothest DA pull of them all, with the Colt guns running a close second and the five shot Chief's Special, Centennial, and Bodyguard Smith & Wesson last. Double action trigger pulls can be lightened on the Smith & P by grinding a dab of metal from the sides of the mainspring and removing a coil or two from the trigger return spring. Slightly bending the top half of the Colt mainspring into an inverted V will sometimes help it, but either of these jobs should be attempted only if you know what you're doing. Better leave it to yourgunsmith. No one in these parts has been able to do much to lighten the pull of the coil spring five shot Smith & Wesson models. Replacing the springs with lighter ones has resulted in misfires, so local users have found it best to leave them as is.

The final requirement outlined above, the one of power, is without doubt the most important. An ever-increasing army of pistol-packing Americans has decided the .44 Magnum, .45 Colt, or .357 should be considered for defense use, and they are perfectly correct when a holster gun is referred to, but don't forget that we are seeking a compromise—the most muscle in the smallest package. If you accept the limitations as inherent in the .44, .45, or .357, you will find that other than a Smith & Wesson or Colt revolver, with fixed sights and a two-inch barrel, in .41 Long Colt caliber or smaller in the Colt, and .38 Special or smaller in the Smith. A hard look at these calibers leaves something to be desired by a ballistic-wise shooter, so far as factory loads are concerned.

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Any revolver smaller than .38 Special had best be used to kill tomato cans. And except for the .45 ACP, I do not consider any presently manufactured commercial load for automatic pistols adequate for defense use. Hollow point cans be handloaded for these guns, but lead bullets dangerously increase jamming if they are cast soft enough to expand satisfactorily.

Get yourself a snubnosed Colt or Smith & Wesson. If it has an exposed hammer spur, grind it off. The trigger guard is best left intact unless you have extremely large fingers. Revolvers with grip adapters can easily be twisted from your hand in a scuffle, so leave the adapters to the target shooters.

Learn to handle your gun double action. The Military and Police Smith & Wesson has the lightest, smoothest DA pull of them all, with the Colt guns running a close second and the five shot Chief's Special, Centennial, and Bodyguard Smith & Wesson last. Double action trigger pulls can be lightened on the Smith & P by grinding a dab of metal from the sides of the mainspring and removing a coil or two from the trigger return spring. Slightly bending the top half of the Colt mainspring into an inverted V will sometimes help it, but either of these jobs should be attempted only if you know what you're doing. Better leave it to your gunsmith. No one in these parts has been able to do much to lighten the pull of the coil spring five shot Smith & Wesson models. Replacing the springs with lighter ones has resulted in misfires, so local users have found it best to leave them as is.

The new CCI primers should not be overlooked when handloading for your "stingy gun" with its lightened hammer fall. These caps seem ultra sensitive to the bite of worked-over actions.
Don't overdo this alteration business. Cut off or remodel only what is necessary to give you a fast, smooth-working gun. Any further improvements should be in your ammunition and, more important, your shooting. One mutilation frequently touted by the hipshoot artists is the removal of the front sight. Their theory is that most gunfights occur at spitting distances, so who needs sights? Maybe so, but just suppose you get caught with the guy half a block away? No sights, no bullseye.

The pocket gun described here is just that: it can always be kept handy by simply dropping it into a pocket, no matter what kind of clothes you happen to be wearing. If you prefer, you may stuff it into the waistband of your britches. A tight-fitting elastic belt will keep it in place. The Berns Martin shoulder holster, made in Calhoun City, Mississippi, is excellent under a coat, not quite so fast under a shirt. Do not buy a belt holster for your belly gun. You will be defeating its purpose, and may as well wear a big gun if such a rig is used.

One Border Patrol compadre of mine in California just drops his "smudg" butt first into the inside breast pocket of his coat, the butt forward and the barrel up. To draw, he reaches thumb and forefinger under his lapel, as if to get a pencil or wallet, and pulls the .38 out by its barrel, grabbing the butt with the other hand as it clears. This isn't as slow or awkward as it sounds.

Whatever weapon you choose, load it heavy, master it, tuck it out of sight, and leave it until you need it. Advertising in this case is like over-betting on aces back to back. And when you take that stroll downtown at night, relax. You've got a good partner.
Trophies: Where and How
(Continued from page 33)

horse!" We saw that bear the next morning, and passed him up because his pelt was needed and patchy. Two hours later, while we were anticipating catching up on our lead, we spied a beautiful, dandy chocolate-brown black bear with a luxurious perfect pelt.

Many hunters consider a fine sheep trophy the ultimate in big-game hunting. The hunting of sheep takes you always into new country, though it is seldom quite as tough as top goat areas. Sheep tend to move out and away from any disturbance; goats just climb higher in the already rugged cliff, which they inhabit. You can sometimes get close to sheep quite easily. Almost without exception, the goats you get will be hard-earned.

The bighorn sheep, Ovis canadensis, is certainly the most massive of all sheep trophies, and as unpredictable in its habitats as are all sheep. The desert sheep, Ovis canadensis nelsoni, is simply its dry, dehydrated version of the bighorn, evolved by centuries of living in more barren habitat. The white sheep, Ovis dalli, commonly called the Dall, is so pure white that it can easily be mistaken for a mountain goat at the limit of optical range. The stone sheep, Ovis dalli stonei, is the tiniest of the quartet, so dark an iron-gray as to give the observer the impression that the rams are almost charcoal black.

Many top sportsmen have spent a lot of years in collecting representative specimens of different species of sheep, the score of them they have done so. Now, with the Desert bighorn growing very scarce, the chance of many more such four-pronged trophies is very dim. Jack O'Connor is the only trophy hunter I know who has collected a double round of the four varieties of North American sheep. O'Connor's name appears in the sheep records more often than any other, though he took virtually all of his rams within the last 20 years.

The true Rocky Mountain bighorn is the most productively hunted of all the sheep. Its range extends from Colorado to northern British Columbia and Alberta. About 15,000 bighorns are found in such States as Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, and Wyoming, but permits to hunt them are often very difficult to obtain. The best spots are Alberta and British Columbia, which have furnished over 90 per cent of the trophy heads presently in the records. British Columbia has a particularly attractive big-game hunting permit system. You pay a nominal price of $25 for the permit, and then pay an additional amount on any trophies you bring out. No trophies, no trophy fees.

The desert sheep records have virtually all come from Lower California and Sonor, province in Old Mexico, though Arizona and California have some 4,000 remaining head in their nearly waterless mountain areas and a few are found along the Colorado river in Nevada. The matter of securing the few and highly prized permits is the chief obstacle in hunting them.

All of the White sheep records have been secured in Alaska and the Yukon Territory. This variety probably offers the best chance to secure a really outstanding ram trophy, but the hunter has to go where the climbing is second in difficulty only to that needed for
top mountain goat heads. The Chugach mountains, Rainy Pass, and Knik river areas of Alaska, and the Kluane Lake, Sitka range, and Champagne areas of Yukon territory are good bets. Though white sheep are far easier to spot than other mountain sheep, they’re no easier to stalk. They seem to know that their coloration is a hazard and vary their behavior accordingly, often employing rifts of snow as camouflage.

Many widely experienced sheep hunters consider the Number One Stone sheep head taken by L. S. Chadwick in 1936 the very finest of all North American big-game trophies. Chadwick took his prize in the heights overlooking the Muskwa river of British Columbia, which province has a virtual monopoly of Stone sheep of top trophy classification. Other good bets include the Cassiar region, the heights above the Prophet and Peace rivers of British Columbia, with the Pelly mountains of Yukon Territory also to be considered.

In the Bighorn class, anything over 40 inches in horn length around the curl is of trophy caliber. Martin Bovey's Number One Bighorn, taken near Oyster creek of Alberta, measures 45 inches for each horn, but its massiveness throughout the horn length placed it above a handful of other heads, some of which actually exceed it in around-the-curl length. Bovey’s great head displaced the famous James Simpson trophy, taken four years earlier, in 1920, despite the latter head's substantial superiority in sheer horn length.

The Desert sheep—which is merely a ham­mered-down and drought-dried highhorn—with horns over 35 inches makes a fine trophy; 37 to 40 inches make it magnificent, es­pecially if both horns are matched for length and not badly “broomed” or splintered at the tips. Considering the scarcity of licenses for these little highhorns, the true sportsman will never take anything that hasn’t grown to trophy size.

Raja California and Sonora provinces of Old Mexico, and the heights overlooking the Colorado river in Arizona and Nevada, hold most of the remaining Desert sheep and have yielded most of the record heads. After a lapse of a decade or more, when the species was afforded complete protection, a very few permits are now available annually. But Desert sheep are not plentiful, and probably never will be again.

On White sheep, the hunter can shoot for the moon, both in length of trophy horns and in wide-spread hunting areas. The top six recorded heads are in the 44-inch class, topped by Frank Cook's Number One trophy taken in the Chugach mountains of Alaska. The Knik river, Wraggell mountains, and Brooks range in Alaska, and the Champagne and Kluane Lake areas of Yukon Territory are also good producers, but not up to the Chugach country. The number of high-ranking records taken during the last decade indicates a substantial boom in hunting these snow-white, golden-eyed mountain sheep.

Both White and Stone sheep have rather wide-flaring horns that may look longer than they actually are. Because of this flare, these two species do not normally broom their horns to remove tip growth so they can see better. The tips may be nearly perfect, but may lack matching lengths, due to a natural unevenness of growth.

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head are annually taken in Montana, and perhaps an average of half that, or less, in Wyoming. In 1957, 23 grizzlies were shot in Montana, as compared to 685 black bears; and Wyoming harvested 8, as compared to 192 blacks. Although two of the high-ranking heads came from Montana, since 1953 the top heads have come from such widely separated points as rainy Pass of Alaska, Slave Lake of Alberta, and Bella Coola of British Columbia. The present record skull was taken by F. Nygaard in 1954 at Rivers Inlet of British Columbia. It ranks its nearest competitor by 3/16th of an inch.

The black bear, including its cinnamon and brown phases, is found over an enormous range in the United States and Canada. The Number One champion was shot by Ed Strobel in Wisconsin's Land O Lakes country in 1953. *Ursus americanus* ranges in every direction from there.

In southern Alaska and adjacent British Columbia, he vie with the Browns and grizzlies for spawning salmon in season, carefully keeping out of the way of his lustier cousins.

The polar bear, *Thalarctos maritimus*, is the perpetual Arctic wanderer, touching the fringes of the frozen land areas when ice pack floes get him within swimming distance. But chiefly he lives adjacent to the arctic waters where blubber-fat seals provide him with the food needed in that climate. He is chiefly hunted by plane nowadays, though occasional specimens are taken when they approach Eskimo or white camps in the Arctic. He is second only to the Kodiak in both trophy skull and body size, easily surpassing the largest of the grizzlies. Many sportsmen consider the polar bear tops among all bear trophies.

Hunting the sheep, goats, and bears of the North American continent takes something special in the way of rifles and calibers. In cool and capable hands, such calibers as the .270 and the .30-06 are entirely adequate if the hunter is lucky enough to work into an advantageous position on his game. Rifles of the .300 Holland & Holland and .300 Weatherby breeds are a definite improvement, if the hunter can handle them well. And for exclusive use on big grizzlies, Alaska Browns, and polar bears, the .375 or its approximate equivalent is probably the best.

However, there's a catch to having plenty of rifle caliber of the .300 and .375 class. Big game guides in Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho are unhappy to see unseasoned hunters carrying rifles of that caliber. These guides claim that most of the sports are afraid of such outsized cannons, cannot shoot them well, and cripple more game with them today than was the case in the days when virtually none of their clients carried anything larger than the standard .30-06. They want happy clients, sure; but they want them to take game clearly and not leave cripples.

In the case of game of the grizzly and Alaska Brown bear class, such crippling, aside from being wasteful of a natural wildlife resource, is immediately dangerous to the hunter and his guide, and later dangerous to other humans who might come upon such cripples, even years later. The records are full of stories of man-killing big bears that were found to have recovered from previous bullet wounds. They remember the pain of those wounds, and that kindles a flame of rage that is directed at all humans during the rest of their lives.
When he charges, you hit—or else!

(Continued from page 21)

early twenties, both excellent shots. One had already shot his lion. We were heatng a donga for lion number two.

Murray was actually doing the shooting, walking through the long grass and brush, his .416 Rigby magazine rifle at the ready. We young fellows moved with him along the donga edge, all keyed up, expecting Simba to show himself any second. I admired Murray’s nerve. How would he fare if he came across a lioness with cubs too young to get out of his way?

That problem did not arise, but another one did. He flushed a fully maned old boy which trotted off toward the next cover further down the donga. The young American who was to shoot was using a Winchester Model 70. 300 Magnum. He emptied the magazine at the lion, not touching it the other two of us to cover a possible escape action. Murray had a misfire. It did not go as far as Mbebe meant it to, but it must have landed squarely on the lion.

At the deep growl, I saw Murray’s and the boy’s rifles flash to their shoulders. There was a brief pause, then one report. The lion could not have used that donga before, or else he was so furious he had forgotten, because, as he heaved himself at his tormentors, his first bound landed him in a grass covered wash some three feet wide and one foot deep. This upset his charge momentarily. The boy’s shot hit the lion beside its left eye, killing it instantly...

Murray had a misfire.

When I arrived at the spot from which they had fired, I saw the body of the lion eight or nine paces away. Murray was emphatic that he could have stopped the lion with his second round had the young fellow missed, but there and then I decided to get myself a double. The boys tried their darndest to get Murray to fire his next round, “just to see, Captain, whether it would have gone off.” Murray’s reply will give you some measure of the man: “Not on your life,” he said. The lion is practically impossible to get, and I’ve only eleven more rounds and have two more safaris to do before I can get any more!”

The very next safari was a memorable one. Shortly after it ended, there arrived at Nairobi airport for me a really beautiful .465 Holland and Holland double, airfreighted out by the satisfied client with whom Murray and I had just been on safari. I’m sure it would embarrass him if I mentioned his name.

The rifle was a non-ejector. That was no inconvenience, as I found that, with practice, it was as quick to re-load as any full ejector—when both barrels had been fired. Having fired one only barrel and then trying for a quick re-load is something else. With both barrels fired, one breaks the rifle while the barrels are still pointing upward and, as the butt drops, out fall the empty cases. But on a single shot, the barrels have to point downward when the rifle is opened, otherwise the unfired round too would fall out. The empty case has to be flicked out with a finger. It was a one-barrel shot that had a little to do with my “closest.”

(Continued on page 54)
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Many years later, after I had become a fully qualified professional hunter, I was conducting a safari for two Latin-American gentlemen, one of whom could not understand or speak English. I'll call him Pedro. The other, Amando, was a very steady fellow. He was not excitable, listened to what he was told, and when he shot he knew where he was shooting. Pedro, well, Pedro was another story. And my not knowing Spanish did not help, either. Pedro and I worked out some sort of understanding by pulling faces at one another and gesticulating. But our communication was imperfect to say the least, and the gesticulating sometimes gave a stalk away. This happened in the case of Pedro's elephant.

The elephant, a 1131 pounder, was moving our front about twenty paces away. We had a thin bush in front of us. As it cleared the bush, I touched my shoulder and whispered, "Now, hit him there." But Pedro thought I meant for him to rest his rifle on my shoulder. When I shook my head at him and knocked his rifle off, the elephant saw us. Up went its head and, as it swung away, Pedro shot for the brain. He missed. It is a hard enough shot for a tyro to accomplish even when the elephant is standing still, hence my reason for the shoulder shot. As it went the bull received some body shots without much apparent effect, but it had to be followed, and it was late the next day before we caught up with and finished the wounded bull. I mention this incident only to show what my problems were with Pedro.

After the elephant hunt, we moved camp to Tangaanyika and the Yaida Valley. With us was a photographer and a young American Walter Jones. Amando shot his lion the second day we were there. We had crept up to a zebra baits early that morning, to find two male lions and a lioness feeding. With his usual steadiness, Amando hit the bull received some body shots without much apparent effect, but it had to be followed, and it was late the next day before we caught up with and finished the wounded bull. I mention this incident only to show what my problems were with Pedro.

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towards us at an angle, was a strip of sand some 25 yards long and averaging about six feet wide. The nearest end was 15 yards away. On either side was long grass.

The chances were that the old boy would know of this strip and, as the beaters moved in on him, he would give ground, using the strip when he came to it rather than keep pushing his way through the long grass. He would not be able to see us until he stepped out of the grass; and then, if Pedro was "on the ball," Simba, looking as big as a house, would only be, at the most, 35 yards away.

Could Pedro make sure of him with one shot? I didn't know. Amando was the boy for a setup like this, but he already had his lion. What if Pedro wounded the lion? One bound and it would be gone ... and I was the chap who would have to go into that grass and get him. Three feet from him and I wouldn't be able to see him, but he could hear me coming easily enough. He would charge, and I'd need a field gun to stop him at that distance.

On the other hand, the strip of sand pinpointed the lion's course, I felt sure; and we had an excellent shooting position. An-

(Continued from page 54)
The hit was acknowledged with a furious second shot snicked one hind leg, high up. and in two bounds reached the end of the right of the lion. He growled, spun around, where his shoulder should be, feeling the rumble. The lion pulled up short, swung strip. "Too late!" I said; but of course Pedro didn't quite stop when I fired at Through the grass, I caught the movement this hard core the bullet ploughed. The lion woven together with grass roots, and into all his troubles were behind him. He took jerked up and his yellow eyes met ours. As he froze, Pedro fired.

The 470 slug kicked up sand a foot to the right of the lion. He growled, spun around, and in two bounds reached the end of the strip. "Too late!" I said; but of course Pedro didn't quite stop when I fired at Through the grass, I caught the movement this hard core the bullet ploughed. The lion woven together with grass roots, and into all his troubles were behind him. He took jerked up and his yellow eyes met ours. As he froze, Pedro fired.

Through the grass, I caught the movement this hard core the bullet ploughed. The lion woven together with grass roots, and into all his troubles were behind him. He took jerked up and his yellow eyes met ours. As he froze, Pedro fired.

Obviously, he felt he was cornered. Through the grass, I caught the movement as he turned to face us, I knew he was going to charge within seconds, but something told me I had a fraction of time to replace the fired round—the instant while he made up his mind, plus "travel time" before he reached the last third or so of the distance along the sand strip. It seemed very important to me to have that other barrel loaded. I might need it. And if I did need it, I'd need it badly.

The rifle barrels had been swinging down while these thoughts raced through my mind. Pedro had already commenced reloading after his second shot. As the empty case was flicked out of my right barrel, the lion gave a deep rumbling growl, and came. At the rumble, my eyes jerked away from the ride to the lion, and the round hit the edge of the bore. Another jab, then another. He was too close, I had to snap the .465 shut on one empty barrel, after all. If Pedro failed, my shot would have to be a perfect one. Pedro fired. He was too close. My shot had to be centre. Subconsciously, I heard sounds of the photographer's flight. Pedro fired his last round at

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a distance of twelve feet, and missed again. Centre! Centre! My shot had to be centre. At a mid point under those gaping jaws, I fired, and I knew I had made no mistake.

Then I got a fright, a real fright. This was the end, I thought. Someone was going to get hurt. For my shot had no apparent effect. Instead of folding up under the impact of the heavy bullet, the lion reared and, with forelegs spread, claws distended, silhouetted against the sky, he reached for us. I dived desperately aside. I felt no claws rake me, and I thought, "Safariland's first client killed! It must be on Pedro!"

I felt a great urge as I dived to look, to see what was happening; but the predominant thought was RELOADING! And to do that at lightning speed, I had to look at what I was doing. The two rounds were in a flash and I was turning as the rifle closed.

Pedro was lying prostrate, his feet literally three feet from the lion's mouth. The mouth was closing and opening convulsingly as the animal lay in its death throes. Pedro had fallen in his great haste to dodge. The dying effort of that magnificent Simba had carried him to his full height as he reached for us; then he collapsed.

Pedro regained his feet with an effort, reloaded his .470, fired twice to put the poor lion out of its misery. At six feet, he missed both shots. I didn't blame him! His fourth shot did the job.

As Murray said, one learns something new on every trip. After that one, I did some extra practice at flipping out that one empty shell and getting the new load in—and I see what was happening; but the preponderant thought was RELOADED! And to do that at lightning speed, I had to look at what I was doing. The two rounds were in a flash and I was turning as the rifle closed.

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As Murray said, one learns something new on every trip. After that one, I did some extra practice at flipping out that one empty shell and getting the new load in—and I vowed in the future to shoot better trigger. Otherwise, the story might have had a less funny ending.

Another thing I learned was what an extra quantity of adrenaline can do. In falling, Pedro had twisted his ankle so badly he couldn't walk; but it was half an hour later, after the excitement had worn off, before he knew it. Finally, I had plenty of food for thought about clients. Before the trip was finished, Pedro, the poor shot, somehow convinced Amando, the good shot, that he, Pedro, had had a much better safari than Amando— because he had been charged by a lion!
ELMER KEITH SAYS

(Continued from page 8)

that Croft and I had worked out on our S.A. Colts.

In 1952, I met Ruger at the next N.R.A. Convention and had many long sessions with him on the proposed new single action. He had already worked out a coil spring action that was nearly perfect and practically unbreakable. Next, he designed and brought out his famous .357 Magnum Black Hawk, with my flat-top frame and a Micro rear sight and ramp front, and with a good loading gate. The rear sight was positioned back at the rear end of the heavy, flat-top frame, where it belonged.

This, in my opinion, was the best single action, heavy caliber revolver ever produced, but I was not satisfied; I wanted a .44 Special. In 1953, in September, I visited Remington and Smith & Wesson and urged them to get together on the production of a powerful .44 Special. Both were afraid of the old triple-lock, even though I had used my heavy loads in one safely for many years; so I told them to make the case one-twelfth of an inch longer so it would not chamber in existing guns. Mr. Hellstrom agreed that he could and would wrap a suitable gun around any load Remington would bring out.

I had long sessions with Mr. C. G. Peter­son, of Remington, at Camp Perry that year; then visited Bill Ruger at his shop and also at his home, urging him to bring out a larger framed .44 Special. Like Carl Hellstrom of S & W, he listened but promised nothing.

Finally, with the advent of the Remington .44 Magnum cartridge and the very fine Smith & Wesson .44 Magnum revolver, Bill set to work and had three of his .357 Black Hawks filled with .44 Magnum barrels and cylinders. I saw and handled these guns at the N.R.A. Convention at Washington that year, and told Bill Ruger then that the frame was too small and the cylinder too short to accept my 250 grain bullet in proper reloads with the new cartridge, and was too
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Grip assembly is of steel instead of aluminum alloy, and incorporates Ruger’s fine coil main spring. The gun cocks much faster and easier than with the old high, narrow hammer, and even a short thumb can easily reach the Bisley-type hammer without shifting the grip as was necessary on the old Colt Single Action and the earlier Black Hawk guns for men with small hands. This gun is not designed for fanning, but would be very fast for properly trained men for quick draw. Those peace officers who prefer the single action will find this model, fitted with 4½” barrel, the finest combat single action in existence.

I cut the rear sight blade down flush with the top of its base, thus lowering elevation until I was able to center the big gun at 60 yards. It shot very good groups with my 250 grain hard cast bullet and 22 grains 2400, but did not group quite as well with factory loads. Then I turned it on rocks from 400 to 800 yards away, and verified my sighting for line. At the longer range, I had to hold all of the front sight, plus the ramp, up over the rear sight blade to lob the big slugs on the target; but I would have had no trouble hitting anything the size of a cow or horse at that range, shooting with both hands and with a rest for both arms.

The 7½” barrel gives higher velocity than any shorter length, and is a distinct aid in game shooting. I would not, personally, want a barrel over 7½” long on a sixgun. Trigger pull is around 3½ pounds and clean, the best I have seen on a Ruger Single Action.

So, for anyone wanting a top-flight, single action revolver for the world’s most potent revolver cartridge, for game, long range, or combat use, I can recommend the new Ruger Super Black Hawk 100%. I am happy to have had a part in getting such a fine gun into the shooters’ hands.
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(Continued from page 21)
"foot release." All firing is done from a
standing position. The line passes through a
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end of the rope to any solid object on either
side of the trap. Tie off about four feet above
the ground after taking in all the slack when
the trap is cocked. Natural rope sag will
place the rope center below the shooter's
waist. Load the trap and your gun, and "walk
into" some good practice shots.
Using the "walk away from" method, the
line is tied around the waist or looped
through the belt and tied. The shooter just
walks away from the trap at any angle,
from the front to the side. An alternate and
faster means is to hold the line over the
forend of the gun.
When using the foot release, the shooter
is nearer the trap and is stationary. The line
is tied (a clove hitch is best) to the base of
a small stake about ten feet from the trap.
It is sprung with the shooter's forward foot.
The main disadvantage to any of these
methods is that the shooter has to move
around a good deal for each shot. However,
its a good way to practice difficult shots by
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(Continued from page 66)
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Lewistown, Pa.

COYOTES are generally cleanly killed or missed at 400 yards, with average shooters making more misses than hits. If you have a hot tube, a fine glass with a really good mount on well mated iron and wood, and if you take enough practice, you'll connect often enough at 400 yards to make it interesting. As for the average guy plugging small varmints at 600 yards consistently under field conditions with a sporter, I know a better joke about a traveling salesman and the farmer's daughter.

A .243 fills the void between .22 and .25, being better than either for some work. Inherent accuracy is fully 50% better than a .257, perhaps 65%, depending on the Lot of factory ammo.

All factory .243's I've fired shot well, and I've fired many. The fine F.N. Massers and Sako's are too well known to require much mention. Colt rifles use the internationally famous Sako-Mauser actions that have a wonderful reputation around the world. These actions are my choice, not only for their fine quality, but the extra margin of safety if a case has a defective head. Most of my tubes, both custom and factory barrels, are on these actions. They have saved me from serious injury, or worse, on several occasions. All three Colt models handle beautifully.

Sako's new "Forester," like Colt .243's, has 12-groove rifling. Accuracy will be better if bullets leave the bore with less deformation, as it is claimed they do, I don't dispute the claim. It sounds logical, and both guns shoot well enough to back it up, and both make handle well. I put a higher value on gun handling for hunting than on the ultimate in accuracy, which is needed in competition. Half the riflemen are missing the thrill of their life with awkward handling guns. Some shooters don't even attempt running shots. They could take a new lease on life by taking some jackrabbits making a fast get-away, with a hunting gun.

Lever fans continue to discover the Savage 99 line. The neat new Savage 110 bolt action is popular. The 110 MCL is another Savage first in a left-hand model. Lads who fire from the left shoulder now feel they are loved, and that someone cares. Custom stockers are whittling handles right and left for the right- and left-hand barreled actions. Winchester's M-70 line sells well, and generally shoots well after a bedding tune-up.

Some writers overstate hunting accuracy. You'll bag more game with a fast handling rifle that gives larger groups than with a clumsy gun that screws 'em down. Good, slim, trim tubes do shoot well, especially the first two or three shots from a cold barrel; and these are the shots that count. Try 3-shot groups with your light sporter. Heavy tubes are better for a long string of shots on targets. Work up accurate loads.
for your light sporter and you'll sack up more game than with a more accurate rifle you don't believe me. Try it.

6 mm's were old hat to wildcaters long before modern factory ammo replaced the 6 mm Lee of the 1980's. Fred T. Huntington, owner of R.C.B.S. Gun & Die Shop, Oroville, Calif., designed his .245 Rock Chucker on a .257 case for one of the superb wildcats of all time. Fred knows guns and handloading, as well as how to make quality dies. His creation helped make 6 mm's popular, probably encouraged the Remington people to bring out their .244 and .243 versions. Huntington had a hand in working with several wildcats and wildcaters that contributed much to modern firearms efficiency. If you send in three fired cases, Fred will make custom dies for your particular rifle, at the regular $13.50 price. He will also make dies for your own wildcat.

Cases stretch from Hi-V and a 20 degree shoulder. Max length is 2.045. Keep trimmed to this figure, or a bit less for safety and accuracy. Forster is my pet trimmer. Besides precision trimming, it has accessories for other precision work on cases and bullets. Inspect case mouths after trimming and before deburring. Discard any with non-uniform walls. If you split, either fault can cause flyers. Carefully inspect heads, webs, bodies and necks before loading. Discard any with visible defects.

The usual 1:10 twist stabilizes 75 to 105.
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• Back to 30-06? Simply slip out barrel liner and put in .22.

• Smooth action, the same that won match after match—year after year on the U. S. M. 2 Springfield. 

• Short throw blood notices from barrel insert, comparable to $137.00 target .22.

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(Continued from page 70)

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