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Guns



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Wart Hog taken with the Deerstalker, March, 1961, near Lake Albart, Uganda, Africa.

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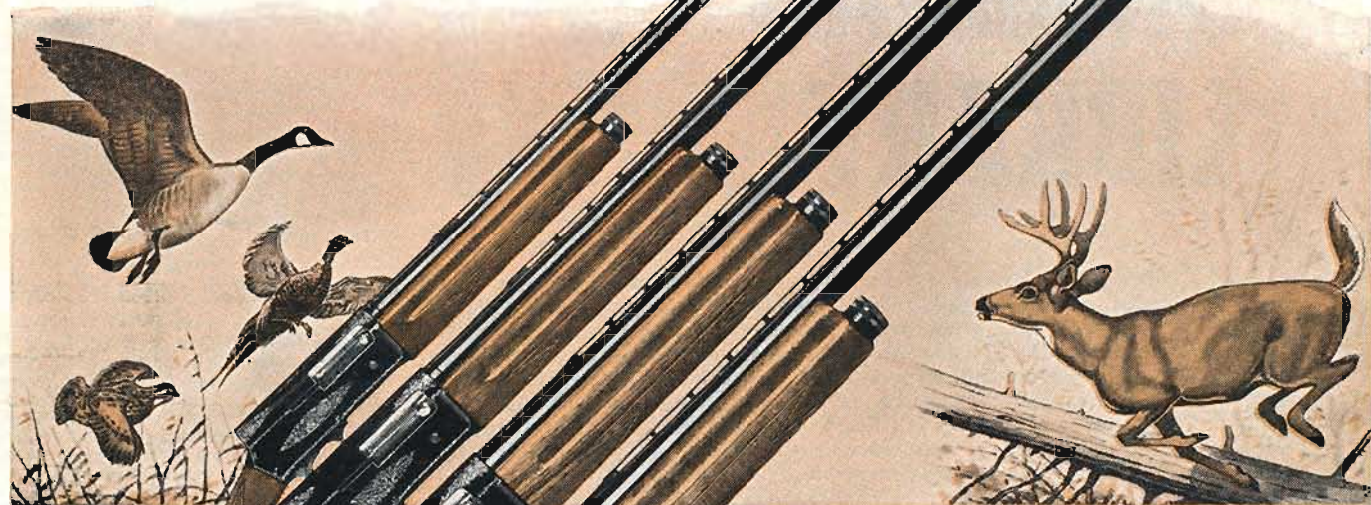


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Guns

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THE COVER

Yes, we know that our cover picture is reversed, showing the "wrong" side of the gun, making the holster appear left-handed. But this is the only way it would fit our cover format, and— isn't it a beauty? Presented to FBI Special Agent D. A. "Jelly" Bryce by S&W, the gun and Myers holster were decorated by Zuni Indians. Picture is by Harvey Caplin, Albuquerque, N. M.

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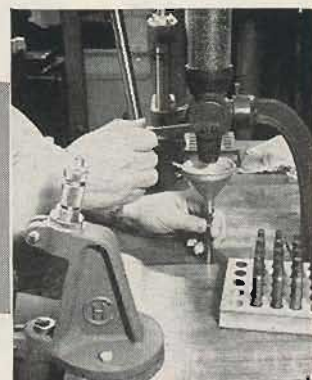
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HANDLOADING BENCH

By KENT BELLAH



LEAD MIXTURES AND LOADS FOR .30 CARBINE

LET'S DISCUSS a variety of subjects, with the hope that a shotgun blast will drop a few pellets of information your way. I never recommend mixing your own ternary or antimonial alloy. Antimony melts at about 1166 degrees F., which means your electric furnace won't melt the stuff in the pure state. However, after an antimonial alloy is mixed it melts easily in the usual electric furnace. Antimony makes bullets harder than a straight lead-tin alloy, and a good commercial mix is the best deal for most shooters. The alloy is difficult to mix accurately at home, and it's still more difficult to duplicate batches.

You'll find that many home-mixed alloys, even simple lead-tin types, will cause bullets to have hard and soft spots. This also means they have light and heavy spots, as the lead-rich side is heavier than the tin or antimony-rich side. Such bullets, of course, are out of balance, and will not spin with accuracy as they speed to target or game. Could this account for your large groups? Precision

diately. When they cool, be sure to identify the "pigs" in some manner.

Lacking the convenient ingot moulds supplied with popular electric furnaces for casting one pound pigs, one chap used bed rails for long sticks of alloy. They can be chopped into convenient lengths for your pot. The most popular ternary alloy is a 90-5-5 mix of lead-antimony-tin, excellent for hard handgun or rifle pills.

Junk dealers call anything soft enough to be scratched with your fingernail "lead." The name is excellent for buying and selling scrap metals, that come in more than the 57 varieties of soup in cans. Bullet metals for casting or swaging should be of uniform quality, made especially for bullets. So-called "lead" made for other purposes may contain excessive amounts of undesirable foreign matter. This includes iron, arsenic, silver, copper, zinc, and almost anything else. For example, U. S. Government specifications require that lead alloy for bullet cores shall not exceed the following amount of impurities:

Arsenic	0.25%
Copper	0.25%
Iron	0.05%
Tin	0.50%

Alloys are pretty darn "pure" when they contain such small amounts of impurities. Of course foreign matter is of less importance in jacketed bullet cores than in naked cast bullets. A commercial alloy of high uniform quality is, I think, a very good investment for cast bullets. It actually costs no more than trying to mix your own with high grade virgin metals. Division Lead Co., Summit, Ill., supplies their Illinois Bullet Alloy (IBA) No. 7 for rifle and hard handgun bullets at up to 1500 feet per second (fps). IBA No. 4 is softer, and excellent for up to 1,000 fps. I've driven both numbers faster without bore leading or other troubles. There are other good commercial alloys, of course, but I've carefully tested DIVCO's.

Scrap metals are dandy for fishing sinkers or wheel weights, but they do not make precision bullets. Bullets really take a beating. Hot expanding powder gas under terrific pressure starts the base moving before the nose can get started. Rifling lands cut into the pill as it starts down the bore, cranking up to sometimes a quarter million revolutions per minute, while it goes forward at up to 1800 miles per hour or more! This all takes place in a few inches of barrel before you can say Skat!, and the slug has to leave the bore in perfect alignment, heading into the "young" powder gas that blew ahead of it.

(Continued on page 50)



Bullets made with Swag-O-Matic.

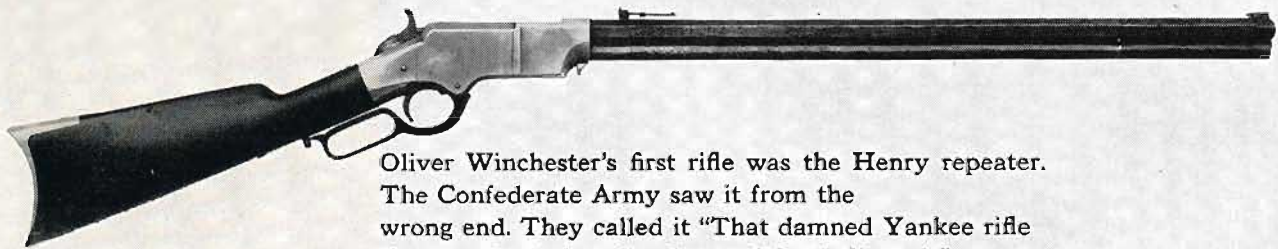
loads are the result of uniformity in every component, and in every assembly operation.

What about your bullet Lubri-Sizer? Is it a good, tight press, holding the sizing die in perfect alignment? Is the sizing die polished, so that no trace of tool marks are on the bullet? The bullet bearing surface should be slick and bright as polished chrome plate when you size a bullet dry for a test. A rough bearing surface helps to cause bore leading and other troubles.

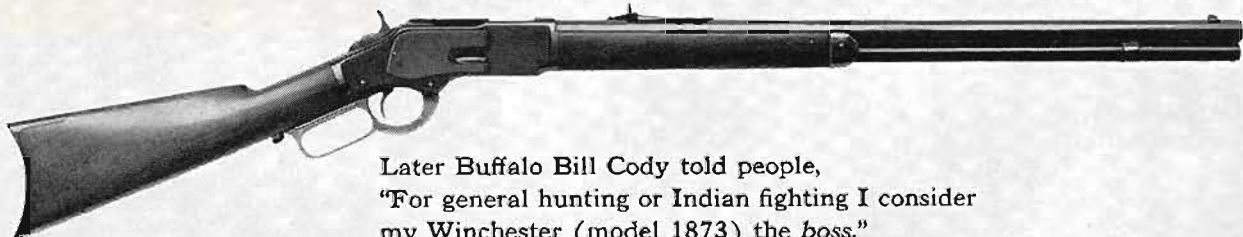
If you must mix your own ternary alloy, use a cast iron pot or stew pan. Break up the proper amount of carefully weighed lump antimony into fine pieces, and melt it first. Use an intense heat until it melts, then add the proper amount of pure lead with constant stirring, and as the metal cools add the carefully weighed tin, while you flux and stir some more. Pour into ingots imme-

What is a Winchester?

It wasn't too long ago when the word Winchester meant *rifle*. The old model 1866 was as much a part of our Western history as the Conestoga wagon and the buckskin shirt. Time was when a man felt naked without his Winchester — unless he was a preacher and it was on a Sunday.



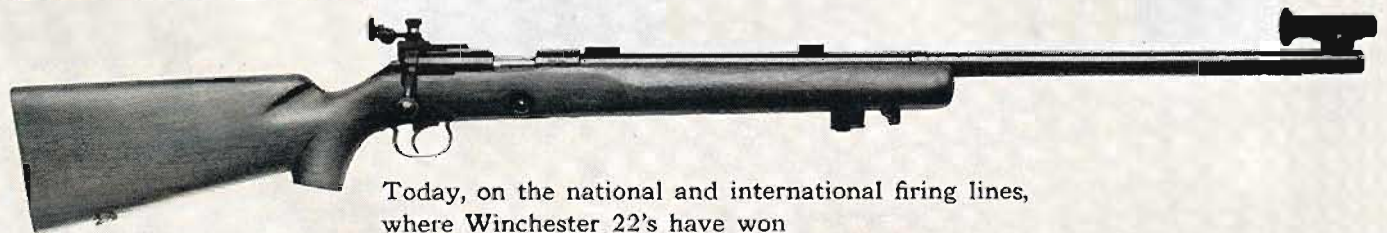
Oliver Winchester's first rifle was the Henry repeater. The Confederate Army saw it from the wrong end. They called it "That damned Yankee rifle that you loaded on Sunday and fired all week."



Later Buffalo Bill Cody told people, "For general hunting or Indian fighting I consider my Winchester (model 1873) the boss."



To Teddy Roosevelt, his Winchester (model 1895) was his "Big Medicine."



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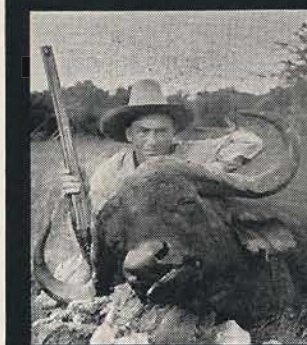
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Skeeter Repellent

So far, the best mosquito repellent we have tried is put out in spray cans by the Silicote Corp., Oshkosh, Wis. This is very handy to apply and does not stain clothes or skin. It seems a powerful repellent for gnats as well as skeeters. We gave it a thorough workout while salmon fishing here, when the mosquitoes rose in clouds while crossing heavily grassed areas. They would alight on us, but immediately retracted their landing gear and took off as though it burned their feet. Some deer and horse flies were also present, and this dope seemed to repel them just as well as the mosquitoes. We tried some other preparations, but the mosquitoes landed on us in clouds and acted as if they had just received a good appetizer. Not so the N-1 Silicote repellent. This stuff really works, and I can heartily recommend it to anyone.

Ithaca Saddle Gun

This latest creation by Ithaca will, I believe, make that gun company more money than any model they have ever produced. I examined this new Model 49 at the N.S.G.A. show in Chicago. Briefly, it is a single shot rifle built to very closely resemble the '92 and '94 Winchester carbines—but it weighs only five pounds and has an 18" barrel chambered for the .22 LR cartridge. (It



will, of course, handle C.B. caps, Shorts, and longs also.) It is an adaptation of the famous old Martini action, but with a visible hammer.

This new Ithaca single shot rifle is designed for the youth of America, and I believe it will be most popular with the youngsters. The gun is right, and the price is right; just \$19.95. A saddle scabbard is also available at an additional \$5.00. The Martini action is made in the shape of the Winchester carbine frames, with a loop lever the same as the Winchesters and a false magazine under the barrel, with typical carbine bands at front sight and fore-end.

The big visible hammer is rebounding and is probably the safest of all for the youngest members of the shooting clan, as they can see if it is cocked or not. Stock and fore-end are of good American walnut, with butt plate. The size, weight, and balance are just right for a youngster, and I doubt if there is any red-blooded American boy who will not want one.

The barrel is 6 grooved, button rifled. Front sight is fixed, and rear sight is adjustable by driving for windage and with the usual step-ladder elevation quoin. The rifle will not fire unless action fully closed and locked. The hammer is independent of the lever action, and in this feature is, of course, unlike the Winchesters. Receiver is rust proof; firing pin is of best tool steel, with barrel clearance for dry firing. Top of breech block is grooved to serve as a loading platform when lever is retracted. The gun cannot be fired when the hammer is down or in forward position. In this Ithaca Model 49 we have one of the best little "beginner" rifles this country has ever seen, and one the kids will go for like hotcakes and maple syrup.

More on the Winchester .30-.338

Basically, the .338 Winchester Magnum is practically the same case dimensions as the time tried .30 Newton, except that it is a belted case. Charlie Newton was only about 40 years ahead of his time. I prefer the .338 Mag Winchester in its present caliber, but a lot of folks want the big case in .30 caliber. Fred Huntington of R.C.B.S. has worked up and chronographed the .30 caliber loads in various bullet weights and powder charges in four different rifles, so his figures can be taken as very close to right. Atkinson & Marquart Rifle Co. of Prescott, Ariz., will rechamber the various .30-06 rifles for this cartridge, and it is not beyond the realm of possibility that Winchester may bring it out in their Model 70. If they do, it will make even the big Weatherby .300 Mag case with its ¾" free bore, go to beat it. The belted .30 Newton case was first developed by Chet Paulson of Tacoma, and many hand-loaders made .30 and .35 Newton cases form .300 and .375 H & H brass, by sizing and cutting.

Briefly, here are the average velocity figures that one may expect to duplicate; but all loads should be started four or five grains low and carefully worked up, as .30 caliber barrels vary a lot in groove diameter and what is safe in one may be dynamite in another.

With 150 grain Speer bullet seated with base of bullet down to base of case neck, a charge of 76 to 77 grains of 4350 will give 3350 to 3400 feet—safely when carefully

worked up in the individual rifle.

With the 180 grain Speer bullet, a charge of 72 grains 4350 or 75 grains 4831 will give average velocities around 3150 to 3200 feet—safely in most rifles if the load is carefully worked up from around 5 grains below the above.

With the 200 grain Speer bullet, 68 grains 4350 or 71 grains 4831 with C.C.I. primers will average about 3000 to 3050 feet velocity. Remember, rifles with tight .308" groove diameter may require four or five grains less powder for same velocities, while rifles with .309" groove diameter may handle these charges easily. Start low and work up carefully, preferably with powder and rifle at about 90 degrees temperature so the loads will be safe in most any climate. The .30-06 barrels to be rechambered for this load should never be lighter than standard Government 1903 .30-06 barrels. Do not have light weight barrels with small diameter in front of receiver rechambered for this big case.

New .30 Magnum Cartridge

E. H. Sheldon of Norma-Precision, South Lansing, N. Y., announces that Norma is now furnishing a new .30 Magnum case based on their .358 Magnum case blank, made by necking down the .358 case. A great deal of demand has been shown for a Magnum .30 cartridge that would work through standard .30-06 magazines. For this reason, a great many have necked down the Winchester .338 case to .30 caliber, which forms a case very similar to the old .30 Newton. The new .308 Norma Magnum case is also similar, except it has slightly longer case body, shorter neck, and may well hold a trifle more powder. However, bore diameter limits the amount that can be used with a given bullet. This is bore capacity.

The new Norma .308 Magnum case is made for our primers, and all that is necessary is to rechamber the rifle, enlarge bolt face and extractor for the larger belted case, and open the magazine lips to handle the new round. The new cartridge will deliver 3000 feet quite easily with 180 grain bullet and 69 grains of 4350 powder. It will also give 2700 feet with a load of 66 grains of 4350, and the 220 grain bullet. These loads compare favorably with those obtainable from the .338 necked to .30 caliber, and with the time-tried .300 H & H Magnum.

For years, many have tried to improve the ballistics of the .30-06 by blowing out the case and extending the shoulder so as to be able to still handle the round through standard .30-06 length magazines. For this reason, many turned to the .30 Newton and the .30-338. Now Norma furnishes cases ready to load for a very similar belted case. The Norma .358 and .308 Magnum cases both have rather short necks, and deep seating of long bullets will be necessary in both calibers. Dies and reamers will be available from Norma and other leading tool makers. Although only cases and bullets are now furnished, I look for Norma to bring out the loaded round as well in the future.

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English Oil Bottles

The Santa Ana Gun Room (Box 1777, Santa Ana, Calif.) has English-type square oil bottles with metal screw tops for carrying gun oils in the trunk-type gun cases. The screw cap has an oil dropper and is, as far as we can tell, identical with those bottles furnished with the finest cased English guns and rifles. We do not know the price; write to G. Robert Lawrence, above address, for prices.

Savage .410 Pump

This Savage 30-E .410 pump gun comes with 28 inch ventilated, elevated rib barrel, shoots where it looks, and is a very fine and fast little gun. Patterns were excellent with Remington ¾ ounce loads in their 3" case. Up to 35 yards it is absolutely deadly on anything the size of pheasant or crow, and to about 25 or 30 yards on quail. I killed a good many magpies with it from 20 to 35 yards with No. 7½ shot, and failed to kill crows with it at 45 to 50 yards. The pattern was just too thin at that range. However, crows within 35 yards usually came down in ruin.

The little gun has double sights on as beautiful a ventilated rib as one could wish, is well stocked and balanced, and handles very fast. Magazine holds three 3" shells, (Continued on page 61)

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CROSSFIRE

Pity the Postman

I am probably one of the many readers to do so, but may I draw your attention to the unfortunate and biased anti-gun article written by Lloyd Shearer and appearing in the *Parade* for April 30, 1961. This has a wide national circulation, and counter action should be indicated.

I have already taken personal steps by writing a strong letter of protest to the author. Although I do not follow the sport of fast-draw, I still remain loyal to all true and devoted gun owners. I trust the fast-gun people will be able to police their sport sufficiently to earn a recognized and honored place in the fellowship of intelligent and safety minded firearms owners. And I hope all your readers and gun owners everywhere will flood Mr. Shearer with protests so that he may know our strength.

Your magazine is a fine one which I enjoy each month.

Gilbert B. Jansen, Jr.
Pasadena, Calif.

Mr. Shearer's mail has been heavy!—Editor.

Texans Arose

Now that the smoke has partially cleared away from the most recent battle against restrictive gun legislation here in Texas, I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your kindness in supporting our stand on the issue. Your giving my reply to Governor Daniel such prominent display (April, 1961, page 4) was most helpful and most sincerely appreciated by all the members of the Texas State Rifle Association.

For your information House Bill 575, which would severely regulate pistols and revolvers, was introduced in the Texas House. The opposition which we developed against it, and your assistance in this respect, was important and sufficient to cause it to be referred to a subcommittee where it died without action.

I am sure that this will not be the last attempt on the part of those who want to regulate more severely our personal weapons, but again I do want to thank you for your valued assistance and hope that in some way we can show our appreciation.

R. L. Sargent, President
Texas State Rifle Association

Initials Explained

Following my article in February GUNS about the .236 Lee-Navy Straight-pull Winchester Model 1895, I had an avalanche of questions from owners who were pleased to see any or more information on the weapon.

One of the questions most frequently asked was, "What do the initials J.N.J. mean on the receiver?" J.N.J. was the Naval Ord-

nance Inspector Lieutenant John N. Jordan. He served in this capacity from October 13, 1891, to Feb. 18, 1895.

The particular rifle mentioned in the article was marked N.C.T. for N. C. Twining, Ensign, U.S.N. also an inspector.

Warren Sipe
Augusta, Georgia

Minutemen For Defense

Response to such GUNS articles as "22's For Survival" (Aug. '58), "Where Are Tomorrow's Minutemen?" (Jan. '59), and "The Rifleman In Civil Defense" (April, '59), is further proof of a growing interest in guerilla warfare as a defensive weapon.

Any of GUNS readers who would like to participate in an exchange of notes on guerilla warfare are cordially invited to get in touch with this organization.

Robert Miller
OPERATION TRICORN
Post Office Box 1141
Omaha 1, Nebraska

Guns For U.S. Arsenal

In your June, 1961 issue, there appeared an article by Mr. Harvey Brant, "Why Not Learn From this Design?" This weapon, described in some detail is, I believe, a variant of the Japanese machine rifle described in W.H.B. Smith's "Small Arms of the World," (5th Edition). This arm was also a simple blowback action. Smith states that the cyclic rate of fire is 750. The recoil is said to be heavy, if not violent. Ejected cases are reported to be badly deformed. However, the weapon did function in a fairly satisfactory manner. From Smith's description this machine rifle was used with fully loaded 6.5 mm Japanese Service cartridges.

Weapons of this type deserve a closer study from our military authorities. The Japanese blowback automatic weapons as described by Mr. Harvey, and the German Machine Pistol #44 are two designs that might well be studied as possible additions to the arsenal of the West.

W. P. C. von Osinski
Amarillo, Texas

Likes Busbey

As an avid reader of your magazine as well as every thing else published relative to sporting arms and hunting, I wish to thank you for the story, "The Lefever No Money Can Buy," by Colonel George W. Busbey. (June, 1961) It is refreshing to learn that literary style is not dead! Busbey writes with authority, good sense, wit, and with a feeling that brings the reader right into his story. This is the type of article that will appeal to everyone. Let's have more of Busbey!

This is the first time I have taken the trou-

ble to write to a magazine of any kind to comment on its contents. Keep up the good work. GUNS with this type of writing will have no difficulty in holding the leading position among magazines of its kind.

James Zeller
Chiloquin, Oregon

Sooner Done Than Said

Colonel Charles Askins article entitled "My Old Man" was really good reading. I have been trying to find out more about the "Old Man" for some time and this piece did the job.

As a suggestion, how about having Colonel Askins write an article concerning the Spanish shotgun industry? I know from some of his articles that he has had some experience in Spain, and with the great numbers of Spanish shotguns appearing on the market in this country it would seem that such an article would be appropriate.

Aubrey C. Brown
Port Haywood, Va.

See GUNS, April, 1958: "The Gunsmiths of Eibar," By Colonel Charles Askins.—Editor.

Grand Old Man

I was very pleased to see the article "My Old Man" (April, 1961), by Chas. Askins, Jr. Both he and his father have a frank, straightforward style that I find both interesting and refreshing. My only complaint (which is really a compliment) is that I would had liked the story to be at least four times as long!

C.A. Sr. was certainly the grand old man of the scattergun, and his lucid discussions made wonderful reading. I have been reading him ever since he first appeared in the old "Outdoor Life" many years ago, and I am certain that many others have as well.

Please prevail upon C.A. Jr. to give us a fuller treatment and follow it up with some reprints of the old man's articles. It will make your fine magazine even finer!

Two minor corrections on the article are in order. First: Bert Becker (not Bob) collaborated with Askins to bring out the 12 ga. Magnum, overbored to .750" and handling 1½ oz. shot, not the 10 ga. which was developed by Ithaca with C.A. Sr.'s assistance. Second: Askin's book was titled "Modern Shotguns and Loads" rather than "Modern Shotgun Loads."

Edward Larralde
Santa Barbara, Calif.

Coming Up

I have been taking and enjoying your informative magazine for several years. I thought I would take this opportunity to praise the high quality of your advertising, and on the fact that you stick to advertisements pertaining to the shooting sports.

Inclosed is a picture from the Oct. 20 issue of The St. Louis Post Dispatch, describing a new weapon that is called a grenade launcher. I would call it a hand mortar. Comparing the weight of the weapon and the projectile with the weight of an average 12 gauge shotgun and load, and the fact that the army found it necessary to put a recoil pad on the weapon, it must kick like a Missouri mule. How about having a story on it in your fine magazine?

M. Royce Thomure
Ste. Genevieve, Mo.

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LUGER VARIATIONS By Harry E. Jones (Southern Press, Los Angeles, California)

This is a superbly illustrated book of 304 pages plus index; the most complete treatise on the Luger that has come to my notice. Each and every model and variation, from the first 1900 model to the last 1943 models, are pictured, with complete descriptions and with all markings, proof marks, and any variations from standard minutely described. All the many different models from the seven different manufacturers are illustrated. All calibers, including the very rare .45 Colt auto model, as well as all barrel lengths and the carbines, are shown complete with all accessories.

Complete stripping and assembly directions are furnished, together with breakdown pictures of component parts. Cased, factory boxed, and engraved Lugers are also shown in the fine full page photos. As far as I am concerned this book is the Bible on the Luger pistol, a must for all arms students or Luger collectors. I do not know the price, as mine is a personalized copy; but I would say the book is well worth any reasonable price that will be charged for it. It fully covers all types of shoulder stocks and their variations, as well as all types of magazines, and all the different models by each maker whether in Germany, Switzerland, or England. The very few existing models of Lugers that are not pictured full page in this book are described on the last page.—E.K.

A HISTORY OF FIREARMS

By Harold L. Peterson
(Chas. Scribner's Sons, New York, \$3.50)

Peterson's work in this field needs little comment, but the book is remarkable for two reasons. Although kept in the simplest terms, basically written and designed for young readers, it covers the development of firearms pretty completely. Even the experienced gun reader can find much of interest in it. The layout and typography of the book are so outstanding that I feel that adult readers will enjoy it even more than the younger readers, since they will appreciate it to a greater extent. For gun readers at all levels, here is a comprehensive yet simple history of firearms.—R.A.S.

GUN DOG

By Richard A. Wolters
(E. P. Dutton & Co., Inc. \$5.95)

If you hunt over a dog, train a pup, have a dog, or just like to look at wonderful dog pictures, you will find this book a pleasure and perhaps the most satisfying training manual that has come along in quite a number of years. Dick introduces a new, rapid training method—a method that works well. I know, since I trained my own Springer pup that way some years ago. Well written, full of humor and wisdom and love for dogs, the book is superbly illustrated with photographs by Joan Sydlow. Congratulations to a job well done go to Wolters, Sydlow and the publishers.—R.A.S.

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GUN RACK



By R. A. STEINDLER

Mossberg's 340 TR

The old saw about the forward four inches of a gun barrel being the most important is borne out by this amazing little gun. I know shooters who sneer at anything in the .22 line that is not "target grade," but some of them who have fired this rifle while I was testing it lost their sneer in a great hurry.

To begin with, this 340 TR can be used as a regular .22 rifle, shooting Long Rifle, Long, and Short rimfire ammo from the well-known and ingeniously designed clip that is adjustable for whatever cartridge you feed it. (However, the three different lengths of .22 are not interchangeable in the same clipful.)



Next, if you want to do some trapshooting and be humbled, unscrew the rifled tube, insert the smooth bore tube, and you are ready to shoot .22 shotshells at the small clay targets. The little trap can be mounted on the barrel, handled like a handgun, or set on the ground. But hitting the targets as they zoom out is something else again. They move, and they have to be hit soon. Out of some 100 targets, I scored only some 20 hits that dusted the claybirds. If the bird gets out a little too far, a hit is noticeable by the sudden wobbling of the bird.

Overall length of the gun is 44 inches, weight is slightly over 5½ pounds and the gun can be taken down with the help of a coin. Function was smooth throughout the tests and accuracy with .22 LR ammo was very good. The few rounds of long and short ammo I had, I wasted on function tests, and again the gun performed well.

I don't anticipate that the 340 TR will replace trap and skeet shooting, but I had a whale of a lot of fun with the little gun and, with some practice, I'll improve my score—with the 340 TR and perhaps also with a regular shotgun.

Odd-Ball Cartridges

Looking for some 8 mm-.308 or some .285 OKH loads? Or for just some other of the odd-ball loads that once were popular, or for some metric cartridge? Or is it brass for the big British doubles that you have been hunting? Drop a note to Nonte-Taylor Ammunition, 1112 Buena Vista, Decatur, Ill.

They have well over 100 different calibers in stock, loaded or cases, or will do your loading for you. In addition to loading facilities, they have access to all sorts of ballistic testing equipment, and pre-test many of the loads they sell. This shop will load any centerfire metallic cartridge for you, regardless of caliber or oddity, providing the order amounts to at least 100 rounds.

Don't Attempt Conversions

This is the word from Smith & Wesson. Many shooters have been writing in to see if S&W could convert their present guns to fire the new .22 Jet and the .22 LR or .22 Magnum RF. It cannot be done. Let's see why S&W is turning down these requests.

First, many of the guns were not built to take the extra power the magnums dish out. They were made for a given cartridge and with its pressures in mind. Secondly, a good many of these guns have seen long and hard service and even if conversion were feasible, it would not be recommended in these older guns. Thirdly, and this is a point too many shooters don't seem to understand, such a conversion is one heck of a job and costs would be fantastic, even if no major tooling were needed. As a matter of fact, S&W tells me that conversion costs, based on their own shop figures, would be well over the cost of a brand new gun.

Conversions for the .22 Jet from rimfire guns is completely out of the question, and factory re-tooling is impractical. So, do your family and next of kin a favor and don't attempt a conversion to magnum calibers. It ain't worth it.

Sighting in a Rifle

While I was associated with a gunsmith shop, one of the most appreciated tools was the Collimator—a device that permits you to sight in a rifle on the workbench without firing a shot. Unfortunately, the Collimator costs a small fortune. Only recently did I learn that a smaller edition of this device has been on the market for some time, and I promptly acquired one.

Although still not in the cost-class of a pack of cigarettes, the new Site-A-Line is an outstanding tool, built for long use and, most important, it does a fine and accurate job. The appropriate caliber spud is inserted into the muzzle with the gun on a rest or in a vise. The Site-A-Line optical system is then screwed onto the spud. With the scope or peepsight in place, you merely look through your sighting system, line up the crosshairs of the scope, if you use one, with the crosshairs of the Site-A-Line. So many clicks up, so many sideways, and you are set

(Continued on page 53)



Is extreme velocity the only reason for owning a Weatherby Magnum?

Flat trajectory, long range, superior killing power — these are basic advantages owners *expect* from their Weatherby rifle. Weatherby Magnums have lead the way in demonstrating the superiority of lightweight bullets traveling at ultra-high speeds.

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A Weatherby is as different from ordinary rifles as advanced design and engineering skill can possibly make it. It is a genuinely graceful rifle — every line is functional, every feature has meaning and purpose.

We believe the exclusive Weatherby bolt action is literally the world's strongest. It embodies advances found in no other rifle. It incorporates such safety features as gas escape ports ... an enclosed cocking mechanism ... nine locking lugs instead of the conventional two. The action is velvet smooth and operates with only a 54° uplift of the bolt handle.

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comb, slanting 45° fore-end tip, and meticulous hand checking are unmistakably Weatherby.

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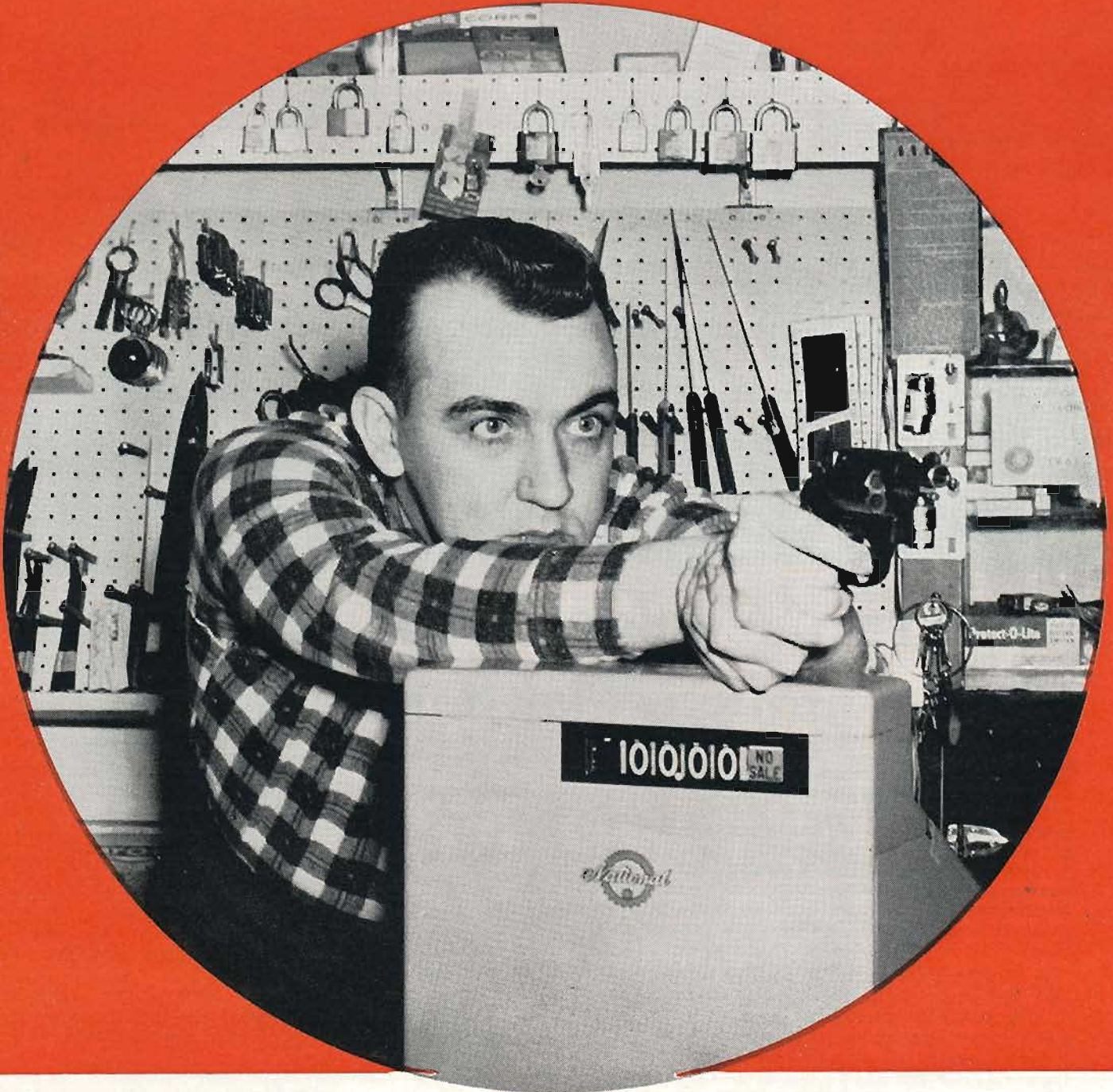
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REMEMBER "McCALLS' " INFAMOUS ARTICLE, "THIS
VERY DAY A GUN MAY KILL YOU?" HERE, BY A CHICAGO POLICE
OFFICER, IS THE OTHER SIDE OF THE GUN'S PART IN CRIME



Today, A Gun Could



If you keep a gun in your desk, place it in position to be reached swiftly, drawn and pointed smoothly. Gun pictured above is badly placed, might be fumbled in draw.

By TOM NEWBURGH



TODAY, THERE IS more danger on the streets of any city than there ever was when gun-toting was the way of life in roaring towns like Wichita, Tombstone, and Dodge. Any man who operates a cash register in certain sections of our cities is apt at any moment to face a hold-up. Any home in city or suburb could be invaded any night by dangerous men seeking loot or sex. Today's police officer is at least as likely to find himself in a gunfight as was the average lawman in the bad old western days—and I ought to know, because I'm a detective on the Chicago Police Department, and Chicago sees an average of about 30 shootings per month. (Chicago is no worse than other cities, in proportion to size. In one month recently, the Los Angeles Police Department shot it out with 12 gunmen.)

Back in the days of Wyatt Earp and Billy Tilghman and the others, the man who didn't wear a gun advertised his peaceable intentions and was left alone by gunfighters. John Chisum walked gunless through the powder-smoke years in New Mexico Territory, and lived to tell it. Today, the man, or the store, or the home without a gun is a patsy, a soft touch for the hoods.

The F. B. I. crime survey of 1959, taken city by city throughout the United States, showed one armed robbery every three minutes, 24 hours a day, every day. That's wilder than the Wild West ever was! Why not? In the old

days, practically every citizen, male or female, had guns and knew how to use them. Today, it's the rare citizen in store or home who (a) has a gun and (b) knows how to use it.

I'm not recommending that every citizen go heavily armed and ready to shoot anyone who steps out of line. I am saying that a gun in the right place at the right time could easily save your life, or your property, or the sanctity of your home—if you know how to use it. That last "if" is important. If you keep a gun for protection, you damned well better know how to use it!

Do you keep a gun in your home or place of business? If so, is it ready to use? Is your ammunition fresh and potent, or is it green with age? Does your autoloader have a load in the chamber, or not? Is its clip pushed all the way in, or not? Is your gun clean and smooth-working? Where is this gun of yours? Is it where you might be able to reach it in case of trouble, or is it so well hidden that even your burglar couldn't find it? If your answer is "No," or "I don't know," to any of these questions, better do something about it. A gun that fails to function when you are conducting an interview with a hood can get you killed.

And how about you, yourself? Have you practiced with that gun enough to put five aimed shots on a target the size of this page at 75 feet? Given the gun in your hand, can

Save Your Life!



For plain-clothes officer or citizen who has permit to carry, cross-draw position permits concealment under coat, and fast action. The back-swing of left arm throws coat back from holster so gun can be swung forward at waist level for point shot or up for aimed fire. A revolver can be cocked after it clears body, or can be fired double action at short range.

you fire a first shot from it in, say, a couple of seconds, and hit a man-size target at 15 feet? If you can't do one or both, better hide the gun and forget it. However ready it is to help you, you're not qualified to use it.

Harsh words? Maybe; but true words, notwithstanding. I remember a man we found dead with a .357 Magnum clutched in his fist, empty, and a bullet hole just above his left eye. According to witnesses, the man had drawn the gun, fired five fast shots, from the hip. He blew hell out one innocent bystander and the surrounding scenery, but he never touched his opponent. The other man fired one well-aimed (or lucky) shot. Our dead man had the fire-power; he lacked the skill.

Another instance: A man entered a drug store, drew a revolver, ordered the druggist to open the till and put the money in a paper bag. The druggist complied. But as the hold-up man left the store, the druggist pulled a small auto-loader from under the counter, fired four shots. One of the slugs caught the robber low in the thigh, driving clear through but missing the bone. He fired back, and ran. His bullet hit the druggist in the chest.

Hard-working detectives apprehended the wounded bandit while a doctor dug the bullet out of the druggist. They didn't have to dig far. The slug had hardly more than pierced the skin. When the detectives examined the hold-up man's gun, they learned why: the gun was an ancient clunker, nameless, so loose that most of its power was lost through escape of gases at the breech. Whether his centered shot was skill or luck doesn't matter; he had bought (or stolen) the wrong weapon.

That druggist was lucky in another way, too. I asked him if he had practiced with his weapon. He said, "Why should I? I hit him, didn't I?" Well, yes. But he had had time to fire four shots, at an easy, close-range target. Any one of those shots could have ended the matter. Instead, he took a bullet in the chest which, but for incredible (*Continued on page 42*)

SOME CALL THEM EASY TARGETS, BUT
NOBODY SAYS THEY'RE EASY TO HUNT—AT LEAST NOT IN THE GUINEA MARSHES

WALKIN' UP A RAIL

By ROBERT R. BOWERS

ON VIRGINIA'S Eastern shore, hunters go after the clapper rail in boats. If the tide is right, every man should have his daily limit of fifteen birds in less than an hour. They pole along the water-logged marshes and shoot the nervous little mud hens as they jump up in front of the boat. The clapper, with his long, down-curving bill, long neck and longer dangling legs is an easy target. You get him in the open and you can't miss. But it's different in the Guinea Marshes where I hunt rail.

Down in the "Guineas," as the natives call them, it's a different type of hunting. You may get one bird or a dozen, but it depends upon your endurance, not your ability to shoot. Although they are in Virginia, these marsh islands are hunted very little by the locals; they know too much about what goes into "walking up a rail." The rails don't covey and they don't get up in pairs. It's singles all the way.

September is when the rail season opens in Virginia, and it is still hot. So hot at times that sun cream is necessary to keep the sun and salt air from blistering your hide where it's exposed. The first time I hunted rails, after four hours of bog trotting in temperatures that rose to 103 degrees, and only five birds to show for it, I swore off.

But the Guineas get into your blood, with all their multitudes of fish and animal life. They are a constant, fascinating panorama of living things. Instead of remembering the sweat and strained muscles, I recalled only the strange and exciting, the wave after wave of rhythmic grasses, washed beaches, wind-swept dunes of sand, the near-complete (Continued on page 33)



Rail hunting comes in two "sizes:" from a poled boat, which is easy, or on foot over boggy marshes in heat that blisters you. But it is fun if you can take it.





Whistle Up A Woodchuck

GENTLY AND SLOWLY, but ever so steadily, I turned the barrel and handle of the tiny device known as a bird call. Mixing the loud rapid warbling of the Oriole's song with that of the long, clear, whistled caroling of the Robin, I ground out a wide variety of bird calls. I wasn't interested in birds, however. I was "whistling up" a woodchuck.

Only a few minutes before this, as I drove my Jeep across a back section of the farm, I had seen a woodchuck dive into his hole. I pulled up broadside of the chuck's hole so I could use the hood of the Jeep as a makeshift bench-rest. About half way through my repertoire of bird calls, and in the middle of what I thought was a fair rendition of the irregular whistling, sputtering, chattering of the Starling's song, it happened. . . . The chuck popped up out of his hole as if the "all clear" had been sounded after an air raid warning.

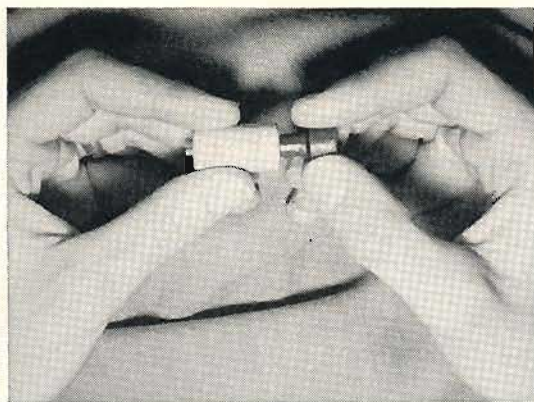
He looked around, then ran about four yards from the entrance to eat some young sprouts. I stopped calling, dropped the whistle in my pocket, took a good long squint down the tube of the Weaver K6 scope, put the crosshairs a little below his ear, and "touched 'er off." The mushrooming hollow point "stopped his clock," slamming into him with pile-driving speed.

I called again, and almost at once a young chuck came out. I bowled him over with no trouble at all, almost beside the old one. To this day, in the Valhalla of animalland, those two chucks are probably still wondering how and why those birds crossed them up.

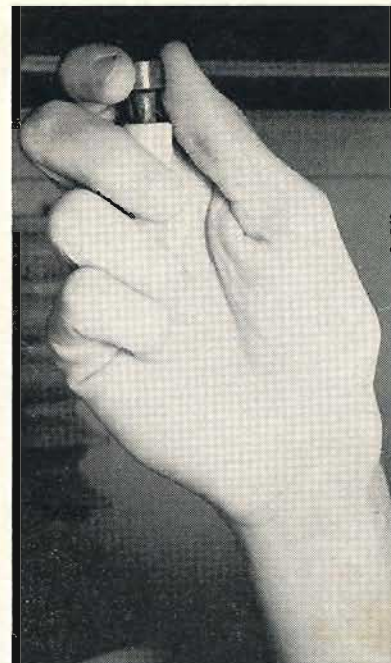
By BLAINE KLOPPENBORG



These are but a few of the various calls, whistles, and other devices used by author before the right one was found



Breaking in call requires two hands. Actual calling, left, needs only gentle holding of barrel, relaxed movement of thumb and forefinger on call handle, plus time to practice.



SOUNDING "ALL CLEAR"

ON BIRD WAVELENGTH MAY

BE A DIRTY TRICK ON MR. WOODCHUCK,

BUT IT PRODUCES RESULTS FOR

SMALLBORE OR HANDGUN VARMINTERS

That's the secret. Bird calls offer a brand new concept in chuck hunting. The type of call I have found most effective can be purchased at any pet shop for a dollar.

How did I stumble onto this? In the first place, I didn't just stumble onto it. It evolved out of a period of five years of practical and orderly research, trial and error, success and failure. Here, just as in all other phases of shooting, hunting, ammo, and guns, there is no place for blind leaps in the dark, random shots at nothing, or jumping to false conclusions. Everything must be tried and proved, according to its own worth and merit. To do this, I bought, borrowed, begged, or made about every type and kind of a call imaginable for calling animals. All this for one lone theory . . . to prove that a chuck can be called.

Today, some thirty odd manufacturers are engaged in the business of making animal calls of many types. Oddly enough, the one call that they haven't turned out is one that will work on the woodchuck—the most sought after, and popular of all varmints. How these companies missed the boat on this angle after launching the ship itself is beyond me.

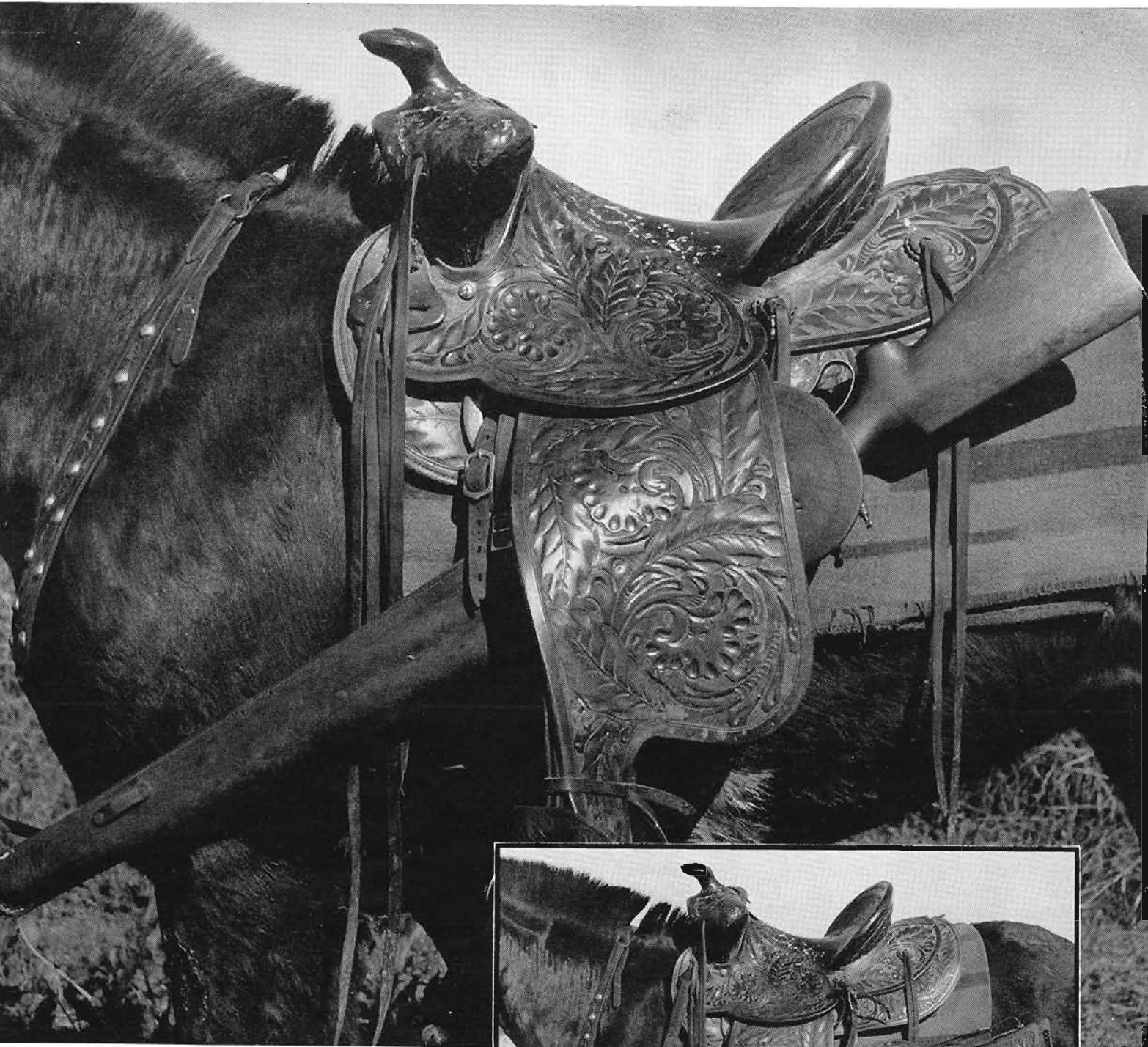


This chuck was caught by telephoto lens being called out of hole. Seconds later, author made one-shot kill.

This bird call is capable of producing a wide variety of amazingly realistic bird-like sounds, songs, and calls. It is a veritable factory capable of rolling out an assembly line-like production of calls, songs, warnings, twitterings, limited only by the imagination of the operator, and the skillful touch of his fingers. Practice is essential.

Most birds are active from early dawn until around 10:00 A.M., and again from about 3:30 P.M. till about dusk; almost identical to the hours when woodchucks are also most active. This makes for a natural combination, since although any hour of the (Continued on page 31)

SADDLE MOUNTS FOR



1 Tilted enough to hold rifle firm, but low enough for easy mounting and dismounting, this left-side mount allows rifle to be drawn to rear when needed.

2 Slot in booted scabbard locks around bolt handle, locks rifle in. Boot is snap-fastened, flips free for smooth draw even with a scope-sighted rifle.

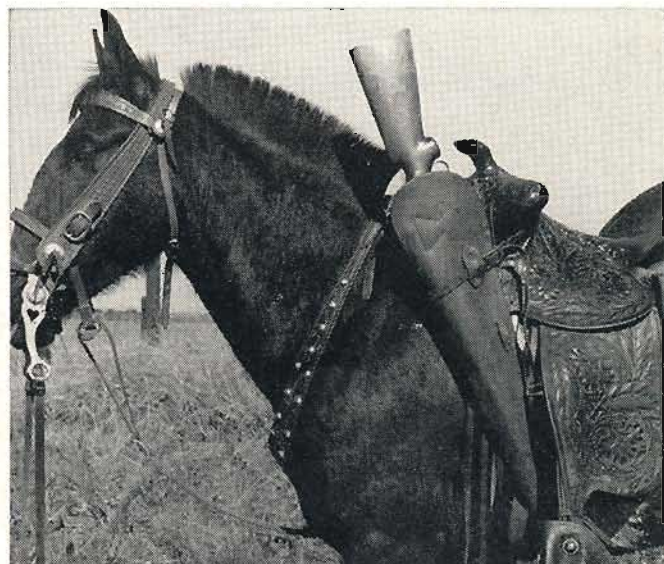


WESTERN RIFLES

By WILLIAM CURTIS



3 This mount, though popular with TV cowboys, lets rifle snag limbs, gauge horse's neck if he turns left. Forward draw past head may spook the horse.



4 This rifle won't bounce out, and barrel is clear of skirt, does not bow rider's leg. But rifle is less accessible for drawing by dismounted hunter.

AT LEAST as controversial as "What is the best deer rifle?" is that other question, "How should a rifle be carried on a saddle?" Hunters in the west, southwest, and Pacific Coast areas, where game country may be reachable only by horseback, have almost as many answers as there are hunters; but here are some of the "answers," with one man's opinions as to their faults and merits. If your method isn't mentioned, don't write me: just go ahead and hang your own scabbard!

Several basic problems have to be considered. Some of these affect the horse; some affect the hunter. Obviously, the gun must be hung so that a rider can "draw" it quickly and smoothly when a shot is offered. But it must be hung so that it will not cause unnecessary discomfort for the

rider, and so that it will not interfere with the horse's movements. It must be hung, too, so that it will stay put. A lot of good rifles have been damaged by being dragged out their scabbard by brush or by falling out when the horse climbs in steep country, or when he bucks. Trained horses in a guide's remuda are not apt to buck with you, but steep country is probably just what you're seeking—else why are you on horseback?

Photo Number 1 shows one of my own favorite positions. The scabbard may be a shade too far forward, but if placed further back, or at a steeper angle, the butt of the rifle rises to catch a man's leg as he swings into or out of the saddle. Placed at a lesser angle, more nearly level, the rifle might jounce out of its (Continued on page 46)

5 Some riders like right-side mount as shown here with bolt action rifle in booted mount. Draw is difficult unless made before or as you dismount.



6 Lacking a scabbard, rifle can be tied to saddle strings or hung on horn with loop through trigger guard. Rider's knee guards and steadies gun.





GUNS FOR YOUR STAMP ALBUM

STAMPS HAVE PROMOTED SHOOTING IN
OTHER LANDS; WHY NOT TRY IT HERE?



SUPPOSE CAMP PERRY'S annual shooting competitions were advertised by *one hundred million* multi-colored posters—posters so distributed that no American and few people anywhere in the world, could miss seeing them. Assume national trap meets and other major events involving firearms were similarly publicized, officially, by our government.

Then add prolonged magazine, newspaper, radio, and television publicity until even the loneliest hermit is fully informed on the spotlighted gun competitions.

What a fantastic boost this could be for shooting!

It has often been done for subjects much less significant than our national shooting programs: chickens, a gymnastic society, various industries, historic monuments, have benefited from a "special" U. S. postage stamp.

For sheer, saturation publicity of a person, place or event, nothing in the advertising world compares. The



6

1) Sweden, 1960, civilian target shooting. 2) Czechoslovakia, 1948, peasant revolt. 3) Switzerland, 1950, target shooting, semi-postal. 4) Hungary, 1941, tax for Army support. 5) Costa Rica, 1950, airmail, battle of Cartago. 6) United States, 1961, Civil War. 7) Liberia, 1947, battle of Monrovia. 8) Pakistan, 1961, Kim's Gun for Boy Scout Jubilee. 9) Netherlands, 1944, exiled volunteer. 10) Austria, 1914, semi-postal, militia in trenches. 11) Yugoslavia, 1954, first Serbian revolt in 1804.



7



8



9



10



11

hundred million stamp "posters" carry mail everywhere; the stamp subject is noted by the letter writer, by the addressee, and by in-between handlers.

In weeks before a "special" stamp issuance, millreams of background dope on the stamp subject flood press and air waves. A "first day of sale" city, closely connected with the honored place or event, is selected by the Post Office Department. On the issue date, the new stamp is sold only at the "first day" post office. Elaborate ceremonies feature cabinet officers, state governors, and other dignitaries as speakers, with live telecasts and further floods of favorable publicity.

Stamp collectors (there are about 20 million in North America) send self-addressed envelopes to the "first day"

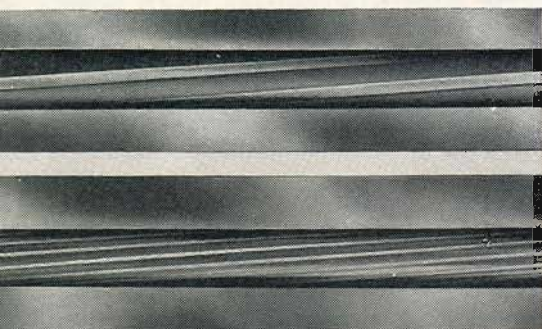
office, to obtain the special cancellation. Commercial firms connected with the event mail colorfully decorated "first day" envelopes to customer lists. Half a million first-day envelopes is a normal mailing volume for a new stamp. The day following, the special stamp goes on sale at all U. S. post offices.

In these days of creeping anti-gun legislation and well meant but thoughtless attacks on "the right of the people to keep and bear arms," a stamp series featuring firearms and firearm events would further dignify a major American heritage.

There is ample precedent in foreign nations for postage stamps picturing civilian riflemen, rifle matches, and game hunting. Some, of the semi-postal (*Continued on page 37*)



Marlin's Cap Colby test-fires guns for function, consistent accuracy.



Conventional six groove rifling is shown in top pictures; deep grooves show on bullet. Below is Marlin's 16 groove shallow rifling, with a bullet bearing its typical pattern.

"The Secret is in

TALK TO FIVE SHOOTERS and you'll get five different opinions about what makes a rifle accurate. One man says it's in the bedding of the barrel in the wood, another that it's all in the ammunition, another that it's in the rifle's action (whether bolt or lever or some other), another that it's in the rifling—plus the cynic in the crowd who insists that any rifle is as accurate as the man shooting it can hold it.

They're all right; but, given equality in other factors, the rifling in the barrel, and the stabilizing effect that rifling gives to the bullet, is a directly determining factor in rifle accuracy.

Down through the decades, there have been literally scores of different kinds of rifling: different shapes, depths, and numbers of grooves, different angles of "twist." Each type has had its proponents, and each could "prove" his point by demonstrating ac-

curacy with a given rifle, with a given bullet. Rifle makers today still have divergent beliefs about rifling—about the shape, depth, and number of grooves, about the degree of twist for a given bullet, about how rifling is best cut into a barrel. All of them are right, and can prove it with highly accurate rifles. Marlin experts swear by their Micro-Groove rifling, and prove it with groups and group measurements that are truly fantastic; so fantastic that I determined to put a Micro-Groove Marlin through some tests myself, see how it would shoot—for me. This, then is the story of Marlin's Micro-Groove rifling—the theories on which Marlin experts base their claims for it, and the results I got from it.

According to one of the five shooters mentioned in the first paragraph of this story, the action on which a rifle is built is a factor in its accuracy. There are those who insist that only a bolt action rifle can be truly accurate. Yet Marlin has, for more than 85 years, clung to their lever actions—and Marlin is no newcomer in the competition for accuracy. Ballard rifles, made by Marlin between the years 1875 and 1890, were famous for their accuracy; so much so that they are much sought-after today, both as collectors' pieces and for use as varminters and bench rifles—the two most demanding of rifle sports so far as rifle accuracy is concerned. The Ballard A-1, commonly known as the Ballard Creedmore, pictured with this article is now owned by Bob Wallack. It is just one of the many models, styles, and calibers made by Marlin under the Ballard trade name. This specimen is in fine shooting condition and will, today, make tight little groups as consistently small as can be made with many target-grade rifles produced in much more recent years.

Marlin's theory of rifling for accuracy begins with the fact that bullets, in spite of the best efforts of their makers, are imperfect to some slight, almost unmeasurable, degree. That is, individual bullets in a given lot are not exactly uniform. This is not due to manufacturing carelessness, by any means; but jackets that differ in thickness from one

side of the bullet to the other, even if the difference is no more than a microscopic fraction of an inch, can play hob with accuracy. Marlin's Micro-Groove rifling is designed to offset this hazard, or at least to minimize it, and thus improve accuracy. Let's have a look at this and other claims made in Marlin advertising and by Marlin experts.

Marlin pioneered "button" rifling, using a system of 16 to 24 very shallow grooves, in contrast to the conventional 4 or 6 grooves. When four grooves are used in a .30 caliber barrel, the cut of each groove is 0.004 inch deep. With the greater number of grooves in the Micro-Groove rifling, the grooves are shallower and thus less bullet metal is displaced. This, our Marlin friends tell us, results in less distortion and a better grip of the grooving on the bullet. They insist also that, because of the shallower grooving, an uneven thickness of the jacket wall does not affect the bullet's flight, but lets it remain centered in the throat rather than being pushed over toward the side of the thinnest part of the jacket wall. Greater stabilization of the bullets means greater accuracy. *(Continued on page 40)*



Many of the famed Ballard rifles are still used in competition shooting, can equal many modern rifles.

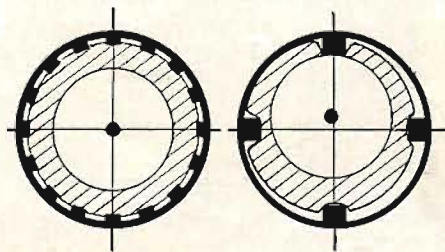
the Grooving”

**SO SAY MARLIN EXPERTS WHEN
THEY TELL OF THE 85-YEAR RECORD OF
BALLARD-MARLIN ACCURACY**

By BOB TREMAINE



Marlin's solid carbide button, shown here for first time, used to make Micro-Grooving, shown above left.



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ITHACA, NEW YORK



Pull!

BY DICK MILLER

THE WORM TURNED at the 18th Annual Great Western skeet championships at Lincoln Park Gun Club, Chicago. Last year, in the male competitions, if you were old enough to shave, the chances were that you didn't make the winner's circle. It was different this year. Most of the major men's titleists in 1961 have been shaving for many years. The "oldsters" staged a comeback.

Alex Kerr, who was probably winning skeet trophies before some of last year's Great Western victorious youngsters were born, set the pace early when he showed his heels to the 410 field with a sharp 96x100.

Bill Furlong, writing in the Chicago "Daily News" prior to the Great Western, had predicted that the graybeards of 35 and up might have to switch to trap in order to win some victor's hardware in the clay target games. Bill seems to have put the whammy on the skeet youngsters by this prediction.

Young Dan Niederer, the Junior World's Champion, valiantly ground out 99 of the 28 gauge targets, but so did Chet Crites of Detroit, who is no stranger to the shaving brush; and maybe it was Chet's shaving savvy that won him the title in the shoot-off.

Last year's hot youngster, Dave Hussey, posted a 98 in the 20 gauge race, but this wasn't good enough. Two old pros, Hoosier Bob Dodd, from Indianapolis, and Lincoln Park home-grown Joe Bullaro, locked horns in a shoot-off for the 20 gauge toga, with the title going to Dodd in two overtime sessions.

Twelve shooters who broke 'em all (100x100) in 1960 made for a lot of congestion at the top. This year, shooters visiting Chicago for the first time found out why it is called the "Windy City." One loyal Lincoln Park host was heard to describe the winds as "only gentle breezes"—at the same time bracing himself to keep from being blown off his station. But the gale-borne targets looked good to John Poister of Sewickley, Pa., a Class C shooter going into the Great Western. He picked this day and spot for his first 100 straight in competition, and made it all the way to the championship.

Clarence Schuyler was the only other shooter with a perfect century. The all-gauge 100 straight fitted well into his 385x400 total, good for the All-Around Championship.

Marge Annan, of Aspen, Colorado, who carried home a lot of loot in 1960, kept up her winning ways with the 1961 Women's All-Around. Jean Shields of Grand Rapids, Michigan, always a contender in the distaff division, took the Women's All-Gauge. Dan Niederer, Elmhurst, Illinois was Junior Champion. Jack Eliot repeated in the Industry All-Around race, and Lloyd Pierce was good in the Industry all-Gauge contest.

Over 250 skeetgunners squared away in the 1961 running of the Great Western, one of the most successful in history. The three-day event enjoyed excellent press, radio, and TV coverage. Lincoln Park president Marv Rosenberg, program chairman Mort Froy, and publicist Dick Levin look forward to an even bigger and better meet next year.

Additional Great Western results:

ALL AROUND

Champion: Clarence Schuyler, Park Ridge, Ill., 385x400.

Class AA: Mort Froy, Skokie, Ill., 385x400.

Class A: J. Hilland, Indianapolis, Ind., 381x400.

Class B: G. Rehr, Chicago, Ill., 371x400.

Class C: R. Mengel, Oshkosh, Wisc., 366x400.

Class D: George Presbitiro, Chicago, Ill., 366x400.

Class E: G. Shores, Chicago, Ill., 310x400.

Ladies: Marge Annan, Aspen, Colo., 367x400.

Ladies Class AA: Jean Shields, Grand Rapids, Mich., 351x400.

Ladies Class A: Patty Singer, Sewickley, Pa., 356x400.

Ladies Class B: C. Mengel, Oshkosh, Wisc., 341x400.

Sub-Senior Champion: Al Shuley, Chicago, Ill., 383x400.

Industry Champion: Jack Eliot, Chicago, Ill., 370x400.

ALL BORE

Champion: John Poister, Sewickley, Pa., 100x100.

Class AA: Clarence Schuyler, Park Ridge, Ill., 100x100.

Class A: N. Prescott, Wayzata, Minn., 99x100.

Class B: Don Davis, Chicago, Ill., 98x100.

Class C: Jim Coulter, Northbrook, Ill., 97x100.

Class D: A. K. Andrews, Chicago, Ill., 97x100.

Class E: O. J. Glasman, Chicago, Ill., 91x100.

Ladies: Jean Shields, Grand Rapids, Mich., 99x100.

Junior: Dan Niederer, Elmhurst, Ill., 99x100.

Sub-Senior: Clarence Schuyler, Park Ridge, Ill., 100x100.

Industry: Lloyd Pierce, Chicago, Ill., 97x100.

Husband-Wife: Marion & Jean Shields, Grand Rapids, Mich., 194x200.

TWO-MAN TEAM

Champions: Jim Settlege and Ed Sherer, Waukesha, Wisc., 198x200.

Class AA: Al Shuley and Frank Swengel, Chicago, Ill., 197x200.

Class A: Vic Sussin and Keith VanKirk, Chicago, Ill., 195x200.

Class B: N. Prescott and T. A. Cladhelm, Wayzata, Minn., 194x200.

Class C: C. Menzel and R. Menzel, Oshkosh, Wisc., 185x200.






A BISLEY FOR TV's WYATT

By OWEN ROBERTS

THIS BISLEY COLT was engraved for Hugh O'Brien, TV's Wyatt Earp, by Arthur Cordiero of Anaheim, California. Cordiero is a custom engraver whose experience includes employment with Winchester and with Marlin Firearms.

The gun is in perfect condition and was engraved with the temper retained. The Bisley Colt was developed for the international revolver matches held in Bisley, England, and the grips were designed for target work. The trigger is set further back in the trigger guard, allowing better trigger control and reducing backlash, and the hammer is lower and flatter than that of the Single Action Army gun. The Bisley model was succeeded by the New Service Target model, manufacture of the model terminating after 1912. The Bisley model, in contrast to the Army model, was not manufactured in .22 rimfire. 

Back strap of Bisley Colt is fully engraved with continuous pattern. Stars on right side of grip are smooth, won't interfere with lengthy firing.



**TIP FOR
HUSBANDS:**

Buy Your Gal a Gun

By W. DAVID PENNIMAN



After function and potentialities have been mastered, the sight picture and gun holding technique is explained and demonstrated. At first, sessions are held with empty gun.

IF YOUR SHOOTING CAUSES FAMILY

STATIC, TEACH THE FAMILY THAT "SHOOTING IS FUN FOR EVERYONE"

ARE YOU the only one who knows how to use the guns in your home? Or have you taken the time to teach your family facts that someday may save their lives?

In recent years more and more women and children are learning to use firearms with skill and safety. It is lack of knowledge about firearms which so often results in feminine fear of them. This fear of firearms is probably as much to blame as the crimes of violence for firearm legis-

lation now being enacted. The National Rifle Association is combating this lack of knowledge with publicity and educational programs, but we must do our part also.

The Constitution of the United States gives people the right to keep and bear arms. This right should not be infringed upon, but if the people have the right to possess firearms they also have the obligation to know gun safety.

What about the woman and firearms? The majority of women see firearms as one of their husband's necessary evils—like cigar butts and poker nights. If for no other reason than for self-preservation, the husband should teach his wife the difference between the muzzle and the butt of a pistol, rifle, or shotgun.

In fact, I taught my wife the fundamental rules of gun safety before we were married. The first time I handed her a pistol I said, "Never point this at anything unless you intend to shoot it." I figured I'd better teach her gun manners if I wanted to live to our wedding day. After all, you don't play jokes with a 230 grain .45 caliber slug.

I bought my wife a .22 revolver and started teaching. We took the pistol apart and I showed her how it worked. Then I showed her how to clean it. In this way she became accustomed to the gun and learned to respect rather than fear it. By the time I took her out shooting two things were automatic with her.

First, she never pointed a gun at something she didn't intend to shoot. Second, she'd ask when picking up a gun that was new to her, "How do you check to see if it's loaded?"

Those are just two of the many (Continued on next page)



Demonstration of gun function and how-to of gun care are as important as proper holding, are also taught.

rules to be learned. I picked those because I had to start somewhere, and I knew my wife would need a gun for protection, not for hunting. She has learned a lot more about guns since those two basic rules, but I'd say they're good ones to start with.

My wife has made me proud several times by good gun habits. I'm never ashamed to take her into a gun shop with me. On the contrary, I like to surprise the salesman with her knowledge of firearms.

Children and firearms pose a more difficult problem. At what age should children be taught about firearms? Can they be taught too soon? How should they be taught? The NRA supplies instruction for boys and girls between the ages of 10 and 17; however, they should not be allowed to shoot firearms until they are 12 years old, according to the NRA program. Many summer camps follow this, and are quite pleased with the results. The children learn with others their age and have an instructor who is prepared to teach the youngsters. If the parents decide to teach their children the safe use of firearms, they would do well to send for the following

manual: George, Jack F. *Shooting and Firearms Education*. 1201 Sixteenth Street, Northwest, Washington, D.C.: American Association for Health, Physical Education and Recreation, 1956. The price is \$1.50 and well worth it.

If you start teaching your kids to shoot be sure not to quit half-way through the project. A little knowledge can be worse than none at all. Boy or girl, man or woman, the person who thinks he knows all about guns, but really knows very little, is more dangerous than the person who knows nothing about them, but is willing to learn—this of course holds true of many acquired skills.

Let's face it; firearms can be dangerous. But firearms can bring a great deal of enjoyment, too. Why not share the enjoyment, not the danger? Teach your family about those "don't touch" objects in the back of your closet or locked in your gun cabinet. Start with your wife. While I'm not trying to advocate "togetherness," gun safety can prevent you and your family from being apart—for good.



WHISTLE UP A WOODCHUCK

(Continued from page 21)

day might be said to be one in which chucks or birds can be observed, there are certain hours that are more productive than others.

Whistling up a chuck will not call him into range; will not bring him running; and, will not result in one *Marmota Monax* sitting on the end of your gun barrel after a few minutes of calling. It will however, lull him into a false sense of security, leading him to believe that above ground, on the surface, all has returned to normal, and that safety exists again. Actually the device is not a woodchuck



Call makes chuck easy mark.

call; in fact it isn't an animal call at all in the true sense of the word; it's a bird call, designed to imitate bird calls, songs and notes—a whistle-like device. This is the key factor which makes it possible to whistle up a chuck with an unbelievable amount of regularity.

It has long been known that birds serve as a warning device, spreading the alarm of approaching danger throughout the animal kingdom. From the ground, perched on a limb, or in the air, regardless of the location, birds provide a "radar warning system" upon which animals depend for warnings of approaching danger. This principle has been further evidenced in many of the varmint-calling stories which have appeared in most "hunting" and "shooting" type publications over the years. Nearly all of them mention the fact that, though the incoming varmint cannot be seen, his presence is known due

mainly to the fact that birds can be seen taking wing. The varmints' presence is also generally foretold by the sudden silence, the absence of birds singing, or, something just the opposite, by the cawing of crows or the screaming of Jays circling over the varmint, indicative of danger in that particular locale.

Actually, whistling up woodchucks is merely a matter of applying an old, but well known fact to a new situation. All wildlife put great stock in the reliability of the action of birds... so why should woodchucks be an exception?

Bird-chatter is a safety signal also, signifying that the danger is past. This is why a chuck can be whistled up. Create that safety signal, or produce what he associates with safety, and you have found a means of outwitting him. And to the woodchuck, the sound of a bird singing nearby is the symbol of safety.

Although calling or whistling up a woodchuck is not too dissimilar from that of calling a predator, deer, duck, goose, squirrel, or crow, the basic idea involves a completely different approach, and results are obtained by a vastly different motive. In predator calling, the element of food and hunger is involved. When properly called, the meat-eating varmint comes in on the run at the sound of a dying rabbit call, looking for an easy meal. Calling deer and elk or a moose, the element of sex is involved, or protection, such as the bleating of a young fawn. The duck caller, crow caller, or the person using a turkey call, relies upon his ability to closely imitate the bird or animal being called. But in "calling" chucks, the usual motives of sex, hunger, protection, and imitation are absent. The new motive is that of "safety," and trying to convey that idea to a chuck in his underground burrow. Imitation is involved, of course, since it stands to reason that the more birds you can imitate the greater the margin of safety must seem to the unsuspecting chuck. Actually, we are not calling chucks at all; we are actually trying to "call" birds in to the area, since the more chatter and singing of birds that can be brought to bear

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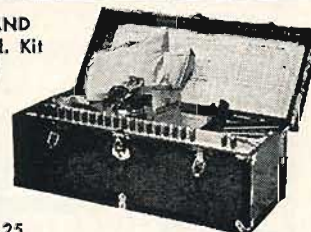
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around the chuck's hole, the more he assumes that everything is safe above ground. This means that the range must be relatively close, not for the birds whose hearing senses are very acute, but for the chuck hidden somewhere down there in his subterranean passage. Best results are obtained inside a 50 ft. radius of the den entrance. Inside this range, movement is prohibited, since the woodchuck is aware of your proximity through ground vibrations. This is a "close-in" tool.

Handgunners will be quick to recognize the potential benefits to be derived from this new method of chuck-busting. The bird call is not a mechanism requiring one hand on the gun with a released safety, and the other hand on the call. The call can be worked either with one or two hands. Nor is there any great need for elaborate systems of camouflage. I frequently call from an improvised benchrest such as an old table, the tailgate or hood of my Jeep, from a fence post, or across an old log or stump, rolling up my jacket to serve as a shooting pad.

The chuck however, like the varmint, duck, or crow, is not easily outsmarted. A couple of times calling and shooting, and the woodchuck becomes call-wise. Shoot at and miss a chuck, or walk near him or his hole, and he heads for the darkness of his den. This is the time to make use of the bird call. Make him think that birds are up there on the surface, and he thinks this means safety, that you have departed. Be ready though, because when he comes up one of the first things he is going to do is look around to see if you are still there. If he sees you before you can nail him . . . it's goodbye chuck. You might as well pack up and move on. He's got your number for the rest of the day.

The varmint hunter whose sole claim to a place of distinction among his fellow varminters is a .22 rimfire rifle will welcome this trick chuck calling. The working range of his .22 is about 75 yards, and the working range of the bird call is somewhere around 50 yards, although best results are had at the 50 foot range indicated. The working ranges of the two are very similar. For the big bore and high velocity rifles, it's a different story. Often "doping out" at extreme close range runs into about as big a problem as those far out shots.

Obviously it would be ridiculous to say that, by using a call on chucks, results can be guaranteed, just as it is equally absurd and preposterous to guarantee the results of a crow, duck, or predator call. If the critters aren't there in the first place, no amount of calling is going to produce the goods. Also, it takes a fair degree of skill to imitate a wide variety of birds, or even one single specie.

Moreover, calling chucks is productive only when you have located an active chuck hole. In calling woodchucks you have only to watch one spot—the active hole, whereas in other forms of game calling you are forced to watch in all directions to some extent. Results are productive about 60 per cent of the time. This is a long ways from perfect, but I consider it to be a pretty high figure of success.

It naturally follows that the expected results of whistling up woodchucks will be closely correlated to the amount of skill, patience, and practice involved. The caller must have the semblance of animal-like patience

and keen observance that squeezes out results from the margins of possibility. Unlike varmint calling, you need not consider the direction of the wind.

The mechanics of operating the "chuck call" are quite simple and require little practice for results. Breaking in the new call requires using both hands. Fingers must be kept stiff, and with wrist or arm movement (never fingers), both parts should be rotated or turned back and forth simultaneously, applying a slight pressure between them. To change sound and pitch of the notes, a slight variance of pressure between the moving parts is required. A small in-and-out movement of the handle will produce whistles, chirps, and cheeps. Canary-like twittering and trilling notes are made when handle and barrel parts are held at their extreme opposite ends and turned lightly.

After breaking in, louder notes and deep-throated whistles are the result of a firm smooth rotating of parts in a back-and-forth motion. Occasionally the voice will wear out, or fade away, but a small amount of common



rosin applied to the metal plug inside the call brings it instantly back to life. As in other forms of calling, silence is golden; a period of it between calling intervals of recurring patterns of notes produces a more life-like and realistic imitation. Also, a few high pitched "squeaky-kiss" calls are usually effective in alerting and attracting those unseen birds beyond visual range. This is important, as it means you will be creating more bird sounds or calling in birds to make those sounds, which the woodchuck interprets as a sign that all is well above ground.

One-hand operation requires more practice than the two-handed method. Hold the barrel gently with the hand and rotate the handle with thumb and forefinger.

Woodchucks are hard to spot, hard to fool, and even harder to hit; but the varmints, young and old alike, are suckers for the calling bit. When you tell a non-hunter that you are a varmint hunter, he'll probably admire your sportsmanship. Tell him your specialty is "picking them off" at those long, long ranges and he'll think highly of your skill. But when you tell him you also hunt 'em in close, that you call them with a bird call, he'll more than likely think you've gone off your rocker. But it's what you need to tip the scales in your favor.

My favorite gear for this work is a re-worked Winchester Model 72 (one of three which I have built) with a free floating "bull" barrel, bedded action, custom-fitted stock, and a Weaver K-6 scope. As for ammo, it goes without saying that hollow points are the ticket. But whether you pack a .22 or a super-varmint, or a pistol, the chuck call will supply the targets.

WALKIN' UP A RAIL

(Continued from page 19)

solitude from living man, even on opening day of the season. I returned to the Guineas last fall.

The boat was fifty yards off-shore in the York river near the village of Bena. The tide was out, and Sam Stanford and I had no trouble wading the knee deep water with our provisions, and at 9:00 a.m. we were ready.

Sam is a game warden and his knowledge of the York and the trail country is tops. Under his skilled hand, the 16 foot skiff cut its way out of the sand bar infested shallows into the deep blue channel.

Soon we passed the last houses and there was nothing but marsh grass on our left, water on our right. High sandy beaches flattened into soft rolling grass country, with an occasional lofty pine stunted against the sun, telling us that a patch of high ground had escaped the salt water. We left the York, entered Mobjack Bay, a body of water which nearly surrounds the Guinea Marshes, our destination for the day. Then we were swallowed up in the fastness of the Bay and what seemed a thousand marsh islands. These were the Guineas, a kaleidoscope of large and small islands all but devoid of man. This was the rail country, wide and vast and dry; grasslands superimposed upon oozing muck; lands of the clapper rail. It is here where the clapper lives out his life. He may venture southward in winter, but he's back again soon to raise his family.

Two hundred yards inside the bay, we started to push the boat over the mud flats. The waters were crystal clear and shallow, and the world that opened up at our feet was worth the trip. Hard-shelled crabs scampered us; millions of tiny fishes scurried in and out from beneath our boots, a majestic array of oyster and clam shells lined the island shores. Gulls and terns cluttered the waters ahead of us, and at our approach filled the sky with flapping wings.

After pushing across the shallows, we rode another mile or so, finally drifting into a cove leading up to an island covered with tall pines and tangled alder. A large fishing boat lay at anchor, telling us our guide, Penny, was home. Wading ashore, Penny's family came down to meet us. Sam was no stranger to them, they remembered me from the year before, and they greeted us warmly. We talked while Penny got his dog, Pat. They told us that, from the cackling rails they heard, we ought to have a good hunt. They described the music of the birds out in the wastes as especially loud, and that meant close by and abundant. Penny headed the skiff toward the nearest island. He wasn't hunting, but carried my shotgun while I lugged my cameras. Our easy living was over, and the hunt was on.

The dog hit the shore and froze. Sam and Penny moved in to make the flush from the waist deep grass, while I readied for my first picture of a rail on the wing. Penny beckoned Pat in after the bird, and in he went with one powerful lunge. We tensed. "We'll make our first kill in less than a minute," Sam said excitedly. But Pat just kept right on going, and we saw nary a feather. The bird had done what most rails do at low tide—it had run instead of flushing.

Pat kept after it, through mud and alder

(Continued on page 36)

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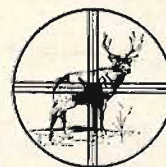
with a **V8**
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WEAVER SCOPE

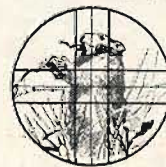
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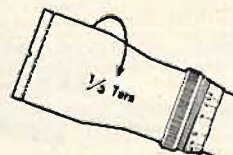
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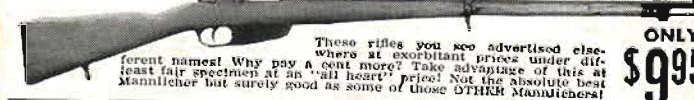


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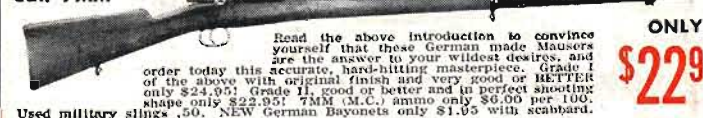


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Cal. 7MM

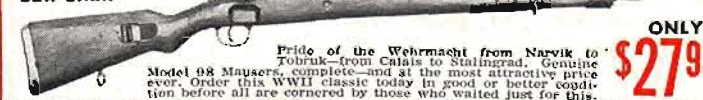


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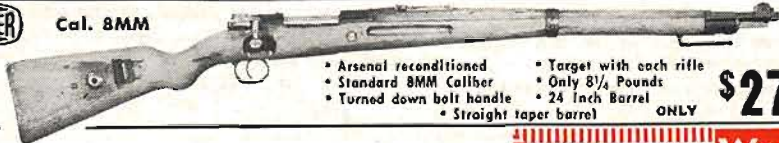


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(Continued from page 23)

and grass; up one slough and into another, wading the muck and swimming the water, trailing it every step of the way. We did our best to keep up, but finally gave in to the mud that hampered every step. We decided to wait it out until Pat pointed again or the bird took to the air. You may run some, but you don't run far nor often in the Guineas. The oozing muck sticks tight to your feet, sucks at your boots.

Finally, the bird ran out of cover at the water's edge. We didn't have to move a step as it flushed and headed smack into our guns. Sam nailed him, but it was too far for a picture. I continued trailing in hopes that just one good shot would pose itself. The wait lasted five hours.

With number one in the bag, we watched Pat work the vast reaches of the island. The dog covered a lot of ground and never tired. He was a fine hunter, but he had a mind of his own and the best we could do was follow where he led. He knew more about rails than we, since he had been born and raised on the islands and had grown up chasing the clappers. In another five minutes Pat was holding again across the mud flats some 200 yards away. Again we pulled and tugged towards him, hoping to get there before the bird ran or flushed. Pat's patience wore thin and in he went after the rail. This time the bird got up and landed again near a small pond across a span of mud-flats, pock-marked with thousands of tiny holes about the size of a bottle top—the home of the tiny fiddler crab. We knew the bird was somewhere near the pond and we waited patiently while Pat worked it out. The dog held and then lunged into the heavy growth of alder. Again the trail was on, around the edge of the pond, in and out the slough, and across the muddy banks.

In all the time I've hunted in those marshes, I've yet to see one of the birds actually running. I have seen them flush, have seen their fresh tracks, but somehow, I never saw one running. But I do know, after walking behind a number of dogs that were trailing them, that they will put the colorful ringneck pheasant to shame when it comes to walking. The clapper rail can run rings around the ringneck, and everything is his cover: mud, grass, water holes.

The bird Pat was chasing got up about five feet in front of his nose. With one furious lunge and meshing of teeth, the dog grabbed for it, but the bird flew on, only to disintegrate a dozen feet ahead as Sam's double barked twice.

We hunted the first island until about one. We returned to the boat for lunch with only three birds, but I was dragging from the waist down and the weight of the cameras made me feel as if I were walking on all fours. In fifteen minutes we were off to another island and hopes again ran high. The second island jutted far out into the water on all sides, like the points of a star. Heavy grass and alder grew to the tips of each point. Our plan was to work the birds from the middle. If they decided to run, and we knew darn well they would, we'd catch up with them at the water where they would either fly or drown.

Pat froze on a point again as he hit the dry grass, and my anxiety to shoot overcame my desire for a picture; I took my shotgun and left the cameras in the boat. Pat charged in after the rail, only this time up it went, fluttering directly in front of the dog, so slowly I could have taken a picture. Sam let me take it, but I shot so fast and the bird moved so slow that I cleared a yard of marsh out from under it. It preened around slightly, then straightened out and Sam spilled it.

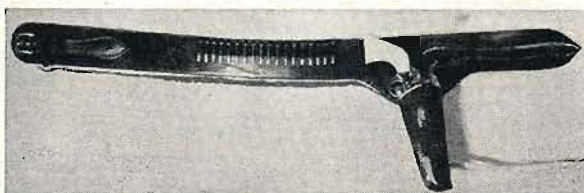
Another one got up and this time I let it go some 50 feet before pulling on it, crumpling it with one shot. We worked the alder tangles and edged our way toward the edge, thinking we would drive the birds from cover. But the rails refused to be driven. Four times in the next fifteen minutes they got up, one by one, all perfect action photographs, and me with a 12-gauge shotgun. Between Sam and myself, we had eight birds, just little more than half of one man's limit, but we were licked. We agreed to get one more and call it a day.

We travelled and hunted through two more broad, mud-logged islands before Pat held on another bird. This time I was ready with my 35 mm camera. Pat went in; we waited; no bird. Sam lowered his gun in disgust, and I was about to throw my camera across the York, when we heard a flutter and here came Pat. The dog had run the bird into us and the shuffle of our feet had forced it to flush. I swerved with my camera and Sam with his shotgun. I clicked the shutter just a second before Sam clobbered him.

Our leg and arm muscles ached as we sat in the boat on our way to Bena that afternoon. We had carried gun and camera over what seemed a thousand miles of marsh mud, and I wouldn't forget that day for a long, long time. Not just the rail hunting, even though it had its excitements. But we had also seen a lot, heard a number of new sounds, learned even more.

We learned that the clapper is a gallant game bird with all the tricks of the game available to him. I found him comparable to any small game I'd ever hunted, and in many ways he surpassed them all. Where else can you find a bird that outruns and out-dodges the ringneck pheasant, swims underwater like a grebe and sneaks out of mudholes with maddening ease. All this despite his labored flight and weak looking legs. Walking up a rail is sporty shooting and it does separate the men from the boys.

And I like it!



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GUNS FOR YOUR STAMP ALBUM

(Continued from page 25)

variety (described later), actually provide funds for continuing these events, and for other worthy projects. Even in captive and dictator dominated countries, the nostalgic past when citizens could own firearms is occasionally recalled postally. Free Western nations militantly feature shooting programs, on their stamps.

Switzerland is a good example. One of the world's oldest free republics, the Swiss have remained that way by considering every able-bodied male a soldier. Every soldier should be able to shoot in defense of his country, they reason, and supervised target practice is a year 'round duty and sport. The Swiss militia man keeps his rifle at home, ready for instant use.

A 1950 semi-postal Swiss stamp pictured civilian riflemen target shooting. One of many such designs, the stamp sold for 50 centimes; 40 centimes was valid for postage, and the additional ten went to support the Red Cross.

Epirus, a rugged little Balkan country now a part of Greece, featured quaintly-costumed "Peasants At Target Practice" on 1914 letter stamps. It was these same citizen-soldiers and their not-so-quaint sharpshooting that helped keep Mussolini's entire army at bay in the early phases of World War II.

Germany postally noted the Seventh National Shooting Matches at Innsbruck in 1944. The semi-postal pictured a Tyrolean rifleman and his match weapon, "shadowed" by a *Wermacht* soldier, which Hitler hoped the civilian would become. Of the ten pfennig stamp, six was good for postage, the other four went to a fund for perpetuating the Innsbruck matches. Germany has often issued postage stamps honoring both civilian and military gun events and individuals.

Sweden, home of many fine sporting and military arms designs, issued a 1960 stamp series showing rifle range, targets, and "ready on the firing line." These tiny engravings, repeated millions of times in the mail, keep the entire population aware of the rifle rights and gun privileges enjoyed in their free country.

Canada in 1958 prepaid first class mail with a stamp picturing an upland hunter, gunning in a stubble field over his pointing dog. Neighboring Newfoundland, as early as 1897, franked outgoing letters with "Caribou Hunting," complete with sporting rifleman and downed animal. Both of these stamp issues advertised the good gun sport available in nations where gun restrictions are kept at safety minimums.

Many African countries and colonies have postally pictured native horsemen and militia, armed with everything from ancient flintlocks to modern Mausers. These stamps, and those of most nations, are not issued to incite revolt against government, or promote a warlike atmosphere. Rather, they reflect a facet of daily life, the firearm a three-way symbol: protection, sport, and food.

Practically all nations have, at some time or another, undergone revolution and civil war to attain independence, or freedom from internal tyranny—a painful process still with us in the 20th century. Most such strivings for freedom have succeeded because of citizens-turned-soldiers—citizens familiar with rifle and shotgun through sport and target

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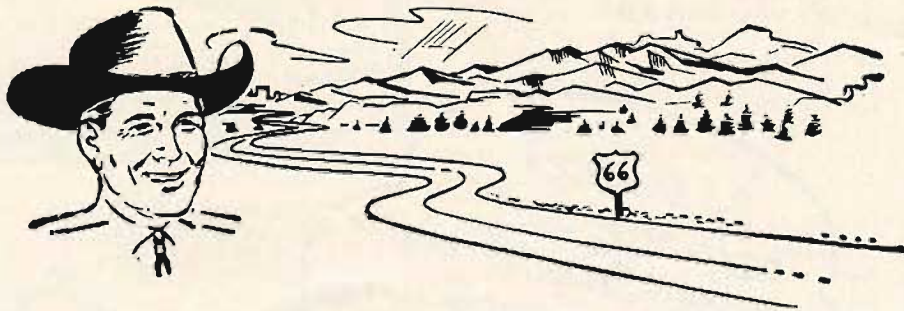
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THERE IS a broad ribbon of highway that begins in the heart of Chicago and winds for 2000 miles to its terminus in exciting Los Angeles. This ribbon is mighty 66—the most famous, the most legendary highway in the U. S. Millions of Americans have followed it to the West, coursing through the plains of Illinois and over the hills of Missouri, biting off a piece of flat Kansas and driving over hundreds of miles of equally flat Oklahoma and Texas. Gradually the scenery begins to change, Texas begins to roll; distant hills become higher. Then, suddenly, one emerges into "The Land of Enchantment." New Mexico's wonders erupt in a blaze of color and majesty. The mighty mountains thrust themselves, tree-topped, into the unimaginable blue of the sky. Dust and smoke have vanished from the air and the lungs drink in great delicious draughts in heady delight. If it is wintertime there will be snow capping the mountains and you may see skiers gliding down their slopes. If it is spring or summer or fall, the unhumid, unspoiled air touches the skin softly and the feeling of well-being is nowhere else equalled. But winter or summer—it is almost certain that the sun will be shining in New Mexico—the sunniest, healthiest state of all 50!

And then, when you think this incredibly beautiful land couldn't possibly have more to offer, great 66 brings you to the pass in the Sandia mountains and there below you is the Queen herself, Albuquerque.

To live anywhere in New Mexico is to live better. The superb climate, naturally air-conditioned in the summer and brilliantly sunny in the winter—the breathtaking beauty of a lavish Nature—the young vigor of a state that is causing an unprecedented business and investment boom—the record which shows that one lives longer, that health improvement is almost miraculous—these are the reasons that tens of thousands of Americans already have come here to live, and hundreds of thousands of others will be following in the immediate years ahead.

Consider, then! Here in the center of this miraculous climate and beauty is a cosmopolitan city of more than 260,000 people which has grown 800% in 30 years. Founded in 1706, the population of Albuquerque as late as 1930 was only 36,000. Then things began to happen. The incomparable climate and the staggering beauty began to draw Americans to the Big Sky Country. By 1950 there were 97,000 Albuquerqueans. And in the next 10 years, to 1960, this quaint Southwestern town rocketed to the status of a major city—

the 7th fastest growing city in the U.S.! Professional estimates of Albuquerque's future vary. But the most cautious guess is more than 500,000 by 1970; and far more many experts predict that by that time Albuquerque may reach a population of one million.

This is a city of modern shops and Conquistadore history; of gleaming new schools and semi-tropical foliage; of health and peace... and yet spilling over with opportunity. This is Albuquerque, a city with a future as bright as the sun that bathes it 360 days a year.

It is no wonder, then, that the valleys that surround Albuquerque—green valleys of prosperous farms and great ranches—are now being converted into communities to fill the demand of a growing Albuquerque. One of these valleys is Estancia; and here, in our opinion, is located the most exciting offer of homesites being made in the entire Southwest—THE VALLEY OF THE ESTANCIA RANCHETTES. Were one to imagine this Valley 39 miles from Phoenix, or from Tucson, or from San Diego, the cost of an acre could be as high as \$10,000 each. Yet an acre in THE VALLEY OF THE ESTANCIA RANCHETTES—39 miles from Albuquerque—is only \$395 complete, payable \$10 down and \$10 a month! It is only because Albuquerque has only recently been "discovered"—because Albuquerque is only now in the very beginning of its inevitable huge growth—that these Ranchette sites can be offered at such a low price! THE VALLEY OF THE ESTANCIA RANCHETTES lies directly on Rt. 66—little more than a half hour from the heart of the city. Its natural beauty, the picture-frame of the mountains, the color springing from the fertile soil, its calm and peace will enchant you. A VALLEY OF THE ESTANCIA RANCHETTE is near enough to Albuquerque to be benefitted by the advantages of a great city, yet just far enough away to be purchased today at a price you can afford! For that is the nutshell of it—the price today of a Ranchette in the Valley of the Estancia will be impossible to duplicate a few tomorrows from now.

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shooting. Their freedom struggles are favorite subjects for stamp engravers.

Czechoslovakia, with many such pages in its unhappy history, released a 1948 stamp showing "peasants in revolt," commemorating the abolition of tyrannical serfdom a hundred years before. A 1954 Yugoslavian stamp features a fine picture of cannon used in the first Serbian Freedom revolt of 1804. The South American republics regularly commemorate key battles of campaigns that brought them freedom, proclaiming the fact world-wide, on postage stamps.

The significant fact evident from these miniature postal portrayals is that firearms-familiar civilians played the key roles, using their gun training and knowledge in righteous causes. Costa Rica's 1950 airmail stamp is representative of this group. It pictures the battle of El Tejar at Cartago, in which civilian volunteers played a large part.

Though not a personal firearm, cannon have been the tools used by both military and civilian gunners in the heroic past, and they are not forgotten in postal engravings. Liberia printed a large 1947 stamp commemorating Matilda Newport's heroic role as a cannoneer in the decisive battle for Monrovia, the nation's capital, in 1822. In sad contrast, the U. S. remembered Molly Pitcher's defiant bravery at the Revolutionary War's battle of Monmouth by merely overprinting the common 2 cent stamp with her name.

Pakistan highlighted the 1960 Boy Scout Jamboree with a postal picture of "Kim's Gun," a rugged frontier cannon made famous by Kipling. Austria portrayed volunteers in a trench on a 1914 semi-postal. The Netherlands symbolized Dutch volunteers by an exiled-government postage stamp of 1944. Hungary helped equip her militia with a 1941 semi-postal engraving of a heavy artillery unit.

Semi-postal stamps originated in Europe, since then spread to Africa and some Latin American nations. They are issued showing two amounts: ten francs (or lire or pfennigs) plus five francs, for example. The purchaser pays fifteen francs for the stamp, of which ten is valid for postage. The extra five francs go to a pre-designated fund for a specific, officially sponsored purpose. The various foreign trade fairs, ski meets, automobile races, horse shows—and rifle matches—are largely supported abroad by sale of semi-postal stamps. Red Cross, child welfare, and medical care also receive support from the funds.

The U. S. has issued some stamps picturing firearms as part of the design. But these have all dealt with military campaigns, the guns subordinate to a battle or campaign. In the 1920's, when sesquicentennials of Revolutionary campaigns matured, the battles of White Plains, Saratoga, Vincennes, and several others were noted with commemorative postage stamps. World War II saw issuance of stamps honoring armed forces branches, after the fighting was over and victory assured. What potential publicity could have been generated by stamps picturing enlistment centers, citizen-soldier training, and rifle shooting, during the war! Recently, the Civil War Centennial and the cannon that fired the first shot from Fort Sumter was featured on a 4 cent stamp.

No U. S. stamps have ever noted, commemorated, or publicized contemporary "gun" events, even though the country was

built and has been defended by "a nation of riflemen." The two World Fairs of 1939, several large hydroelectric dams, the Pony Express, baseball, the printing press—all have been honored postally, among a host of similar subjects.

The mass publicity of the "special" stamps has been proved time and again. In 1934, our Post Office Department issued a National Park series, the "specials" picturing a cross section of Parks across the nation. The next year saw the largest influx of vacationers to the Parks ever, and even in the depression years attendance shattered all records. The same has been true of other places and events postally publicized.

It's not easy, but certainly not impossible, to have special stamps authorized. Prior to 1957 many specials were ordered by Congress; designs steamrolled into the mails by potent lobbies, pressure groups, and partisan legislators with little regard to national importance of the stamp subject: hence the "chicken" and gymnastic society stamps. Worthy perhaps in a regional sense, but certainly not of general public interest.

In 1957, President Eisenhower appointed a Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee, which was just that to the Postmaster General. The seven man group included artists, philatelic experts, designers and a USIS representative. They sifted thousands of suggestions and demands for special stamps. Nation-wide interest, historical significance, and effect of the stamp abroad were some of the considerations in approved designs the Committee recommended. The quality of our postal "specials" improved immediately.

Postmaster General Day only recently (April, 1961) re-formed the Committee as an eleven member group, with the same general goals of national interest, suitability, and worthiness of subject in view. Any individual or group in the country can send the Advisory Committee suggestions or requests for "special" stamp issues. They can even send designs, paintings or other art work as possible subjects for the postal engravings. The Committee reviews every suggestion received.

Here are some of the taboos: no living person to be pictured on U. S. stamps, no commercial firm to be specifically honored, no profit-making single group publicized. The factor of *national public interest* is possibly the main criterion. Our several Red Cross stamps, the baseball commemorative, the World Fair issues, all qualify under this unofficial rule.

But so would the national rifle matches, shotgun events, and handgun competitions mentioned earlier. Certainly there is national interest in these activities, both civilian and military. A well-designed "gun" series would be a shot in the arm for our hard-pressed gun makers and ammunition firms as well. And it would advertise to the world, through the mail, our love for and familiarity with—and our ability to use—firearms. Not a bad thing to publicize, in these tense days.

Suggestions should be addressed to: Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee, c/o Postmaster General, Post Office Department, Washington 25, D. C.

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SECRET IS IN THE GROOVING

(Continued from page 27)

The greater number of grooves and the reduced depth of them has, still according to Marlin, the further ballistic advantage that bullet distortion is reduced while the increased number of grooves hold the bullet steadier than the 4 or 6 groove barrel can do. Greater stability of the bullet in flight of course means that it gets where it is going with less deviation from its assigned path. This gyroscopic stabilization is what every barrel maker and gun company strives for.

In general, American grooving is somewhat shallower than the grooving encountered in European rifles. European ballisticians prefer to have the bullet fill the rifling—a process of bullet-metal displacement which is commonly called upsetting in the States—and with the deeper rifling they are willing to exchange a slight loss in accuracy for what they feel they gain in "safer" pressures and longer barrel life. Being accuracy-happy, we Americans are willing to gamble a little on barrel life, insisting rather on tack-driving out to 500 yards.

Rifling methods have changed considerably over the past 20 years. Originally, each individual groove was cut separately—a tedious and highly unsatisfactory method when mass production is considered. This led directly to the use of broaches—that is gang-rifling tools that made it possible to cut all the grooves at one time.

Broaches have the disadvantage that they are expensive and easily damaged. From this broaching system the mandrel type of grooving derived. The mandrel holds the reverse impression and, when pounded through the barrel, will force the metal of the barrel to accept the mandrel's impression.

From this method, the next logical step was the "button" rifling. The heated carbide button is driven through the barrel blank in one pass, leaving the work smooth and finished. Practically all bench-rest barrels today are button rifled, and Marlin's Micro-Groove is a logical development from the new generally accepted button grooving. It is Marlin's contention that, when barrel metal is treated with the method used by them in cutting the Micro-Groove, it will be harder due to the heat, smoother due to one-step operation, more uniform and in all likelihood will stand up under prolonged usage better than barrels cut by other methods.

Despite the fact that a good many shooters feel that the lever-action leaves much to be desired in accuracy, Marlin guns have consistently produced fine accuracy. Since about 1950, Marlin has employed the Micro-Groove system of rifling and their rifle barrels have proved themselves time and again. "Cap" Colby, Marlin's test shooter, is one of the best benchresters in the country and neither you nor I could possibly hope to reproduce some of the groups that he fires daily—out of guns that come straight from the assembly line. He regularly shoots five-shot strings at 100 yards, for groups measuring from .48 of an inch for .22's to .30-30 groups that measure an authenticated 1.13 inches.

Being a high-accuracy fan myself, and having read a great deal about the Micro-Groove rifling, I decided to find out more about it. I acquired a brand-new, over-the-counter Model 336 in caliber .30-30, mounted a 4X Marlin scope on it, freed bore and ac-

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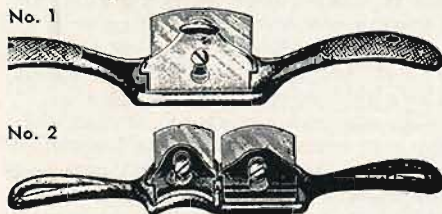
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tion of the factory grease, grabbed several boxes of factory ammo and handloads, and went to the range.

Slow-fire five-shot groups at 100 yards, from a benchrest, produced consistent 1.37-1.45 inch groups. Since heated barrels notoriously make bullets wander all over the target, and since bench-resting does not necessarily give a true picture of the grouping ability of a gun, I also fired my Model 336 for record at slow and then rapid fire. Off-hand groups, slow-fire, spread to a maximum of 1½ inches, with one incredible but witnessed group measuring 1¼ inches. Levering round after round into the gun, my groups spread from 2½ inches to a maximum of 3¾ inches—still within an easy killing area for any buck at that range.

I repeated some of the tests with my Model 99, Marlin's sleek semi-automatic .22. These tests were fired at 25 yards, sitting



The .30-30 group measured 1.13", the .22 group was .48 inch. Both guns came directly from assembly line.

and offhand, with a 4X Weaver scope and with the factory iron sights. Again, the inherent accuracy of the gun rather than my skill as rifleman told the story. Slow-fire with iron sights gave me consistent 1¼ inch groups, and rapid-fire groups spread to 1½ inches. With the scope, firing slowly, repeated groups printed 1¼ inches, with one of them shrinking to .82 of an inch. I only wish that I could do as well when the chips are down and I'm shooting a target grade rifle with a much more powerful scope in target competition where a tenth of an inch can make the difference between winning some nice hardware or getting the booby prize!

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What is the source of that accuracy? Well, the Marlin people say it's Micro-Groove rifling. I suspect that it's good rifling, plus good honest workmanship in other parts of the piece as well—a smooth-working, solid action; correct bedding in good wood; good ammo; and, with due regard to our cynic previously mentioned, a straight shooter behind the butt-plate.

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A GUN MAY SAVE YOUR LIFE

(Continued from page 18)

luck, would have killed him. The man had guts, but bad judgment. He wouldn't drive a car without practice; why would he enter a gunfight without it?

Compare this with the case of a mild little Jewish immigrant who ran a candy store on Chicago's west side. Two gunmen robbed him seven times in seven weeks, and there's an end even to a mild man's patience. The little man bought a Luger 9 mm. Parabellum.

During World War II, this little man had fought in the Hungarian underground, and that Luger was an old and familiar friend. Nevertheless, he took it well outside the city and got himself some practice. He told me he was rusty at first but, after some practice, was able to hit three beer cans out of five at 50 feet, and come close with the misses. That's good enough.

The next week, sure enough, the two hoods appeared again. He gave them the money, as ordered. The hoods, confident from past experience, turned to leave. The little man pulled the Luger from under the counter and, very precisely, placed two slugs dead center in each of the hoods. And I do mean—dead.

That little man realized a few important facts. First, the hold-ups were too swiftly accomplished to enable him to call police, even by a pre-arranged signal. Second, police protection in the store would warn the hoods off so long as the officer was there, but the city couldn't give him police guard forever, and the thugs might come back later—for revenge as well as for loot. Third, he knew that when a man buys a weapon and expects to use it, he needs to know how to use it.

I have been involved in several shootings in the line of duty. The first was in an attempted robbery we were lucky enough to happen upon. It was short but violent.

My partner and I spotted a car, of which we had a description, parked outside a Western Union office. The motor was running and there was a man at the wheel. We pulled up alongside and I, in the passenger seat, pointed my gun at the driver and warned him against making any sudden moves. My partner got out on his side of our car and, before I could get out, the other hood came running out of the Western Union office. He sized up the situation fast, and chose to use the .38 revolver he had in his hand.

It was an unwise decision. He got off two shots, wild. My partner, resting his arm across the hood of the squad car, shot him twice, once in the belly and once in the chest. He was dead before he hit the pavement.

The driver of the get-away car sat motionless during the exchange of shots, so that was that. But I was mighty glad my partner had a gun that was ready, and that he knew how to use it. He very probably saved both our lives.

Another shooting I was involved in has some points of interest. I was off duty and returning to my home about 11:00 P.M. when I ran head on into a robbery attempt, on the street, in front of my house. I didn't pay much attention to the three men standing on the sidewalk about a hundred feet away. But as I reached my door I heard a

(Continued on page 44)

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(Continued from page 42)

shout of "Help! Robbery!" I turned and saw two men running for a double parked car, and the third scurrying for cover behind a car at the curb.

I ran into the street as the get-away car gunned its motor and started toward me. I announced my office as I drew my Cobra, and shouted for them to halt. The lights went off on the vehicle (quick thinking on the part of the driver) and the tires laid rubber as it shot toward me. I put my first



In gun fight, use any rest available, make the first shot count.

shot over the roof as they were coming at me, so that they could get a good look at the muzzle flash and know that I meant business.

I jumped out of the way when I saw that they had no intention of stopping and, as the car passed, I began firing in earnest at the driver. I missed him with my first two shots, but later found that they had passed him too close for comfort and had exited through the window on the passengers side.

It's amazing how rapidly one thinks in times of stress. Even as I triggered my second shot, I knew that I wasn't aiming or allowing enough lead. The light from the overhead street lamp picked up nicely on the front sight of my gun, which I had dabbed with red finger nail polish for just such a need. At the same time, I saw the driver's back as the car drew away from me. He was wearing a green army fatigue jacket, and so, concentrating all my attention on the jacket and gun sights, I lined up and squeezed off the shot. The slug took him in the back and broke his collar bone. The vehicle swerved and there was a crash of metal as it rammed a parked car. From the wreckage, I extracted the driver, who was bleeding profusely, and two other badly shaken stick-up men. One shot properly placed had rid Chicago of three undesirable citizens—not permanently, perhaps, but for a time.

All of this merely bears out what I've been saying. Have a good gun; know how to shoot it; and, if you have to use it, place your shots where they will count. Take dead aim, if time permits it. Just pointing is not good enough, except at very short ranges, and then only for the expert. It takes a lot of hard, powder-burning practice to toss lead out of a handgun the way they do it on TV—and hit. The peace officers of the Old West knew this, and they practiced. There never was any such thing as a "natural born" handgun expert, and don't let anyone tell you different. You can learn to place aimed shots on man-sized targets at reasonable ranges in only a few practice sessions, but—be sure you get those sessions. And get them under an instructor who knows his business. Anybody can learn to shoot a handgun, but a lot of what many people think

they know about handgun shooting is wrong. The old peace officers knew the value of that one well-placed shot, too. Bat Masterson, after he became a newspaper reporter, was once asked if he ever chose a particular spot on an opponent's body as his target. "Sure," said Bat. "I always shot 'em in the eye."

"The eye? Why there? That's a mighty small target!"

"Spoils their aim," was Bat's answer.

Mr. Masterson was trying to be funny. But there is a germ of truth in his joke. Your opponent, if not hit solidly, may very well return your fire, as the hood did against our friend, the druggist. If you shoot at all, shoot to put your man down. Aim. Aim with an arm-rest, if possible, as my buddy did in that first gunfight. Shoot from behind cover, if you can. This is no affair of honor under a Code Duello. Hoods have no code, except the code of the jungle.

Take that handgun of yours out of hiding and give it a going over. If you don't know how, take it to a good gunsmith, or a gun-wise friend. Once it's in shooting condition, take it to a range or a gravel pit or other suitable area, and see if you can put most of your shots on a man-silhouette target at 30 feet. If you can't, you need practice and probably instruction.

You may be surprised how much you enjoy that practice. Handgun shooting is one of the finest "fun" sports in the world, for all ages and both sexes. And, unlike most "fun" pastimes, the skill you gain can save your life.

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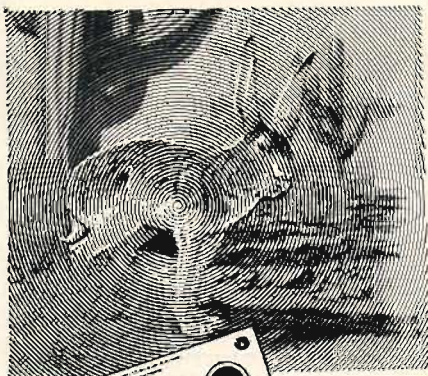
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try a few "point" shots, firing the gun from around waist level, from close to your body. (Don't poke the gun out at him; if he happens to have had training, he might then take the gun away from you or knock it aside.) If your gun is a revolver, try a few shots double action. This might be the kind of shooting you'd need to do in a fight at close quarters. Practice it; it can be plenty effective.

If you don't have a gun, buy one. Stick to the proved name brands, as you would in buying a car or a household appliance. (You don't want a nameless junker like the one with which the hood plinked the druggist.)

Next, learn to shoot it. If you need instruction (and you probably do) and don't know where to get it, write the National Rifle Association (1600 Rhode Island Ave., Washington 6, D. C.) for information about shooting clubs and instructors in your vicinity. They'll be delighted to help you.

No one can tell you how you will react if it ever comes to an actual gunfight. Probably it never will. But this much is true: a man who practices certain skills until they are ingrained in him—uses those skills under pressure, almost without thinking. If I knew a man was expert with a handgun, I wouldn't pick him as an opponent in a gunfight if I could help it. Neither will the hoods.

As a law enforcement officer, I wish that every honest citizen owned a gun and knew how to use it. I wish there were more shooting organizations, more arms practice by civilians—men and women. I'm not in the least afraid of a gun in the hands of an honest, competent citizen. That citizen and his gun could make my job a lot easier.

An old Texas Ranger visiting New York City was once asked what he'd do to check big city crime. He said, "I'd teach the police to shoot, first. Then I'd arm the honest people and teach them to shoot. It was straight-shooting lawmen aided by armed and straight-shooting citizens who broke up the tough gangs in the old days. It could work today."

It was citizen resistance that smashed the Jesse James gang at Northfield. What town, I wonder, is similarly ready for today's hoods?

WESTERN SADDLE MOUNTS

(Continued from page 23)

case on a steep climb, or might be snagged out in the brush. Placed as shown, the rifle butt will not "flank" the horse as he travels, nor will the muzzle interfere with the movement of his shoulder.

The rifle hung in this manner can be drawn from its case easily and swiftly when the hunter has dismounted for his shot. It is drawn to the rear, where it is least likely to annoy a spooky horse. And it crosses under the rider's leg at or near the bend of his knee, where it is least likely to cause him discomfort.

Picture No. 2 shows a rifle slung low and level. This seems to go contrary to most of the suggestions offered above, but—note the type of rifle and type of scabbard. This is a bolt action rifle in a booted scabbard which locks the gun in the leather (see bolt handle projecting through notch in scabbard flap) and practically eliminates danger of its being dragged out or jolted out. Level of gun with relation to rider's leg can be adjusted to that most comfortable for the individual.

(Continued on page 48)

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\$29.95 complete
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Hugh Green, Editor

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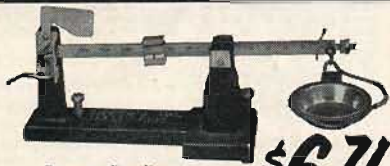
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(Continued from page 46)

Snap-fastened flap can be released quickly and, with a little practice, hunter can draw gun with ease and speed.

Picture No. 3 illustrates a scabbard position popular with TV cowboys, not with experienced hunters. In heavy timber or brush, branches will wedge in between scabbard and horse, can rip entire rigging loose. If horse is turned sharp left, the rifle butt gouges his neck. Also, gun must be drawn out past horse's head, a procedure not popular with many mounts. Finally, muzzle is in good position to jab horse in the flank—something nicely calculated to turn even a staid trail pony into a fighting-mad bronco.

Picture No. 4 shows one of the most common ways to hang a scabbard. You don't need to worry about losing the rifle; however, the gun is not as easily accessible as in the first picture. Also, brush can scar the



PICTURE NO. 7. No danger of rifle being lost, but rider must be long-legged or agile enough to clear the stock when mounting or dismounting.

stock, whereas in other positions the stock is partially protected by rider's leg. Here, as in many forward mount positions, case strap is secured through the fork of the saddle.

Picture No. 5 shows a right-side mount that is favored by many experienced hunter-riders. Angle of gun may be altered to individual tastes, but the merits (and faults) of the right-side mount are not much altered by the angle—unless, of course, the butt is set so high as to hinder mounting and dismounting. Climbing on and off from the left side may tend to twist the saddle to the left if cinches are not perfectly tight, and the weight of the gun on the right side helps to offset this. Dismounting to shoot, you must either learn to snake the gun out of the scabbard as you leave the saddle, or else you must reach over the horse to get it. Some hunters need both hands to dismount, which precludes the first method; and some horses either swing away from you as you step down (thus taking the rifle out of your reach) or object to the reach-over, drag-the-rifle-over technique. A lot depends on you and the horse you are riding.

Picture 6. Lacking a scabbard, you can use the saddle strings to tie the gun by its trigger guard. It's better than trying to carry a rifle across your lap in thick brush, or over the shoulder in timber, or in your hands in any fashion on a long ride. Your knee can steady the rifle and guard the sights.

Picture No. 7. I often carried my .300

(Continued on page 50)

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(Continued from page 48)

Savage this way—a variation of the picture shown in Picture No. 1. Trapping for the Fish and Wildlife Service, I had to negotiate exceptionally rough country, and the high angle just about eliminated any chance of the rifle falling out of the sheath. And I'm long-legged enough so I had no trouble swinging my leg over the high stock.

There are many other possibilities, some quite different from those shown, others variations of these. Some may be better, or better for an individual, or better for a special set of conditions; some, I know, are worse. If none of these suit you, improvise. But bear in mind those basic conditions: comfort for you, comfort for the horse; ease and speed of rifle withdrawal. You'll feel pretty unhappy if a fine trophy lopes away while you're struggling to get that pet rifle out of the leather!

HANDLOADING BENCH

(Continued from page 6)

It requires uniformity for a twisting, screaming slug with its tail on fire to make an accurate flight and hit a small, distant target consistently.

The most uniform rifle or revolver bullets are handmade, swaged jacketed types. The handgun and ammo makers have, at long last, decided to make new cartridges of this type in a premium grade, just as I predicted in GUNS. They have their own versions of swaged, jacketed handgun bullet loads in various calibers from .22 to .44 Magnum. I have a sneaking idea they got the idea from Harvey Jugulars, "The Most Deadly Bullets," that I wrote up in this journal in May, 1956. When GUNS told the nation of their advantages it quite naturally created a terrific demand. At any rate, the gun and ammo makers went to bring out new and better products.

Ruger's "Deerstalker" Carbine, chambered for the powerful .44 Magnum cartridge, proves a point. It shoots tighter groups with more punch with jacketed, swaged bullets than with the original factory type ammo. This short, light, handy-dandy little spasmodic Carbine is a dream come true! It takes over where the .44 Magnum revolver quits, and packs a punch to stop man, beast or automobile. Lawmen will love it, perhaps as much as deer hunters, and handgunners who want a companion piece. See this number pronto! You'll have to shoot it a bit to really appreciate it.

Let's pause to say thanks to the handgun and ammo makers who are bringing us new handguns and cartridges. The ammo makers include Norma, Winchester and Remington.

Hand swaged handgun bullets have become more popular by leaps and bounds since Harvey started them. Custom loaders and bullet makers, such as Shooters Service, Stanfordville, Conn., have enjoyed a steady increase in business. C-H Die Co. gave a terrific shot in the arm to the average reloader who wants to swage his own, when they brought out the C-H Swag-O-Matic bullet swaging press. With .30 caliber rifle dies now available to fit the press, and sold for a very low price, (and additional rifle calibers in the works,) the future of swaged handgun and rifle bullets is assured.

Charlie Heckman, owner of C-H, is real

(Continued on page 52)

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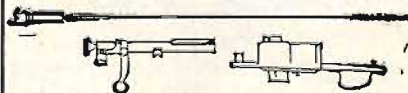
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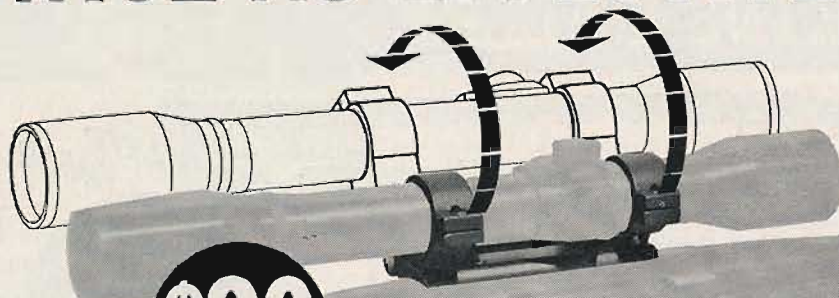
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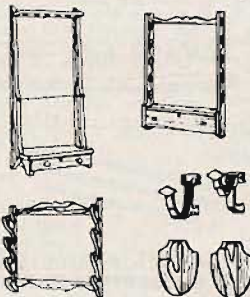
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(Continued from page 50)

proud of his Swag-O-Matic. He says no tool makes better bullets, and I'm inclined to agree. Speer, who have made semi-jacketed bullets for revolvers for some time, and good ones, recently brought out the .30 caliber Speer Plinkers. These are the same basic type bullet, but have a round nose and weigh 100 grains. Accuracy is better than you expect in everything from a .300 Weatherby Magnum to a 30-30, and .30 Carbine, that is now so popular.

You can pull the hard jacketed G.I. Carbine pills and simply seat Speer Plinkers. Or swage your own in a Swag-O-Matic, using Speer half-jackets. Speer supplies "1/4 inch Antimonial Wire." Division Lead Co., (DIVCO) supplies "Illinois .30 caliber 3% Antimonial Lead Wire." Both makes are for the half-jacketed Swag-O-Matic bullets that can be driven at over 3000 feet per second. The DIVCO wire is a little softer and easier to swage, but both work OK. The softer wire should give better bullet expansion, and a harder wire deeper penetration.

Handloading the .30 Carbine is easy. I used C-H dies to swage pills of 92, 100, 115, and 125 grains, using Swag-O-Matic wire. The 100 grain is my choice. I drilled a 4 grain cavity in the nose, using a Forster Precision Case Trimmer with Hollow Point Accessory. My best charges were 14.5 grains 2400, or 15.2 grains W-W 295HP Ball, using CCI No. 400 S.R. primers. Cases were brass G.I. hulls, loaded in C-H loading dies, the 2-Die set. My gun functions well, and velocity is more than the 2000 fps of G.I. ammo.

A few test loads were tried with the new CCI No. 550 Magnum (Small Pistol) primers. They worked OK with both powders, but I recommend the Small Rifle type in this cartridge, in a carbine.

Steel cases can be used, but are hard on sizers, and may not function perfectly in all carbines. I much prefer brass. Many lads try to use ordinary oils or grease for case lube. Cases may gall or stretch, or even pull out of the shell holder. Really good lube for sizing is cheap. Some good makes are the new Anderol Case Lube, and the "All Climate" lube they make for RCBS, C-H Die Lube, Hollywood's Sizing Lube, Pacific, and others. As a substitute, try drug store lanolin.

Carbon tet is excellent to clean and degrease dies, moulds, and other articles, including guns that are to be re-blued with cold blue. It has many uses around a loading bench. The fumes are poison, and it should be used with adequate ventilation, avoiding prolonged contact with the skin.

What about a good cast bullet load for the .30 Carbine? My favorite is Lyman's No. U311316 Hollow Point Gas Check, sized .3085, cast with Illinois Bullet Alloy No. 7, or a 10:1 lead-tin mix, backed with Lyman's listed charge of 14 grains 2400 and Small Rifle primers. This bullet is hard, and doesn't expand as well as the swaged bullet loads. The nose cavity is rather deep. I believe it works better if the hollow point pin is dressed off about 1/8", for a more shallow hollow point. Velocity is a bit more than G.I. loads.

This column will have some carefully worked-up loading data for new handgun varmint cartridges as soon as possible. Hand-gunning varmints with a flat shooting, highly accurate load with a potent punch is more fun than anything I can think of.



GUN RACK

(Continued from page 14)

to print in the black or so close to it that the final adjustment can be made by a child.

The Site-A-Line with one spud sells for a nickel less than forty bucks, extra spuds going for \$3.85. If you shoot much, or change from rifle to rifle, the cost of the device will be negligible when compared with the cost of ammo wasted in sighting the rifles. In the first two days I had my Site-A-Line, I sighted in three rifles with it, all printing in the black with the first five shots. Site-A-Line is available from Alley Supply Co., P. O. Box 458, Sonora, Cal.

Convertible Single Six

Ruger's Convertible Single Six is, like all their guns, built so that it can take hard use, yet it is accurate and smooth-functioning. With one cylinder in the gun, you can fire the .22 rimfire cartridge; take out this cylinder and replace it with the second cylinder that comes with the gun, and you can shoot the .22 Magnum rimfire cartridge. This

makes the gun extremely versatile, since the inexpensive rimfire cartridge can be used for informal target shooting. Then, when you want to go varminting or small game



shooting, merely change cylinders, pick up a box of the Magnum ammo, and you are all set.

Despite the fact that the barrel is bored somewhat over-size to accept the magnum bullet, the gun is very accurate with the rim-

(Continued on page 55)

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(Continued from page 53)

fire ammo. Fired at 15 and 25 yards, five shot groups could be covered with a quarter when shot from a sitting position. I found that the hold is dead-on, and my gun fired just a fraction right and high, but still in the 10 ring—so I left the sight well enough alone.

The Convertible Single Six is a real gun; for plinking or hunting it could easily become a favorite. It has enough weight to take it out of the toy class, yet is not too heavy to be carried afield all day. It represents the second important development to come from Sturm-Ruger in a year. The .44 Magnum carbine is one of the finest-handling rifles I have ever fired; the Convertible Single Six revolver is a dandy fun-gun. What's next from Southport?

The .22 Jet and the Model 53

By now you must be aware of the Model 53 S&W and the new .22 Jet cartridge. The batch of ammo I tested functioned smoothly. The case is a necked down .357 Magnum, chock-full of a powder that looks like a first cousin to 2400. The rounds I broke down contained 14.9 grains of powder.

I would suggest that if you shoot the .22 Jet cartridge, you wear ear plugs at least. Indoors the sound is downright unpleasant, under a range roof on an outdoor range there is little improvement, and even in the wide-open area where I tested the gun, the noise was an unpleasantly sharp crack.

Unloaded, the gun weighs 2 pounds 8½ ounces. It sells for \$110. For a second .22 RF cylinder, to be fitted at the factory, the additional cost will be around \$22.

Accuracy of this gun is amazing. Without adjusting the sights, all shots were in the black, tight little groups. Being interested in long-range shots, my shooting partner and I selected a rock, about five inches across. While I spotted with a B&L spotting scope, my side-kick shot from the reclining position, gun hand resting against the right knee. First shot was slightly to the left and low, and by holding a bit over, the next two shots pulverized the rock. Distance: 200 yards! Presently I am working up some handloads for this new cartridge and hope to report on it in the near future. A word of warning might be added here. Unlike most other calibers, this one really spews flames and powder particles, so keep a respectful distance.

Winchester's Mid-American Shoot

In general, we gun editors are so loaded with paper work and chained to a desk that it is a rare event when we get out to do some shooting just for the fun of it. Most of our shooting is testing, and although a lot of shooters envy us this opportunity to try out new guns or ammo, this is harder work than the actual writing of the report. Winchester-Western decided to change this a bit, giving Midwestern gun editors and writers a chance to show their stuff with the smoothbores. The meet was held at the Jennings Gun Club outside of Alton, Ill., and the contest was for trap and skeet, with everything supplied by Winchester. Coaches from Winchester and the Jennings Gun Club were on hand to improve stance and shooting skill, and a wonderful day was had by all of us. To Winchester and the members of the Jennings

(Continued on page 60)

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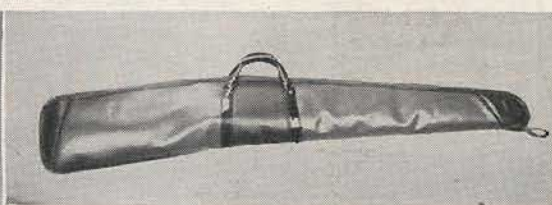
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Sporter-weight	1 1/4"	.615	24"	3 lb.
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TWIST: Ace Barrels come in standard twists as follows: Cal. 243, 257, 270, 7MM, .25-06, 260, 338 and 30-06, 1-10, Cal. 244, 250, 300 and 308, 1-12, Cal. 22-250, 220 and 222, 3-4.
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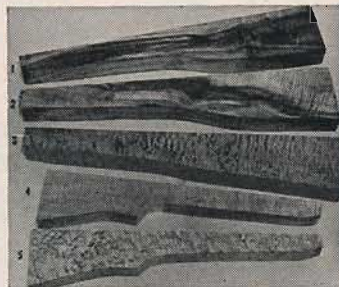
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(Continued from page 55)

Gun Club, a big thank you and well done. Even the weather cooperated and I am very grateful to the trap boy who must have made a mistake in scoring my card, giving me fourth place in the trap event.

Hollywood's New Senior Turret Tool

Famed for their chronograph and the Senior Turret tool, the long-expected new Senior Turret tool is everything that I had heard about it. Like all of the Hollywood equipment, this press is precision-engineered and should last practically forever, no matter how much it is used. For the man who loads rifle, pistol, and shotshells, the new Senior Turret tool might well be the answer to the problem of what press to select. Heretofore, the presses designed for pistol and rifle cartridges, although changeable to shot-shell loading, never performed as smoothly as those tools expressly designed for shot-shell loading. In addition to performing all of these functions, the new Hollywood Senior Turret tool also swages with ease all calibers of rifle and pistol bullets.

Shotshell loading is rapid and, as with all manual skills, speed is an acquired matter. Loading about 200 shells per hour is no trick, once the tool is set up and the wad column determined. By the way, in loading shotshells, I have found it very handy to make up stacks of the required wads in lots of 25, thus saving considerable time picking wads out of the boxes.

The eight-position turret with a choice of hole sizes has a 6 inch stroke, a positively indexing turret head, and for swaging bullets, a 1/2 inch tie-down rod is furnished.

Lyle Corcoran, boss of the Hollywood Gun Shop, tells me that he expects to be able to ship the new Automatic Shotshell Loader next month. The word is that this tool will load 1800 shells an hour in a progressive rotating system. The way I burn up shells in the course of a month, this might well become my tool for loading fodder for my smoothbores.

Reloading Components from Federal

The Federal Cartridge Corporation, makers of the well-known Monark shotshells, has announced the availability of reloading components. They now market the primed shotshells in the Monark brand, cardboard and cushion wads, as well as an extensive line of primers. These are available as small and large pistol primers, small and large rifle, large magnum rifle, and as shotshell primers. Their shotshells need little introduction to shooters, and the components are the same as are being put into the Monark shells. With the constant increase in the hobby, this news from Federal is most welcome.

Norma's .44 Magnum Loads

These long-awaited cartridges are available at long last. Preliminary tests proved them to be a very accurate load, although I did not have a chance to test it on game. The 240 grain soft point bullet with the exclusive Tri-Clad construction prevents barrel leading and fouling. With the unprimed Norma brass and the 240 grain bullet, I think that many loaders will want to try their .44 Magnum pet loads on game this coming fall.

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ELMER KEITH SAYS

(Continued from page 9)

and one in the barrel gives it a four-shot capacity. This little .410 Savage would account for quail, ruffed grouse, fool hens, woodcock, doves, at 30 yards or less and often out to 35.

The little gun was stiff but functioned well. It has a cross-bolt safety in the trigger guard, a magazine release at front of guard, and is a thoroughly well made and excellent little gun. It has a good straight-grain walnut stock that will fit almost anyone. Gold plated safety and trigger, and a ruffed grouse and some scenery stamped on each side of frame, break up the plainness of the metal.

C.C.I. Magnum Primers

Cascade Cartridge Co. of Lewiston, Idaho, now has a line of "Magnum" primers. These were designed after a lot of research into this priming business. All old ballisticians have long known that they could weigh and spin and mike the bullets, check the cases and the primer pockets, and weigh the powder charges, but they had no control over the primers. For years, No. 2400 Hercules powder has been our best powder for Magnum pistol loads, but it has also been hard to ignite and burn properly. Usually, some unburned powder is left in the bore. This does little if any harm, but the fact remains that it was not burning completely. Even factory .44 Magnum loads showed a very wide dispersion in pressures, and this also was not conducive to fine accuracy.

The new C.C.I. primers were engineered to hold the flash over a longer period of time and thus bring the powder temperature up to a proper burning heat. In this way, they have accomplished much more uniform combustion of hard-to-ignite powders, as well as more complete combustion of the powder charge.

The new C.C.I. Magnum primer has given me the best and most uniform combustion in .357 and .44 Magnum loads of any primers I have used. I believe it is one of the best ever produced for heavy pistol loads with 2400 Hercules propellant. In the big rifle cartridges, this new primer is particularly well adapted to properly ignite and fire long heavy rifle powder loads. It is ideal for all the big Weatherby Cases, and is about the best ever produced for the .378 and .460 Weatherby Magnums and for the .450 Magnum. I only wish we had No. 40 Berdan caps made with this same pellet, as they would do a much better job of igniting our I.M.R. powders in the big English cordite elephant rifle cases. These Magnum primers are equally useful in very light loads in big rifle cases.

These primers have been tested in temperatures down to a minus 70, as well as extremes of heat, and have shown uniform performance at all temperatures. They are not just a hot primer. Proper powder combustion of slow hard-to-ignite powders is not accomplished with just a very powerful primer. What is needed, and what is accomplished by the C.C.I. primers, is to build up the temperature of the powder to a proper burning heat, and to sustain the blast long enough for proper and complete combustion. This they have accomplished to a remarkable

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degree, and with less variation in pressures than any other primers tested. All I can say is try them, as they have certainly performed well for me in all three sizes. I believe they will also work very well in shotguns, and eliminate a lot of the trouble formerly encountered with hard-to-ignite powders that require heavy wad pressure for proper ignition.

Of course, fast pistol powders or black powder are not actually hard to ignite, but the fact remains that long columns of many of our IMR powders are hard to ignite and burn properly. Many times I have witnessed the loading of three to five grains of black powder on the primer in big Magnum rifle loads designed for 1000 yard work, and also at times the use of a couple grains of Bulls-eye for the same purpose. Anyone who has reloaded the long English straight Cordite cases well knows the problem of getting the primer to fire the load cleanly and promptly. Let us hope C.C.I. also brings out Berdan caps with this mixture for such reloading.

I would expect higher velocity and far better accuracy from the use of the new C.C.I. Magnum primers. They have undergone very long and thorough laboratory tests in comparison with other primers before being offered to the shooting public.

Speer Bullets

Speer Products Co. (Lewiston, Idaho) told me recently that they were dropping production of all half-jacket revolver bullets and were now tooling up for full-jacket bullets for the .357 and .44 Magnums. Samples shown to me showed a good gilding-metal jacket over the entire bearing surface, with a square shoulder of lead in advance of the jacket like my old bullet design but just enough smaller so this band would not take the rifling but would be fine to crimp into just over the end of the jacket. The cores will also be 3 per cent antimony for a harder nose that won't flow back at higher velocities. Tests show great accuracy and no leading.

Dakin Service

The Dakin Gun Co. has now been taken over by Simmons Gun Specialties, Inc. (504 East Main St., Kansas City 8, Mo.) All U. S. sales and services for the Dakin and Breda shotguns will now be handled by this well known Missouri firm.

Gun Slings and Swivels

For hunting rifles, even heavy ones, there is no need for a wide, thick, heavy sling. Heavy slings are O.K. on the target range where you may put 100 pounds tension on them at times, but they are a nuisance on a hunting rifle. They add greatly to the weight, are cumbersome, and if the rifle is raised quickly for a running shot, the heavy sling tends to swing back and forth and disturb the aim. If made of good leather, there is no earthly need for a sling of over $\frac{3}{4}$ " to 1" width. Such narrow slings bite into the shoulder and hold the rifle in place, while big wide slings tend to slip and slide off the shoulder.

The sling may be of either the Whelen pattern, laced at one end and still a fine shooting sling, or the Hayes sling with loop for the shooting arm, or just a simple strap. If one is doing much prone and sitting shooting, the loop is fine and makes for the most

steady hold of all. However, most hunting means mixed shots: fast running shots, off-hand shots, and rest shots in suitable terrain. After a lifetime of it, I find I do about as well with the Williams Guide Strap as will any sling. I keep it adjusted so that the rifle carries nicely on the shoulder and can also be used as a tight hasty sling.

Many times, getting the shot off quickly is far more important than taking time to get the arm through a loop in a gun sling. If the rifle is short or the forward swivel is out on the barrel, then one of the best of all carrying positions is the old European position with muzzle down and butt high and to the rear on the left shoulder (for right-handed shooters). The rifle can then be grasped with the left hand on the fore-end and, if a quick shot develops, one has only to swing it up and aim and fire. This is the hunting position used by most European hunters, and is a good way to carry the gun so that rain will not run down the barrel. It is also one of the fastest of all rifle positions.

For target work, the front swivel is best on the fore-end so the web of the left hand can bed solidly against it in probe and sitting positions; but for hunting, this is not necessary and if the sling swivel is out on the barrel in front of the fore-end it then holds the muzzle of the rifle higher off the ground if carried on the left shoulder upside-down in the European position.

Fixed swivels are fine on rifles for non-dangerous game, but I do not like them at all on any rifle to be used on dangerous game. When you crawl into the brush after something big that can and will fight back, the sling should be removed and even swivels are a detriment, as they may snag on limbs and thorns. For this reason, all dangerous game rifles should be fitted with detachable swivels, so that sling, swivels and all can be removed when you get to close quarters. The old Whelen type swivels adopted by Winchester and many others, are fine but are fairly heavy. The much smaller, neater, and lighter detachable swivels by Paul Jaeger are fast becoming the most popular.

I have never found that a sling strap helped me in any way in off-hand shooting, but I have seen many men on .30 caliber target teams who used the sling for off-hand or standing position. It is a great help in prone, sitting, or kneeling positions, but I

(Continued on page 65)



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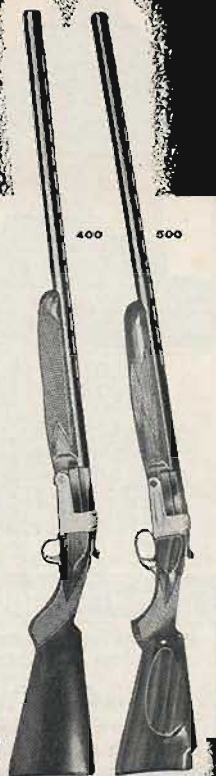
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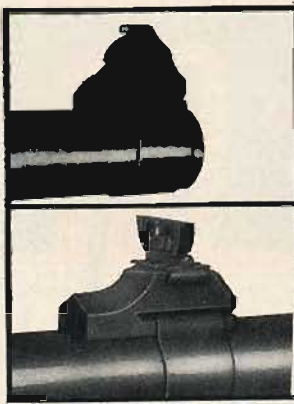
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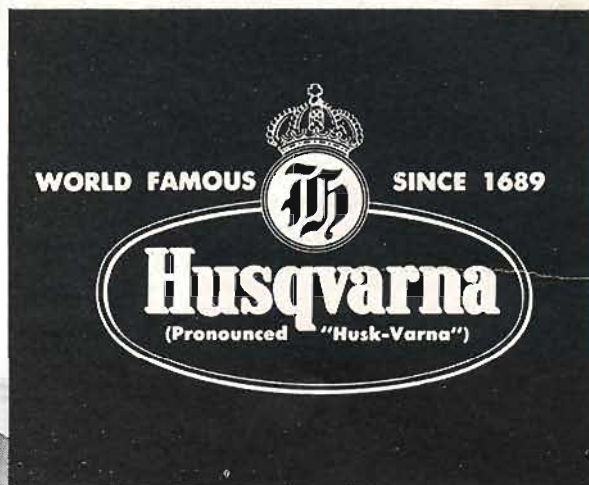
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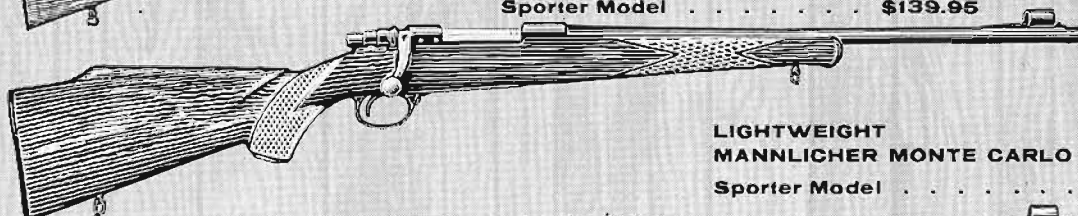
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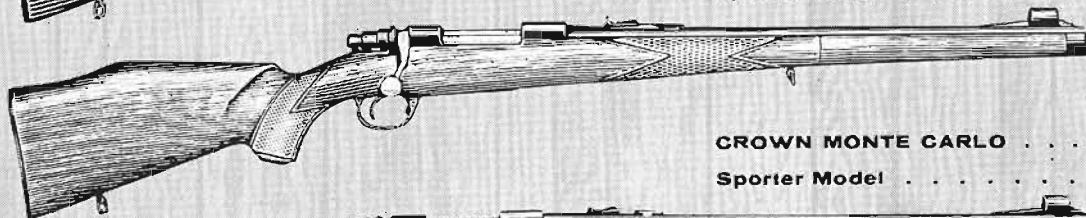


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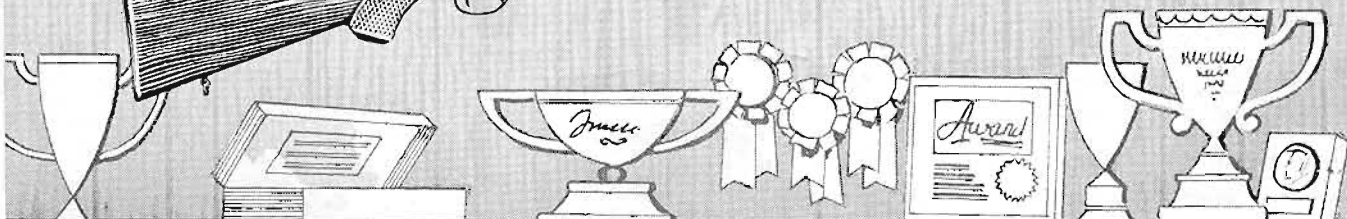
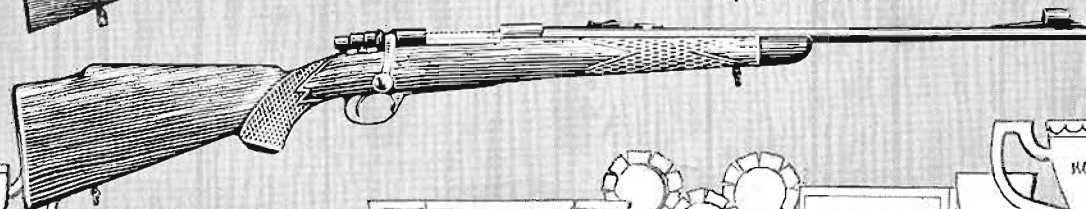
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