

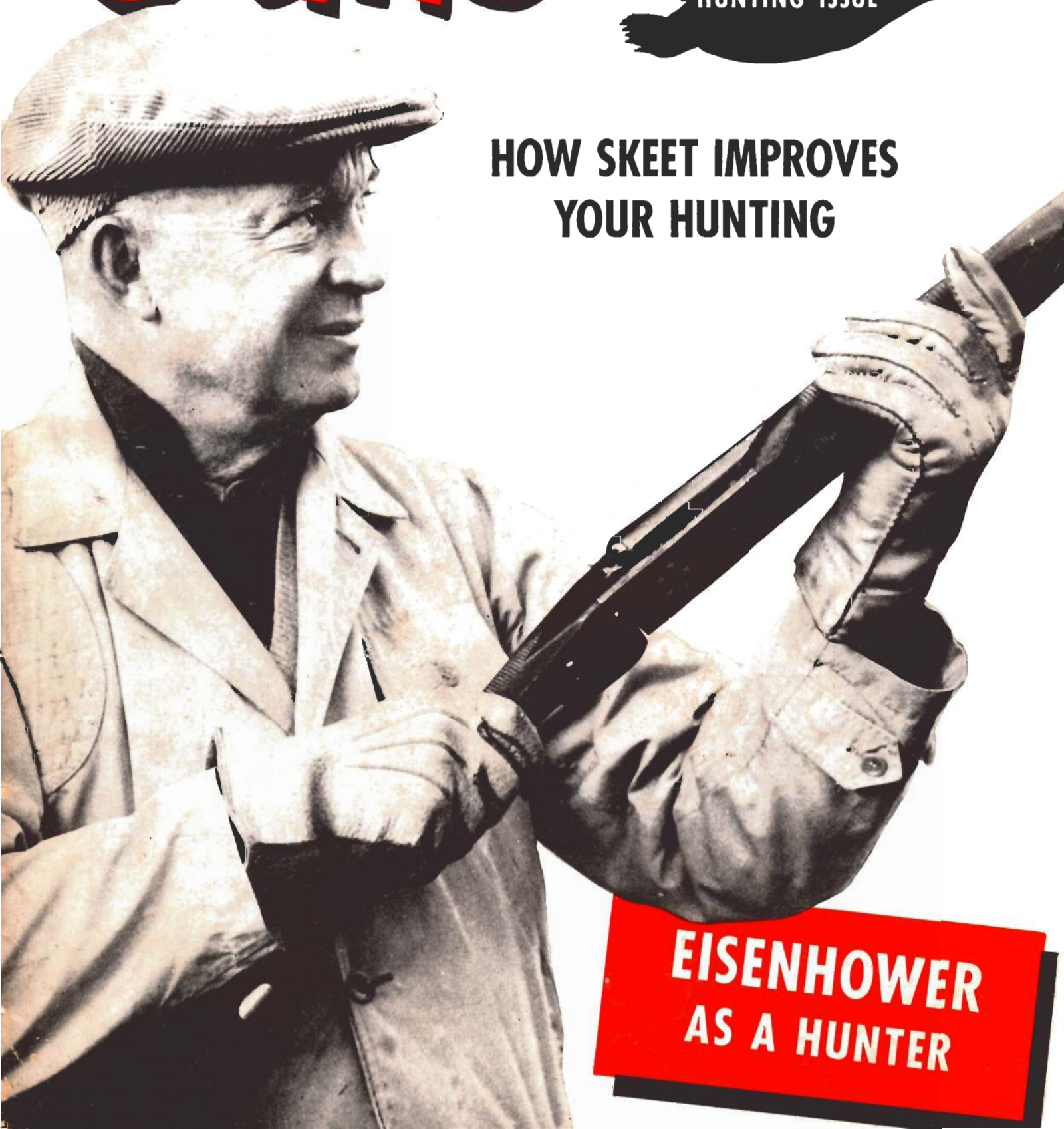
Guns

OCTOBER 1955 50c



WILDFOWL
HUNTING ISSUE

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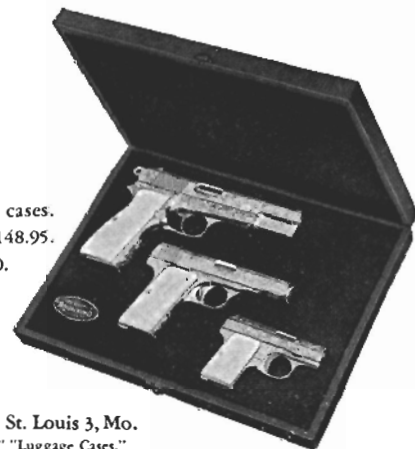
TWO BARRELS with single sighting plane. Two chokes of your preference, at instant command. From one trigger, you may fire either the Over barrel or the Under barrel *first*. After the shot, the gun's mechanism automatically readies the second barrel for firing. Fired shells automatically ejected. Unfired merely elevated for convenient removal. MORE ELABORATE ENGRAVING now on all Grade I models. Remarkable wildlife portrayals carved from solid steel on Grades II through V. The engraved surfaces are treated to provide the silver-gray tone which resists weather and highlights design. The working parts of all models both *inside* and out are hand-polished to a mirror finish. Hand-fitted. Hand-engraved. Dependability for the hand—pleasure to the eye.

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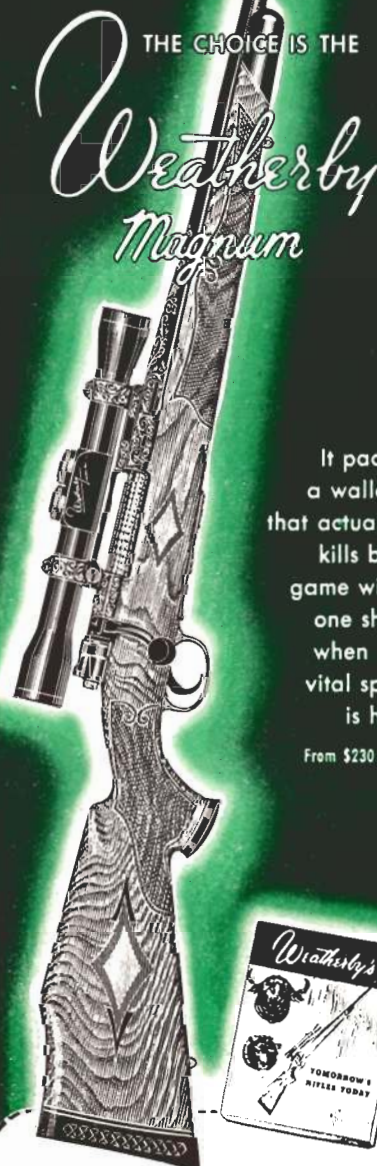


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who make
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a wallop
that actually
kills big
game with
one shot
when no
vital spot
is hit!

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GUNS in the NEWS

[Special]—

□ Sign reported seen on a farmer's land near Baltimore:

"No Hunting. Survivors Will Be Prosecuted."

□ L. Edwin Beach saved two duck hunters near Milner, Ida., who had sunk to their necks in mud by lassoing them with his lariat and pulling them to shore by the rope.

□ Bobby Elliott, Franklin, Pa., teenager, got himself a rabbit and a pheasant with one shot. He fired at a rabbit in the brush and dropped it. The shot flushed a pheasant which flew straight at him. Elliott lifted his gun to shield his face and the bird struck the barrel and broke its neck.

□ A hunter near Gainesville, Mo., shot at some animal and killed it but he wasn't sure just what it was. So he cut some hair off the animal and sent some to an animal laboratory, some to a zoologist. Now the hunter's got his choice of what to believe he killed. The laboratory said it was a coyote, zoologist Leon Hausman of Rutgers said it was a mountain lion.

□ Prof. Virgil Overholt was so startled at a pheasant while he was on a hunting trip near Finlay, Ohio, that he dropped his gun. But the Ohio State University instructor had the presence of mind to grab at the bird's tail as it went by. He got it, too.

□ Roger Griswold, New Hampshire conservation officer, was called to the scene of a furious battle between two bucks whose antlers had been locked for hours and whose strength was all but gone. Griswold studied the situation, then got an idea. Walking to within 20 feet of the animal, he took careful aim with his rifle. The bullet clipped off one antler, unlocking the bucks, and off into the woods they bounded.

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in a scope!



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windage and
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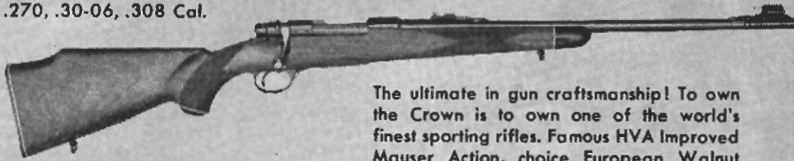
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CROWN GRADE

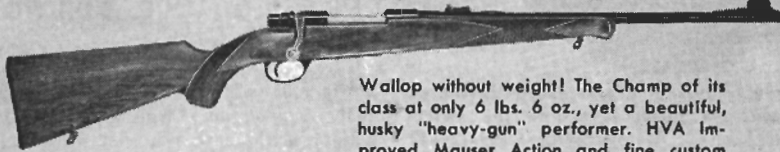
Monte Carlo Stock . \$162.50
Sporting Stock . . . 157.50
.270, .30-06, .308 Cal.



The ultimate in gun craftsmanship! To own the Crown is to own one of the world's finest sporting rifles. Famous HVA Improved Mauser Action, choice European Walnut Stock. Truly a gunsmiths' classic.

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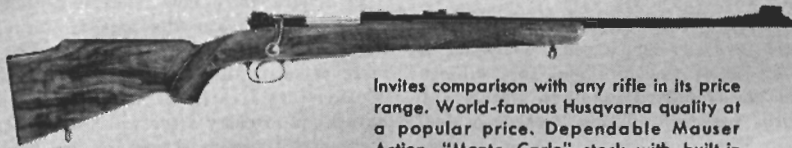
.270, .30-06 Cal. . \$139.95



Wallop without weight! The Champ of its class at only 6 lbs. 6 oz., yet a beautiful, husky "heavy-gun" performer. HVA Improved Mauser Action and fine custom workmanship throughout.

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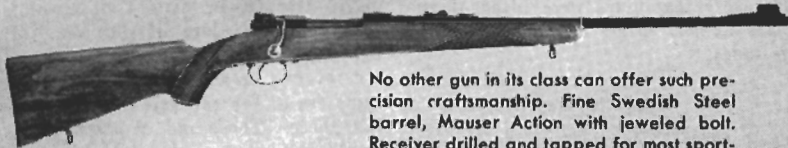
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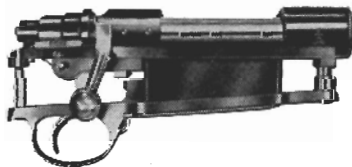


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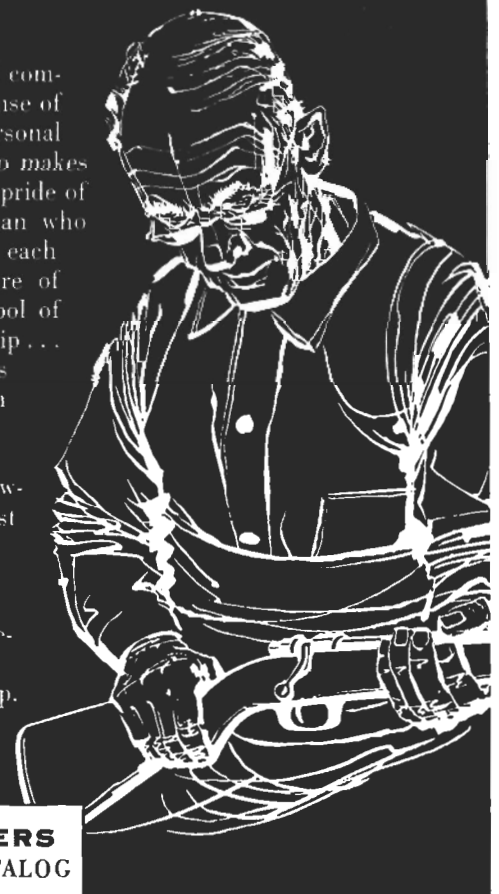
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CROSSFIRE

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

What's Wrong With Gun Laws

I have just finished reading the article entitled "What's Wrong With Gun Laws" in the August issue of GUNS. Congratulations to Policeman "X" for one of the finest articles I have ever read.

I am a member of National Rifle Association and seriously considering becoming a police officer of this city and this subject concerns me closely. I have and always will be a firm adversary of any legislation that takes any right from the average and honest citizen to keep and bear arms. I have always believed that if many of the restrictions on the purchase of handguns were lifted, there would be far less crime in this city than there is today.

Henry McKinell
New Orleans, Louisiana

I would like to congratulate Policeman "X" on his fine article in your August issue of GUNS Magazine. He has the right idea about John Q. Public. A pistol is the hardest thing I know of to own and operate legally.

I am a target shooter of average experience, and I like nothing better than an evening of spraying lead at a paper target or tin cans, and a rabbit every now and then. I would hate to see that privilege taken away from me and the other thousands like me because of anti-gun laws.

Again I wish to say three cheers for Policeman "X" and his article "What's Wrong With Gun Laws."

I wish to thank GUNS Magazine for printing this article. It is the best I have read.

Scotty McIver
Kermit, Texas

More On the Colt SA

Regarding the letter from Ronald Echols in the May issue, wherein he refers to George Pearsall's article "That Overrated Hogleg" as a "crank" article, I have known George Pearsall for a great many years and, for Mr. Echols' information, Mr. Pearsall is a first rate gunsmith who has owned and worked upon, literally, thousands of these single-action Colts.

As far as Echols' statement that anybody who has to depend upon a pistol chooses the Frontier model over all others: I was employed as a peace officer in a city in Kansas (where this Frontier model should have been much loved if as good a pistol as some would have us believe) and my work brought me in contact with law enforcement officers of all types. Never did I see any of them carrying these antiquated pistols. As for myself, I would have been most unwilling to risk my life by depending upon a pistol which is only one step removed from

a cap and ball, and a mighty short step at that. A good man, with a modern double-action, would have you shot three times by the time you got that huge hammer eared back.

In regard to Echols' statement that the Frontier model was the most accurate, I'd hate to think one of those old hoglegs was more accurate than the fine .38-44 Smith & Wesson that I carried. Anyway, I wouldn't have liked to carry a screwdriver to keep all those multitudinous screws, on the Frontier, tight.

The old Colt single-action is a romantic pistol, steeped in history of Custer's last stand, and the lore of old Western gunfighters, but it is not the equal of the modern revolver or automatic. It belongs to the same era of the cap and ball and should be left there. Those old Western gunfighters would have thrown their single-actions into the nearest river if they could have gotten hold of a fine Smith & Wesson double action at that time.

W. T. Burnette
Chicago, Ill.

Sitting Bull Standing

I received your magazine today and was surprised to see a picture of Sitting Bull and Buffalo Bill, stating it was the only known picture of Sitting Bull standing up.

I have an actual photo of Sitting Bull and Buffalo Bill, both standing. I suppose it was taken at the same time but at a different position. It was taken by Bodoche at Winfield, Kansas.

J. Y. Mack
Des Moines, Iowa

The Sad Truth About the 9mm

I read Colonel Askins' article on the 9mm Parabellum (July issue) with a great deal of interest, largely I will admit, because I was unwilling to believe that the truth about the cartridge would be so very sad. Well, I learned.

The one thing I wish is that the colonel had tossed my favorite "heavy" into the test. I'm not a "hot-load hound," but I have a great respect and fondness for the .44 Special. It is a highly versatile calibre, can be loaded light for accurate target work, and heavy for "hoss gun" work. Occasionally I load out a few at Keith's suggested 18 grains of Hercules 2400 behind the Keith bullet. Cast 'em soft and they spread like a fat woman on a piano stool. Cast 'em hard and they just don't quit penetratin'. I think it's a better gun than the .357, but I'm no expert. Just a "gun bug."

You've got a swell magazine. I never miss a copy and I read 'em from cover to cover.

Roger W. Carter
Fillmore, California

**"You kids have got
to learn to fly higher and
faster. They're going to be
shooting Federal Standard
Magnums this Fall!"**



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Sporting Ammunition

**FEDERAL CARTRIDGE CORPORATION
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for as
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No. 200K
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C-LECT-CHOKE
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And the experts
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choice of interchange-
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Thumb-operated safety — Dis-
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- ★ These are only a few of many
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New No. 200D

Identical with 200K except with
INTERCHANGEABLE CHOKE TUBES
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shot-gun, and my
second choice is a
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barreled 20 gauge.
I have little occa-
sion to use a rifle
or pistol but when
I do, prefer a 30-06
sporting model ri-
fle. I recently re-
turned from a trip
hunting quail and
duck, and found my
20-gauge Browning
eminently satisfac-
tory.



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I can say without
hesitation that my fa-
vorite is my .300
Weatherby Magnum
rifle. There are several
reasons for this. First,
it's the flattest shoot-
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hunting rifle I've ever
seen. And when it
comes to killing power,
it's pure dynamite. The
workmanship and
beauty of my Weather-
by make it one of my
most prized possessions.

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America's Lightest* Precision Sporters!

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This beautiful custom-crafted single shot is a real treasure for the man who appreciates the ultimate in firearms workmanship and appearance! The Gamester's sleek lines and graceful, deep grained stock mark it a true thoroughbred... the first hunting counterpart of the superb Martini Match Rifle. Stocks are custom-carved of choice walnut, and oil finished. Available in Monte Carlo style with cheekpiece and pistol grip (for "scoped" rifle), or European Style, (low cheekpiece, no pistol grip). Blued to a lustrous, satin-smooth finish. A rifle you'll carry and display with pride!

- .32 Winchester Special, Caliber.....\$57.50
- .357 Magnum (also shoots .38 Special) caliber.....\$66.50
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With Weaver Detachable top-mount and J-2.5 scope, \$32.25 extra; With J-4 scope, \$37.75 extra. Installation free.

SPECIFICATIONS (all models):

- Barrel 25"
- Weight 5 3/4 lbs. (approx.)
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- Walnut Stock
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- Graduated Rear Sight
- Rifling: 5 grooves, 1 in 20"
- (.357 Magnum, 6 grooves, 1:14")

NOTE: Actions are slightly used, but thoroughly inspected. Barrels are also slightly used, but in very good condition. In .357 caliber, barrels are rebarbed and in effect, are like new.

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A splendid low-cost hunting rifle that will impress you with its accuracy! In .32 caliber it makes a terrific big game rifle... perfect for the man wanting a powerful, but super-lightweight weapon. Ideal too, for women hunters and youngsters (the perfect big game "starter" for any boy). Has same fine lever action and smooth trigger pull (no creep) as Gamester. Blued finish, original Walnut stock with sling swivels. An outstanding gun value!

- .32 Winchester Special caliber.....\$28.50
- .357 Magnum (E-38 Special) caliber.....\$37.50
- .310 "Varmint" caliber. Good condition, \$19.95. Fair condition, \$16.95
- Also limited number with new barrel, new stock. .310 cal. only, \$29.95

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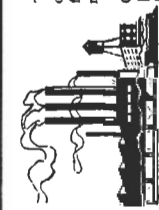
You must be satisfied! Test your Martini, any item, 10 full days. Then, if not 100% satisfied, return for prompt, full refund! Order with confidence!

ORDER TODAY—SUPPLY LIMITED!

Enclose check or money order. 10% deposit required on C.O.D.'s. Also Layaway Plan—\$10 down, \$10 monthly. No interest or carrying charges.

THE STORY OF THE MARTINI BY WINFIELD

These fine rifles were created by BSA (Birmingham Small Arms) of England, when the Australian Government commissioned the firm to develop a lightweight rifle "capable of superlative accuracy" to train Officer Cadets in precision-marksmanship. BSA then developed the Small Martini Action and the .310 Greener cartridge—unquestionably one of the most accurate "big bore" calibers ever designed. This cartridge has enjoyed wide popularity in Australia as a medium-game load. Recently, Winfield secured the last known quantity of these fine Small Martini Rifles. The basic rifle was modified to the requirements of American sportsmen following exhaustive pressure-safety tests by the H. P. White Testing Laboratory. Actions safely withstood pressures of 60,000 psi—for in excess of those generated by the above described calibers.



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ALL MODELS AVAILABLE IN THESE POPULAR CALIBERS:



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A hard-hitting, medium range deer load—long a sportsmen's favorite. In the Martini, this cartridge really comes into its own... delivers the finest accuracy of which it is capable. With factory loads, pressures fall far under the safety limits of the Small Martini Action.



.357 MAGNUM (E-38 SPECIAL)

First commercially-produced rifle chambered for the world's most powerful handgun cartridge! Now you can enjoy the fun of "big bore" shooting with low-cost revolver ammunition. (Also shoots popular .38 Special ammo.) Makes a fine medium-range game load. In some states (check current laws) the .357 is approved for big game.



.310 "VARMINT" CALIBER

A load you'll find hard to beat on jack rabbits, coyotes, fox, all varmints, at up to 200 yards. Excellent sectional density of bullet provides amazing accuracy. Bench rest test groups with iron sights and factory ammo were as tight as those shot by many high-priced Match Rifles. Ballistically, the .310 is similar to the .32/20 cartridge. .310 Ammo is Avail. from Winfield in 120 gr., Soft-nose or Hollow-point bullet. Berdan primed, non-corrosive. 20 rds., \$2.95; 50 rds., \$7.35; 100 rds., \$14.70.

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Dress-up your Martini Marksman... give it a sleek, distinguished sporter appearance at low cost! Or purchase one of these stocks, a Martini action & barrel, and build your own custom rifle. Two-piece stocks are 98% finished, of top-grade attractively-grained walnut, sanded and ready for oil or other finish. All inletting is complete. Pachmayr Rubber Butt Plate inc.



Monte Carlo Stock
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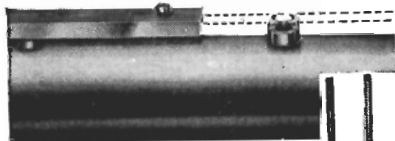
European Style Stock
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OCTOBER
1955
Vol. 1
No. 10-10

Guns



MAGAZINE

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COVER

President Eisenhower favors a specially-finished Winchester Model 21 double-barreled shotgun, inlaid in gold with his initials and the five stars of his general's rank when out hunting. The fact that the President is an active hunter and gun-sportsman has been seldom mentioned in White House communiques. In this issue GUNS gives you the first full story on "Ike As A Hunter" on page 16.

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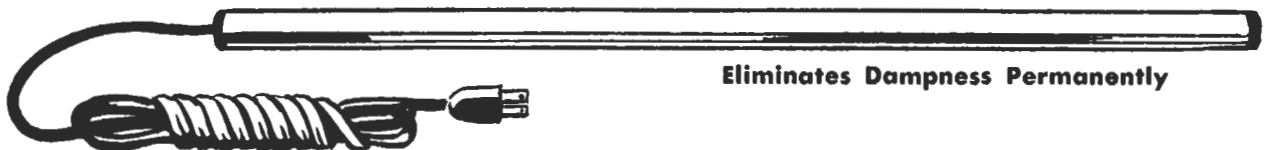
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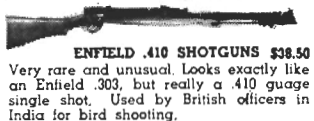


Scotland Yard Rogue's Gallery of Guns

"I horsetrained a stable full of guns that originated from Scotland Yard. These pistols and revolvers had been lifted off of thugs and scoundrels over there for the last fifty years. Some of these guns are so old they look like they had bows and arrows traded in on them. Some of them are guns I never even heard of. They aren't in mint condition, but I can guarantee that they were kept inside all this time (not out in the yard). I bought the whole batch of them, so here's my deal for you. I'll ship you 2 of these guns to hang on your wall for only \$17.00, or 3 for \$23.00, together with a notarized personal letter from me verifying their origin. If you don't like them, you can ship 'em back and I will refund your money."



2 different Guns \$17.00 fob Burbank
3 different Guns \$23.00 fob Burbank



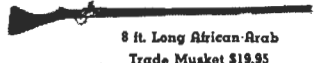
ENFIELD 410 SHOTGUNS \$38.50

Very rare and unusual. Looks exactly like an Enfield .303, but really a 410 gauge single shot. Used by British officers in India for bird shooting.

DEN SPECIAL

LONG GUNS 3 for \$25.00

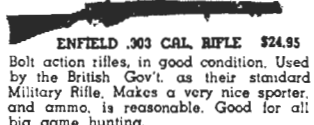
I just corralled 5,000 guns from all over the world, representing darn near every country you ever heard of. While they last, I'll ship you—1 for \$12.50, 2 for \$20, 3 for \$25. No two alike.



8 ft. Long African-Arab

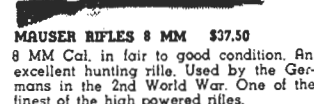
Trade Musket \$19.95

These were made up by the Hollywood Studios for use in their African Motion Pictures. An unusual item for a man's den or cabin. A real collector's item.



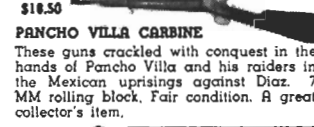
ENFIELD .303 CAL. RIFLE \$24.95

Bolt action rifles, in good condition. Used by the British Gov't. as their standard Military Rifle. Makes a very nice sporter, and ammo, is reasonable. Good for all big game hunting.



MAUSER RIFLES 8 MM \$37.50

8 MM Cal. in fair to good condition. An excellent hunting rifle. Used by the Germans in the 2nd World War. One of the finest of the high powered rifles.



PANCHO VILLA CARBINE

These guns crackled with conquest in the hands of Pancho Villa and his raiders in the Mexican uprisings against Diaz. 7 MM rolling block. Fair condition. A great collector's item.



LITTLE ATOM PISTOL \$2.95

It's as small as the end of your thumb, but it sounds off like they package they dropped on Remington. The world's "smallest" pistol. Gold plated, with pearl grip. Complete with mirror and a couple of blanks. (Use to be sent Express, charges collect, as the Post Office won't accept it.)

SMITH & WESSON .38 CAL. REVOLVER \$29.95

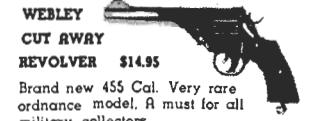
In 5" or 6" bbl. The standard model of the military and police service. A beautiful weapon that will give years of dependable service. Excellent condition. Now offered for the first time at this low price.



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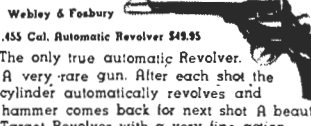
WEBLEY CUT AWAY REVOLVER \$14.95

Brand new 455 Cal. Very rare ordnance model. A must for all military collectors.



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Webley & Feabury

.455 Cal. Automatic Revolver \$49.95

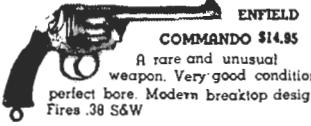
The only true automatic Revolver. A very rare gun. After each shot the cylinder automatically revolves and hammer comes back for next shot. A beautiful Target Revolver with a very fine action.



FRENCH LEBEL

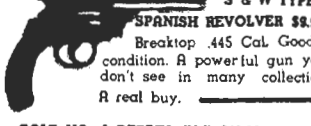
8mm. \$14.95

Unique mechanism, with side plate opening for inspection. Built like a fine watch. Used by French against Communists in Indo-China. Good condition.



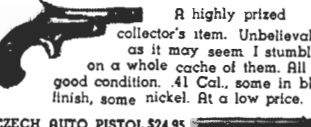
ENFIELD COMMANDO \$14.95

A rare and unusual weapon. Very good condition. perfect bore. Modern breaktop design. Fires .38 S&W



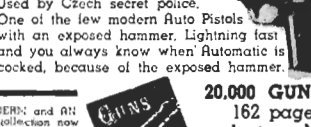
S & W TYPE

SPANISH REVOLVER \$9.95 Breaktop. .445 Cal. Good condition. A powerful gun you don't see in many collections. A real buy.



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A highly prized collector's item. Unbelievable as it may seem. I stumbled on a whole cache of them. All in good condition. .41 Cal., some in blue finish, some nickel. At a low price.



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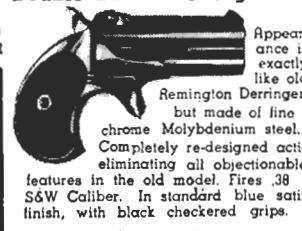
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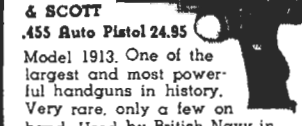
NEW MIGHTY CO2

Repeating Pistol \$29.95

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Appearance is exactly like old chrome Molybdenum steel. Completely re-designed action eliminating all objectionable features in the old model. Fires .38 S&W Caliber. In standard blue satin finish, with black checkered grips.



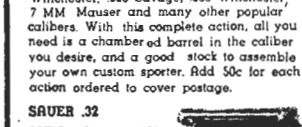
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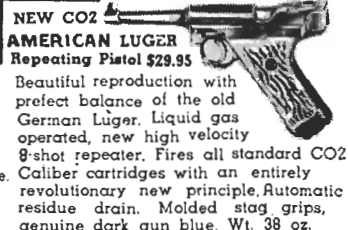
SAUER 32 AUTO PISTOL \$22.50

One of the finest German Automatic Pistols made. Really a beautiful weapon and preferred by many of the Gestapo Officers.



STEYR (HAHN) AUTO PISTOL \$14.95

9 mm. Steyr Caliber, used by officers of the Austrian and Hungarian Army in both World War I and II. A very unusual weapon very seldom seen in this country. A rare collector's item.



SPANISH EIBAR

.32 Cal. Auto Pistol \$17.50

Beautifully made. secret police Spanish auto. A very fine Automatic Pistol at an unusually low price.



MAUSER 95 ACTION

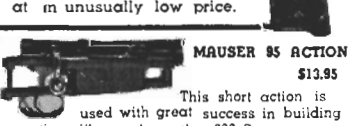
\$13.95

This short action is used with great success in building sporting rifles such as the 300 Savage, 7 MM Mauser, .35 Remington, 308 Winchester, 275 Roberts, and a host of other Varminter calibers. Get yourself a good stock and a chambered barrel in your favorite caliber, and you are all set. Add 50c for each action ordered to cover postage.



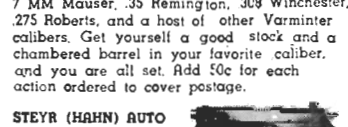
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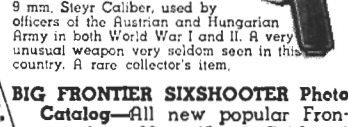
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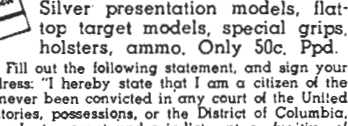
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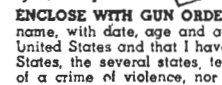
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20 GAUGE: A Sure Shotgun For Dead Ducks

LIGHTER GUNS WITH EDGE IN SPEED AND HANDLING OVER RELIABLE 12'S
PROVE INCREASINGLY SUCCESSFUL AND POPULAR FOR HUNTING QUACKERS

By FRANCIS E. SELL

THE CENTURY-OLD tradition of using a big-bore shotgun on wildfowl is receiving serious knocks in these days of improved "cannons," shot shells and more careful gunners. Those 36-inch barrel, full choke Long Toms designed to hit ducks and geese somewhere on the far side of the

horizon give modern gunners a laugh. But even the conservative, old reliable 12 gauge pump, double, and automatic guns of a generation ago are to many hunters passe: the light, facile "20" is becoming *the* gauge for ducks. We proved it one day last fall, in a cold driftwood blind on



Heading for hunters' guns, a flight of mallards takes to the air for the long haul south from a Ducks Unlimited feeding preserve. Hundreds of sportsmen are finding the light 20 gauge just the perfect shotgun for such concentrations.

Holding 20 gauge M-12 Winchester, sportsman retrieves drake brought down by light gun at 50 yards distance.



Floras Lake, a coastal marsh in southwestern Oregon.

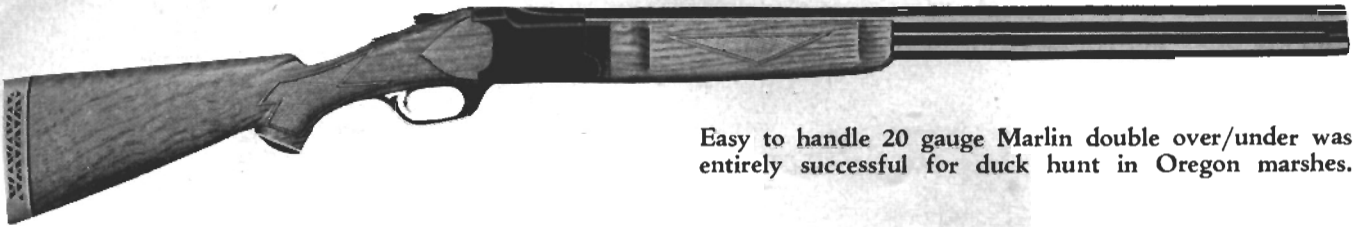
The surf growled white along the sand dunes as the salt spray hazed across the gray sky. Six canvasbacks came in over the seaward dunes with the wind at their tails. Grant Hartwell and I crouched in the blind. You might think it was a nice setup for a 12 gauge magnum, ideal in fact, but we were using 20 gauge guns that day and we kept Hartwell's big Labrador retriever happy all during the morning flight.

Now before you holler "just two more undergunned small bore fans shooting at ducks," let's look at the facts, and in the process of looking, examine the merits of the 20 gauge shotgun for duck shooting.

Is a gunner badly handicapped going after ducks with a 20 gauge in his hands? More to the point, how many cripples does the 20 gauge man scratch down that a gunner with a 12 gauge would kill cleanly? Those are pertinent questions, and if a man is using a little 20 gauge on ducks, he should be able to answer them, and right.

I have used a "20" for the past 31 years, man and boy, and have used this gauge exclusively on ducks the past 15 seasons. I've watched this gauge perform on ducks in the hands of other hunters and not once have I seen it fail, if the man behind the gun was a reasonably accomplished field shot.

Many mediocre duck shots take to the marshes each



Easy to handle 20 gauge Marlin double over/under was entirely successful for duck hunt in Oregon marshes.

season. These gunners are going to heavier and heavier gauges, 12 gauge magnums, 10 gauge magnums, and all the while they haven't truly comprehended the reason for their poor results. What they need isn't more range, or larger and larger shot charges, but more shooting skill and better judgment of ranges. And, let it be whispered, a more careful study of their quarry.

Take this problem of range. Theoretically there are magnum 10's which will kill at 85 to 90 yards. But in my years of duck hunting, I have yet to find a gunner who can consistently deliver at those extreme ranges. Estimating ranges much beyond 50 yards is almost impossible. Calculating lead on passing ducks at these extreme ranges piles error on error until the percentages are working against clean kills. About the only thing an 85 or 90 yard range proves is that the gunner hasn't located his blind to the best advantage, and is just too far away from where he might expect the ducks to come in to feed. But get down to 50 yards or less and you are within the range at which 98 per cent of all wildfowl are killed. And at the same time, you are well within the range of any 20 gauge duck gun.

The 20 gauge is for the serious shooter. It is for the gunner who has studied his gun, his birds, and knows his own shooting ability beyond all doubt. Once a gunner actually begins to study his shooting, he is very apt to find his own limitations cancelling out effective duck-killing ranges before he reaches the limits necessarily imposed by the use of a *good* 20 gauge.

I emphasize the word "good" for one important reason: in the 20 gauges there is no room for poor patterns. You use a greater percentage of your shot charge for effective pattern density. That means chokes which deliver their full indicated patterns. Granted such patterns in a 20 gauge, clean killing is mostly a matter of skilled gun pointing.

That Autumn day in the lee of the sand dunes when Grant Hartwell and I shot the *(Continued on page 48)*

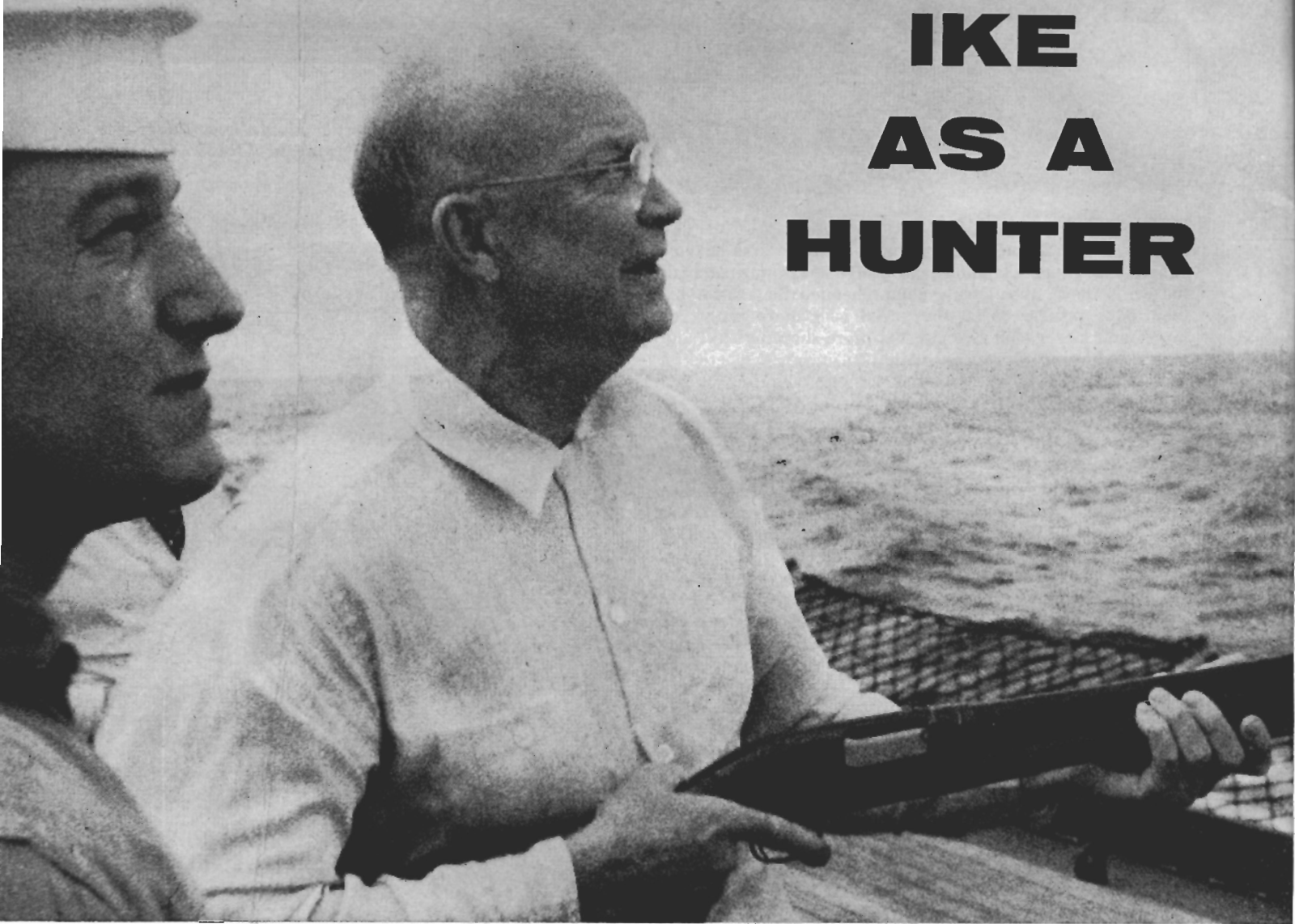


Two mallards were brought down by author Sell using a 20 Remington Model 17, forerunner of present Ithaca pump.

Point shooting with Model 90, bored full and modified, produced this bag of ducks for well-equipped author Sell.



IKE AS A HUNTER



Banging away with Winchester Model 12 pump gun at clay traps thrown from ship's deck, President-elect Eisenhower wiles away the time on his return to America across Pacific from Korea on cruiser "Helena" in December of 1952.

ARDENT GUN SPORTSMAN AT HEART, PRESIDENT EISENHOWER LIKES TO GET OUT INTO FIELD AND USUALLY TAKES SINGLES OUT OF COVEY AT SHORT RANGES



Ike goes after quail with M21 Winchester on farm in Georgia.

THE ONE MAN who has commanded more guns than any other person in the history of the world is in his modest way an upland game hunter and a lover of the outdoors. His name? Dwight David Eisenhower, who retired a general's five stars in favor of the thirteen stars in the Great Seal of the United States.

"Mr. President" favors upland shooting over other types of hunting—the tiny brown buzz-bombs that some folks call quail provide rugged and enduring sport for him. From his 500-acre farm near Gettysburg, through the verdant lands of Georgia on his friend,



At a 1944 showing in England of M1 Carbine, Ike takes good offhand stance.

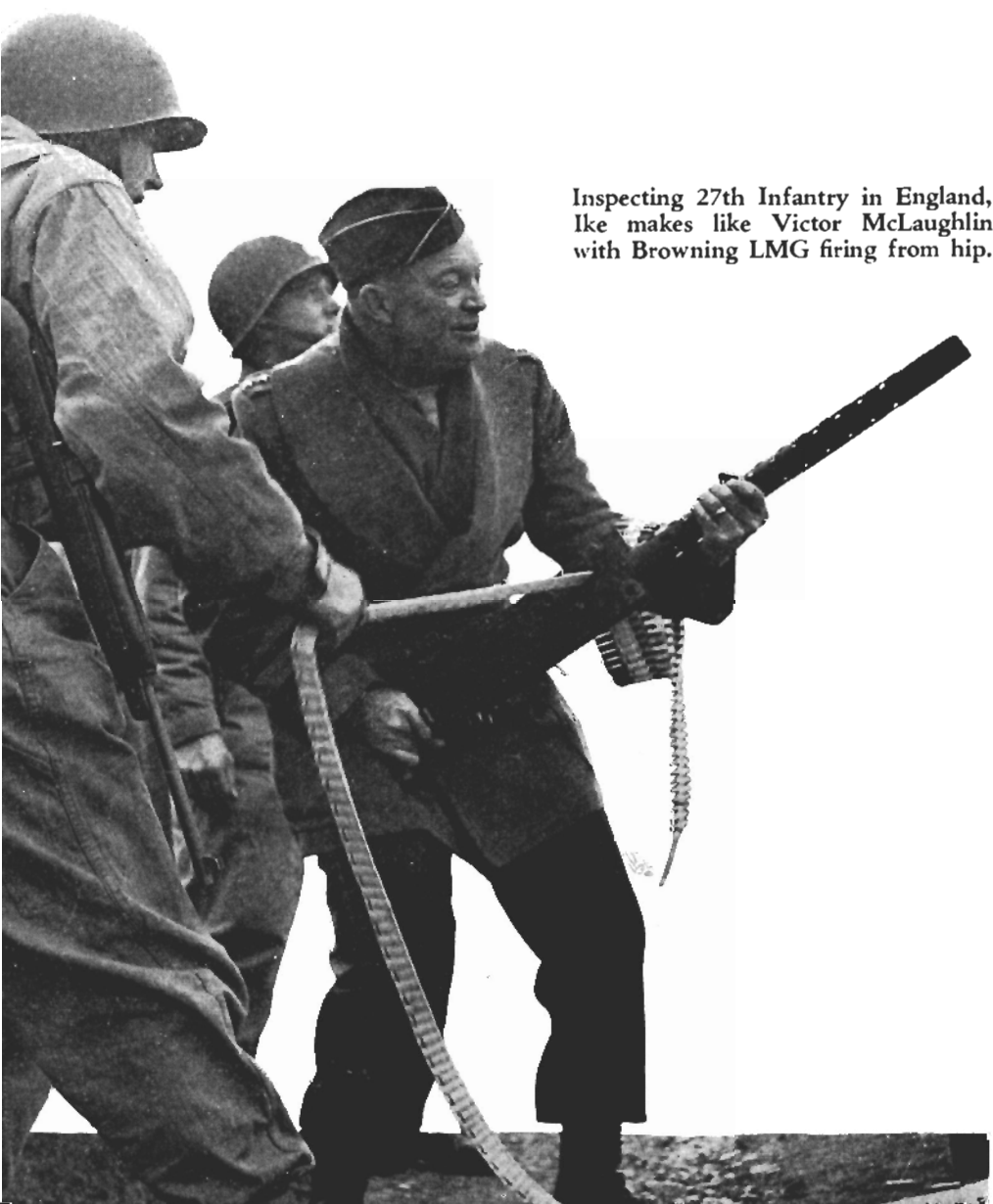
By WILLIAM B. EDWARDS

Treasury Secretary George Humphrey's plantation, to the grouse moors of Scotland where the general has a castle apartment, he has pursued his love of hunting. It vies with golf and fishing as being Ike's favorite sport.

Ike is a good snap shooter but he prefers to follow the birds and try shots at around 30 yards. He is content with one bird per covey, which is below the arbitrary three-bird covey limit set by Secretary Humphrey on his Georgia farm. That way the covey remains intact and can be hunted again. "I like to find the singles," Ike says. "Coveys scare me."



In a German gun shop Ike looks over scope of a four-barrel rifle and shotgun while General Bradley kibitzes. With his son (facing page) Ike studies 1812 shako in collection at Culzean Castle where he stays when hunting in Scotland.



Inspecting 27th Infantry in England, Ike makes like Victor McLaughlin with Browning LMG firing from hip.

Last November he went hunting in Cedar Point, Ohio, and downed the legal duck limit in half an hour of fast and furious shooting. A year ago he shot over Humphrey's farm and bagged the limit of ten quail in three hours. This past season on the Georgia farm Ike did some shooting but his luck was against him. Duties in Washington prevented him from arriving at the farm until late in the day. He changed into hunting clothes, took his Remington 20-gauge Sportsman '48 which was given to him by a close friend, and went out with Humphrey and the dogs.

He had 15 minutes of daylight in which to hunt: the dogs flushed four quail shortly after 5:30 p.m. and both Ike and Humphrey got two. By then it was drawing on to 6 p.m., too dark to hunt. The next two days were bad weather, and tramping in the rain gave Ike a cold.

For quail, Ike likes 20-gauge guns, of which he has several in various styles, barrel lengths, and makes. He uses standard loads, with No. 7½ or No. 8 shot.

Two guns in his battery are foreign doubles. One is a .410 over/under and the other is a side-by-side double in 20 gauge. The light "20" is his favorite gun. On one side of the action is engraved a turkey scene, while on the other is his name and five stars. The 20 has two sets of barrels. One set is long, 28", both full choked. He seldom uses these; the other, shorter set is usually fitted when Ike is afield. The





Model 94 rifle No. 2,000,000 was given to Eisenhower by Winchester's John Olin.

26" skeet barrels are bored cylinder (right) and modified (left). The .410 is bored the same, except the open bore is, of course, the bottom, close-in barrel.

Ike has liked hunting for years. Before the war, as far back as his duty in the Philippines, Ike never had too much time to hunt. Years before, hunting with his brother, Earl, who now is associated with a newspaper in La Grange, Illinois, Ike used a plain Winchester 16-gauge Model 12 pump. More recently, when on a tour of Korea in 1952, Eisenhower found time for trying his hand at trap shooting. Instead of flying home, he returned aboard the cruiser *Helena*, and amused himself shooting clay birds from the deck. His gun: a Winchester field grade Model 12 in 12 gauge with the barrel sawed off and a Poly-Choke fitted.

Because of his status as general, university president, and President of the United States, Eisenhower has received gift guns from many people for his personal collection. He often uses a fine Model 21 Winchester chastely inlaid in gold with the figures of flying ducks and geese, and his five general's stars on the action bottom. His initials in gold on the trigger guard contrast with the deep blue finish. A double 20, this handsome gun was presented to him by Winchester and is sometimes used by him when he hunts grouse in Scotland.

On his 63rd birthday, the President was given a finely stocked Model 94 Winchester deer rifle, serial No. 2,000,000. Inlaid in gold with the sentiment of presentation and the U.S. coat of arms, this gun was a gift to Ike from his friend John Olin, board chairman of Olin-Mathieson Chemical Corp., which owns Winchester. In December of 1952, High Sheriff A. W. Jennison of Cheshire County, N.H., gave Ike a nickel-plated, rosewood-gripped Smith & Wesson .38 "Chiefs Special" with two-inch barrel. Handsomely encased in a leather box with gold tooling and his name in gold on the lid, this revolver is supposed to be used by Ike to back up his "authority" if he is ever called upon for "posse service." Ike is an honorary deputy sheriff, member of the National Association of Police Chiefs and Sheriffs.

Ike has had time to shoot only a few of the many guns given to him.

Certainly the largest accession to his "gun collection" occurred when the people of Scotland in 1946 gave General Eisenhower, as a token of their appreciation for his war service, lifetime possession of a furnished apartment in ivy-covered Culzean Castle, on the Ayrshire coast near Edinburgh. Here in the castle armory are hundreds upon hundreds of flintlock dragoon pistols and Brown Bess muskets issued to the castle troops during the Napoleonic wars.

Such weapons having gone out of fashion, the guns are now displayed in a sort of library-museum, along with small castle cannon and blunderbusses. The cannon were formerly placed inside the building, and defended stair-

ways against attackers who might have breached the walls. The blunderbusses stayed under the seat of the coaches unless some highwayman tried to halt the horses; then the murderous spray of small shot was viciously effective at short range. Cannon decoratively placed about the parapets, once defended in earnest, complete the scene. Actually, Ike spends more time, gun-wise, out on the moors with a shotgun, than in the gunroom at the castle.

When the war came, Ike's hunting necessarily suffered, except for one encounter in which he faced what is unquestionably one of the most dangerous animals alive. It is the only animal of all on the earth which will voluntarily and without cause attack a man: the common rat!

The famous rat hunt happened in Caserta, Italy, late in 1943, when Ike's scotty dog Telek found a rat in the bathroom. Amid excited yelps from the dog, Ike put on his glasses, unlimbered his (Continued on page 64)

Showing the famous Eisenhower grin, Ike examines S & W "Chiefs Special" given him by Sheriffs Association.



HUNTING CLAY BIRDS

BIG STORE'S GUNNING RANGE NEAR CHICAGO GIVES SHOOTERS A CHANCE TO PREVIEW THEIR HUNTS WITH SIMULATED WATERFOWL ON WING

By HARVEY BRANDT

AS OBVIOUS as one plus one equals two is the much-abused maxim that practice makes perfect. But cliché or not, that rule cannot be forgotten by shooters—especially shotgunners, who get out into the field perhaps once a year for hunting.

While pistol and rifle shooters put in hours of dry firing to become expert on targets, the shotgunning hunter is at a disadvantage. While a pistol can be dry fired conveniently at home, the only way to practice shotgunning is to shoot. The shotgunner, who puts all his eggs—cash money and hopes, that is—into a once-a-year season afield, finds it virtually impossible to practice for his hunt, except while hunting. Many a novice hunter has been soured on the game, and turned to golf or some other sport, because he missed his chance with a gun. When he finally flushed quail from a thicket, or saw the ducks coming in low in the grey dawn, he got a case of buck fever because nothing had prepared him for this kind of shooting.

What scattergunner wouldn't give his eyeteeth for a chance to preview his hunt?

Up till a few years ago, there was no place in the country where a shotgunner could conveniently practice under the conditions he might meet afield. Skeet and trap were popular as sports in themselves, but nothing simulated hunting. But north of Chicago, a group of hunting and shooting enthusiasts set up a junior paradise for shotgunners, which affords shots at clay birds which closely imitate anything found in upland or waterfowl hunting.

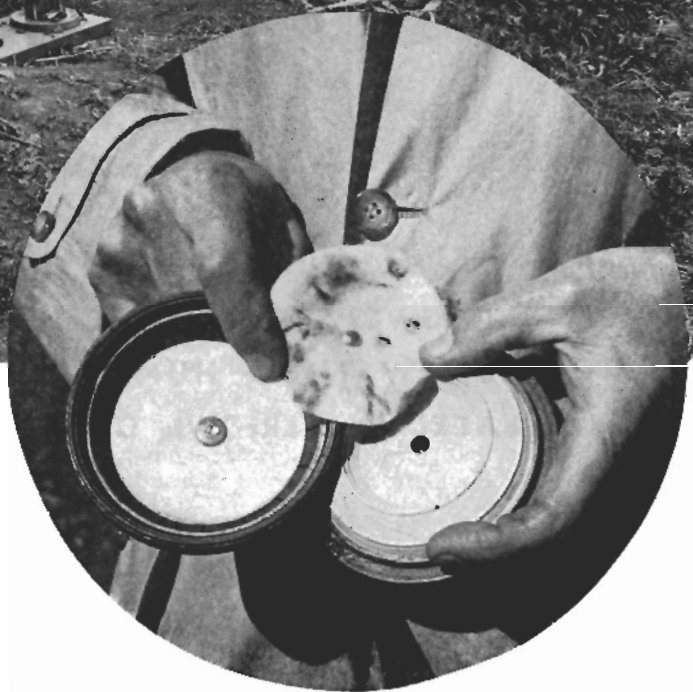
At Fieldale Farm, 30 miles northwest of Chicago on

Fieldale's two 40-foot duck towers throw clays like ducks fly. Gunners hidden in "blinds" bang away.





Setting up quail walk traps, attendant checks springs, sees that clays are not chipped, insuring fair throw of clay bird imitating a quail. Circle (right) shows double clays with cloth patch simulating live pigeon shooting. Pouter pigeon ring is too tough for most gunners so game has been discontinued.



Electrical remote control permits instructor or referee to select which birds to throw, giving the practicing hunter surprise of real venture after live birds out in field.



Route 72 near Golf Road, Marshall Field and Co. operates the world's most unusual gunning range. It is for all kinds of shooters, inexperienced and master champions, and it is open to the public all year round, except Mondays. A farm has in part been turned over to gunning. Eight skeet and trap ranges and five special hunting simulation ranges afford a field day for anyone visiting Fieldale.

This whole scheme started in the mind of a man who wanted to have his cake and eat it too. He was Charles P. Hunter, the former manager of the sporting goods section of Field's. By 1940 Hunter had pretty well laid out plans for a deluxe shotgunning ranch, a place where anybody could come and shoot at a moderate cost. But the war intervened and it was not till 1946 that things got going again.

Hunter presented his idea as a way to sell more guns and ammo, but I know another reason he was so set on the idea, and tried so hard to sell the managers of Field's. The man just simply liked to shoot and the same goes for all of the crew in the gun shop at Field's. If ever there was a bunch of gunning enthusiasts, they are it. From Les Tracy, gun buyer, on through his eight or ten salesmen—you never can count them all, for one or two will always be absent out at Fieldale—they eat, sleep and talk guns.

I accepted Tracy's invitation to take a run out to Fieldale and see what they were all so proud of. The drive of



While driveways go to Fieldale's widely separated shooting fields, traffic during the autumn "practice" season before hunting begins is pretty heavy, so the hay ride is preferred to carry groups of shooters around to different ranges.

about an hour showed me one of the advantages of the spot—it was not so far out that a morning or an afternoon wouldn't be plenty of time for the jaunt, but it was a pleasant ride out into the country. When we finally turned in at the winding gravel road, all I saw at first was a well-kept farm, with large cream-colored barns and Pennsylvania Dutch hex symbols painted on sides for novelty.

But as we came over the hill and drove down to the parking lot between the gun repair shop and the gun store (formerly the carriage shed and stables respectively), I caught a glimpse of why Fieldale is one of the most unusual

shooting grounds in the world. Landscape artists and bulldozers have created a shotgunners paradise out of an Illinois farm. Stretching for a quarter mile are the skeet and trap ranges, while grouped about behind them are the other layouts. Fieldale is completely public; there is no club to belong to, and no dues or fees. Shells and 25 clay birds for skeet or trap cost \$3.25—just about retail price. You may borrow a gun at the "club house," until you bring your own, or buy one there. The other hunting ranges all cost an even \$4, which includes the necessary traps and a box of 25 shells. *(Continued on page 65)*

Teaching beginners how to shoot is one aim at Fieldale where many young people find the cordial and competent instructors help them over the difficult problems of learning shotgunning and turn them into good field hunters.

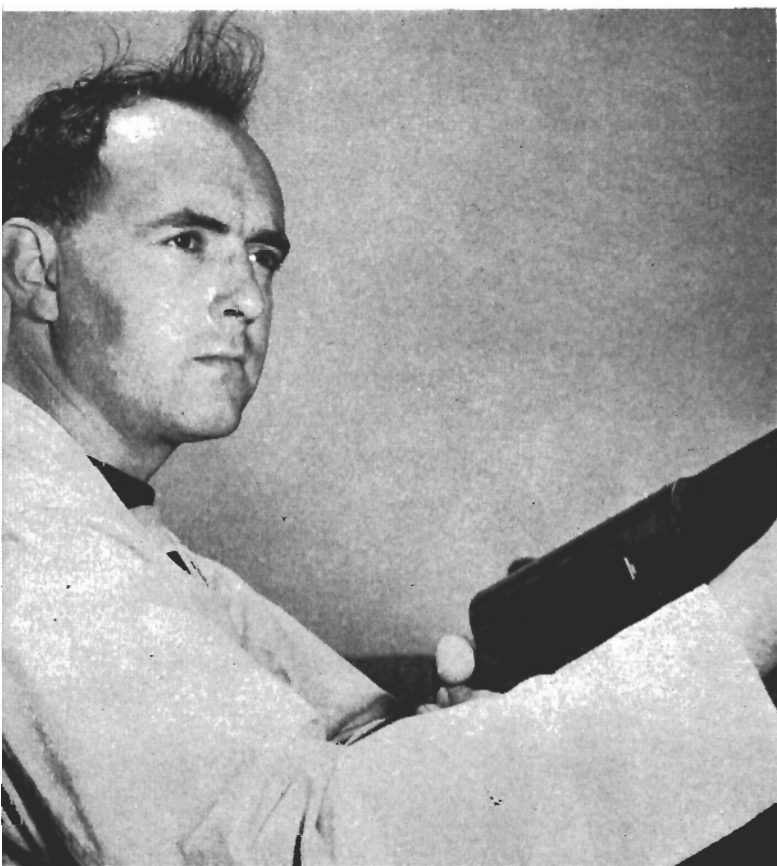




Waiting alertly for gunner's call of "pull," two trap handlers typify growing sport of trap shooting for hunters.

HOW SKEET SHOOTING CAN

Former Air Corps gunnery instructor Dick Shaughnessy has found skeet helps his hunting out in the field.



SKEET CHAMPION DICK SHAUGHNESSY SHOWS HOW LEADING AND SWINGING CORRECTLY CAN BE LEARNED BY LONG PRACTICE SHOOTING CLAY PIGEONS

By TAP GOODENOUGH

THE AUTUMN AFTERNOON was bright the day Dick made his first foray afield in quest of pheasants and quail. Of course, it wasn't the first time he had a shotgun in his hands, for "Dick" is Dick Shaughnessy of Dedham, Mass., famed skeet shooter and former national skeet champion. But accompanied by three seasoned hunters, it was the first time in his life that Dick had ever been out after live game. Once an Air Force gunnery instructor, Dick had fired shotguns since he was old enough to stand, yet his targets had always been clay pigeons. No game, birds or ducks had ever crossed his sights; he was too busy perfecting his uncanny skill with a scattergun.

When Dick decided to go hunting, his shooting partners were frankly skeptical of his chances afield. Unfamiliar with skeet or trapshooting, though themselves



Recalling doubles right and left on the skeet range, two hunters spring into action as the ducks come in over lake.

IMPROVE YOUR HUNTING

experienced field gunners, one voiced the almost universal opinion of the practical shot about the skeet-sport shooter: "We realize you're a champ at busting clays, but you will find that real birds are quite different and difficult targets." Secretly, they all expected him to flub his shots.

In a short while, Dick's setter flushed the first ring-neck. Boom! He downed the fast-flying bird with one well-placed shot. And so it went. At the end of the day, Deadeye Dick hadn't missed a bird. The hunters, who had several misses, were amazed.

So Shaughnessy took these friends—at their own requests—to skeet and trap fields, giving them lessons for two weeks. He showed them how the principles of the art could be applied on birds and game. He taught them how to lead and swing properly on their targets. As a result, the trio bagged more game on future jaunts. The lessons they learned will work for you, too.

If you hunt, but have never tried skeet or trap shooting, listen to Dick's advice, then practice what he preaches. Do this, and you'll waste fewer shells this season.

"I've found that many misses when hunting are caused by buck fever," states Dick. "Gunners become nervous and jumpy, either firing too slowly or hurrying their shots. This is the same as flinching at a target. In other cases, hunters freeze upon seeing their game, becoming unable to even pull the triggers! Experience at skeet or trap can curb buck fever. In watching for flying clay

Handsome cock pheasant has fallen to field gunner who learned to hit skeet thrown from low house at his elbow.



pigeons, the marksman is alert; he doesn't freeze his controls—the eyes and body muscles.”

Shaughnessy believes that the beginner is under a great handicap at the start, since he doesn't understand his weapon, and he isn't calm enough, both of which attributes can be developed on the target fields.

“There are those who will say that the startling ‘whirr’ of a rising covey of quail, or the sudden appearance of a huge buck in the woods, will make any hunter quake upon occasions,” he continues. “I disagree! If the individual had shot trap, he wouldn't be taken by surprise because this element is one which the experienced trap-shooter learns to overcome. The experienced skeet or trap-shooter will not fire at every rustle in the brush. He has learned to wait until his quarry is lined up in his sights.”

Dick admits that an actual bird in flight often seems to be going faster than a clay, causing the hunter to

think he must hurry his shot. Although time is precious, the gunner must place himself in the right position in relation to the bird, remembering to choose one bird if several have been flushed. He should then mount his gun adroitly, pressing his cheek to the stock and swing along the arc between the gun muzzle and the actual target, firing when the bird is passed by the muzzle, exactly as in skeet shooting.

Correct gunning form helps to increase the bag, too, so keep your head down when shooting, says Dick. In your practice on clay targets, you should have learned to bring your gun to your shoulder while still following the clay, and to continue to do this with the sighting plane of your gun. This technique is a certain recipe for success in the woods and fields.

“The chief fault of most gunners,” says Shaughnessy, “is their inability to estimate the range correctly. You



Limbering up on skeet today is tomorrow's happy upland hunter.

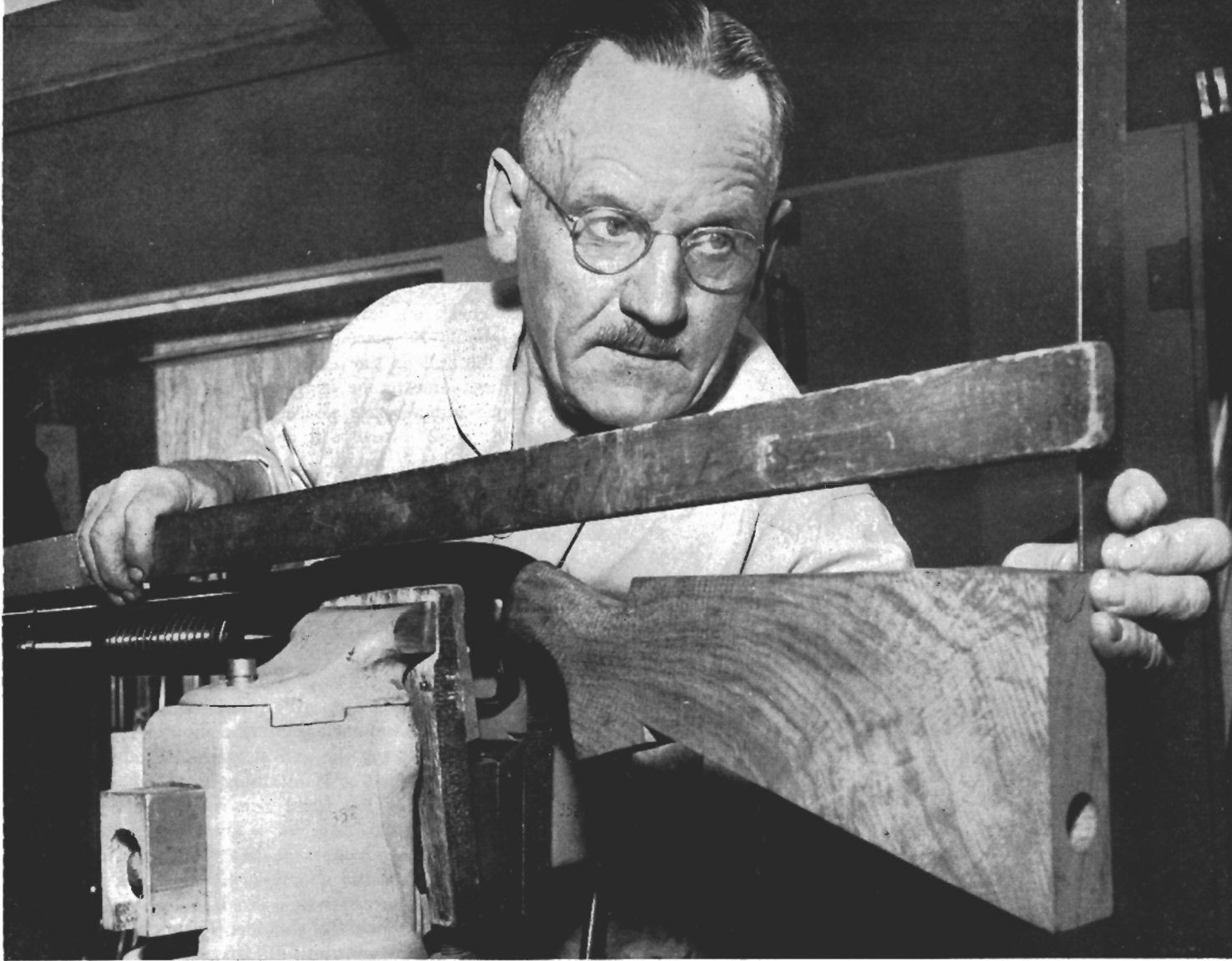
must be very patient. If you get on your target soon enough, there is ample time to go through the entire sequence of gun pointing. Another fault is to become over-anxious, banging away like mad at flights that are plainly out of range. In this manner, you will miss too many shots, as well as spoil the sport for nearby gunners by scaring away the ducks. Practice on clay birds will help to prevent these faults.”

If you haven't shot trap or skeet, many of your misses are due to the fact that your “leads” are not right. In other words, suppose you and a friend are tossing a foot-ball back and forth. When your pal runs at a right angle to you, you throw the ball ahead of him, for you are leading him into the ball. It is thrown in this manner because time elapses after the ball leaves the thrower, finding the receiver in a different position.

So, while a charge of shot travels much faster than a ball, the factor of elapsed time is still there. The clay—or real bird—is moving as the shot goes from the gun barrel; therefore, a lead must be employed, varying as the angle of the target or bird changes in relation to the gunner.

Falling and rising clays or ducks must also be “led.” The exact amount of this “lead” will depend on your estimate of the point where the target will be when the shot charge reaches it. This amount can be determined chiefly by experience or the trial-and-error method. An observer standing directly be-

(Continued on page 42)



With the calm eyes and sure hands that indicate years of careful skill, master gun stock maker Henry Voigt checks drop at heel of a new stock before shaping the blank and finishing to customer's wishes and his personal dimensions.

MAKING YOUR SHOTGUN FIT YOU

BECAUSE AVERAGE SHOOTER IS NOT STANDARD SIZE, SHOTGUN STOCKS SHOULD BE SHAPED FOR ACCURACY, SPEED AND TO REDUCE RECOIL BY PROPER FIT

By HOWARD M. SALISBURY

JUST AS there is no average size suit or average size shoe to fit any man, there is no average size shotgun stock to fit an average hunter. Unfortunately for every "average" there are a half-dozen who are not average and that means a lot of shooters have an arm reach, hand and finger length, neck and eye height that do not fit the standard factory-made stock that is 14 inches long with a drop at comb of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches and at heel from $2\frac{3}{8}$ to $2\frac{5}{8}$ inches.

And yet correct stock fit is vital to good gun handling

in at least three important ways. The right stock encourages accuracy, speeds up gun handling and minimizes kick. Certainly accuracy and speed are closely related in fast-moving shotgun shooting. The gun must be shouldered and accurately pointed in the shortest possible time. It is imperative that as soon as the gun is shouldered, the eye be in line with the sighting plane. All of these factors are controlled by correct fitting, by making the stock fit the shooter just as well as his shoes do.

Wearing the wrong size shoes can result in some strange



Try-gun with swivel breech and stock completely adjustable can be fitted to new-gun customer in shop or field.

walking habits and likewise using a wrong fit of shotgun stock makes for some strange shooting. Certainly non-standard shooters have trouble using standard stocks. Either they shoulder the gun wrong or adopt the wrong stance to fit themselves to the stock. To correct the situation is not simply a matter of adding to or reducing the length of the stock, as some people do with extra butt-pads. There are other important design features to consider.

To check on correct fitting of stock length, the gun butt should be placed along the inside of the forearm. With the butt on the inside elbow joint, the trigger finger will just come to the trigger, if the length is correct.

Some gunners use sleeve length as a guide for stock length: a 32" sleeve will need a stock of approximately $13\frac{1}{2}$ " to $13\frac{3}{4}$ " length. For each inch of sleeve length, add about $\frac{3}{8}$ " to stock length. Trap gun stock length will vary also by about $\frac{3}{8}$ ", starting with a 14" stock for 32" sleeves.

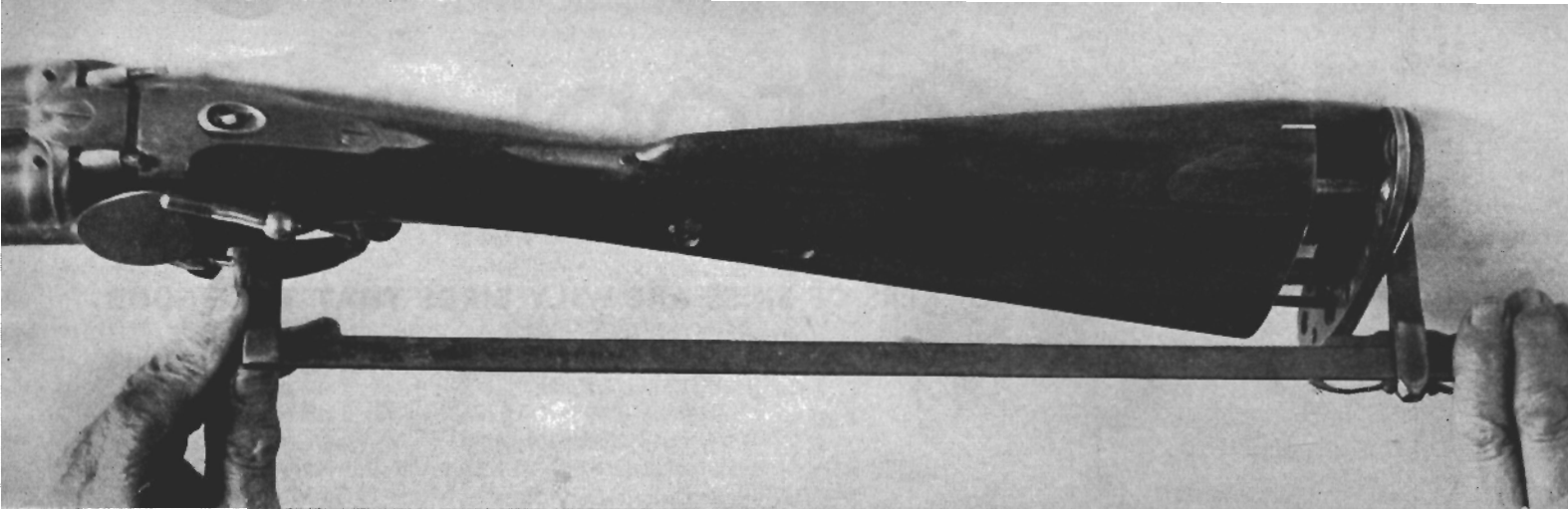
Both these methods demand some leeway—physical proportion and clothing thickness will affect stock length. Gunners wearing heavy winter clothing will need stocks a little shorter than those wearing light clothing in another season.

The method of measuring field gun length that I have found most satisfactory over many years of stock fitting begins with the gunner assuming a shooting stance, shouldering and pointing the gun at approximately 10 degrees above a level plane. Maintaining this stance and holding the extended left hand (or right, if the shooter is left-handed) in position, lower the stock with the right hand until it no longer touches the shoulder. After a pause, the right hand should bring the stock up smartly until the comb meets the cheek. If of proper length, the stock will not touch the shoulder during this last movement but will just clear it until pressed back to the shoulder by the right hand.

Always remember that this slight rear movement should be made by pressure on the grip and never by the extended hand at the forearm. Test this when the gun is mounted by relaxing the hold on the grip; the stock should fall free of the shoulder. In fact, there should

After regulating try-gun to customer's needs, dimensions are measured by the stockmaker for shaping the new stock.





After regulating try-gun to customer's needs, dimensions are measured by the stockmaker for shaping the new stock.

be a slight tension exercised by the forward hand, countered by the right hand when placing the stock to rest on the shoulder.

Many gunners fail to do this and bring the gun back to rest with pressure from both hands, believing that the firmer the gun is pressed the less it will kick. This is wrong. Sure, the gun must be firmly pressed against the shoulder but the tension of the extended arm should take up some of the recoil.

In this method of measuring the stock length, the left hand must be used as a fulcrum and remain as nearly stationary as possible while the stock is being raised. If the stock being tried is too long, the left hand will move back a little. This is a natural reaction as there will be a tendency to correct an abnormally long reach. This is especially true with a beginner.

An experienced shooter will have little difficulty in extending the left hand to its proper distance and height without first sighting along the barrel. There remains only the trial of lifting the stock to the shoulder and ascertaining whether it is of proper length.

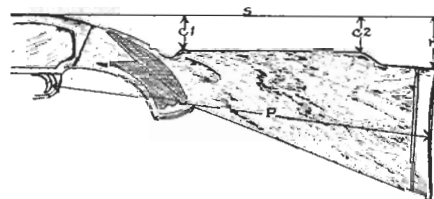
The height and design of the stock comb is of great importance. The comb regulates the position of the eye when

aiming—it is the “rear sight” of the shotgun. It should be of the proper height and thickness to hold the eye in the same position each time the gun is shouldered.

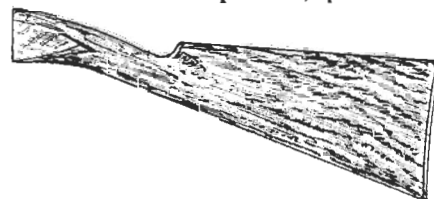
The correct comb height or “drop” will vary with the individual in fitting. To check drop, mount the gun rapidly with the butt of the gun in its correct position on the shoulder, and then sight along the barrel or rib. If the drop is right, the center of the eye will be slightly above the sighting plane or rib. If there is too much drop, the barrel or rib will not be seen at all, being blocked out by the contour of the frame or receiver. If there is too little drop, you will get a distinct feeling of looking down upon sharply inclining barrels.

The correct drop will permit you a very limited but full view of the entire length of the barrel or rib. This means that the line of sight is not level with the rib but slightly above it.

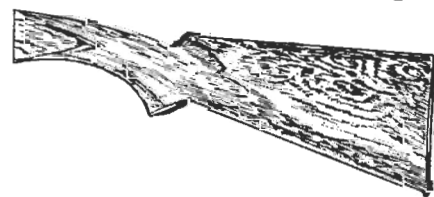
One of the best ways to find the proper height at which the eyes should see over the barrel is to lay a 25-cent coin on the rib about 20 inches back from the muzzle. The right drop will allow the shooter to sight over the coin and see just the top of the barrel or rib at the (Continued on page 40)



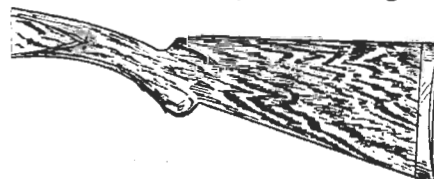
Monte Carlo comb is measured at C1 and C2. heel drop is H, pull is P.



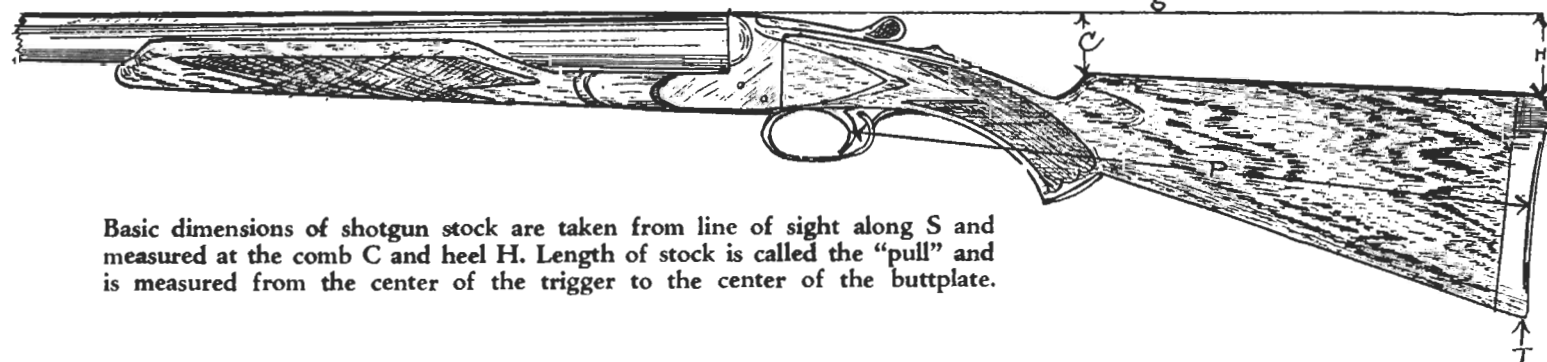
Straight grip is usually found on old two-trigger double-barreled shotgun.



Pistol grip stock is the most popular American stock style on shotguns.



Half-pistol grip is often found on European shotguns such as Browning.



Basic dimensions of shotgun stock are taken from line of sight along S and measured at the comb C and heel H. Length of stock is called the “pull” and is measured from the center of the trigger to the center of the buttplate.

HOW TO FOOL GEESE

REGAL HONKERS OF SKIES ARE WILY BIRDS THAT TAKE GOOD
DECOY SPREADS AS WELL AS SKILL AND PATIENCE TO HUNT

By WAYNE WILSON

Sky full of snow and blue
geese is hunter's dream,
bound to result is good bag.



THERE IS nothing more blood-tingling than the cry of the wild goose when the flock is winging in over *your* decoy spread! The shrill *her-r-r-onk* of the Canadas thrills any hunter, young or old.

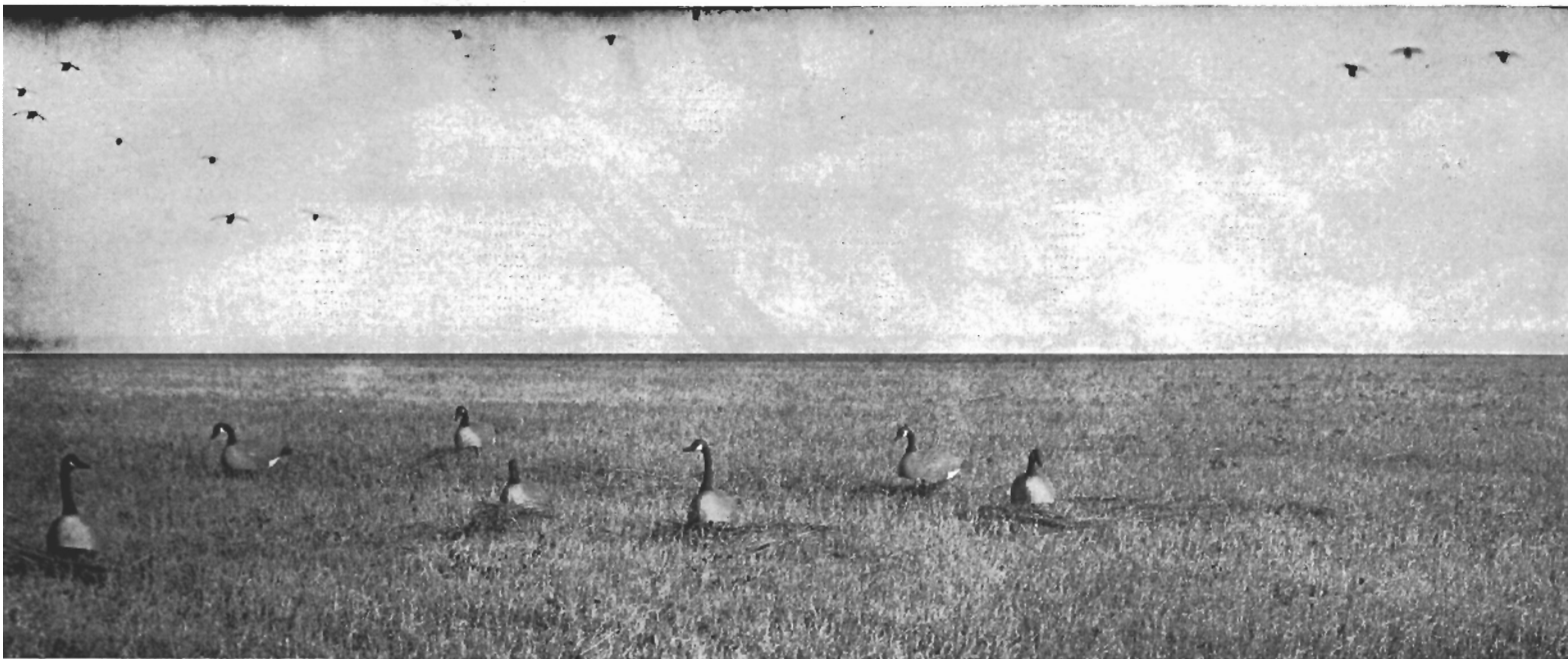
Luring wild geese to your decoys is not a matter of luck alone anymore than shooting is just pointing at the sky. These big birds are usually pretty smart, and the shooter may have to watch a flock for one or two days to determine just where they are feeding.

One fall, a farmer tipped me off that geese had been feeding in his field for several days. The next morning I drove out and parked my car about a mile from the field and watched the flock come in to feed. Through my binoculars, I could determine the exact spot in the field where the flock was feeding. That same afternoon I watched the flock come again and alight in the same place. The birds had found a good field, and no hunters had spooked them out as yet.

On the following morning, some fellow hunters returned to the field with me. We set up our decoys and kicked out shallow pits with our boots, then pulled grass and stubble



Propping up dead goose with forked twig among store-bought decoys will add realism and attract flying geese.



over us to conceal our hideaway. About 8 o'clock, a vee of geese headed for our field. I eased my goose call to my lips and blew a casual invitation. The call seemed to help draw them. They circled the field like huge bombers and came back over our decoys. We shot our limit that morning of fat Canadas, weighing eight to ten pounds apiece.

Another fall, while returning from an afternoon pheasant hunt, I watched a flock of snow geese alight in a field to feed. Unfortunately, I did not have my binoculars with me to watch the exact spot they were in. Figuring that I knew the field well enough, I did not bother to go back and glass the flock. A friend returned with me next morning and we set up our decoys where I thought the flock had fed the previous afternoon. Again we kicked out a shallow pit, hiding under a blind of grass and weeds. A half hour later, the flock of snows soon came into sight. Our hearts pounded as we waited for them to wing in. However, something had gone wrong.

The leader pulled his vee in a wide circle around us and all but three birds from the flock glided in to land about a city block away. The three (Continued on page 56)

Geese come in flying low to land among "feeding" decoys, a perfect set-up for producing perfect results (below).



THE BOOTMAKER'S RIFLE



Over-under rifle made by Penn Yan gunsmiths Gilbert & Bales was rough service tool of northern Pennsylvania bootmaker in the early 1850's.

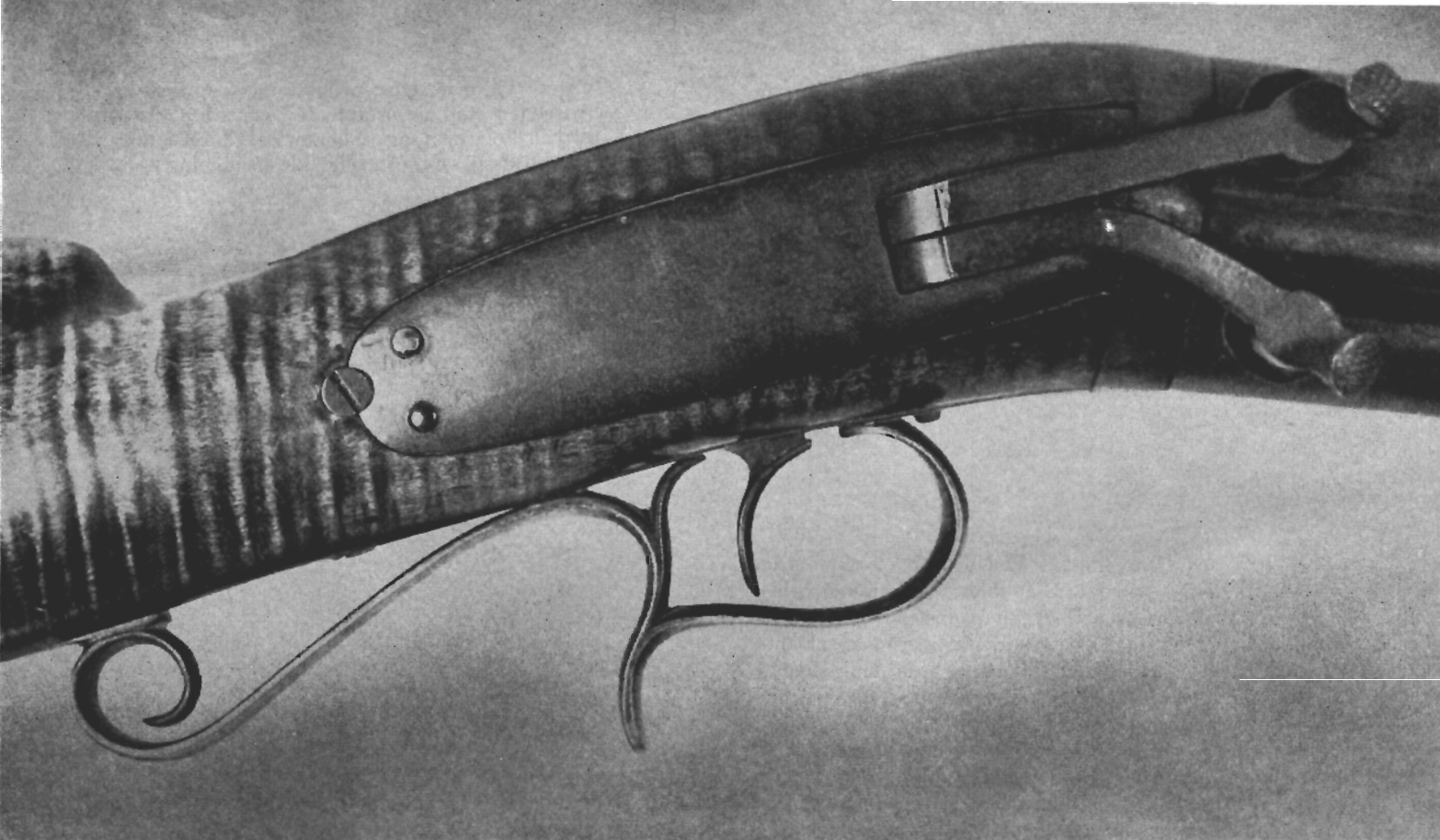
**COMBINATION WEAPON USED AS RIFLE
OR SHOTGUN BY COBBLER IS STILL IN
PERFECT CONDITION A CENTURY LATER**

By PAUL A. MATTHEWS

TERRYTOWN, Pennsylvania, was white from the first October frost one morning in 1854. As the early sun broke through the clouds ridging the Alleghenies, Shubal Bowman kicked his mare and trotted out of town. There was a three-day journey before him, but the trek would be worth the effort: his new rifle was waiting at the gunmaker's shop in Penn Yan.

Today, the trip would take perhaps two hours by train, maybe three by car. Shubal found it more difficult. Arriving in Penn Yan, he was soaked through, but as he dismounted and walked across the street he puckered his lips in a joyful whistle. He glanced upwards at the sign on the store that read "Gilbert and Bales, Gunsmiths," pushed the door open and went inside.

Drumming his thick fingers on the head of an oak powder



Double rifle made by "backwoods" American gunsmiths is perfectly plain in finish, but evidences an appreciation of symmetry in the finish of the trigger guard, and fitting of "mule ear" lockplate, which is of the finest quality of work.

keg, Shubal was just a bit irritated at the English gunmaker who ignored him until the last stroke on the rifling bench was finished. The other Englishman of the team was busily engaged fitting a brass patch box to a stock, but finally one finished and went to the customer.

Shubal nodded a good morning at the gunsmith. "I came for my gun."

"Your gun? But I don't remember you bringing—ah yes, I do know now. You're from down the river a piece. Did you bring the boots?"

"I brought the boots." Shubal swung a canvas roll onto the keg. "Now the gun."

Again the gunmaker ignored him. He rolled the fine leather boots over and over in his hands, twisting the soft tops and testing the soles, finally pulling them on his feet. He rocked his squatty frame back and forth on the plank floor a few times and then walked around in a circle to see how they fitted.

"Exactly what I asked for," he said.

"That's the only way we make boots."

"And that, sir, is the only way we build guns too, even if your idea is a bit addled," he added, peering over his spectacles.

"Nothing addled about it. I want one gun for all kinds of hunting; birds, deer, bear, and maybe a turkey shoot now and then."

The gunsmith smiled and went after the gun.

I don't know how long the Englishman wore his boots, but Shubal carried his combination gun for the rest of his life and passed it on down the family until now it is owned by another Shubal, his grandson. Shubal had the nearest approach to an "all-around" firearm for that day. Wherever he went, he carried a shotgun and a rifle bored properly

for any game throughout the state of Pennsylvania.

For accuracy, the 30" rifle barrel was on top, the sights close to the center of the bore. It was bored to take a .365" round ball (mould size), though across the tops of the lands it mikes a full .389". This would make one hundred balls to the pound or a little under. It is rifled with eight wide lands, very narrow and deep grooves with a twist of one turn in 60 inches, definitely a round ball gun.

The conventional open sights have been carefully adjusted and then marked with a chisel where they remained. In addition to the open sights, there is another wider dove-tail slot behind the front sight, and a hole in the tang for a disc peep. With the rear peep, and a higher post on the front, the rifle was undoubtedly capable of long range work, or possibly it was the fall turkey shoots Shubal had in mind.

For the smooth barrel, what some old-timers call "a smoothbore rifle," Shubal had a mould casting a ball .437 inches in diameter, although the bore is much larger, measuring .517 inches. When he ordered the double cavity mould, perhaps he was thinking of the knock-down power of the large ball used at close range in the laurel thickets on deer. Or possibly it was bear hunting he had in mind, for Terrytown was located in bear territory and at that time they were hunted with dogs. The final shooting would be at a very close range around the granite ledges of the local mountains. The larger ball would certainly prove more effective at ranges where it was a matter of just pointing the gun. If necessary, Shubal had the assurance that with his trigger arrangement, he could fire both barrels simultaneously. He had only to cock the preferred barrel or both of them at once, for they were controlled by the single trigger.

Target-style rear sight, probably a peep disk on a threaded staff adjustable for elevation, fitted in small hole on tang. Hammers put objectionable cap flash safely to one side protecting eyes.

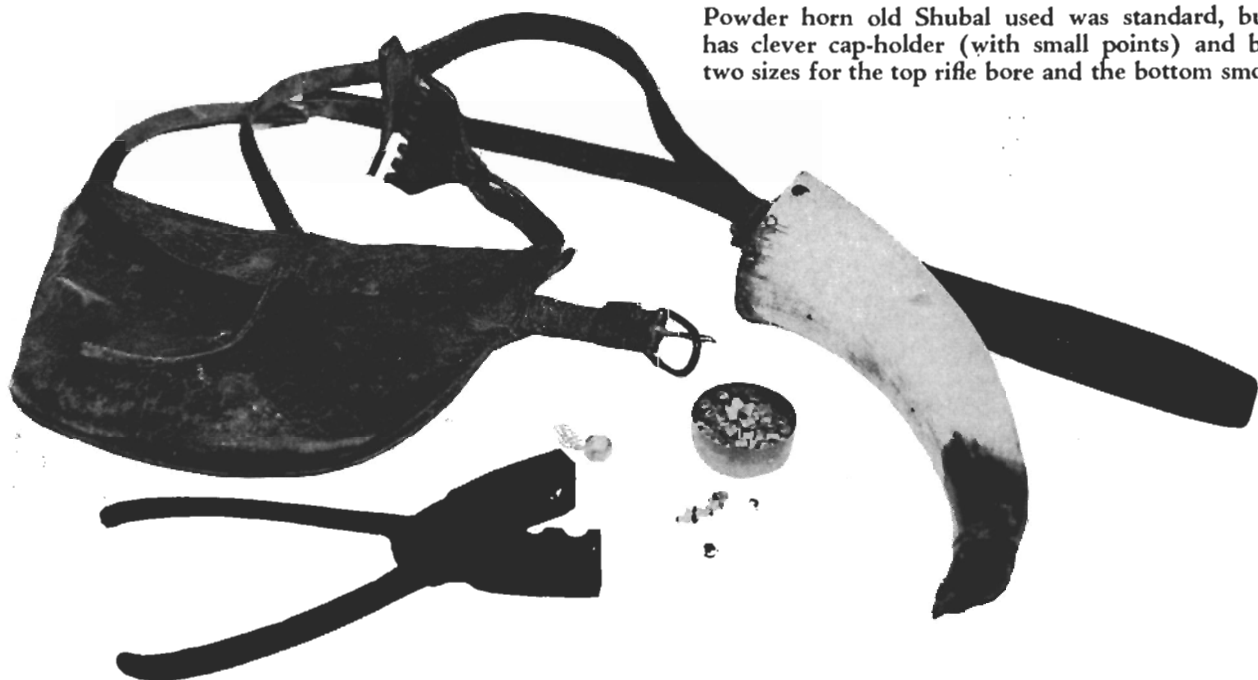
If Gilbert and Bales thought his idea of a combination gun was addled, I wonder what their reaction was when he ordered the "mule ear" hammers instead of the conventional hammers of that time. In this arrangement both hammers lie flat on the right side of the gun, both side by side fanning outward away from the pivot and looking like a pair of mule's ears.

They would prove handy when carrying through heavy brush and would give a clean sighting plane, but to me are far more awkward to cock than the regular hammers. Also they have more movement to them. On this particular gun, they have to fall a full inch and a half before striking the percussion cap and swing on a two-inch radius. This is hardly conducive to fine accuracy by present-day standards. However Shubal wanted first a practical weapon and second a target weapon. There is no safety or half cock notch. The gun was carried with the hammers at either full cock or resting on the caps.

The breech is one of the various types of patent breeches. That is, the breech plugs in the barrels are not integral with the upper tang, but are fitted into the breech proper and held there by the hook-shaped rifle barrel plug and a tapered pin running crosswise through the breech and the

smooth bore plug. This makes a solid arrangement, and to knock the gun down, all one has to do is drive out the pin. The lock plate is held in place by a small wood screw at the end of the plate and another hand-made bolt running through the stock from the left side. On the head of this bolt is stamped the letter "G," though whether it stands for Gilbert or not would be anybody's guess. It is the only marking on the gun other than the barrel inscription, "Gilbert and Bales Penn Yan, N. Y." and the serial number 1374 located underneath the smooth-bored barrel.

One look at the quality and workmanship on the tiger-stripped maple stock is enough to make any rifle lover enthusiastic. There is not a sus- (Continued on page 62)



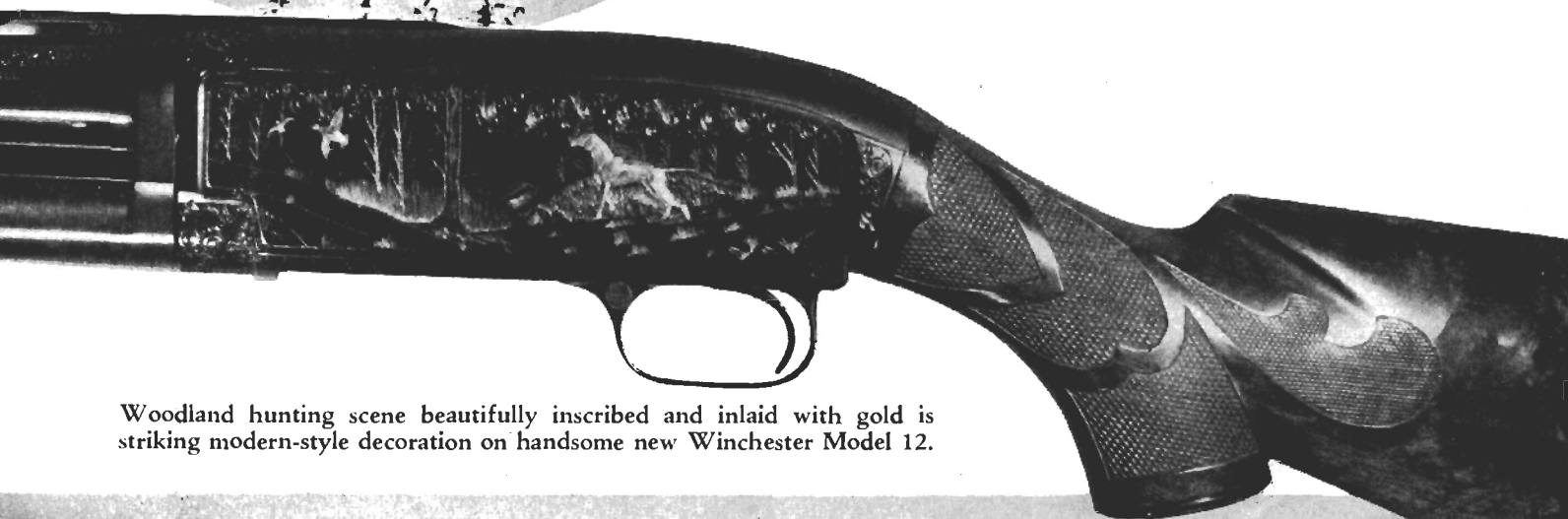
Powder horn old Shubal used was standard, but pouch has clever cap-holder (with small points) and bullets of two sizes for the top rifle bore and the bottom smooth one.



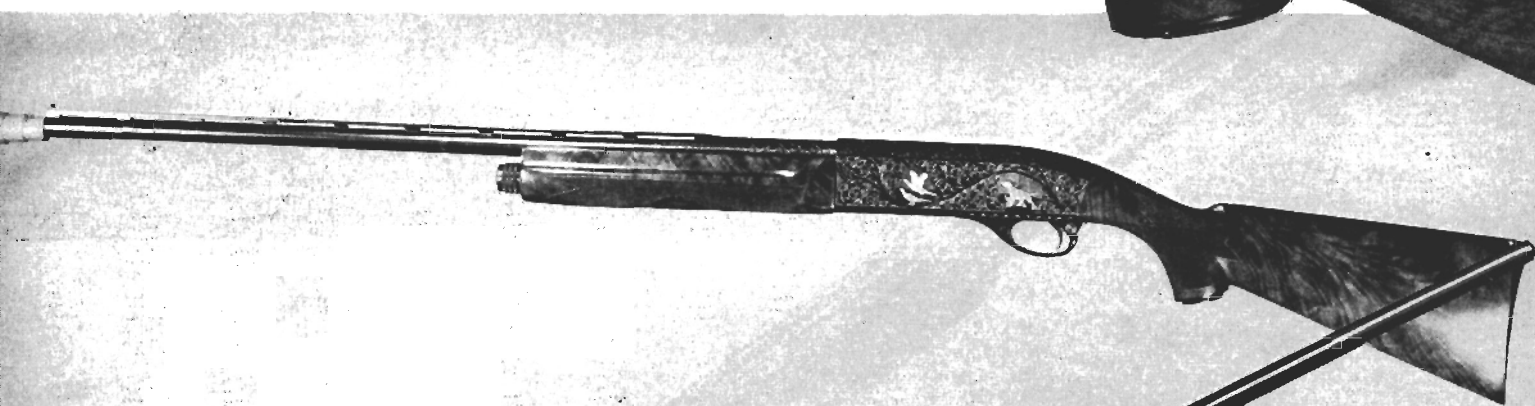
Rugged strength with elegance is expressed in magnificent Grade V Browning, an American design made in Belgium which sells for \$615.

THE SHOTGUN—from the farmer's club to the most elegant double twenty—is a thing apart from the mundane run of guns. The shotgun is something alive, with a lilt and grace which reminds the connoisseur of a beautiful woman with poise and perfection. Every gunmaking nation knows and respects this vitality of shotguns. While millions of plain shotguns are sold for hard use and abuse, each gunmaker treasures those moments when he can work on a fine shotgun, a creation of his soul, expressive of every beautiful feature of the gunsmith's art for a fine shotgun is the epitome of gunmaking. On these pages are some of the finest examples of the shotgun art in four leading gun-making countries.

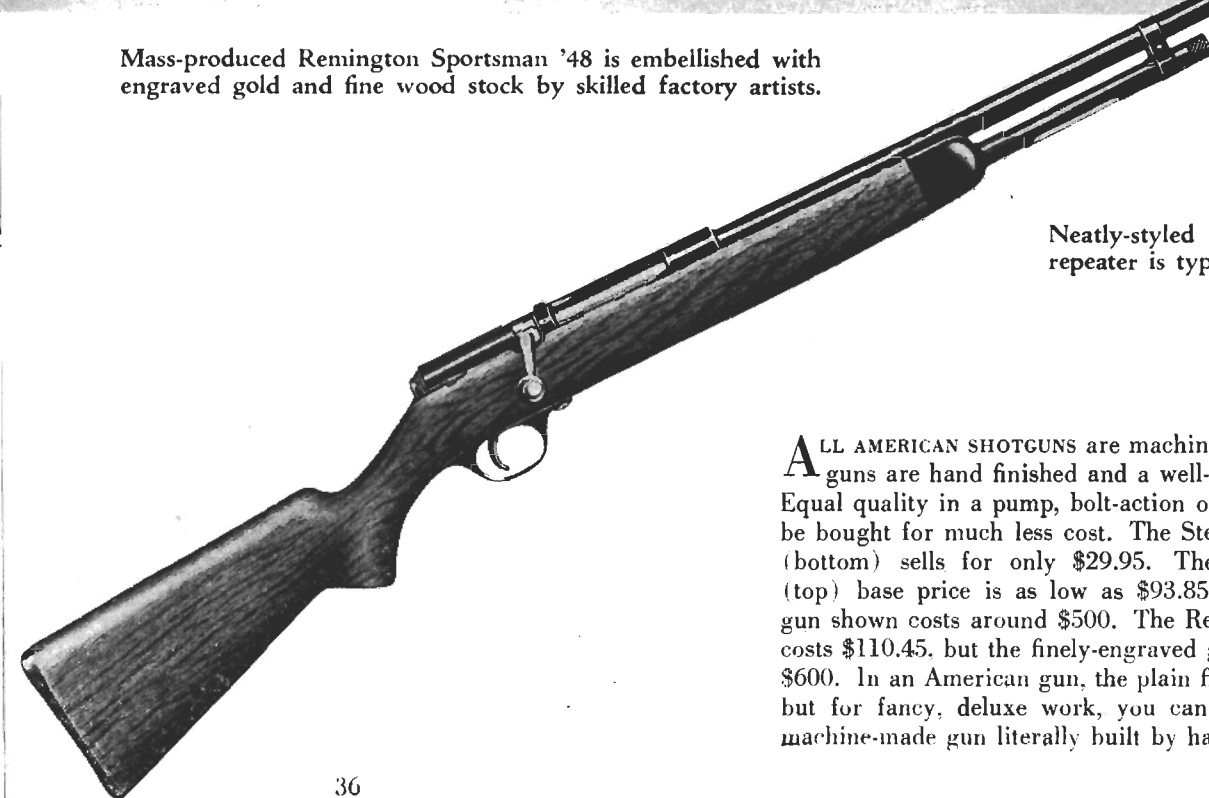
AMERICAN



Woodland hunting scene beautifully inscribed and inlaid with gold is striking modern-style decoration on handsome new Winchester Model 12.

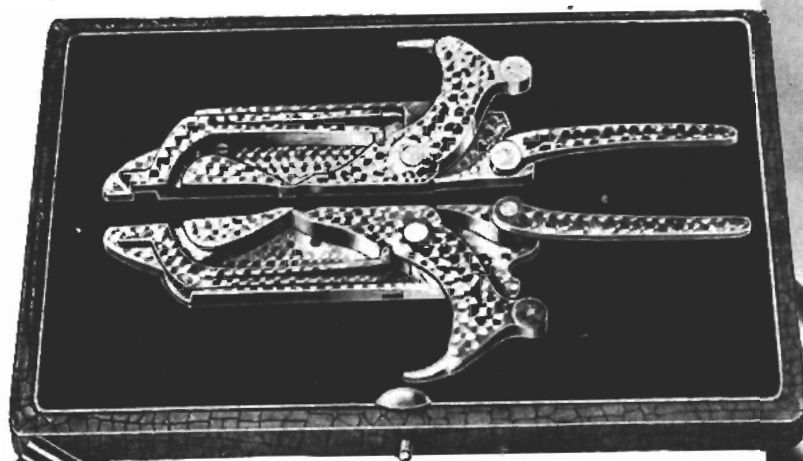


Mass-produced Remington Sportsman '48 is embellished with engraved gold and fine wood stock by skilled factory artists.



Neatly-styled Stevens Model 59 bolt repeater is typical of low-priced guns.

ALL AMERICAN SHOTGUNS are machine-made guns, but double guns are hand finished and a well-made one is very costly. Equal quality in a pump, bolt-action or automatic shotgun can be bought for much less cost. The Stevens Model 59 bolt gun (bottom) sells for only \$29.95. The Winchester Model 12 (top) base price is as low as \$93.85, but the engraved trap gun shown costs around \$500. The Remington 11-'48 A grade costs \$110.45, but the finely-engraved gun shown sells for over \$600. In an American gun, the plain finish will be serviceable, but for fancy, deluxe work, you can have your choice of a machine-made gun literally built by hand.



Westley Richards detachable locks are carried as spares, remove through action bottom.



Holland & Holland sidelock guns of O/U pattern and Royal quality double side-by-side have distinctive "English" styling, are acknowledged gun leaders.

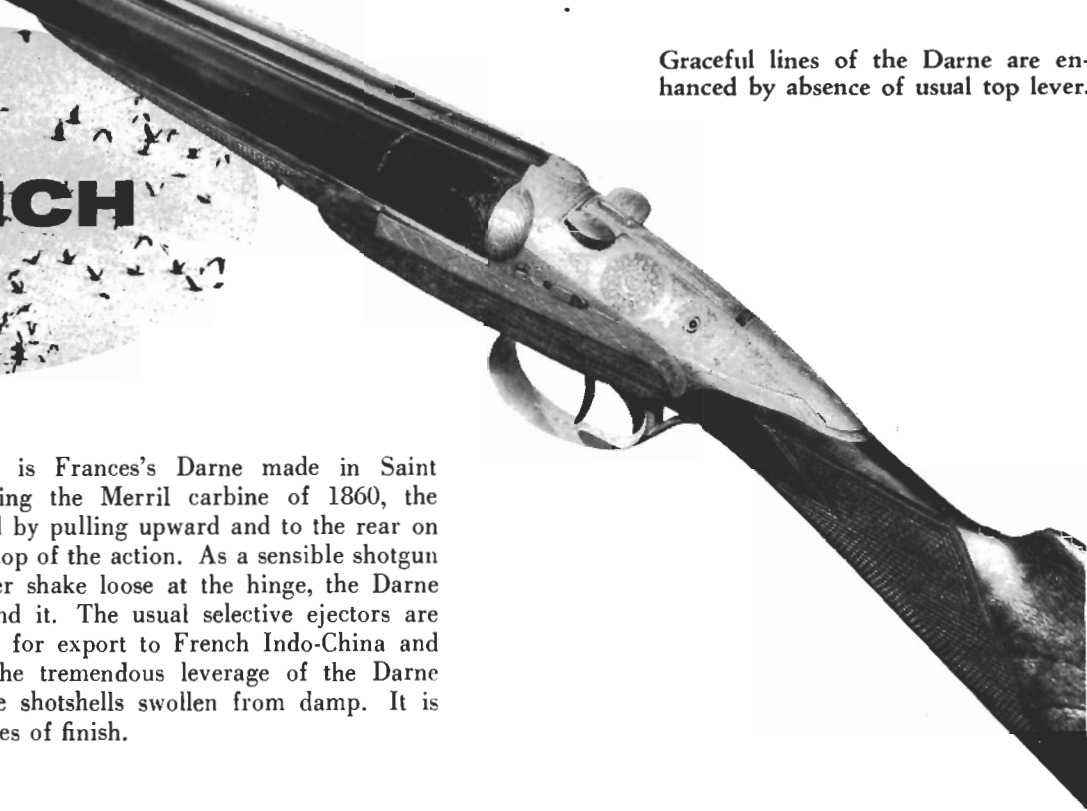
FROM THE DAYS of John Manton, the fine English gun has been renowned the world over as among the best made. A few famous makers share the honors of this proud boast: Holland & Holland, gunmakers since 1834; Westley Richards, gunmakers for three Georges; Boss & Co., whose unvarying adherence to one quality of gun only has kept their reputation for perfection; Greener, John Rigby, Hellis, Joseph Lang, W & J Jeffrey's of Golden Square—all these are the names of the best in English guns. Sound design underlies the fine engraving of these arms. In case of breakage far from a gunsmith, the two Holland locks may be quickly removed by twisting the side lever, and Westley Richards' fit in through the bottom.

ENGLISH




FRENCH

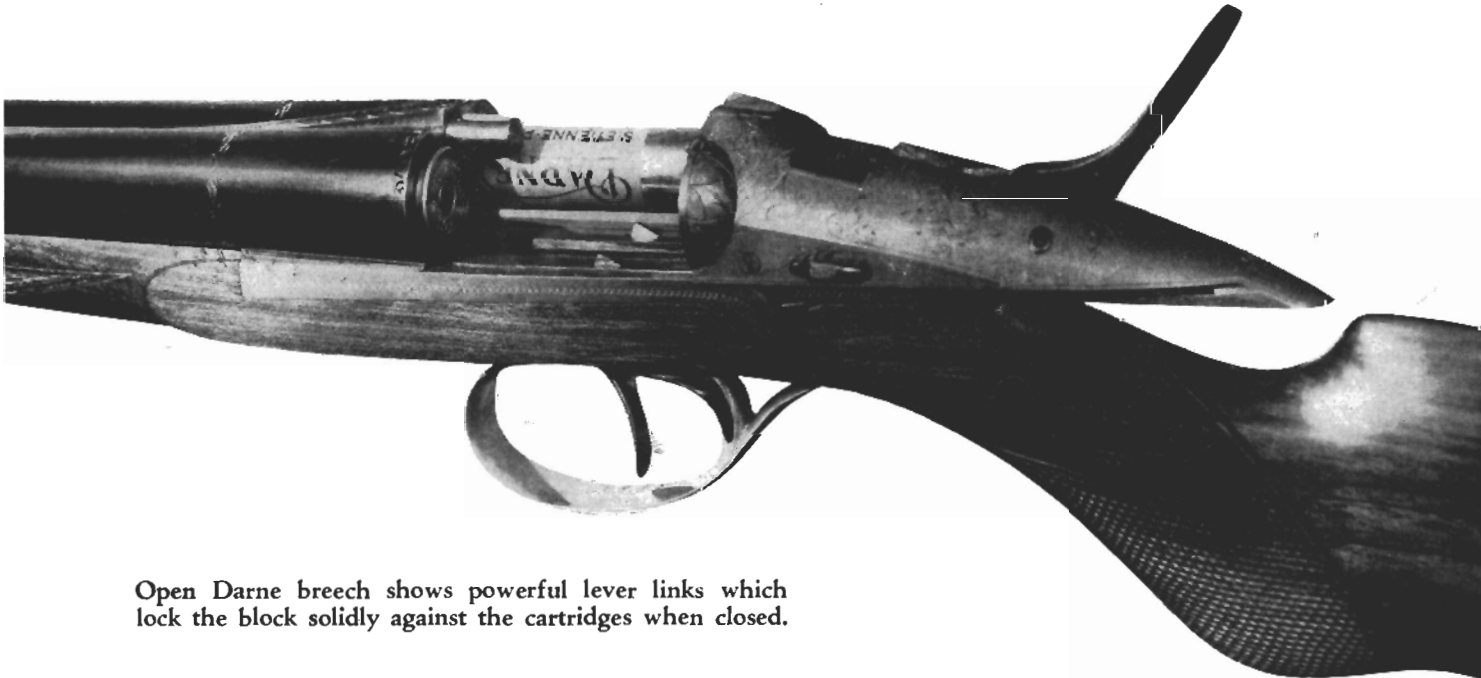
Graceful lines of the Darne are enhanced by absence of usual top lever.



OF UNUSUAL DESIGN is Frances's Darne made in Saint Etienne. Resembling the Merrill carbine of 1860, the Darne breech is opened by pulling upward and to the rear on the grasping pieces on top of the action. As a sensible shotgun design, which can never shake loose at the hinge, the Darne has much to recommend it. The usual selective ejectors are fitted. Made especially for export to French Indo-China and other tropical areas, the tremendous leverage of the Darne breech will press home shotshells swollen from damp. It is available in several styles of finish.



Even plainly-finished Darne is of fine quality. Side-button safety is as convenient as common top button.



Open Darne breech shows powerful lever links which lock the block solidly against the cartridges when closed.

CARTRIDGES

QUIPS QUOTES & QUERIES

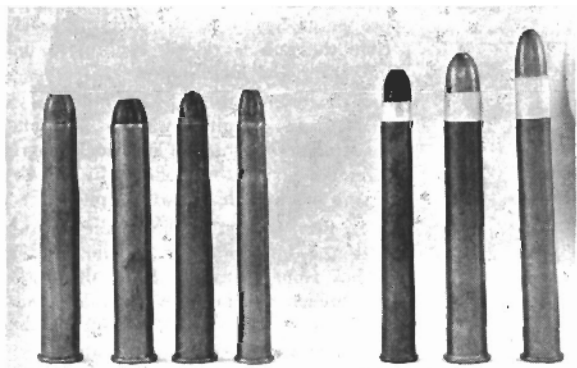
By STUART MILLER

The Big Buffaloes

AS BUFFALO HUNTING became a profitable occupation back in the 70's and 80's, the demand grew for bigger and better guns and cartridges. This race for more and more power continued until sets of 'Big Sharps' and the Winchester Express cartridges were put on the market.

To me, perhaps the most colorful American sporting rifle cartridge made was the big 50-3 $\frac{1}{4}$ " Sharps (second from the right in photo). These cartridges were almost always handloads, that contained up to 170 grains of black powder and a 700 grain paper patched bullet. This really must have been a killing load—at both ends of the gun. The recoil of this load was lessened a little by the fact that the guns that used them often weighed up to 18 pounds. I have never heard of these cases being made and marked by any other firm than UMC, who marked them with the "UMC SH 50-3 $\frac{1}{4}$ " headstamp.

The next size smaller in the series is the 45-3 $\frac{1}{4}$ " Sharps (extreme right). This is another rare one, and is considered by some to be even more rare than the 50-3 $\frac{1}{4}$ ", when found headstamped. These were usually loaded 45-120-550



and are found with the headstamps "WRACo 45 S 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ " and "UMC SH 45-3 $\frac{1}{4}$ " in addition to those with plain heads.

On any of these paper-patched cartridges, you may find many variations in the over-all lengths of the cartridges, as well as different bullet styles. These cartridges were often handloaded, and each hunter had his pet theories as to the proper loads for his purposes. Even in the factory-loaded cartridges, there were usually several different bullet styles and weights offered. Or, if you would order a case or two of the cartridges, the factories would be glad to make them up to your own specifications. So if the specimen you have doesn't look just like the photograph or catalog illustration, don't worry too much about it.

The smallest of the 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ " Sharps series was the 40-90 Sharps Straight, often found with the 370 grain-patched bullet. This cartridge (third from right) seems to have been the most popular of the series, and both Winchester and Remington also used this caliber in their single shot rifles. While UMC retained their system of nomenclature in the headstamp "UMC SH 40 3 $\frac{1}{4}$," Winchester changed

theirs and contented themselves with calling it "WRACo 40-90 S.S.," the "S.S." standing for "Sharps Straight" rather than "Single Shot" as sometimes stated.

Winchester came into the buffalo rifle field after Sharps had become well established, and were never able to overcome the popularity of the Sharps Buffalo Rifle. However, Winchester brought out a series of Express rifles whose cartridges compared favorably with the big Sharps, and which also used the 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ " case. These rifles were the famous Winchester High Wall Single Shot Rifles, using the extra heavy express actions to withstand the higher pressures. An old Winchester catalog stated that these rifles would be available on special order after October 1886.

By far the rarest of the series is the 50-140 Express (second from the left), which never seems to have gone far beyond the experimental stage. The cartridges were made only by Winchester and were stamped "WRACo 50-140 EX." It also appears on the old "Single W" Winchester cartridge board in such distinguished company as the 70-150 and the 50-105 Winchester cartridges.

The 45-125-300 Express (extreme left) was next in size. Like the 50-140, Winchester loaded these with their express bullet which used the flat-topped copper tube insert which had the raised "X" stamped on it.

The 40-110-260 Express (third from left) also had the express bullet, but in this the copper tube insert had an unmarked rounded head that gave the bullet a rounded nose look.

The smallest of the series, the 38-90 (fourth from left) did not have the express bullet, but instead was made with a 217 grain flat nosed solid lead bullet.

The .45, .40, and .38 express were made by Winchester and UMC. Winchester stamped theirs "WRACo 45 Ex," but UMC went more into detail with "UMC SH 45-125." From the collector's standpoint, the .50 cal is the best of the series, followed by .45, .40, and finally the .38 which was the most common.

Apparently buffalo was not the only big game that these Winchester Express rifles were used on. In the 1893 catalog of G. E. Lewis, gun maker and dealer of Birmingham, England, I found prices for loaded cartridges, capped cases, and bullets for the . . . ".450 bore, the .400 bore, and the .380 bore Winchester Single Loading Express Rifles" which are our same friends. To toss in a "puzzler," the catalog had this statement under the description of the Winchester Express rifles . . . "We can also supply the above rifle for the ordinary .450 and .500 bore Express Cartridges."

This 1893 Lewis catalog had another interesting announcement that I think will throw some light on those "unknown Draper type" shotgun and rifle shells that have been found and brought back from England. The catalog states: "We are now making a new brass cartridge, the base of which screws off, so that a cap can be put on with the fingers, and so can be reloaded while in the field, like a muzzle-loading gun. Being well (Continued on page 66)

SHOTGUN FITTING

(Continued from page 29)

muzzle . . . not the front sight, but the actual barrel or base of the bead.

A comb of this height will take care of the greater part of the lead in shooting at rising targets. With the correct drop the shooter has only to sight on a straight-away target by holding just under it. Thus he will be afforded a clear view at all times of the fleeing game, unblocked by the barrels or rib. Even in shooting running game such as rabbits, the sighting will be just under the scampering bunny.

Just as the height of comb will govern the line of sight for vertical elevation, its width will affect the horizontal alignment. To determine stock width, simply mount the gun, being sure that the comb of the stock is in the correct position in relation to the cheek, and close the left eye. If you find your open eye is focused on a point to the right of rib or barrel center, the comb is too narrow. If you are sighting along the left side of the barrel, the opposite is true: the comb is too wide. If left handed, reverse these directions.

If you are helping fit a stock for someone else, there is a good way to check comb thickness.

Look over the rib from the muzzle into the eye of the person being fitted. Be sure that you look down the rib and on the same plane, not above it, and observe carefully the actions of the gunner as the gun is

shouldered and his face makes proper contact with the comb. He should make no attempt to crowd or pull his face from the comb in order to look down the center of the rib.

From the fitter's position, the comb is of the right height and thickness if he sees the pupil of the shooter's eye over the center and slightly above the back of the rib or barrel. The bottom of the iris should be in line with the top of the rib. Should the pupil be right or left of the rib center, the comb should have its width altered accordingly. Should the pupil of the shooter's eye be below the level of the rib, clearly the comb is not of the proper height.

The popular Monte Carlo comb has merit for those who stand tall or who tend to place the butt of an ordinary stock too high up on the shoulder. The purpose of the Monte Carlo stock is to raise the comb to its correct height while allowing the butt to rest low enough on the shoulder so that the recoil will be taken up by the whole buttplate and not just the toe of the stock. Monte Carlo stocks are rarely suited to field guns, for the greater drop at heel of these guns takes care of butt placement. Monte Carlo stocks are useful for trap guns where the longer and straighter the stock, the less noticeable is the effect of recoil.

There seem to be three general styles of Monte Carlo comb. The first is the straight one, where the edge of the comb runs constant. Next is the most common kind, built with a gradual increase in drop.

The reversed Monte Carlo, and the level

comb, have some advantage in their favor in recoil. The reversed Monte Carlo drop is greater at the front than at the rear of the comb, and thus, when the comb slides in kick against the cheek, the pressure will definitely be reduced. This is a real relief on hot days when one's damp, sweaty cheek will stick to the comb. Dusting the cheek with talcum powder will help prevent pulling and bruising, but a reverse Monte Carlo almost entirely avoids pulling.

The correct shape of grip will put accuracy, speed and comfort into your shotgun performance. Poorly-fitted grips cause awkwardness, uncertainty, and in general retard your advancement in good shooting. There are three classifications of shotgun grips: straight, half pistol, and full pistol, and all are subject to various modifications. For example, the foreign Browning guns have a rounded knob end on a full pistol grip, European style.

The full pistol grip is found on all types of shotguns regardless of action design or their intended shooting purposes. One of the chief reasons for the full pistol grip's popularity is the construction of our modern guns. The older straight grip was necessary on the two-trigger doubles of the last century, where the grip allowed the trigger finger hand to shift from the front to the rear trigger. Today our guns, whether auto loading, pump, bolt action, single barrel or doubles with one trigger, require but one position of the hand to operate the single trigger. If correctly proportioned to the individual, this style of grip will insure proper placement of the shooting hand each time the gun is raised, leading to uniform mounting and handling.

Strangely, there is little emphasis on the importance of pitch. Many shooters will insist on a certain drop and stock length, and then defeat all their efforts by winding up with a stock with the wrong pitch.

To measure the pitch, set the gun upright with the butt squarely on the floor a few inches from the wall. Slide the butt until the breech touches the wall, heel and toe still flat on the floor. Measuring the distance now between muzzle and wall will give you the down pitch. If the barrel runs parallel with the wall, the gun has zero pitch. A very few guns will have reverse pitch, where the muzzle only will touch the wall. These are measured from the receiver to the wall.

A properly pitched stock is the most pleasant to shoot, for the pressure of kick on the buttplate will be distributed over the entire area.

There are times when a gun should be intentionally pitched to deliver its pattern a little high. In trapshooting to hit the uniformly fast climbing targets, the actual lead must be over the clay straightaways and over and ahead of those being thrown at angles. A gun designed to shoot about 8" to 10" high at 35 yards makes it possible to follow the outgoing target without blocking it out with the barrel, while at the same time much of the correct lead is automatically "built into the gun."

Shims under the buttplate can be used to correct bad shooting caused by pitch.

The choice of forearm size, style, and design has been a source of argument among gunners for years. Some argue for the

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beavertail type for one purpose, others prefer them less bulky. With very few exceptions, all types of modern shotguns will accept a forearm of any reasonable proportion. For racy appearance and fast handling, nothing can approach the double with trim tapering forearm and straight grip stock. But on a cold, blustery day in a duck blind, nothing is more disquieting than to shoulder a slim-forearm double and find instead of the big greenhead towering clear cut above the rib, your oversized mittened thumb and fingers wrapped around the barrels. The large beavertail forearm keeps the hand open, preventing thumb and fingers from even partially obstructing your view of the target. The larger forearm will also help counter recoil, affording a firmer grasp because the shape prevents it from slipping through the hand when the kick occurs.

The butt pad is designed as a cushion to reduce kick, but care should be used in selecting the "right one" as in any other important accessory. One recoil pad may be right for one purpose and wrong for another. A gun that must be hurriedly mounted, such as the skeet or field gun, should have a pad with a smooth surface, for otherwise the rubber will cling to the clothing. This can be guarded against by gluing a thin piece of leather over the rubber surface that contacts the shoulder.

Satisfied will describe you after a shotgunning session, using a gun stocked and finished to your size and sighting needs. You'll bust more clays, lose fewer birds in

the field, and perk up your interest immensely in the world's most fascinating sport.

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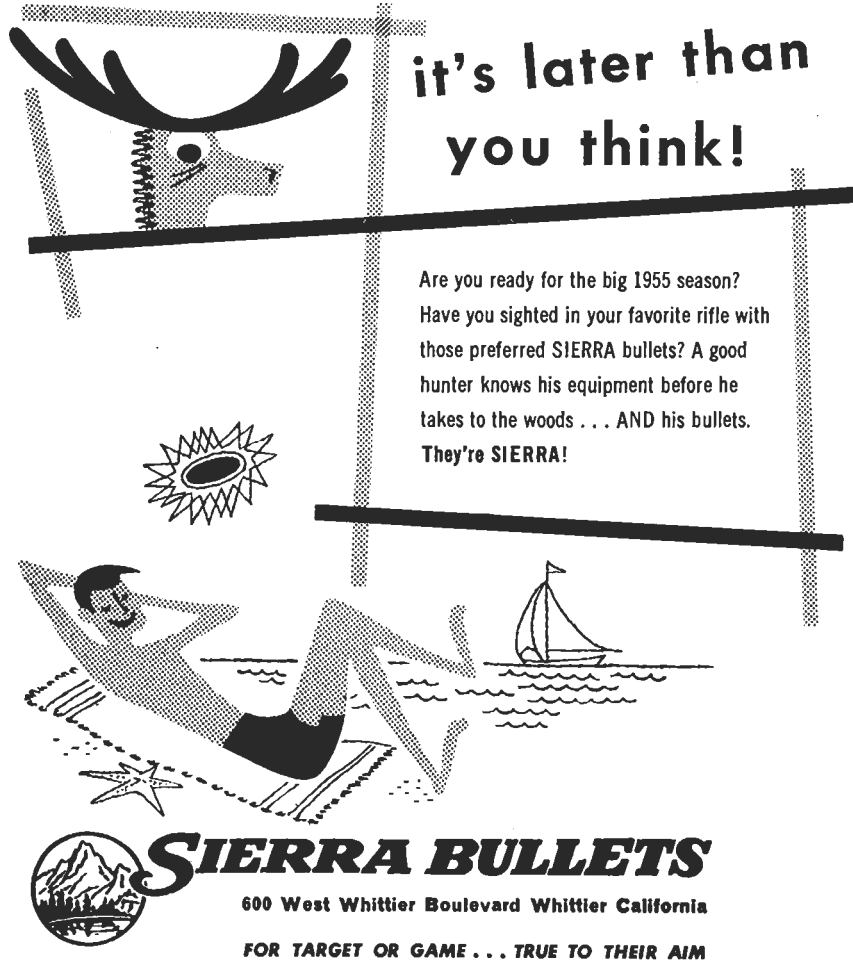
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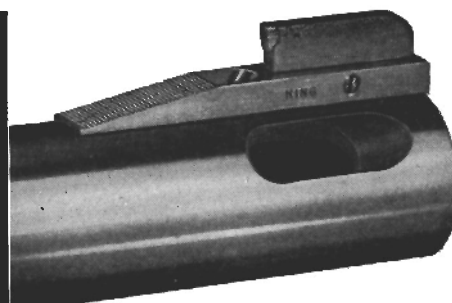
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SKREET AND HUNTING

(Continued from page 26)

hind a gunner can generally decide the degree of error by observing the direction of the shot.

"The follow-through is the most important factor in leading," advises Shaughnessy. "If you aim at a bird, follow it, then halt to pull the trigger, you will lose your lead. Remember, your target doesn't stop when the gun stops; it continues on its regular course. So it's obvious that your gun must be kept moving with your quarry when the trigger is being pulled."

An entire book in itself is needed to explain leads or deflections, but constant practice and experimenting on trap or skeet fields will pay off when gunning for game.

As in golf, tennis, swimming, skiing or many other participant sports, proper form is very essential. This is most applicable in hunting. If you use the right form at skeet or trap, you will shoot the same way afield.

Do you hold your shotgun correctly? Of course, there is not any set rule, since individual styles are to be seen everywhere, whether at shoots or duck blinds. However, try to be relaxed at all times. Place your feet in a comfortable position, about a foot or two apart, depending on your height. Taller gunners will have to assume a wider stance than shorter ones. Have your weight bearing on your LEFT foot, if you shoot right-handed. But do not place too much pressure on your left foot, for this can cause the right foot to be lifted from the ground and throw you off balance. Another pheasant missed!

Shaughnessy always wraps himself around his gun—yes, literally, either at shoots or when actually hunting.

"In holding your shotgun this way, you'll wrap yourself around more birds and game," grins Dick.

Your weapon should never feel unnatural. Always have your right eye lined up on the sight. Be sure your shoulder is pushed into the gun butt, your cheek on the comb of the gun. Raise your left arm and grip the fore-end quite a way out to insure a steady swing when you are actually firing, and place your right hand on the grip of the stock within comfortable finger-reach of the trigger. Now you're "wrapped around" your gun.

When hunting, your shotgun is carried in a lowered position, but you must be "quick on the trigger" in case a pheasant or rabbit is started suddenly. Just as in skeet, when the target is seen, the left hand ought to be placed farther out on the fore-end to control the swing better. To become adept at this handling, practice lowering and raising your gun as often as possible. This maneuver will improve your gun handling and marksmanship, also speeding up your shots in a surer style.

Here is an exercise that will count toward getting more birds or ducks: put your gun up to your shoulder, keeping the left arm up straight. Then lower the gun by lowering only the right wrist, keeping the left arm in the same position. As soon as a bird is sighted in the air, merely flip the right wrist upward, and your gun will be in posi-

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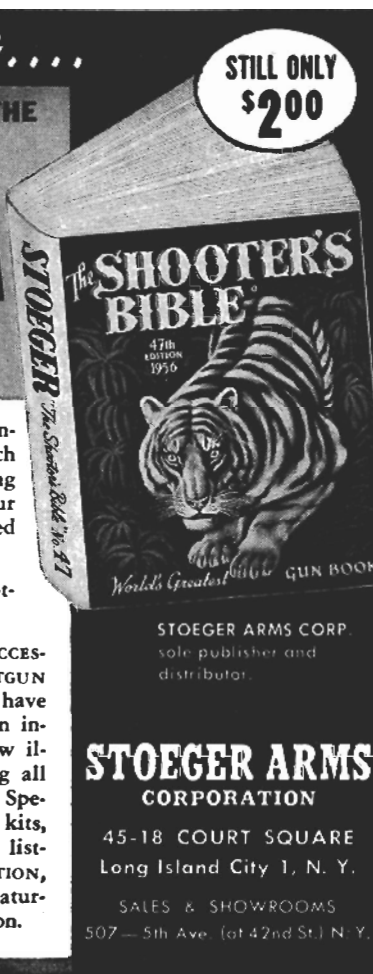
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"A successful hunter, just as a successful skeet or trap shooter, must be relaxed every moment," advises Shaughnessy. "Stiffen up when you sight game or birds, and you'll miss. When I first took up hunting, I noticed that if I failed to relax enough, shots were wasted. Of course, live targets can make a gunner more nervous, more anxious, than clay targets. But you shoot the same way, whether afield or at the club. At least, you should."

What do you seek this fall, upland game or waterfowl? The following tips, based on skeet and trap principles, have proved highly satisfactory to Shaughnessy.

Strive for the right gunning form. Don't get discouraged too soon. You will miss numerous "ducks" because the range has not been estimated correctly—a knack that is gained through experience. Try not to "face the shot"; if you do, before the necessary swing can be executed, the duck will not have been covered, flying over your head or angling away to the snug haven of nearby cover.

Suppose the duck sees you, towering straight up toward the skies, or turning back slyly. If you're on your target, you can go through the full sequence of gun pointing. Let the duck circle or fly in various directions. His flights should only serve to define the arc of your gun swing more positively.

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over you, you won't see the tip of your sighting plane and the duck simultaneously, adding up to another miss.

How can you learn to estimate range? "There are many ways," says Dick. "Feather markings are helpful at times. So are other physical features, such as the eyes, the feet and the like. Of course, in rain, fog and under heavy clouds, distances are often misjudged greatly."

Estimates show that most large ducks are about 24 inches long, their wingspread generally approximating this figure in normal flight. Therefore, calibrate the width of the muzzle of your shotgun on a 24-inch square of paper at ranges from 30 to 60 yards.

If the muzzle of your 12-gauge double covers up a big duck, then the bird is too far away to hit. This relationship can be applied between the width of any kind of gun muzzle and a winging duck.

In regards to the above principles, they

differ for a crossing shot at a range of about 40 yards or less, since the front sight only of your gun would appear against the duck.

For the best gun to use duck hunting, a full-choked 12-gauge with maximum loads and No. 4 shot is enjoyed by the average hunter. But very light 12-gauge models, as well as 20-gauge and 16-gauge types, are also suitable. Try the gun you prefer for skeet or trap. The weapon to which you are accustomed, is usually the wisest choice.

The game of skeet shooting was originated as a substitute for upland game gunning, proving that skeet is ideal as a tune-up for hunting. Apply what you have learned when a pheasant zooms from the brush, its wings whirring like a miniature jet plane motor. Heed these three hints:

- 1—Advance your pivot foot in the direction of the zooming bird. If more than one has been flushed, choose one for your target.
- 2—Mount your gun quickly, pressing your

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In skeet, you use the "ready" stance. Do this when hunting always. When you follow your dog in chase of a pheasant, pause with your pivot foot forward, constantly facing the shot. Never let a rising bird throw you off stride.

Heavy 12-gauge shotguns are not necessary when hunting grouse or pheasants. We find a light 20-gauge excellent, using a full ounce of chilled 6's. Just as accurate, too. On running squirrels or rabbits, you must "lead" on them in the way you do on clay targets. The former, however, are not always going as fast as the clays.

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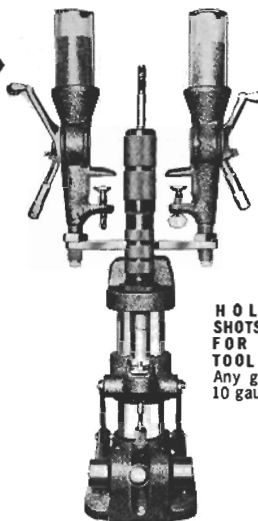
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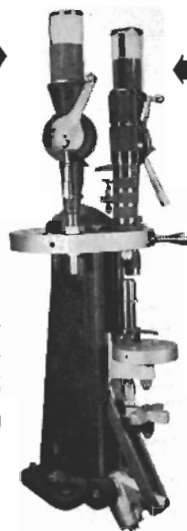


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HOLLYWOOD "SENIOR" RELOADING TOOL. Shown set-up for swaging bullets.

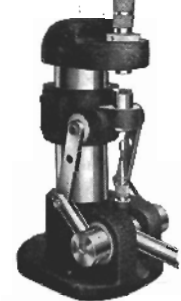


HOLLYWOOD "TURRET" RELOADING TOOLS. Shown at left side set-up for shotshell reloading. Below set-up for rifle or pistol reloading. A fast versatile production tool.

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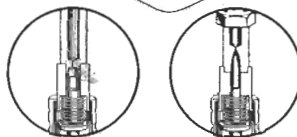
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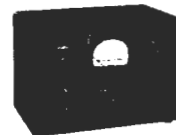
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HOLLYWOOD 28, CALIF.

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5 Safety Features!

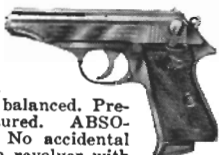
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INSTRUCTIONS

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Specify Model and Caliber and attach m.o. or check—sorry, no COD's. Enclose purchase permit if your state requires. Also sign and return the following Federal Firearms Act "Affidavit": "I am not an alien, have never been convicted of a crime of violence, am not now under indictment or a fugitive, and I am over 21 years old." (Signature)

Send 25¢ for illustrated booklet on WALTHER PISTOLS and for complete list of Phoenix Weapons.

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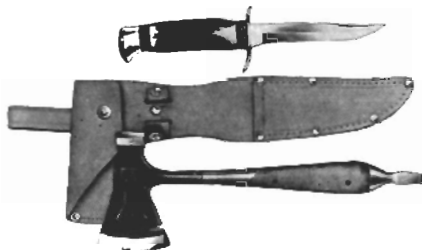


Kit contains: Precision blank flare pistol... 100 blank cartridges (.22 cal. crimped) in metal tin... 10 signal flares... zippered water resistant vinyl bag... cleaning brush... complete set of instructions. **COMPACT**—pistol 3" x 3 1/4"; **LIGHTWEIGHT**—pistol weighs 9 1/4 oz., 100 blanks 2 oz., flares 1/2 oz. **EASY TO OPERATE**—Flares are simply inserted in barrel and ignited by explosion of blanks. They are projected from 75 to 100 ft. in the air, exploding and giving off a bright radiant glow. Can always be "safely loaded", yet ready for flare insertion.

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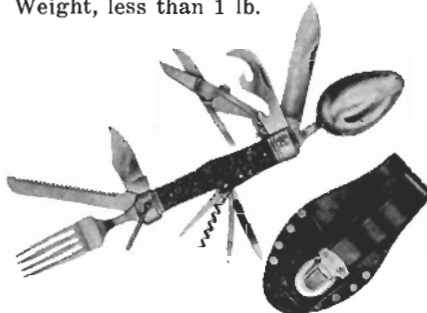
Needed by campers... hikers... hunters... night duty workers... households. Scores of uses... as starter pistols, of course. To campers, hikers, hunters, fishermen, boat enthusiasts, night workers—even housewives—as distress-alarm and distress flare pistols. To animal trainers, theatrical, radio and television people for their authentic appearance and loud report.

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.22 cal.
Revolver

\$15.75



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Blank Cartridges (crimped) German-Extra Loud (100 to a tin).....tin \$1.25
Flares (fit HE and RF only)
(10 to a box).....box 1.00
22 Short, per 50......46
22 Short, Hollow Point, per 50......54
22 Short, ROCKET, per 28......28
22 Long, per 50......64
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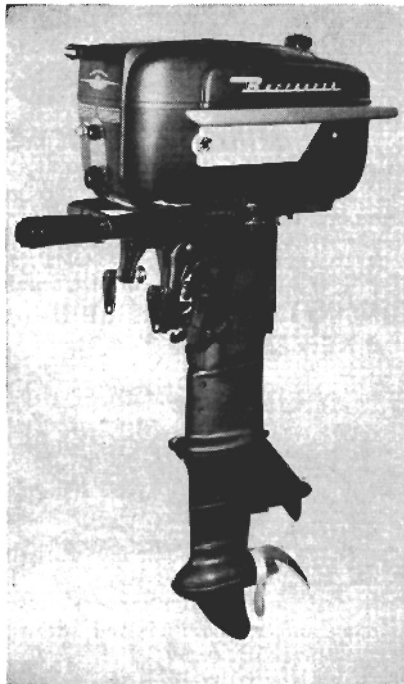


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20 GAUGE

(Continued from page 15)

limits necessarily imposed by the use of a
good 20 gauge.

I emphasize the word "good" for one important reason: in the 20 gauges there is no room for poor patterns. You use a greater percentage of your shot charge for effective pattern density. That means chokes which deliver their full indicated patterns. Granted such patterns in a 20 gauge, clean killing is mostly a matter of skilled gun pointing.

That Autumn day in the lee of the sand dunes when Grant Hartwell and I shot the morning flight together, I used a 20 gauge Marlin Model 90 over-under. Bored modified and full choke, this gun delivers just that. The modified barrel prints a perfectly uniform pattern of 7 1/2's averaging 60 per cent. The full choke barrel will print 80 per cent patterns of 6's, and will put six shot in a canvasback to about 55 yards. This is above the yardage at which a full choked 20 is supposed to kill cleanly. While most experts (and the marshes are full of them) place

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BOB LOVELL, BOX 401, ELMHURST, ILL.



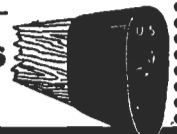
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35	Winchester Self Loading, Per 100..	8.00
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32	Long R F Cartridges, Per 100.....	4.00
32	Short R F, Per 100.....	3.50
25	Rim Fire Shorts, Per 100.....	3.50

Rifle Slings, Web, New Gov. 69c
Surplus 1 1/4 inch..... EA.
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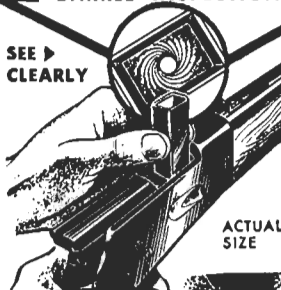
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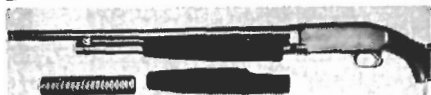
the 20 gauge's effective range at not more than 45 yards, the "20" curiously has a habit of getting over into range distances reserved for the 16 and 12 gauge.

Four No. 6 or six No. 7½ shot are enough for a clean kill on ducks. Two 20-gauges in my gunrack will put eight No. 6's on a sheet of typewriter paper at 60 yards. Either gun will put twelve 7½'s on that paper at 50 yards. No, they aren't 60 yard duck guns, far from it. But it is no accident when a gunner takes ducks with a qualified 20-gauge at around 50 yards.

Grant Hartwell's gun that day was a 20 gauge Ithaca Model 37. It patterned close to 80 per cent with No. 5 shot, concentrating about 65 per cent of the shot within a 24-inch circle. Grant has the skill to go with this close shooting shotgun, too. I have seen him pick three canvasbacks from a flock, ducks that were coming within 35 yards of our stool. During this blustery day it took fast gun pointing to get on them at those shorter ranges, and the flexibility of the 20 gauge against the limitations of heavier shotguns become readily apparent when shooting with such a typical setup.

As a rule, a 6¼ pound 20 gauge shotgun

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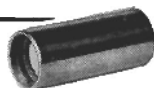
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Increases magnification approximately 35%.
Price.....\$9.50



fecker
scopes

is about five yards faster than the average 12 gauge and at least 8 yards faster than the average 10 gauge, from the standpoint of weight alone. Complicate your shooting by a half gale blowing across the flightway and the advantage in yardage in favor of the "20" is even larger.

A 40-mile wind will drift a shot column about 45" at fifty yards. Those ducks were moving plenty fast, and they used up all the yardage out to 50 yards for our shooting. A 12 gauge, or a 10 gauge magnum such as is often recommended for duck shooting, would have caused a gunner to try for those ducks at from 50 to 60 yards. But actually a gunner would have had to extend the range beyond this because those canvasbacks were moving so fast. Or he would have had to be content with just one shot at each passing or decoying flock.

When you compare the results with what you can reasonably expect to get with a light, fast-handling 20 gauge of around 6 pounds, the conclusion is revealing. That built-in five-yard advantage of range which a 20 gauge possesses makes it the more efficient wildfowl gun. You'll get it up and

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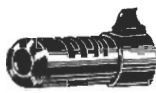
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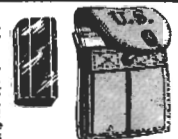
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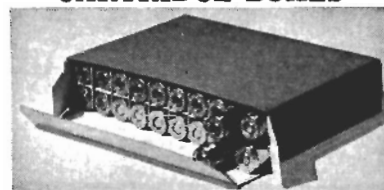
into action a little faster, and that makes all the difference in yards. Contrast this with the false confidence that most duck hunters have in the 12 gauge magnum's ability to reach way out there and kill a sky scraping duck... an ideal to which are sacrificed an awful lot of shells.

The English know these things much better than we Americans. For their waterfowl shooting, they seldom come up with a heavy gun or loading. Many of their 12's used for ducks tip six pounds or less and throw no more than 1½ ounce of shot. Our own duck 12's weigh 7½ to 8¾ pounds to handle 1¼ to 1½ ounce shot loads. Lighter 12's with those loads simply have too much kick to be accurate, pleasant shooting.

The 12 gauge gunners claim a pattern percentage in favor of the larger bore. In shooting a 12 gauge load of 1¼ oz. shot, you have about 56 more No. 6 shot than in the ounce loading of the 20 gauge. Supposedly, your chances of a clean kill are just that much greater, and where ranges are measured in pattern percentages you can reach out just that much further.

But there is one basic thing we should get straight: there is no truth in the idea that a larger spread of shot will consistently give you more chances for a clean kill. When you use a modified choke in shooting over decoys, its primary virtue is giving you a uniform spread of 30 inches from about 30 yards on out to 45. The conventional 30-inch spread is what you must operate with.

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regardless of gauge or choke.

When ducks are decoying, time is of the essence. Anything which will put your gun on more quickly for that all important first shot is a decided advantage. And in point or pass shooting, when a duck comes sizzling over at 60 miles an hour, he is using up space at the rate of 90 feet a second. You don't have to track him long before he is rubbing the 50-yard mark.

At shorter ranges, 20 gauge gunners using a modified barrel to advantage find some interesting figures in patterning. Assuming your best ranges with a modified are from 30 to 45 yards, then here are the patterns at various distances: 30 yards 83 per cent; 35 yards 71 per cent; 40 yards 60 per cent; 45 yards 50 per cent, 50 yards 40 per cent. Please note that there is only a five-yard difference between a full and modified choke.

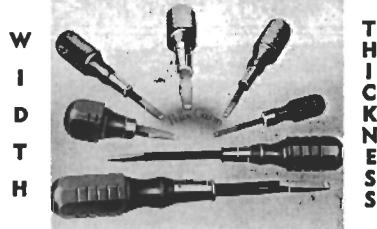
The best shot sizes for a 20 differ little from those used in 12's, except that it is seldom desirable to go above No. 6 shot unless you have a 20 which prints an exceptionally high per cent of 5's. Most 20 gauges are very capricious about the shot size they handle best, and this should be considered in choosing a shot size for ducks. As with other gauges, most 20's will throw a more uniform pattern of the larger shot sizes. If you are getting a smooth 70 per cent of No. 7½ shot, it is highly probable that your

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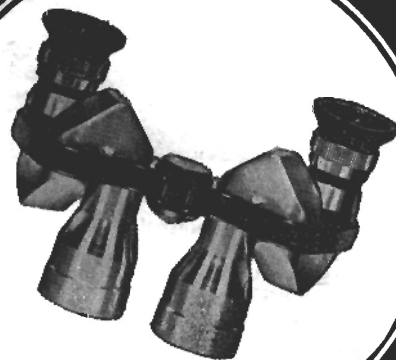
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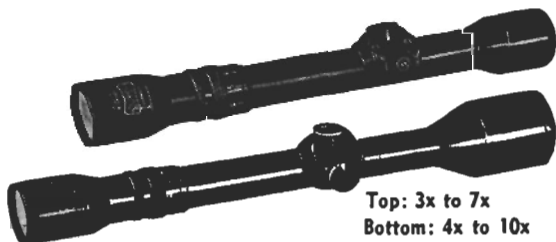
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Sometimes, and it is a happy occasion, you will find a 20 gauge which handles about all the normally-used shot sizes with equal facility. The Model 90 Marlin over and under which I am now shooting is such a gun.

The most versatile shot sizes for ducks, it seems to me, in the 20 gauge are 7 1/2 and 6's. Those are the sizes I load when ducks are decoying. I use 7 1/2 in the modified barrel of my Marlin over-under and 6's in the full choke barrel. And that, incidentally, is one of the advantages of a double barrel. You have, instantly available, not only two different chokes, but also two different size shot.

The 20 gauge as a duck gun is slowly but surely meeting with increasing approval from the wildfowling clan. There is a marked increase in their use in California. On the Southern Oregon section of the west coast where I do my duck hunting, there is also a very apparent trend toward the 20 gauge. As time goes on more and more shot-gunners are discovering the sweet-shooting qualities of 20 gauge shotguns. In these days of small bag limits, it is a very practical gun to carry in the marshes.



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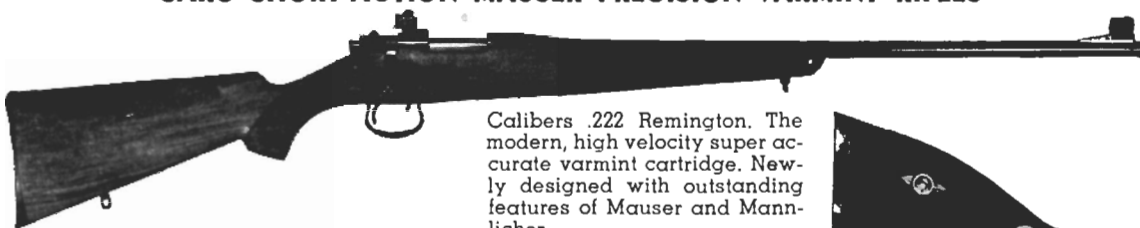
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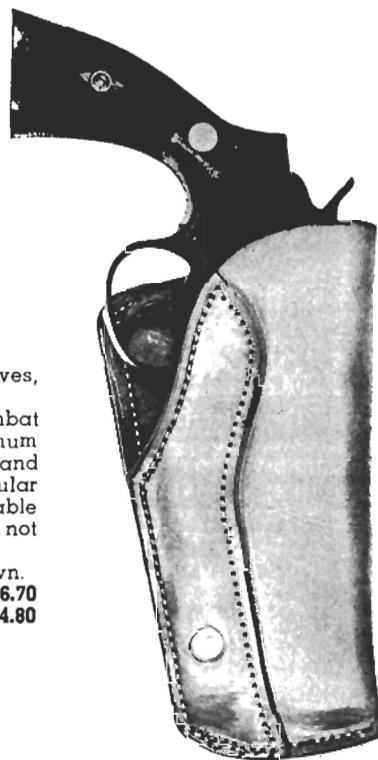
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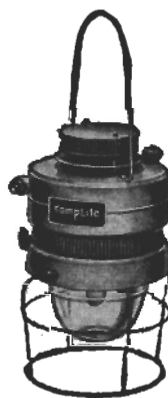


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HOW TO FOOL GEES

(Continued from page 31)

remaining airborne snows came circling back near our decoys. We leaped up and scored a hit on one snow, a little too slow to even double. The other two snows were out of range before we could connect. During the shooting, the big flock took to the air and made out of there but fast. "What had gone wrong?" we asked ourselves.

After the geese had left, we walked over to where the flock had landed in the field. There were goose droppings, and the ground showed signs of where geese had scratched around the previous day while feeding. Had we placed our decoys at this spot, the whole flock would have come right in to give us excellent shooting. Geese are plenty smart and soon get to know the layout of fields they have fed in.

On the other hand, geese can be plenty dumb.

One morning, while driving around looking for geese, we saw a flock drop into a field nearly two miles ahead of us. Cautiously, we searched the location for the feeding flock, finally spotting them grazing in a green rye field some distance away. They were all Canadas, about 25 in number. Beyond the geese we could see a stubble field with high weeds. It looked like two shooters might be able to belly-crawl through the weeds and get near enough for shooting. I dropped off at one side of the rye field, and crept up a small draw as close as possible to the feeding

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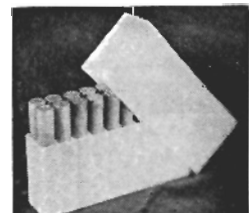
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birds. If the flock broke my way, chances are I would get good shooting.

The other two hunters drove around the field to get beyond the high weeds and come through them onto the geese. This was our only chance for a shot at these wary honkers. After what seemed like hours, I belly-crawled up behind a small rock pile and lay there, breathlessly waiting, my heart throbbing.

Shots echoed across the field, and two honkers dropped from the rising flock. Seconds later, the geese came towards me and I leaped on my feet and scored on two more. My shooting turned the flock and headed them right back over the other hunters, who dropped another fine pair of honkers from their weed patch blind. We took our limits out of the one flock that morning during its crazy flight.

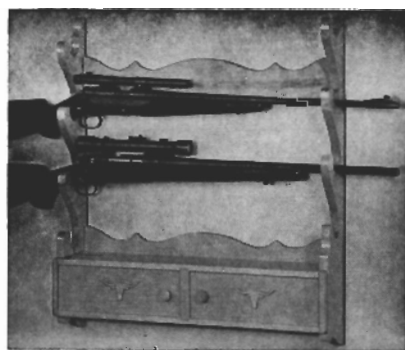
Several methods may be used to help lure in a flock of wary honkers. If you plan on shooting from pits, dig them in the evening after the geese have returned to the lake to roost. Once you have dug the hole, be sure to carry away all fresh dirt. Scatter hay around the pit, or whatever else is handy in the field that will blend in with the natural surroundings. To make the pit look natural, I often place several decoys nearby to further conceal my hideout. When you finish hunting a field, always be sure to fill in the pits

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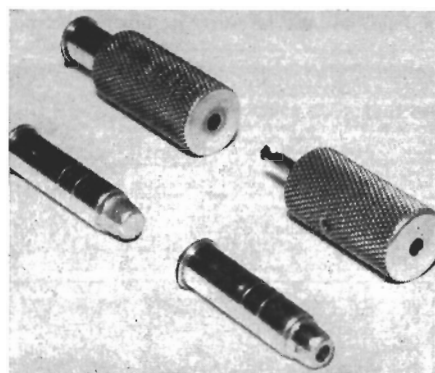
again, for open holes are dangerous to farm tractor and livestock.

In North Dakota, where I live and hunt, I seldom use a pit, but usually kick out a shallow spot or furrow in the ground and cover up with stubble or weeds that grow in the field. Sometimes you can lie down in tall stubble and pull over enough loose straw to conceal yourself.

Occasionally, you may find geese feeding on a black, plowed field which appears to have no food at all. They manage somehow to scratch up grain or new green shoots growing in the field. Hunting this type of field is difficult, and I use a brown-black sheet or tarp to hide under.

When shooting from any kind of blind or pit, stay down after your first blast. Geese are sometimes curious and especially mixed up if you shoot the leader. They may obligingly take another circle over your decoys, thus enabling you to further fill your bag.

There are many kinds of goose decoys on the market. Whichever kind you use, do not place your decoys too close together. Feeding geese are always several yards apart when grazing in a field, and only when danger is near do they crowd close together. When you buy decoys, get mostly feeding birds,



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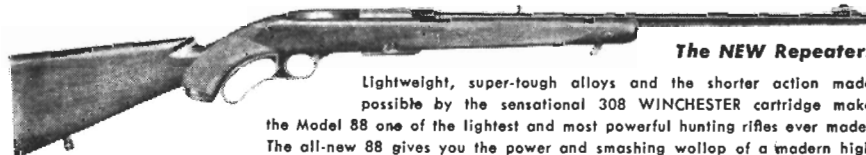
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- 150-gr. Full Metal Case
- 180-gr. Soft Point, SUPER SPEED
- 180-gr. Hollow Point, SUPER SPEED
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with only a few sentinels with heads straight up. When geese invade a field, most of the flock either feeds or sleeps, with only a few holding heads erect to act as guards and sound the warning if fox or hunter tries to spook the flock.

When shooting, be sure to lead a goose enough. Honkers may look big and slow, but they will be flying as fast as the fastest duck. One big mistake is to shoot before they get within range, for the goose is such a huge bird it will often fool the neophyte as to its distance.

Take plenty of time when hunting geese. Hide your car far enough away. I have seen hunters with nice setups fail to get game because they left their car too close to their pit. When geese, approaching the field, spot any strange object as they make their circle, the leader will give warning and take his flock elsewhere to feed. If necessary, park your car a mile away behind some hill, or, if you must park closer, hide it behind haystack or strawpile.

When stalking a flock in a field, do not

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rush them. Take an hour, if necessary, to crawl up closely, otherwise you may jump them when you are out of wind and perhaps miss completely.

Generally speaking, I use No. 4 shot for geese, but some hunters prefer a heavier load. Many favor No. 2 or BB size, but this is a matter of individual opinion. Some hunters even fire No. 4-Buck, but since this shell contains fewer pellets, chances of hitting a bird are slim.

The real secret is to let geese come within range. If you prepare the proper blind behind your decoys and use your goose call effectively, the flock will usually drop in.

Don't shoot any field two days in succession or you will burn them out and the flock will not return again. Instead, they will move farther south or seek a new feeding location.

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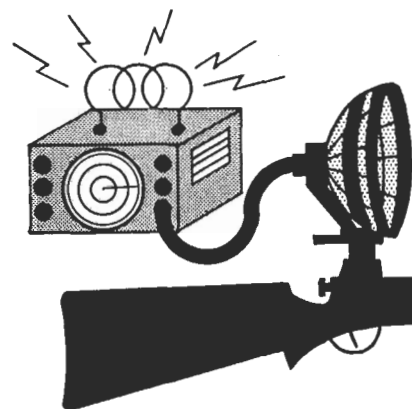
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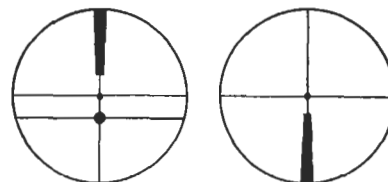
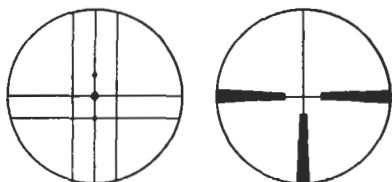
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BOOTMAKER'S RIFLE

(Continued from page 34)

picion of a crack around any of the inletting with the exception of the lock plate and the toe of the stock where it appears that someone has sprung the brass butt place away from the wood. Possibly the space around the lock plate is due to frequent removal for some reason known only to the original owner.

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Actually the fine-figured stocks of that day were not uncommon because the woods of the East were filled with walnuts and maples

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that three men could not reach around by joining hands, but even figured wood can be ugly if the workmanship is clumsy. The finish of the wood always has an oily appearance, though it is perfectly dry. It seems to let you "look into" the wood, and not at its surface. The round, brass patch box still contains four square cut patches, stiff and yellow with a mixture that smells like tallow and linseed or cotton seed oil.

Along with Shubal's prized gun, there still exists his powder horn and the leather hunting bag he made in the cobbler shop at Terrytown. Rummaging around in the bag, I was able to find a solitary ball that came from the .365 cavity of the mould and I noticed that the old hunter had filled his mould only to the *bottom* of the sprue and not to the top, where it would leave a tit to be whittled off later with a knife. He may have left the flat side of the ball up where the flat end of the ramrod would fit it, always seating it the same. ©

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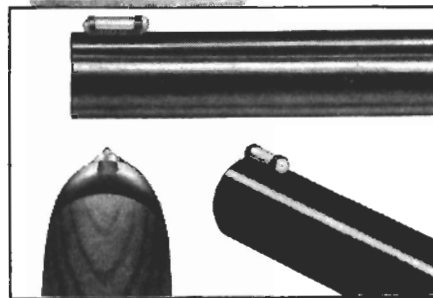
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IKE AS A HUNTER

(Continued from page 20)

.45 Colt automatic, and blasted away. Dazed by the concussion of four or five close misses, the rat remained to be finished off by an aide who took aim and killed it first shot. Possibly Ike's poor shooting could be attributed to "buck fever," though he was not alone among GI's who couldn't hit anything with an issue .45!

Ike's favored position during the war gave him tremendous opportunity to become a "gun collector," but his role was not that of a confiscating conqueror. Instead, although he saw many interesting guns such as a German 4-barrel "vierling" with two rifle barrels on top and two shot barrels beneath on the same action, he only obtained a few pistols from friends, or as a formal presentation. Rather than act as a collector, he actually gave guns from his personal collection to foreign politicians. By way of a diplomat, who went to the Near East a couple of years ago on a diplomatic mission, the Premier of Egypt was sent a Colt pocket automatic with pearl grips from Eisenhower.

If and when Ike finally settles down at Gettysburg, if indications are true, there, in the beautiful wooded, rolling hills of southern Pennsylvania, the President will find much more time to hunt. Come fall soon now, hunting for Ike will not be a hasty matter of flying a thousand miles to blaze away a few shotshells, and then rush back to a desk on Pennsylvania Avenue. Instead, he'll take up his Model 12, or the Liege double 20, and just go up on a stroll through "the south forty." And if Mamie hears a gun echo once, she'll know that Ike has flushed a covey and taken one . . . "I like to find the singles . . . coveys scare me." ©

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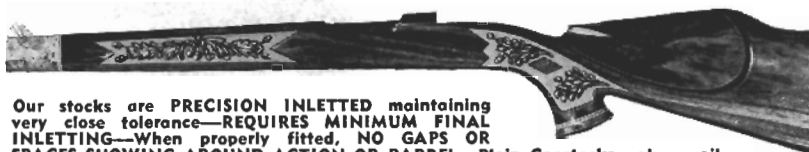
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SHOOTING CLAY BIRDS

(Continued from page 23)

These ranges are what make Fieldale unusual. They exactly simulate, under natural field conditions, the many possible shots in upland or waterfowl hunting. The rabbit run, grouse range, the quail walk and duck towers with their fast flying clay targets allow you to actually preview your hunt. The quail walk uses ordinary clay targets flung from remote-controlled traps. Rustic split rail fences meander along each side of a winding path, which runs slightly down hill, a thousand feet of typical quail cover. I looked over the shocks of corn, the angles of the fences, apple trees, which all concealed the 43 traps. Under control of the shooting instructor, singles, doubles and coveys rises flew up and sailed over the countryside. The limited range of scattershot permits shots at almost any direction, while two people shooting together mutually learn shooting etiquette. The only thing lacking after a run over this course is a bag of plump birds ready for the pot.

The grouse range operates somewhat like the quail walk, but the setting is vastly different. Tall trees loom along the edges of a woodland clearing, rising to the crest of a gentle slope. I walked slowly along a path by a hedgerow, and when I least expected it, out whizzed a target, rising high, simulating the flight of a grouse up into a tree. After a few minutes of this, I was as keyed up as if I had been shooting birds. I downed three, and if they had worn feathers, I would have had them sure. They all rose away from me as grouse usually do.

One thing which testified to the popularity of the grouse range, were the trees at the far end of the clearing. Fine shot at extreme range had scoured the inside surfaces of each tree clear of bark . . . there is no telling how many millions of shot pellets lie in the leaf mould of that glade.

Several hundred yards to the right, across a rolling swell of lawn, is the little rail stand called the "rabbit run." For "effect," someone has put cut-out rabbits and dogs nearby, but the real effect comes when you stand atop the platform and the target busts loose right from beneath your feet. Most of the shots are pretty straight away, and fast gun swing is important here. I found a very real tendency to overshoot, shoot too quickly, which I think came from a habit of getting on the clay with the muzzle and then moving forward, instead of just swinging

easily up to and past the target, pressing the trigger. I could have spent all day at the rabbit run, and hardly noticed that they didn't have the targets fixed to zig-zag like a real bunny . . . but I hear they're working on that one!

The day I was at the rabbit run, Les Tracy had brought along his 15-year-old daughter, Caryl. He's wanted an opportunity to show her something of shotgunning, and let her get accustomed to gun pointing and kick. Now was her first time trying to hit something in earnest. She got five out of ten, which is a good start for a beginner of any age. And the youngsters really enjoy shotgunning. Fieldale, because it is an open shooting grounds, is visited by many more young shooters than an ordinary club.

I didn't have time to try the duck towers, but I had a look at them and watched a couple of gunners put them through their paces—or maybe it was the towers that put the gunners through *their* paces. They were both crouched in a "blind" of corn stalks and boards, but otherwise they were sure working up a sweat. From the top of 40-foot towers, "ducks" would sail out and over, fast and as tricky as the real birds. The targets flew high and low, in and out, and after limbering up with the duck towers even the beginner could expect to know a little of the fundamentals of ducking.

Steady diet at Fieldale is skeet and trap. Eight complete fields permit either type of shooting. Bill Clark is the shotgunning

instructor—sort of "head coach," for there are always gunners from Field's sporting goods floor out there on an afternoon off, who will help the beginner with a few pointers. Paul Stroud, manager of Fieldale, and Uno Lake, his assistant, are active shot-gunners themselves, while Bill Frederickson, who manages the gun and shell shop there, is often able to get in some practice. Paul Stroud especially likes trap shooting, and uses an Ithaca single barrel trap gun for his serious work.

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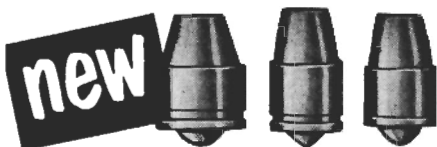
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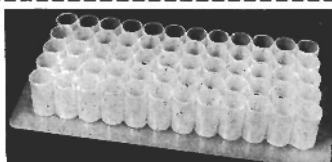
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(Continued from page 39)

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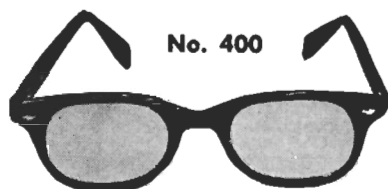
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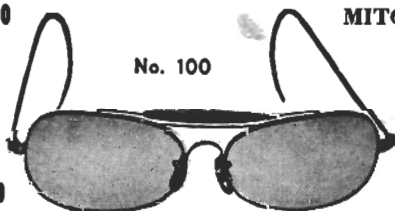
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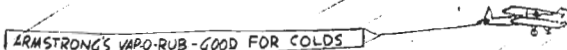
PARTING SHOTS



"Pheasant, pheasant, pheasant every meal! Why can't you accidentally shoot a cow now and then like other hunters do?"



"Here comes 'Sure Shot' Bradley."



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"Pistol-Berth"

12 Gun Size
50" w, 26" h, 4" d

Easy-to-follow Working Plans are complete for the 12 gun size illustrated and also include details with complete bills of material for 20 and 28 gun sizes.



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The same specially designed Pistol-Berth Brackets (for holding handguns) used in this cabinet are now available to you at a special low price! The Pistol-Berth Brackets are screw-in type and made of rubber covered steel. One pair consists of one small bracket for barrel end and one larger bracket for grip end. Remember this is a special offer and for a limited time only!

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6 pair.....\$2.75 ppd. 12 pair.....\$4.95 ppd.



"Showmaster"

5 Gun Size
53" w, 48" h, 6" d

Your Guns Too, can be beautifully displayed in a NEW, Gunberth "Showmaster"! The Showmaster series, all wall models, can be had in a 3, 4, or 5 gun size (model illustrated) and models placing 2 guns per set of brackets are also available in 6, 8 and 10 gun sizes.

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Details on Kits, Plans and Hardware on 22 different Gunberth Models (Finished Cabinets also available) are all listed in NEW, EXCLUSIVE, "HANDBOOK". The "Handbook" also contains working drawings and all facts you should know on design, layout and construction before you buy or build any gun cabinet. Send in Today! For Big, Illustrated "HANDBOOK".....\$1.00 ppd. *Copyright

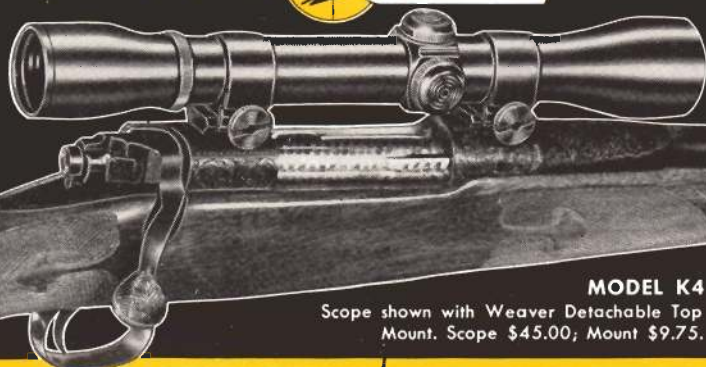


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USE A MODEL K SERIES 60

WEAVER SCOPE



MODEL K4

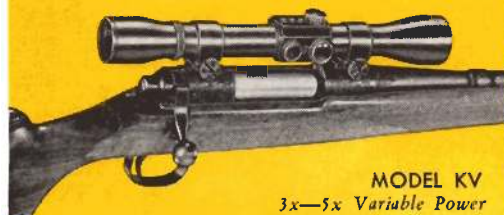
Scope shown with Weaver Detachable Top Mount. Scope \$45.00; Mount \$9.75.



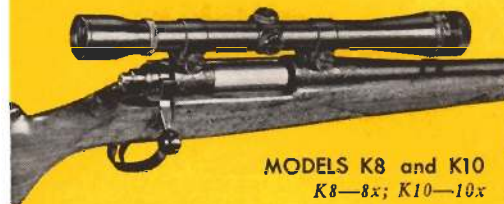
MODELS K2.5 and K3
K2.5—2½x; K3—3x



MODEL K6
6x



MODEL KV
3x—5x Variable Power



MODELS K8 and K10
K8—8x; K10—10x

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K10	59.50	KV	57.50
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TRIGGER TALK

WITH THE first snap of October frost in the air, trigger fingers are getting itchy and old mackinaws are being hauled out of attic closets in contemplation of wonderful days afield. To make that hunting expedition out into the woods a lot happier and more successful, GUNS has devoted this current issue to the science of gunning for wildfowl. Its contents are devoted not only to the antics and habits of such quarry as geese, ducks and quail, but also considers the best weapons and loads in bringing home a good bag.

Continuing in this happy way, next month's issue will be a special game hunting issue devoted to four-footed critters. Its exciting and instructive features will include one on remodeling a rolling block Remington obsolete military rifle into a modern super-accurate rifle for varmint hunting—woodchucks and crows at longer range. The 60 years of continuous production of Winchester's famous "thutty-thutty" Model 94 lever action rifle is commemorated by another illustrated story on the old gun which is still the world's foremost deer killer. Handloads to give the .375 Magnum rifle suitable ballistics for such small game as Pennsylvania deer are worked out in detail by Paul Matthews, while the use of a .22 rifle on big game is the subject of Bert Popowski's fascinating article.

The first gas-operated shotgun that works is Sears' new Model 60 automatic, reviewed in GUNS next month. This form of automatic has never been made as a shotgun, but Sears-High Standard designers have solved the 80-year problem and Col. Charles Askins puts it through the jumps in the November issue.

Bob Kindley, a regular GUNS contributor who lost his trigger finger but manages to continue shooting, hits the bullseye with his simple and direct how-to-do-it on casting bullets, considered by many as the critical element in accurate handloading. And finally, a further story on the use of a range finder—yep, it's portable—for squirrel hunting by veteran outdoorsman Francis Sell is but another of the many fact-packed, easy-reading, illustrated articles on gun-sport which fill the pages of GUNS next month and every month.

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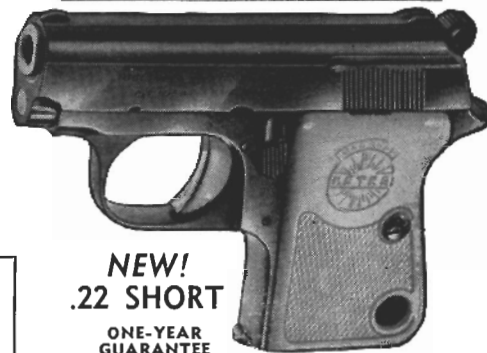
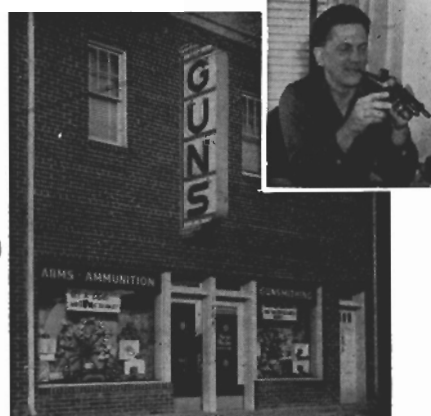
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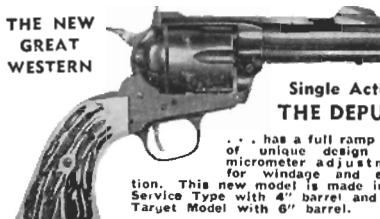
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