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.270 W and .30-06	22"	7 lbs. 2 oz	
.300 H&H,.338 W Mag. .375 H&H,.458 W Mag.	24"	8 lbs	

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Congressman Lee Metcalf

1st Dist., Montana

THE 2ND AMENDMENT has in 1960 the same cogency that inspired its inclusion in the Bill of Rights of 1791. The meaning of individual words may change in time but, to my mind, the Second Amendment's "well regulated militia" refers to a citizenry informed in the care and skilled in the use of firearms and available, therefore, to defend the way of life which all of us hold so dear. The lessons of history make clear that we never should lose sight of a defense-ready citizenry's contribution to the cause of freedom. The nation is most fortunate these unsettled days that its people use firearms as a healthful, recreational outlet. Our people are—and should remain constantly alert to attempts to erode their rights to keep and bear firearms.

Congressman Philip J. Philbin 3rd Dist., Mossachusetts

Committee on Armed Services

Committee on Armed Services

THE 2ND AMENDMENT protects the right of the people to a well regulated militia, and to keep and bear arms. Congress has provided federal forces including the National Guard to provide for the national security. Generally speaking, the matter of regulating guns and small arms, exclusive of strictly interstate aspects, is in the hands of the States and local communities. Whenever legislation is pending in Congress regarding these matters I should be pleased to have your readers' views.

Senator Leverett Saltonstall

Massachusetts

Committee on Armed Services

I HAVE ALWAYS supported the National Guard as the present day successor to the Minute Men of our forefathers' time... The Bill of Rights provides that our citizens should have the right to keep and bear arms. This right is one which I believe is still important for, in the first instances, sporting arms have provided great pleasure as well as teaching skills to people who later serve with honor in our National Guard and armed forces. In the second instance, the ability of the individual American in this field should act as deterrent to any nation which ever sought to attack us. Of course we must take all precautions to see that firearms are not used by individuals for harmful purposes. Instruction and an alert population are the best possible preventives against that problem. The activities of our many fine organizations devoted to instructing and organizing our people in self-defense continue to be a paramount interest to our national defense planners.

Congressman Henry R. Reuss

5th Dist., Wisconsin

Committees: 8anks & Economic

MY COMMENTS ON the Second Amendment have not changed since 1957 when I made public such views in connection with the then-proposed registration regulations set forth by the Alcohol & Tobacco Tax Division of the Internal Revenue Service. I said. "These rules appear to come close to an unconstitutional restriction on the right of every citizen to bear arms. (The regulations) will treat millions of legal sportsmen as if they were all suspected criminals... This sort of red tape can go a long way towards forcing small dealers out of business."

Congressman Molvin R. Laird

7th Dist. (Marshfield) Wisconsin

Comm.: Appropriations, Defense, Labor, Health, Education, Welfare, Mil. Construction

THE RICHT OF the citizen to keep and bear arms is as old as representative government itself. This right is as valid today as it was at the time of the adoption of the Bill of Rights. Unfortunately, much modern legislation has the practical effect of "converting" the right into a privilege. Such an approach is warranted on neither constitutional nor historical grounds. By the right to possess and use firearms, I mean the right of the citizen to own and use firearms lawfully for the legitimate purposes of recreation and defense. Of course, with every right there is a corresponding responsibility. This responsibility includes the safe use of firearms according to the controls imposed by proper authorities for the general welfare. Finally, I believe that legislative or administrative firearms regulation should be reasonable. It should not be so complex nor inconvenient as to make the right to keep and bear arms a hollow possession.

Readers Note: All Congressmen may be addressed as "House Office Building." and all Senutors as "Senate Office Building," both at "Washington 25, D. C."



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THE COVER

Big .45 Luger target pistol by Wyatt looms larger than life in hand of Sgt. Jim Wade as he takes aim at III. State title. Converted Luger shot easily but not always reliably with different .45 ammo. On page 22, German shooter and engineer Wagner reveals easy changes to adapt standard Luger P. 08 automatic for target practice; says he prefers .30 caliber but 9mm will do well when properly adjusted.

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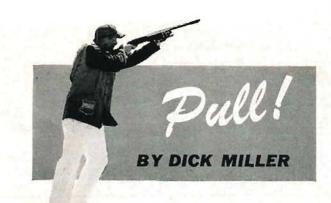


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M ORE THAN a million and a half clay targets (1.572,000 of them, to be exact) filled the skies during the 1960 Grand American trapshooting tournament held at Vandalia, Ohio. That's a big stack of clay targets; and, for every target, at least one shotshell was expended. That's a lot of shells, a lot of lead, a lot of dollars.

But it takes a lot of shells and a lot of targets, plus many more incidentals, to conduct the "Grand," which has the reputation of being the largest single participant sports contest in the world. This year a record 2,428 shooters banged away on one day of the tournament.

When all the guns had finished popping on the big day. Roy Foxworthy, an Indianapolis auto dealer, had outfoxed the field with a perfect score of 100 targets. Roy's century was the first perfect score to win this fabulous handicap shooting event in ten years, and only the eighth time a shooter has emerged without a lost target in the 61-year history of the Grand American.

Every writer (including this one) covering the roaring Grand has, at one time or another, mentioned that "Name" shooters don't win the Handicap events, and 1960 was no exception. The Handicap winner, with only an exception or two in over 60 years, has been some unknown shooter who was "right" on the big day, Many observers feel that this element of chance contributes much to the ever-increasing record numbers of entries in the Grand, Every shooter on the grounds that Friday morning, the day of the feature event, feels that, tonight, it just could be him (or her) out there receiving the luge trophy-and a sizeable wad of cash in the bargain.

Tradition also has it that, while unknowns win the Grand handicap events, the 16-yard singles and doubles championships go to veteran and well-known trapgunners. This was generally true in 1960, although several unfamiliar names do crop up in the lists of other winners.

Miss Carolyn Elliot, Drexel Hill. Pa., won the Women's Handicap championship, with a 94 at 21 yards. The Junior champ was a 15year-old, Maurice Michael from Polo, Missouri. Maurice dropped only two targets, shooting from the 20-yard line. Bill Lambert from San Diego, Calif., lost only three birds while winning the sub-junior title, also from 20 yards.

W. J. Hire kept the professional championship in Ohio. Hire, of Castalia, turned this trick by cracking a 94 from 22 yards,

Joe Heistand, another Ohio gunner, whose name ranks among the top few as a candidate for the "Mr. Trapshooting" title, won the 16-yard Amateur Clay Target Championship for the 5th time, but not without a battle. Heistand broke 275 straight targets in extra innings, after a perfect 200 in the regulation distance: but 17-year-old George Burrass from Ft. Collins, Colorado, was just one target off the pace! George probably feels that 474 out of 475 is still a good score, even if it didn't win first place. He is so right!

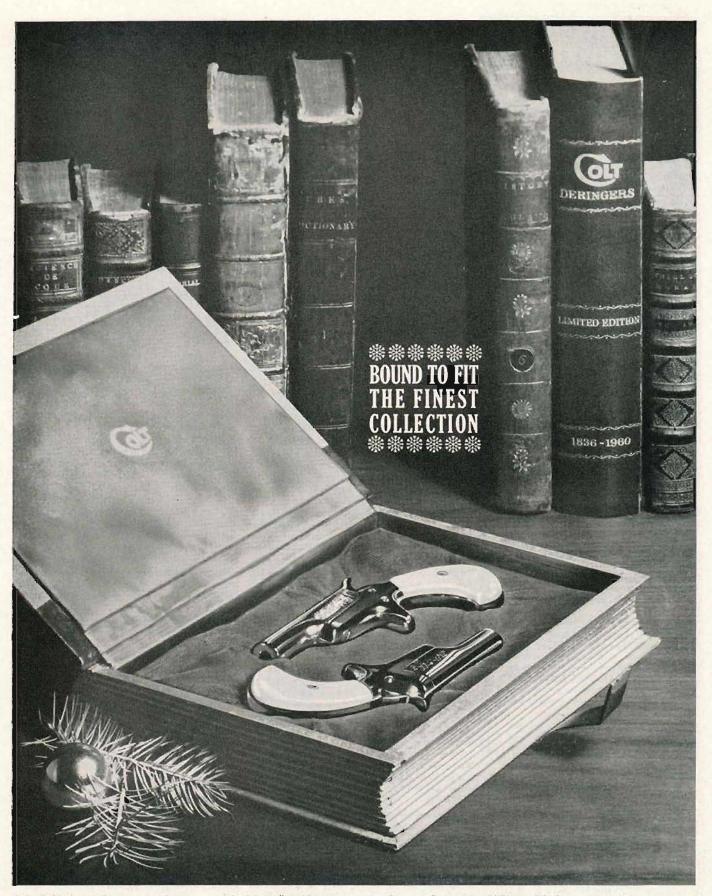
Two Canadians figured in the winners of the Preliminary Handicap. The Preliminary Handicap, set for Thursday of "Grand" week is a dress rehearsal for the big day 24 hours later. Karl Mikkelsaar Jr., from Calgary, Alberta, was the champ, for his 99 from 20 yards. Mrs. Leona Hard was Ladies champ, and Kent Stauffer, another Ohioan, from Trotwood, took the junior trophy. Kent was prohably shown the way by another Stauffer from Trotwood who, along with the writer, came close to this title in 1954.

R. J. Tobin, St. Lamberts, Quebec, was the pro winner. Tobin also garnered the profesional doubles championship. The name of Mrs. Leona Hard crops up again, as the Ladies Doubles champion. Mrs. Hard doesn't find trapshooting too hard, it seems, since she also added the Ladies High-Over-All to her laurels. She broke 947 of 1,000 mixed targets in the week's shooting. The 1,000 total accounts for 600 16-yard targets (200 each day for 3 days) 300 Handicap targets, shot at the rate of 100 per day for 3 days, and one day's 50 pairs of doubles targets.

Bob Stifal, the well-known Casey, Illinois, gun club operator and hardware merchant, won the 1960 High-Over-All trophy, breaking 974x1000, Kevin Onka, who I predicted earlier this year would score in the Grand, was the Junior titleist, at 969. Winners in the Doubles Championships, in addition to Mrs. Hard and R. J. Tobin, were Dale Miller, Ashville, Ohio, champion, with 99x100; and Glen Everts, Pewaukee, Wis., junior champion, with 95x100.

Monday's 16-yard Introductory event, a warm-up for the go-for-broke days of 'Tuesday and Wednesday, returned Larry Gravestock, of Amarillo, Texas, the champ with a perfect 200. Kevin Onka dropped one target while winning the junior trophy; and Ruth Ray, Seattle, Wash, one of the great feminine trapshooters, won the Ladies trophy for the same score (199x200).

One special championship, decided on Monday, is the Champion of Champions event. This contest is limited to winners and runner-up of state or comparable tournaments. Iowan Merle Stockdale won this one. Julie Deckert of Milwaukee took the distaff (Continued on page 56)



Splendid gift recalling a storied past...matched Colt #4 .22 Deringers. Replicas of the famous 1872 model, they come in the same type of unique "book" case used by Colt for special presentations nearly a century ago. Personalized bookmark included. The Deringers in this limited book edition are nickel-plated, consecutively numbered. \$44.50 the pair. Single book edition Deringer, \$24.50. Matched and gold-plated in a walnut box, \$39.95 the pair. Single boxed Deringer, \$22.50. At Colt registered dealers. Colt's Patent Fire Arms Manufacturing Co., Inc., Martford 15, Cont.

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Elmer Keith says...

Loads for .264 Magnum For the new ,264 Winchester, Hi-Vel No. 2 seems to give the highest velocities of any commercial powder with light bullets such as 87 grain and 100 grain. With the 87 grain bullet, maximum load of Hi-Vel No. 2 is 56 grains for a velocity of 3735 feet. For the 100 grain bullet, the maximum load is 54 grains Hi-Vel No. 2 for 3590 feet. These are maximum loads and should be approached with caution. In most cases, best accuracy will be secured with two or three grains less powder.

With the heavier bullets, 120 grain through 160 grain 4831 is the best commercial powder available now, that we know of. Maximum loads for the 120 grain are 69 grains 4831 for a velocity of 3255 feet. For the 140 grain, the maximum load of 4831 is 66 grains, giving 3035 feet. A load of 65 grains would probably give about the standard 3000 feet, same as factory loading. For the 160 grain, the maximum load of 4831 is 62 grains for 2865 feet, and a better load for most rifles would probably be from 59 to 66 grains of this slow burning powder. The case is big and over bore capacity, and requires a very slow burning powder for all heavy bullet loads for best velocities.

Just how well the nine-inch twist will stabilize the long 160 grain bullet remains to be seen, but early work and reports indicate it is at least amply accurate for big game shooting and this 160 grain bullet is by all odds the best, preferably in Nosler form so it will not blow up on impact at close range.

The above maximum charges should always be approached with caution, starting at least three grains low. Some rifles may have tighter chambers or tighter bores and require less powder for the same velocities.

Husqvarna .358 Magnum

Several years ago, Eric Claesson, chief designer for Husquarna, came to this country and spent considerable time trying to work out the design of a rifle that would sell in America. He wanted our ideas, and I gave him all the dope I could, made tracings from my own stock design with Monte Carlo check piece comb, and outlined as many ideas for him as possible for a top-flight Mauser action hunting rifle. I wanted a small, neat safety in the right side of the cocking piece, a hinged floor plate with the latch inside the front end of the trigger guard, and a small neat bolt stop that would release the bolt without undue effort.

A short time ago, I. W. Wallentiny, of Tradewinds Inc., Tacoma I, Wash., sent me a Crown Grade Husqvarna rifle for the new Norma .358 Magnum cartridge. I was de-

8

lighted to find that it incorporates nearly all the ideas I gave to Claesson when he was here, including my stock design.

The new rifle is very well stocked and bedded in a good walnut blank. Forestock has the correct up-push against barrel for best accuracy. Inletting is close and the stock is oil finished, clearly showing good hand fitting and workmanship. The foreend tip and grip cap are of black composition with white line spacer, and the butt pad is by Pachmayr Gun Works, also with a white line spacer. Good sling swivels are fitted at correct position for either carrying or use as a shooting sling. The grip and forestock are both well and finely checkered. Forestock is long enough to afford a good secure grip for long-armed men.

The fine, light weight, tough Swedish steel Husqvarna action is fitted with a perfectly straight 26" barrel with ramp bead front in a big removable hood, large enough to see the front sight clearly at all times without removing the hood. The rear sight is what I asked for, a standard and two folding leaves for 100, 200, and 300 yards. It has flat-topped leaves with a small U notch. The only thing I do not approve on this rifle is the dovetail cut in the barrel for the rear sight. I would have preferred to have the base screwed or sweated to the barrel. Bolt release is a very small button on left side of receiver, works perfectly, is one of the easiest-to-use bolt releases we have seen. Safety is a small, well checkered button on the right side of the cocking piece. It is perfectly positioned, handy, and positive in its action.

As most shooters know, the Husqvarna is a small ring Mauser action yet has safely withstood blow-up tests with 220 grain ammunition in .30-06 caliber that completely shattered Mauser actions of other makes. A 220 grain factory loaded .30-06 was loaded into the chamber and then the barrel was tamped full of wet sand. When fired, most conventional Mausers came apart at the receiver ring, but the tough Swedish steel Husqvarna withstood the test. Bolt was, of course, frozen and action ruined, but it did not blow up or shatter as did other wellknown actions.

Left side of receiver is straight and free of all thumb cuts. The chamber covers the entire cartridge, including the belt, leaving only the rimless portion free for the extractor. The extractor is of the Mauser pattern, wide, for a good grip on the rim of the case. Chambering is clean and excellent.

The bolt is polished and engine turned, and the action works slick as a good National Match rifle, Extraction is free and easy with this new .358 Norma cartridge that develops 2790 feet with a 250 grain bullet. The receiver is tapped for conventional receiver sights on the right side of the bridge. and on top of bridge and receiver ring for conventional scope mounts. Trigger pull is a clean 31/2 pounds and like breaking glass, and the trigger is well curved to fit the finger and well positioned. The hinged floor plate release is in the front of the trigger guard like the old Magnum Mauser actions, and works smoothly and perfectly. The follower is well polished, the rear end ground to a taper so bolt will close whether magazine is loaded or not. The magazine feeds freely and easily, and loads easily from the top.

A steel cross bolt is fitted to the stock just back of the recoil lug to prevent the possibility of recoil splitting out recoil lug as has happened to so many heavy caliber holt action rifles. The completed rifle is light, slim, and trim as a chorus gal, with excellent lines. It balances perfectly at a point about the rear end of the receiver ring. The Keithstyle Monte Carlo comb is tight for use with iron sights for many men including myself, but useable and just right for perfect fit with a scope sight. The front swivel bore a little black and gold tag on a gold and black cord stating this rifle was hand finished by one Olof Svedlund. This Swedish gunmaker can well be proud to put his name on this rifle.

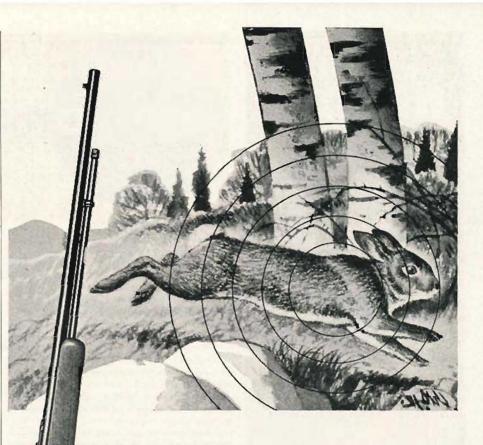
All told, the rifle shows excellent hand fitting and inspection. Polishing and blueing are excellent and comparable to any produced anywhere in the world. This rifle with open iron sights sells for \$210.00 from Tradewinds Inc. of Tacoma, Wash., and a lower grade with standard stock known as the Model 561 sells for \$172.50. The Crown Grade is known as Model 562.

We fitted a K-4 Weaver scope with splitring Q.D. top mounts, which makes a very good scope and mount for this rifle. E. H. Sheldon of Norma-Precision, South Lansing, N. Y., sent us the ammunition. The case is very similar to that of the .338 Winchester Magnum except the .358 Norma is slightly longer and has a longer powder chamber with slightly shorter neck. It is the short helted Magnum case and the overall length of the cartridge is one-eighth inch shorter than our .30-06 service round. The magazine has a rubber filler at front end to prevent battering of the soft nose bullets. If it was removed, the magazine well would be about the same as a standard .30-06. We tried the rifle with magazine fully loaded and noted no battering of bullet points from recoil.

There is nothing new about .35 caliber short Magnums; many American custom makers have made them. But it is new in the sense that it is now a commercially made and loaded cartridge, just as was the .35 Newton in years gone by.

For years I shot a .35 Whelen by Griffin & Howe and killed elk, deer, grizzly, black bear, and Alaskan brownies with it. I loaded the 275 grain Western Tool & Copper Works bullet with 57 grains 4064. That was my pet all-around rifle until we developed the .333 O.K.H., which did about the same thing but was flatter over long ranges because of its much greater sectional density. By the same token, the .338 Winchester cartridge uses bullets of greater sectional density and, to my notion, both the .338 Winchester (Continued on page 60)

Stevens



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Inside the 87, you'll find an auto-loading action proved by over a million sportsmen. Pours out 15 shots as fast as you pull the trigger. Lock the cross-bolt-you've got a repeater or single shot.

This new streamlined look and famous action are also features of the 87-K "Scout" carbine, along with desert tan stock, chromed trim, white-line butt plate.

Either of these new Stevens 22 automatic rifles makes an unbeatable Christmas gift. See them at your sporting arms dealer!

Write for free catalog of Savage, Stevens, Fox firearms. Savage Arms Corporation, Chicopee Falls 83, Mass. Prices subject to change. Slightly higher in Canada.

\$40.95, Model 87. Model 87-K "Scout" carbine, \$42.50.



IN ITALY

Sierra stops the most elusive animal in the HIGH ALPS

Alberto Gonzatti of Genoa says "...my favorite bullet, SIERRA 130 gr. Spitzer boat tail .277 in front of 57.1 gr. of #4350 never fails the target. I have killed more than 30 chamois with this bullet and always with one shot."



Mr. Gonzatti with a fine buck chamois, Range: 250 meters. (275 yds. approx.) Sierra one-shot kill from a high angle of at least 50°



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Uncluttered Magazine

I have been stationed in Korea for four months and, while my gun collecting activities are next to nil here, I can still get GUNS Magazine, and this makes things much easier. I've been reading your magazine ever since it first appeared, and I find it sticks to the main points of interest better than any other publication. Thanks for an uncluttered magazine on a great hobby.

After reading the article about the Sullivan Law in the July issue, I'm glad I don't live in a place where such an injustice is done to gun lovers. I lived in Skokie, Ill., where GUNS is published, all my life and never had any real trouble purchasing or owning guns there.

About your cover gun, July: I was of the opinion that the lower serial numbers on the Colt SA had the older type set screw for the cylinder pin. The gun illustrated has the frame with the spring-type catch for holding the cylinder pin in place. I thought this newer mechanism started around Serial No. 200,000.

> Pfc. Bruce R. Burtner 8th U. S. Army Ascom, Korea

You're a close observer. However, this type catch appeared in guns of 1896 manufacture, Serial Nos. about 165,000.—WBE

A Modest Man

My sincerest congratulations and thanks for your excellent story concerning our good friend, Walter H. B. Smith, in the September issue. Bill Thompson's praise-worthy article would have made Walter blush, for he was a modest man who spoke praise only of others.

I too had the privilege of knowing and working with Walter. It was an experience I shall never forget, and I am grateful that I had the opportunity to spend several hours with Walter three days prior to his untimely demise. Even then on the brink of a great new adventure, Walter was bubbling with enthusiasm.

Walter H. B. Smith's outstanding publications, including his recent book, "Gas, Air and Spring Guns of the World," will long remain a monument to this great authority of firearms and non-powder guns.

John R. Powers, Jr. Crosman Arms Company, Inc. Fairport, New York

A Happy Customer

I am writing to praise one of your advertisers, Anthony Guymon, Inc., for prompt service and honesty. Many gun shops seem no longer to give a damn about the little guy with a restricted budget, so it's nice to find a place where my business is welcome. Thank you for introducing me to my permanent gunsmith! Keep up the good work. James Hagerhaumer

Oakland, California

Well-meaning but Misguided

Enclosed is a clipping which I cut out of our newspaper. It is a typical example of the well-meaning but uninformed and misguided legislation that various people and groups are trying to pass.

This clipping appears to me to be the Pennsylvania Senate Bill 412 all over again. Fortunately, Pennsylvania Sportsmen were able to band together and cause that bill to be defeated. I hope that we here in Ohio are able to do the same.

Also enclosed is the letter I wrote to our Governor. In it I have included some fine material from your magazine. I hope you do not mind. Please pass the word to Ohioans who may not have heard about this proposed new bill. If we take prompt action we may be able to squelch this before it's too late. Ralph D. Hershberger Massillon, Ohio

The clipping, headed "Columbus (AP)," states: "Gov. Michael V. DiSalle wants strict gun laws in Ohio. The governor said Tuesday that the sale of a murder gun to a Cincinnati youth prompted him to advocate this course of action. He said he is looking into the possibility of asking the next legislature to make it a felony to obtain lethal weapons for minors and to require the licensing of firearms for private possession."

This is pretty typical of the thinking in anti-gun-legislation circles. When a gun is used in a crime, punish not only the criminal but also thousands of innocent firearms owners who never committed a crime and never will. It's strange logic, but it's the logic being used against us—Editors.

Book Burning

When I saw the picture of the smashed guns in the July issue of GUNS ("The People Vs. The Sullivan Law") it reminded me of a picture made about 1940 of Nazis burning books. The Nazis burned books and the New Yorkers smash guns—I can't see one iota of difference between them!

It makes me glad that I live in a free state. I think I did the proper thing while a Marine in New York City during WWII; slept with a loaded .45 Automatic under my pillow, "Remember that your constitutional right to keep and bear arms is the one right you have that protects all your other rights." N. F. McNaughton Duncan, Oklahoma

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Suggestion

I have subscribed to your magazine for about a year now, and like it fairly well. I read the letters of your readers with interest. They all seem to agree that the cranks who yell for gun registration are, shall we say, wrong. (I didn't know whether to laugh or cry when I saw Margaret Chase Smith's statement that she never touches a gun. If that's true, why is she on the Committee on Armed Services?)

We seem to be in agreement that gun registration and restriction is not the best remedy for the problems which the anti-gun cranks say they will solve by disarming us. My idea is that, even though your readers have the right ideas, nothing much is being done outside the shooting fraternity. I am sure that enough of the readers feel strongly enough about the situation to contribute to a fund which could be set up for the purpose of educating the public (through newspapers, magazines, radio, and television) as to our side of the argument. We know we're right, so let's go ahead.

Please don't print my name. Jamaica Plain, Mass.

Nazis In Canada?

Guns is one of the best magazines I've ever read, but the main reason this letter was written wasn't to praise the magazine. Being a Canadian, I know what it's like to have ridiculous gun laws. In fact, you might as well be in New York. You'd think we Canadians would do something about it. According to a certain newspaper, Nazi parties are coming back again. It looks like we'll be needing our guns. The only good Nazi is a dead one.

A Disgusted Canadian, Vancouver, B.C.

We don't ordinarily take a second look at unsigned letters but this one is worth noticing. For cooperative pro-gun legislative work, join your Canadian shooting associations. A lawyer much concerned with sensible firearms legislation is Charles Hebert, Rm 413, Terminal Bldg., Queen's Quay, Toronto 1, Ontario. Mr. Hebert can give you information on joining Canadian shooting associations and in making your voice felt in the Provincial capitals and in Ottawa. Recently, for example, the Canadian parliament outlawed standard issue rifles because the barrels were shorter than someone thought "they ought to be." Canadian shooters had no voice in this administrative ruling which was secretly enacted into law. For my part, I wish the folks in Detroit would outlaw automobile tail fins "longer than I think they ought to be." Makes about as much sense.-Editors.

Ought There To Be A Law?

Many hunting deaths and accidents have taken place in the west this past season. Perhaps many would learn to look carefully before shooting, if it were law to run down the wounded animal; if necessary, to camp on the trail at darkness and resume the tracking the next day. It should be possible to develop a moral obligation to kill, or miss completely; to not fire unless within the limitations of the individual. If it "looks like" a deer, elk or bear—then what does the sight aim at for this fatal shot?

The misconception that big guns, velocity, scopes, and wildcats will bring home meat is evident. The "chance" shot and "not certain" aiming also brings home pain, heartache and ever lasting grief. Any weapon, regardless of power, type or velocity, should be used with a moral obligation to respect the beast, and other sportsmen.

Adolph Varnes Palouse, Washington

Ballistics Bravo

This is a little helated, but I just got hold of the January 1960 issue which I missed. I refer to your "Notes on Killing Power," and wish to say about the author, Chatfield-Taylor, Bravo, we have a thinker in our midst. Can we have more of this?

T. G. Butenshaw Willimansett, Mass.

Appreciate the note, "Belated," but strongly urge everyone to subscribe right now to avoid such an egregious oversight as missing any important forthcoming issue. See our subscription ads, and then sign up. And by the way, Mr. B., have you considered giving a GUNS gift for Chrismas?

Out Of The Mouths Of Babes . . .

I just read Dean Obrecht's article "Survival on City Streets" in GUNS and it is the finest article about anti-gun legislation I've ever read. I'm only 13 years old but I'm a potential "gun nut". Please congratulate Mr. Obrecht for me. I have just one big gripe. Which instrument kills more people, a gun or an automobile? An automobile, of course, but are those fool legislators cooking up anti-car laws? No. of course not, so why infringe "the right of the people to keep and bear arms?" The anti-gun crank who sees someone with a gun assumes he is a hood; they never think he wants to protect himself against knife-wielding young punks who kill for no apparent reason except their sadistic inclinations. I'm mad, damn good and mad (excuse my language). Keep up the good work against the anti-gun cranks. When I'm 18, I'll help you.

Mike Hagadorn Gansevoort, New York

You can help us right now, Mike. First, no legislator is a fool. He may or he may not serve your interests, but he is not stupid. He wouldn't be where he is today if he were. Secondly, the automobile industry is far more vocal about its interests than are gun dealers and most shooters. If the gun shop where you buy Guns was half as active as you were just by writing a letter, matters would be far different in New York state today. You are only 13, but you (and your friends, teenagers and adults) could write your Assemblyman or Congressman. He's probably at home now.—Editors.

Non-Presidential Candidate

It was with regret that I read that Senator Stuart Symington had joined the ranks of those few members of Congress who are either too ill-informed or too husy to comment on the validity of the Second Amendment to the Constitution.

I had viewed Mr. Symington's candidacy for the Presidency with some favor, but now it is not inconceivable that when he appears on the television screen or his voice issues forth from the radio, the press of other duties will prevent me from giving him my undivided attention.

> William R. Kemsley Detroit, Michigan

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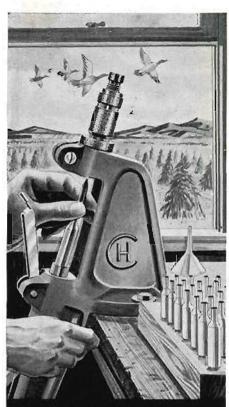
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By KENT BELLAH

Hornet and K-Hornet Loads

O UR SMALLEST center fire the .22 Hornet, was born in the early 1930's, and sold as a factory cartridge before a factory rifle was made for it. Gun writers, bless 'em, spent lots of ink praising it to high Heaven. Now that it's getting old, the scribes are fickle as an alley cat. They lavish their affectionate ink on younger and hotter numbers, bridging the gap between a Hornet and the loud-mouthed Swift. The .222 and 6mm have jumped into top places on the varmint hit parade. The Hornet took another low blow when the lower powered .22 Winchester Magnum Rimfire came out

A Hornet doesn't handle heavy pills, or buck wind like a 6mm. Only a few factory rifles are made for it. The trend is to higher and higher velocity in this jet agc. Add up these facts and what do you have? Not in my humble opinion, any obsolete rifle; not by a long shot!

The wildcat-born Hornet was a fine number, when it came out. It's still as good as it ever was. Accuracy is near the top, although it isn't apt to win competitions. Factory loads are excellent; not too expensive. You can hand load for flatter trajectory and faster blowup on varmints, or less destructive loads for eating game, like turkeys. K chambers, same base but expanded at the shoulder, allow extra steam in the boiler. All versions are easy to load, economical, and companion-caliber revolvers increase your shooting fun. Many a handloader started a lifetime of shooting fun with a Hornet as his first center fire for refilling.

Hornets come in many brands. Winchester's M70 is one of the best production rifles, and many older M54s are still around, performing like circus ponies. Their inexpensive M43 was good, with a little bedding and trigger work. The Savage M219 and M340 are a lot of rifle for the money. My M340 strung shots in a vertical line until I put paper shims under the fore-end; then it responded like a stray dog to a kind word. The F.I. Sako numbers are high grade guns, well tuned-up, right out of the box.

Good used guns are available at attractive prices. They will be around for a long, long time, and you can pack one without shame, even in Hi-V gun society. They clobber most varmints you see up to coyotes, and the mild report helps good farmer-hunter relations. Performance is amazing to lads "not in the know," and to some who are.

A good Hornet rifle's range is about 150 yards on varmints; some say 200 yards. A "K" chamber extends the range about 50 yards. If "to K or not to K is the question," I'll take the blown-out version. You hold the accuracy, get a lot more whoosh, and loading is less critical. Both handle companion handgun loads well.

A 45 grain factory pill starts at 2,650 f.p.s. Mid-range trajectory is .8" at 100 yards, 4" at 200, 12.6" at 300. Muzzle energy is 700 foot pounds, at 100 yards 430, at 200 345, and at 300 only 238 F.P. At 200 yards a 5 m.p.h. cross wind drifts the pellet 7", compared to $3\frac{1}{2}$ " for a .222 Rem. This is why 200 yards is a bit far to pin-point hits, and bullet blowup is inadequate. At that range they penetrate and whine. These factors favor a K-Hornet, and/or handloads.

Sisk alone makes a 35 gr. pill. His max load is 11.6 grs. 2400 for 3,000 f.p.s. in standard Hornets; or 11.2 grs. 2400 and his 40 gr. pill for 2,860. His 45 gr. slug with 9.7 grs. 2400 gets 2,600 f.p.s.

Speer lists their 40 grain with 10.8 grs. 2400 for 2.901, or their 45 gr. pill for 3,001 f.p.s. with 11.9 grs. 2400.

Always work up loads in one lot number of cases, as cases vary greatly in capacity. The newer heavy hulls brought out several years ago caused plenty of trouble with old loads. Current Remington brass is thinner than W-W makes, allowing heavier charges. Long bearing surface bullets increase pressure. Some gons have tight bores, Sierra, Sisk and others supply .223" or .224" bullets, the latter being best in most rifles or revolvers. All blowup better than factory pills.

Lysle D. Kilbourn (now with Lyman Gun Sight Corp.) was not the first to find "that a standard cartridge fired in an enlarged chamber would improve combustion," as one gun magazine incorrectly stated. However, Lysle worked with the K-Hornet he named, and made it popular. Loading Lysle's haby is non-critical; you can merely fill a formed case within '%" of the mouth, and have a deadly, accurate load! You can load in the field with small pocket tools, without a measure or scale. A simple tool is made by S.A.S., Box 205, North Bend. Oregon.

Lysle likes a 45 grain bullet with 12 grains 4227, for velocity near 3,000 f.p.s., depending on the rifle, case and bullet. The long bearing Morse 8-S gave higher velocity—and pressure. Speer's Handbook lists their 45 grain pill with 13.1 grains at 3,028 f.p.s. A pressure increase does not necessarily increase velocity, and vice versa. (That's why I continually yap that you should work up loads.) The late Bushnell Smith got 3,185 f.p.s. with an 8-S 40 grain ahead of 13 grs. 4227. Speer's 40 grain revs up to 3,218 f.p.s. with 13.5 grs. Some of these loads may be too hot for practical accuracy.

Kilbourn had no leading with Lyman's No. 225415 cast 10:1 lead-tin, sized, .224", at up (Continued on page 38)

TIME-PROVEN SUPER-X AND SUPER SPEED WALLOP 'EM NOT WARN 'EM

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Czech Over-Under Shotgun By JOHN NEUMYER

Outdoor Editor, Stars & Stripes

I have been using the new Czech Brno ZH 101 over-under shotgun for several months at the various Olympic-style (two shots allowed at each bird) trap shoots in Germany. I am very pleased with the way it is made, its balance and the way in which it is polished and fitted. The wood is carefully checkered walnut, and the Poldi steel barrels and action are carefully inletted, beautifully blued and the man-size forcarm (for the trap barrels) is a joy to hold.

Unusual though it is, I even like the action, breech block of which slides back 3%" after the lever is pressed to break the piece. The cocking lever simply activates the Greener cross bolt. Then the gunner must use considerable pressure on the barrels to break the piece, because of the powerful cocking spring, the massive claw and the camming action.

The top European gunners to whom I showed the ZH 101 expressed only mild interest and, when they heard of the low price, they didn't even want to shoot it. American rod and gun clubs over here [USAREUR in Germany] can buy it with one set of barrels for less than \$100. The German shooters prefer the Belgian FNs, Brownings and the Merkel, made in East Germany. These start out at over \$200 and go to \$1500 or more.

It would seem that the ZH 101 is a timely attempt to introduce to the world market an inexpensive over-under shotgun with highest quality steel and workmanship but without the frills demanded by big-name shooters whose reputations insist they shoot the costliest gun available. The ZH 101 has all the quality and strength it needs to fracture the most elusive clay pigeon and to me it has the feel and balance of a fine field gun, with the shorter, more open-choked barrels. Its economy lies in the absence of selective ejectors, single trigger, ventilated rib and regular shotgun-type safety. The ZH 101 safety is imbedded in the prow of the trigger guard and needs a nudge of the forefinger.

The solid rib means added weight and chance of mirage. I saw the heat waves when I looked for them. But while heating this piece up during four 25-round bursts, I wasn't conscious of the heat waves. The ZH 101 has double triggers. The rear trigger fires both harrels. The first squeeze lets off the bottom, or modified harrel. The second squeeze fires the upper, or full-choke, barrel. The front trigger fires only the upper barrel—a good feature for the field gunner.

Disassembly and assembly of the ZH 101 is slower than with other over-unders. One needs a strong finger or even a tool to depress the nodule which protrudes slightly from the left side of the breech block and which then releases the barrels and forearm from the action. The fit of my two sets of barrels is so precisely machined that they slide in and out with the same degree of pressure. There is no rattle, play or indication of future infidelity. Everything is tight, closely mated and excellently fitted.

My only criticism of the ZH 101 is a gentle chide at the finisher folk at the factory who didn't remove the burrs on the machined inside parts. As a result the exterior blued finish of the barrel breech is crow-footed at the pivot, where they could otherwise have been mirror-bright. I have forwarded this observation to the sole exporters. The address is Omnipol, Washingtonova 11, Prague 3, Czechoslovakia.—Johnny Neumyer.

WITH THE holiday season ahead, GUNS Magazine is a gun gift sure to please. Send GUNS Magazine each month as a gift to a friend. Each issue filled with latest up-to-theminute facts and stories about what's new in world of guns and shooting. Hunting articles by masters in the field will help gun fan to be better hunter. Experts reveal their secrets of pistol, rifle, shotgun mastery in GUNS. You can't know guns without GUNS. A year: \$5. Just send money or we bill. Address: GUNS Magazine, Dept, Serip., 8150 N, Central Park Ave., Skokie, Ill. Gift cards available.

Big Gun: Big Cartridge

Shooting the big Swede-I mean, the really big Swede, the 20 mm. so-called recoilless antitank rifle sold by Deutschland Ordnance Co.-is a genuine thrill. After two shots with this big gun I can't think of anything I'd rather do than maybe hit myself over the head with a sledge hammer. It feels so good when I stop. And so it is with this light weight and tremendously powerful individual weapon which Deutschland Ordnance is selling. At the touch of the trigger, back and front of the gun are enveloped in a bright blue flame and a thunderclap like an atom bomb echoes back from the hills. The shooter himself, firing in the standing position, can get knocked on his can if he doesn't brace himself far forward, leaning into his bent knee in the standing position. The gun has a nice sliding breech block, looks a little like a small size Krupp with a long barrel. It sits on the shoulder and has a good set of sights-actually, quite comfortable to handle. I fired it twice (at \$5 per cartridge I didn't feel like shooting it more) and the angry red bruise on my chest remained for several weeks. Indeed, it is not a gun easily tamed. With a few more shots I would have been tamed by it, I fear!

The pint-sized cartridge (pint: ¼ quart) holds considerably more powder than any one in his same mind would fire from the

shoulder: the 20mm solid shot whistles down range at 2700 f.p.s. or more and, as the case base plastic sections burn out, the gas vomits out the breech vents behind your ear in a hair-raising clatter. I stood near a small lake and kicked up a storm from the back blast 25 feet out in the water. This is not a toy for kids but for really big boys. As a shooting novelty, it has a rather aweinspiring nature. Technical data including prices on guns, spare parts (need replacement of recoil plate after 20 rounds, flame guide after 50) and other info from Deutschland Ordnance Co., 1122 Hughes Ave., Santa Rosa, Calif. D.O.Co. also has some Schmeisser barrels and other military arms and parts.

Shooting Gallery In Your Home

Now available for game room, basement, home hobby shooting are the Evans Automatic Mechanical Shooting Galleries for rifle and pistol practice. These heavy-duty but small, practical set-ups are identical in construction to the rugged shooting galleries you see in carnivals. Evans Park & Carnival Corp. makes many kinds of game and carnival devices and their shooting galleries are world renowned. Current idea is to set up such a unit—three can shoot at once—in your game room. Prices range from about \$300 to about \$1000, different arrangements of cast-iron moving targets, spinning crows, swimming ducks and bullseye bell ringers.

These are special installations but Marshall Field & Co., Chicago Gun Center and V L & A have all sold a few examples since Evans started to branch out into sportsmen's sales. Write to Evans, Attn. Mr. Berge, 1509 N. Halsted St., Chicago 22, for details and prices.

British Readers Take Notice

Firearms Development Labs of Pasadena, Calif., have appointed Metropolitan Arms Co., Ltd., 31-33 Chase Side, London N 14, as sales representatives. FDL makes the "Wondersight" adjustable rear target-type sight for Smith & Wesson service revolvers which needs no alteration to the gun to attach. Similar model is available for Colt service revolvers, requires drilling and threading one screw hole. Metropolitan Firearms Co. stocks Wondersights for shooters and the trade generally.

Forster-Appelt Reloader Catalog

We visited the works of Forster-Appelt Mfg. Co., at Lanark, Ill., and were much impressed by the completeness and efficiency of their shop layout, as well as by the quantity of their products. The new catalog No. 60, just out, illustrates, describes, and prices a variety of implements like their famous case trimmers, loading die blanks, chamber gauges, bullet puller, etc. The Universal Sight Mounting Fixture is costly at \$89.75, but is a full-length, rigidly built jig into which you can place a barreled action and locate and drill the holes for sight mounting in "jig time." Their new Zer-Oing Rest is a heavy duty but light weight handsomely colored alloy and steel pedestal rest. A round knob lets you "dial the elevation" (Continued on page 65)

(one of a series of reports to shooters)

Why precision headspacing results in outstanding accuracy

A great deal has been written, and for good reason, about the ef-fects of excessive or insufficient headspace...perhaps not enough about inaccuracy due to im-proper headspacing. Excessive headspace, for example, permits increased cartridge end-play in the chamber. If cartridge is positioned differently in chamber from shot to shot, ignition of primer and charge will vary. Accuracy will suffer,

accuracy resulting from its precision headspacing (measured at "A" above).

The adjusting of the 110's precise headspacing is accomplished by the

use of the most modern equipment

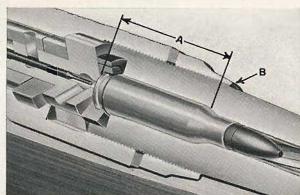
Hallmark of the accuracy of the 110 is the barrel lock nut illustrated

above. This nut is your assurance of perfectly adjusted, rigidly inspected

headspacing (illustrated above "B").

Every Savage 110 is, of course, targeted before release. According to

letters from sportsmen the country over, the 110's accuracy under field



RAVAGE 116 HEADSPACING HAS BEEN PRAISED HIGHLY BY MANY LEADING GUNSMITHS AND SHOOTING EXPERTS

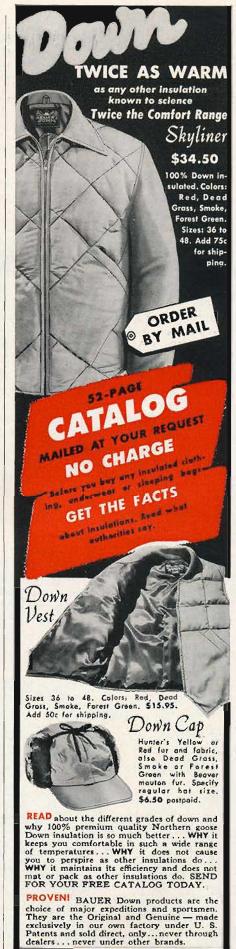
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Have you seen and shot the Savage 110? Your sporting arms dealer now has this accurate, featherweight highpower rifle, advanced throughout in design and engineering.

LEFT-HANDERS! Get the facts about the new Savage 110-MCL, not a conversion, not a special-order item, but the first true left-hand big-game rifle ever produced in volume!

Model 110, \$112.50. 110-MC, with Monte Carlo stock, ideal for scope, \$114.75. 110-MCL, \$124.75. Calibers .30-06 and .270, .243 and .308.

Savage Arms, Chicopee Falls 119. Massachusetts.





and methods.

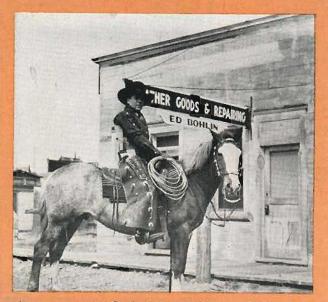
THE MAN WHO MAKES

By VINCENT TRAYLOR

G UNS AND LEATHER go together. Since the first holster was invented, gunmen have prided themselves on "fancy rigs." Silver, gold and guns, too, match well: and in the never-never land of Hollywood, fancy gun rigs, saddles of Oriental richness, pistols encrusted with precious metal, are virtually commonplace.

On the other hand, in Hollywood's tinsel world a real cowboy is a rarity. But TV viewers and cinemadicts should be impressed to learn that one of the most prolific creators of this tinsel image, Edward H. Bohlin, is far from being a make-believe cowboy. This bantamweight craftsman has the rolling gait of the man who spent his years aboard a bronc, and the "tinsel" which he created, the flashy silver and gold which bedecks the gaily caparisoned steeds of the Sheriff's Posse groups that ride in the Tournament of Roses and similar affairs, is far from tinsel. It is the real thing, and many pounds weight and dollars worth of pure metal have been consumed by the Swedish-born holster and harness maker in his only slightly less than incredible career of decorating the stars until they shine like one.

When young Ed Bohlin wandered into the cowtown of Miles City, Montana, looking for work as a cowboy, the lure of the Great West had already smitten him. As a child visiting in Copenhagen, Denmark, he had seen the Wild West Show of the great Buffalo Bill Cody. Little did he dream then he would be working for Buffalo Bill as a cowhand, but that is what happened soon after he arrived in America. But the Miles City job was the one that took the rough



As young man in Cody, Wyo., Bohlin punched cows at roundup, then punched leather and silver off-season.



THE STARS SHINE...

COWBOY, EXPERT GUNMAN, ARTIST IN LEATHER AND METAL, BOHLIN'S RIGS LEND GLITTER TO HOLLYWOOD HEROES



Heavy with carved silver, artist's own rig carries twin Bisley Colts. Low hammer spur is favorite of the Swedishborn saddle smith because his short thumbs can reach hammer easily.

> Flamboyant but not garish, Bohlin's favorite Frontier pair is heavily inlaid with silver in flush floral designs, with scroll-chiseled handles.

Serviceable but showy are Ed Bohlin's own sporters with floorplates engraved EHB. Stock carving is well balanced in areas normally checkered such as pistol grip and forend, but is far more decorative.

<



edges off him, showed him the America he drew in silver.

He asked a big, tall cowboy with two guns—the Deputy Sheriff—if he knew anybody doing hiring. Another cowboy overheard, asked if Bohlin had any experience. Young Ed responded he had worked with his father's cavalry horses back in Sweden. Allowing that horses is horses, the cowboy made a date to meet him in the afternoon at Tom Jones saloon, to head for a job. The two rode off 45 miles up Tonue River, arriving at the round up late at night. The rancher had 900 head of horses to sell, and they had to be brought together and driven to Miles City.

Bohlin wore in on the saddle and dropped his greenhorn ways mighty fast in that job, riding 45 miles a day and changing horses three times daily. The 900 horses were rounded up inside of three weeks, trailed off to Miles City, and auctioned to one big buyer, all 900 of 'em. This was Bohlin's first introduction to the western stock and roping saddles. By now, he has probably decorated as many saddles in massive sterling silver and built as many matching "thutty thutty" gold and carved saddle scabbards, as there were horses in this gigantic remuda.

He knocked about from outfit to outfit, and hired out to take cattle to Chicago. He made a stop over at Minneapolis, Minnesota, and managed to remain there four months. "During that time, I studied art at one of the local schools, then went back to Miles City to work on another cattle ranch," he recalls. "I kept up my study of art, hoping that some day I could put it to use; but I did not like the idea of being cooped up in a studio doing commercial designing, and finally got the idea that I could apply my knowledge to leather and silver work." He applied that eye and hand to shaping metal and carving leather; made a three-piece buckle set once from old copper that the foreman liked so much he sent to Denver for silver and had Bohlin duplicate it in the precious metal. "He is still wearing the buckle, and every so often he comes to my place for a new belt," Ed

declared. "But he will not give up the buckle."

Cold weather in the roundup of the Fall of '15 made Bohlin long for warmer climes, so he shifted to Cody, Wyoming, and got a job on a ranch on the bench east of Cody. This was the spread of one William F. Cody. Bohlin had met the old man years before in Copenhagen!

Says Bohlin, "I came to know him quite well. Sometimes he would tell me of his experiences hunting buffalo, and his battle with Chief Yellow Hand. I asked him what caliber gun he used to break clay balls.

"Colonel Cody told me that, in the last show, he used a .44-40 Winchester loaded with fine shot; he could not use bullets. He also showed me how to make a mould to make the clay balls. One day I met him in town, in Cody. He told me he was leaving for the south to attend to some business and said I wouldn't have to worry about my job, as his son-in-law would take care of things at the ranch, and that he would see me when he got back. But I never saw him (Continued on page 39)

Shooting Rats At 80 MPH

UGLY AND UNIVERSALLY HATED, NUTRIA OFFER VARMINTERS A NEW TARGET PLUS AIRBOATING THRILLS



Airboat shooting platform skimming through marsh provides rifle-warming fun on rats.

By LOUIS CORBEAU

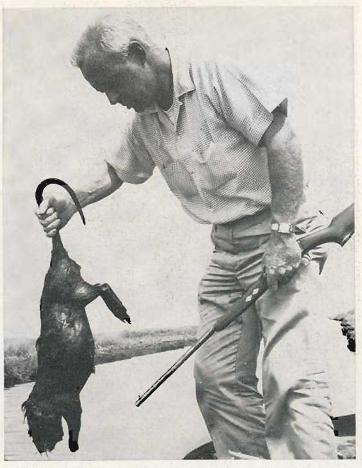
YOU THINK 80 miles per hour is faster than a rat can run? It is. These rats do run, but the speed referred to is that of the platform from which we shoot. The rats are nutria—perhaps the ugliest and surely one of the most hated of all the varmints; and the 80 MPH shooting platform is the deck of an airboat—a craft shaped like a very wide racing hydroplane, driven by an air propeller powered by a huge bull-throated airplane engine, steered by a big air fin behind the propeller.

The place? A big flooded salt-grass prairie three miles south of Florida's Intercoastal Canal, with side trips into various channels.

Here's how it goes: We're skipping down a winding canal, Al driving, me clutching a little old Browning .22 automatic rifle. I'm admiring Al's skill with the boat, because you don't really steer these craft—you point 'em, and gun the motor. The normal course is long skid, for the boat has no keel, hardly touches the water. It bounces, something like a flat rock skipping along the surface.

Al pounds me on the shoulder and points. A tremendous rat-like animal is heading for the water at a lumbering gallop across the bare mud flat. I swing the rifle, brace my knee against the hull, and touch off five shots. I score five clean misses. Al holds his nose in justifiable disgust.

We come out of a long (Continued on page 42)



Milady would scream at idea of wearing rat coat but South American nutria Corbeau shot were imported by fur breeders.



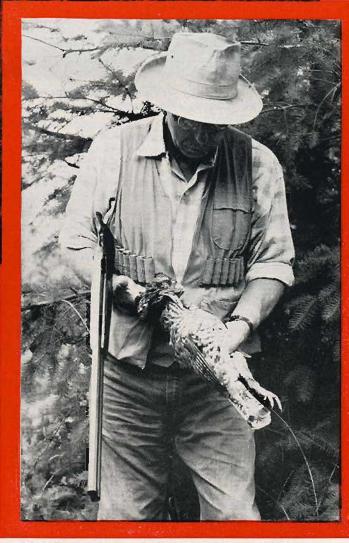
Little Browning .22 autoloader got too hot to handle while peppering rat-infested river banks with a fusillade of lead.

The Grouse that Smells Like a Deer

By FRANCIS E. SELL

THE WESTERN RUFFED GROUSE doesn't wear a ten gallon hat but he does wear spurs. He's gaudy. He differs from his eastern cousin in every department; more canny. It takes a special gun and load to scrag him, a special hunting technique. All this I learned the hard way, hunting him autumn after autumn in the multicolored Oregon coast forests.

The avid ruffed grouse hunter who prowls the multicolored New England hardwoods, well trained grouse dog at heel, would wonder what I was up to if he saw me hunting this western bird. He might even suspect I wasn't , hunting the same strutting, canny birds found each autumn in those eastern sun ripened wild grapes or abandoned Vermont apple orchards, and, in a way they would be right.



Day's hunt convinced Sell only thing foolish about western grouse, called "Fool Hen," was Easterner who thought they sit still to be shot. The western ruffed grouse I hunt has little in common with his eastern branch of the family. These differences are not to his discredit, either. They make for a wonderful, rich, often frustrating gunning. They call for different guns, loads, chokes; above all, for different hunting techniques. Leave out just one of these requirements, and you will not be bothered by a heavy game bag at the end of a day. By the same token, if you put in one gunning segment too many, your bag is light—especially if that gunning segment happens to be lifted bodily from an eastern ruffed grouse covert.

I recall an eastern gunner who stopped at my hideout in the most misty hills of Southwestern Oregon to argue shotguns, relax, maybe do a bit of shooting, if I had an extra gun. I did: suggested a day of ruffed grouse shooting. He grinned skeptically, called the western ruffed grouse "Fool Hen." He quoted a nationally known writer on angling about trying to push a western ruffed grouse off a low-growing spruce with a fly rod. This Fool Hen wouldn't fly. It just sat there, goggle eyed. "And how are you going to get any sporting gunning with such a bird," he asked. "Tree-shoot them?"

I like a good ruffed grouse yarn, even if it hasn't a feather of fact in it. But I have never met such an unsophisticated ruffed grouse, not even in the wilderness section of the Northwest. The variety I hunt in the foothills of Oregon's fabulous Coquille Valley are skeptical, and as temperamental as prima donnas. Sometimes, when they are exceptionally difficult, I wish I had one of those eastern ruffed grouse gunners along, just to show him that the New England ruffed grouse hasn't all the gunning answers, not by a long shot. I did take that avid eastern ruffed grouse gunner through my three mile grouse walk. We could have done all right, too, if he could have forgotten about New England ruffed grouse.

Up to the halfway mark, he had fired nine shells without disturbing a feather on my tricky west coast grouse. When I walked across to him from an adjoining ridge, two ruffed grouse in my hunting jacket, he wanted to call it quits. He would wire east for a *real* ruffed grouse gun, a twintubed Parker, which, I gathered from his sputtering exposition, had everything: improved cylinder right barrel, modified left, 28 inch tubes, 12 gauge, weighing $7\frac{1}{2}$ pounds.

He said no more about the sporty qualities of west coast ruffed grouse. Instead, he looked along the ridge at the dense growing maples, mountain willow, the jungle of black huckleberry brush. He asked how in heck a gunner was supposed to swing; assess lead, in this misbegotten jungle? He had some qualifying remarks about his overunder 20 gauge Marlin, throwing good honest 70 per cent patterns with the full choked barrel, 60 per cent patterns with the modified—gun, load, (Continued on page 32)

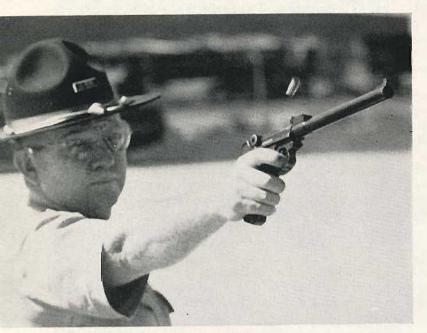
CALL HIM WHAT YOU WILL, THE WEST COAST RUFFED GROUSE WILL GIVE YOU SOME NEW SLANTS ON GUNNING





Oregon woods-writer Sell wrung out Dakin double 20(1), Marlin O/U 20 (above) and Breda Mk II 20-gauge Magnum in choosing 20-bore for grouse.

GERMAN SHOOTER TELLS LUGER GUNSMITH SECRETS WHICH WILL HELP YOU GET TARGET ACCURACY FROM YOUR PISTOL



Sgt. Wade tries Wyatt Luger, latest .45 version of famous toggle pistol.





'08 Parabellum.

bellum.

Round ball, tiny powder charge, caps suit .30 case for indoor practice.



D URING TWO GENERATIONS, the Luger pistol was the reliable friend and combat sidearm for German soldiers in the two great wars. Like the Mauser 98 rifle, the Luger has become known and honored throughout the world. The Swiss prize the Luger for target shooting, and Lugers have been bought for service with the Japanesé, Latvian, and even the American armies. It has proved itself from the arctics to the tropics.

By Ing. SIEGFRIED WAGNER

THE LUGER PISTOL has been written up in many books and magazines. Guxs published (Jan. 1956) a history of the Luger by Fred Datig, author of the book, "The Luger Pistol." His article was reprinted in Germany. Harry Jones has prepared an excellent volume listing all the "Luger Variations." The two are indispensable for the collector. But, since the Wm. Reichenback eulogy of the Luger in "Automatic Pistol Marksmanship," nothing for the shooter has appeared on Die Pistole

Yet one war and many surplus deals later, the Luger pistol continues to be a part of the American gun-sports scene. Custom pistol-smith Ken Wyatt (718-16th St., Lewiston, Idaho) uses the Luger as the basis for a much-altered, fine-shooting .45 match automatic. "It shoots with a different type of recoil, softer, and seemingly easier," reports M/Sgt. Jim Wade. And now, from a German engineer, a longtime enthusiast for the Luger as a target pistol, come exclusive tested tips on tuning Die Luger Para-

Unlike heavy-slide automatic pistols, Lugers have recoiling parts grouped in two sets, giving a different sort of kick. The cartridge case is supported by the toggle joint breech, which is like a stiff knee, suddenly pushed out of line so it collapses, allowing the cartridge case then to blow back. But meanwhile, under pressure, the knee-joint breech is in line, locked, and the whole barrel with the extensions that support the knee-joint toggle are allowed to recoil for about $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Thus the recoil energy is taken up first by the whole barrel, barrel extension, and toggle assembly, recoiling in the locked position and, secondly, by the further

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After cross-country ride during all-around test of Cavalry Officers comes pistol shooting. Photo shows improvised range at Berlin, 1936.

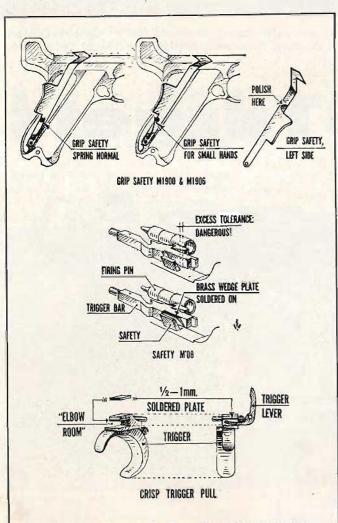
Luger For Targets

With sideplate removed, sear bar and trigger needing changes are exposed.

Luxurious engraving garnishes a rare Carbine Luger. Work is by Prudhomme.



Toggle joint collapses upward in Luger recoil, takes a big part of kick. Sgt. Wade says .45 is unusually easy.



Author Wagner evolved modifications to Pistole 08 mechanism to take up slack, increase sure action of safety. Few gunsmiths know the Luger. Jazzy 16" tube garnishes Luger possibly imported by Pacific Firearms 1920.

motion of the toggle as it collapses in a bent knee fashion. Since the barrel is very solidly screwed into the barrel extension or receiver, this makes an unusually solid and accurate shooting-machine. All Luger working parts are easy to inspect and examine for safety and function. The Luger-Parabellum was made in three major models. "Parabellum" is from Latin *parare*, to get ready, and *bellum*, war. All Lugers were "got ready for war" but the Luger in peace is a fine-shooting target arm.

First Luger is the M1900, with an S-shaped recoil spring, two pieces of flat metal riveted and curved. On the right toggle knob is a special latch, to prevent premature opening of the breech block, especially in handling the gun. If the toggle is accidentally caused to lift up, it will not fire. To load this Old Model 1900, you have to first pull the toggle-barrel group straight back to disengage the special latch; then upwards to open the breech like all other Lugers. This model did not have a stock attachment lug.

The M1906 introduces the spiral spring for the recoiling action. The securing latch on the toggle is abandoned, experience having shown that with the new "snappier" spring this was not necessary. Both models had grip-squeeze safety handles acting with the safety lever on the left side of the frame. Caliber was usually .30 Luger, or 7.65mm, a bottleneck cartridge of high velocity. A shoulder stock model was supplied as a sports weapon, even for roe deer hunting. The Kaiser, who had a withered arm, used the .30 caliber Luger Carbine for hunting because he could hold and shoot it easily with one hand. Compared to modern powerful pistol calibers the .30 Luger has less stopping power, but in its day the flat trajectory and great precision made it most popular. In the 43/4" (12 cm.) barrel length it is adopted as the Swiss Ordnance Pistol and world's records have been fired with it, as at Caracas, Venezuela, in 1954.

The world-famous 9mm Parabellum cartridge first made its appearance in the Luger M1904. Then it was adopted, in a 7" barrel model (15 cms.) for the Kaiser's Navy. In 1908 the German Army adopted the spiral-spring design of 1906, using the 9mm cartridge with 4" (10 cm.) barrel. The "Pistole 08" became known throughout the whole world. About 1915 the '08 pistol frame was made with a lug for attaching a stock similar to the earlier Luger carbine. In 1917 the well known "machine gunner's model" Luger with 8" barrel, 9mm caliber, fitted with sights upon the barrel, was first issued. With the stock attached it was supposed to be a replacement at short rifle range (or long pistol range) for the heavier Karbiner 98. I never have found these gun stock extras very practical for use. All Parabellum models were fitted out with longer barrels and adjustable sights for target pistol "service" competitions. The '08 model has only the side safety lever.

Manufacture of the Luger (Continued on page 46)

TEACHER OF SPORT



Effective, subtle teacher, single shot gun or rifle inspires caution, restraint, accuracy. Rt., neighbor Ross Keffer has one dog, one gun, one rabbit—with one shot.



THE SINGLE-SHOT GUN-

MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING IN THE OLD LONG-RIFLE TRADITION THAT "THE MAN WITH ONE BULLET—HITS"

By ROBERT R. BOWERS

M Y ONLY HUNTING ARM for more than 20 years was a single barrel shotgun. Handed over to me by my father when I was 12, it has not been a particularly "trusty" weapon, and many times I have threatened to sell it. I came closest to selling when, after missing a rabbit at 20 yards, I found that the pattern had no center: it shot a "doughnut" pattern. But, hasty thoughts are soon forgot. Who, after all, could auction off a gun that had killed his first game, and one that carried the hunting spirit of two generations? Who, also, could dream of selling a gun that had been his greatest teacher, instructing him in care and patience on every shot, and geared his mind to thinking before he shot at anything?

Sentiment for old guns is not the essence of this article. The patient teaching of careful skill, is. The single barrel shotgun, as a class, is one of hunting's most subtle, effective teachers. It is the gun that most youngsters must cut their teeth on, if the sport is to remain safe and truly sporting.

As a tense and frightened boy some 20-odd years ago, I headed out to a field to hunt rabbits, shotgun under arm. That first "lone eagle" hunt will long be remembered as the least productive, but the most influential, upon the future of my shooting that I have known.

When the first rabbit jumped up in front of me, I aimed quickly and fired. The full load of shot dug up a trench of earth behind it, as the rabbit took an abrupt jump to the left. Another (*Continued on page* 53)



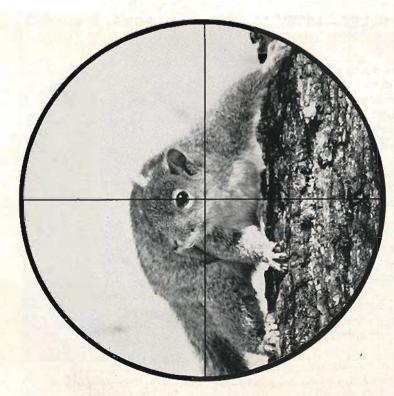
Single-gun has less machinery to rattle, is less likely to be handled carelessly.





Big objective of Leupold Vari-power aids brightness, while Pachmayr Lo-Swing mount allows using iron sight.

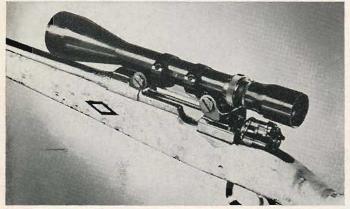
SCOPES make better SCORES





Hunting-writer Vinson's current battery equips him to hunt every species of game in his Tennessee locale. At top, Coltmaster scope on Colt .243 is 6X, good inbetween choice for varminting. Pistol mounts IX Weaver.





Scopechief on Sako features internal adjustments, but B & L feels external adjust mount is stronger. Decrying idea he is any Davy Crockett, Vinson tells why he likes scopes under any conditions to help his shots hit.

CHOOSE THE SCOPE THAT FITS BOTH

YOUR RIFLE AND THE USE TO WHICH YOU WILL PUT IT

By CARLOS VINSON

 $T_{\text{even like scopes on my .22 handguns. In short, I'm crazy about scopes.}$

But there's reason behind my madness: scopes improve my scores. With iron sights, I'm no Davy Crockett with a rifle; I haven't got Davy's eyes. But with a scope on the same rifle, I get my share of hits. And since shooting is my business, this makes scopes, for me, a simple matter of good business.

My job is writing about guns and shooting. Before I can write honestly about a given rifle (or scope) and how it will perform under given conditions, I must try the equipment under those conditions. In a given period, I probably test more rifle-scope combinations than most non-writing shooters will handle. One of the photos herewith shows several scope-sighted rifles and one .22 handgun which currently hold high ratings in my personal-use collection. Let's start at the top and see what we have.

1. A Colt "Coltsman" .243 caliber rifle, mounting a 6X "Coltmaster" scope.

2. A Winchester Model 70 rifle in .243 caliber (heavy varmint-type stainless steel barrel), mounting a 10X Lyman "All-American" scope.

3. A Savage "110" rifle in .243 caliber, mounting a Bushnell 8X "Command Post" scope.

4. A Marlin Model 336 carbine in .30-30 caliber, mounting a Weaver K2.5 scope.

5. A Marlin Model 336 carbine in .219 Zipper caliber,

mounting a Marlin 4X "Micro-Power" scope.

6. An Ithaca "Lightning" auto-loading .22 caliber rifle, mounting a J2.5 Weaver scope.

7. A .22 caliber Colt "Buntline" revolver mounting a J-1 Weaver scope.

This collection equips me (as far as firearms are concerned) to hunt practically any game that I am apt to hunt with a rifle or handgun. In the all-Colt job at the top of the picture, I have a combination highly suitable for varmints (mainly woodchucks and foxes) up to 350 yards. And, jumping from 80 to 100 grain bullets, I have a combination that will double just dandy in open country shooting on such game as deer and antelope.

I am quite a varmint shooting fan, especially woodchuck. The heavy barreled Winchester Model 70 with its 10X scope, as far as I am concerned, is strictly a long range varmint shooting combination used principally for long range woodchuck shooting. Shooting the "whistle pigs" at 350 to 500 yard ranges requires extra scope power for the average shooter like myself, and anyone shooting from a prone or other good rest position can hold a heavy barreled rifle steadier than they can the lighter weight rifles. As I see it, considering today's modern rifle barrel materials, this extra steadiness is the main advantage of the heavy barreled varmint rifles.

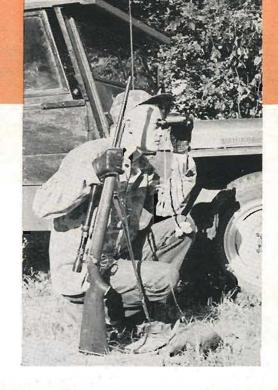
The Savage "110" in .243 caliber is an in-betweener that fills a very important spot in my personal-use collection. Using the 8X scope without (Continued on page 50) Economy-minded author jeeped out to sunburned lowa corn field to glass shocks for grazing groundhogs. Low velocity smallbore returned high percent of clean head shots.

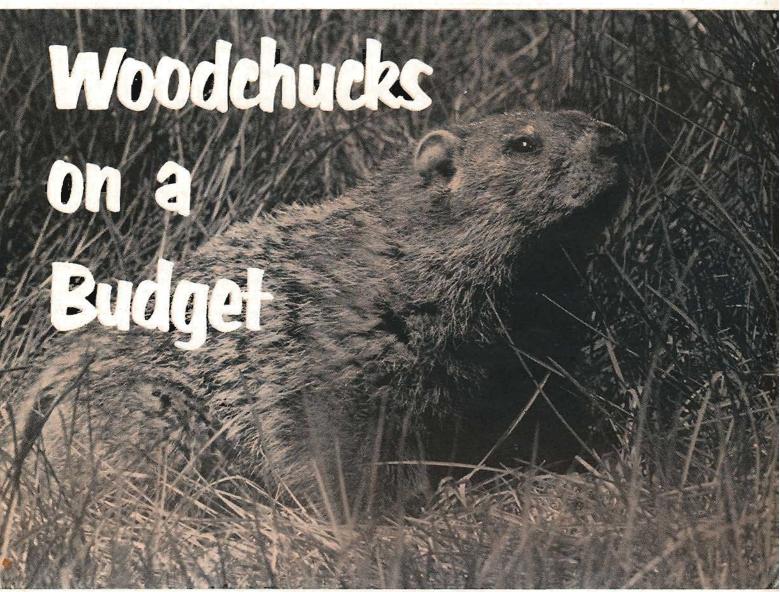
By BLAINE KLOPPENBORG

W OODCHUCKS UP CLOSE are rather shy. Not long ago I spent a hot afternoon waiting out the appearance of a cautious woodchuck. Ever watchful while feeding and sunning himself, this sage old boar was rapidly drawing my patience to the limit. A couple of hours previously I had bagged his mate. but seeing me out there in that clover field made the old boy pretty hesitant about coming out of his hole.

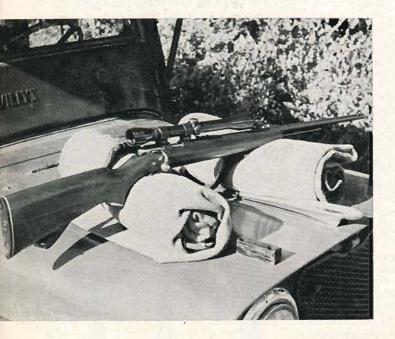
Then it dawned on me . . . move back . . . way back. Sure, why not. So I gathered up my gear and walked back to about 85 yards from my quarry's den and made my tired old bones comfortable behind a slight rise in the ground, rested the fore end of the stock on a blanket roll, and glassed the area with my binoculars.

The sun was starting its late afternoon decline in the western skies, and I was sure that old chuck would come out for one more feeding





A SUPER-DUPER VARMINTER IS GREAT IF YOU CAN AFFORD IT, BUT YOU CAN HAVE A WORLD OF CHUCK-HUNTING FUN WITH A .22 RIMFIRE



Monax musket was an everyday .22RF Model 72A Winchester fully bedded and tuned, topped by Weaver Kó varminter scope in 1" tip-off top mounts.

<

The revamped rifle proved successful at ranges of 100 yards or more, giving the author low-cost gun fun hunting places taboo for hi-powers.



before the day was over. Grasshoppers were jumping around. A menacing bumble bee inspected me. Bugs crawled around the sweet clover stems . . . and up my legs. But one smack of the hand at those bugs, one out of place noise, and that chuck would be gone for another day. This was no picnic. It wasn't like you read about in the magazines; none of that comfortable stuff. This was Iowa corn weather, hotter than h--- on a griddle of grease. No rustic rail fences beautified the landscape, nor cleanly mowed meadows gently rolling and surrounded with clean stone walls; just barbed wire fences bordering a weedy cow pasture, and dusty rows of corn.

Then it happened. He came up out of the hole, looked around, then wandered off into a patch of clover. Then he showed himself, standing upright, and motionless: a perfect target. I snuggled right down against the ground, laid the cross hairs right in front of his ear ... inhaled ... exhaled just a little ... held it ... squeezed her off—"Crack." That chuck collapsed in a heap of fur.

For several weeks now I had been clobbering other grizzled old chucks from the family of M. Monax, at ranges of 100 yards or more. Sound easy? Sure. But wait!

This was no magnum-bangum smoke pole, nor was it a high velocity thunderstick shooting greased lightning for ammo. This was a .22 rimfire of ordinary ballistic performance.

Granted, it was a special rifle, one brought into being after five long months of spare hours during the winter season. Granted that 85 to 100 yards is nothing for a flat shooting, high powered varminter. But for a .22, this shooting of chucks in the head (and being reasonably sure of a clean kill) at extreme range (*Continued on page* 44)



Settled solidly as a bench rest competitor, Kloppenborg prepares to clobber woodchucks at ranges often thought to require more powerful cartridge. The .22RF has punch far out.



Rigby .470 pushes up from horizontal in recoil, but is not bad kick, though it takes big cartridge (left.) In lineup: Rigby, .465 H&H and .425 Westley Richards.

THEY SAID WOMEN COULDN'T SHOOT THE BIG DOUBLES, BUT I DID-AND LIVED TO ASK-

"Who's Afraid Of Kick?"

By MARY 8. WILLIAMS

"A DOUBLE RIFLE for a lady? Why, ma'am, those big bruisers would pound you to a pulp!"

That's what they told me; but J'm one of those people who have to try it. I had a suspicion (a) that a good deal of the talk about the "bone-crushing recoil" of the big rifles was masculine propaganda. and (b) that recoil ophobia (in men or women) is largely mental.

I became interested in double rifles because my husband collects them. (We both hope to do some big game hunting some day, and this provides an excuse for the collection.) We've read about Bell and his kills with a 7 mm rifle, but—we're not Bells. Our arm chair opinion is that of those most experienced of hunters of dangerous game, the African White Hunters—that the big double is the rifle to bet your life on. The only objection we have to the doubles is their price, and it's hard to quarrel even with that since the British, who produce most of them, make them almost entirely by hand. Now that American bolt rifles are being offered in hig calibers, the double may not be the only answer, but doubles are what we have, so we shoot them; including me.

Even before shooting them, I was (Continued on page 31)

impressed with their fast-handling qualities, fine workmanship, and graceful appearance. The best of them balance like a fine shotgun, with the weight falling directly between the hands. The weight of the rifles is less noticeable because of the balance; and, after all, these are not target weapons to be fired repeatedly, like a .22. My husband has faith in my shooting, so hardly a gun comes into our house that I don't shoot, eventually.

One of the first guns I fired was a .303 Watson, a cartridge similar to our .30-40 Krag. The .303, because of its short 24 inch barrels, is a very handy weapon. Its shorter action gives a shorter over-all length than a comparable bolt action rifle, and it does not have the protruding bolt handle or the awkward safety. The safety is on the tang like that of a high-grade shotgun. This arrangement is true of all the English doubles except the Greener. The .303 was very pleasant to fire, and the recoil did not seem to be any greater than in my .257 Roberts bolt gun.

My next heavier rifle was a .400-360 Evans, which fires a 300 grain bullet with about 2600 foot pounds of energy. With this gun, I couldn't notice any appreciable difference in recoil; it was pleasant to fire.

The next gun was the .375 Holland & Holland, firing the 3 inch flanged shell. This is very similar in ballistics to the .375 Holland & Holland belted, but operates at a little lower pressure because it was designed to be used in double rifles. (The double rifle does not have the camming action of a bolt action rifle and is not as strong so it is wise to use cartridges that operate at relatively low breech pressure.) This particular Holland & Holland double developed around 4000 pounds muzzle energy, is quite adequate for the largest North American game, and is used quite extensively in Africa for lion and other soft-skinned animals. Again I was quite surprised at the apparent lack of recoil although this was probably in part due to the weight of the gun, 91/2 pounds. I had no difficulty in keeping the bullets in the black at 50 yards, shooting from the off-hand position into a 6 inch bull.

My husband advised me that I was now ready for his .400 Westley Richards, which fires a 400 grain bullet with a muzzle energy of slightly over 4000 pounds. The cartridge was certainly impressive-looking and I must admit to a twinge of apprehension. I flinched very badly on the first shot and did not come anywhere near the target. I expected to be kicked unmercifully, but all I did was look like a fool. The noise and the muzzle blast were startling, but the recoil was more of a push than a sharp jab. The only ill effects I suffered were to my pride. My next three out of four shots were in the black, which

restored my confidence. I really enjoy shooting this rifle, and its weight, 10 pounds 7 ounces, and its fine balance made the recoil negligible.

The next gun I tried was the .425 Westley Richards, firing a 410 grain bullet at 2350 feet per second with 5000 pounds muzzle energy. While the over-all length of the shell was not as great as the .400, my husband advised me that it had approximately 1000 pounds more muzzle energy and was "not a toy." Maybe because this gun is one pound heavier than the .400, I noticed no difference in recoil. Again, the recoil was more a push than a blow, and while the barrels did rise, is was not difficult to get the gun back on target for a second shot. I might add that this "push" is imperceptible in the moment of concentration and shooting. I only realized it had happened after I shot and discovered I had stepped backwards a foot or so.

I was now ready for my final examinations. I told my husband that I wanted to fire a real elephant rifle combining great size and caliber. Out came the .465 Holland & Holland. He was not without misgivings, even though he didn't admit it. He pointed out that his cartridge fires a 480 grain bullet with about 5000 pounds muzzle energy, and the rifle itself weighs only 101/2 pounds. I wondered if I had bitten off more than I could chew. But I grasped the gun, brought it up to my shoulder, sighted, and squeezed the trigger.

There was a thunderous explosion, flame, and smoke; and when it cleared away, I realized that another myth had been exploded. Yes, there was more recoil, but it was a heavy back push and an upthrust of the barrels. No broken clavicle, no smashed jaw, not even a bruise. I didn't drop the gun, either-which was my husband's chief concern. As a matter of fact, I had previously taken a much worse beating from a light 12 gauge Cogswell and Harrison shotgun weighing 61/4 pounds.

My next step was to fire the .470 Rigby double. This gun is the most popular of all the British elephant rifles, as ammunition can be obtained all over the world. This model weighed 10 pounds 14 ounces and had been restocked by Monte Kennedy in Circassian walnut. I found that, due to the design of the stock with its Monte Carlo cheekpiece, the apparent recoil was even less than the .465.

After having gone this far, I was determined to push my "luck" to the limit, and I persuaded by husband to let me try a .500 Nitro Express made by John Wilkes of London. This rifle had 24 inch barrels, weighed 111/2 pounds, and fired a 570 grain bullet at 2125 feet per second with a muz-





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lent book "African Rifles and Cartridges," points out that the .375 Magnum double as made by Holland & Holland comes closer to being the all-round rifle for the one-gun man than any other caliber.

Actually, I think a woman of average size and weight like myself, may take less of a beating from these heavy rifles than a heavier man would take, because of his sheer inertia. I moved with the push, without being thrown off balance. I know that I can use any gun up to the .500 effectively, without even a shoulder bruise to pay for it. I am convinced that any woman of average height and weight can do the same.

As I said, we're serious about that "some day" safari, and I intend to be ready for it. it's all well and good for W. D. M. Bell to canter around Africa popping off elephants with a 7 mm, but I'm just an average marksman and I need all the advantages possible when facing heavy or dangerous game. I don't want to become a teller of tall tales about "the ones that got away." I want trophies. And I'm pretty sure, now, that I can handle the rifles that will get them.

WEST-COAST GROUSE (Continued from page 21)

everything, all wrong for grouse.

Two factors contributed to this gunner's frustration. First, west coast grouse are apt to sulk, like blacktail deer. A west coast grouse will wait until a gunner passes' his thicket, then boom out behind him, playing hob with timing, scaring the magnum wits out of him. Second, the cover is such, most chances for a shot come and go in a second, an out and out snap shot: no swinging, no nothing. Usually, too, the opening where you intercept your bird is so small his wing beat disturbs the leaves on either side as he thunders through it. Indeed, you often have a hard time shoving a full choked pattern through these narrow flightways, much less an improved cylinder one.

It's odd gunning. A west coast ruffed grouse thunders out of the cover, you mark his flight as you snap your gun to your shoulder-subconsciously track him as your gun comes up-not after it is at your shoulder. You make your play for an opening in his flight path, and fire. If everything is calculated to a gunning nicety, and you are shot with luck, pattern and west coast ruffed grouse meet dramatically in your selected opening.

You hear the characteristic drumming beat of wings among the wine colored maple , leaves. When you walk over to pick up your bird, you are apt to be overly reflective, a bit smug, too. You know you are fortunate with this particular shot; fortunate, too, for all the wonderful gunning this bird gives you.

I gave up using dogs for west coast ruffed grouse hunting, after several seasons of trying to find a pooch who could handle them. These grouse simply gave those well trained eastern grouse dogs running fits. They would tangle one up in a vine maple thicket, his snoot full of rich, poignant ruffed grouse scent. Then they would run 20-30 yards before becoming air borne. Usually, if there was a brace of grouse, one would run to the left, one to the right. And there would be my grouse dog on point, probably braced by his hunting mate, totally confused. Then, to make matters worse, a casual sweep of

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thermal wind downridge would cancel out the rich scent, reducing him to nail biting frustration. A half day of this and the best eastern grouse dog was a fit candidate for a psychiatrist's couch.

But there isn't an end to this canine frustration, either. The crowning insult imposed on good bird dogs by this west coast ruffed grouse cover, is deer infestation. This is Columbian Blacktail deer range, and the woods are loaded with them. They feed on the same lush black huckleberry brush, salal bushes, bud the same small Douglas Fir trees, to the chagrin of foresters concerned with growing our new west coast forests.

One grouse dog I hunted solved this problem by pointing everything, depending on the law of averages to turn up a few grouse. I would move in to flush a grouse and kick out a doe snugged down in a sun warmed hazel thicket. Quite often my careful approach would uncover a warm, but recently vacated deer bed; and once a raccoon. No dogs, please, not for this west coast ruffed grouse gunning. You still-hunt them.

Obviously, you don't hunt them with just any gun, either. A light 20 gauge pump is good. A light 20 gauge auto-loader is also good. But if you want the best in west coast ruffed grouse guns, go to a 20 gauge double, with no more than $27\frac{1}{2}$ inch tubes, bored full and modified.

If you are using a single barrel gun, with either built in choke or adjustable, make it a modified. If it's adjustable, set it for modified, then leave it strictly alone. You simply cannot adjust for the cover between shots, not in this dense west coast jungle. A modified choke is a compromise, surely, but it comes closer to an all around choke than either a full or improved cylinder.

I often use a Breda 20 gauge auto-loader, weighing 6½ pounds, with modified tube, a barrel length of 27". This gun handles beautifully on those snapshots—next to my 20 gauge double. My favorite is a 20 gauge Model 150 Dakin double, with 27¼" barrels. It is the fastest, most compatible west coast grouse gun I have ever used—best matching chokes, too.

I remember the first morning I used this on west coast ruffed grouse, after making a few minor stock modifications. That particular October morning, complete with honeycolored skies, quail calling as I walked through the dewy meadows towards the woods. Easing over a fence, I moved through an abandoned orchard. The Baldwin apple trees stood shoulder to shoulder to the intruding alders, shaded, moss and lichen covered, but always producing a small crop of wormy apples, beloved of deer and ruffed grouse.

This morning I was on the point of abandoning the orchard as unproductive, when a grouse thundered out behind me. He planed up the ridge, twisting and turning to avoid the small firs. I caught flashes of his progress, snapped a shot as he reached a small skyline opening between two hemlocks. He disappeared over the ridge, leaving a handful of flank and breast feathers floating in the morning air. When I walked up through the tangle of small trees, wild black berry, I found him lying breast up on the brown needles under the reforesting. Modified barrel, size 7 shot, 1 ounce loading, range a modest 35 yards.

This shot, in all patience, would seem a simple gunning achievement. One would suppose it could have been made with almost

33

any shotgun, unless the west coast ruffed grouse equation is considered. First, my model 150 Dakin double weighs exactly 6¼ pounds. The slight modifications I made on the stock produced a fit which seems better to me than some custom stocked efforts I used in the past, in my search for the proper west coast ruffed grouse gun. Aliveness, an intangible of shotgun fit, was there. That feeling, hard to define, that a gun is an extension of the gunner, integral, giving a naturalness of pointing which is achieved as an end product of exact stock dimension, complemented by exact gun weight.

I didn't see the rib, sight or barrel, save subconsciously. When I snapped my shot at that small skyline opening, I *knew* it was right, as a gunner always knows when gun fit and weight complement his gun pointing.

After two autumns of ruffed grouse gunning, using this 20 gauge double almost exclusively, I found more and more shots where the full choked barrel was best. Quite often, topping out on a barren ridge among the tall growing black huckleberry, ranges became longer. They still required snap shooting to get the pattern between those bushes, but more density was needed. Here, the full choked barrel worked to perfection.

I threw full choked patterns between the huckleberry brush, the mountain willow, with the same confidence in its destination as when I used a modified barrel for a shot in heavy cover. This experience with full and modified chokes convinced me they were the best possible combination. Skeet borings, Improved Cylinder, these had been weighed in the gunning balance and found wanting.

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(Continued from page 33)

opening, usually, when gunning west coast ruffed grouse. An Improved Cylinder which rubs the cover on either side has no advantages. It is the shot which gets through, that counts.

It would appear that an adjustable choke with the ability to automatically tighten the pattern from Improved Cylinder to Modified, to Full, would be just the ticket. To some extent, they do make the problem of the single barrel gun easier, with choke set at modified, the second or third shot taken with a full choke. But this cannot approach the versatility of a double where the choke option is at the finger tip of the gunner, full or modified, in a light 20 gauge double, twin triggers.

Quite often, I use two different shot sizes in my Model 150 20-gauge Dakin. First barrel usually carries a handload of 1 onnce of 7s, the powder charge being 24 grains of AL 7. For the second barrel, where I want a smaller diameter pattern, with plenty of ability to cut leaves and twigs, I use this same handload, but with an ounce of 6s. For most of this ruffed grouse gunning, however, I use 1 ounce of 7s in both barrels.

Size 71/2 shot work well, 100, for most shooting, provided a gun handles them with complete compatability. I doubt, though, if any shot smaller than this is feasible in the dense, jungle-like west coast forests where a gunner finds these canny upland birds. A few gunners use 8s, but my own experience with this shot size has been limited. I never had any shotgun which handled 8s with any efficiency. Maybe with different guns they would be just the loads, but 8s haven't the brush bucking ability. I'll take 7s for all around best upland shot charge, 1 ounce loads about 290 pellets to the charge.

I'll take a 20 gauge to throw it, too. I have yet to see a 12 gauge throw 1 ounce shot charges with the same uniformity as a 20 gauge, even when 12 ga. 2-inch shells are used in an ultra light British 12 double, (yes I once tried that as a west coast ruffed grouse shooting combination).

In a 20 gauge, that handload of AL 7 gets a 20 gauge ounce load under way very gently. This is shown at the pattern board by more uniform modified patterns. This has been a characteristic of all the 20 gauges I have put through their paces at the pattern board, using I ounce shot charges.

A 12 gauge, however, seldom delivers anywhere near this uniformity from shot to shot, using 1 ounce loads. To obtain a uniform pattern in the 12, you have to go to a 11/2 ounce shot charge, better yet a 1¼ ounce charge; at least, this is what my pattern board tells me, testing literally thousands of shotshell loads each season.

When you up a shot charge to 1¼ ounce in the 12 gauge, you automatically ease it out of the ruffed grouse classification. You'll need three quarters of a pound more gup, usually, to make recoil bearable. That previously mentioned Parker 12 gauge double couldn't be right for west coast ruffed grouse shooting, regardless of the virtues it may have had for New England grouse hunting. It would be too heavy, throwing a too-thin pattern.

There are few analogies between this wilderness prowling, still hunting, and that of New England ruffed grouse hunting. These west coast grouse are really different.



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HANDLOADING BENCH

(Continued from page 12)

to 3,000 f.p.s. His 100 yard groups averaged 1¼" with 9.5 grs. 2400. 8.5 grs. shot under 1 minute of angle, with many ¾" groups. I don't use many cast .22s because custom jacketed types are so good and so cheap.

The Lyman-Bellah No. 225107, that I designed for handguns, has also shot into ³/₄ to 1³/₄ minute of angle, using Lyman gas checks, and Division Lead Co. IBA No. 7 mix, which is a bit harder than 10:1 lead-tin. I consider this the best cast bullet for varmints (at minimum cost) as it has faster blowup. I size to .224", and don't go along with .225" pills unless moulds are so sloppy that bullets are deformed in sizing. I detest sloppy moulds. Use around 9 grain of 2400 powder.

Efficiency is about doubled with a 37 Gr. Sisk revolver bullet, a hollow point I designed for Sisk Bullet Co., Iowa Park, Texas. It's made for fast, Fast, FAST blowup at handgun velocity. A top load is 10 grains 2400 in Remington cases and CCI small pistol primers. You get excellent accuracy and blowup with 9 grs. 2400. You can load up to 9.5 grains with any jacketed 40 grain rifle pill, but blowup is greatly reduced.

Christy Gun Works, 875 57th St. Sacramento 19, Calif. converts Colt Single Action Army guns to standard 'Hornets. Christy cylinders are 1/16" longer than Colt's. A Christy Floating Firing Pin, similar to those on .357 Colt's, prevents primers flowing into the firing pin hole. Some guns with firing pins on the hammer give this trouble. Christy makes a hammer for his pin, or your original can be altered. Factory Hornet loads shoot okay.

Revolver efficiency depends much on the bullet material and design. Soft jacket, soft core revolver bullets give practically a lifetime of barrel life at handgun velocity. Top loads in a Christy-Colt give about 300 f.p.s. more velocity than a .22 WMR. When you compare the destruction on varmints you'll understand why the extra velocity is desirable. You have to see it to believe it. You can use the cast Lyman-Bellah bullet with 8 to 8.5 grs. 2400, or 5.2 grains Unique; 3 grains Bullseye is a dandy target load.

Lakeville Arms conversions of S&W K-22 revolvers to Kay-Chuk were described in the March, 1959 GUNS. These short K-Hornets explode a Sisk revolver bullet like a bomb, with 10.3 grs. 2400 in Remington cases. Loads work fine in K-Hornet rifles. They now make a Kay-Chuk Standard, for standard Hornet cases trimmed .050". The smaller case is easy-loading, and gives 200 f.p.s. more velocity than a .22 WMR at the same 27,000 p.s.i. pressure, or equal velocity with 4 grains Bullseye at lower pressure. 9.5 grs. 2400 starts the deadly pill at 1,800 f.p.s. for clean varmint kills, with pressure only 28,500 p.s.i. Loads work in Hornet rifles at about 2,250 f.p.s. and violent blowup. Casters will like the Lyman-Bellah bullet with loads listed for the Christy-Colt conversion.

Kay-Chuk Standards made from a K-22 in .22 L.R. have a 1:15 twist that handles 35 or 40 grain bullets. The K-22 in .22 WMR has a 1:10 twist that gives higher rotational velocity and handles pills from 35 to 50 grains. Heavy rifle bullets shoot okay, but expansion is not very good. I talked Sisk into making a new revolver pill similar to the original design, weighing approximately 48 grains. He is tooling up as this is written, and will be in production by the time you read about it.

Rifles in either standard or K-Hornet perform well with either 4227 or 2400 powder. Handguns seem to handle 2400 best, especially with 6" to 8%" barrels. Unique is also good in short tubes, and is perhaps the best in 4" guns. Bullseye is good for moderate loads in all handguns, but gets erratic with hot charges.

Some loads in small cases require compressed charges. Tapping a case on the bench often spills some powder. The Electric Dripper, made by S.A.S., Box 205, North Bend, Oregon, makes weighing charges very fast. You can also use it to pack powder. Hold a nearly full case against the vibrator a couple of seconds and powder will settle fully. You can pack propellant with a door bell buzzer, but be sure to shield the buzzer to prevent electric sparks from igniting the charge.

Members of the Hornet family have a definite place in your rifle and handgun battery. Handloads are cheaper than high power .22 rimfires, with a whale of a lot more range and punch. Lacking recoil, both long and short tubes teach precision shooting. The rim cases do not give headspace problems. The guns are excellent "car equipment" that give you more pleasure than all the gadgets you can load on a four-cyed Detroit monster. Practice shooting and you'll often make more clean hits than your Swift packing friends, the very guys who think you are under-gunned.



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THE MAN WHO MAKES THE STARS SHINE

(Continued from page 18)

again. He died on this trip.

"There were many rifles and pistols of Cody's that had been given to him through the years. I must have put 20 or 30 of them into the truck for John Baker; also a lot of pictures and souvenirs. They went to the museum at Mount Lookout, in Denver. The other guns, together with many guns that Buffalo Bill had never seen or knew anything about, are located in Buffalo Bill Museum in Cody, Wyoming."

Old as Cody was, he showed Bohlin that he could still shoot pretty well. One day while Cody was visiting the ranch where Bohlin was working, the latter slipped down to his home, called The Annex, and got one of the big Sharps rifles and half a dozen paper patched cartridges from Mrs. Cody. He asked Cody that afternoon to demonstrate some shooting, and told him he had brought one of the Colonel's old rifles.

"He slipped a shell into the chamber," Bohlin says, "and told me to toss a tin can into the air, but none were available; so I went to the kitchen and brought out some potatoes and threw one into the air. As luck would have it, he fired this cannon and busted the potato to bits. I threw up another, and still another one, but he missed them, but the fourth one he cut to pieces. I was convinced he was a pretty good shot even in his old age."

While Bohlin was working later for different cattle outfits in the northern west, he became interested in six-shooter shooting. He was accustomed to carry a six-gun in those days, especially while working in the mountains. The guns he preferred were Bisley Model Colts, not so much because of the long handles, as because of the low hammer spur. He had short fingers and it was easier for him to thumb the hammer back with the Bisley without changing his hold on the gun.

"I practiced shooting a good deal from the hip. I would place tin cans on the ground and hit them and kept on rolling them in front of me until I became quite efficient in doing this, and also practiced shooting tin cans from a running horse," the leather-artist recalls. As to shooting over a horse's head, "I had a pretty good saddle horse and he became quite used to it; however, I never got in a position where I held a gun directly over the horse's ear-I always shot sideways from the horse." Between punching cows, Bohlin worked up a trade at punching leather: specifically, making holsters, rifles and carbine scabbards, saddles, and all the gear. He opened a shop in Cody, where he lived when he worked in leather. "I returned one day and two men were waiting for me at the shop," he told me. "One of the men was tall, the other short. They said they had heard about my shoting and wanted me to demonstrate it. I told them for a slight fee I would do so, and this was quite agreeable to them.

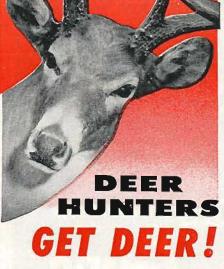
"I put away my pack horses and kept my saddle horse and told them where I would meet them, on the flat west of Cody. When they arrived, I put six bottles on the ground, about 25 feet apart. They asked me what I intended to do, so I told them that I would shoot the bottles while riding my horse.

"I made a fast run alongside the bottles, practically 20 or 25 feet, and broke four out of six. Coming back, I broke one more. They told me they had never seen shooting like that before and thought it quite remarkable. One of the men—the short onc—gave me one of the broken bottles and told me to toss it up into the air, which I did.

"To my amazement, this man drew a gun, hit the bottle in the air, and hit two more pieces before they hit the ground. This was my introduction to Ed McGivern and his tall friend, Captain A. H. Hardy!"

During all this time, Bohlin designed, sketched, and translated his ideas into leather and silver. While working as a cowpuncher, he always had spare time between "watches" and kept up with his art career. He saw in it something more than a life in a wet bedroll, trying to sleep during a cloudburst or shivering in temperatures that plummeted to 60° below zero. "My daily routine some months, at \$40 per, was working in all kinds of weather, during the most severe winters, sleeping on the ground, and raking hot coals from the fire to set one's tin grub plate and coffee cup on-because if you just set the plate in your lap, the food would freeze solid. I didn't mind the outdoor life so much, but I could not see any future for myself. The cattle business had too many ups and downs, and homesteading at that time was not very promising, either. I kept up my drawing and my leather and silver work. thinking that some day this knowledge would come in handy."





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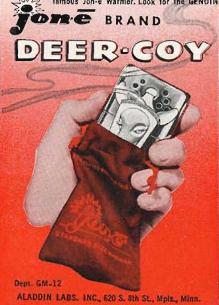
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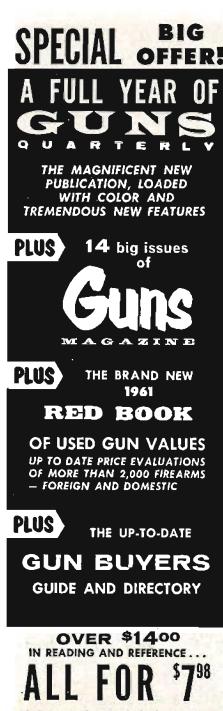
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Bohlin's introduction to the glittering world of the theatre came through a vaudeville show. In Billings, Montana, to get supplies, he hitched his horse to a rack in front of a theatre and saw a billboard with pic-tures of horses on it. "I inquired of the ticket seller and was informed they were sure-enough real ones. I saw the show and, to my surprise, one of the performers was an old cow-puncher friend of mine.

"I visited him backstage, and he asked if I could do any performing. I told him I was just a cowpuncher, had done a little trick roping for my own amusement. He made me an offer to join the show. Being in the fall of the year, with not much work in prospect, I signed up. I tried to sell my horses, but nobody wanted to feed them through the winter. I turned them loose on the trail, hoping they would fare well. The Indians picked up two and one went back to Cody. A friend of mine caught him and that particular horse lived to be 32 years old, which is quite an age for a horse."

Bohlin played in this vaudeville act in Montana, part of Canada, Washington, Oregon, and finally down into California. He landed in Los Angeles New Year's Eve, 1921, and played a midnight performance into the year 1922. The act consisted of four cow ponies, one bucking horse, and a burro working with the comedian. "My job was to ride the bucking horse," Bohlin recalls wryly.

"One rainy afternoon in LA, when we let the horses in backstage, a man started a conversation with me and wanted to know about the special coat I was wearing that I had made for myself from unborn calfskin. It was a very showy coat and it took his fancy. He asked the price. I told him and did not pay any more attention to it.

"The following night, as I was roping on stage, I saw a man in the wings looking at the coat and trying it on. I became quite worried and 'spilled' my loop. Getting through with the performance, I asked the man what he wanted. He told me he had come to pick up the coat and gave me a check with a picture of Tom Mix on it. My customer was Tom Mix and I didn't recognize him!

"Pat Christmas was his right hand man, and told me to come out and see Tom at the studio and bring some fancy leatherwork. I had made myself a pair of fancy boots. carved leather tops with silver mounted on them, and the vamp was of alligator hide. I wore those to the studio, and also brought a large hand-carved traveling bag.

"Tom was dressing for the day's work, and Dustin Farnum and Pat Christmas were there. Tom looked the handbag over carefully and said it was a good piece of workhe could really use it. He spied my boots, and told me to pull them off, and he put them on.

"'Mr. Bohlin, you should not go on the road with the show again,' Mix advised me -'Stay right here in Hollywood where there is plenty of demand for your talents'." To Bohlin's surprise Mix hopped into his car and drove off. "I had to walk two blocks and change street cars once before I got back to my hotel, in my stocking feet," Bohlin chuckled."

"Whether Mix just wanted me handy when he figured he needed a new weskit, or he really realized even then the future popularity of the fancy leather and silver work. I do not know," Bohlin explained, "But we became



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friends—and others of the great actors of Hollywood, the all-time top men, and women, of the silent and later sound screen, came to me for special leather work. I finished out the week with the act after that interview with Mix, quit the show, and found a place to do business in Hollywood."

Wyatt Earp was a frequent visitor to Bohlin's shop, and they often talked about shooting skill. When Bohlin told Earp he preferred the Bisley model with $7\frac{1}{2}$ " barrel, the old lawman laughed, said "Kid, I went you one better. I used a 12" barreled pistol in my days."

"I thought he was kidding me," Bohlin remarked, "But I found out later he was right."

The young leather-artist's shop was often graced by the presence of Emmett Dalton, surviving member of the famous Dalton Brothers gang. He often told young Ed of his preferences in guns, but never much of his escapades. Another visitor was the famous cattle detective, Charles Siringo, who filled Bohlin with tales of gun fights with outlaws and cattle rustlers. "He always seemed to come up first best," Bohlin grinned, "for he died in Hollywood in bed with his boots off. Earp and Dalton told me not to he in a hurry on the draw, saying the 'one who takes his time comes up first best.' Siringo told me he always made sure he got the drop on the other boy even if he had to maneuver a little to get into position.

"Mix, on the other hand, never had to "shoot it out' except on the screen. I have seen him do some pretty good shooting with a .38 Special; I think it was a Colt Army Special nickle plated, one of a pair, that he always carried. He had a pair of heavyframed Smith & Wessons, too, and seldom used the classic Frontier in movies.

"Most of his guns (a dozen or so were racked along one wall to the right of the fireplace in that big house of his, and the pistols fitted onto a wrought iron arch over a door) are still in the San Fernando Valley, including the .44-40 Winchester and single action Colt that I made smoothbore barrels for. There was a silver inlaid sixshooter that I fixed up for him, too. He used the smoothbored Winchester for shooting clay balls ir his show, but I never did see him use the revolver for that purpose.

"I also remodeled the same guns for Ken Maynard and Buck Jones, but neither one of them used the Colt six-shooters; only the Winchester for breaking clay balls."

Bohlin's work in Hollywood has stocked the prop departments of many studios. He prospered; gradually came to be doing a large part of the leather work for the studios. The great DeMille's first production of the "Ten Commandments" in 1922 used Bohlin's chariot harness, and the Bohlin gear made for the old production of "Ben Hur" was again used, some of it, in the recent film with Charlton Heston. Universal Studios produced "Daniel Boone" about that time—with single shot Springfield rifles, and Bohlin-made fringed hunting suits of buckskin.

In making saddles, Bohlin acquired what he considers to be the biggest set of leather stamps in the world, many of them cut by himself. Accessories including gun toting rigs of every description were turned out to suit the fancies of the fancys of Hollywood. But his fame spread outside of the glittering boulevards of the fabled city to lands even more fabled. The Sultan of Jahore, the

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1960

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Prince of Baroda, the Prince of Gaekawar, potentates of the East, came to Bohlin to get new saddles for their fine steeds. P. K. Wrigley, and the King of Saudi Arabia, rode in Bohlin saddles. In the famous Tournament of Roses in Pasadena, "the majority of the saddles are of my make" he modestly asserts. But there is no modesty about Bohlin's own rig, a dazzling silver throne of faceted and hammered work, sparkling sterling silver cast and chased in scenes depicting the history and the wild-life of the West. One saddle skirt is cornered by a huge arrow-head shaped slab of silver worked into a stagecoach; the opposite side shows the settler's wagon train. Eagles, hawks, buffalo hunters, and fierce, proud Indian heads in silver decorate this unbelieveable work of art. Bohlin's own "E H B"-marked saddle. Ten years of his life went into this work, and it is Bohlin's special pride.

Today Bohlin, who makes standard saddles

and fast draw holsters of his own-or your -designs, is working on another silver masterpiece blending guns and gilt. This is the decoration of an automobile. He has mounted carbines with silver stocks, pistols with silver handles, and fitted them to the doors as handles, to the inside in holsters and padded rests, all worked in carved leather and carved silver. On the Continental Kit rear wheel a silver parade horse and rider in silver and gold is mounted. On the front-a generous sweep of long horns, tipped with silver. "Whenever it is in our parking lot," Bohlin's secretary rather superfluously comments, "we always have a tremendous number of spectators.'

At Bohlin's shop it may be, as his current big job suggests, that the automobile has replaced the horse, but no one has yet risen in skill and stature to replace this bantamweight leather-cutting king of Hollywood.

SHOOTING RATS AT 80 MPH (Continued from page 19)

skid into a straight-away. This time, a whole drove of the big rodents swarms down from the left bank. I empty the gun, and somewhere in the midst of the fusillade, a rat tumbled. We swing in a wide circle and come back. Another nutria comes out of the water and gives me a head-on shot. (A head-on shot from an airboat is any shot approximately parallel to the boat's trajectory. It has nothing to do with the position or movement of the target.) I got that one, too.

"You're catching on," Al shouted, and cut the motor. It was strangely quiet as we eased up on the grassy bank alongside the first rat I had hit. The strangeness extended also to the target. You never saw a stranger critter.

With coarse, bristly guard hairs and a dense undercoat, this varmint had bright orange teeth beneath a luxuriant growth of mustache whiskers. His tail was hairless, like a muskrat's. It closely resembled a very ugly Norway rat, king-size. It hefted a full twenty pounds. This was a female-but the crazy, mixed-up critter wore its faucets along its back instead of on its belly!

Myocastor coypu is his scientific name. He is an import from South America, brought in by misguided folks who hoped to make their fortunes for-ranching. Despite the advertising claims, no one got rich except the promoters. Disappointed investors turned the critters loose in some places, a hurricane did the job in others, and they spread like a rumor in a political campaign.

Now they are hated by farmers, ranchers, and sportsmen from Florida to Mexico. They eat the pasture grass, ruin levees with their burrows, girdle young pine trees, eat up all the duck food and the vegetation that used to conceal the hunters-even chew the heads off duck decoys and gnaw the stocks of shotguns left out by the unwary.

I spent some time looking around before getting back in the airboat. Nutria runs led everywhere through the sparse grass of what had been a fine saltgrass pasture. I suggested flushing a few and shooting on dry land, but Al said that this was the best time to shoot them from the airboat and besides, we only had the one rifle.

So-back to the boat and that thundering motor. Now I was really seeing nutria as they came out to feed. They came from the right bank, and I emptied a whole magazine as they raced for the water. At our speed, it was impossible to be really sure of the hits and misses unless the nutria signalled by lashing the water with his tail-sure sign of a mortally wounded animal. It was just a case of shoot till the magazine was empty, then try to reload while the airboat skipped along. By the time I had two or three rounds in, a new group of nutria would be in range, and I'd hurriedly shut the tube and fire.

I screamed at Al, trying to get him to slow down or stop when within range; but he pointed to the setting sun and kept straight on across the marsh, with me shooting as fast as I could pour shells through the Browning. When we slid up to the dock, I carelessly let the barrel touch my finger and promplty raised a blister. In the course of our 45 minute trip, I had shot up two hundred and four rounds!

Early next morning, we renewed our war on the nutria, this time with two shotguns. Al would chop the throttle and stand up to join me shooting when the targets were plentiful. Unplugged shotguns and full cases of shotgun shells helped. We fired chilled fours, through open cylinders, and the wide pattern made hits a lot more frequent.

Any shotgun will do for this type of shooting, as long as it is rugged and reliable. Autoloaders have no real advantage over the old cornsheller action. You can work that slide faster than you can swing to another target, anyway,

Number four shot seems to give the biggest percentage of kills, as it throws a dense pattern and still has enough pellet weight to (Continued on page 44)







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(Continued from page 42)

give lethal penetration. Anyone doing this type of shooting had better own either an oil well or a shotshell reloading tool—the rounds go in a hurry, and I had to quit because I'd shot up all the shells I could afford.

When the shotgun barrels were too hot to touch, we parked the airboat by simply driving it up on the damp grass, and went to shooting rats on the run with the .22's. Al used a slim little Browning autoloader, while I stuck with the Winchester Model 77.

Our next trip after nutria was entirely different. We hunted a large fresh-water reservoir where the shooting was done from a prone position atop levees. The targets were distant from 150 to 300 yards, busily engaged in digging up and eating roots. We used a pair of Varminters—built on FN Mauser actions, barreled in .22-250. Mine had an eight power Bushnell scope, which brought the nutria right up close. Through the glass, I watched them chew up the orange-colored roots, completely destroying the plant. Then I'd swing the crosshairs from the orange root to the orange tusks and attempt to bust him right in the teeth.

The 55 grain Sierra bullets opened nicely on nutria when propelled by 35.1 grains of Hodgdon No. 4895. Tissue destruction was great, even at long range. None of the nutria needed a second shot if hit even near a vital spot. Later, we tried still another method. We put a light johnboat into the reservoir, powered it with a superquiet little threehorse outboard, and went pussyfooting along the banks. The shooter sat on an oar placed across the gunwales, with a .22 across his knees. Facing forward, he got a good chance at the nutria which were usually blissfully unaware of the hoat's approach until it got within fifty feet. Then they would scuttle out of the tall grass, stop for a split second to see what we were, and then dive into the water. The best chance for a snap shot was when they stopped for that curiosity look.

Since then, I've shot nutria many times, from many boats, many levees, and all sorts of conditions. As my first love is the rifle, I find that I enjoy two kinds of shooting above the others. First is the long range precision shooting with the Varminter. The second is the wild action that comes in an airboat. Nooties to the right of you, nooties to the left of you, with your engine (and your gun) volleying and thundering.

If you try airboating for nutria, here are a few tips. Wear plugs in your ears. The noise of the big motor is tiring, may be actually damaging. Wear shooting glasses! Ricocheting empties, flying bullrushes, even flying birds come hurtling into the cockpit and your eyes are too precious to take a chance. Glasses also improve your score by keeping your eyes from watering in the slipstream. Leave your hat on the dock! When the hat flies off and hits the prop, you need a new one. And the danger of forgetting and lunging back to grab the hat as it blows off is a real one. Forget just one time, and you have just one arm!

If you are using a .22, check the possible impact area very carefully. Ricochets will fly in all directions. If there is any question at all about safety, use the shotgun. If you have enough room, you can even use the high powers. I had a lot of fun using a quick-pointing Remington Model 760 in .30.'06. In most places, however, we were limited to the shotgun, the relatively short range .22, or the high velocity loads that disintegrate on impact, such as the .22.250 and the .220 Swift.

But, regardless of the gun you choose, try nutria as a target. You'll be doing everybody a favor by killing them, and they'll give you plenty of shooting. And if the chance ever comes to tackle them from an airboat—try it. There's nothing quite like it.

WOODCHUCKS ON A BUDGET (Continued from page 29)

is pulling out "all of the stops." Blowing hair, hide, and guts into the next county with a high velocity rifle is one thing; making elean, quick-killing head shots with a .22 is another story.

At this point maybe you are saying, "This character is way off base." We are all aware of the fact that a .22 R.F. just doesn't have what it takes to kill woodchucks at extreme range. In careless hands, it is a crippler, wounding more game than it kills. Those of us who claim to be sportsmen would not use a .22 to kill a chuck at more than 75 yards. I don't like to but, if the occasion should arise, I know it can be done, with my rifle.

For all that's said and done, the lowly .22 is still the volume breaker in point of sales all over the country. Many would lead us to believe that the .22 is good only for punching holes in tin cans, or busting the insulators off the local telephone poles. But for its size, the .22 in the Long Rifle hollow point high speed or super speed version is the most powerful pill on the market. I use only Long Rifle hollow points on game as expansion seems to be pretty even. The Long Rifle hollow point bullet weighs thirty-six or thirtyseven grains, and develops a muzzle velocity of 1365 feet per second with high speed loading, thus giving a mid-range trajectory of about 3.3 at 100 yards. Moreover, more

money is being spent on perfection and development of the .22 than on any other nonmilitary cartridge. All right, you say, why all the fuss over the .22 in this case? I would like to have a high speed, flat shooting varminter as well as the next man, and someday I am going to have one. But, I have to face facts. First of all, the terrain here doesn't lend itself to long range shooting. Secondly, living on a shoestring budget, I couldn't afford that treasured .243 just now.

But I needed a better rifle than the one I had. Its bore was getting sloppy, and I had long since lost count of the many rounds which had gone through it. Limited to a .22 for the present, I went shopping. I needed weight in the .22, both for steadiness and balance. So I settled on the Winchester Model 72A, a heavy target-type barrel, and a tubular magazine. This job was endowed with certain very likable characteristics such as a fine bolt action, and heavy stock, along with a 25" barrel.

Several bench rest test firings proved this rifle to have one factor more important than all others: It shot tight groups. Concluding from this that I could make a tight group even tighter, I really went to work. I completely refinished the stock; sanded it, shaved it to fit my particular whims. It needed certain sporter features; a white spacer plate

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between stock and butt plate, and a pistol grip cap with another white spacer plate. A different trigger guard was added, of a heavier design. Then came the necessary items: sling swivels fore and aft, and a one inch military type sling.

Following on the heels of this came the fine tuning of the internal mechanism. Every item was disassembled piece by piece; all rough and burred edges were filed and honed with a whetstone, right down to precision smoothness. The biggest problem was in getting my trigger down to a nice, clean pull right around five pounds.

The crowning glory came in the glass bedding of this rifle. Any het varminter can attest to the fact that if bedded in a warped or hadly inletted stock, even the most expensive rifle isn't worth a hill of beans. A shooter with a poorly hedded action will never hit his target repeatedly.

I purchased a glass gunstock bedding kit from a mid-western source which proved to be the ticket. After chiseling away the inside of the stock, and carefully following the stepby-step instructions, I completely lined the inside of the stock with the fiberglass bedding and let it set. My worries lessened with this process over. The glass bedding process increases the accuracy of a rifle (only one of many advantages gained). Your rifle action will not loosen in the stock to give erratic groups; the danger of warping is minimized greatly but, most of all, it gives top accuracy.

I had one more job to do, mounting a scope, a good one. Since the working range of this rifle would be around 100 yards and I would quite often be using it at beyond the usual .22's common 75 yard limit, I would have to have something more than what I considered the bare minimum. For these ranges, I chose the Weaver K-6 scope with special 1" rings for a .22 tip-off mount. Though a .750" scope might have worked just as well, the more I use the one inch tube on this rifle the better I like it.

Some might say that I have over-scoped this .22, but continued use has me sold on

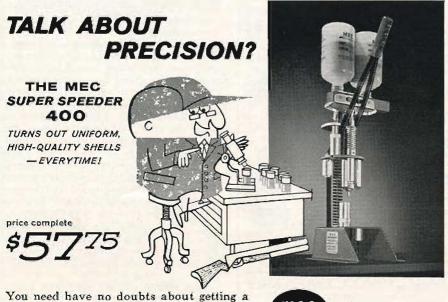
my choice. Many little things changed this rifle into a first rate tack driver, and tack driving accuracy is what I have received ever since. I firmly believe that shooting success is the result of a lot of small things, details, and it was details that made this rifle.

I bench rested the test firings at a 75 yard measured range (the only one available). The results were fantastic! Three shots, and I was right on the money. Three groups of five shots each were fired at three different targets, slow and deliberately. Each time I literally chewed the heart out of a 1" circle with room to burn. I knew I had it in the bag then. Later firings at 100 yards gave equally fine results. But still, range findings aren't everything. There is nothing like a chuck bunt to tell you what you have in a rifle.

The weather was still cold and the ground was covered with snow. I went to work on such targets as crows and pigeons. I figure with my rifle scope zeroed in at 75 yards, and using Long Rifle super speed hollow point ammunition, the bullet will at the widest margin be 1" high at 25 yards, dead on at 75 yards, and about 3" low at 100 yards. My findings indicate the bullets are striking not more than one inch above or below the line of sight from approximately 15 yards, out to about 85 yards, even with a breeze,

I found that it pays to try all the different brands of ammo and then stick to the one that gives the best groups. I clobbered crows by the score until spring, and the chucks again appeared.

The final success of the little rifle was on the chucks and, as mentioned at the beginning of my story, my Special .22 proved itself many times over. When I can hit chucks and crows beyond 100 yards I know I can nail them at 75 yards plus. My total cost? It's \$75.00 complete, and many enjoyable long winter hours. It can be anybody's rifle with a little time and energy. And, though I still want that .243 someday, I've got a .22 chuck buster now on a (men shoestring budget.



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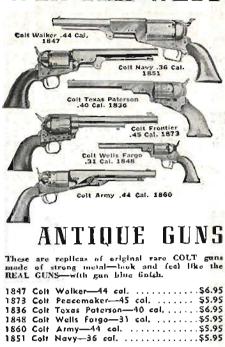


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TUNE YOUR LUGER FOR TARGETS (Continued from page 24)

ended in 1945. Regular Army gups were dated, and the month of the year of production indicated by a letter in addition to the serial number. A few pistols of '08 and 1917-8" pattern were built in 1945 at the Mauser factory. They are numbered in their own separate series, apparently from "1" up. and do not bear any date stamps or month letters. These were well finished Lugers of modern black color. But the finest finished, and most precisely fitted Lugers I have found were manufactured in the Kaiser's time, before the first World War.

Thousands of Lugers have come to the U. S. as war trophys; while thousands more are being bought and shipped over as surplus from other countries. Some are good guns; others may be worn out, found in bunkers rusted or eroded and possibly dangerous in some parts from wear. The firing mechanism especially, and the safeties, may be out of order, and may cause an accident if handled without overhauling. It's safer if such pistols are checked out by a gunsmith of good reputation.

But in buying a Luger, for shooting, you can protect yourself and make a good investment if you will only observe some basic rules.

Notice the condition it is in which reflects the amount of service and may indicate whether the previous owner or army keeps the guns in good shape. Outside finish, wear on the wood grips, and on the front and back of the grip frame, will be clues as to the amount of service the pistol has had.

To inspect the bore, first remove the clip. Then pull back the toggle to see that the chamber is empty and unloaded; then let it slip closed again. With the pistol in the right palm, curl the fingers around the toggle knobs across the top. Tense the hand and pull the toggle-receiver-barrel group back. With the left thumb and fingers, turn down the takedown latch that lies on the left side of the frame forward of the trigger guard. Remove the trigger plate. Being sure the toggle remains tightly forward, slide the entire assembly forward off the frame. Then remove the cross-pin at the rear of the barrel extension or receiver and pull the toggle group straight out the rear. This takes but an instant and will give you the best possible view of the barrel.

In reassembling, take care that the T hook on the rear toggle link engages in the claws to which the coil spring in the handle is linked: always be sure the toggle is flat, on taking apart and putting together. Otherwise it may be jammed and you must start over again to do it right.

The gun number is stamped on the frame front end above the trigger guard. See that this same number is also stamped on the left side of the barrel extension, and also usually upon the bottom of the barrel near where it threads into the extension. The last one or two digits of the number will be found stamped on many other parts of the gun. A war-issue pistol may have most of these part numbers visible when the pistol is put together; a commercial pistol for sale in the store will most likely have the numbers concealed to avoid disfiguring the appearance of the Luger. For example, if your Luger is numbered 1241, then all working parts should be stamped "41"-a guarantee the pistol has not been incorrectly fitted by some gunsmith from junk parts.

If your arm is stamped over the middle toggle joint link with the initials DWM (for Deutsche-Waffen und Munitions Fabriken) or "Mauser" you can be sure it is a funda-mentally good Luger made by the best of the "traditional gunmakers" of Germany (unless it's rusted and worn out).

Examining the mechanism of the Luger is the most important step. Few American gunsmiths are experienced in working on these pistols, so not always do they know what to look for.

Pay particular attention to the safety. Many Lugers show too much tolerance between the safety slide and the trigger bar which holds back the firing pin, and which is pressed on its forward end by the trigger lever to fire. If cocked and the gun is dropped accidentally, it may be shocked enough to fire. But you can make the safety more certain if you will solder a little copper plate about 2.5mm thick and about 1 cm. long on the trigger har where the safety rises up. Then you can shape this plate on a slant, and also shape the inside flat of the safety a little oblique, so the safety blocks all motion of the bar.

Even with this safety correction, I must say a warning: the Luger is not a pistol for quick draw. Its distribution of weight does not make it a particularly good gun for fast work. It is an army gun and upon this its (Continued on page 48)





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(Continued from page 46)

reputation rests. Do not ever wear the Luger cocked and with a cartridge in the barrel in ordinary use except perhaps if you go to chase dangerous beasts, wounded lions, etc. I have an aversion to wearing a cocked automatic at all times: I have been a soldier in two wars and I have seen too many accidents from this! For quick work, for self-defense at short range, any good American revolver is better, or the new Walther or S & W double action automatics. These you can wear uncocked with a cartridge in the barrel and be safe.

You can not employ my safety modification on the Lugers M1900 and M1906 because these have the grip safety. If you do own one of these good old pre-war Lugers with the grip safety, you can make it better for small hands to hold and easier to grip for precision shooting, as follows: change the position of the safety spring so it rests outside of the grip safety pin in the frame. This will push the safety into the frame instead of out where it interferes with your easy holding. Polish the spot on the left side of the safety to permit it to slip into place easily. Then only the safety catch on the side of the frame is functioning.

Triggers on Lugers are difficult to adjust but it can be done. Many war Lugers have a heavy, long trigger pull. You can make it smoother, and shorter. Often it is only necessary to make the little flat spring on the trigger bar (sear bar) a bit straighter, or thin a little with emery. If the cut in the trigger is too large, the trigger lever has too much "elbow room," tolerance, allowing too much trigger movement without affecting the trigger bar. On these I have soldered a little plate of copper or brass about 2mm thick against the top of this cut inside the trigger. And careful polishing with an India oil stone of the trigger bar notch and firing pin sear notch will ease this action. Again, warning, do not polish the outsides of these notches or your pistol will be ready for "doublettes" or M.P. fire! Streng verboten! Dangerous, too.

The sights of the Luger were fast for war but not too good for peace. The rear sight is fixed and the metal very hard. You can only change this with a fast grindstone. On my Lugers this was done by a friend who became a dentist, using his machinery for making old teeth of new... Only the special models, the Navy and the 8" style, had adjustable rear sights and, on some, adjustable fore-sights taking a special screw driver. These screws break easily in the front sights so be careful. However, the regular Luger front sight can be easily changed: Redfield and other sight firms make good ones,

I have known and like the Luger Parabellum since the days of 1914. In my youth I was a machine-gunner and later "observer" in the BOGHOL I, the first and oldest Bomber Formation of the Kaiser's Army. I have owned many other handguns, nearly all the European automatics, and most of the



Colts and Smith & Wessons, the Frontier Colt, the S & W "Perfected" .38, even the Merwin & Hulberts. The Luger has a most original design and although its construction principles are not modern, this pistol (with the Mauser strip-loader) is the best handgun for long range and more precise than any other arm of this kind.

But I must confess that in some ways the Luger pistol is rather difficult to handle; there is too little weight forward, and the sights are counter-balanced. In Berlin, members of the famous old "Barenzwinger" club (Georg Luger and his son were members of the Barenzwingers in the Kaiser's time) tried to give the arm more front weight by an extra-heavy barrel, but malfunctions occurred. An old timer from the Barenzwinger, my companion Georges Dern of Strassburg who shot in the Olympics in 1936, had a weighted Luger. He soldered a rifle-type forend to the trigger guard just under the barrel of his 6" Luger. But I have avoided these experiments. I have found that with practice, when I knew my pistol, I could shoot rapid fire with it as well as with any other gun, revolver or pistol. The form of the Parabellum grip is almost ideal. Many later, more modern pistols have copied it: the Woodsman, the Ruger.

The cartridge I have ever preferred for the Luger is the .30 caliber. The Luger was built originally for this light bullet, and it is not good to have the Luger shoot too heavy a bullet without changing it. Once they tried to make the Luger for .45 automatic ammunition, and built a few samples, but without much success. In former times I have seen one of these pistols in Berlin.

You can reload for the .30 Luger without difficulty, even with light loads and round lead balls. With the correct load sclected (my loading data for European powders would not help an American shooter) they are very accurate up to 50 yards, good practice for Decathlon or three-second dueling competition popular in the Old Country.

With these reloads the arm will not repeat; only single shot. You must grease the cartridge and bullet in vaseline before loading.

Major gunsmithing, such as changing Luger barrels, should never be attempted by the amateur. There are two different lengths of barrel-threads, and barrels for the M1906 or M1900 will not go in the '08. And there are different recoil springs, too. Some young shooters, and some soldiers I have seen, stupidly will place a live cartridge in the barrel-receiver assembly separate from the frame, and press the trigger bar to set it off. A fatal disaster could and has been the result. Any handgun becomes dangerous in the hands of a foolish person, and this goes double for automatics!

He is a good old fellow, the brave Luger-Parabellum. It is a pity the model is "dying out." Like the Winans Model Smith & Wesson, the great old Stevens single shots, the Luger, too, will soon be but a part of history.



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SCOPES FOR BETTER SCORES (Continued from page 27)

its post, it makes a dandy woodchuck shooting rig for ranges up to 400 yards. It also makes a dandy deer riffe, using the scope's post, in areas where the cover is not so dense. The .243 is certainly not a brush country riffe. The bullets blow up (disintegrate) too easily for brush country shooting, but the caliber is truly deadly on deer in all areas where open shots are the rule.

The short, handy, durable, Marlin Model 336 carbine is an old standby among brush country deer and black bear hunters. Using 170 grain expanding bullets, it is a real venison and bear meat getter at ranges up to 150 and maybe even 200 yards. And the bullets will plow right on through light brush and still hold an accurate enough course to hit a deer or bear in the vitals. The K2.5 scope helps me a lot even in brush; and, of course, in the open spots it is also right there on the job. In brush country, only rarely will shots at white-tail deer and black bear present themselves at ranges beyond 150 yards. The average is lower than 150 yards. The Marlin 336 with its K2.5 Weaver scope is my brush country deer and black bear gun.

The Marlin model 336 in .219 Zipper caliber is a little "whizdinger" of a varmint rifle for medium range (up to 225 yards) varmint shooting. With its 4X Marlin "Micro-Power" scope, and using 56 grain mushroom bullets, it is a dandy woodchuck rifle in the more thickly settled farm areas where the chucks often do a lot of farm damage. And for crows it is hard to beat. The .243 caliber is just a little too much rifle in the more thickly settled farm areas. The .219 Zipper makes less noise when it is fired, and the possible danger from ricochets is considerably less because the range is not as great. Regardless of popular opinion, not all .243 or any other high powered rifle bullets disintegrate when they strike the ground or intended target. Most of them do, yes; but not all. Take a tip and just don't depend on it entirely. Better use a rifle suitable for the game and territory being hunted.

The Ithaca "Lightning" .22 caliber autoloader with its J2.5 Weaver scope is my main squirrel gun. It is also sometimes used for close range young woodchuck shooting in and around vegetable patches, and also for close range crow shooting. Using Long Rifle cartridges with solid lead bullets, gray squirrels at 40 to 60 yards are duck soup with this little rig. Switch to Long Rifle cartridges carrying hollow-point bullets, and the same is true for crows and young vegetable patch woodchucks.

The J-1 Weaver scope on the Colt .22 (Continued on page 52)



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this type of hunting, this scope-sighted .22 handgun is the berries. It also makes a dandy

"Buntline"

combination for bullfrog plinking around farm ponds, small private lakes, and along creeks where the big boomers are plentiful. Handgun scopes are now on the market which are advertised to have full eye relief

(Continued from page 50)

sighting with enough eye relief for real ac-

curate shooting, and this makes it a dandy

rig to carry along on tree dog squirrel hunts.

One hunter usually carries a shotgun for the

running squirrels, and for the still shots in

handgun permits arm-length

at 22 inches, and this should be quite an improvement. However, I can get full eye relief at 12 inches using the Weaver J-1, and to my way of thinking this is actually sufficient for the types of shooting I am apt to do with a .22 handgun. Shooting small game with a scope-sighted .22 handgun is a new thrill in shooting, and I am personally sold on it.

After the drilling and tapping, I do my own scope mounting. I also do my own sighting-in. A scope-sighted rifle sighted-in by one shooter, no matter how expert he is, may not be right for another. I have found it far better to personally sight-in my personal-use rifles. Different powers of vision, reflexes, and what have you make personal sighting-in highly important. I have shot rifles sighted-in by others that fitted me perfectly, while others were everything but right for me.

Another important thing to look out for when planning to put a scope on a certain rifle-make sure that the final product will be a well balanced rig. For instance, in my own collection, the K2.5 Weaver scope on my



The cackling of geese saved ancient Rome once, but it loved too well its easy, self-indulgent way of life. The native sons still joined the Legions but demanded they be hauled to battle in bullock carts. So the Reds of that day enlisted in the Roman armies—and took over. Frontier Steel describes the lean, tough men and the weapons with which they won half the continent a century age: 380 pages with illustrations, Notes, Appendixes, Index. At your bookseller, \$6.25 or postpaid from C. C. NELSON PUBLISHING COMPANY, Appleton, Wisconsin.

heavy barreled Winchester Model 70 varmint rifle would be just as much out of place as the 10X scope would be on the .30-30 Marlin. It would be hard to mount the 10X satisfactorily on the Marlin 336, but as far as mounting is concerned, the K2.5 could be perfectly installed on the heavy barrel Winchester 70. It would be, however, a drastically unbalanced combination.

The small barreled "J" Weaver scopes would be entirely out of place on any except the .22 caliber arms. And even the larger harreled 4X Marlin scope would be too large for the .22's. There are 4 and 6 power small barreled .22 rifle scopes available, but in most cases a 2.5 power is sufficient.

Another thing to look out for in balance is the length of the scope. For instance, the 10% inch length of the Weaver K2.5 suits the short length of the Marlin 336 carbine quite well. Ditto for the 151/2 inch Lyman 10X on the considerably longer heavy barreled Winchester 70. The weight of the K2.5 is about 81/2 ounces, while the 10X weighs close to 15 ounces. Different scope materials used by different companies will vary these weights in the same power scopes. Regardless of this, however, which after all is of minor consideration in good balance, the size (diameter) and length of the scope is of major importance in putting together a well balanced rifle and scope combination.

Large sighting-in paper targets now come in the box with most scopes beyond the .22 class. A scope-sighted high powered rifle can be sighted in more accurately using one of these as a target than it can by using a rock on a distant hillside as the sighting-in target. The sighting in is really one of the most important things connected with the use of scope sights, and anyone willing to follow instructions that come with all scopes can do a good sighting-in job. Another good sighting-in aid is the Marlin sighting-in guide available from many sporting goods and gun stores, or from The Marlin Firearms Company. One can get the whole story, distances, ballistics, trajectories, and what have you, from the Marlin Sighting-In Guide. No rifleman should be without one. I have two, just in case one gets lost.

When installing scopes, make sure that all screws are tight. Just remember that anything loose about a scope or its mounts will throw it off. Follow instructions that come with the scope to the letter, and use the mounts made for the mounting job being done. Only the very top experts can do otherwise successfully,

I personally prefer scopes with internal adjustments. I am not in any way kicking the scopes with mount adjustments, but I do say that they are more tedious and complicated than scopes with internal adjustments. For the average shooter like myself, I personally think the internal adjustment jobs are the most convenient.

For the average American hunter, I think that an investment in a good scope sight for the hunting rifle is the best possible investment that can be made except the huying of the rifle itself. There's nothing else that will improve rifle shooting scores like a good scope.

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SINGLE SHOT: TEACHER OF SPORT

(Continued from page 25)

one got up, and the process was repeated. Each time, a moment's hesitation before firing would probably have allowed more accurate shooting. But I shot fast and close and not one rabbit fell that day. Each bunny was followed by my shotgun until it had disappeared into the brush. As a result, I became fearful of firing too fast, and found myself at times not shooting. And, contrary to what we would like to believe. I wasn't bothered about "clearance" or anything else regarding safety. Such things as "unseen hunters" or hunting dogs and farmers' buildings rarely entered my young mind when game was at hand. But, each time a rabbit jumped, the fact that I had but one shot. haunted me, so I kept waiting for a "better" shot. When the sun set that evening, nothing but experience did I bring home. The weight of that experience was heavier, more profitable, than any bag limit which I have since filled.

Had there been two shots or more in my gun, I might have fired many times that day, and perhaps fired dangerously. Sure, I had been preached to endlessly on careful shooting, but advice is easily mislaid under field conditions. The one thing that supplied my lacking caution was not thoughts of safety, but the fact that I had to make that one shot count. That was my introduction to hunting with a loaded gun.

Over the years, my chances for game have died a hundred times from the patience and reflection my single gun demanded. Admittedly, I cursed the handicap of not having a second shot. How I envied hunters with the doubles, pumps and automatics! For a time. I became ashamed of my "second rate" weapon, and longed for the day when I, too, would own a more "modern gun."

Eventually, I found myself taking consolation in the wildlife I saw, for one had to count something. Rarely did I come home empty handed. But when I had one rabbit, my friends had two. And nobody bothered to confess the number of shots he fired to get them. Nor did anyone inquire about the cripples my hasty-firing friends left, or about the chance shots they took at partial images of what they thought were game.

Even then, I knew it would be sour grapes to mention it, so I brooded. My friends concerned themselves with game limits, while my contentment was in the fact that for each shell I fired, a rabbit, squirrel or grouse fell. Gradually, I got the feel of my gun and learned its pattern and just exactly what it could do. Soon, my kills matched the best of the modern gun boys, and never once did I come close to shooting anyone. During this time, the same boys with whom I hunted shot my beagle when one mistook her for a rabbit; and one ended up in the hospital, the victim of a hasty-firing friend.

From all of my hunting experiences, the greatest, yet most subtle lesson that my single taught me was restraint in firing. Restraint does not come naturally nor quickly to youngsters. The habit is not easily absorbed among adults, either. Yet it is as hasic to hunting safety as red hats, alertness, and thinking before one shoots. It is something which cannot be regulated by laws, for it does not deal with seasons or mechanisms. In reducing hunting accidents, it is a major asset. Restraint, itself, is a great teacher, but the single barrel shotgun is the great restrainer. Whether from thought and foresight, or reflex, it is a definite moulder of a young hunter's maturity. And that, I believe, is what we want for our sons.

The one-shot shotgun is not the answer to hunting accidents, any more than the reduction of horsepower in automobile engines is the answer to highway accidents. No gun that kills can substitute for common sense, but the single can help. Just as a governor on an engine keeps it from running wild, so it is with the single gun—it is the governor on a boy's reflexes, and assists in conditioning them until the day comes when common sense think-before-you-shoot can take over.

Whether intentional or unintentional at first, thinking before one shoots is habitforming, as are restraint and conditioned reflexes. Once the habit is formed, it is difficult to break even when we try. Eventually, what the young sportsman in the field does from habit and what he does because of serious thought are impossible to separate.

My job is the unhappy chore of keeping records on hunting accidents. West Virginia's records show 35 to 50 per cent of accidents are from hunters shooting at what they believed was game. The reports are carried as: "Victim mistaken for game." No such accident can be excused as "normal risk" for hunters. Hesitation, long enough to determine the target, would have stopped all such accidents.

(Continued on page 55)

Rare sable in one shot with 30 cal. 180 gr. SP

Cape buffalo in one shot

with 30 cal. 220 gr. FMJ

Prize nyala in one shot

with 30 cal. 180 gr. SP



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(Continued from page 53)

Restraint, reducing hunting accidents, is not found as often as desired when fire power is virtually unlimited. No longer, it seems, is accuracy the requirement for game it once was. Practice, experience and a greater knowledge of the game are not so vital now. Once a man believed he had a good season if, during it, he fired up a box of shells. Today, a box a day is not uncommon. Skill in shooting is not so important when a man can saturate a flock of turkeys with his rapid firing automatic shotgun. He now substitutes fire power and plenty of ammunition for good sense and dead aim. Perhaps burning up shells is all right, so far as experienced, veteran hunters, wise in the ways of the fields and forests, are concerned. Despite hasty shooting, expendable ammunition and chance shots, most of these older people are conditioned to hunting situations. They normally know their guns and their own abilities so well that the danger factor and crippling factor are only minor considerations.

On the other hand, a boy who hunts for his first time, unaccustomed to field conditions, with the thrill of his first big gobbler standing within 30 yards of him is an explosive situation. If he has but one shot, a "psychological balance" may take over between the urge to shoot hastily, and the desire to make the one shot count. But boys with free-firing guns need not be inhibited with "balances" of this type. They are not limited to one shot, or even two. They have nothing to restrain their normal reflexes, except whatever innate powers of restraint and judgment they happily were born with.

Research has come a long way in perfecting the modern hunting weapon. Today the trend is towards light weight, faster action guns; heavier loads and more killing power. The modern gun can fire as fast and as often as a man can pull a trigger. While research has perfected the mechanism, however, nobody has been able to educate youthful reflexes. The greater the stride forward in the mechanical phases, the further back we step in training youth. But no weapon has replaced the single-barreled shotgun for training and conditioning powers. Nor has a gun been manufactured which can develop a man's shooting eye faster than the knowledge that he is limited to one shot at fleeting game.

First off, while the single gun of today is efficient in killing power, its structure is simple in design and easy to learn. It can be taken down and put back together again by a youngster after one easy lesson. The basic mechanism is no secret, but today's pumps and automatics are intricate pieces. They often require the assistance of a gunsmith to disassemble and reassemble. This complexity creates a shroud of secrecy over the gun and self-confidence takes time and experience to acquire.

So, if hunting safety is the one step at a time process which we have preached, the less complex the gun is, the more time the hunter will have to give to hunting situations

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which arise. If a rabbit jumps up in front of a youngster, he will necessarily concentrate a portion of that split second of time upon the gun in his hand. If the gun is of simple design, that's one thing. If it is a complex weapon, it is another. At such times, even the most inveterate hunter will tell you that one cannot "worry" about his gun, the rabbit and his shooting clearance without firting with danger.

In my mind, a single-barreled shotgun disciplines a boy's reflexes in such a way that nothing else can. A boy usually gets one good dose of hunting etiquette from his father, and then he is turned loose to practice what he has been told. It is where the father leaves off that the single takes over. It has a subtle, but constant and effective manner of teaching a boy skill, accuracy, restraint, and safety. He may miss a lot of game in the process, but personally I am more concerned that my son comes home after every trip, than I am that he comes home with game in his bag. The killing of game shall always be an "extra" part of the sport. It shall never be mandatory. This is the lesson in sportsmanship of the single shotgun.

Personally, it's reassuring among the grandeur of repeating gun achievements, to find, announcements that the single-barreled shotgun is still with us. I trust that men and industry shall never become so blinded by modern science that the single gun is outmoded as a good and faithful hunting weapon. If this ever happens, hunting will have lost its finest subtle teacher.

PULL!

(Continued from page 6) title, and Eugene Clawson Jr., Missoula, Montana, the junior Champion of Champions trophy.

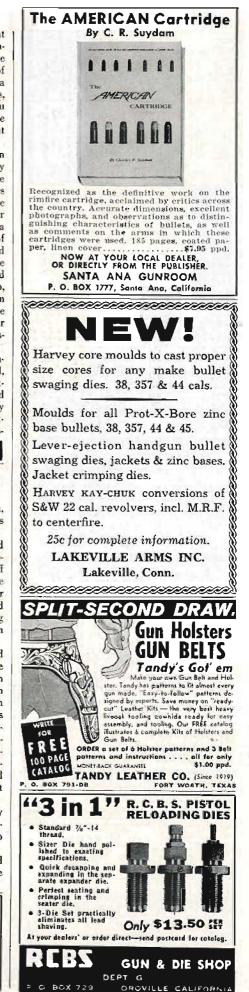
As already noted, the great Joe Heistand picked up the hardware in the feature 16yard attraction, after the lengthy shoot-off with George Burruss. George did salvage the junior trophy, so all was not lost for him. Helen Urban of Mentor Ohio helped keep this event an Ohio show by winning the Ladies Championship. D. Lee Braun won the pro division with a perfect 200.

The Grand offers shooters who experienced "butterflies" or various other ailments one last chance to hit pay dirt on Saturday, in the Vandalia Handicap. Frank Sidebotham of Telford, Pa., won the Vandalia, also with a perfect score, to send the figure-filherts scurrying to the record books. Evelyn Eperjessy, another Pennsylvanian, from Johnstown, was the Ladies trophy winner. I recall shooting a few years ago with Mrs. Eperjessy's husband in a very enjoyable Grand event (neither Doc nor I did so well that year as Mrs. E did this year).

Eugene Clawson picked up another trophy in this event in the junior division. Portland, Oregon's Harvey Fisher was the pro champ in the wind-up.

Another Grand championship is arrived at by computing the scores registered in the (Continued on page 60)





GUNS . DECEMBER 1960

56





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(Continued from page 56)

feature shoots for each division. This 400target scoring break-down includes the 200 16-yard targets of Wednesday, Friday's Grand American Handicap (100 targets), and the 50 pairs of doubles, recorded on Saturday. This trophy race is called the All-Around Championship, and was won by Carl Buchanan of Lawrenceburg, Indiana, with a score of 390x400. Mrs. Leona Hard crops up again as the Ladies victor, and George Burruss, as might be expected, took Junior honors. Paul Smith, shooting out of Lakewood, Colorado, was High-All-Around professional champion.

Space does not permit listing all the winners, but our congratulations shoot out to them.

With the Grand being the way that it is, it occurs to me that some reader who is now skimming over the list of 1960 winners with perhaps a little envy, might find his or her name on these pages next year. It could he you, you know. History is in your favor. And, you'll never know until you try, or keep trying. See you at the Grand next year?

ELMER KEITH SAYS . . . (Continued from page 8)

(which is the commercial form of all our efforts in the .333 O.K.H., .333 O.K.H. belted, and .334 O.K.H.) and the .358 Norma Magnum need a 300 gr. built for the heavier game. Many years ago, Leslie Simson, the old African hunter who had hunted Africa well over 20 years, wrote that what was needed for the light rifle in Africa was a .350 caliber throwing a 275 grain bullet at 2500 feet, and if more power was wanted, increase bullet weight rather than velocity. I concur 100% with his findings, and they are just as right today as when he wrote. My own use of the 300 grain, .333 O.K.H. on the plains game of Africa proved out my findings on American big game.

We shot the new rifle and load from rest position at 100 yards for groups and it seemed to want to print well inside the minute angle. Both rifle and load are superbly accurate. Pressure of the new cartridge is said to be under 55,000 pounds. Factory machine rest groups of the new rifle and load often went into $2\frac{1}{2}$ " at 300 yards, and I believe them after shooting this rifle. Big game testing will have to await the next hunting season.

As I wrote in the January 1960 issue of GUNS. Sheldon can furnish both the annunition and components as well as all chambering specifications for the .358 Norma, and a finish reamer as well to gunsmiths who wish to make up rifles for the new cartridge. This rifle, like a .300 H & H Weatherby I have, came ready to sight up and use in the game fields without any need of private gunsmithing. A scope is needed to bring out the full possibilities of both rifle and load and all you have to do is fit one and sight in and you are ready to go hunting.

My hat is off to Eric Claesson of Husquarna and the Norma Company for producing a rifle and load in .35 caliber that should meet the demands of all .35 caliber riflemen. Recoil is rather less than the .375 Magnum and a trifle heavier than that of the .338 Winchester Magnum. It is an excellent all around rifle and load for all American hig game and the plains game of Africa; but,

60

as above stated, it also needs a 275 or 300 grain bullet load.

The case is the same length as the .35 Newton but a trifle longer in powder chamber and rather smaller in diameter than the Newton case. The Norma case has slightly more taper and will leave slightly thicker chamber walls around the front end of the cartridge.

Jefferson Corp. Firearms

The Jefferson Corporation, 112 Quinnipiac Ave., North Haven, Conn., have a line of new arms now on the market, consisting of two models of very fine custom Mauser rifles in five calibers: .243. .270. .308, .30-06, and .300 H & H Magnum. There are also two models of shotguns: a 12 gauge trombone Model 458 Lightweight. and a fine single shot in gauges from 12 to .410, especially suitable for youngsters.

The line also carries two .22 caliber rifles: a Model 159 auto loader, and a Model 359 bolt action in .22 W.R.F. Magnum caliber. Open sights or scope available on each model. The holt action is also available in .22 LR caliber.

This complete line of Jefferson frearms offers some of the greatest values for the prices charged we have seen in a decade. Starting with the fine high-power rifle line, the Model 158 Imperial Grade is made on imported F.N. series 400 Mauser action with Damascened boli, silent side safety, and 12 groove swaged rifling. Barrels are 24" in length and well proportioned. The stock is a thing of beauty, of finest figured walnut with roll-over cheek rest and fully curved pistol grip. Detachable sling swivels and ramp front and folding, screw-on-base adjustable rear sights are available. The action has hinged floor plate and carries some goldwashed engraving. Finest custom shaping, finishing, inletting, and checkering complete this rifle stock. All told, it adds up to a lot of custom rifle that would usually retail for nearly twice its price of \$189.95.

A plainer version, with .22 inch barrel except in .300 H & H caliber, sells for just \$129.95. These rifles weigh respectively 71/4 and 7 pounds.

The Model 458 lightweight 12 hore pump gun is made with choice of improved cylinder, modified, or full choke boring, in 28" barrel length, weight approximately 6 pounds, with standard dimension stock of 15%" comb drop, 21/2" heel drop, and 13%" length of pull. Extra barrels with different chokes are available. This gun retails at just \$89.50.

The Model 358 single barrel is the dream gun for starting the youngster, and is available in gauges from .410 to 12 bore. Same stock dimensions as the pump gun, but available in both 30" and 36" Long Tom in 12 bore, and 26" in .410 and 20, or 28" in 16 gauge. A special short stock model also available, with 121/2 inch pull for the shortarmed youngster. This fine, automatic toptang safety with automatic ejector single sells for just \$34.95 and is an excellent weapon with which to start any youngster.on a wing-shooting career.

The Model 159 auto loading .22 LR rifle sells for \$44.95, and the bolt action Model 359 single shot sells for \$19.95 in .22 LR caliber, \$24.95 in .22 W.F.R. Magnum. Scope sights of four power are available for either weapon at \$10 each. This price in-



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cludes the tip-off mount for which the receivers are grooved.

The Imperial Grade Model 158 .300 H & H Magnum I am currently testing has one of the most gorgeous pieces of stock wood I have ever seen-beautiful burl throughout check piece and butt stock, but with strong, straight, contrasting grain in grip and foreend. Stock alone on this specimen is well worth the price of the rifle. It has a soft rubber rifle butt plate, and quickdetachable sling swivels for one-inch sling. Grip and forcend are beautifully hand checkered, with 20 lines to the inch in an artistic pattern. Stock is fairly wide and massive through action where extra strength is needed. Inletting and bedding leave nothing to be desired, and the only gap between steel and wood is at the rear end of the upper tang where it should be relieved to prevent splitting or cracking should the action ever set back. All told, it's a beautiful job of custom stocking and has a hand rubbed Firecote finish. This complete rifle sells for \$189.95.

This stock is not only a thing of beauty but also incorporates a lot of solid comfort for the shooter. Comb height is just right for scope use and not bad at all with iron sights.

We fitted this rifle (Serial No. C 5096) with a K-4 series 60 Weaver scope with my favorite double horizontal cross wire, in Weaver detachable top mounts. The outfit went to work from the start and seemed to want to print into just one inch at 100 yards with hoth Remington 180 grain Corelokt and also Norma 220 grain boat tail. It throws Remington 180, Norma 180 grain B.T. and Norma 220 grain B.T. all to exactly the same elevation at 100 yards. The Norma 180 grain, for some reason, shoots about one inch to left of center. Best groups were made with Norma 220 grain and Remington 180 grain. For some reason, we had a stray either high or low in most groups with 180 grain Norma Boattail, but both Norma 220 grain and Remington 180 grain shot consistently intoone inch at 100 yards. The rifle seems to show a preference for the Norma 220 grain load, and really groups that bullet. Possibly the twist is better for the 220 than the 180 grain bullet. This suits me fine, as the 220 grain has a lot more authority on game at any range than the 180 grain load and. contrary to the ideas of most high velocity fans, the long heavy 220 grain is almost as flat at reasonable ranges and sneaks up on the lighter shorter bullet as the range progresses. I intend using the 220 grain in this rifle for most game shooting, but can use the 180 grain Remington load for light game at long range. It's rare to find a rifle that will group different weight bullets to the same elevation and same point of aim, and when you find such a rifle, better stick to it.

I have used the .300 Magnum since back in 1926, when I had Hoffman Arms Co. build my first one. Have killed a lot of big game with it and still consider it one of our finest loads for all the lighter big game at long range. It is my preference of all the calibers made for this Jefferson rifle. When it is to be used on game larger than deer, sheep, goats, or caribou, I favor the 220 grain factory load and, for the hand loader, the 250 grain round-nose Barnes soft-point backed by 60 grains of 4350. This load is in a class by itself on such game as elk, grizzly, or moose.

After testing hundreds of rifles in various makes, it's a distinct pleasure to pick up this Jefferson and go right to work without a lot of gunsmithing and really group. Chambering of this 300 Jefferson is very clean and smooth. Fired cases, with all factory loads, extract smooth as grease. It has shown no tendency whatever to change impact from day to day or to walk its groups as some rifles do. It's a real montain rifle and I can only class it along with those fine old Hoffman and later Weatherby custom-huilt rifles. It's not only a beautiful, well finished rifle in every respect, but shoots just as well as it looks. One usually gets about what he pays for in this world, but in the case of this Imperial grade Jefferson Mauser, I would say the buyer gets a big bonus for his \$189.95.

After a couple hundred rounds, the bore shows no wear or tendency to change point of impact. Barrel is best Chrome-moly steel. How long the rather shallow 12 groove rifling will wear I do not know, in proportion to standard 4 or six groove. But this multiplegroove rifling is not new, as we have had it a great many years in practically all artillery tubes, and it has well withstood the test of time in them.

Cutter Insect Repellant

Have just tried a new insect repellant by Cutter Laboratories, 4th and Parker Sts., Berkeley 10, Calif. This new dope comes in small plastic one-ounce bottles. It is a wind and sunhurn cream as well as one of the most efficient repellants I have tried for mosquitoes and flies. It seems to last much longer than most repellants. While salmon fishing along a particularly mosquito-infested portion of the Salmon River, I did not get a single bite. Without a good repellant, mosquitoes become almost unbearable along much of our river during the salmon runs. This Cutter product is a darn good one. The only fly in the ointment, so to speak, is the price, which is \$1.98 for a one-ounce bottle. However, a little of this dope goes a long way and the small container is easily carried.

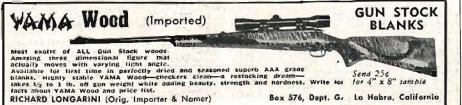
Nosler 160 Grain .270

Nosler is now producing the best game bullet we have seen for the .270 Winchester, .270 Weatherby Magnum, and similar custom .270 rifles. Obtainable from the Nosler Partition Bullet Co., Bend, Oregon, at \$5.50 per box of 50 these bullets are

BERG'S 417 W. Hewson St., Philadelphia 22, Pa.

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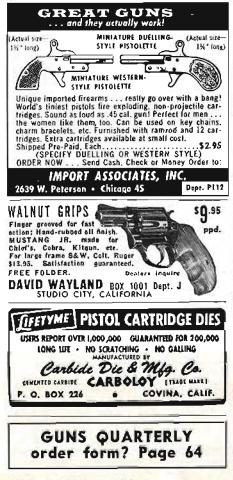
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worth the money.

This fine bullet has two diameters, going .2765 on the rear half, and .273 on the forward portion. This reduces hore friction. With 4350 and 4831 powders, it will load to standard velocities for the usual 150 grain bullets in most rifles. Charges should be carefully worked up, however, as different rifles vary somewhat in groove diameter and chambering and hence in permissable charges for the individual rifle.

This bullet will give certain deep penetration at any range. The point may expand and blow off at extreme velocity at close range, but the solid jacketed rear half of the bullet carries on through the game to the limit of penetration. The soft point expands well to extreme long range from high velocity 270s.

The 300 grain Nosler .375 is also the finest bullet we have seen for the .375 Magnum and Weatherby .375 magnum rifles. It is a semi-pointed bullet that retains initial velocity better over long ranges than blunt points do, and it can be depended on to expand the front section, with the rear half pushing on for deep penetration. These bullets, priced at \$8.50 per box of 50, have been tried on a wide variety of game with every success. They usually retain about two-thirds their original weight after penetrating the game to their very limits. On the smaller game, they nearly always go clean through, leaving a good blood trail. A cannellure is cut over the solid web in the middle of the bullet so this solid portion of the jacket cannot raise pressures. I consider Nosler bullets the best ever produced anywhere for all ultra high velocity rifles. They are necessarily expensive, but when bunting a fine big game animal, who cares for the extra cost when you can be certain of the result?

With the 160 grain Nosler in a standard 24" barreled Winchester .270 rifle, a charge of 54 grains 4350 in Winchester case with CCI primer gave a chronograph average of 2925 feet muzzle velocity. Temperature 90 degrees. A charge of 56 grains 4350 gave an average reading of 2985 feet and a load of 57 grains gave a reading for average of 3045 feet. Loads should be started 5 grains lower and work up.





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CIGAR SMOKERS, Popular And Special Brands, Write For Wholesale List, Ideal Christmas Gift, Wayne Cigar Co., Dept. 9, 3081 East Main, Richmond, Indiana, LEAD WIRE for swaging bullets 38, 44, 7 45 calibers, \$20.70 per hundred lbs, F.O.B. The Sport Shop, P.O. Box 1117, Dayton, Texas.

ELECTRO-SCRIBE? Engraves all Metals, \$2.00. Beyer Mrg. 10511-Q Springfield, Chicago 43.

CROSSBOWS: HUNTING Bows: Factory-Direct-Prices! Jay Co., Box 1355, Wichita, Kansas.

NAZI ITEMS bought & sold, orig, only, 1 piece or col-lection; "lists 25e"; Lenkel, 812 Anderson, Palisade, N. J.



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SEAL) E. L. Munson (My commission expires March 10, 1962.)

GUN RACK

(Continued from page 14)

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easily. The base can be screwed down, but generally you can shoot from the rest without having to fix it to anything. It's a good gadget and, at only \$8.95, is not only competitive but a fine "buy." It is capable of 2" vertical adjustment. They are also pushing tie clasps featuring a .222 cartridge.

WRACo Junior Rifle In Big League Stuff

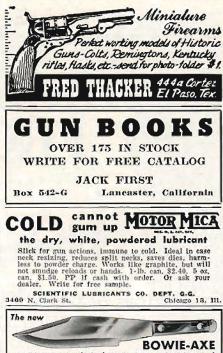
A new look to an old and previously underrated favorite is Winchester's nice little Model 69, now boosted as a Junior Target Rifle with No. 57 Lyman sight. So fitted, the 69 now takes its place with any as a good guu for the kids, indoors or outdoors. Front sight as shipped from the Hallowed Halls of New Haven is a blade type, but this can be removed easily and Lyman's #17A-MI interchangeable—aperture front sight fitted—the matching front for the #57EW rear.

The little rifle has good drop to the stock for small shoulders and big heads, and can be trimmed to length if desired. Clip holding five shots makes it a fine outdoor sporter, heavy enough, but not too heavy. Presently fitted only with a fore-end sling swivel, it is a sensible $1\frac{1}{4}$ " size to take a genuine sling instead of these skimpy thongs you see on some "kids' rifles." It's a nice little outfit, and with peep rear and blade front costs only \$44.75.

If you are so lucky as to already have a Model 69 you want to dress up for the boy for competition, Lyman's 57EW is fine or, if you want to shade the price a bit, Charles Lyman recommends their new No. 60, a good, inexpensive extension sight.

We Goof Again . . .

Recently we published that S. E. Laszlo, ammunition distributor marketing the famous British Eley ammunition, stocked the short British shells for shotguns having 2" chambers. We thought this was true, having seen, so we remembered, short Eley shells at an exhibition attended by Laszlo. But now we learn from top shotgunner Jack Boone, Laszlo sales manager, that all the Eley cartridges imported by his firm are made to American standards. Shotshells are 23/4" standard, except the 3" .410, and are loaded with American standards of powder gram equivalent, shot weights, and American shot sizes. Says Boone, "We do not import any of the British-style short shotshells, since I doubt there are enough such guns used in this country to warrant importing the ammunition."



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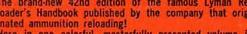
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