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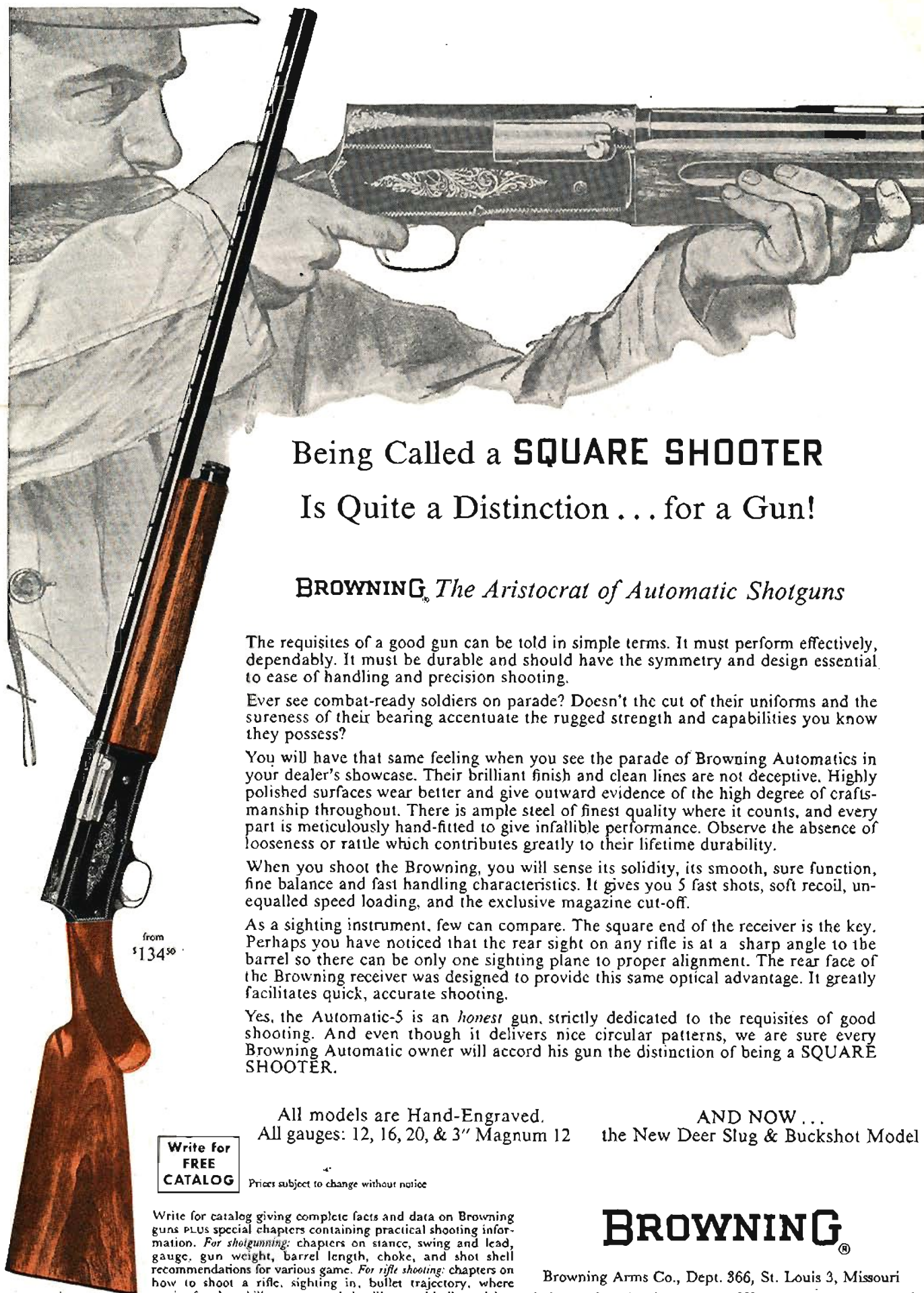
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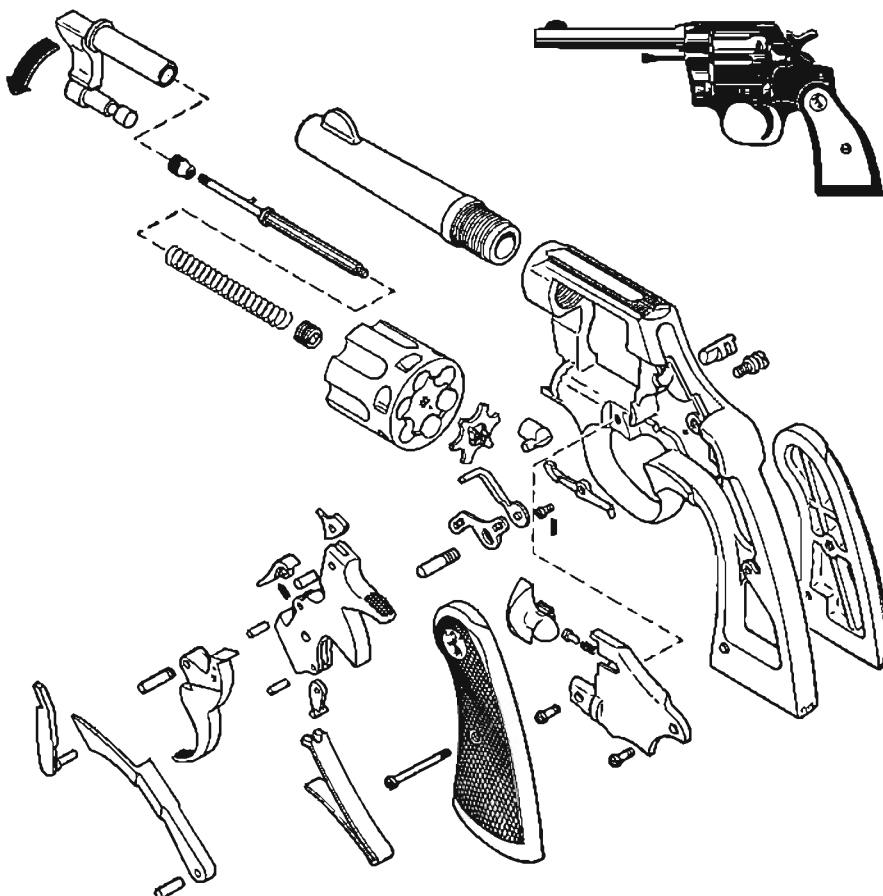
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# AN INSIDE LOOK

## AT THE COLT O.P. REVOLVER

By SHELLEY BRAVERMAN



**M**anufactured since 1928, the Colt Official Police revolver is a modification of the Army Special; both are based on the 41/c frame. The Official Police is one of the world's most popular revolvers, being used by many police departments as well as some military organizations.

The cylinder cuts are positioned to avoid the thin chamber-webs, adding to the strength of the chambers. The cylinder rotates to the right, thereby reducing strain on crane.

The lock design permits both single-action and double-action use. The hand is pivoted to the trigger, not to the hammer, as in older Colt designs. Supplementing the rebound feature is the Colt Positive Safety Lock. This interposes a solid steel member between the hammer and the frame; unless the trigger is retracted, the hammer cannot fire a cartridge.

The V-type mainspring activates both the hammer and rebound lever. When at rest, the hammer is maintained in a slightly retracted position with its fir-

ing pin within the recoil plate. On firing, the inertia of the hammer overcomes the slight upward thrust of the rebound lever, and strikes the cartridge. When the trigger is released, the rebound lever returns the hammer to its "rest" position. The cylinder-hand features a stepped shoulder which allows engagement of two ratchets at a time, instead of one.

The World War II model was known as the Commando or Model E. It was of .38 Special caliber with either a 2" or 4" barrel, sand-blasted, blue finish. Calibers encountered today in addition to the .38 include .32-20 and .22 L.R.

The writer once owned an Official Police Revolver in caliber .25-20. It was claimed that the factory had made up two (or six) on a special order.

Serial Numbers: In .32-20 and .38, concurrent with Model E at about 520,000; in .22, from #1, and concurrent with Officer's Model .22.

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# Guns

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### THE COVER

We (and you) have waited a long while for a gun for the port, perky, small but potent Winchester .256 Magnum cartridge—and now there are two: the massive but well balanced pistol-that-looks-like-a revolver by Ruger, and the smooth lever action carbine by Marlin. Both guns are to be made also, we are told, to handle Remington's .22 Jet. Photo by R. A. Steindler.

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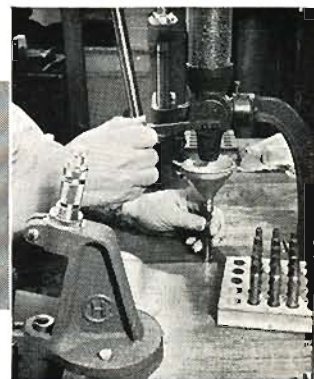
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# HANDLOADING BENCH

By KENT BELLAH



**M**OST MEN who are afraid of "hard kicking" guns can use hot-shots in the field without discomfort, with practice. Margaret Sutton, a cute little 18 year old family friend, enjoys shooting my rifles in the .300 Weatherby Magnum class, my .44 Magnums, and all guns in my battery. She "plays like they are not loaded," so ignores recoil. What she does to varmints shouldn't happen to a dog. This beautiful babe likes to drop in to pack and stack a thousand or so rounds of ammo with speed and efficiency, then empty the hulls in the same manner. Many women would get a delightful thrill out of shooting and reloading, just as all red-blooded men and boys do. It's a sure cure for boredom and unhappiness.

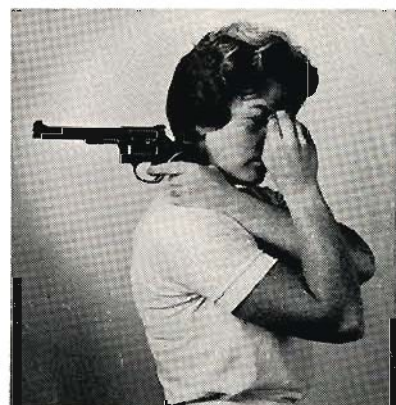
Margaret is one of many youngsters I've started in handloading and accurate shooting. R. B. Smith gave her pointers on double-action fast cylinder rolling. D. L. Cooper gave tips on exhibition shooting stunts. She seldom misses when aiming a K-38 backwards with a diamond ring or mirror. You must hold a diamond very close to your eye until sights and target are visible and in alignment. Ear plugs are a must! Margaret hits targets with her head between her legs, and the gun upside down and backwards. Try it. All you need is practice.

Margaret likes my "Big Shorty," a 12-bore Ithaca Featherlight, with a Poly and 20" barrel, weighing under 6 pounds. It swings fast to gain yards on quail in greenbriars. Recoil with heavy loads for crows is fear-some to some people, but our girl fires them without flinching. Most people can.

The belief that long tubes "shoot harder" is a hangover from black powder daze. Our chronograph proves it isn't true to any noticeable extent. Winchester-Western tests with their 1 1/4 oz. load of 6s gave 1350 fps in a 28" and 30" barrel, and 1328 in a 23". A box of shells has more variation. My 20"

averages 1302 fps. A 13" barrel, illegal as counterfeit money, gave a decent 1139 fps. There is no ballistic advantage in tubes longer than 20" to 23", except heavy Magnums, that are not for fast handling. A longer sight radius may be desirable for long range and slow swings.

Many people hunt with too much gun, not necessarily in power, but in iron and wood. You'll bag more game with a short, slim, trim tube, even if you sacrifice a little of the velocity possible in hot-shots steamed up like



Margaret Sutton handles rifles, shotguns and handguns with ease.

a bathroom mirror. That's why Winchester's Model 94 has always outsold their more potent and more accurate Model 70. All accuracy fans, and most handloaders have contempt for .30-30 ballistics; but they handle fast, and have stacked up deer like cordwood every season since they came out. Their record speaks louder than the ballistics! Of course, they are not for big game or varmints at long range, where more power or accuracy is needed. Don't sell 'em too

(Continued on page 12)

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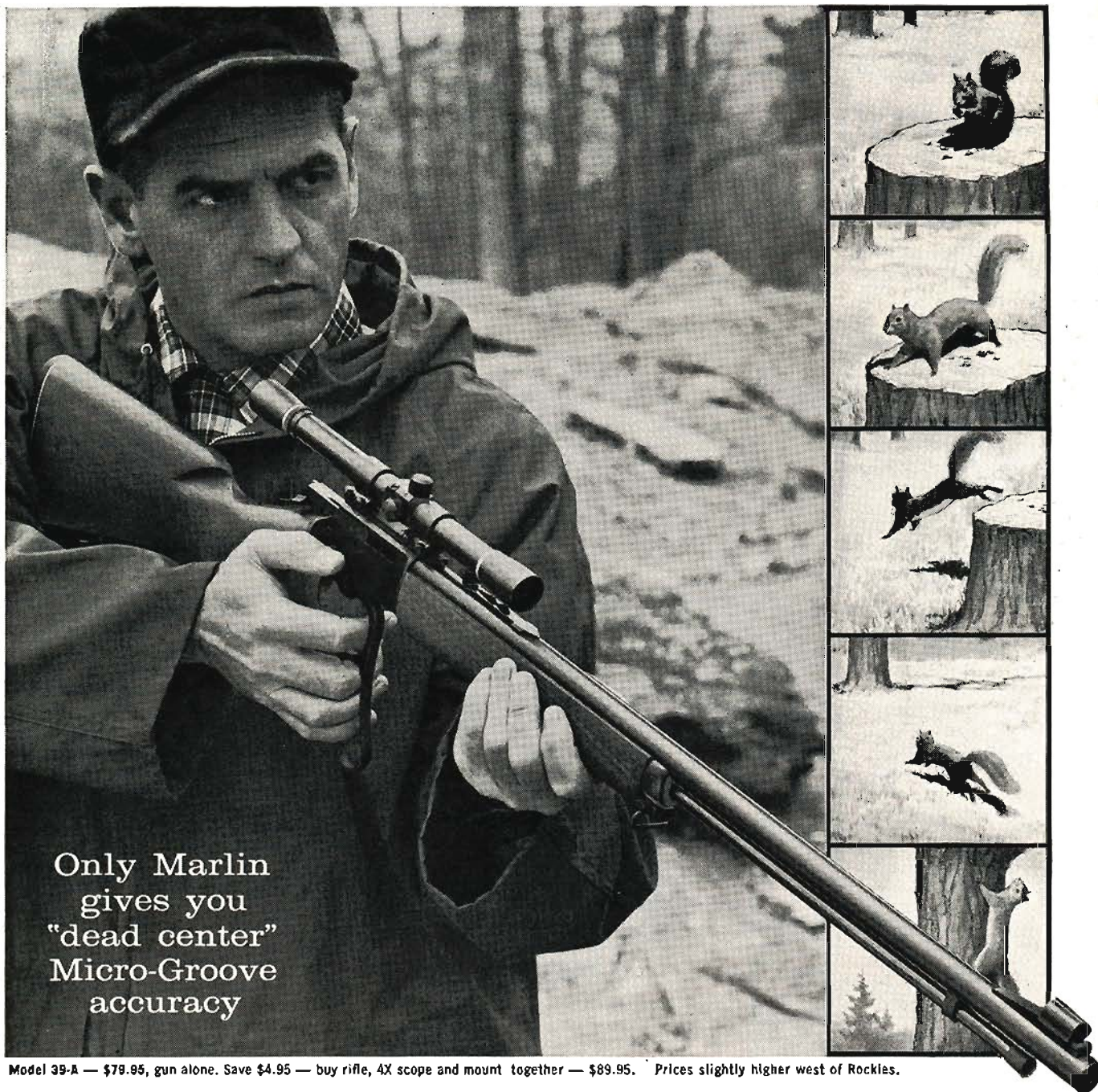
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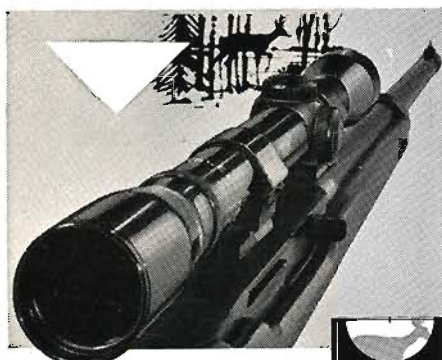
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## Plastic Shot Shield

When we talked to Charley Sullivan last spring, he mentioned working on the Saggard plastic shot shields. These shields are based on the paper tube that was found in the shotshells used by live bird shooters at the beginning of the Century.

Saggard is a strip of tough polyethylene and when used in conjunction with the Saggard and Saggard wads, the plastic strip prevents shot deformation and pattern improvement is considerable, often as much as 10 per cent or more. There is no trick to loading your shells with Saggard. The combination of the three Sullivan Arms Corporation shotshell components makes it possible to get maximum performance from your handloads, and that can be important on the trap or skeet range, as well as in the field or the duck blind.

## Pistol Box

C. W. Risley, 1-R Chillicothe Ave., Excelsior Springs, Mo., recently submitted a sturdily built, plastic pistol box for tests.



This is an injection-molded plastic box resembling a small suitcase, and the edges of the top and bottom lids are covered with extruded aluminum. A luggage-type handle and lock make the carrying of a handgun safe and convenient. Gun and small accessories rest on a cushion of plastic foam, and once the lock is snapped shut, neither ammunition nor gun will move, even when the entire unit is dropped from four feet onto a concrete floor.

We tried several of our handguns in the box in our station wagon, letting the box bounce around. Neither box nor guns showed any signs of abuse, but we did find that our Colt Python equipped with Herrett stocks made the lid of the box gape more than it should. However, these stocks are extra thick, and fitting this gun in most pistol boxes presents a problem. The box is available from Risley for \$13.95 postpaid.

## New Ear Protectors

Last year we reported on the David Clark Company's Straightaway Ear Protectors. The ribbing we got at that time about

"bunny ears," has been reduced to an occasional crack, and the large green globes have become more or less our trade mark at a number of the local ranges.

Now Clark has come out with a new Ear Protector that is vastly improved, much lighter, and the headband exerts considerably less pressure. This new Model is known as the 10A, comes in either green or red, and is a delight to use, even when temperatures soar. Like the earlier models, the Model 10A effectively protects the hearing, and it seems to us that it does permit hearing the human voice just a bit better than the earlier model. For those who still doubt the value of these Ear Protectors, it might be of interest to know that a number of law enforcement agencies now use them in training, and that they are standard equipment on most commercial ranges.

## Marble Scope

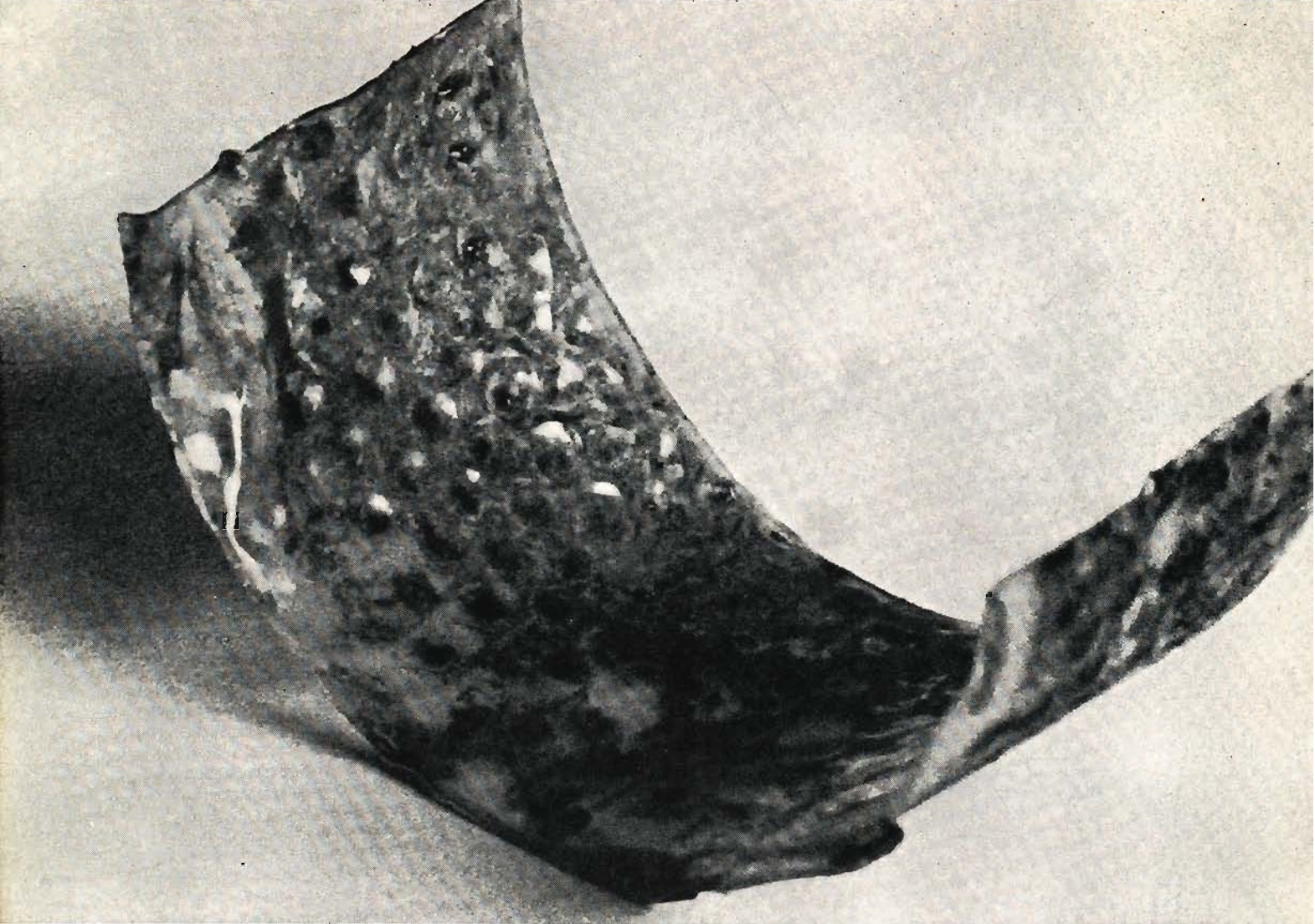
Marble Arms recently gave us a chance to put their new Game Getter scope through its paces. This is a fine scope with very good optical qualities. It is fog and moisture proof, and it passed the drop test with flying colors. But the most amazing thing is the reticle. Marble calls it the "Right-Side Up" reticle, while most people's first reaction would be that it is upside down. This is but a question of semantics, since the tapered post does extend from 12 o'clock down rather than from the conventional location at 6 o'clock up. It took a bit of getting used to the reticle location and, once the scope had passed the range tests, we decided to take it into the woods to see how the eye would react to the reticle location. Even with full summer foliage that cuts visibility to 25 yards, the new Marble scope picked up targets easily, quickly, and with great regularity.

Body construction of the scope is aluminum and weight is only 7 ounces. Tube diameter is the standard 1 inch, length is 12½ inches, and field of view is 30 feet, with a 4X magnification. Critical eye relief lies between 3¼-4½ inches, and click adjustment at 100 yards is ½ inch. Scopes are factory adjusted for parallax at the usual 100 yards, and the ten lens optical system in the nitrogen filled tube has all the good points a hunter could want. Take a look through that new Marble scope—we think that you too will like it.

## Hi-Standard Derringer

This jim-dandy little derringer is fun to shoot and a pleasure to handle. Weighing only 11 ounces, the 3½ inch superposed barrels will handle all Short, Long, and Long

(Continued on page 51)



## This is the plastic brain of new Super-X and Super-Speed Mark 5.

*A protective polyethylene collar wrapped around the shot inside the shell to create the hardest hitting, best patterning, longest range high-brass shotshells ever made.*



This plastic brain so controls the new Super-X and Super-Speed Mark 5 that they work like magnums, without the recoil and without the extra cost. In fact, because of their better, denser patterns, you get the effect of a 1/4 ounce more shot on target! And Mark 5 magnums in 12, 16 and 20 gauge are really super magnums in performance.

This almost unbelievably effective power comes from the Mark 5 collar channeling the tons of force that in ordi-

nary high-brass shotshells actually work against you. We call this collar the plastic brain because on firing, it solves the problems of shot abrasion and heat friction, right through the choke. Even after the shot column leaves the muzzle, our plastic brain is preventing wasted lateral dispersion of shot and pattern-destroying gas and wad interference. At about 36 inches from the muzzle, the slit collar, knowing when its job is done, just falls away. It's taken the beating — not the shot, as this fired Mark 5 collar photo proves.



For the long-range upland gunner and the trapshooter there are Xpert and Ranger Mark 5 Super Trap Loads. 40 yards and beyond, these new loads add the effect of an 1/8 ounce more shot on target with their heavier, denser patterns. Like Super-X and Super-Speed Mark 5s, they eliminate barrel leading and tube-wash.

If you're a close-cover-hunter or a skeet shooting fan who wants the finest short-range shell, stick to your old favorites: regular Ranger and Xpert. We haven't changed those a bit.

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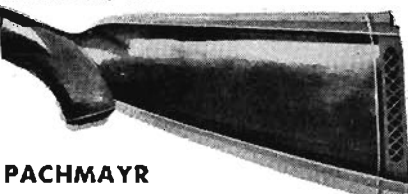
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This stock has been bent upward from 9 1/2" heel to 2 1/2" drop by Pachmayr gunsmiths. If you have a gun with excessive stock measurements, let Pachmayr correct the problem. Yes, controlled cast-off or cast-on as much as a half inch if desired. Prices for this exclusive service start as low as \$17.50 for Doublets, Over & Unders and some Automatics. \$12.50 for Pump Actions.

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*Pull!*

BY DICK MILLER

**SKEET GUNNERS** from the south and west liked the climate in Montreal for the 1962 Skeet Nationals—or shall we say Skeet Internationals, since the big event of skeet was held "North of the Border" this year.

K. D. Gilbert from Ft. Benning, Georgia, won the big one this year, breaking 250 straight targets and outlasting six other hopefuls (and good shots) in the perennial shoot-off for the All-Gauge title (usually 12 gauge, for our readers who don't savvy skeet lingo).

Kathleen McGinn, who was just one target off the men's pace, took distaff honors. Bob Shuley from Roselle, Illinois, shook off the results of a tragic accident while enroute home from the 1961 Nationals, and bagged the junior title at 249x250. Bob is the youngster who won it all in 1960. Fred Missildine, the sage of Sea Island (Georgia, that is) won the industry all-gauge title with a perfect 250.

Canadian Barney Hartmann, from Ottawa, took the High-Over-All title for his 546x550. The remaining High-Over-All trophies went to the all-gauge champs. Kathleen McGinn posted 535 of her 550 birds, and Bob Shuley scored 542x550. Missildine was down just five birds over the course.

High-Over-All titles are based on the contestant's performance over the full tournament course of 100 each 410, 28, and 20 gauge targets, plus the marathon 250 12-gauge birds. It is a real test of shooting ability.

A record 337 entries vied for the 20 gauge trophies, won by William Sesnon III, from Los Angeles, with a 75 target shoot-off after 100 straight in the main event. Kathleen McGinn was high lady with 98x100, and Fred Missildine was a repeater in pro ranks. Oklahoman R. J. Ford grabbed the junior trophy with a perfect century.

Entry records were set in all the small-gun events. 268 gunners fired the 410 short shell, and 277 28-gauge gunners toed the mark. A good entry list of 435 showed up for the all-gauge race, but this was not a record for that event.

Another 75-target shoot-off featured the small-gauge race (28 gauge) and Texan Harold Myers was too big for the pack. Minnesotan Dave Yeager took the pro honors, with Mrs. McGinn and R. J. Ford repeating in this program.

Don Jacobson, from Stockton, Calif. dropped just one target in the little shell (2 1/2 inch 410) race, good for a trophy. Hot-streaking Marjorie Annen from Aspen, Colorado was high lady at 94. Bob Shuley repeated his 1961 victory in this event, while Fred Missildine was grabbing another pro trophy. Bob shot a 97 here, and Missildine dropped

two of his five total lost targets in the pee-wee shell race.

Barney Hartmann kept the Champion of Champions trophy in Canada, when he topped all other state, provincial, and territorial champions in that special event, with it's entry list restricted to winners only.

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Shifting the Pull! spotlight from skeet to trap, we turn to the 1962 Southern Zone Shoot, at Jefferson Gun Club, Louisville, Kentucky. The Southern Zone, which may not have as many shooters as some of the other zones, manages to attract them to their Zone event. The Southern Zone has been called the 3rd largest trap event of the year, ranking only behind the Grand American at Vandalia, Ohio, and the Pacific Trapshooter's Assn. Great Western shoot.

The Southern Zone includes Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, North Carolina, Mississippi, South Carolina, and Tennessee. Shooters from the Southern Zone fire in competition for Zone trophies, and shooters from any other state may enter the open division.

Two shooters, Sgt. Major Harold Grewe, from Ft. Benning Georgia, who demonstrates dramatically the impact on the shooting sports gained by the Advanced Marksmanship Unit at Ft. Benning, and versatile Jeanette Rudy from Nashville, were the bright stars of the Southern Zone. These two trapshooters walked away with almost everything except the Bluegrass.

Sgt. Grewe infiltrated the Handicap championship with 97x100, the High-All-Around, at 386x400, and High-Over-All at 776x800.

Jeanette Rudy demonstrated that it didn't make any difference to her whether the targets came out of one house or two. She followed her victory in the Tennessee skeet event with the Trap Ladies Zone single trophy, scoring 195x200, and took Class C honors in competition with the men, in the 200-bird Zone Class championships, scoring 192x200 in this event.

Other Southern Zone winners were:

Class Championships (200 16-yard targets)  
Class AA—Gene Pridgen, Jackson, Miss.—199x200

Class A—Harold Grewe, Ft. Benning, Ga.—199x200

Class B—Ray Strickland, Birmingham, Ala.—195x200

Class C—Jeanette Rudy, Nashville, Tenn.—192x200

Class D—John Hunter, Jeffersonton, Ky.—194x200

Southern Zone Singles Championship (200 16-yard targets)

Winner—John Peden, Glasgow, Ky.—200

Lady Champion—Jeanette Rudy, Nashville, Tenn.—195

(Continued on page 13)

# KLEIN'S PRICES CUT NOW FOR CHRISTMAS AND JANUARY!

**WAR SURPLUS!**  
**EXACTLY AS ISSUED!**  
Perfect Big Game Rifle



Ready  
to  
Shoot!

## U. S. Model 1917 Rifle—30/06 Springfield Cal.

The famous U. S. Model 1917 is the LOWEST PRICE RIFLE in the MOST DESIRED 30/06 SPRINGFIELD CALIBER! Known supplies are very limited—more are not likely to be available!  
Top gun authority, Adj. Gen. Julian Hatcher in Hatcher's Notebook says of the U. S. Model 1917 Rifle—"basically a typical Mauser, it was improved in several respects, and has a bolt and receiver of high grade Nickel Steel that gave it a superbly strong action." General Hatcher further says—"many tests over the years have shown the Model 1917 rifle will always outwear the .03 Springfield barrels."  
Specifications: 6-shot, top loading, 1 in 10" S&W groove 26" barrel with sharp clean rifling, rifle overall 46.3". Peep sight adjustable from 200 to 1600 yards, blade front sight. Foolproof safety. Turned down bolt. American Walnut stock and hand guard with sling swivels. All milled parts, perfect shooting condition.  
C20-T33. 30/06 Rifle made by Eddystone. Pay \$1.00 Down, Balance \$29.95  
C20-T34. 30/06 Rifle made by Remington or Winchester. Pay \$1.00 Down, Balance \$34.95  
C20-T1000. Ammo. 30/06, 158 gr. 120 rounds. \$7.20; With rifle. \$5.80

PAY \$1.00 DOWN

**\$29.95**  
CASH  
OR  
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BALANCE \$1.51 A WEEK  
FOR ONLY 22 WEEKS

## MODEL 1917 ... WITH 4X SCOPE

Fine quality 4X Scope slide mounted and accurately bore sighted. Crosshair reticle, bright, clear image, 2 1/2" dia. A sturdy rig that is accurate and won't shoot loose. Original open sight has been removed but you get 4x with rifle—can be easily assembled to rifle with only a screwdriver. Laced-on cheekpiece (illus) sold separately—see below.  
C20-T1296. Model 1917 Rifle—made by Eddystone—with Mounted Scope. Pay \$1.00 Down, \$1.97 a Week for 22 Weeks, **\$39.88**  
C20-T1297. Model 1917 Rifle—made by Remington or Winchester—with Mounted Scope. Pay \$1.00 Down, \$2.24 a Week for 22 Weeks, **\$44.38**  
C20-T669. Laced-on leather covered polyfoam cheekpiece. Only. \$3.95

**SAVE \$69.51! LIMITED QUANTITIES ... New Matador Doubles!**  
**\$169.50 Value**

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C20-T126. MATADOR FOR 24" STG. or HI-Velocity SHELLS. State choice of 12, 16, 20 or 410 Gauge, American Walnut stock and Chokeya deared. Pay \$1.00 Down, \$5.17 a Week for 22 Weeks, or **\$99.99**  
C20-T127. 20 GAUGE MATADOR FOR 3" MAGNUM SHELLS. 28" or 32" Mod. and Chokeya. Pay \$1.00 Down, \$5.17 a Week for 22 Weeks, or **\$99.99**  
C20-T1378. 12 GAUGE MATADOR FOR 3" MAGNUM SHELLS. 32" Full and Full Chokeya. Pay \$1.00 Down, \$5.17 a Week for 22 weeks, or **\$99.99**

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## SAVE \$10.45 NOW! U.S. M1 .30 CALIBER CARBINE

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The only U. S. Military small arms made with the lines and weight of a modern sporter. Weighs only 5 1/2 lbs. 18" barrel, 36" overall. Gas operated. 15 shot semi-automatic. Receiver sight adjustable from 100 to 300 yds. New Condition! Superior accuracy. 100% dependable.  
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## WAR SURPLUS! 30/06 AUTO. U. S. M-1 GARAND RIFLE

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C20-T1118. Pay \$1.00 down, only **\$89.95**  
C20-T1000. Military 30/06 Ammo, per 120 rds \$7.20; with rifle **\$5.80**

## PRICE SLASHED! U. S. SPRINGFIELD M1903—30/06

SPRINGFIELD M1903'S! LIMITED QUANTITY! Most popular rifle in the popular 30/06 caliber! In the hands of the best troops of better. 6-shot, 24" barrel, 42" overall. Adjustable sight. Pay \$1.00 down, \$4.12 a week for 22 weeks, or **\$79.95**  
C20-T1118. Pay \$1.00 down, only **\$89.95**  
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## LATE ISSUE! 6.5 ITALIAN CARBINE

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C20-T751. 6.5 mm Italian military ammo with free 6-shot clip, 108 rds. **\$7.50**  
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Klein's big 1962 Bargain All-Sports Catalogue is FREE with orders from this Ad and FREE to our past and present Customers. Others please send \$1.00 (refunded with first order).

## BRAND NEW! FIRST QUALITY! 30-30 or .35 Rem.

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With RECOIL PAD... SWIVELS SLING... PRICE CUT \$25.07!  
THIS IS FOR YOU! For every man who knows a solid \$25.07 savings on the most wanted lever action rifle and you not only get big savings but given with every rifle a factory mounted recoil pad and a fine sling! THESE MARLINS ABSOLUTELY BRAND NEW. Factory packed latest 1962 models with full Marlin warranty. Famous Marlin fast short throw lever action. Tubular magazine holds 7 shots. Hooted range from light, adjustable (furnished for 10" scope bases, 20" barrel, open rear sight, receiver drilled and tapped for adapter mount (furnished for 10" scope bases, 20" barrel, 38 1/2" overall, 7 lbs. Included FREE: factory fitted recoil pad, sling swivels and ailed leather sling with brass tip-off mounts. State choice of 30/30 or .35 Remington caliber.  
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MARLIN 336C With 4X Scope—Mounted. Ready to shoot! Famous Tascos fine quality 1" diameter 4X Scope with hard coated magnesium fluoride lenses, click stops for windage and elevation adjustments. Tip-off mounts for quick, simple scope removal. Scope is nitrogen filled to prevent fogging. Leather lens caps included. Scope has crosshair reticle.  
MARLIN 336C, 4X SCOPE, MOUNTS, RECOIL PAD, CARRYING STRAP, SWIVELS. Compare at \$139.76 elsewhere! **\$94.88**  
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MARLIN 336C With 2 1/2X to 8X SCOPE. Mounted. Ready to shoot! Tascos fine quality variable power scope changes power from 2 1/2X all the way up to 8X instantly. Nitrogen filled, magnesium fluoride coated lenses, cross-hair reticle, leather lens caps. Tip-off mounts. State choice.  
C20-T1191. MARLIN 336C, 2 1/2X-8X SCOPE, MOUNTS, RECOIL PAD, CARRYING STRAP, SWIVELS. Compare at \$152.16 elsewhere! Pay \$1.00 Down, \$3.47 a week for 22 Weeks, or **\$104.88**

## SPECIAL WAR SURPLUS PURCHASE!

**.303 British Caliber**  
ENFIELD RIFLE WITH NEW TASCOS 4X SCOPE, 34" diameter, Mounted—Ready for Shooting! Pay \$1.00 Down, Balance \$1.41 a Week for 22 Weeks, or **\$27.88**  
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C20-T1199. 303 British Ammo, per 100 rds. **\$7.50**

## SAVE \$11.07! NEW MARLIN 55 "HUNTER"

Recall Pad  
Only at Kleins! Quantity Limited!  
Marlin 55—"Hunter" is the top performance bolt action repeating shotgun of them all. Solidly built for years of trouble-free shooting pleasure. All are factory first quality 1961 models. 12-gauge, 3-shot (2-shot magazine), positive double extractors. One take-down screw for easy disassembly. Walnut stock with all-weather finish and deluxe recoil pad, 28" barrel, full choke, 40" overall, 7 1/4 lbs.  
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Rugged 3-ply water repellent Du Pont Nylon. 50 denier Nylon lining. Full 8 oz. (per sq. yard) virgin Du Pont Dacron Fibrelit quilted insulation—comfortable in mild or severe weather. Heavy duty jacket zipper. Utility pockets plus slash-type hand warmer pockets. Smartly shirred back with blowing slits. Snap on trousers—elastic waist. No one knit collar and cuffs. Tan color. Sizes SM (36-38), Med (40-42), Large (44-46) and Xtra-large (48-50)—state choice.  
B20-T1378 Klein's Low Price **\$8.99**

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U. S. Government M1917 Service Revolvers. 45 ACP caliber—6 half-moon clips included. 5 1/2" barrel. Blued finish. Good condition inside and out. Easily won \$50. Limited quantity. Pay \$1.00 down, \$1.55 week for 22 weeks, or **\$24.95**  
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Brand new! ... First quality! ... Made by Tascos! With 9 twist of the wrist you can have any power you want from 3 to 9. Field of view 14-ft. to 30-ft. Crosshair reticle! Magnesium fluoride hard coated lenses, for fog proofing. Large eye piece and objective. 1" tube, cowhide lens caps. Overall 12", 14-oz. Compare to \$65.05 Scopes Elsewhere! **\$34.88**  
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2 1/2X or 4X SCOPES—CROSSHAIR or PDS and CROSSHAIR RETICLE. Always accurately centered. Compare at \$37.50 elsewhere! **\$24.88**  
B20-T1180. 6X. Pay \$1.00 Down, \$1.77 a week for 22 weeks, or **\$39.88**  
B20-T1190. 9X. Pay \$1.00 Down, or **\$24.88**  
B20-T694. WEAVER PIVOT MOUNT. \$9.88 ... B20-T695 WEAVER TOP MOUNT—\$7.88. State make and model of your rifle.

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NOTICE: Credit orders from this ad will be billed monthly for 12 months for your convenience. No credit carrying charge will be added if account is paid in full within 30 days.  
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☐ CASH CUSTOMERS: Send check or money order in full. (See below regarding POSTAGE.)  
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POSTAGE AND HANDLING: If item number begins with "A", send 25¢ for Postage and Handling. With "B" send \$1.00. With "C" send \$1.50. With "D" send nothing—we pay postage. With "E" send nothing—shipment is made Express, charges collect. If you order more than one item, send Postage for only the one item carrying highest amount of postage.  
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Full-Sweep Panoramic View  
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breakable heavy plastic AMBER  
lenses. Excellent for night  
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Reloaders Catalogue with 12  
pages of reloading data.

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(Continued from page 6)

short for the purpose for which they were intended. You'll do better to keep reloads a bit below factory ballistics for routine plinking, and practice. Full length resize cases. Don't use pointed bullets in tubular magazines.

A good reload is 31.0 grains Hi-Vel with 150 grain flat point cannelured bullets and CCI No. 200 primers. Speer's Manual lists this at 2276 fps, with their No. 3085-WR-SP pill. Pressure is moderate. The punch and accuracy are adequate for nearly all .30-30 use.

Revolvers with 4" tubes are fast handling. Accuracy about equals longer tubes. Some lads shoot a 4" better, due to a sharper sight picture. Longer barreled Magnums gain velocity more than lower powered calibers.

Long barrels are good for still hunting.

S & W's .38 Master is the only factory tuned .38 with tested 10-ring accuracy at 50 yards. Hunters love it for small game, such as squirrels and rabbits, where accuracy counts. Wadcutters punch big holes for cleaner kills than a dinky .22 R.F. Fitz Grips, Box 49702, Los Angeles 49, Calif., have some superb new target stocks for the gun. Most dealers stock these. They certainly will gain points on targets.

A fine load for hunting to 75 yards or more is 3.0 grains Bullseye and CCI No. 500 primers, with a Hensley & Gibbs No. 50, or Lyman No. 358432-S, loaded with my technique in the April GUNS. Size to exact groove diameter, or .356, with a hard alloy such as DIVCO's No. 7 IBA. The charge isn't as critical as 2.7 grains. Some Masters handle it better. It shoots well in Colt Revolvers, or at least in my Pythons, and in one of my S & W K-38 revolvers. S & W revolvers generally like a .357 or .358 pill.

Factory .38 target ammo is such high quality it's hard to equal in reloads. That's why many shooters use it for important matches. Factory cases are crimped, and far more uniform than most reloads. That's why I recommend seating bullets friction tight without crimping in reloads. The reason is not known by many chaps.

Sloppy dies crimp one side of a case more than the other, starting a bullet out of alignment with the bore, or scraping lead from one side. It happens with perfect dies and cases with a non-uniform wall thickness, a common fault. Hulls are second-hand after firing, even if walls are miked. Resizing may work harder one side more than the other, resulting in a non-uniform crimp. Standard CCI primers give perfect ignition with Bullseye, even very light charges, without a crimp. If ignition is erratic without a crimp the primer is faulty. These are superb primers for target accuracy.

A heavy crimp is desirable with hot loads to prevent bullet creep, and to aid ignition with powders such as 2400. CCI Magnum primers ignite 2400 perfectly with the lightest crimp that holds the bullet. 2400 doesn't burn "clean" with any primer, but it burns with excellent uniformity and accuracy with CCI Magnums.

Bullet lubes vary greatly. Some bleed out oil to kill part of the powder or primer, or cause duds in ammo stored a while. Perfect Lube is excellent. It has a minimum oil bleed-out, works easily in all sizes in hot or cold weather, cuts clean, and lubes well to reduce leading. No lube is a specific for leading, but a good lube keeps a mild "leader" spick and span for accurate shooting. Perfect Lube is excellent to flux alloy. Many dealers stock it. Or order direct from Cooper-Woodward, Box 972, Riverside, Calif. Specify solid or hollow sticks, at 60c each, plus postage.

A chap brought in a .22 Magnum that showed hard extraction with my top Hornady Jet reloads. His trouble was a sloppy sizing die. I used both C-H and RCBS dies to load his cases with 14.5 grains 2400, and CCI primers with Hornady's pill. They functioned perfectly and extracted easily. This is 2.0 grains over my top load, strictly for laboratory tests. **DON'T FIRE IT!**

My top charge is 12.5 grains 2400 and CCI No. 550 primers, in cases headstamped  
(Continued on page 46)

# Pistol Shooters

Unmatched Accuracy  
with **NEW** practice ammo

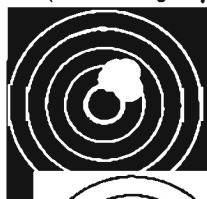
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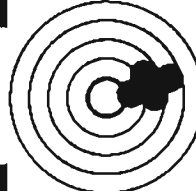
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LOOK AT THIS PROOF  
(all 5 shot groups)



15 foot  
group  
measured  
250 inch



20 foot  
group  
measured  
531 inch



25 foot  
group  
measured  
719 inch

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#### TESTED AND RECOMMENDED BY NATIONAL SPEER ADVISORY STAFF

Thousands of rounds have been tested in the Speer laboratories and by the members of Speer National Advisory Staff. Members report unmatched accuracy, near point of aim trajectory and maximum loading ease. Case and bullet reloaded 20 times with no case damage or loss of bullet accuracy!

#### TRY TARGET-38's BEFORE YOU BUY!

Test for yourself this great new shooting achievement. Send 50c in coin for a sample of 5 cases and 5 bullets. We will rush your sample of Target-38's by return mail. Address requests to: Target-38, Speer Products Company, P. O. Box 244, Lewiston, Idaho.

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50 cartridge cases .....\$1.50  
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Fits all handguns chambered for S&W  
.38, .38 Special and .357 Magnum.



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(Continued from page 10)

Junior Champion—Jerry Adams, Shelbyville, Ky.—189x200

Doubles Champion—Dwight Brown, Barbourville, Ky.—96x100

Southern Zone Five-Man Team State Championship—Kentucky—910x1000

Dwight Brown, Barbourville; Homer Sherard, Louisville; Jim Hall, LaGrange; Dr. Earl Hays, Berca; Allie Upton, Hodgenville.

Sgt. Grewe won the rest of the titles, except open titles, and he was not eligible for them. Space does not permit listing the open winners at the always great Southern Zone.

Energetic Bill Steele, of the host Jefferson Gun Club, was pleased, as well he might have been, with the Southern Zone, except for the number of entries in the Junior division. Bill makes the point, and I agree, that Trap must attract the juniors if we are to keep the present high level of trap interest and entries in all tournaments.

Bill's own club is advertising a Junior Gun Club program, free to any youngster who wants to learn to shoot.

In this column's opinion, any club not offering youngsters a chance to shoot is not looking to the future, and is overlooking a prime program for good community relations. Youngsters who are taught to shoot love the game, and will follow it. In many communities, if the gun club does not cooperate in making shooters of youngsters, the kids take up other sports and are lost to shooting. Or, worse yet, they follow other pastimes that do not teach discipline, coordination, and sportsmanship as do the shooting sports.

Gun clubs can help in another way, too. When I saw Jerry Adams' name listed as the junior trophy winner in the Southern Zone, I was reminded that Jerry's dad is a strong booster for more and better trophies for not only juniors but sub-juniors in all trap tournaments. The good doctor has a point. The club can help by teaching shooting, and by keeping the kids interested with trophies, even if the trophies are small and inexpensive. A five-dollar trophy won by a sub-junior can make him a convert to the trap game for life, and during a lifetime of shooting, he will shoot a big pile of the club's targets. Both ideas are good investments in the future of gun clubs and of this nation.

© © ©

A recent magazine story on the dissimilarity between the American brand of trapshooting and the game as it is shot in almost all of the rest of the world, including the iron curtain countries, has provoked considerable conversation in the ranks of clay target shooters, genus Yankce.

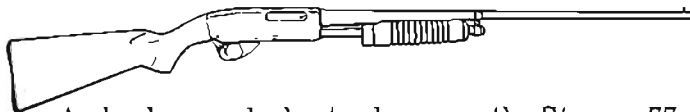
For those of our readers who don't follow international trapshooting, I explain that the rest of the world, or most of the other countries, shoot a much more difficult game than our domestic version. Targets are thrown flush from the ground, from 15 traps instead of one, at greater angles, and faster, as well as farther. Two shots are permitted, instead of one, at a single target.

The point is made that we ought to get in step with the rest of the world, instead of pushing our own trap game. I'm interested in knowing what Pull! readers think. If you have strong feelings on this subject, we'd like to hear from you. Write Dick Miller, 805 Cleermoni Drive S.E., Huntsville, Alabama.



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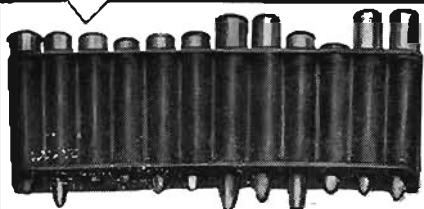
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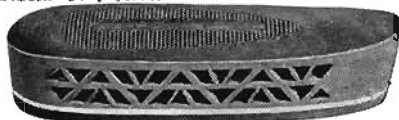
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# CROSSFIRE

## Handgun Hunting

I was glad to see the article on handgun hunting by Russell Tinsley. Anyone can hit a bunny with a shotgun, and almost anyone with a rifle. The handgun is real sport. It has the advantage of being lighter and taking up less room than either rifle or shotgun, and the cartridges are a lot lighter. My Smith and Wesson K-22 with a 6 inch barrel has served me well as a camp meat getter these many seasons. I agree with Mr. Tinsley in his choice of barrel length, too. Lengths longer than 6 inches are too unwieldy.

Arizona has made the .357 and .44 Magnums legal for big game, and there is open season on jack rabbits for year-round sport shooting. Several counties have year-long seasons on cottontails.

GUNS ranks with the best, for my money. I enjoy every issue.

Miles S. Vaughn  
Tucson, Arizona

## A Case In Point

Your magazine has made it known to me that certain people in your country are trying to control your guns. Do not let this happen!

In New Zealand, guns have been controlled since the first world war. All guns must be registered, and pistols are prohibited. During the second world war, guns owned by civilians were collected and held by the army. When the country was threatened with invasion by the Japanese, the majority of our military forces were overseas and we were virtually defenseless. Luckily, we were not invaded; but if the invasion had come, we would have stood a far better chance of resistance if the citizens had been armed.

Charles L. Forbes  
Mosgiel, New Zealand

## New Yorkers Sound Off

Congratulations on the finest magazine of its kind.

I am from New York and have run up against their stupid pistol laws. Being a career Marine, I thought possibly my pistol permit could be made permanent, or at least extended until I get out of the service. You can guess what the answer was!

I'm for anything that can be done to stop laws like these from continuing or from being adopted in other places.

Incidentally, thanks for the nice things you have printed about my Corps.

Sgt. D. C. Conrey, USMC  
Havelock, N. C.

I like handguns and would like to own one, but I can't—I'm a resident of New

York! I've been told that, in order to get a permit, you have to "have had experience with a handgun." How can you get experience if you can't get the gun? I wish the legislature would abolish these stupid laws. They don't prevent crimes, as is claimed; and anyway, they're unconstitutional. A man living anywhere in this allegedly free country should be granted his constitutional right to own guns if he is a law-abiding citizen, and I hope we can elect lawmakers with sense enough to see that these rights are given back to us.

John Turkon  
Tonawanda, N. Y.

## Down Under

Being a constant reader of your magazine and a keen collector of guns, I am greatly interested in guns and shooting conditions in America and would like to hear from some pen pals who would be interested in exchange of ideas.

Shooting in my state is very good, with a wide variety of game—fox, pig, 'roos, duck, rabbits, etc. At the moment, the professional 'roo shooters are each averaging between two and three thousand 'roos per season (five or six months). I find the best gun for pigs is the Winchester Model 92 lever-action in .32-20 caliber. For 'roos, I use a 7.7x54 mm jungle carbine. For rabbits or foxes, the Marlin "Mountie" .22 caliber lever-action carbine is hard to beat.

Wishing you the best with your magazine and hoping to locate some interested pen-friends.

I. Jordan  
96 Albany St.  
Gosford, N.S.W., Australia

## Suggestion

There seems to be an increasing amount of anti-firearms legislation each year, despite the fact that such legislation has time and again been proved useless and actually harmful.

I suggest that everyone who owns and likes guns contribute a small amount toward taking space in newspapers throughout the country, especially in the larger cities, to publish the truth with respect to firearms legislation for the consideration of non-gun owners, and accompany this advertisement with an invitation to visit the local gun club and discuss with its members the problem of controlling crime without harassing the law-abiding citizens who enjoy the legitimate use of firearms.

Why not think about it and put it up to your club members? I think it's time for gun-owners to take the initiative.

Mrs. D. J. Saunders, Jr.  
Fl. Keni, Maine

## Gun Nuts In Uniform

Being two members of the US Army and having recently gone through Train Fire, we enjoyed Colonel Askins article in your May issue.

Both of us are dyed-in-the-wool gun nuts who own and shoot a variety of weapons, including the .222 Remington, .30-06, and .264 Magnum. We were shocked at the equipment that was issued us. Our M-1's had such poor bores, you could insert a .30 caliber round in the muzzle and rattle it around. Both weapons worked fine as straight pull bolt actions, but as semi-autos they left much to be desired. We consider ourselves lucky to have qualified.

Then, of course, we have not been allowed to pick up a GI weapon in six months. We are allowed to keep our own weapons in the Arms Room. But the supply Sgt. is never around on weekends so we can get them.

If we ever get sent to Viet Nam, we hope to God we can take our own weapons.

PFC James Kimbel  
Pvt. Jon Bezayiff  
Fort Ritchie, Md.

## Fast or Quick

Mr. Jeff Maxwell (Arizona Kid), whose frustrated letter appeared in April's GUNS, seems to have missed the point of our group-oriented society: today you must sub-specialize and then develop your own exotic language to show that you have done it. Ability to speak the language is the sole prerequisite to status.

"Fast Draw" is a form of recreation, in which men compete to discover who can draw and fire his hardware the fastest. Sometimes accuracy is also a criterion. Because the competition is not conducted on horseback and does not involve killing, there is no need whatsoever for tight holsters worn high on the hip, as advocated by Mr. Maxwell. These people want rigs designed solely for speed.

"Quick Draw" is not a sport. It is an element of gun-fighting useful in close-quarters combat. It involves drawing and firing the first shot into the opponent with reasonable speed and accuracy. Quick-draw holsters must combine speed with wear-every-day utility.

Some quick-draw rigs are worn low; others are worn high, depending upon the purpose for which they are designed. There are competent people who wear heavy-caliber double-action revolvers in such rigs. A few of these boys can put the first slug into target or opponent in .2 second, almost every time. That may not be "fast," but is sure as hell is "quick."

Frank Conner  
Athens, Georgia

Your differentiation between Fast Draw and Quick Draw is interesting, though somewhat confusing. At least one other expert differentiates between the two, as you do—but with exactly the opposite meanings; and a great many people, including several "pros," use the names interchangeably. Frankly, I couldn't care less what it is called, so long as it attracts more people into the shooting sports.—Editor.

Don't Overlook Page 66!

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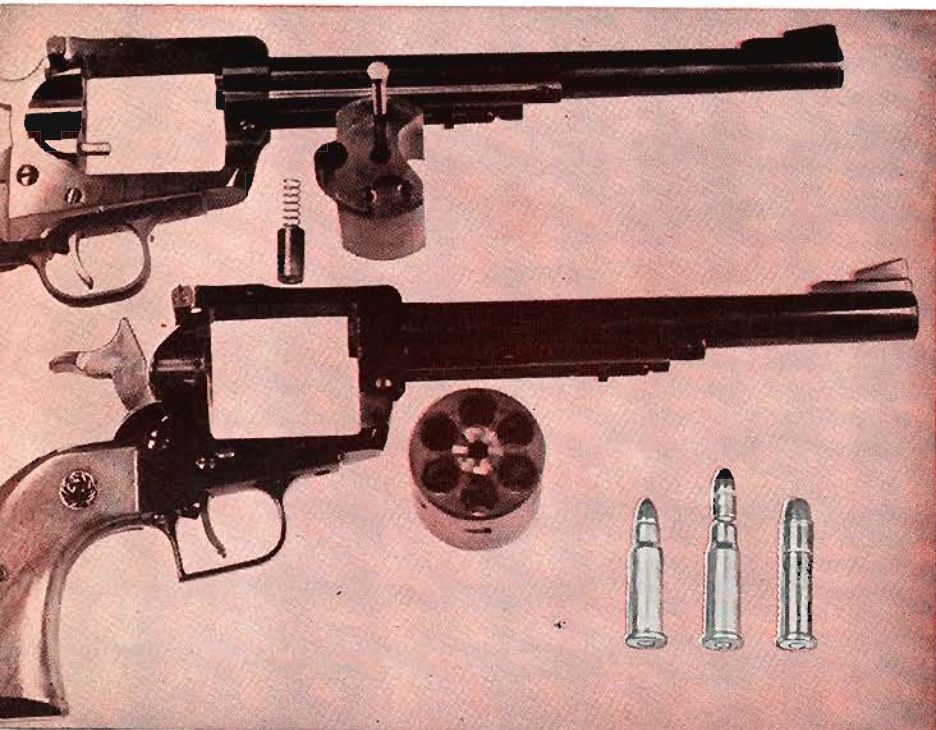
CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_



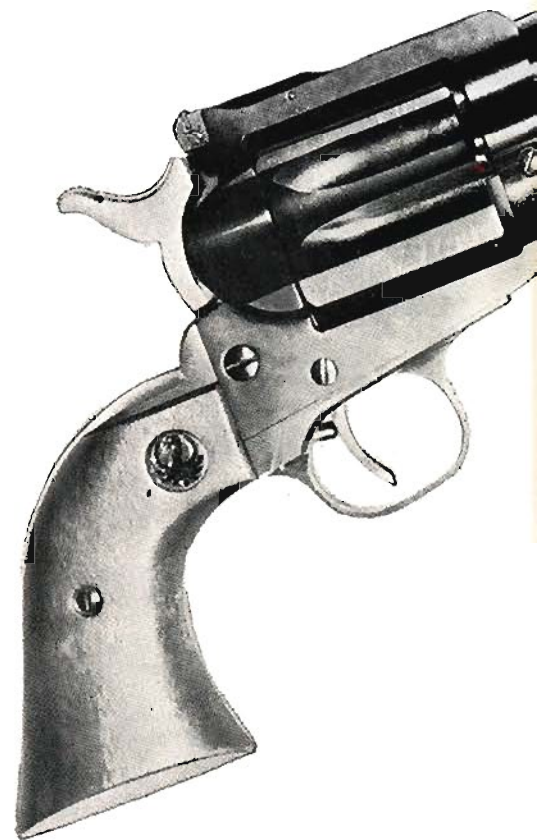
Ruger's Hawkeye and Marlin's Model 62, both chambered for the hot .256 Winchester Magnum cartridge, make a fine pair of varminters.

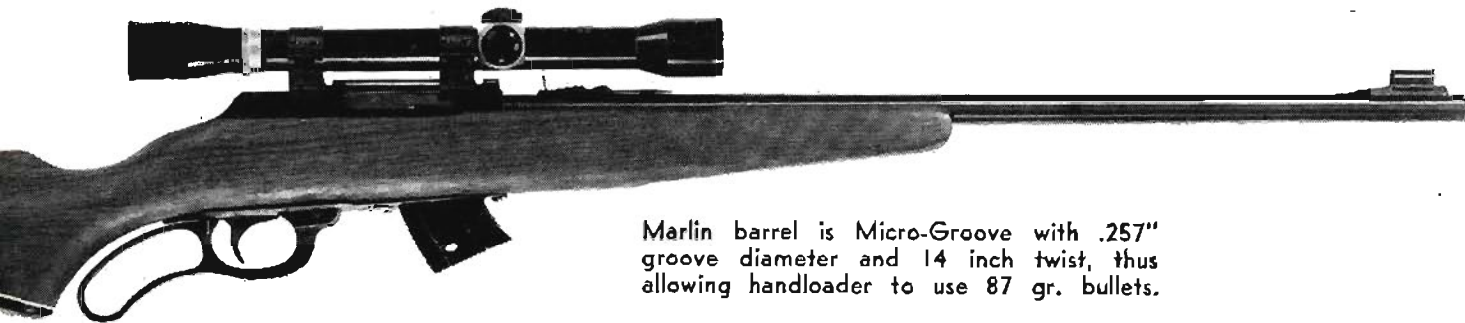
# GUNS for

Right side of Ruger's Hawkeye with breech block in closed position. Well-balanced, sight radius and sights are good, and scoping adds to accuracy.



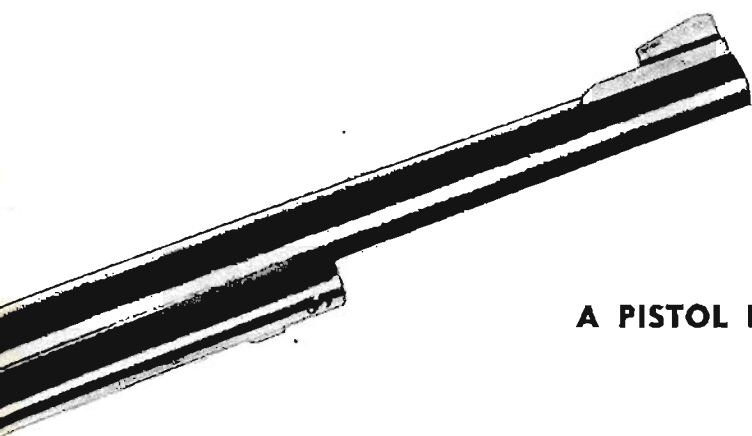
Winchester's .256 and Remington's .22 Jet are based on .357 Magnum case. Note firing pin, firing pin plunger in breech block at left.





Marlin barrel is Micro-Groove with .257" groove diameter and 14 inch twist, thus allowing handloader to use 87 gr. bullets.

# the **HOT** NEW .256 MAGNUM



**CALLED "THE CARTRIDGE WITHOUT  
A GUN," MARLIN**

**AND RUGER NOW OFFER A RIFLE AND  
A PISTOL FOR WINCHESTER'S POTENT .256 MAGNUM**

By R. A. STEINDLER

**W**HEN Winchester-Western unveiled their new .256 Winchester Magnum cartridge more than a year and a half ago, everybody thought guns—probably at least one from each of several makers—would be available for it almost immediately. It wasn't that easy! The little bottle-neck is hot, and it presented the gun designers with a lot of unexpected problems.

The .256 was designed for handguns, but it was Marlin who came out with the first announcement of a gun chambered for it—a rifle. *GUNS* carried that announcement in its September, 1962, issue. The lever action Marlin Model 62 is chambered also for the Remington .22 Jet, thus giving you your choice of either of the two newest, hottest sub-calibers.

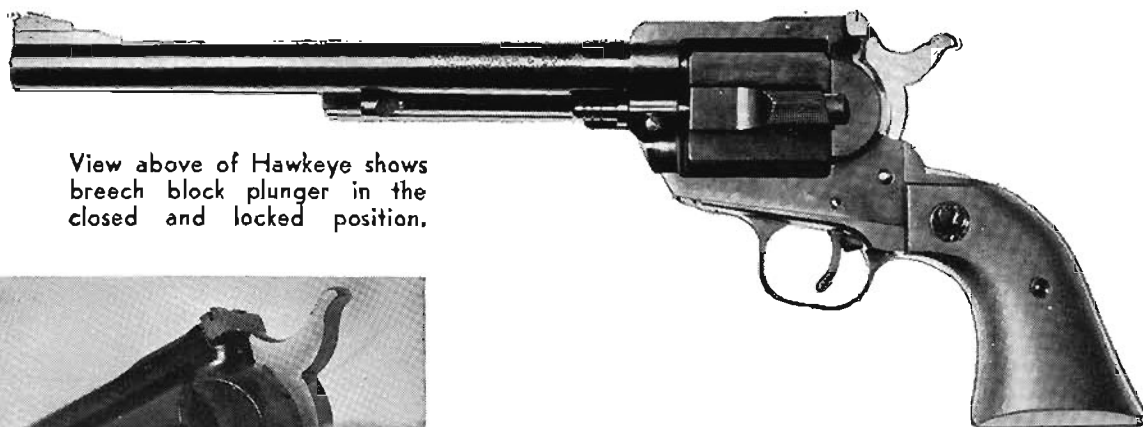
But now more news is breaking as Sturm Ruger announces a handgun for the .256 Magnum—the .256 Ruger Hawkeye, the single-shot pistol with the revolving action. This one, too, is expected to appear also in .22 Jet caliber in the not too distant future; but, meanwhile, here's the .256 (Serial No. X7) as field-tested on our own targets.

The Ruger Hawkeye resembles the famous Ruger Blackhawk in design and general appearance. But, unlike its bigger brother, the backstrap of the new .256 is made of aluminum or an aluminum alloy. The Hawkeye, however, is not an adaptation of the Blackhawk. It represents a completely new design that is simplicity itself, yet is strong and safe.

The breech block of the Hawkeye rotates to the left and replaces the standard revolver cylinder. The cartridge is fed into the chamber, which is in the rear end of the barrel where the barrel is threaded into the frame, as in a rifle. Opening of the breech bolt is accomplished by depressing the spring-activated breech block plunger at the left side of the block. The block cannot be opened unless the hammer is in the forward or rebound safety position. Conversely, the breech block can only be closed when the hammer is in the safe position. The firing pin is housed within the breech block, and the hammer blow is transmitted to the pin by means of a spring plunger within the block.

With the hammer in the safe or forward position, when the breech block plunger is depressed against spring tension, the block can be rotated to the left about 50 degrees. This makes it possible to insert a round into the chamber. Rotating the block back to the right locks the block in firing position. This locking is not only quite audible, but can be felt easily. Once the gun has been fired, the breech block is again rotated to the left, and the ejector rod under barrel is moved rear-ward to eject the fired case from the chamber. This is not actual ejection of the case, but the case is being pushed out of the chamber by the ejector, and turning the gun a little to the right will spill the fired brass into the shooter's hand.

Take-down is similar to the take-down of any single-



View above of Hawkeye shows breech block plunger in the closed and locked position.



Loading is accomplished by depressing the breech block plunger, and turning breech to left. Drop cartridge into back end of barrel, rotate breech block back to the right until it locks audibly. After firing, open breech, remove case with ejector rod.

action gun, but the breech block comes out the left side of the frame, rather than the right. It should also be mentioned that the Hawkeye does not have the half-cock customary in single-action guns.

The new Ruger gun has an 8½ inch barrel, has right hand-twist rifling of one turn in 14". Bore diameter is .250" minimum, groove diameter .257" minimum, maximum .2575". Weight of the gun is 45 ounces; over-all length is 14½ inches. Trigger pull on the gun submitted to us for tests (Prototype X7) was normally 4.1 lbs., but we saw the trigger break at 3½ lbs. several times. The patridge-style front sight is ⅛" wide and is ramp mounted. The Micro rear sight is adjustable for windage and elevation.

Winchester-Western supplied us with some .256 ammo with the 60 grain open point expanding bullet. Breaking down several rounds produced a powder that strongly resembles Ball-C powder, but is of course a special Winchester powder not available on the market. Repeated checking showed a uniform load of 17 grains of powder, and the 15 bullets we miked showed an average diameter of .2565", with the largest variation being  $\pm 3/10,000$  of an inch. Case length before firing was an average of 1.275", and after firing case length averaged 1.280 inches. The ammunition supplied was lot number 67TF72A. The cartridge carries the official designation: .256 Winchester Magnum.

Velocity of the .256 Magnum is reported to be 2350 fps at 15 feet from the muzzle, a figure just slightly higher than we obtained with the Hollywood chronograph. Unfortunately, the prototype gun had to be returned to Ruger, thus actual game expansion tests were not possible. However, bullet expansion in moist, sifted sand indicated that bullet performance would be excellent. Expansion was perfect.

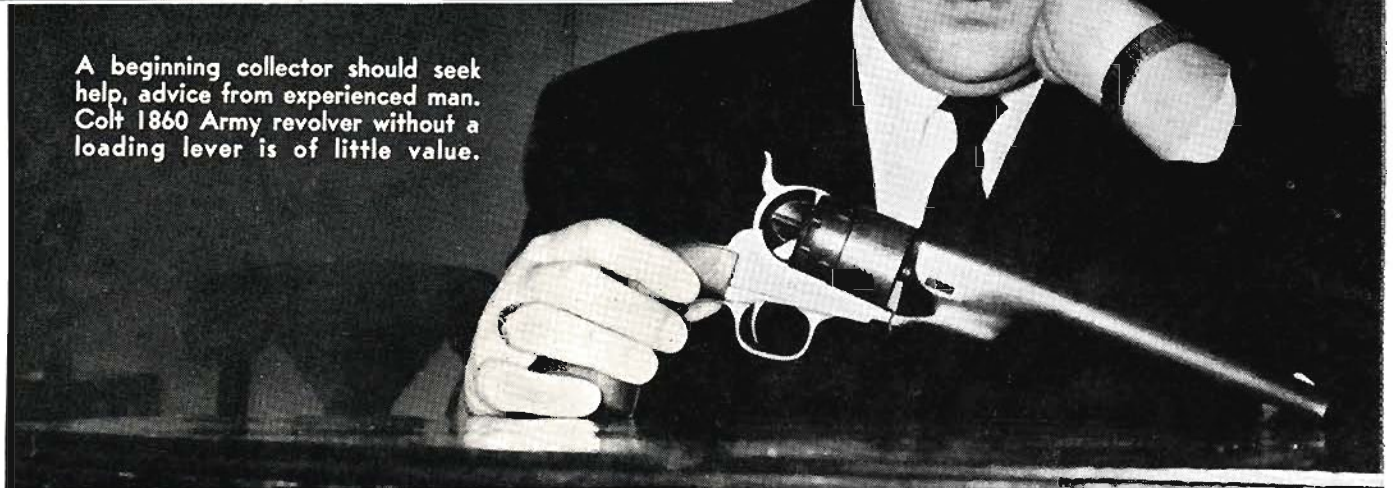
Ruger advised GUNS Magazine that a gun chambered for the Remington .22 center-fire Jet could be expected shortly, and I was most interested in comparing recoil and muzzle blast of these latest handgun hotshots. Although the blast of the .256 is considerable, I did not find it quite as bothersome as that of the .22 Jet, though it appears to me to be considerably sharper than that of a .375 Magnum. Shooting the Hawkeye from a sandbag rest produced a fair amount of muzzle jump, greater than the jump experienced with .357 Magnum police loads. Shooting off-hand and from a sitting position on our indoor range and firing into a Detroit bullet trap, recoil was not at all bothersome. Extensive shooting, (Continued on page 61)

# 'Let the Buyer BEWARE!'

By J. S. WAMSLEY



A beginning collector should seek help, advice from experienced man. Colt 1860 Army revolver without a loading lever is of little value.



## THERE IS ONE INFALLIBLE RULE THAT WOULD MAKE COLLECTING SAFE AND SIMPLE. BUT—

**A** MAN CAN BE honest about everything else, but he will lie about the abilities of his hunting dog, the car he is trying to sell, and the gun he wants to barter." I won't quote the source of this cynical bit of wisdom, but over the years of collecting guns, I have found that a good many normally honest men have larceny in their hearts when it comes to guns, especially when the gun is, or might be, a collector's item.

Let's explore some of the pitfalls a new gun collector faces when he wanders into the ethical twilight that is somewhere on the fringe of his new hobby.

Several years ago I was driving through a small town in one of the nation's backwater areas, when I spotted a sagging sign lettered "Antiques." Before entering the store I peered through the window and saw some old guns stacked

in a corner. Tradition says that you should ask for Royal Doulton figurines, brass spittoons, Winslow Homer originals—anything but antique guns. Then just as you're about to leave, casually pick up that carved and inlaid Kentucky flintlock rifle and ask, "What's this? Part of a fireplace set?" This is calculated to put the dealer off guard and establish yourself as an easy mark. Then before he realizes what his erstwhile patsy is up to, you are able to grab the gun for a song.

"Any old guns?" I asked, taking the direct approach.

"Finest assortment in these parts, son," the proprietor said. "Some very interesting pieces. Take a look at these."

He began hefting a dismal array of percussion shotguns, most of them cheap imports. The prices were laughably high. Then with a flourish he handed me a weatherbeaten 1862 Springfield, its barrel held in place by rusty wire. Price: \$57.50.

"Now there's some real history with this one," he said. "Guess who the original owner was."

"I'd never guess," I said.

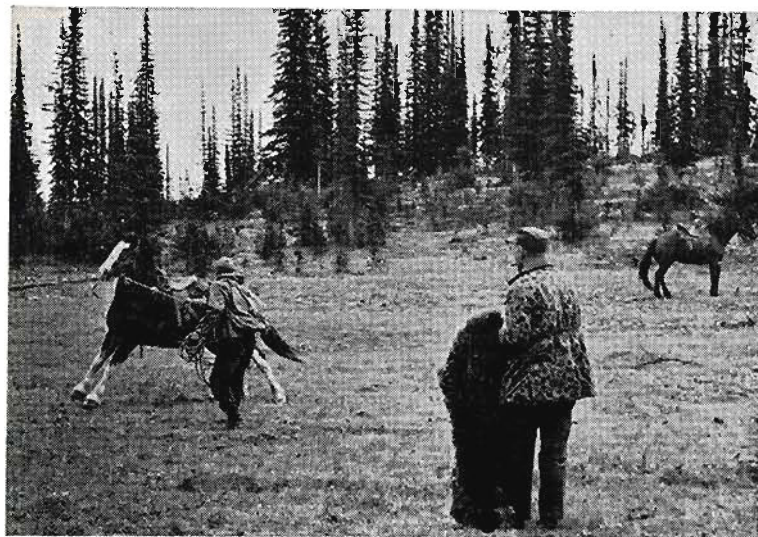
"Henry Clay," he said.

"Mister," I said, "I may look dumb, but I do remember when Henry Clay died. It was (Continued on page 44)



Size of author's grizzly becomes apparent when bear's claws are compared with man's hand and a .30 belted Newton cartridge. Horses panicked with bear fright, forcing lucky hunter to pack the green hide to guide's wilderness base camp.

**"THE ONE THAT GOT AWAY" IS ALWAYS  
THE BIGGEST, BUT THIS ONE  
TAUGHT THE EXPERTS A LESSON**



# Grizzly King of the Valkyr Range

By WILLIAM SCHUMAKER



Schumaker examines bear's hidden bedding spot from where grizzly guarded his domain and food supply.

**H**IGH UP in the rugged British Columbia Valkyr range, only three hours easy drive from my home at Colville, Washington, and seven hours on horseback from the sleepy little town of Deer Park, B. C., we faced a world of timberline spruce, frozen ground, grizzly bears, and goats. North and northeast of us, Mt. Stanley and Mt. Airy poked weird granite glacier-patched peaks into a stormy swirl of autumn weather as guide Carl Schwartzenhauer removed a barricade of barbed wire, log chains, and old cross-cut saws from the door of his trapper's cabin.

"It's the only way I can keep the bears out," he commented. "Otherwise, they swat the door in and wreck everything. But these saws and wire cut their paws, and that discourages them!"

Soon after the horses were unpacked, fed, and tethered, a ten minutes walk from Carl's cabin took us to the dead horse bait, which had been placed approximately 10 days prior. This is a common and legal method used to attract grizzlies. The big bears are ravenous for meat in the fall, before hibernation, and carcasses are used as they are in



Carl Schwartzenhauer and Bill Schumaker pose with latter's one-shot grizzly bear. Gunsmith and competitive shooter, Bill used a .30-.338 with 200 grain Nosler bullet.

Africa for lions, and elsewhere for other carnivores.

Utmost caution was exercised when we reached the bait, for grizzlies usually approach for each feed slowly, sniffing out the air, listening, and looking. A grizzly will usually bury the dead animal with earth and sod, then dig out a bedding spot under the nearest cover over-looking the meat. Here he may rest or sleep, ready to leap out in defense of his food. An unwary hunter may fall victim to this trick, and other bears infringing on his find are in for a cuffing or worse. "You usually get the biggest grizzly in the area first. He gets control and keeps the others away," Schwartzenhauer told me.

We eased to the edge of a rocky promontory overlooking the canyon floor. "He's been here," Carl whispered, indicating the exposed fresh pink meat where the bear had eaten. Peering through my 4x Bear Cub scope on a .35 Improved Whelen on a Springfield action, I studied the bait and its surroundings.

But we were destined to nearly three days of such inspections before we saw action. Even the baited grizzly is not

an easy mark; I have yet to encounter a stupid one. This chap slipped in and out for meals several times between our visits, and it was nearing dark on the third day when I begged for a final inspection.

"Let's make one more trip," I insisted, "With scope sights, there's still light enough to shoot," I argued.

This time, luck was with us. When the last careful step was taken and the feeding spot came into view, I saw my first grizzly. He was black with a silvery belt around his mid-section, like a Hampshire bacon hog. I saw Carl grinning, saw him nod shot approval.

Making sure there was no brush in line of fire to give possible bullet deflection, I placed the dot reticule between his shoulder and neck and squeezed the Dayton-Traister speedlock trigger as he faced us diagonally. The .35 Improved Whelen roared in the still mountain air. The 250-grain Speer bullet in front of 60 grains of 4320, thudded heavily. The bear went down.

Through varmint shooting habit, I pocketed the empty case, reloaded, and started toward (Continued on page 41)



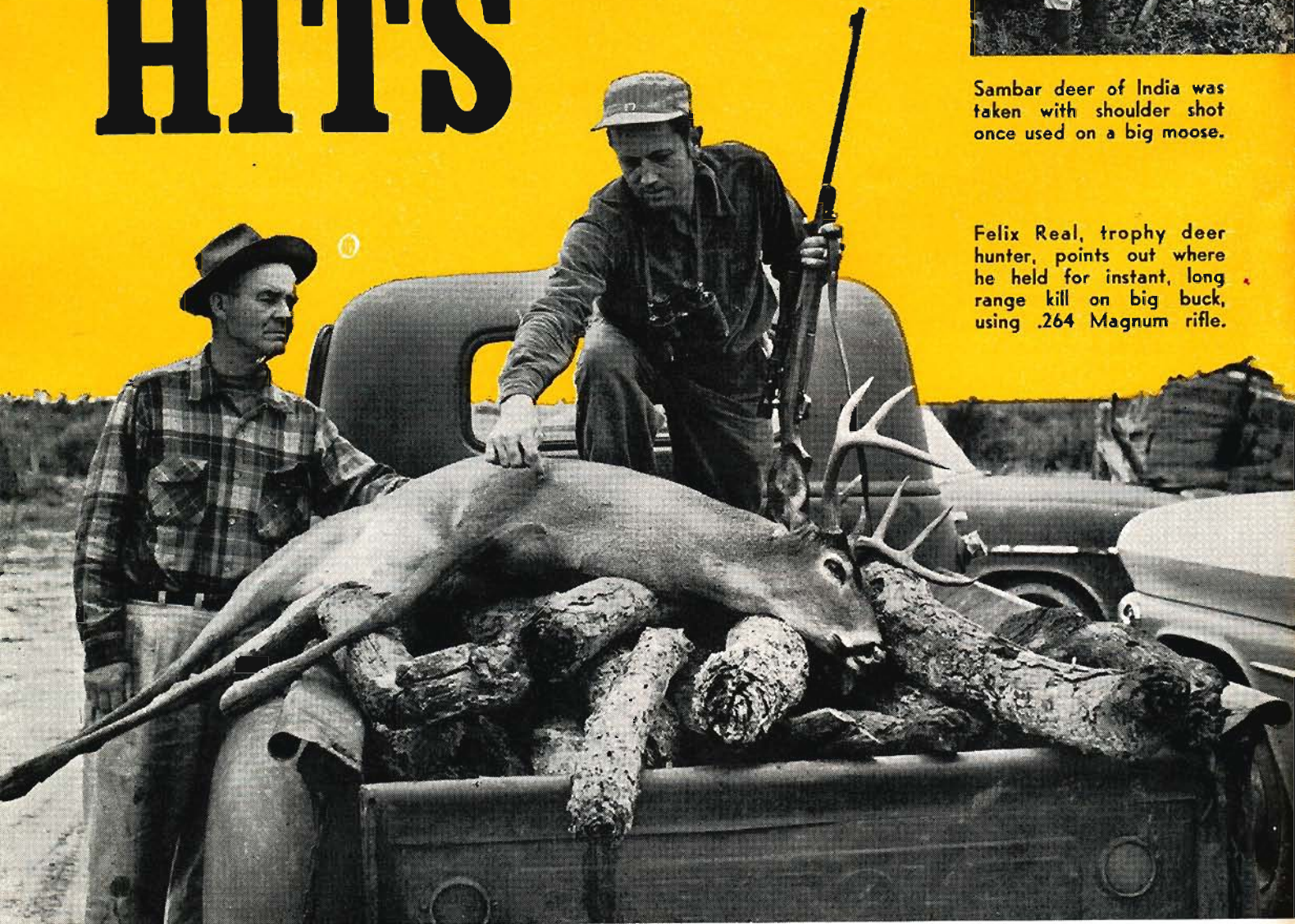
Grouse and woodcocks are tricky targets. To hit them, keep eyes on birds, not the intervening branches, author advises gunners.

# LEARN FROM YOUR HITS



Sambar deer of India was taken with shoulder shot once used on a big moose.

Felix Real, trophy deer hunter, points out where he held for instant, long range kill on big buck, using .264 Magnum rifle.



## STUDY YOUR HITS AND THEIR EFFECTIVENESS AS A GUIDE TO MORE CONSISTENT HUNTING RESULTS

Author holds his fire and waits for doves to give him a shot that he knows will grass a bird or two.

By BYRON W. DALRYMPLE

**T**HE MOOSE was trotting when I first saw it. It had spotted me and, although it was not panicked, it was intent on getting into the timber. My first view of it was broadside and within 70 yards.

I resisted the impulse every hunter has on such suddenly dramatic occasions, to just throw up the gun and shoot. This critter was big and might be tough to put down. I had to *place* the bullet. This necessity was not made easier by the fact that my canoe was not a very stable shooting platform.

The rib cage, obviously, was the easiest and most substantial target. But, swinging the crosshairs with the trotting animal, I suddenly became aware that the bull was moving much faster than I'd judged. I swung faster and, at the report, the bullet slammed home with an awesome *whunk*. The tremendous animal went down instantly.

This shot was made some years ago, and from it I learned something that has stood me in good stead on several other occasions. What actually happened was that my 200-grain bullet, a Silvertip traveling at around 2300 feet per second at that range and carrying roughly an equal number of foot pounds of energy, had struck the big left shoulder joint right on the button. I could not tell, of course, if that leg happened to be supporting the forward weight of the animal at the exact instant of impact, but the joint was broken and the bullet, designed for deep penetration, carried on, through the animal. The other shoulder was also fractured.

It was not possible to tell whether the bullet had actually broken that far shoulder, or whether impact and the breaking of the left shoulder, throwing weight to the opposite side, had caused the fracture. Regardless, the shot made an instantaneous kill and completely anchored the big animal.

Intrigued by the results of this shot, I began to wonder if any correlation might be made by stacking up several such experiences. During the past several years, I have had opportunity to collect other big-game animals of fair size, and in two different cases I was offered this same broadside shot. Remembering the moose experience, I tried to hit exactly on the big shoulder knuckle, and succeeded. Both times, the opposite shoulder was also fractured.

Now I cannot say positively that this will always happen. But I am convinced that a heavy bullet with deep-penetrating



Trophy mule deer fell to cleanest, most perfect shot Dalrymple ever made. He now tries to duplicate feat.



Long-necked ducks and geese can be brought down with head, neck shot if lead is figured out and held right.

qualities, hitting directly broadside with solid energy, delivers such tremendous sledge-like shock through an animal's bony framework that there is always a very good chance this opposite-side fracture may occur. It is very possible that large animals, with correspondingly larger bones, and more weight thrown suddenly upon them, are peculiarly fracture-prone in this manner. The big bones may act as conductors to carry the energy shock farther and with more power. At any rate, from that one hit of this kind, plus careful observation of its effects, I learned a shooting technique that I have used on outsized horned game since. Usually it is the big ones that you feel you must break down. This shot, in addition to being quickly lethal, appears to me to have a very good chance of offering absolute stay-down qualities. (Continued on page 48)

# the AMERICAN SNIPER

"TOO LITTLE TOO LATE" WAS  
THE STORY OF U. S. SNIPER  
TRAINING IN TWO PAST WARS



THE UNITED STATES has for many years had mass rifle training in both military and civilian marksmanship programs. For many years, matches were fired at Camp Perry at ranges of up to 600 and 1,000 yards. But in spite of all this interest in accurate rifle marksmanship, this nation was slow indeed in adopting sniper training programs to develop, in peacetime, military snipers who would be ready for combat.

Early in the Second World War, the Army with the help of many fine civilian and military marksmen, set up sniper schools at the Infantry School, and a special rifle instructors' school at Camp Perry. The course was to instruct the sniper in the fundamentals of telescopic sight-

By LT. WILLIAM H. TANTUM IV, USAR



Garand MIC sniper rifle, top, with Model 84 scope and lace-on cheek pad. Below, the MID Garand with a Model 82 scope, flash-hider and needed cheek-pad. Though basically good, guns are too long, weighty.

ing, aiming, holding, and firing the sniper rifle. Weakness lay in the lack of sufficient practice after the instruction had been assimilated. But in the military service, with its set training schedules, sniper training was crammed into a few hectic days. The sniper was given a short course in concealment, camouflage, movement, and observation, but it was not enough to turn city boys into experts.

The instructions were mostly of the lecture type, with not much field training. The American sniper of World War II was trained, whether adequately or not, to act with a sniper team, to kill the individual enemy with quickly aimed single shots during infiltration against enemy crew weapon posts. He was expected also to act the counter-

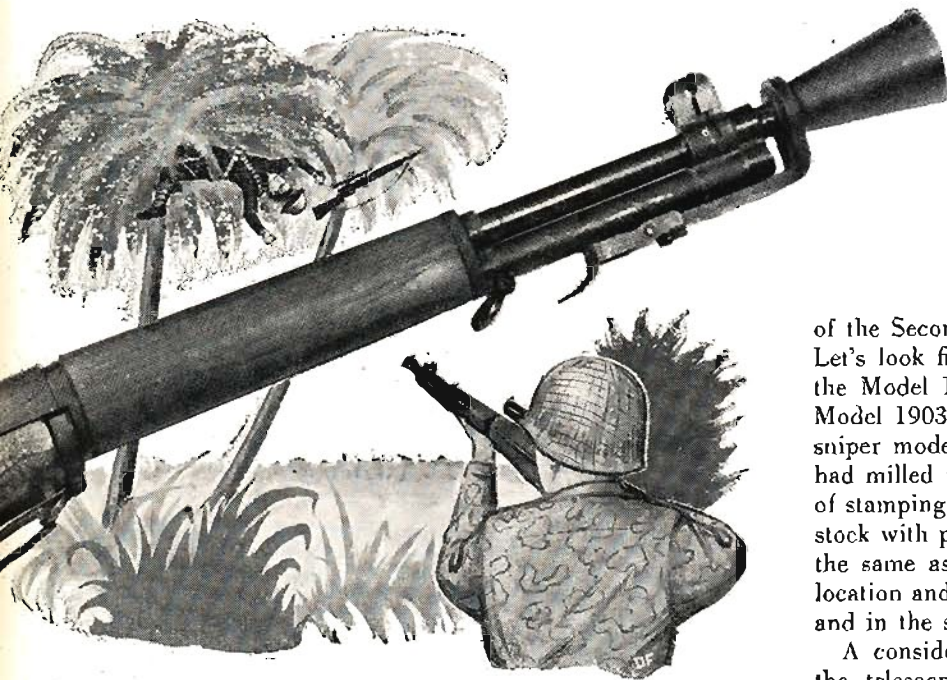
sniping role against enemy snipers. His main job was the complete control of the ground between our front lines and that of the enemy. The war-time standard of shooting was to hit a man's head up to 200 yards and his body up to 400 yards. Snipers in the special units, such as Army Ranger and Marine Raider Units, were given more specialized training, and these men made a great showing in the Pacific and European engagements.

Many top marksmen were trained on the battlefield. Special sniper schools in the use of the telescope-sighted sniper rifles were set up behind the lines in the Second World War and during the Korean War. Unfortunately, these often consisted of just one- or two-day courses in marksmanship.

The United States sniper in both of these wars had many types of specially camouflaged uniforms in the form of jackets, coveralls, and raincoats. Many were in brown, green, and white for winter. The sniper always used the steel helmet with a camouflaged cover. He also carried a set of binoculars and a compass. The matter of camouflaging was left largely to the individual.

Now for the American sniper rifles of the Second World War and the Korean Police Action: Let's look first at the Springfield-type sniper rifles. First, the Model 1903 A-4 sniping rifle was a variation of the Model 1903 A-3 rifle, with minor changes in design. The sniper model had selected barrels of four grooves, and it had milled trigger guards. All other hardware parts were of stamping type. The rifle was complete with the type "C" stock with pistol-grip. The bolt of the A4 model remained the same as the A3, but the bolt handle was changed in location and shape. A reverse curve was used in the handle and in the shank.

A considerable amount of metal was cut away so that the telescopic sight could be (Continued on page 36)



Model 1903 A4 has a selected 4 groove barrel, milled trigger guard and changed bolt handle. Model 73B1 was Weaver's 3X No. .330 scope in Redfield Junior mounts.

U.S.M.C. used the 1903 A1 sniper rifle with a special 8X Unertl scope in target-type Duraluminum mounts. A case that can be parachuted was issued with the scope.



The "road agent spin" or "Curly Bill spin" is attributed Tombstone outlaw Curly Brocius and others. Guns are presented with butts forward as if to surrender them, a flick of wrist inverts them, two cocked guns are ready.

# GUN TRICKS of the OLD WEST

By GEORGE VIRGINES

**WHETHER WESTERN GUNMEN USED  
THEM OR NOT, GUN HANDLING  
CHALLENGES MANUAL DEXTERITY**

STYLES CHANGE from year to year in stories about the gun-feats of the old western gunmen. One writer, or the writers of one period, tell tales that range from tall to utterly impossible, all sworn to as fact beyond question. Another writer, or the writers of another year, jump with calked boots on one of the impossible stories, disprove it, sneer at it, and leap from that to the conclusion that *all* the stories are false or even that there never was any such thing as a western gunfighter, good or bad.

But there *were* men—more men than you know, because many of them never got or would not permit the publicity given to others—who staked their lives on their gun-skills, and some of those men survived too many such gambles to leave room for doubt that their skills were real. One writer "debunked" the whole gunfighter legend by stating that "such skill could not have been attained without long practice, and these men never practiced."

Who says they never practiced? Breckinridge practiced; he said so himself. Men who knew Billy the Kid say that he practiced, with rifle and revolver; that he dearly loved "a shooting match"—for fun, not for blood. Wyatt Earp practiced; liked to let himself be "talked into" impromptu exhibitions of marksmanship, on the theory that men who saw him shoot might be dissuaded from challenging him in earnest. Hickok practiced; not one of his contemporary biographers fails to mention his unfailing willingness to engage in shooting matches and exhibitions. John Wesley Hardin practiced; read his autobiography.

Why wouldn't they practice? What man who expected to stake his life on his gun skill would fail to develop that skill to the utmost? And anyway, guns were a part of the life of the era. The impromptu shooting match was as common as the impromptu horserace.

Men practiced endlessly for new ways for better accuracy or greater speed. Holsters and gun-hangers were invented, each calculated to give a man some "edge" in a gunfight. Guns of all types, from tiny derringers to sawed-off shotguns, were tried, touted, or discarded. Triggers of single action revolvers were removed or tied back, and "slip-hammers" added. Every top



Chuck Monell demonstrates the side pinwheel spin used for fast gun draw.



Vince Vacarrino fans a Colt Single Action, while Chuck Monell handles sawed-off shotgun, the most feared gun a man could carry in the west.



Here is a variety of guns modern gunfighters can choose from. These Colt guns are all in author's collection, with Buntline on top, 3" barrel gun at bottom. Most men like 5½ inch barrel.



gunman insisted that speed was less important than making the first shot count, but every one of them worked to be able to make that first shot as sudden as possible—in a “sort of a slow hurry,” to quote a phrase that became famous.

“Fanning” was tried, and discarded as a fighting method. Hardly a shot is fired in Hollywood epics that isn’t “fanned,” and every shot hits—in the pictures. The Old Timers knew about fanning, but not a gunfighter of record used it in combat; it was too risky. Fanning a single action means holding the gun rigid, usually against the hip, with one hand while you slap the hammer back repeatedly with the palm of the other hand, with the trigger released or held back so the hammer can fall free to fire the cartridge. It requires absolute coordination of two hands, in split seconds and small fractions of inches, and the slightest error can spoil the performance. The chances of failure are just too high when your life is in the balance.

Ed McGivern practiced fanning until he could do it very fast, without many failures, and with surprising accuracy. But Ed McGivern was—Ed McGivern. There is nobody like him. And McGivern was an exhibition shooter, an experimenter, not a gunfighter. McGivern said, “If a man had practiced fanning enough to have some confidence, and if he found himself in a spot where nothing else would do—maybe a room, with himself pitted against four or five opponents—he might fan. He might even get some hits. He would at least produce enough smoke to give him a chance to get out of there. Did you ever see the smoke roll out of one of those old black-powder guns when the shots came close together?”

The “Curly Bill spin,” sometimes called the “road agent spin,” is one of the gun tricks that came out of the practice of western gunmen. It had many variations, many “inventors.” One story is that it originated with Curly Brocius, a Tombstone bad man of considerable, even national, repute. The story is told differently by each of its tellers, but one version is that Tombstone Marshall Fred White got the drop on Curly one day, demanded his gun. Curly presented the gun butt first—then spun it, fired, and dropped White in his tracks.

Nobody knows now which of the several “spins” Curly used, if any. One of the variations (Continued on page 52)



Virgines shows butterfly spin top, two gun bordershift in center. Here guns are in a mid-air shift from one hand to other. Below is 2 gun “Border Shift” where right gun is thrown over the left shoulder and caught by left hand. Colt Thunderer or Lightning is type used by gunman Luke Short in the famed killing of Courtwright in Ft. Worth.



#### INFORMATION SECTION, USMC

A SMALL group of dedicated men, hastily organized at the Philadelphia Navy Yard in the summer of 1864, were destined to participate in only a small action of the Civil War but one which, when viewed in the over-all picture, contributed measurably towards the successful defense of Washington against the Confederate Army's final major action on Northern soil.

That group, composed of United States Marines and a few sailors under the command of Capt. James Forney, was to eliminate the threat to the railroad right-of-way and its two key bridges across the Susquehanna and Gunpowder Rivers in Maryland.

The group's defiant stand at Gunpowder River Bridge against repeated attacks by a detachment of 2nd Maryland Cavalry, convinced the enemy of the need for a larger force to defeat the Union Troops. Lacking these forces, the cavalry detachment withdrew. To the thinning ranks of the South, this must have foretold the outcome of their noble but futile invasion attempt.

A recreated unit of this proud but short-lived organization of Civil War fame, demonstrated their shooting ability during the 1962 National Rifle and Pistol Matches at Camp Perry, Ohio. This performance undoubtedly paralleled the marksmanship ability of their original compatriots. Its name—Forney's Bat- (Continued on page 40)

#### MARKSMANSHIP DEFEATED FIREPOWER IN THIS RE-ENACTMENT OF A KEY CIVIL WAR BATTLE



Final event of the shoot was a match between muskets, two M-14 and two M-1 rifles—clay birds at 50 yards. The muskets were high scorers. C. C. Losch, right, on command "Load and fire at will" can fire 3 shots a minute.



# SHOOT TO WIN!

By W. JOHN FARQUHARSON

**CANADA INVITES YOU TO SHOOT IN HER  
NATIONAL AND REGIONAL MATCHES,  
FOR CASH IF YOU CAN WIN IT**



Sgt. Cathline, 10 year record holder of perfect score, fired high score at Lt. Governor's match.



Bisley Hat worn by Mel Davies, winner of the Macdonald match with 123x125, is earned the hard way at Bisley.

**H**OW WOULD YOU like a shooting vacation in Canada, with a chance to make the shooting pay a part of your expenses? It can be done if you have (a) the rifle, (b) the skill, and (c) the competitive spirit to match your rifle and your skill against a thousand or more (almost certainly more) of the best Canadian big-bore riflemen in the Canadian Provincial or National Matches. For detailed information as to dates, places, and rules, write The Dominion of Canada Rifle Association, 200½ Bank Street, Ottawa 4, Canada; and/or The Canadian Civilian Association of Marksmanship, Box 635, Station B, Montreal.

Let's settle the matter of the rifle first. The rule doesn't leave much room for argument: "The arm to be used in all deliberate (i.e., slow fire) matches shall be the No. 4 Service Rifle, either of Government issue or of bona fide Government pattern, and bearing the Government viewer's mark."

The No. 4 is an improved version of the S. M. L. E. No. 1 Mark 3. Like its predecessor, it is a 10-shot repeater (detachable box magazine), .303 caliber, with a rear-locking turning bolt action, fitted with a two-piece stock. It is about 45" in overall length. The wooden stocks that enclose the barrel are fitted with a metal noscap. The barrel protrudes 3" to carry front sight and sight protectors. The rear sight, seated just in front of the cocking piece, has two apertures and is adjustable for elevation only. The front post sight can be adjusted for windage. It differs from the S. M. L. E. No. 1 Mark 3 in that it has a heavier action with a vertical left side, a heavier barrel for greater accuracy, aperture instead of iron sights, a smaller and more compact bolt head, and a better trigger.

There are No. 4's used by Canadian, British, Australian, and other Commonwealth target shooters that display accuracy in the same class as that of the famous M-1903 Springfields shot during the late '30's at Camp Perry. Your No. 4 rifle, if it is to win you money and honors in competition, should be adjusted to group within 2 minutes of angle at ranges of from 200 to 1000 yards, using standard, as issued, service .303 ammunition. It can be done if your rifle is in good condition.

The barrel is the heart of the No. 4, and must be of a high standard for successful target work. Briefly, the bore must have a smooth, mirror-like finish completely free of rust pits, "belled" muzzle, drill marks on the lands, gouges, streaks, or scratches due to cleaning with wire gauze. It



General Letson presents his trophy to Capt. Northrup of R. C. School of Infantry whose team fired top score.



Maj. Arnold Smedmor captained the Canadian Army Bisley Rifle team, has won many outstanding shooting awards.

should have a smoothly reamed throat, the bore must show a minimum of erosion (the newer the better). It must be straight, have an even diameter from throat to muzzle, and be evenly crowned at the muzzle with no burrs. For "miking" .303 barrels, an SSG buckshot pushed through on a rod can be measured with a micrometer to find the groove diameter.

Provided your rifle has a good barrel, almost everything else can be replaced, repaired, or altered to bring it up to the required standard. If your barrel does not meet the above requirements, there is only one solution: a new barrel.

Regarding adjustments of the No. 4 rifle, here is an excerpt from the No. 60-C Catalogue of the Alfred J. Parker concern, a famous English firm with over 50 years experience with the Lee-Enfield rifles:

"The fore-end must be fitted correctly for close grouping. It is often assumed that if the barrel is free-floating, or just bearing on the fore-end at the muzzle end, the rifle is bound to group well, but this is not all that is necessary; there are other conditions that can interfere with the grouping. We have adjusted and tested many hundreds of No. 4 rifles and, provided the barrel is in reasonable condition, we can make a No. 4 rifle group to  $3\frac{1}{4}$  at 200 yards and even more important, it will continue to do so. Many No. 4's we have adjusted have grouped even closer than this."

Assuming your No. 4 has a good barrel, here is a checklist of points to cover before test-firing the rifle.

Bolt and rifle serial numbers should match, and bolt should work smoothly without binding.

Headspace can be adjusted by fitting bolt-heads of different lengths, sizes #0, #1, #2, and #3. Minimum headspace is .064"; maximum .074". One of our top shots prefers that the bolt not quite close on an .067" gauge, as he feels ignition is more consistent.

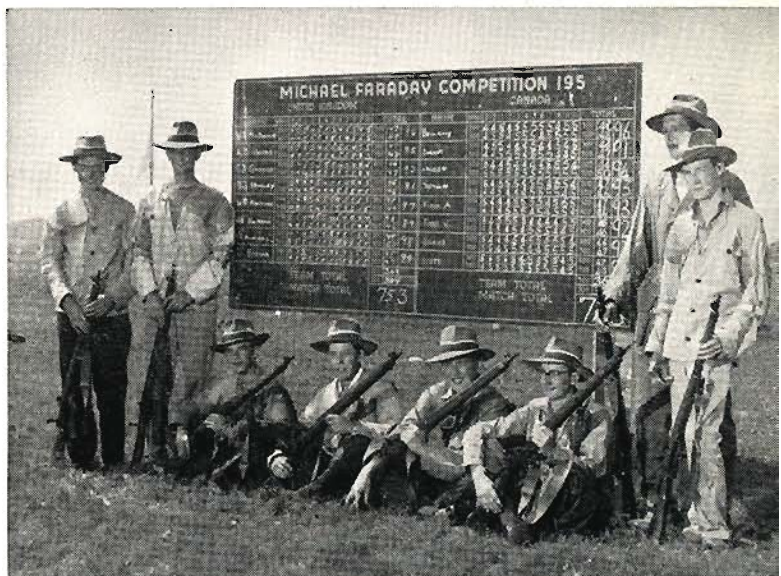
Butt-stock must be rock-solid on the rifle.

Fore-end must hold the rifle action and barrel solidly, without lost motion. Here is a good way to test the fore-end for a tight fit around the action: First, remove the magazine and loosen the front screw a couple of turns. Next, grasp the small of the butt from above with the right hand and grip the fore-end across the magazine well with the left hand. Now twist the fore-end. It should be rock-solid on the action.

Muzzle pressure should be (Continued on page 38)



Sgt. Russell Potter shows young rifleman the trophy he donated in the name of his son who was killed in a car accident. Trophy goes to most promising young shooter.



British Cadet team proudly poses before posting board at Connaught where Canadian rifle competition is held.

**A EULOGY TO A PAIR OF STRAIGHT-SHOOTING SONS,  
IN WHICH IS CONTAINED ALSO A LESSON ON HOW TO SHOOT GEESE**

By BERT POPOWSKI

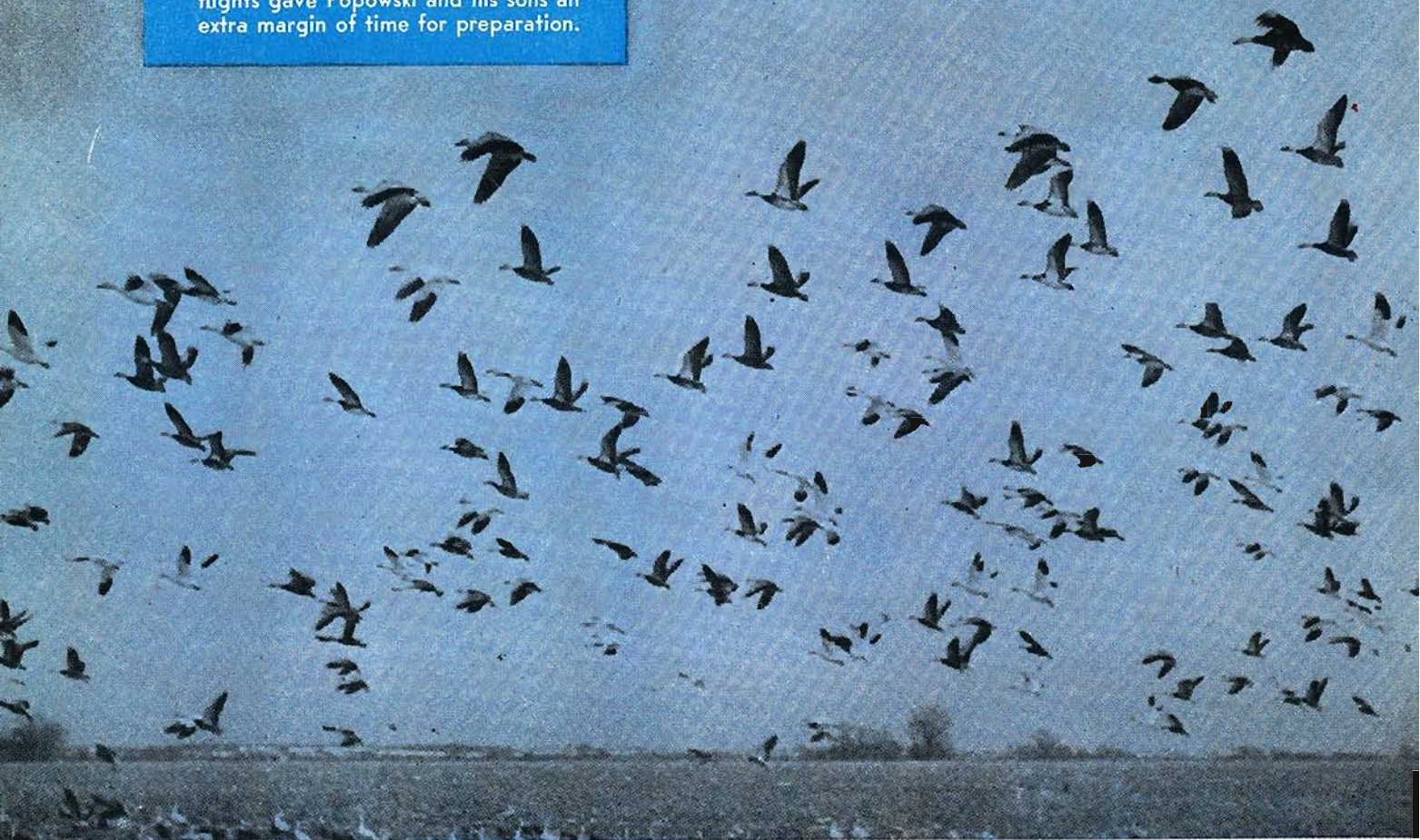


"Glassing" the skylines for in-coming flights gave Popowski and his sons an extra margin of time for preparation.

THE WEATHER BREAK we had hoped for came with startling suddenness. Carl Hatfield (I call him "McCoy" in memory of the feud) called to tell me that a stiff storm was moving down from Canada, would strike about midnight. Carl works for a CAA set-up at the local airport and gets the low-down on weather information, so I set the date for 3 A.M. the following morning. Carl couldn't go because of work, and his regrets were mixed with the reminder that he'd get many hours more sleep than we would on what promised to be a rough morning.

With the practiced ease of long practice, my boys checked out our guns, set out two burlap bags full of goose decoys, sorted out ammunition, and started filling thermos bottles

# *when* **the** **S** **NOWS**



and making sandwiches. This is what comes of having a couple of gun- and game-wise sons at home; they do all the work—I don't get to do a darn thing but make critical comments.

They did let me drive, the next morning—and what a morning! The wind was blowing hard straight down the length of the long pond we had chosen, and we unloaded our gear in a cold hurry. Jerry drove the car a half-mile down the road and parked it behind a screening haystack while John and I rigged several bales of hay into a screening windbreak at the south end of the pond. We had beaten daylight only by a scant margin—and we were just in time.

"Company comin'," John warned, almost before we were settled.

Only once before in my life—and that during a week-long Texas crow shoot—have I seen shooting as beautifully synchronized. There were three greenheads in the flock, plainly marked by their white necklaces, and, as they got within 30 yards, I said "Now!" Three Ithacas lifted, three shots blended, and the surviving hens flipped out of there with their tail feathers smoking.

"These are northern birds!" said Jerry, loping in with the kill. "Look!" and he showed off the birds' maroon-red legs and the pinfeatherless patch of hide under one wing where he stripped of a handful of feathers. The birds' crops were literally bulging and, as I squeezed one, fat kernels of yellow corn dribbled out of its gullet.

"Wonderful!" I enthused. "They blew in ahead of this storm and are still strangers in this country. One more flock like that, and we'll have to wait for geese."

Geese, regardless of brand, don't like to leave their nocturnal hangouts until full daylight. On bright, clear days, they may come out as soon as the sun has wiped out most of the shadows on the feeding fields, but on overcast days, they may not go out to feed until close to noon. And, when you season the weather with a wild wind, once they start moving they may fly throughout most of the daylight hours, one flock breakfasting now, the next an hour or two later.

Inexperienced goose hunters who do not know of this variation in feeding hours, are often caught flat-footed and out of their blinds or pits by

*(Continued on page 58)*

# Game...

Holding his limit of snow and lesser Canada geese, Jerry watches another flight come.



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**GLISENTI REVOLVER**

**CAL. 10.35MM**



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7MM Mauser (M.C.)	\$ 6.00
7.35 Italian In Clips (M.C.)	\$ 5.00
7.62x39 Russian Short (20 rds.)	\$ 4.95
7.62MM Russian (M.C.)	\$ 6.00
7.65MM (30) Mauser (M.C.)	\$ 6.00
.30-06 U.S. M2 Ball (Non-Cor)	\$ 4.00
.30-06 Blanks	\$ 4.00
.30-40 Krag (M.C.)	\$ 5.00
.303 British Military (M.C.)	\$ 7.50
.303 British Blanks	\$ 4.00
8MM German Mauser Issue	\$ 4.00
8MM Lebel (M.C.)	\$ 6.00
8x56 R Mannlicher	\$ 4.00
.42 Colt Berdan Rifle (M.C.)	\$10.00

.43 (11MM) Remington (M.C.)	\$5.00
11MM Mannlicher (M.C.)	\$5.00
20MM Lahd A.P. (10 rds.)	\$9.95

## SOFT POINT CARTRIDGES

6.5 Italian Soft Point (20 rds.)	\$3.4
6.5 Swedish Soft Point (40 rds.)	\$5.9
7MM Mauser Soft Point (20 rds.)	\$3.4
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7.5 Swiss Soft Point (20 rds.)	\$4.4
7.62 Russian Soft Point (45 rds.)	\$6.6
7.65 Mauser Soft Point (20 rds.)	\$3.4
.303 British Soft Point (20 rds.)	\$3.4
8MM Mauser Soft Point (40 rds.)	\$5.9

(Those few with asterisk (\*) above are partially shootable but fully componentable.)

Minimum order (except Soft Point) 100 rounds. All prices below (except Soft Point) per 100 rounds. Shipped RR. Express. Shipping Charges Collect.

**IMPORTANT SALES INFORMATION—PLEASE READ CAREFULLY:** All guns and ammo shipped RAILWAY EXPRESS OR TRUCK (Shipping charges collect) from Alexandria, Va. or Culver City, California. WESTERNERS! Save transportation costs—order direct from Ye Old Western Hunter. Service that now spans a continent! (In the heart of the Golden State.) California residents include 4% State Sales Tax on Culver City shipments. Send check or Money Order. DO NOT SEND CASH. Sorry no COD's. Regret we are unable to accept any "All Heart" Sale order less than \$5.00. "Money's Worth or Money Back" guarantee when goods are returned prepaid within two days after receipt. Ye Old Hunter will not answer acrimonious letters. Send them elsewhere. Sales limited to continental United States! Special sale prices, above, are good for month of publication only! World's Greatest Gun House—World's Greatest Shooters' Bargains!



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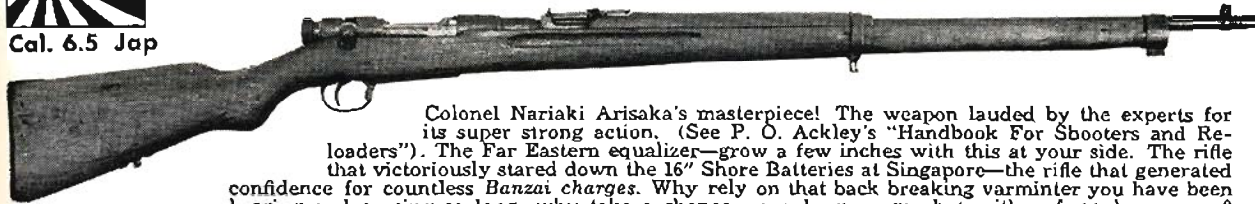
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## THE AMERICAN SNIPER

(Continued from page 25)

low mounted on the receiver of the rifle without being hit by the bolt handle during manual operation. Also, a deeper recess was cut in the stock to permit the special bolt handle to be closed. Both of the normal sights, rear and front, were eliminated on this rifle because of the low mounting and type of mount used on the A4.

The Redfield Junior mount in modified form was chosen for use on this rifle, and the Weaver commercial Model No. 330 was the scope used. The military name for this scope was the Telescope Model M73B1. The scope was almost 3-power magnification, with a reticle of .001" crosshairs. Elevation and windage were set with adjusting knobs in minutes of angle.

The rifle was a good shooting weapon, and the equipment was good—but the combination was less than perfect as a sniper's weapon. The telescope, good though it was for hunting use, was too light and very thin for the rough battering of military use, and its reticle was not ideal for the sniper. The mount, too, was very light and would work loose. The sniper could not clip-load the weapon because of the low mounting of the scope; and if he had an accident that put his scope out of business, he was out of luck, since there were no front or rear sights on the weapon. The Model 1903A4 sniper rifle, complete with telescopic sight and mount cost the government \$64.00 each.

Now let's take a look at the famous Marine Corps special sniper rifle. They did use

Garand sniper models, but did not use the Model 1903A4 sniper rifle. The Leathernecks used Model 1903A1, with the Unertl 8X telescope, marked on tube "U.S.M.C. Sniper." These were a special order from Unertl, the commercial target type with Duraluminum mounts, perfectly fitted to the good old Springfield '03 rifle. This was fine outfit for any good sniper. The telescope was carried in a very special carrying case of 26 inches—a tube-type model—when not on the weapon.

In the Garand sniper rifles, the Army issued two models—the early MIC, and the later MID. The MIC model is a Garand rifle with a military version of the Griffin and Howe double-lever side mount, offset on the left side of the receiver. The mount slides onto a dovetail bracket. This setup will not interfere with the insertion of the 8-round clip. The telescope (M82) used on the MIC rifle is a military version of the Lyman Alaskan with a special eye piece and sun shade. The scope is 2½ power, with adjustments for both windage and elevation. The military model is issued with a Picket-Post reticle.

The MID sniper rifle is different to the MIC only in the method of attaching the telescope sights. The MID sniper rifle has a special telescopic bracket base driven on the barrel of the rifle just forward of the receiver and fastened in position there. The telescope is held in a removable mount which, in turn, is attached to the fixed

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base on the barrel of the rifle by means of one screw and a dowel pin. The telescope bracket for this weapon is a special stamping, made up by the Government. The Ordnance Department also made up some special telescopic sights for the MID, known as the Telescope M84. This is a basic Lyman Alaskan type with very large knobs for windage and elevation. This scope had a sunshade and a rubber eyeshield.

Because the telescopic sight is offset on both of these sniper rifles, it is necessary to employ a cheek pad to position the shooter's eye in the right place when his cheek is held against the butt of the weapon. The issued cheek pad is made of leather and is laced onto the rifle on both models. The flash-hider is a short, funnel-shaped tube that fits over the muzzle of the rifle and is clamped on the bayonet stud.

Both scopes are carried in special web carrying cases on the ammunition belt when not in use by the sniper.

The MIC and MID sniper rifles were good sniper setups; their only drawbacks were their weight and length. They are an awkward weapon for a sniper who has to do a lot of creeping, crawling, and climbing on his post.

Late in World War II, one of our secret developments was an electronic telescopic device known as the "Sniper-Scope." This was mounted on an M-1 rifle or M-3 carbine. This was a limited-type sniper weapon, used for shooting in the dark, and only up to a hundred yards. The unit utilizes invisible heat rays, otherwise known as infra-red rays, instead of ordinary light. The user has an infra-red projector, looking something like an automobile spotlight, with which he projects a beam of invisible infra-red towards the object he wants to see. Attached to this infra-red projector is the electronic 4-power telescope, the objective lens of which focuses the invisible image on an infra-red converter, which is an electronic tube. This converts the invisible heat rays into a visible image, and all objects appear in a shade of reddish green, regardless of their color in daylight.

To operate this outfit it is necessary to have a power source which is attached to the electronic telescope and to the infra-red projector by a power cable. The power source is a powerpack operating from a 6-volt storage battery. These outfits cost the taxpayers \$1,200, and the Government sold them at surplus for \$150. I would say they are already passé as a sniper outfit.

Today in the military, there is no really formal sniper training program. The top marksman in a rifle company is selected and given a fast course in the use of the telescopic rifle, and is then sent back to his unit. It would seem that the Atomic Age and the feeling of great fire power is outdating the sniper in military warfare, and I wonder if this is wise.

On the other hand, special marksmanship training units in all of the Services are developing some of the finest individual marksmen in the world. The somewhat cynical comment has been made that the objective of these units is less military than sporting—to beat the Russians in international and Olympic competition—but a good marksman is a good marksman, in competition or in battle. Perhaps our Olympic riflemen will be our snipers of the future.

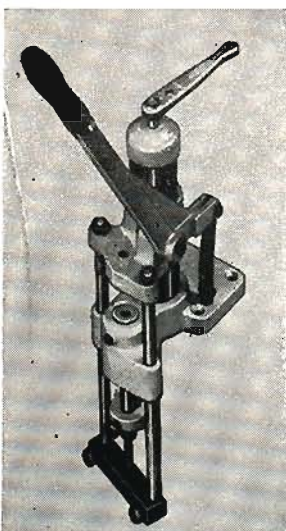
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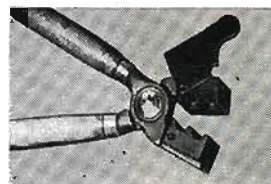
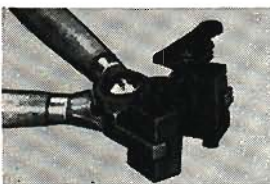


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## SHOOT TO WIN

(Continued from page 31)

between 2 to 7 pounds pressure. Test gently, and see that the muzzle returns to exactly the same place. Now push the barrel up diagonally and release. Note whether it slides back smoothly into place.

It often helps matters if a little fine graphite is blown onto the muzzle bearing. If the fore-end can pivot from side to side on the body, the group will be strung out sideways. Also, the fore-end *must* fit tightly between the locking lug recesses and the front of the butt-socket. No amount of careful fitting will last for long.

Be careful that the front handguard does not slip forward to touch the front sight assembly. This interferes with normal barrel vibrations and causes low shots.

Finally, see that the front guard screw is *tight*, to draw the action or "body" down solidly on its bearing points.

Now go out and test your rifle. If it shoots nice, round, evenly dispersed 2" groups with no flyers at 100 yards, rejoice and be happy! It is capable of grouping within the 5" bullseye at 200 yards.

After shooting, it is wise to strip the rifle down to bare barrel and check the bearing points for proper fit. Here is where the wise person who has obtained a current Dominion of Canada Rifle Association program booklet will be well ahead, for it specifies in clear detail just what adjustments are permitted and how to "bed" the No. 4 for best accuracy within the D.C.R.A. rules.

Should the wooden fore-end of your rifle be of soft, oil-soaked open grain walnut, there are three things you can do. You can get a new fore-end; you can inset hardwood blocks at bearing points; or you can install glass bedding. The first solution is the most practical in the long run; the second takes a lot of painstaking work; the third is fine for those who are short of cash or who love to experiment. But you must get *all* the oil out of the wood, otherwise glass bedding won't "take." If all directions are followed closely, the glass system is a good way to salvage a so-so fore-end.

If you decide to buy new walnut or breech fore-ends for the No. 4, try:

Hunters Lodge, 200 S. Union St., Alexandria 2, Va.; International Firearms Co., 52 Lake St., St. Albans, Vermont; or, in Canada, Nelson Colville, % Shooter's Supplies, P.O. Box 207, Winnipeg, Manitoba; or Jennings Shooting Supplies, 323 Garry Street, Winnipeg 2, Manitoba.

Nels Colville handles everything from soup to nuts in the realm of full bore shooting and if he hasn't the required part in stock, he can soon get it. Both Nels and Ernie Jennings have had years of experience in the shooting game and their advice is to be trusted.

For the benefit of those who haven't yet bought a No. 4 .303, good, serviceable target rifles, fitted with sights and sling, all ready for the range, can be bought in the \$60 to \$75 bracket. Nels Colville has had a few in stock at various times, and Jennings can supply a glass-bedded No. 4, complete, for about the same prices.

Now that you have a good rifle tested and ready, suppose we look at one of the ranges on which you may compete. Blair Range lies at the foot of Mount Seymour, across the


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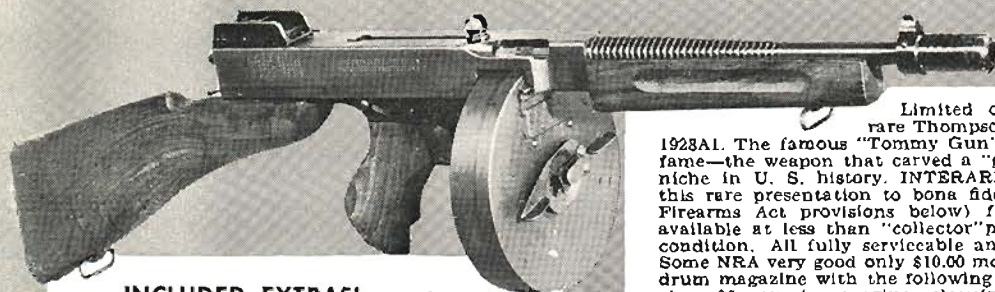
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SEE PAGE 66 FOR SPECIAL CHRISTMAS GIFT OFFER!

# Model 1928 THOMPSONS!



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Limited offering of the now ultra rare Thompson Sub Machine Gun Model 1928A1. The famous "Tommy Gun" of World War II and FBI fame—the weapon that carved a "glamorous" and permanent niche in U. S. history. INTERARMCO is pleased to permit this rare presentation to bona fide applicants (See National Firearms Act provisions below) for perhaps the only time available at less than "collector" prices, and NOT in "dewat" condition. All fully serviceable and in NRA good condition. Some NRA very good only \$10.00 more. Prices include 30 round drum magazine with the following EXTRAS—30 round magazine, 20 round magazine, cleaning rod, oiler and sling. Model pictured above with finned barrel and adjustable rear sight. **Only \$165.00**



The same Thompson Sub Machine Gun Model 1928A1 as described under feature picture, however, this particular model has the straight, rather than the finned type barrel and utilizes the "L" type receiver sight. Fully serviceable and in NRA good condition at the unprecedented low price of \$135.00. A few in NRA very good condition only \$10.00 more. Price includes ALL extras depicted elsewhere in this ad. **Only \$135.00**

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water from the City of Vancouver. Blair Range is named after Lt. Col. R. M. Blair, who won the King's Prize back in 1929. Is this something special? Brother, winning this particular prize is so rare that only 8 Canadians have won King's and Queen's Prizes since 1895! This attainment of the top marksmanship award in the Commonwealth is a rare feat of skill at arms, for it means that Col. Blair out-shot over twelve hundred of the finest .303 marksmen at Bisley during a seven-day shoot. Although a fellow may be top man on the Canadian Bisley Rifle Team, it's no guarantee he'll even see the Second, much less the Third and final stage of the Queen's Prize. The English shooting program starts to sort out the good shots right after they step off the boat.

Blair Range is actually two ranges in one. The Short Ranges (100 to 300 yards) lie to the left of the Main Range. This starts at 500 yards and marches back, in 100 yard firing points, to the 1000 yard marker. From the shooter's point of view, the range layout saves a lot of walking. Suppose you have a two-range match, say at 200 and 500 yards, coming up. You bed down at 200, fire your score, pick up your gear, face due east, walk back along the mound and up a short flight of steps—and there you are on the Main Range, gazing at the 500 yard targets. Simple? Three and six hundred yard matches work out the same way. These continuous firing points get a lot of use during the week's shoot.

Among marksmen who must hold onto their hats while shooting, Blair has the undesired reputation of being an "old men's

home," since it has no violent wind changes. The range is bordered on three sides by trees, being literally hacked out of a wooded wilderness. But don't let the above nickname fool you, for Blair Range has its nasty little 5 to 7 o'clock fish-tail winds that can ruin a good score with a flock of 9 and 3 o'clock "inners!"

From the center of Vancouver, it is quite simple to reach Blair Range. Just follow Hastings Street east to Cassiar, north on Cassiar and across the Second Narrows Bridge, and up the East Keith Road until you reach the gate, flanked by the big Department of National Defense signs. To the right, after passing through the gate, is the B.C.R.A. Secretary's Hut, where all competitors stop to pick up their Match Tickets and pay entry fees, if they haven't already done so. It's always wise to send in your entry well ahead of time so that, upon your arrival, everything is ready and waiting.

A few yards up from the Secretary's Hut is the Mess Hall. Until last year, this building was used to feed the shooters their three squares a day at moderate prices. Just beside the Hall is the Notice Board, on which all scores are posted. The weeping and wailing is horrible to hear, and a "crying towel" is usually furnished by some kind-hearted soul. It is here that you learn your fate; whether you won or lost, and by how much!

After checking in and receiving your Match Tickets from the Secretary, your next point of call will be the Stores Shack where you pick up your bedding and .303 ammunition. Once settled in at your assigned hut, start filling out the Match Tickets, arranging them in proper firing sequence, and

get your equipment ready for the firing line.

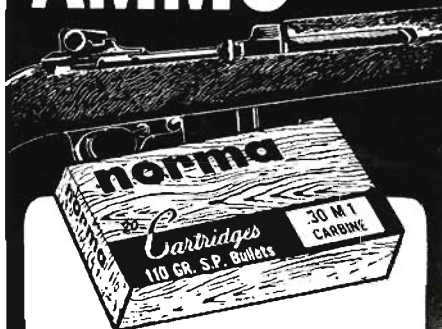
Did somebody in the audience mention money? Yes, you can win cash prizes in these matches. Where does this money come from? As the annual rifle competitions are subsidized in part by the Canadian Government, prize money can be offered to competitors to defray expenses and to encourage shooting. The prizes won't make you rich, but they can help pay for your rifle or your travel.

What scores will you need to win or to place in the Prize Lists? Take it from me, the B.C. boys are good, so a winning score must be 98 or better for a two-range match like the Macdonald Tobacco at 300 and 600 yards. In simple ten-shot matches, aim for a "possible" and don't expect to get in the prize list with anything less than a 45. Make it a point to practice until you can average 46.5 to 47 out of 50. In this way, you can have a bad (42-43) shoot and still place well up in the Grand Aggregate. It's a great morale booster to know that, barring a catastrophe, you can at least get your \$2.00 entry back.

Competitors are Service personnel, regular and reserve, plus a sprinkling of retired officers and men. Many shoot with unit teams. Traditions are strong and steadfastly maintained, and unit and regimental badges are proudly displayed.

Shooters are divided into Classifications so that they vie with others of equal ability. An "All Comer" is any member of the B.C. R.A. A "Tyro" is a Canadian who has never competed with a B.C. Annual Shoot, or whose score is below the top third of the All Comers Aggregate. All American com-

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petitors would be classified as B.C.R.A. "Senior Shots."

Here is the Match Procedure. After the Chief Range Officer gives the order to start the match, assistant range officers under him see that both shooters and target operators under their commands are all ready.

In all deliberate-fire matches, three shooters are assigned to each firing point and shoot at the one target in turn, beginning with the right-hand man. When on the firing point, shooters exchange Match Tickets and each person keeps the score of the one following him in the order of firing, meanwhile plotting his shot group in his own score book. Thus there is a double check on every shot fired.

The shot location on the target is shown by a "spotter," a piece of colored cardboard on a wooden dowel stuck in the bullet hole. The value of each shot is signalled from the pits by colored squares:

WHITE for a Bullseye.....5 Points

RED for an Inner.....4 Points  
RED-WHITE—Magpie .....3 Points  
BLACK-WHITE BORDER—Outer  
.....2 Points

A twirl of the marker indicates a miss.

An "armourer" or gunsmith is present throughout the annual shoot to assist those with rifle trouble.

Some of the scores in the 1960-61 matches did not reflect the true skill and accuracy of the experienced B.C. shot. The ammo available for the matches was of dubious quality, resulting in low winning scores. With good Dominion Arsenal double-year (45-50) .303 ammunition as used in the Canadian Championships at Ottawa, "possible" scores are recorded out of accurate No. 5 rifles on the small "Bisley" bullseyes. I believe our 1960 Queen's Medal Winner, Sgt. Gunnar Westling (C.M.), holds a Blair Range record, shot on the older and slightly larger B.C. R.A. bulls, of 823 out of 850 points. Try that one on your typewriter!

## THE MUSKETS WON

(Continued from page 29)

tion, United States Marine Corps.

Performing feats of unerring marksmanship, the members scored a decisive victory in competitive matches staged by the North-South Skirmish Association, Inc., for the benefit of spectators at Camp Perry.

Organized in January 1958, at Elkton, New Jersey, the present Battalion was assisted by the Marine Corps in research and authentication of the colorful uniform and equipment used by its members. Even their weapons are original .58 caliber rifle-muskets of Civil War days. As members of the NSSA, the Battalion devotes its time to re-enactments of Civil War battles and to rifle-musket competition with other North-South units.

Firing in volleys from the off-hand position at 50 yards, the eight-man squads of competitors broke clay pigeons, balloons, and small paper cups filled with flour and suspended by string. In other matches, Forney's Marines succeeded in falling a 6x6 wooden post in the record time of one minute, 33.4 seconds. They then proceeded to prove that eight rifle-muskets could break 30 clay pigeons faster than either two M-1 or two M-14 service rifles could do with all their fire power.

The battalion's shooting record in competition this year bears out their marksmanship ability. Out of six matches, they have cap-

tured four first places. Shooting like this leaves little room for competition.

They have also been very active in re-enactments of major Civil War skirmishes. In October 1959, they participated in the centennial observance of John Brown's Raid at Harpers Ferry before 70,000 people.

On Memorial Day 1960, the Battalion, in conjunction with the Garden State Park, of New Jersey, received the coveted "Americana Award" from the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, Pa., for their display and demonstration of the Civil War manual of arms, and a battle re-enactment.

In February 1961, at the centennial observance of the raising of the 34 star flag at Independence Hall, Philadelphia, Pa., the Battalion served as Guard of Honor for "President Lincoln" in the ceremony.

Association with the members of Forney's Battalion, USMC, at Camp Perry revealed a congenial group of men dedicated to the task of keeping alive the history of the Civil War. Whether they wore the "Blue or the Gray," the atmosphere at Camp Perry was charged with excitement for those present. From the beginning parade to the final frontal charge, complete with blaring bugle, units of the North South Skirmish Association presented a colorful program.

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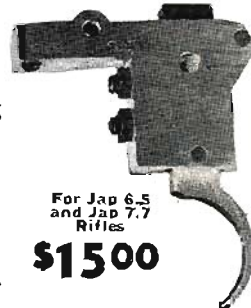
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## GRIZZLY KING OF THE VALKYR RANGE

(Continued from page 21)

the canyon bottom. "You better watch him," warned Schwartzenhauer. Too much varmint and whitetail deer hunting can develop some bad grizzly hunting habits! But this bear never moved. In a few minutes, we examined the accomplishment I'd dreamed of since I was a farm kid.

But it had been too easy. I was in for trouble, embarrassment, and even danger two years later when I faced the biggest grizzly Guide Schwartzenhauer ever saw.

I learned something about the sturdy anatomy of grizzlies during the job of skinning that first trophy. The .250-grain .35 caliber bullet had failed to make an exit



Saws, chain, barbed wire are used to protect camp door from bears.

from the angling shoulder shot. Yet I had shot completely through whitetail deer lengthwise with this rifle! I wanted to leave the head with the hide on my first grizzly, and when we got to the task of separating head and neck, we ended up with both our hunting knives stuck in the neck joints. I had to break the neck with a shot from the .35 Imp. Whelen.

It was two autumns later when the phone rang in my shop. "Just finished with a party," Carl told me. "They got two grizzlies and two goats. The carcasses are still up there. It will be a bear mad-house, a regular convention! Want to come up and try for that big one?"

The next day, Bob Pipkin and I were on our way. Had I known what lay in store for

me this time, I might not have been so eager! Rain followed us. On the Valkyr range it snowed, blew and stormed. We were, however, prepared for the weather with Hodgman rain suits and winter clothes. My .35 Imp. Whelen was still in its oil-soaked military knock-about stock, bedded in the fore-stock section.

Watching the carcasses of two dead grizzlies one evening, a nice brown grizzly almost ran over us. Happening to be in a better position than Bob, I fired, came up with a missed running shot I shouldn't have taken, plus two long range standing shots, both fairly good shoulder-held let-offs but both misses. Targeting my rifle the next day, I found that it was out 11 inches at 10 o'clock at 100 yards. Then I topped one mistake with another: I re-zeroed the rifle—then allowed it to stay in the warm cabin as it rained and snowed outside.

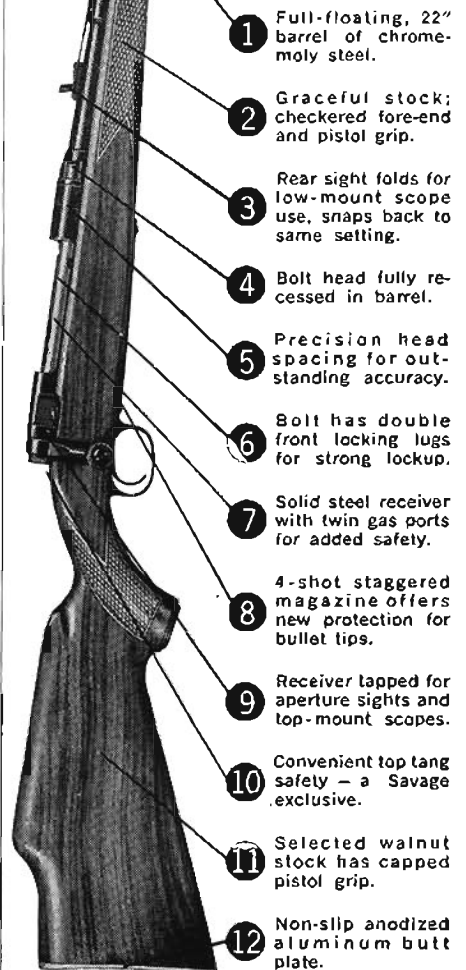
Carl had spoken often of a legendary huge black grizzly with a silvery mane that lived in this area. "He's 27 years old that I know of, and he was a big bear when I first saw him." Naturally, this was the bear I dreamed of, the one I wanted. Huddled in a thicket that evening, 220 paces from the two dead bears, I glassed the hillside. Suddenly a herford-bull-size black object loomed before me, partially obscured in the brush.

"It's the black one!" I whispered. Carl and Bob froze at the edge of the meadow as the largest grizzly I've ever seen strode forward, his high black hump swinging in the drenching rain. He stopped, staring right at us. I thought I saw him start to turn for cover. My scope dot was on his head, facing us, hump peeking over it, and his shoulders and chest bulged menacingly around all sides of the reticle.

I'd promised Bob the next shot, but in the excitement and fear of forever losing this trophy, I made the move that did lose him. With a partial rest through tree limbs, the trigger finger impulsively tightened. The rifle cracked. I thought I heard the tell-tale whop of bullet-to-flesh-and-bone impact. The bear either rolled over in the rainy blur of recoil lifting the scope off him, or did a fast about face on his haunches. He raced for cover. A second shot was thwarted when he made a right turn on my trigger squeeze, and the sights faced only the swampy meadow. Bob Pipkin, seeing the huge brute closing his escape gap, fired hastily, as Schwartzen-

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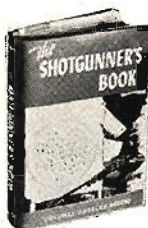
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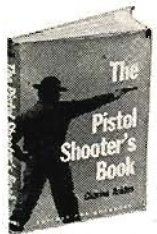
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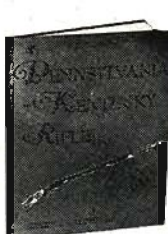
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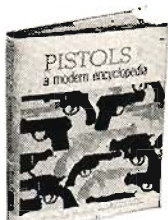
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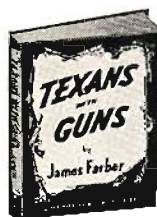
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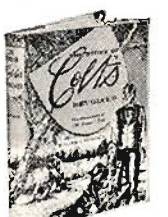
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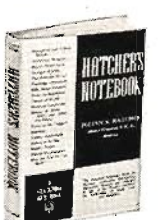
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hauer yelled "Don't let him get into the brush!"

We found where Bob's 270 bullet blew up in the wet sod, but we could not locate any evidence of my slower, bigger bullet having made contact with the ground. Now, as a greenhorn grizzly hunter I faced the possibility of a trophy-size wounded grizzly bear on the loose, with darkness closing in. Dreary cold rain poured incessantly. The cover was dense, spooky, noisy. My companions rightly shyed away. But I was so certain I had connected and would find him dead within a short distance that I dove into the murky timber and undergrowth alone to hunt him down. This was foolish, and as soon as the shock of my miserable failure wore off a little, I retreated to the meadow and my companions.

Gloom prevailed that night at the cabin and all the next day also as we combed the swampy meadow fringe, to no avail. But gloom was only a part of it. I was suffering also the bitter pangs of remorse and loss of "face." I had broken my shot agreement, missed, or at least lost the trophy. The party was sullenly silent. The old saying that the shoemaker's kids go barefoot hung on my shoulders. I, the professional rifleman-gunsmith who had built fine custom rifles (with waterproof stocks!) for many customers, had come here with a cheap, knock-about stock that wouldn't hold its bedding! Never again would I fail to take the finest of equipment into rough country!

That evening, again, I targeted the .35 Improved Whelen at 220 paces, and it shot 10 inches low. It gave me a sick feeling.

In September, 1960, I again headed for the Valkyr range, this time armed with a .30x.338 (.30 Belted Newton)—the .338 Winchester case necked down to .30 caliber. The 200-grain Nosler partition bullet in front of 70 grains of 4831, chronographed close to 3000 fps in the Douglas 26-inch barrel. The stock was of dense Missouri walnut, waterproofed inside and out. With no exaggerations, we got minute-of-angle groups frequently with initial test loads of 72 grains of 4831 and 180 grain Sierra bullets. These loads chronographed 3135 at 20 feet. When zeroed at 250 yards, point of impact was only 24 inches low at 500.

John C. Hodde of Colville, Wash., accompanied me unarmed, to assist in the sometimes dangerous task of photographing live grizzlies. Two hours after reaching the summit cabin, we struck out afoot to view the canyon where I had killed my first grizzly. "This is one smart bear," Carl told us. "He feeds at night. We never did see him." Carl was unarmed, and John carried the Exakta 66 with its 400 mm telephoto lens. I took a Zeiss Super Ikonta 2 1/4x2 1/4 camera, plus the .30 Belted Newton I'd built to avenge the black silvery-maned grizzly. The sun was already behind the Graded Trail ridge, and

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photography opportunities ebbed rapidly as we listened to Guide Schwarzenhauer describe the only time he was ever charged by one of the big-humped bears.

L. Ingram of Orchard Springs, Missouri, and his companion had killed a 9-footer, one of the larger Valkyr grizzlies. Though fatally shoulder and chest-shot three times, he raised up to stare at the hunters for several minutes before expiring. During the same hunt a second grizzly was paunch-shot, a front leg broken, and flesh-wounded in the neck. In Carl's attempt to prevent him from getting into dense cover, the escaping bear uttered a spine-tingling roar and charged. A broadside shot by one of his clients failed, but the guide dropped him with a .30-30 bullet in the forehead when only a few yards separated them.

As we neared the canyon, he halted us with outspread arms. He'd seen a grey grizzly take several strides and then fade into cover on the hillside. Minutes passed; then, swift and silent, the bear crossed another small opening.

When he re-appeared briefly, head-on, he was sniffling, listening. Then he disappeared. Nearly 15 minutes later, he strode defiantly into the open: but he stopped time and again to appraise the situation: I risked one exposure with my camera. His head snapped forward and up when he heard the shutter click, and I feared we'd spooked him. He stared suspiciously in our direction for several minutes, then finally moved up to the bait.

John Hodde went to work with the telephoto camera. Eight shutter releases and cocking noises broke the dead silence. He heard all of them, but seemed unable to evaluate them. His keen sense of smell was useless, as the breeze was blowing gently in our faces.

We discussed his size in whispers, and Carl assured me that he was considerably larger than my first one. So I settled the crosshairs of my 6X Bear Cub scope on his right shoulder, well under the hump and squeezed the trigger. There was a terrific "whop" as the bullet struck. He lunged, rolled off his feet and onto his side. He raised his head and shoulders only once. He was down, out, and dead.

Next morning when the skinning job got underway, we found internal destruction was even more than I'd expected. The 200-grain Nosler bullet had angled back and down, emerging from the rear ribs on his left side to leave a golf-ball-size opening. The shoulders were unhinged, and both lungs badly damaged.

But I frequently think back, still with remorse, to that harrowing experience with the huge black silvery-maned grizzly. I guess only the gods of the Valkyr peaks know whether he is alive—or lost forever.

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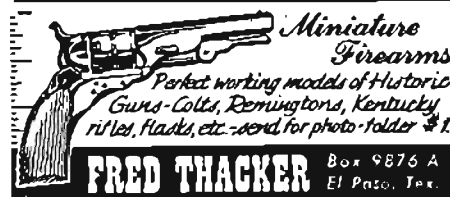
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**FRED THACKER**

Box 9876 A  
El Paso, Tex.

## LET THE BUYER BEWARE

(Continued from page 19)

1852. And I'd like to hear you explain how he owned a gun that wasn't made until ten years after he died."

My anger soon evaporated in my concern for the future customer who would buy the gun in good faith. I have no doubt that he came along. There can be only one reason why a professional antique dealer, who is bound to know a smattering about old guns, would resort to attempted fraud: he knows from experience that the odds are in his favor and that he will make a sale.

Where is a good place to start collecting? Unfortunately, very few people who know nothing at all about guns sit down and make an attempt to study the field. The urge to collect has been building up for some time, and the cash burns a hole into the novice collector's pocket. The odds are tremendously against your finding a bargain in your first feverish lurch into the gun market, so why hurry? Before you spend your paycheck on doubtful bargains, go to a bookstore and buy (or order) *The Gun Collector's Handbook of Values*, by Charles E. Chapel; *Smith and Wesson Revolvers*, by John E. Parsons; *Colt Firearms*, by James E. Serven; *From Flintlock to M1*, by Joseph W. Shields Jr.; *Confederate Arms*, by William A. Albaugh III and Edward N. Simmons; *The Kentucky Rifle*, by John G. W. Dillin; or *The Peacemaker and Its Rivals*, also by Parsons. In such books as these lies priceless knowledge.

I don't suggest that the budding collector—at least the average one—must study himself into expert status before buying his first

gun. I do suggest that the more he knows, the less his chances are of being fleeced when the moment of truth finally arrives and he stands, checkbook in hand, before a gun vendor. And as he reads, if he is really smart, he will further increase his knowledge by visiting well-stocked museums. Also, he will talk with informed, advanced collectors, men of good will who like to talk about their hobby and whose advice can ward off expensive mistakes. Even without a gun to his name, the neophyte collector probably will be welcomed into his area's arms collecting association, assuming his interest is sincere and his reputation good.

If he follows this pattern of preparation, it is likely that he will find himself gravitating toward guns of a specific type or historical period. Most collectors end up as specialists anyway, and choosing one's proper metier at the start is, while admittedly rare, a way to avoid expensive misdirection of effort. True, some experts advise new collectors to gather an initial small collection of inexpensive pieces covering the widest possible range, and later choose the specialty which, for him, will be most satisfying. But the system is rather ponderous and, at worst, can leave the fledgling with a load of rejected scrap iron that may have been easy to acquire but is hard to dispose of.

The best place for the beginner to learn, and the best place to start actually purchasing collectors' guns, is the gun show. Here supply and demand reach their pinnacle of refinement. There are plenty of guns, and

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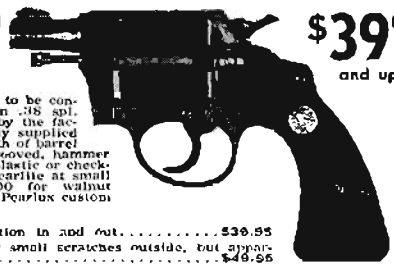
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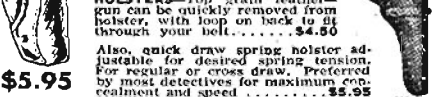
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Grade 1. Original pre-war showing very little wear—some have slight blue wear at muzzle. Bore good. All are mechanically fine shooters. Grips plain wood or checkered plastic. . . \$29.95  
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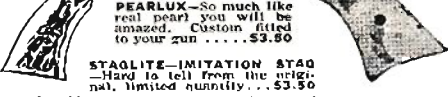
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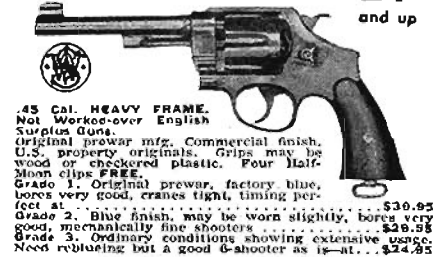


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there's plenty of action. And plenty of danger. The usual big show may include the very best and the very worst of gun collecting. Here will be a bewildering variety of guns for sale amid reasonably competitive conditions. There is an atmosphere of boisterous good fellowship. There are dealers and collectors who are fiercely honest. But there may be also a number of rugged individuals who have checked their ethics, not their guns, at the door.

Of course, there are wide differences of opinion as to what constitutes ethics in gun dealing. To some, the only rule is the ancient one—"Caveat emptor—Let the buyer (or seller) beware." Certainly it is a universal human trait, in all commercial dealing, to want to buy low and sell high. But I say it's wrong to buy low as the result of deceiving an unknowing or naive seller as to his gun's true worth, and it's wrong to sell high when you know the buyer wouldn't be paying such a price if he knew what he was doing. It's as simple as that.

I don't know where and how most collectors' guns are bought, but it is generally held that more guns are sold via the mails than in any other way. It's a good system, and probably every serious collector will use it sooner or later to get guns he can't locate in person. Many dealers put out regular catalogs or listings; some merely advertise "write us your wants." It would be well for the beginning collector to seek expert counsel before ordering a particular gun, and then have the gun passed on by the expert before any final decision is made.

A source sometimes of disappointment, sometimes of happy surprise, in mail ordering is that a gun's condition will be different

from expectation based on a catalog description. Condition is hard to pin down even under a uniform code of classifications. One man's "golden patina of age" may be another man's rust deposit. That's why many dealers describe their weapons in detail and don't rely on "excellent," "fine," and so on. There have been numerous efforts to establish a meaningful and universal code of condition standards, and probably the best of them is that of the National Rifle Association.

The point is that in the critical matter of condition as well as other phases of the hobby, successful gun collecting is a matter of great subtlety. The collector must be alert and knowledgeable to avoid costly mistakes. The day is long past when an aggressive new collector can comb the backwoods and junk shops and, through astute trading, build a valuable collection from practically nothing.

The newcomer must learn about the knotty problem of fakes, both total and partial. Despite the sound and fury on this subject, its extent may be exaggerated. The stigma attached to deliberately counterfeiting a valuable model is so great that this alone should keep it to a minimum, if only because the odds favoring discovery are too great. Even the sharpest and closest gun traders agree that the deliberate fake, the production of a ringer is beyond the pale. But there are lesser degrees of faking, ranging all the way down to such frequent practices as not calling an inexperienced buyer's attention to that not-original cylinder, loading lever, or what have you.

Gun collecting has its share of sacred cows and one of the most stoutly defended is the commandment, "Thou shall not refinish." It's probably a good rule, and I admit to follow-

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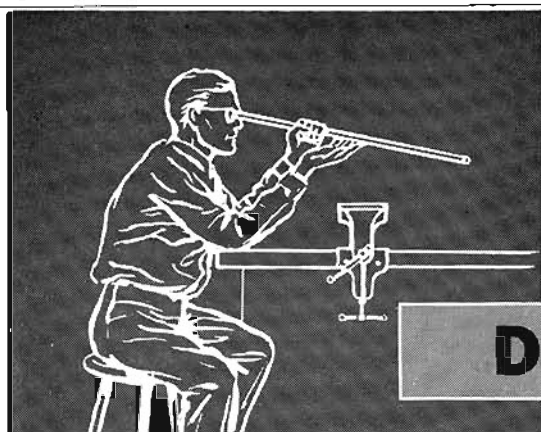
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ing it myself, perhaps slavishly. But if you were fortunate enough to find a 1760 Philadelphia highboy in an abandoned chicken house, would you merely give it a light cleaning and bring it into your living room? Of course not. You would have it properly refinished. Priceless oil paintings are retouched heavily in restorative processes. They even paint the buildings at Colonial Williamsburg. And yet most collectors crouch like old hens when somebody refinishes a small-pox-afflicted Colt Army.

But for the beginner, the best advice is to learn the rules before breaking them, and the rule—probably graven on stone somewhere—is *don't refinish*. Wait until you learn the consequences and then, if you still want to, reblue those old guns and go happily onward. After all, they're yours.

There is no valid way to advise a new collector on what field he should enter; he will, as his knowledge increases, choose for himself the way that's right for him. He should know that American percussion revolvers are highly popular and come very dear, and will so continue. This means that they represent a good investment, easily converted to cash.

This is true to lesser degrees of good Kentucky rifles and other American guns. If he is looking for guns that will be more satisfying as an art form, he should concentrate on earlier weapons by the superb gunsmiths of France, Italy, and yes, even Spain. But these guns are often hard to dispose of, and their value—while rising—remains more constant than American arms.

Yet who can tell what will happen in the devious labyrinth of gun economics? What are today's "sleepers" that will, like the lowly pepperbox, blossom in a few years from the category of laughable junk to coveted collectors' items?

Nobody knows, and the only way to even guess is to learn today's values and—play your hunch. Attend the gun shows, join the clubs, subscribe to the periodic catalogs and lists advertised in this and other gun magazines. Start buying your guns, but keep a healthy skepticism and don't let excitement carry you away.

And always remember to follow one guide that may not make you a fast deal or a fortune, but will make a lot of friends.

It's known as the Golden Rule.



## HANDLOADING BENCH

(Continued from page 12)

22 REM JET. At 45,400 psi pressure, it's 8,600 psi over factory ammo, at 45 fps higher velocity. As with any full maximum charge, I suggest a grain or two less power. You lose very little velocity, with reduced muzzle blast and flash, and your gun will appreciate your kindness.

The idiot way to gain velocity with "Maximum" loads is to add more powder. An ignoramus feels he has made a glorious discovery, if primers don't blow. Actually, a load is too hot long before it reaches the primer-popping stage. Adding powder greatly increases pressure, while velocity remains static, increases very little. Rifles seldom blow primers when they pass proof at 70,000 psi, to insure an adequate margin of safety in the 50,000 psi range. Some wildcats have suggested max loads near the pressure of proof loads, and their paper ballistics are higher than chronograph ballistics. I never abuse guns with excessive loads, except in laboratory tests for your benefit.

The excellent shotshell loaders, C-H, MEC, D-L, Texan, and others, have started many beginners in reloading. The tools are perfectly safe. It's impossible to goof if you follow simple directions, and use the right charge bar or bushing with the right powder. Some beginners who have read about "Dead Ducks at 100 Yards" have blown up guns by adding more fast powder than in listed loads.

Loads are well standardized. None are critical. If you attempt to gain velocity the pattern suffers. No handloader or factory can assemble adequate loads for ducks at 100 yards. Unlike some factory metallic cartridges, you can't improve shotshell ballistics by adding more of a given type of powder. Don't attempt it.

Winchester's .256 Magnum cartridge was developed in 1960. Ruger, Colt and S & W tested it in experimental revolvers. Technical troubles developed, mostly hard extraction. C-H Die Co. made me the first set of reloading dies from shells I supplied before Winchester's premature news release came out

in April, 1961. Gun writers praised the cartridge without testing it, firing it, or even seeing it. Remington beat Winchester to the draw by first hitting the market with the hard hitting Jet. The first Jets also gave technical trouble. Hard extraction was promptly corrected, and the hard bullet revised for faster expansion.

Most writers said the .256 was a dead duck. Read my comments in "Ammunition Notes" of my newest revision of "The Book Of Pistols And Revolvers." (This 5th Edition by The Stackpole Co., Harrisburg, Pa., is still \$10, same as the original 1946 edition. It's one of the few items that has not increased in price in 16 years, yet is larger, and better than ever, and is up-to-date for 1962.)

"There is no doubt the great firm of Winchester can correct the trouble, perhaps with a different case design, an adjustment in the powder charge, or with different powders." Additional details are under headings of firms who made experimental guns, and on pages 731 and 732. Walter Smith, author of the original text, knew more about more small arms, I believe, than any man of his time. Walter authored several other Stackpole books that remain classics in their field, and will for all time.

My confidence in Winchester was justified, as always. Marlin's new M62 rifle will be popular, and fill a void in the field. Also chambered for the .22 Remington Jet, it will be a dandy "companion" gun for owners of handguns in both calibers. The .256 pistol, another Ruger "first," is sure to be a hit in sales and on targets. Gunsmiths will convert it to other calibers, unless Bill Ruger beats 'em to the draw, which he can. We have long needed a pistol of this type in popular calibers. It will be ideal to test ammo with a scope sight, as well as other sporting uses. I've contacted leading custom bullet makers about a pill especially for the .256. When one is available, this column will have loading data immediately.



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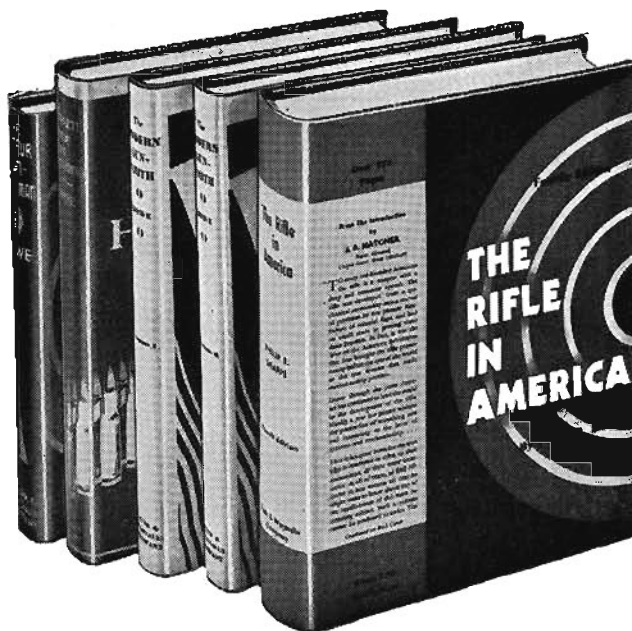
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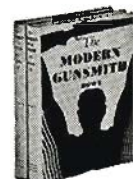
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Don't Overlook Page 66!

## LEARN FROM YOUR HITS

(Continued from page 23)

I have related this in some detail, not just to pass on a specific bit of information but to illustrate a side of shooting seldom considered by hunters. When one makes a good clean kill, that's that, and usually no further thought is given it. But you *should* think a lot about it. Why was that particular shot so successful? Find out why, and the information thus gained can be used over and over.

Some months ago, I wrote in GUNS about "Learning from Your Misses." It is also important to *learn from your hits*. A good clean hit, which means an almost instant kill, is what we all strive for and like best to brag about. But it would be better if we bragged less and studied more to find out why was *this* shot so instantly fatal whereas others, nearly identical, were less effective. You can find this out only by meticulous re-enactment of the scene, and by careful research on the effect of the bullet on the animal.

This does not apply only to the "bragging" shots. Hunting whitetail deer in dense thornbrush and cactus down near the Mexican border presents certain problems. Several techniques are used: One is to get into the bottom of one of the dry washes and follow it. Many a buck will be in such places, but these wash bottoms are also exasperatingly thick, and the chances are that, when you do find a buck, it will be running. It will burst out of a thicket, bound over the cactus, and crash through the thornbrush at full speed.

This means you will seldom see a whole deer, and that you will have to take snap shots. Some brush-country hunters get very good at it. But even the really accomplished "jump shooters" in this terrain admit that they have wounded and lost a lot of deer.

Nevertheless, I tried it. And I got my shot. Two big bucks burst out of the brush within a few yards of me. I made my snap shot, and I heard the solid hit. The reason it was so solid—I was to find out later—was that the bullet hit the big hip bone on the right side. Damage was awesome. But the deer went over the ridge as if not even touched. There was a great deal of blood, and I followed immediately. Presently, I jumped the deer again.

In the brush country, unless you have a good dog to trail wounded deer, if one quits bleeding, the deer is lost. Knowing this, I tried desperately to get this one into my scope and put it down for keeps. My target was straight at the rear end, but I felt I had to take the opportunity regardless. At around 75 yards, I touched off just as the deer broke into a dense thicket. Again I heard the slam of the bullet. I heard the deer go down. But by now its adrenalin was up and it would go until it was stone dead.

This it did. I found it a quarter mile farther on, and I do not care to describe the disgraceful damage I had done. One friend tried to console me by saying that it could happen to anybody, and often did. But the fallacy here was that there is no need for it to happen at all. The impossibility of proper bullet placement under these brush-country conditions when one uses this method makes the chance of repeating just what I had done very high, and I have sworn never to jump-

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shoot another deer in the brush country.

This, also, is a case of learning from a hit. The bad hits you make are as important to analyze, can teach you just as much, as can the ones that put your game down for keeps. Some of the poor hits will be your own fault: the fault of your hunting or shooting technique, or the result of excitement you failed to control. Some may be directly attributable to your equipment. I have seen hunters make poor shot after poor shot and never once check to see if their sights have been jimmied!

Failures may come from the failure of an individual gun to shoot well with a particular load. I tried in vain to make a 110-grain load shoot reasonable groups in a certain .308 rifle. The 150 shot very well; so did the 180. Maybe the cartridge was at fault; maybe it was the rifle; maybe I was flinching—maybe lots of other things. The reasonable thing is to find out these things, and either correct them or switch loads to one that does best.

My point is, all of these reasons for bad hits are things you can do something about, if you are willing (and have sense enough!) to let them teach you something. If every shooter took every hit seriously and did his best to make a thorough study of its effect, or lack of it, he would soon come up with information which would, with proper interpretation, give him an ever better chance for a higher percentage of clean kills. There are fluke shots, of course, where the reason for sudden lethal effect is puzzling. But these are the exception. In almost all cases, logic, added to even a brief examination of bullet damage, or lack of it, in relation to place-

ment, will show the reason for decisive results.

So far, I have spoken only of rifle shooting; but this study-your-hits theory applies just as pointedly to shotgunning. The whole matter of lead, regardless of angle of bird flight, is based upon a picture that registers upon the shooter's eye and that is transformed into action by a chain of reflexes set off by the brain. If you can recall the first time you ever shot at a bird in flight, chances are you missed and didn't know exactly why. Or if you were lucky enough to hit, you didn't know why either. Then on the next shot and the next, you slowly built up a kind of timing. This trigger pull timing was directly, although probably unconsciously, related to the fact that you had learned from your hits without even thinking about it.

Probably most of us are inconsistent performers with a shotgun at times, for a great variety of reasons. But most of us could learn, by paying close attention to the details of a hit, exactly why the hit was made. Once you know the several parts that were added together to make it jell, in theory at least you should be able to make that particular shot again and again. This is why skeet shooting does so much for lead, swing, and timing on specific types of shots—and also why some excellent skeet men fall down miserably in the field. They have learned too well given sets of circumstances, and have difficulty adjusting to the unpredictable.

Last fall, I was shooting doves in a place where they came in very high and fast, in full flight. The shots I was getting were straight incomers, or a bit from the left and incoming. Boy, were they traveling! And I

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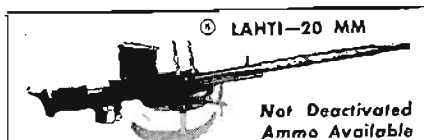
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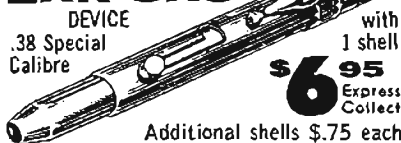
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kept missing. But once I made a hit, I had at least part of the answer. The next bird I shot at was one I waited for, one that followed a flight path almost identical to the one I had downed. This one was a hit, too; not as solid a hit as the first, but it brought the bird down.

After that, instead of accepting any other types of shots, I waited for birds to duplicate the flight pattern of the two hits. I soon found that I had these dead to rights.

I went back to the same spot the next day, waited out this same type of shot, and did all right. What I had accomplished, you see, was to practice one lesson over and over until I had it perfectly in mind. Once I had learned that lesson, I could and did apply it to birds following other flight paths. It worked. My score climbed back to a respectable level. I had discovered why I was missing—and, when I hit, why.

There are so many angles to this area of shooting lore that all can hardly be covered here. Nor is it necessary. Any gunner can figure out what can be learned from any given hit situation. If he puts his mind to it, he can improve his shooting, can turn bad hits into good ones.

In rifle shooting, this single-pellet weapon requires a steady hold. And yet, time after time, you will see a rifleman wham off a shot at his game when no hurry is needed, and when offhand shooting is not necessary. No rifleman ever shot as well without a rest as with one. Once you have looked at a deer or elk or antelope standing at a distance, have taken whatever rest was available, observed how steady your barrel and your sighting, and seen the animal go down, then it should not be necessary ever to have to learn the rest lesson again. Yet I hunt every fall with shooters who know this and still never even look around to see if a rest is available. They have not learned from their hits.

Whether you shoot a shotgun or a rifle, you soon learn, or should, that certain shot

situations seem to suit you best. This is often a matter of individual differences and the reasons could be pinned down, I presume, by a good psychologist. On the other hand, it may be a physical quirk, or handicap. While it is a fine idea to concentrate on situations that you find difficult, and try to improve in those areas, it is also a wise shooter who, like a boxer, knows his best punch and sticks with it. He knows exactly the reason he makes his hits from certain angles or at certain distances, and because he knows how to do this, he tries his best to bring about these situations in the field. That is the difference between a canny shooter and the poor hunter.

Likewise, in bullet placement (which applies to shotgun shooting as well as to the rifleman), you persistently pile up and examine the facts of each shot or shooting session. On a long-necked bird like a goose or duck, you learn how to lead so you are sure of the dense head shot. That one does it most efficiently and easily. With your rifle, you learn the nature of the particular cartridge and caliber you are using, you decide from good clean instant kills what ranges and animal positions seem best for this particular combination—and keep it in mind that "combination" also includes you.

After a number of kills you cannot but conclude that a certain precise placement best fits your particular skill, or that a certain target area is better than another under given conditions. From there on, having learned from good hits, you stick with what you've learned. You contrive to bring about situations that will be best suited to your accrued learning.

It is no disgrace to hold your fire and wait it out; it may be extremely advantageous. The man who is constantly learning from his hits as well as his misses, and is constantly mulling all this over and correlating it, is very likely to be head man when it is time to put the meat into the camp skillet!

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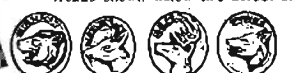
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## GUN RACK

(Continued from page 8)

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In extensive test firing, there were no mechanical failures or misfires, but the trigger does have a very distinctive two stage pull that requires steady holding. There is a considerable spread between the point of bullet impact from the upper and lower barrel. The worst group and spread was fired with Winchester-Western .22 Short ammo, a cartridge that is not noted for its target performance. Spread from lower and upper barrel averaged five inches. Using Sako .22 Long Rifle ammo that we know to be highly accurate, spread from the barrels averaged 3.19 inches, while Monark .22 I.R. ammo, delivered a spread of 3.29 inches.

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Target grade guns are made by Hi-Standard, and this little pistol does not belong in this class of course. It is made for fun shooting, and here we can only find praise for the derringer. A friend of ours, a police officer often doing under-cover work, is ordering this model as hide-out gun. He considers it a serviceable utility gun, worthy of confidence even if he should have to stake his life on it. Can you think of a better recommendation?

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	100	200	300	400	500	100	200	300	400	500
Round Nose	+3.1	0	-12.5	-35	-69	1.4	7.1	17.3	32	49
Straight Spire Point	+2.3	0	-9.9	-28	-53	0.7	3.7	9.5	17	26
Secant Ogive Spire Point	+2.1	0	-8.7	-25	-49	0.6	3.2	8.0	13	20

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## GUN TRICKS

(Continued from page 28)

is quite simple: the first (trigger) finger is hooked into the trigger guard and the gun is presented butt forward but upside-down. The spin is started by pivoting the gun-butt upward around the axis of the finger so that the butt comes around and back into the palm. With the trigger held back, the hammer is thumb-cocked and permitted to slip forward, firing the shot. It can be done very fast; and there are as many different methods as there are stories—or story tellers.

The spin could just as well have been called the "Hardin spin." In an alleged meeting (this story is at least as controversial as the Curly Bill one) between John Wesley Hardin and Wild Bill Hickok, Hardin is supposed to have worked a spin against Hickok in 1871 at Abilene, Kansas. But Hardin did not fire. Had he done so, Jack McCall might never have achieved his niche in history!

The "Border Shift" is another bit of legerdemain which earned notoriety in Ft. Worth, Texas, in 1887. Jim Courtwright and Luke Short were gunning for each other. Courtwright was Marshal of Ft. Worth, and Luke Short was a gambler and saloon keeper. Also Luke was a personal friend of such famous men as Wyatt Earp, Bat Masterson, and Doc Holliday, to name a few. The feud between Courtwright and Short came to shooting very quickly on the evening of February 8, 1887. Luke Short got his shot off first, and tore off Courtwright's thumb. Desperately, Courtwright tried to perform the juggling act called the "Border Shift," which consists of tossing the gun from one hand to the other. But before the shift

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could be executed Luke Short, supposedly with his Colt .41 caliber "Lightning," pumped three more slugs into the Marshal.

An interesting side-light to this shoot-out was the Colt "Lightning" with the "Birds-head" grip that Luke Short used. It became the most discussed of all gun models for quite a spell among the gunfighting fraternity. How widely it was actually used is a matter of widely varying opinion.

The "Border Shift" has been much practiced, with several variations, using one and two guns. The simple "Border Shift" is nothing more than tossing the gun from one hand to the other in a level position. With two guns, it has been shown as a regular juggling act, tossing the guns in the air and spinning them at the same time.

It was a common practice of the old gunslinger to work over his pistol to give the "edge" in getting that first shot off. Almost invariably, the gun would be the Colt Single Action Army revolver, sometimes known as the Frontier model. The design gave the gun perfect balance, easy to draw and handle. Its large hammer made for easy cocking, the grip would fit just about any hand, and the small trigger guard made for easy spinning. Among the numerous alterations committed by the gunman to this weapon were—filing off part of the trigger guard, removing the trigger or tying it back, replacing the standard hammer with a Bisley Colt hammer for better thumb traction. They weakened the hammer spring, and they removed the front sight "to keep it from snagging in the holster."

One unique idea for carrying a gun without a holster was used by the famous Texas Ranger, Jim Gillett. A metal plate that was

slotted and riveted to a belt, and the hammer screw of the Colt Single Action was replaced with a large-headed screw that fitted into the T slot in the plate. The pistol was pushed back until the large headed screw would fall into a slight depression at the rear of the slot. The gun would hang there and swing easily. To shoot the gun, it could be removed from the slot or simply pivoted and fired.

John Wesley Hardin, the "preacher's boy" from Texas, designed what he called a "holster vest," later called the "Hardin vest." It was a skeleton-type vest, made from calfskin, and it had two holster pockets slanting toward the front. The guns were carried with the butts forward for a cross draw. But this holster vest never gained any popularity with the gunslingers.

Another type of trick holster that never reached any degree of popularity was the swivel type. The holster was attached to the belt by means of a leather tap and a swiveling rivet. All the gunman had to do was to push the pistol butt down and bring up the barrel and fire through an opening at the bottom of the holster. Like the slot-and-stud naked-gun carry of Jim Gillett, this pivoted holster limited the area of fire, preventing a shot much to the left or right.

Gunsmen were an ingenious lot. Ben Thompson, another Texan, according to tradition, invented the shoulder holster which could be worn under the coat and conceal the weapon. This style holster is still popular today, and many variations and improvements have been made to suit the individual taste.

Dallas Stoudenmire, a two-gun marshal of El Paso, Texas, simplified the carrying of two guns by having leather-lined hip pockets

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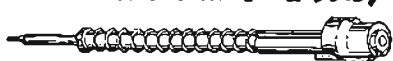
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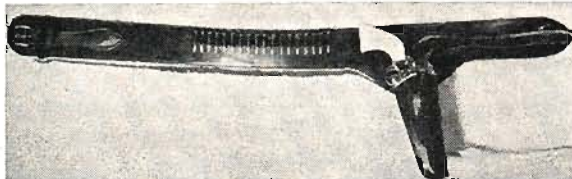
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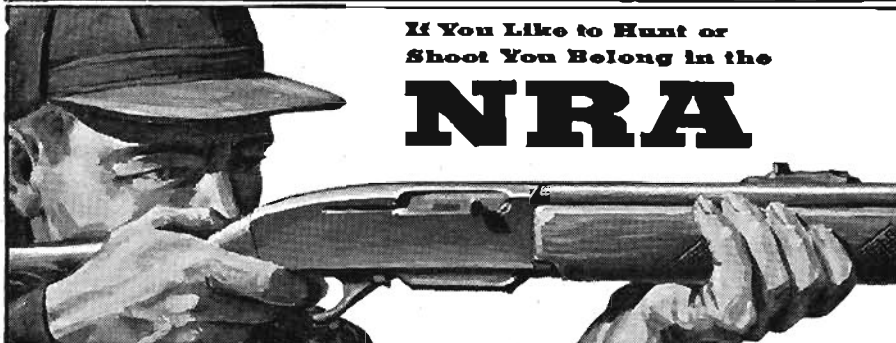
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tailored into his pants. The story goes that he could produce his six-shooters from these pockets with lightning speed.

The "gamblers special," the hide-away or hold-out gun as it was sometimes called, was the small single or double derringer. Some fairly well-known characters admitted that they never felt fully dressed without a hide-out gun or two. Ladies of pleasure were apt to have a derringer tucked away somewhere, for emergencies. Remington's double barrel, over-and-under, caliber .41 rimfire was perhaps the most frequently used as a hold-out gun. In one instance, a peace officer in Arizona is credited with carrying eleven small but lethal derringers concealed on his person, and one knife! This walking arsenal had his weapons so distributed that, to the ordinary observer, he appeared unarmed.

The other extreme in choice of weapons carried by gunmen, good or bad, was the sawed-off double-barrelled shotgun. To list the celebrated gunmen who used the shotgun in their profession would read like a "Who's Who" in Western history. The roll call could be answered by such men as Doc Holliday, Wyatt Earp, Wild Bill Hickok, Pat Garrett, and Jesse James, to name a few. Shotguns were in the arsenals of such organizations as Wells Fargo, Adams Express, the Pinkertons, and the Rangers. The standard shotgun a double-barrel, sawed off to 18 or 20 inches, 10 gauge, loaded with #00 shot. No gunmen's arsenal was complete without one.

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The West also had its share of sneaky gunmen. This was the type of gunmen who was unable to outdraw, outshoot, or out-bluff his opponent and so waited his chance to shoot his opponent in the back or ambush him. He wasn't fussy. Some of our most celebrated Westerners met their demise in this fashion. Wild Bill Hickok was shot in the back by Jack McCall in Deadwood, South Dakota; Billy the Kid was shot and killed in a dark room in New Mexico; Pat Garrett, the man who was given credit for shooting Billy the Kid, was ambushed in 1908 while carrying a shotgun in his buggy; and Bob Ford, the never-to-be-forgotten "dirty little coward who shot Mr. Howard," used less-than-heroic tactics when he killed Jesse James at St. Joseph, Missouri. No matter what side of the law you were on in those days, it was good life insurance to watch over your shoulder. You never knew when some sneaky gunmen might try to enhance his reputation or fatten his pocket book with reward money.

Today, thanks to the exposure of Western television shows, the popularity of the sport of fast draw, and the fancy gun exhibitions by such men as Dee Woolem, Rod Redwing, Arvo Ojalla, and The Roving Gunslingers, the public's interest in guns, fast draw, and fancy gun handling is increasing. The art of fast and fancy gun handling is not lost.

To increase their ambidexterity with guns, the fast draw enthusiasts spend many vigorous hours of practicing a sequence of gun evolutions. The variety of gun spins are described by name such as: Forward and backward spin, the interrupted spin; the forward and reverse pin-wheel into the holster; the front pin-wheel, the butterfly spin; the cross draw, twist draw, and the lazy draw; the road agent spin and border shifts; over the shoulder, left and right. These can all be accomplished with one or two guns.

Like the sport of fast draw, these tricks today have nothing whatever to do with combat. They are for fun only—a development of manual skill. It surely goes without saying that you never use a loaded gun for such work, either in practice or in exhibition. And for the sake of the gun, practice over a bed, or on a softly padded floor. You'll drop the gun many times before you master the shots and spins and other wonders—but you'll enjoy it. I've never known a man who didn't.

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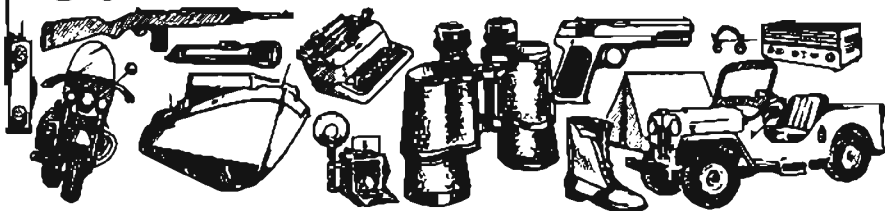
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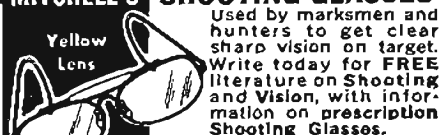
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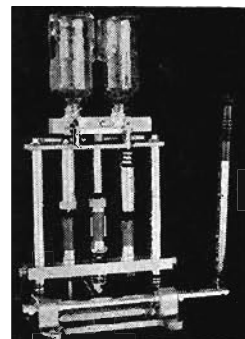
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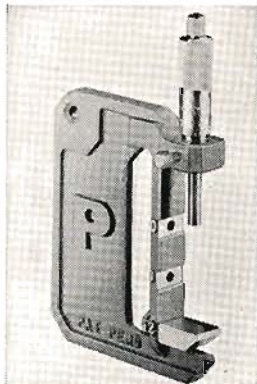
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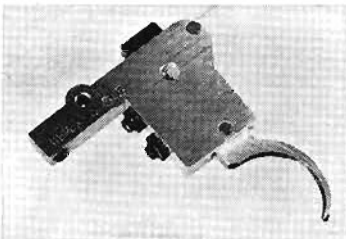
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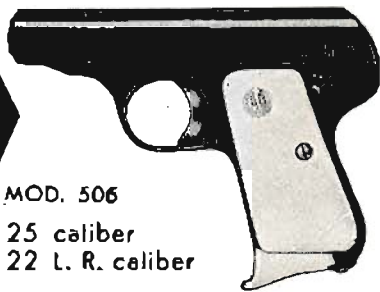
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## WHEN THE SNOWS CAME

(Continued from page 33)

goose flights that are later than they expected.

About the only times geese vary these procedures is when a good moon rises shortly after dusk. Then their evening feeding flights may continue for protracted periods. In some cases, they'll feed in the bright moonlight of early evening, then siesta in the feeding field most of the night, feed a second time at nearly dawn, and only then seek safety in game refuges or large waterways or lakes. Thus nights when a brilliant moon is up are the especial bane of goose hunters everywhere. The geese then taken by hunters—during the daylight hours, of course—are few and far between.

These "secrets" have been known by expert goose hunters for generations. Actually, goose behavior is very similar to the feeding and flight habits of such duck species as regularly fly out to feed in small-grain fields; in short, the puddler or pond species, of which the mallard is the most abundant representative.

Among all the goose varieties, I'd rate the white-fronted as the wariest. Next to them I'd place the great, gray Greater Canadas, whose deep voices truly entitle them to be called "honkers." But this is where outstanding goose wariness ends.

Actually, the expression "silly as a goose" has a tremendous background of fact. Generally speaking they're about as silly and erratic under hunting pressure as it's possible to imagine. They are truly bereft of good sense, and any average duck hunter

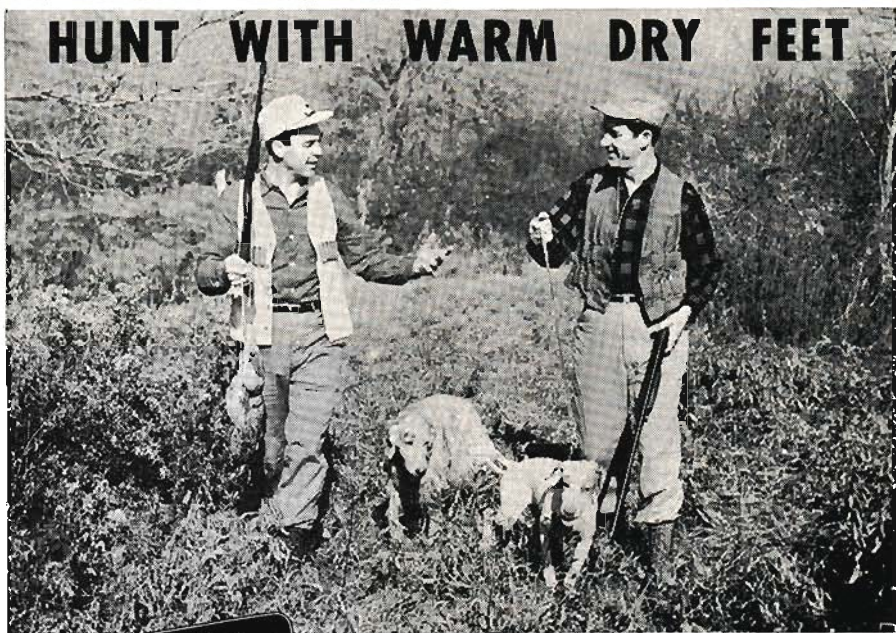
should be able to bag them, using just a modicum of good duck hunting procedures, shooting skill, weapon, and ammunition.

Yet, during the past half-century, there has been a truly remarkable wad of drivel written about goose hunting. Simply because these bigger birds are larger prizes in comparison to other waterfowl, many a hunter who drags home a goose feels that he has achieved a loftier niche among his waterfowl brethren.

Another factor is that many waterfowlers are inadequately armed with the proper sizes of shot at the moments when they have the opportunity of bagging geese. And, finally, all members of the goose clans, even the smallest, have such large wing spans that they often fool even good duck hunters as to when they're actually within reasonable scattergun range. They just can't be shot at, and cleanly killed, at ranges when their wing spans compare with those of mature mallards. This would mean that the wee cacklers were probably 70 yards away, and the great honkers fully 100 as compared to the mallards' nicely-in-range 40 yards.

My boys and I regularly shoot Number 2 shotshells at geese in our trio of 12-gauge Ithaca pumps. Sometimes we use the Short Magnum loads, carrying 1 1/4-ounce loads of shot, but not by preference. Our patterning tests indicate that our three shotguns do much better all-around work with standard game loads of 1 1/4 ounces of 2s, especially when the shells are loaded with copper-coated shot. The pattern improvement, when

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We prefer to decoy, call, or ambush our waterfowl, geese especially, with 50 yards as the maximum range, where we know Number 2s can kill cleanly. We also rigidly adhere to that excellent field rule: "as long as they're coming, let them come!" Thus, when we get geese within 75 yards—a range at which many goose-ignorant hunters start blasting—we know that isn't good for anything but occasional cripples. When they get within 50 yards, we know we can then kill them cleanly. But, if they're still coming, to decoys or calling, we prefer to wait until they're within 30 yards, where even average gun pointing will get the job done.

Our next action came as I turned to speak to John. Out of the corner of my eye, I saw the flick of flight, ripping past behind us. It was a loner that was in and gone before I could roll to my knees. In that murky light, he looked like a bluebill, but a lone bluebill this far away from deep water seemed unlikely. Then, suddenly, he was heading our way again.

I hammered once at the bird, leading it six feet, as it came riding that 35-mile-per-hour wind. I missed—hunted the Ithaca's muzzle out to at least ten feet ahead, and tried again. This time I connected. Wind-assisted flight trajectory carried his fall to within 20 feet of us, raising a gout of water that the wind drove in a horizontal shower right at us.

I ducked my cap brim to protect my eyes, and was instantly ready with the third shot. Bluebills, like cans, redheads, and pintails, often get away by diving if any vestige of

life remains. But this one merely bobbed on the water, then came drifting toward shore.

"Something's coming," warned John, using his binoculars. "A raggedy line, rising and falling, very indistinct against the overcast."

For 15 minutes, we watched that flock without being much the wiser. Then the birds passed across the near side of a distant haystack, giving us an idea of how far away they were, and their size. "They're geese," I said. "Their wavering, up and down and sideways, is too slow for mallards. Ducks would make crisper swings with sharper cuts, and make better time. This wind is making them crawl."

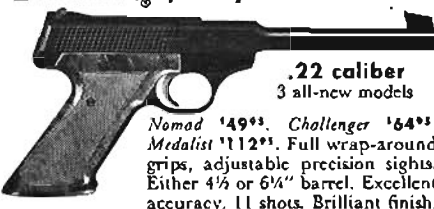
Another 15 minutes turtled by as the flock fought the wind toward us. They were only 200 yards away now, though we still couldn't hear them talking. But they were certainly geese; not the mighty gray honkers but, definitely, one of the Canada-type forms. They wavered from side to side, but their flight path should bring them well within a 40-yard range.

"Cover your faces," I ordered, breaking out the call and sending its cheery invitation to the laboring birds. We regularly wear disgracefully weathered tan gloves on our left hands when hunting waterfowl. By peering between the spread fingers we can keep track of approaching game, yet camouflage our faces from that game. "Let 'em get right in, or even past us. I'll give the word." Then, as an afterthought, I added, "Shuck out your 6s and load with 2s. Take it easy, you've lots of time."

The geese were talking eagerly now, anticipating a deserved rest, as they headed for the decoys. They were within 30 yards when my

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whispered "Take 'em!" sprung our Ithacas into simultaneous action.

I was lucky. I caught two startled geese crossing, and poured my first shot right at their heads. Both fell, instantly dead. Meanwhile, the boys knocked out a single goose with their first shots, then took three more shots to knock out three more birds, one of them a hard-hit and fast-lowering cripple.

The remnants of the flock broke in wild abandon and, with the wind sweeping them away and half-upsetting them with its violence, were 100 yards away in the tick of a few seconds.

"I never saw faster action!" was John's comment as he chambered fresh shells into his and Jerry's guns while the latter brought in a round half-dozen geese.

"That was good scoring," I admitted. "I was afraid you boys would overload, forgetting the birds were barely moving in this wind."

John looked sheepish. "I did, on the first shot," he admitted. "After that, I held on the heads and they came down just fine."

I was digging out the Thermos when John's voice stopped me. "Hold it," he said. "More company on the way!" I turned, catching the fluting "wah-wah, wah-wah" of snow geese riding down from behind us. Both boys twisted with me to meet a flock of perhaps 30 snows, riding that wind at a terrific pace. We had time for only two shots apiece, but four geese rolled out, hitting and bounding to rest nearly 80 yards to leeward of us. The rest of the flock fled, and their flashing white plumage was out of sight in less than 30 seconds. Those birds were really traveling.

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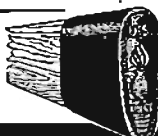
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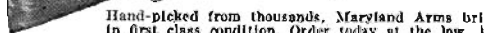


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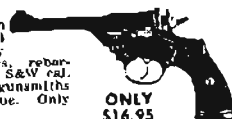
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## TWO NEW GUNS

(Continued from page 18)

or shooting under a roof or indoor range, does produce unpleasant deafening, and hearing protection of some sort is definitely indicated.

Shooting from a solid rest, I was not able to achieve the accuracy claimed by Ruger. Having fired on the Ruger range in Southport and comparing the weather conditions under which I tested the Hawkeye might provide an explanation. Claimed accuracy of five-shot groups at 100 yards is 1¼ inches. My very best group of ten shots, with one called flyer, at 75 yards was 3½ inches. Rapid firing and loading of ten shots heated the barrel until one group measured just slightly under seven inches at 75 yards. Installing either a Bushnell Phantom scope or one of Paul Jaeger's fine Nickel scopes should tighten groups considerably.

The Ruger Hawkeye, with either factory loads or homebrewed loads, should make a dandy small game gun for those of us lucky enough to be able to hunt with a handgun. It is to be anticipated that several new bullets will make their appearance now that Marlin and Ruger have guns that utilize the latest Winchester cartridge.

While the Hawkeye is perhaps limited to varmint and small game hunting because of the single-shot feature, it is conceivable that the gun could be used on somewhat bigger game, especially if you consider how game has been accounted for my lightweight .257 Roberts bullets. You may or may not like a single shot pistol, but after testing the X7

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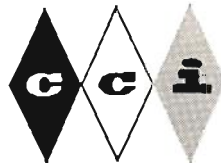
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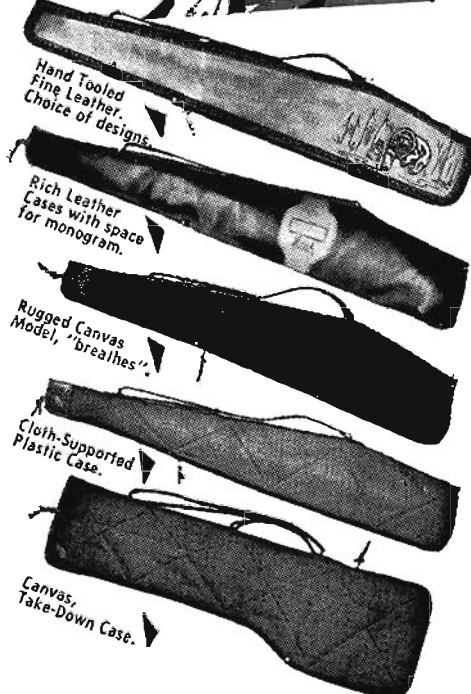
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See Page 42

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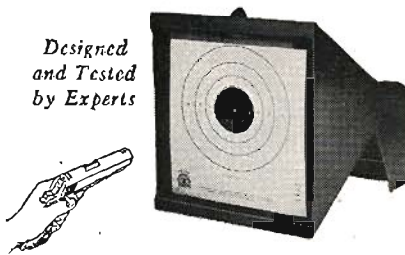
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Ithaca Gun Company who issued this information, suggests an easy way to sight in your gun. At 45 yards, use a 3-inch bullseye target. Set the gun on rests, aimed at 6 o'clock; then adjust the sights so they point directly at the top of the target without moving the gun from its original position. Raise the sights, not the gun.

When test-firing, use the same brand of ammo you'll be using during your hunt. A tin can or an old bucket makes a swell target for slug shooting. Back off 40 yards and fire two rounds. They should be right on the target. Then step back 10 yards and repeat the shooting. Continue doing this until you are unable to place both shots into the target area. This will get you acquainted with your gun, the ammo, and the distances involved. A practice session like this can spell the difference between venison dinner and a story about the one that got away.

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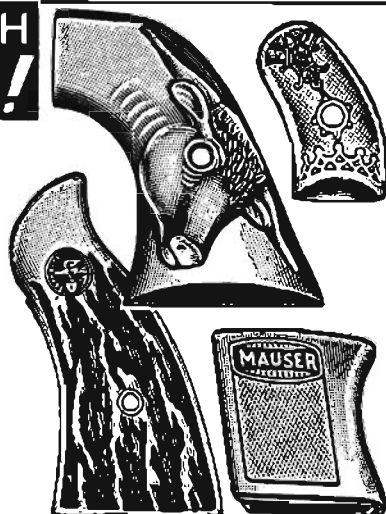
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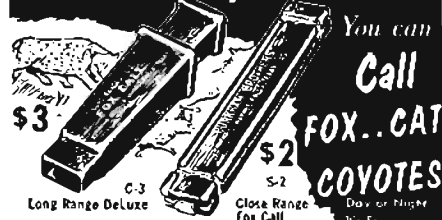
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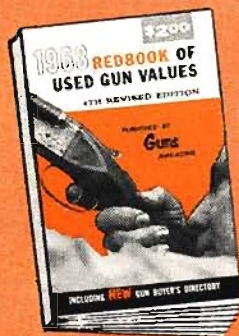
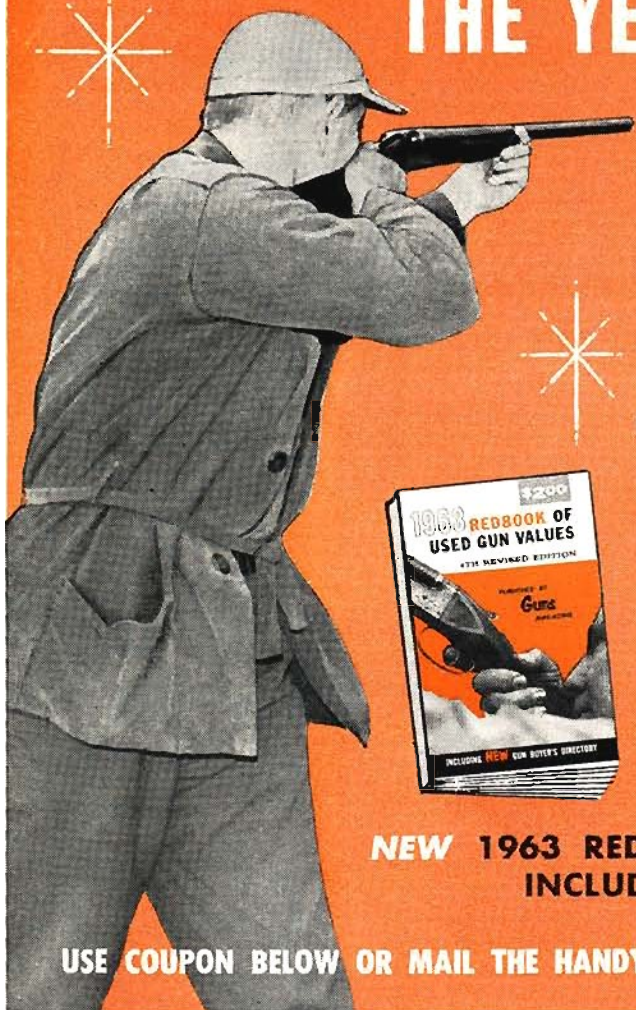
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