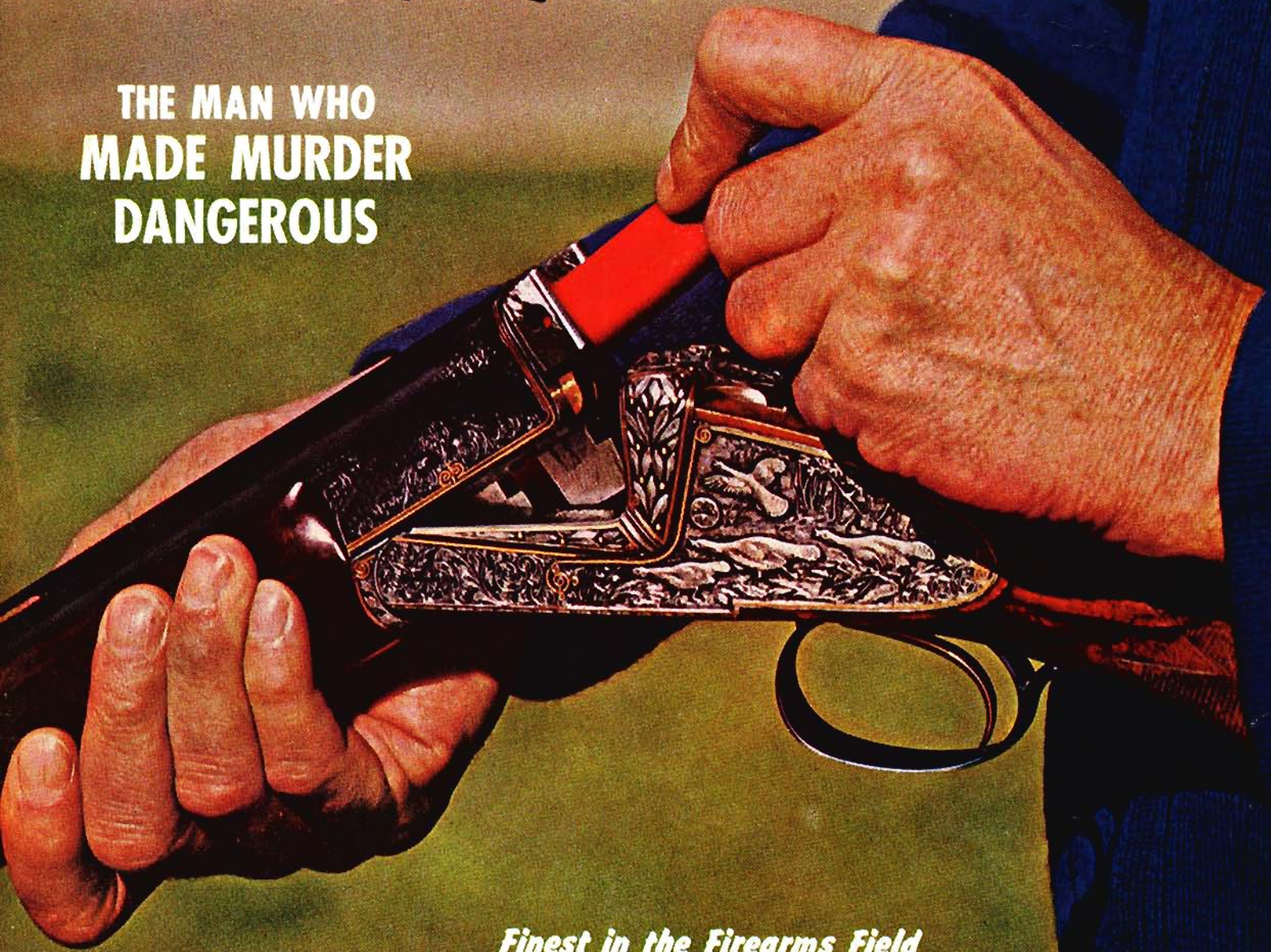


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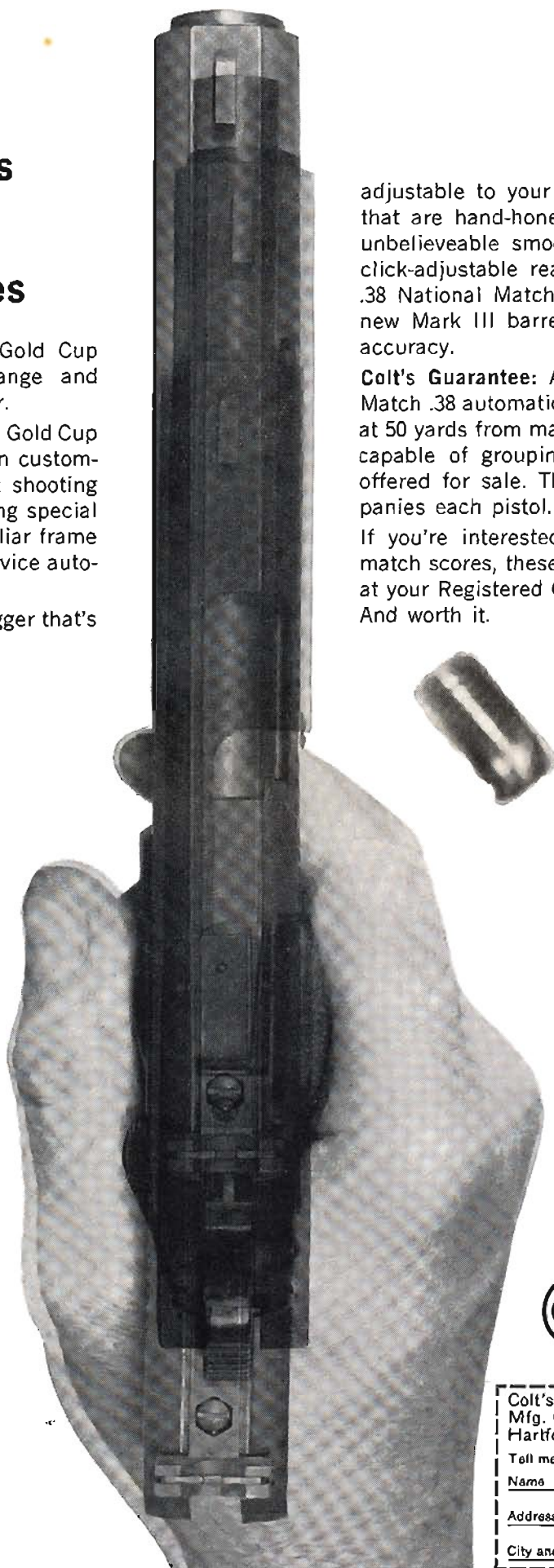
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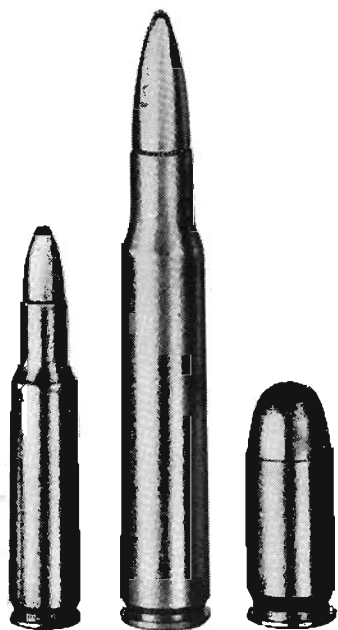
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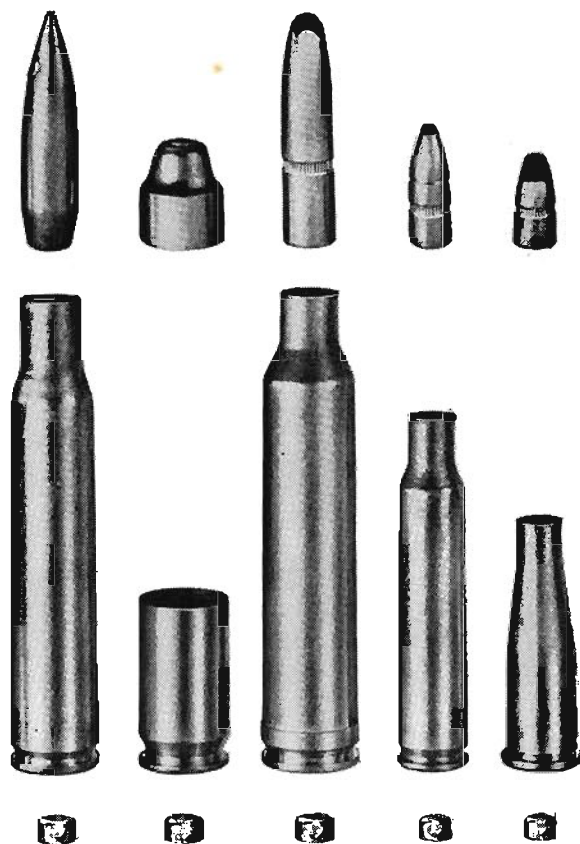
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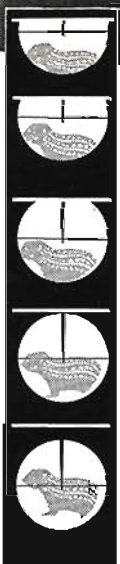
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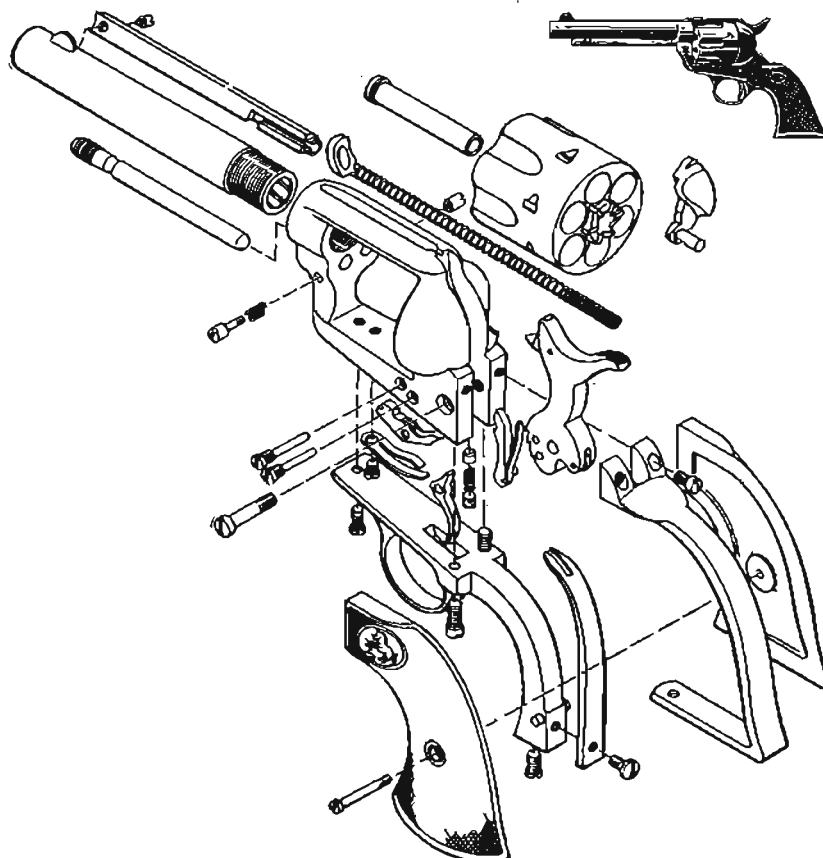
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AN INSIDE LOOK

AT THE COLT SINGLE-ACTION

By SHELLY BRAVERMAN



EXCEPT for the disruption caused by World War II, and a few subsequent years, the magnificent "Single Action Army" or "Peacemaker" has been manufactured since 1873 without basic design change. Minor changes such as the spring base-pin catch have appeared, but the principle of this world-renowned action remains.

An old shop-foreman's work book describes this gun as, "A heavy single action revolver characterized by rod ejection, cylinder turning on a removable base pin, loading gate in the general form of the ball-shaped rear of the frame, and continuing the demountable straps and trigger guard of the preceeding cap and ball models."

Originally issued with hard rubber grips (plain walnut on guns sold to the U. S. Government), hand checked walnut with medallions were available on special order. Original guns under #165,000 are not suited for use with modern loads. About

359,000 were made; 312,000 of the "standard" model, 2,000 of .44 rim-fire, and 45,000 of the "Bisley" model.

The modern version is produced in .22, .22MR, .38 Special, .44 Special, .45, and .357 Magnum.

So great is the appeal of the original guns that even the large quantity produced does not lessen their value as collector's items. Many were engraved (frequently for presentation) and their value increased. The City of Fort Worth presented a superb Single Action to Major Bowes, who in turn, presented it to the New York City Police Department Ballistics Squad.

Most of the components are still available. The fact that parts for a gun, soon to be a century old, are available, is in itself remarkable. The fact that the modern version consists of parts, mainly interchangeable with the original, is a tribute, absolutely unique in the handgun field.

—Copyright "The Firearms Encyclopedia."

Guns

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

MARCH, 1963

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THE COVER

For some of us, the side-by-side is an old friend not to be supplanted by johnny-come latelies—the ultimate in sleek gun elegance. It is not merely by accident that the most ornate guns are doubles; men adorn what they love. Witness this beautiful example in our cover picture taken for us by Carlyle Blackwell at the well-known Aqua Sierra Club, in Chatsworth, California.

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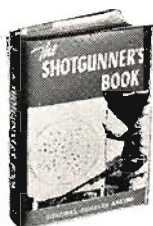
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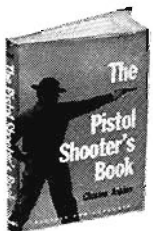
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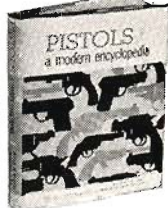
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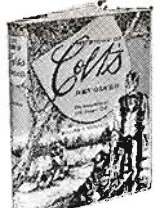
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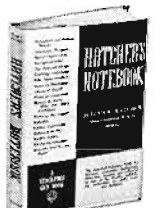
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By J. Howard Mathews

(U. of Wisconsin Press, Madison 6, Wis.,
2 vols., 1962. \$40.00)

A monumental work, easily worth the somewhat startling price placed on it. Parts of the material presented have been under study for over 20 years, the procedures for firearms identification deriving from the author's laboratory. In case you did not know it, Dr. Mathews is one of the pioneers in criminal firearms investigation and has an international reputation among experts. Volume I details the methods of laboratory examinations of small arms, description of rifling in handguns, and exhaustive notes on automatic pistols. Volume II contains almost 3,000 photographs of handguns made in 23 different countries, with detailed yet concise information, and a pictorial presentation of trademarks and other maker's marks found on handguns.

This is one of the most important books to be published on this subject, and is of vital interest to all those who are concerned with firearms identification and forensic ballistics. My only regret is that relatively little space has been devoted to rifles and shotguns, but it is to be hoped that Dr. Mathews will find time to write that book, too, in the not too distant future.—R.A.S.

THE VARMINT AND CROW HUNTER'S BIBLE

By Bert Popowski

(Doubleday & Co., New York, N. Y.,
1962. \$1.95.)

This book is part of an extended series that covers camping, upland game hunting, and various types of fishing, and similar topics by various writers.

Bert Popowski has done a fine job in this book. Drawing on many years of first-hand experience, Bert touches upon all the common and some uncommon breeds of varmints, and even ventures into the intricate field of bounties. The author's experiences are wide, his sense of humor is excellent, and best of all, Bert is a hunter-writer whose advice is factual and down-to-earth. Varminting is great sport, no matter where you live. If you are not active in it, get this book, read it through—and welcome to the clan.—R.A.S.

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(Continued on page 65)

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GUN RACK

Primers for Target-38's

Additional testing of the fine Speer Target-38 plastic bullets and cases has produced some interesting results. Certain primers produce head separation in the plastic cases, but this is not the fault of the cases. For some, as yet undetermined reason, certain primers affect the plastic cases adversely, but the following primers give perfect results: CCI #350 Magnum, Remington #2½, and Winchester #7-111—all large pistol primers. Misfires can occur in guns with specially light hammer falls, and in those, we found that the CCI #350 primers worked very well. Accuracy is not affected by the brand of primers you use.

Model 70 Featherweight

The familiar Model 70 action in Winchester's .264 Belted Magnum is now on hand in the Featherweight rifle version—and the champ weighs in at 6 lbs. and 11 ounces

without scope. Scoped with the BALvar 8 and mounted with the help of Maynard Buehler's new aluminum mount for non-ad-



justable scopes, the test gun weighed in at 7 lbs. and 4½ ounces. This is a considerable weight saving, and with the 22 inch barrel, the gun is ideally suited for mountain hunting and scabbard use. Over-all length of the Westerner, the name given to the gun by Winchester, is just under 42½ inches.

Standard equipment on the gun includes sling swivels, ramp bead sight with cover and adjustable Lyman 16 A folding sight. In all respects, the new Featherweight resembles the famed Model 70; the new gun holds 3 cartridges in the magazine and one in the chamber. Trigger pull on the test gun was a consistent 6¼ lbs., and the trigger

broke clean and crisp. The gun is for the mountain hunter who is after elk, goat, sheep, deer, antelope, and other game animals. The belted magnums are whoppers, were designed for doing a job in a workman-like fashion. The .264 Magnum in the light version will do everything its heavier cousin will do and the recoil and blast is not much more objectionable than any other blast and recoil of a belted magnum. Granted, the gun does shove you back a little more, and it does sound a bit noisier, but then consider the fact that this is not a bench gun, that you won't use it for long strings of shots, and you won't even know that you are shooting a lighter gun. You will know the difference when you are climbing at 8,000 or 9,000 feet, when you left camp at 4 AM and get back to it at 7 PM.

In shooting the gun from the bench, it was fired in 3 shot strings, with one minute periods between shots. Accuracy at 100 yards from the bench was 1½ inches, and rapid fire groups of five shots spread that out to 1¾ inches with cartridges being single loaded. With a cool tube and shots spaced five minutes apart, the three-shot groups shrank to a very respectable 1½ inches.

The gun, the caliber, the BALvar scope and Buehler's dandy and brand new lightweight mount make this a hard-to-beat mountain rifle combination that should do just dandy for next year's elk or sheep hunt.

Poly-Choke Offer

If for one reason or the other you have been wanting a Poly-Choke and a ventilated rib on your gun and have not done anything about it, do it now. To the end of March, Poly-Choke folks will install a Deluxe Ventilated Poly-Choke and their new Feather-Aire ventilated rib in midnight black for only \$49.95 plus \$1.75 for postage. You can get details and a gun shipping box from your gunshop, or directly from Poly-Choke, Dept. 181G, Box 296, Hartford 1, Conn.

Deluxe Gun Cases

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(Continued on page 10)

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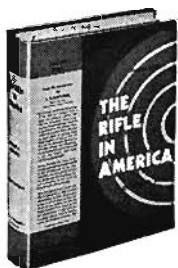
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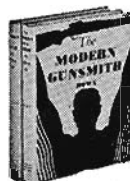
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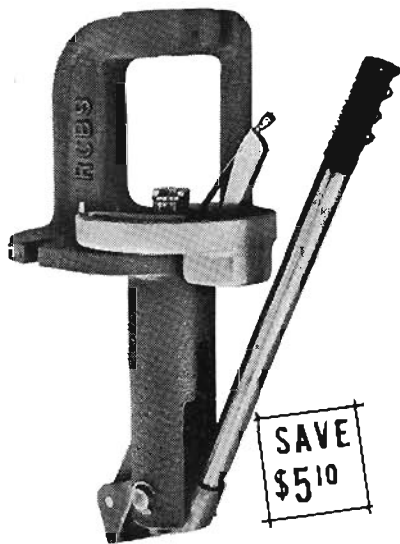
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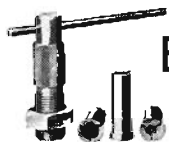
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(Continued from page 8)

wide, or for take-down guns, 36"x3 1/2"x12". Rifle case is 48"x4"x9". Pistol case is 15"x3"x9". Rifle and shotgun cases retail for \$59.95; pistol cases, \$34.95.

Incidentally, you can buy one case, get extra polyethylene inserts which can be cut to fit different guns, use the same case for whichever gun you want to take with you. Full-length rifle and shotgun cases can be adapted to fit two guns at a time, with careful cutting; or a scoped gun with accessories.

Browning Gun Oil

Browning Arms Company has greatly diversified their line in the last few months. Presently being tested in GUNS Magazine's laboratory are two of the new telescopic sights. Now on the market is an ultra-fine gun oil, either in a spout can (60 cents per can) or in an aerosol can (\$1.00). The oil, according to Browning, has a high viscosity reading, thus resisting gumming at high temperatures, yet protects and allows functioning of arms at 30° below zero.

Also new is Browning's 5 shot automatic shotgun that is known as the Buck Special—complete with carrying sling, 24 inch barrel and rifle-type sights. This gun is available in 12 and 16 ga. standard weight, lightweight in 12, 16, and 20 ga., and also as 12 ga. 3 inch Magnum. Those who own Browning Automatic-5 shotguns can purchase the extra barrel from their Browning dealer.

Hayes Rifle Slings

Several of our rifles are equipped with Hayes slings. Tom Hayes, 925-G Cunningham St., Corpus Christi, Texas, is a long-time hunter who became disenchanted with the then available slings and designed new ones to suit his type of hunting. Tom has a number of models, and we have put them through some rather strenuous tests over the past few months. Tom carefully differentiates between carrying and shooting slings, and regardless of the style, they work like greased lightning. Why not write Tom for details about his slings?

Deer Hides

A number of hunters of our acquaintance collect their deer every year, but few of them bother with the hides. Those who do save the hides do so with the hope of getting a jacket or shirt made; but somehow the hides just seem to collect in some odd corner. Hunters Hide Exchange, 223-G

E. Erie St., Milwaukee 2, Wis., will take those hides off your hands, exchanging them for merchandise, from wrist watches to electric frying pans for the lady of the house. If you have deer hides around, drop Hunters Hide Exchange a note and get their folder and shipping instructions.

Large Powder Hoppers

Fred Huntington's RCBS powder measure has been on our loading bench for a long time. Every so often, when filling large capacity hulls, we wished that a larger hopper for the measure were available. After one particularly frustrating evening of filling the hopper constantly, we got in touch with Fred and asked if he could make a 12 inch hopper for us. He had them in stock! The large hopper is a special order item and is not furnished with the powder measure, but if you plan to load much, it would certainly be worthwhile to have a large hopper on hand.

Working up some loads for a way-out wildcat, we had to resize a bunch of G.I. cases, then trim and neck-size them. All of this was done in a jiffy on the RCBS A-2 press. This is a rugged tool that can do any job that it might be called upon to do, and ours has been in use for a number of years without the least bit of trouble. Even the paint looks like new, and it is one of the first tools we got when it was marketed some years back.

In doing a large scale job like this, we found it best to start with the resizing, working from the left to the right. That is, the cases are lubed, run through the sizing, and piled up in a box to the right of the tool. Trimming is done by reversing the process, and piling the cases up to the left of the A-2. Necksizing and priming with the automatic primer feed mechanism installed on the A-2 is next, and that's it. Throw your charges, seat the bullets and you got a batch of ammo to shoot. Because the mechanical advantage is all on your side with the A-2, even prolonged sessions at the bench won't tire you out nearly as much as will the use of a tool that does not have the M.A. of the A-2.

Continental VIII Riflescope

Continental Distributors, P.O. Box 897-G, Sausalito, Cal., have some new scopes on the market. Imported from Japan, the scopes come complete with leather lens caps and

(Continued on page 63)

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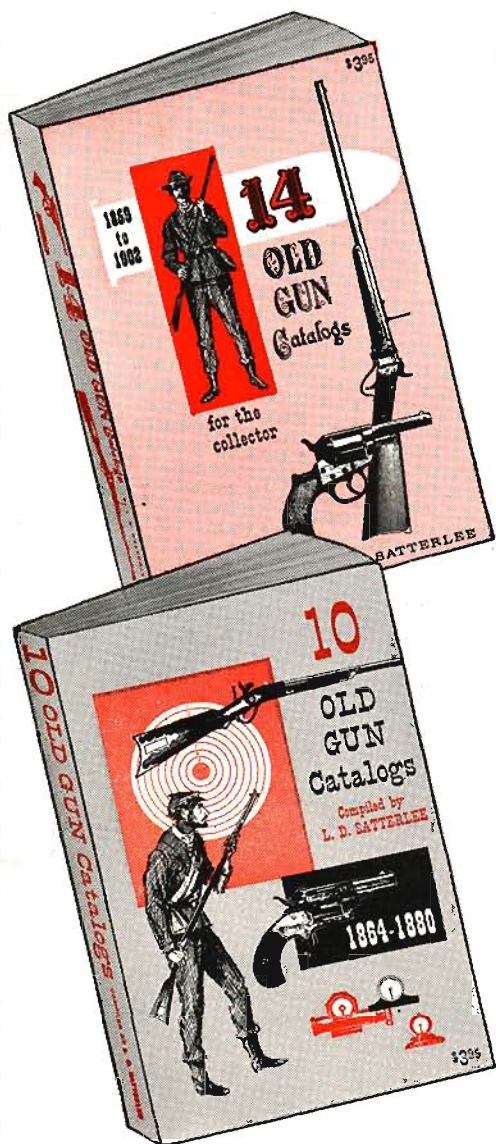
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Gun collectors will find this volume a valuable addition to their library. Reprinted from the original issue, published in 1940 at \$7.50, the reader will find this a fascinating book. This edition, like the original, features the rare Sharps catalogs of 1859, 1864, 1875, 1876, 1878, 1879, and 1880—all that are now known to exist. They cover the rise and decline of the Sharps Rifle Manufacturing Company, from its beginning in 1851 to its death in the early 1880's.

During these eventful years, the Sharps rifle gained recognition the world over as a reliable and powerful weapon, the slogan "Old Reliable" being, in fact, used by the company in its later years and stamped on the barrels. Carried west by the mountain men and frontiersmen, the Sharps was highly coveted by the Plains Indians. In the Civil War, the Sharps was chosen by Colonel Berdan to arm his famous Sharpshooters Company. In later years it became a favorite gun of the buffalo hunters. Also included in this edition, are the fascinating case of Rowan vs. Sharps; a Maynard catalog of 1865; a Ballard & Marlin 1888; a Stevens of 1888; a Stevens-Pope of 1902; plus other interesting advertisements and memorabilia of this period.

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CROSSFIRE

Fast Draw In England

I buy your magazine regularly and like it best of all the publications of its type which I have seen. I am particularly interested in articles on quick draw, collecting, and western history.

Here in England there are not, so far as I know, any fast draw clubs, but there are enthusiasts who follow the sport on their own. I have several friends who are keen on fast draw. We make our own holsters out of old service holsters, and the guns we use vary from toy replicas, weighted to improve the balance and "feel," up to Webley service revolvers with firing pins removed. As soon as possible, I hope to obtain a Colt's .45 revolver.

I would like to correspond with fast draw enthusiasts in your country, and I wonder if it would be possible for you to put me in contact with one of the clubs.

Dave Allcock

11 Barker Gate

Hucknall, Nottingham, England

Cat Hunter

Thank you for your fine article on the new .256 cartridge. I have a Winchester Model 92 .25-20 which has seen a lot of service; also a Savage Model 99 in .303 Savage caliber which is also well worn.

My home is in the Northwest Washington foothills of the Cascade range, where there is excellent bobcat hunting and an occasional cougar. I get my greatest enjoyment out of hunting when I am following a hound on a hot cat track. I use the little .25-20 for the cats; the .303 is my deer and bear rifle.

I enjoy your magazine very much and am especially pleased with your stand on anti-gun legislation. Keep up the good work!

Henry E. Straka
PFC, USA

New Subscriber

I have just been enjoying the first number of a year's subscription to GUNS, sent to me by my son Major Bryce Poe II, USAF, presently attending the Armed Forces Staff College at Norfolk, Va., GUNS is interesting without inflicting on the reader articles that are either excessively technical or are patent-fiction.

Lt. Col. Bryce Poe, U.S.A. Ret.
Kansas City, Mo.

"How Fussy Need You Be?"

With reference to the above-titled article by Lt. Col. Bryce Poe (Nov., 1962) obviously all of the loads were not made up from cases fire-formed in one rifle; if they were, they would all wobble or they would all be concentric.

The simplest method to eliminate this variable would be to use only cases fired in the same rifle and load the cases in the chamber the same for each firing. Some shooters file a small index notch in the rim; some use the caliber designation as a reference point. Using this method, it makes little difference if the chamber is concentric or slightly eccentric.

T. E. Newman
Atlanta, Georgia

Good Question

I have studied your gun law problem as well as I can on the basis of such information as comes to me, and it puzzles me. Surely there are enough of you to throw those fools off their soap-boxes! Is this anti-gun legislation Communist inspired and backed? Give up your guns and you're well on the way to having your first Dictator! Don't let the stuffed shirts twist your arms! The way things look around the world today, we'll all be needing rifles soon—and the skill to use them.

G. J. Morrissey
Stratford, New Zealand

From Down Under

I am an Australian and, although I get your magazine much later than its publication date, I am very fond of it. I belong to a rifle club where we use .303 Royal Enfield Mk IIIs. I am very much interested in shooting. I am 15 years of age and have used several types of guns, am going to make shooting a life-time hobby, and hope to buy my own .303 in the near future.

Although many of the guns I read about in your magazine are foreign to me, I am learning about them.

Ken Stephens
Victoria, Australia

Target Improvement

I made a silhouette target frame from the article and blueprints by Colonel Lyman P. Davison in the October issue.

For those who would like to take the target along in their car, I got the idea of adding *folding legs*. The legs fold upward alongside the frame with the use of 2 strap hinges 3 1/4" long, and two 3" hooks-and-eyes to hold the legs rigid when fully extended. With legs folded alongside of frame, I put a 1 1/2" hook-and-eye on leg and frame to prevent the leg from flopping down when carried. Both legs got the same treatment.

This makes a compact folding target that can be taken along in the car and set up in a moments notice. Thank you for your fine articles!

Pastor C. Geramita
Cadillac, Michigan

AR-15 versus M14

GUNS October 1962, page 37, carries "The New Block Buster" on the .223 AR-15 automatic rifle. Having personally fired over 4,000 rounds in the AR-15 during its formative period, not to include the .30 AR-10 and T20E2-T44 (now M14), perhaps these comments, on the basis of my own purely technical interest, may be of interest.

(1) The AR-15 .223 55-grain cartridge in its 20-inch barrel gives closer to 3185 foot seconds, not 3300 foot seconds. The comparable .222 Magnum gives 55-grain 3300 foot seconds in a velocity 24-26 inch barrel. There is an inevitable proven loss of over 30-35 foot seconds per inch, 24 versus 20-inch barrel. The .222 Magnum or .223 AR is a fine higher-power varmint-type cartridge, some 700-800 foot seconds behind the .220 Swift 48-grain, some 400 foot seconds over the .218 Bee 45-grain. It will not do for machine gun tactical use, such as the .30 Browning or 7.62 mm M60 class, and would mean two calibers, one for rifle, one for machine gun, in small pure infantry units. This would make logistics people very unhappy. The AR-15 is too heavy and clumsy for use as a holster side-arm or sub-rifle for the many NON-riflemen or specialists of which there are now nine per rifleman. At 500 yards, the 7.62 NATO auto-rifle and machine gun cartridge has 3.5 times the .223 energy. Only 300 foot seconds M.V. slower, the 7.62 has 2.7 times the bullet weight. Strong winds will have a much more adverse effect on the 55-grain versus 150-grain bullet.

(2) The AR-15 cal. .223 weighs: (a) With magazine empty, no accessories, 6 pounds 10 ounces or 6.625 pounds; (b) without magazine, 6 pounds 5½ ounces or 6.34 pounds. The AR-15 magazine is 5.5 ounces; bipod, 9.5 ounces.

(c) The M14 without magazine weighs 8.75 pounds, 2.41 pounds heavier than the AR-15.

(d) The .223 cartridge weighs 173 grains, the 7.62 mm about twice as much, the .30-06 (M2) some 396 grains. Without ballistic considerations, this is a distinct AR .223 advantage for the soldier's load.

(e) "You've got some (AR-15) 200 rounds ready to fire before the M14 soldier ever picks up a cartridge." 200 .223 rounds weigh 5 pounds. Facts: less than 100, far from "200 rounds . . ." versus an unloaded M14.

(f) Ten AR-men each with 500-round magazines "would carry fire-power of 7500 rounds per minute. . . ." Most of these automatic rifles have cyclic rates (not deliverable) of about 750 R.P.M. All this really means is that just above one dozen (12.5) shots are fired in one second of trigger yank. Who's hurt is a question. Unless it takes zero time to reload the 500-round "magazine," somewhat less than 750 shots per man could possibly be fired in one minute; closer to 500 rounds in 40 seconds, reload in 10 seconds, and perhaps fire 120, or 620 rounds. However, I would like to be in the new-barrel (AR-15) and .223 ammo supply business on this basis! The AR-15 barrels would be kind of worn out! Also, the targets may have shoved off early in the shoot.

(g) The AR-15 .223 is an interesting new weapon in the carbine-submachine gun category. But "fire power" is wastefully pumping bullets. *Fire effect* is bullets hitting enemies, the most hits for the least shots in the least time. "Fire power" is a "Hollywood-TV" misconception.

Contrary to much misunderstanding about the "new" M14, it is squarely based on the

M1 Garand 1929-36 front-locked forced-unlocking-camshaft turn bolt, same fundamental system as the 1912-14 Lewis Gun, and now the AR-15. This basic action is seen also in World War One Canadian Ross and Austrian Mannlicher "straight-pull" bolt-action rifles. First M14s (then T44s) were directly made up from Garand 1944-45 T20E2 20-shot cal. .30-06 automatic rifles, almost adopted. The T44-M14, with some 0.80 pound whittled off the M1-type barrel, uses a 1921-29 White "expanding-gas" piston-cylinder system. The White rifle was rejected by Ordnance in 1930. This gas system has very tight tolerances. The expansion theory does not mean much. It is actually a means to delay forced unlocking till the residual chamber pressure drops for easier forced unlocking. Lewis solved this very serious problem simply for the British .303 Lewis by increased dwell time before unlocking. (See Chinn's *The Machine Gun*). The AR-15 uses the earlier French-Swedish gas-pipe system for gas-flow delay of unlocking. Having no primary extraction provision, this is especially vital for function in the AR-10-AR-15 system. There were gas-pipe systems in experiment long before World War Two. One was made "crooked" to increase gas-action impact delay. Nothing new under the sun?

As of 1 October 1962 M14 difficulties have not prevented new orders for over 300,000 added to some half million or more already made. Not counting 7.62 mm NATO M60 machine guns.

My most valuable 20-year-old unrewarded recommendation now for both AR-15 and M14: THROW AWAY FULL AUTOMATIC; instead use fast controlled semiautomatic fire; unless you want to make a noise.

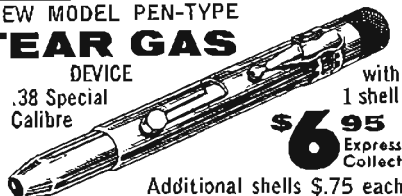
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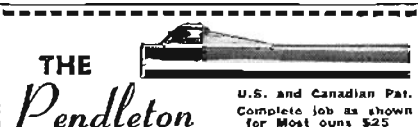
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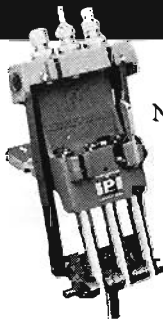
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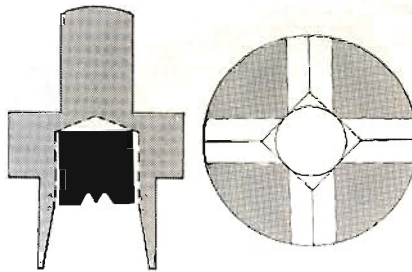
By KENT BELLAH



Excessive Velocity

High velocity is a wonderful and terrible killer with the right bullet. Velocity alone is not enough. Some handloaders get excessive velocity in hot-shots. No obtainable velocity, in a normal pressure range, is excessive with proper bullets. Let's look at some factors that can cause grief with the wrong pills, and learn how to detect it and correct it.

Proper bullet expansion is necessary for adequate shock on all game of any size. It's controlled for all practical purposes by the type of bullet and velocity, with range also a factor. Your .30-30 pills expand well at .30-30 velocity, but blow up like a bomb in hot-shot .30's. This excessive velocity gives poor accuracy and poor interior ballistics, with other technical troubles. Such pills may explode on twigs before they reach the game. Or explode on contact with game, without penetration. On the other hand, non-expanding bullets, such as G.I. types, can't be driven fast enough to be effective, in any gun.



Varmint hunters want the ultimate in expansion or explosion. That's fine. Soft core, thin jacketed pills make clean kills at Hi-V with hits in non-vital areas. Drive 'em too fast and "flyers" appear, and accuracy is erratic. If the core becomes semi-liquid in flight you have excessive velocity.

"Comet tails" are spirals of shed lead around bullet holes. You may find them at 100 yards, but more often at closer range. Test hot loads by firing 20 rounds at 25 yards. A lead smear means the velocity is too high for that type bullet. Rotational velocity, that increases with faster twist rifling, contributes to the smears. This is indicated in my tests with identical loads in two Swifts of different twists. A Swift has a rotational speed of over 200,000 revolutions per minute (rpm) while a puny .38 revolver pill spins 30 times faster than an electric drill! A .38 Colt hits some 45,000 rpm.

Good Hornet pills are designed for velocities under 3200 fps. Loaded flat out in a Swift they may give comet tails and techni-

cal troubles in interior ballistics. A .224 Sisk-Bellah H.P. revolver pill at Hi-V in rifles may be open in flight. Swift pills in a Hornet give the "deep penetration" some writers think is the only yardstick to judge the relative worth of bullets. Expansion, if any, is poor. Such loads are worthless for varmints.

Weatherby Magnum fans, including this one, place a high value on Hi-V for fast, clear game kills. W. M. ammo is hot as a \$2 pistol, with good bullets. Most complaints on the rifles are from chaps who never owned one, or from lads who use improper bullets in reloads. A few are from beginners who expect any hit to drop any game in its tracks. Good as the hot-shots are, they can't do it every time. Neither can big bores with huge, slow bullets. For faster kills, I'll take the tissue destruction of Hi-V with any reasonable bullet, and I love that flat trajectory. Some writers who praise big, slow pills have been in a nice comfortable rut since black powder days.

Some writers brag about extreme range kills. It isn't sporting to attempt it or admit it. The odds against putting a slug in a vital spot are terrific. Consider the wind, trajectory, accuracy, and your error of aim. Velocity has slowed until bullets have poor expansion, or nearly none. Limit your hunting range to about half your "accurate" range on targets. Few people shoot half as well under the excitement of hunting. Get closer and you'll bag more game with cleaner kills with any rifle.

Hard cast bullets in revolvers give more penetration and less expansion than is desirable for stopping man or game. Before Jim Harvey's soft core, half-jacketed bullets, that I consider one of the great inventions since gunpowder, I tried many ideas to increase cast bullet expansion and shock. All ideas had been tried in some form before I was born. Only the methods were new.

A good idea was drilling a hollow point in bullets. It gives faster expansion than a cast cavity. Drill too deep for .357 Magnum velocity and you may get a 10" one-shot group! The bullet opens in flight or deforms in the bore. This only happens when you drill through considerably more than half the bearing surface. For Magnum revolver loads, use the 1/8" drill in the Forster H.P. accessory, that I designed for their superb case trimmer. Adjust it for a 1/8" to 1/4" deep cavity. Drill to about 3/8" for .38 and .44 Specials. This drill works for 1/8" deep cavities in .30 caliber and larger rifle pills. The 1/16" drill is better for small bores.

Phil Sharpe's original .357 Magnum bullet, the Hensley & Gibbs No. 51, is still the best naked cast pill. Ray Thompson's newer Lyman No. 358156 Gas Check is superior for Hi-V. It's equally or more accurate, and reduces leading. The upper crimp groove is for .357's, the lower for .38's, making it versatile. For .357 loads I suggest lubricating the lower crimp groove. Lyman doesn't mention it, but they can supply this mould in a plain base on request. Naked, it's about equal to the Sharpe for .38 and .357 Magnum loads.

Lyman's No. 429336 was designed about 1911 by a man named Heath. Weighing 250 grains, it has fine long range accuracy in .44 Specials or Magnums. Two well de-

NRA Firearms Exhibit

Over 10,000 gun enthusiasts are expected to attend the National Rifle Association's 1963 Firearms Exhibition in Washington, D. C., from Saturday, March 23rd, through Wednesday, March 27th, in the Sheraton-Park Hotel.

One of the largest collections of priceless antique and modern sporting arms ever assembled in one hall will be on display during the show. Unique historic guns, knives, powder horns, and flasks will be exhibited alongside modern rifles, pistols, shotguns, scopes, reloading equipment, and other accessories. Rounding out the show will be displays by the armed services.

During the business meetings, delegates representing more than 500,000 individual NRA members and 11,000 affiliated local clubs will initiate and approve NRA's 1963 program for American Target shooters, hunters, and other gun-sportsmen.

On the agenda is a discussion of the NRA Hunter Safety Program, which is carried out in cooperation with state conservation agencies throughout the country. The place of small arms marksmanship in national defense, the establishment of additional recreational shooting facilities, firearms legislation, and other topics of special interest to gun owners will be considered.

The Exhibit Hall and business meetings will be open to all NRA members without cost. Non-members will pay a nominal fee for admission to the Exhibit Hall.

signed grease grooves have round bottoms and no sharp edges. Heath designed it for long range target work. It was modified by eliminating one grease groove and adding a crimp groove. Some loads load this modification with lube in the crimp groove for better lubrication, and crimp just forward of the groove to eliminate bullets turning in cases. For lighter recoil or higher velocity you'll like Lyman's No. 429215 pill, weighing 215 grains. It has longer range accuracy than you can hit man or beast.

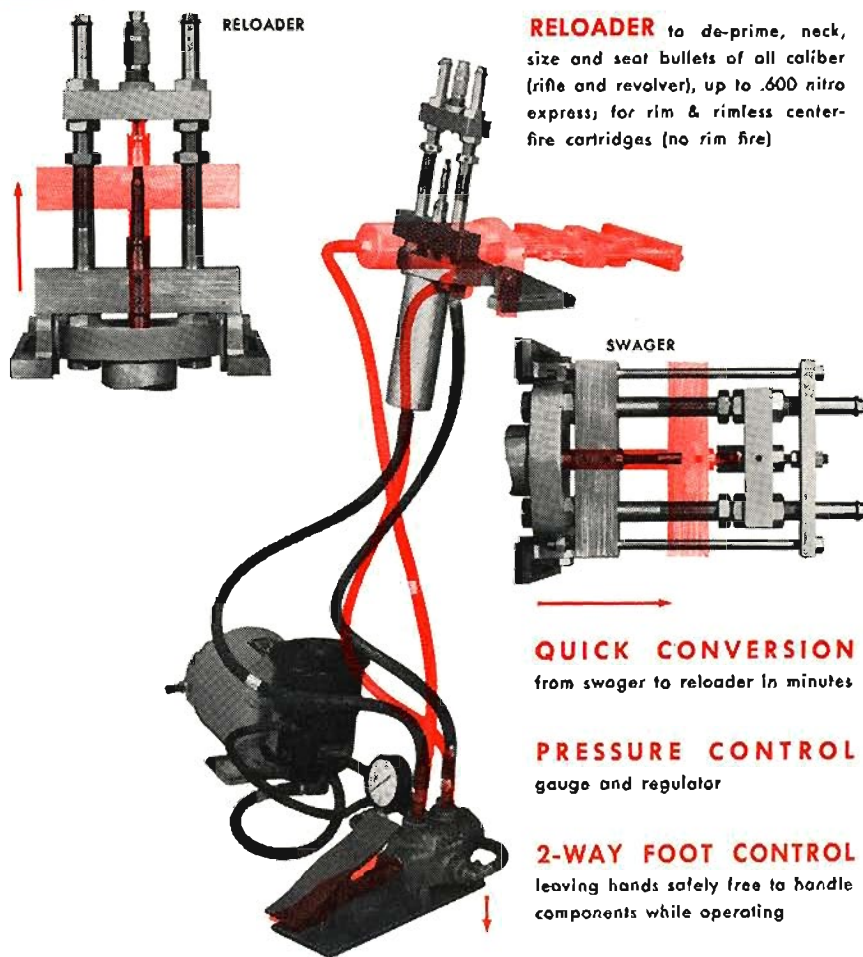
Cast bullets with a cross cut in the flat nose are more deadly, especially hollow points. Old-timers used a knife to make non-uniform cuts. Even shallow cuts cause faster expansion at Lo-V, just as cloth tears easier with a starting cut. Try it and see.

(Continued on page 59)

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Dr. Mathews invented many of the devices used in his work. Files contain his large handgun collection.

THE MAN WHO MADE **MURDER** DANGEROUS

WHAT THIS MAN READS FROM BULLETS,
GUNS, AND CARTRIDGE CASES CAN SAVE A MAN
WHO IS INNOCENT, OR DAMN A GUILTY ONE



Collection of more than 2,300 handgun photos were compiled by Dr. Mathews' for new book.

WHEN Dr. J. Howard Mathews' monumental work was published, late in 1962, in two large volumes by the University of Wisconsin Press under the title, "Firearms Identification," it was applauded by the experts as an epic addition to the literature of guns. Julian S. Hatcher, head of the technical department of the National Rifle Association, hailed it also as "An event of utmost importance in the field of firearms investigation"—high praise from a man whose own book, "Firearms Investigation, Identification, and Evidence" has been the accepted textbook in this area for many years.

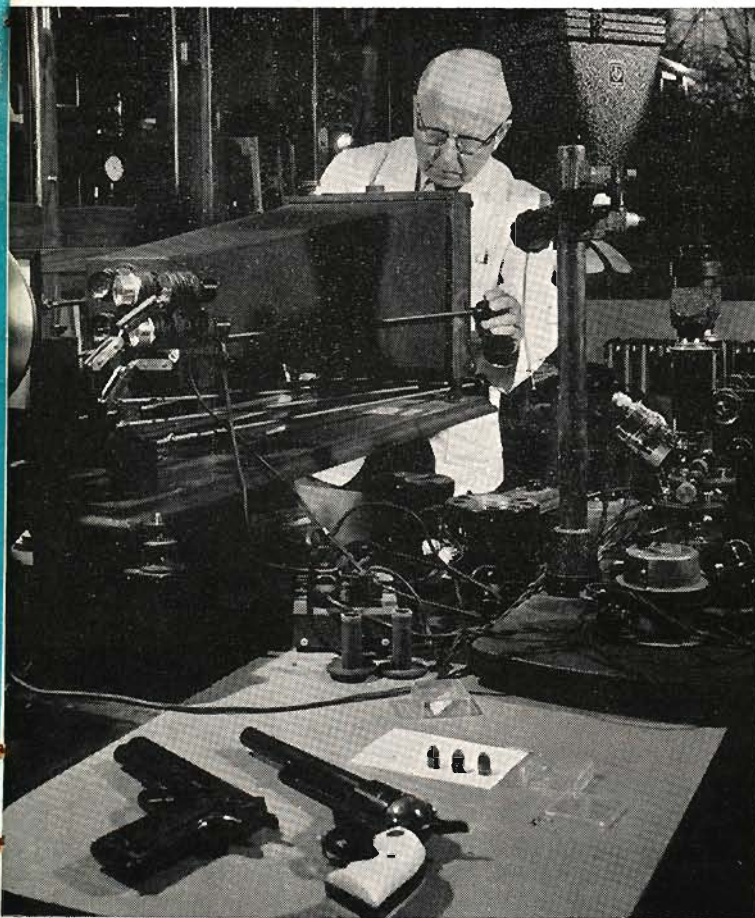
Who, then, is Dr. J. Howard Mathews?

He is a Professor Emeritus (Chemistry), University of Wisconsin, a former major in the Ordnance Department of the U.S. Army, a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science—and the man whose testimony is accepted as gospel in criminal cases across the nation wherein weapons identification is a part of the evidence. He is the man who has invented devices with which he can tell—and prove—more about a gun, a bullet,

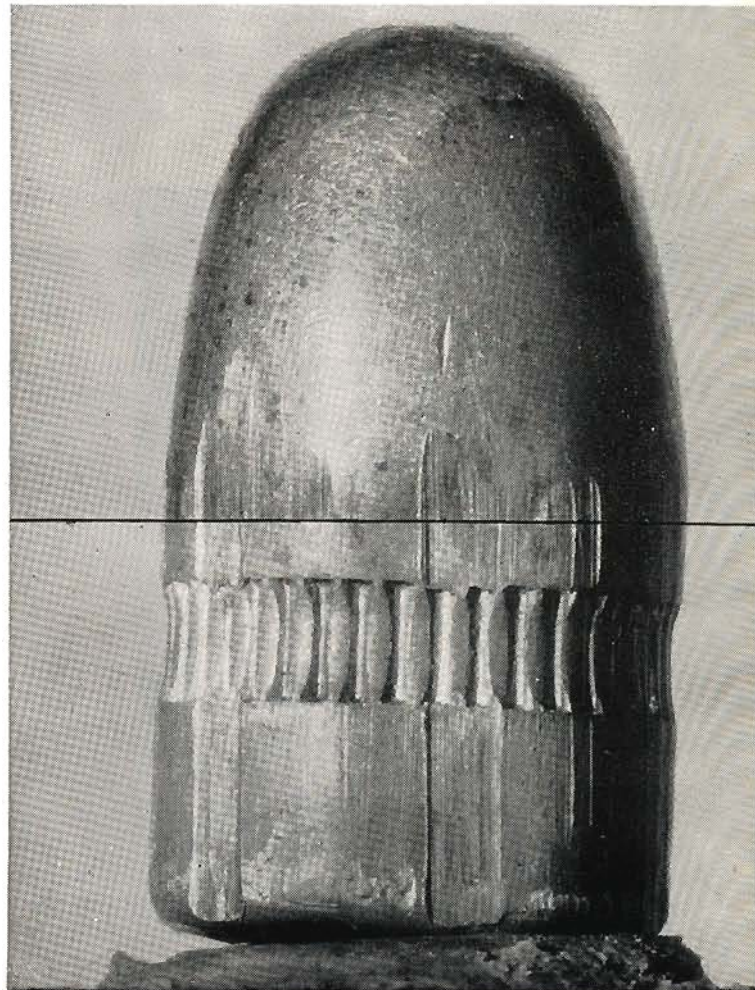
or a cartridge case than even its makers knew!

Dr. Mathews' first appearance in court as an expert witness against crime was the Chapman bomb case in Wisconsin, in which a man named Magnusson was accused of having built the bomb which killed John Chapman's wife. Mathews proved, by means of pictures from a metallographic microscope camera that a fragment of metal pipe coupling found in Magnusson's shop was a part of the coupling found in the bomb. (Coincidentally, the wood used in the box in which the bomb was shipped was identified as identical with wood scraps found in Magnusson's shop—identified by Arthur Koehler, the man who, 13 years later, traced the wood used in the Lindbergh kidnapping ladder to Hauptmann's attic.)

Mathews' first appearance in a case involving guns was one in which John Dietzler was accused of having killed his wife's lover with a bullet from an ancient .32-40 Winchester rifle. The police were unable to find the empty, ejected shells from the rifle, but they did find the lethal bullet. This

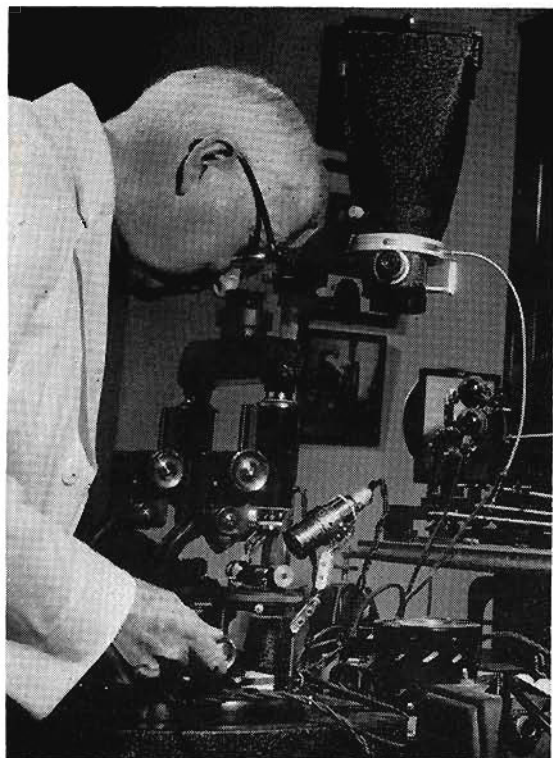


Mathews at comparison camera that takes one picture of two bullets. Bullet photo, right, identified murder gun.





Rifling meter determines angle of rifling in handguns. To make identification of guns more scientific, Mathews invented device himself.



Comparison microscope allows two bullets to be rotated at same time for study of marks.

was not as good a piece of evidence as bullets sometimes are—the rifle was so worn and rusty that its lands and grooves were not cleanly cut—but it proved good enough for Mathews. He found that the corroded spots in the barrel had left their own distinctive marks on the bullet, was able to show similar markings on test bullets fired from the gun.

But the defense questioned whether or not the bullet was even the same caliber as the rifle, suggested that it might be a .30-30. Mathews answered that argument with typical precision.

"If a bullet is deformed," he said, "one can identify it better by weight than by measurement. On the average, .32-40 bullets of this make weigh 164.4 grains. The metal jackets average 19.9 grains. We found by tests that bullets fired through Dietzler's rifle uniformly lost 13.7 grains of weight because the barrel was so rusty. Some of the jacket of the bullet in question was missing, so we cut the missing amount off a new jacket and found that the missing part weighed 13 grains. The lethal bullet weighed 137.7 grains. That weight, plus the weight of the missing part of the jacket, plus the weight stripped from the bullet by Dietzler's rifle—137.7 plus 13.7 plus 13 grains—totaled 164.4 grains." That made it, beyond question, a .32-40 bullet. Dietzler agreed to plead guilty.

The Magnusson and Dietzler cases made Mathews' name famous in criminological circles. In true scientific fashion, he began reporting on his methods in technical journals, among them the *Journal of Criminal Law and Criminology*. Realizing the importance of suitable equipment, he proceeded to outfit a laboratory at the University of Wisconsin for the identification of weapons.

This laboratory was the forerunner of the Wisconsin State Crime Laboratory, the formation of which Mathews urged as early as 1925 and which was organized finally in 1947. During the 1920s and '30s, a dozen murderers in Wisconsin alone were convicted solely on the basis of scientific evidence; the first of a score or so grimly surprised killers convicted by Mathews' direct courtroom testimony. Many times this number, faced with incontrovertible evidence, confessed and were sent to prison.

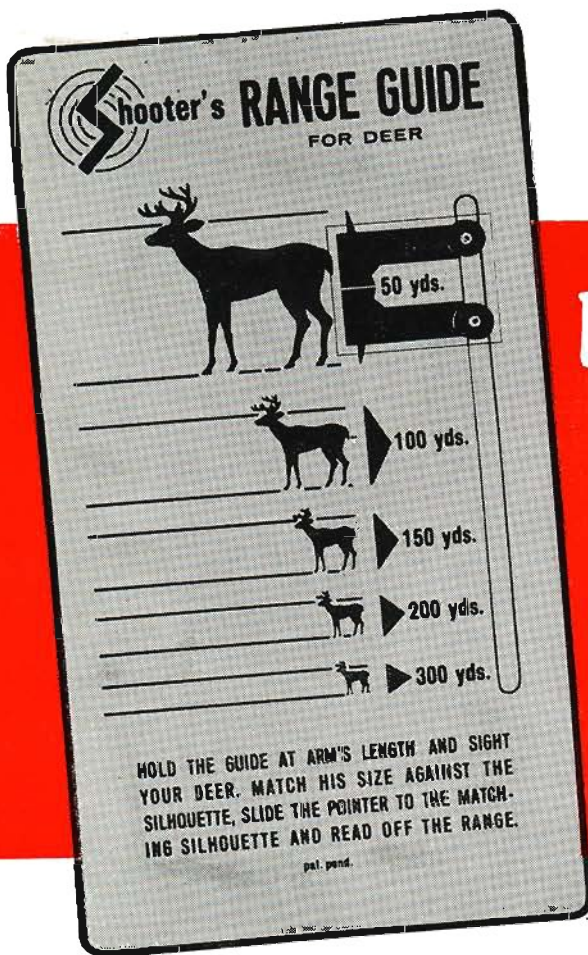
As he sits in his laboratory today, Mathews has behind him more than a quarter century of experience in the rough-and-tumble world of crime and detection, a strange world indeed for an academic chemist, but one in which cold logic and a few scientific tools have worked miracles.

There are only a few great names in the early history of laboratory crime detection. Calvin Goddard, founder and chief of the crime laboratory at Northwestern University, was one. He was the first man in this country to make use of the fact that bullets are "fingerprinted" by the gun they are fired through, and that they bear the marks of the particular barrel through which they were shot. (Speaking of fingerprints, it was an English criminologist named Galton who first recognized the fact that an individual's fingerprints are his and his alone, no two alike.)

To Mathews, however, belongs the credit for having developed the laboratory tools—the instruments—used to identify guns, bullets, and other objects—knives, for example—frequently involved in crime. Nearly every apprehended murderer today is convicted on the basis of scientific evidence.

To a visitor in his laboratory, Mathews is a small man, now gray-haired, surrounded by a maze of equipment: special microscopes, cameras, glass-enclosed cases lined with books and chemicals. He is a cheerful, good-humored, unassuming man generously endowed with compassion and "the quality of mercy." You would never guess him to be a man in any way concerned with murder!

Yet to Mathews, the unravelling of the (Continued on page 41)



IF A DEER IS AS TALL AS YOUR FRONT SIGHT POST, HOW FAR OFF IS HE?

Range Finders For Hunters

Based on the known height of front sight post, range from hunter to deer can be gauged. Same basic principle is used for Range Guide that will help your range estimations.

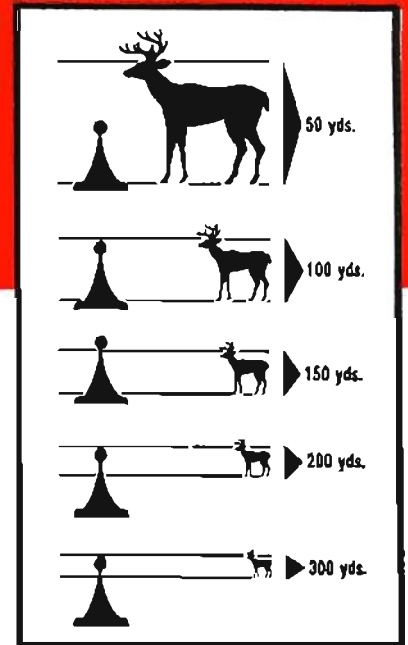


Figure 2

MOST HUNTERS have one problem in common—range estimation. For the average hunter, the business of estimating the distance between him and the game is a matter of guesstimating rather than estimating more or less accurately, give or take a few yards. Seldom, if ever, is there time to use a mechanical method, and a means of learning range estimation is needed.

While the optical range finders—similar to those found on a good many cameras—work well, I was looking for a method of actually learning to estimate distances. One of the oldest tricks for this is the use of the rifle sights. This can be done either with a scope, using some part of the scope reticle, or with iron sights, using some part of the front blade. The height of the deer or other game relative to the height of the front sight post can give you an excellent idea of the range. If your rifle has an eye-to-front sight distance of 27 inches (carbine distance) and a front sight post 7/16" high with a 3/32" bead, Figure 2 shows how your deer would look next to your sight post.

The mathematics are simple. At 27 inches from your eye, your sight post makes a small angle with your eye. As the range to the target increases, the distance between the arms of the angle increases. Since the deer's size remains constant, the deer appears to grow smaller compared to the sight as the range increases.

If you wish to figure sight post ranging for your own rifle, use this simple equation:

Range in inches + Height of object covered by full sight post (in inches) = Your eye-to-sight post distance in inches ÷ Your sight post's height in inches.

For example, if you have a rifle with a 32" eye-to-sight distance, and a 1/2"-high sight post, and wish to know the height of the object covered by the sight at 100 yards:

$$\frac{3600''}{X} = \frac{32''}{.5''} \quad X = \frac{3600 \times .5}{32}$$

$$X = 56.3''$$

If your target is a full grown whitetail buck, which runs around 60 inches from feet to top of head, your sight post will cover him from feet to the middle of his head at 100 yards. At 200 yards, the sight will cover slightly less than twice the deer's height. Some hunters have filed notches in the trailing edge of their blade-type front sight and filled them with white paint to make a convenient gauge.

A similar mathematical formula gives range information with telescopic sights, but (Continued on page 60)

SMALL GUNS PREDOMINATE IN MEXICO, BUT
THE EXPERTS NORTH OF THE RIVER PACK BIG ONES

BELT GUNS *on the Rio Grande*

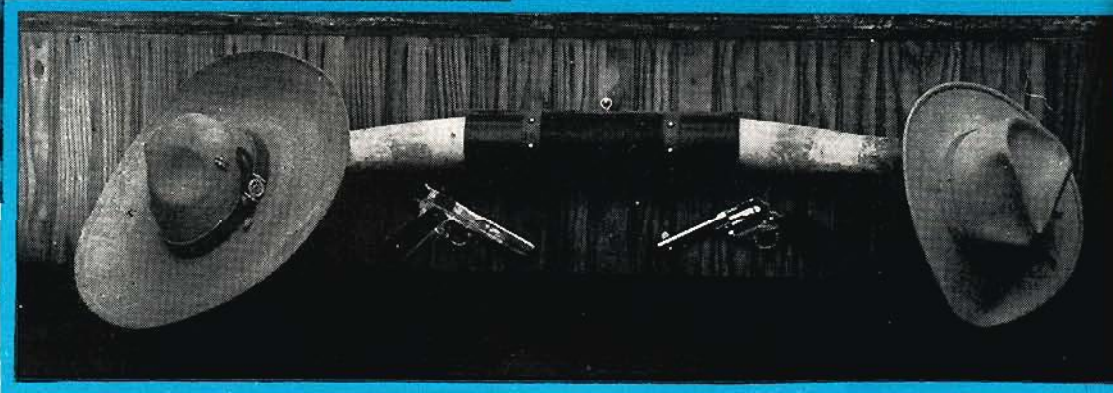
By CHARLES A. SKELTON

WHEN I MET him, Gabriel Carrasco was a 40 year old Sonora Mexican with piercing, honey-colored eyes, a crippled left hand, and a pistol. He made his living south of the Arizona border in various ways. A good man with a rope and branding iron, he could, if necessary, knock down his five pesos a day cowboying on any one of many ranches in the area. Or, wearying of ranch fare of fried beans, corn tortillas, and *carne seca*, he would go to one of the small towns like Imuris or Magdalena and sign on as a part-time policeman.

My first meeting with Gabriel came while he was doing the badge toting honors in a small Mexican village. Frontier Colts were selling like hot cakes in Arizona, and a partner and I decided on an expedition into Mexico to see if we could rake up a few to use as trading stock. But pickings were slim until good fortune led us to Gabriel and an arrangement with him to guide us to the remote desert ranch country.

Gabriel carried his own gun in the common Mexican fashion,

Carrying a gun is second nature to a lot of men living on the border. Gun action and caliber are dependent on personal choice, but the U.S. trend is toward revolvers and heavier calibers.





Mexican plainclothes carry of the Colt .38 Super auto consists of simply clipping pistol inside waistband over the right hip.

thrust butt-to-the-rear in a thin leather holster clipped inside the waistband of his trousers over the right hip. It was a worn Smith & Wesson .32-20, with a slightly loose cylinder and wooden grips rubbed smooth from years of constant handling. "Not a very powerful pistol for a law officer," I commented.

"It is sufficient, *señor*," he grinned, and proceeded to entertain my partner and me with stories of three men who had fallen to the little gun. One was a butcher-knife wielding Indian who attacked Gabriel. "I spent three cartridges on this man," he reflected, "and he stopped."

"Couldn't you have stopped him better with a .45?" queried my sidekick, eyeing the lead-bulleted .32-20 shells in Gabe's cartridge loops.

"I didn't want to kill him, only to stop him. Besides, I can't hit what I shoot at with a .45—too big," answered the burly Mexican. He raised his misshapen left hand, exhibiting the rough-edged scar that immobilized his knuckles. "A .45 did that. The soldier that did this couldn't shoot one either, and he is dead."

"The .32-20?" I asked.

"*Si, señor*, he hit me once in the hand, and hit the wall twice. Then I shot him six times with my little *izquierda*."

"*Izquierda*" means "left" in Spanish, and refers to swingout revolvers of the modern Colt or Smith & Wesson type.

During the course of this and other pleasurable gun hunts all over Mexico, I found that the small caliber *izquierdas* were second in popularity only to Colt automatics, called "*esquadrás*" because of their comparatively square dimensions. The Colt .38 Super has for years been the most desirable handgun in Mexico, followed closely by the .32 and .380 automatics. The Colt .45 automatic is also well liked, but can under federal law be possessed only by army officials. This also goes for possession of the .45 ACP ammunition.

Contraband .45's are frequently found in the hands of civilian police and private citizens, and like other center-fire guns, aren't shot much because of the prohibitive cost of ammunition in Mexico. There is also the federal law requiring registration of arms, which discourages, but by no means prevents, private ownership of firearms. I knew many pistol toters all over Mexico 10 years ago and, as far as I know, none of them complied with the registration law. Things may have changed down there since then, but if I know my *pistoleros*, they have not.

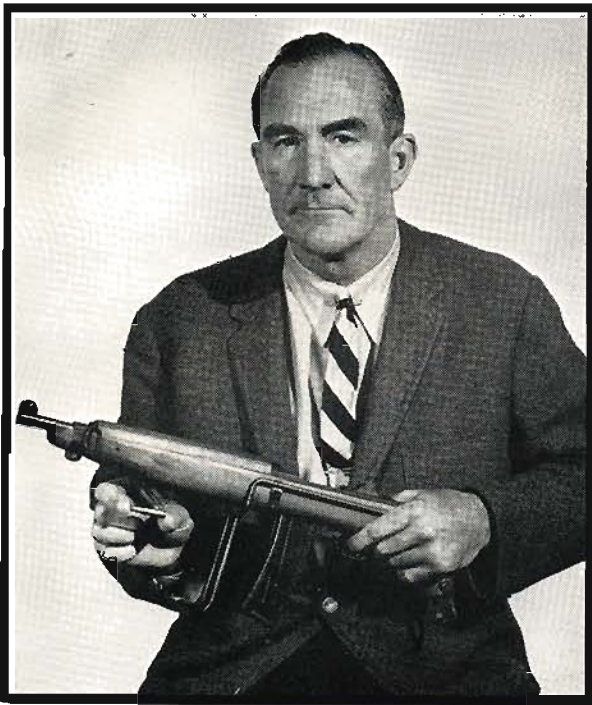
Despite the number of handgunners (Continued on page 50)



Typical Mexican favorites, from top down are: Colt .25 auto, Llama .32, Colt .38, M1911 A1 .45 favored on both sides of Rio Grande. U.S. choices include: S&W .357 M, S&W .44 Special 1950 Model, Colt .44-40 S.A., S&W .44 Magnum, Ruger .44 Magnum.



By R. A. STEINDLER



Inventor Mel Johnson holds M1 carbine that has been converted to MMJ 5.7 Spitfire. Wire stock folds upward and forward to form a solid grip.

MEL JOHNSON'S new 5.7 mm Spitfire carbine and cartridge promises to stand varmints and varmint shooters in the U.S. and abroad on their ears. Mel, in case you did not know it or had forgotten it, is one of our top firearms designers and machine gun experts, and from this font of knowledge, comes the new Spitfire. What will it do that other center-fire cartridges, existing or now in semi-retirement, won't do? Well, the cartridge is highly accurate, is loaded to sane ballistics, produces little or no recoil, does not sound like a clap of thunder rolling through the country side—and it functions liked greased lightning in Mel's new semi-automatic conversions of the standard .30 caliber U.S. carbine.

Before Mel's Spitfire was created, there was no high velocity varmint cartridge that would function in a semi-

MEL JOHNSON'S



Views of right side of Johnson's converted carbine. Gun is handled like a regular handgun, with two hands, like rifle with the wire stock unfolded. Clips for 5, 15, and 30 rounds will be available.



The custom sporter is made on the Sako action, has simple, yet pleasing lines. This gun, with a Lyman scope, was fired for tests, gave superb groups, performance.



auto between the calibers .22 RFM and the Winchester .243. The new 5.7 mm fills the bill, and it gives new life to thousands of surplus carbines now floating around. It is no secret that this .30 carbine load was, and still is, one of the most over-rated cartridges ever. As a sporter, its use is limited to knocking off jackrabbits and tin cans, and those only at ranges that make shooting the carbine a sheer waste of ammo.

Let's take a look at the cartridge and ballistics of the Copyright MMJ 5.7 Spitfire. The case is the necked-down carbine case, and is loaded to Mel's specification with a 40 grain pill. Pressures, according to H.P. White Laboratories, run a sane 36,000 psi. Muzzle velocity from a 24 inch tube averages 3050 fps, while the 100 yard chronographed velocity is 2400 fps. Chop the barrel down to 18 inches, and

muzzle velocity with the short tube is still a very respectable 2825 fps, with a 100 yard velocity of 2175 fps.

Loaded, the tiny Spitfire cartridge measures 1.68 inch, weighs 120 grains, has the standard rimless base of the carbine brass. Mel has tested practically all of the existing 40 grain pills that mike .224—all of them giving superlative accuracy in the test guns available as of this writing. All of the bullets were of the jacketed variety and Mel's present loads have Sisk pills in them.

Basically, the shooter will have three separate choices. You can either ship Mel your standard U.S. M1 Carbine, order a new Carbine-Spitfire, or Mel and his associates will build you a custom sporter in the new caliber on the Sako action. The conversion of your carbine to the MMJ 5.7 mm Spitfire will set you back \$73; (Continued on page 55)

NEW "SPITFIRE"



Mel's "family." Light .30 cal. machine gun, semiautomatic rifle in .30-06 and .270 interchangeable (both '41), and the new Spitfire.



The MMJ 5.7 Spitfire loaded with three different bullet types. Cartridges are shown larger than 2x the actual size.

ONE OF AMERICA'S TOP DESIGNERS OFFERS TO TURN
YOUR M-1 CARBINE INTO A NEW-LOOK VARMINTER
FOR HIS NEW 2825 FOOT-SECOND 5.7mm. CARTRIDGE



Make Photo Records of YOUR GUNS AND GEAR

By BOB TREMAINE

GUNS PICTURES ARE EASY TO TAKE AND CAN HAVE HIGH DOLLARS-AND-CENTS VALUE



IT IS AXIOMATIC that one picture is worth a thousand words. But when it comes to insurance losses, a picture may be worth a thousand dollars. Gems, silver, paintings, valuable stamps, rare books are often photographed for insurance records, but few gun collectors ever take the time or trouble to photograph their treasures. But even if you don't have a gun collection worth thousands of dollars, you should have pictures of your guns, for identification. Suppose you lose or someone steals your American Eagle Luger. How many policemen or insurance investigators could identify your gun at sight from that data?

Purchase, sale, or barter provide other reasons for having pictures of your guns. Let's say you want to sell a certain gun. You can describe it as being in "excellent" condition. But "excellent" is a word subject (in spite of NRA definitions) to personal interpretation. The man who reads your ad may have been burned in the purchase of a gun described as "excellent" but which, on arrival, showed extensive holster wear, poor or damaged checkering, or other flaws. Your ad with a picture of the gun will cost a little more, but it will win more attention and show beyond question that your gun is as specified. The prospective buyer will be more willing to pay your price if he can see for himself that the gun is worth the money. The big Sears Roebuck catalog with its thousands of pictures isn't just a monument to company vanity; it is a proven device for fast, complaint-free selling.

Getting pictures of your guns does not necessarily require calling in a professional photographer. Taking sharp, clear pictures of guns is not beyond the skill of the average amateur photo-hobbyist providing that he takes some care getting set for the picture-taking session—and providing he has the right camera for the job. A good many cameras on the market take



Contaflex with Proxar close-up lens shows how simple gun photography can be. By placing gun on white cardboard, greater contrast is created, although light conditions remained identical.

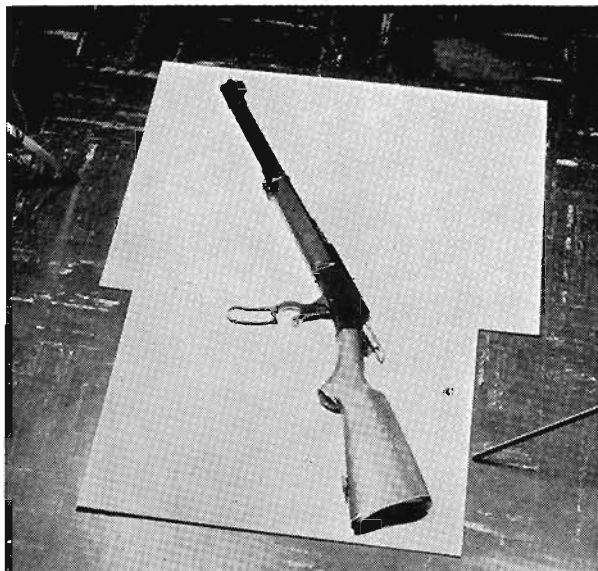




A little falcum on stamping, good camera with Proxar lens, even light, produced a needle-sharp picture of Single-Six.



Using one of four Proxar lenses, it's easy to make a complete record of each of your guns. Long guns are placed on two sheets of cardboard or you can use the dowel bucket.



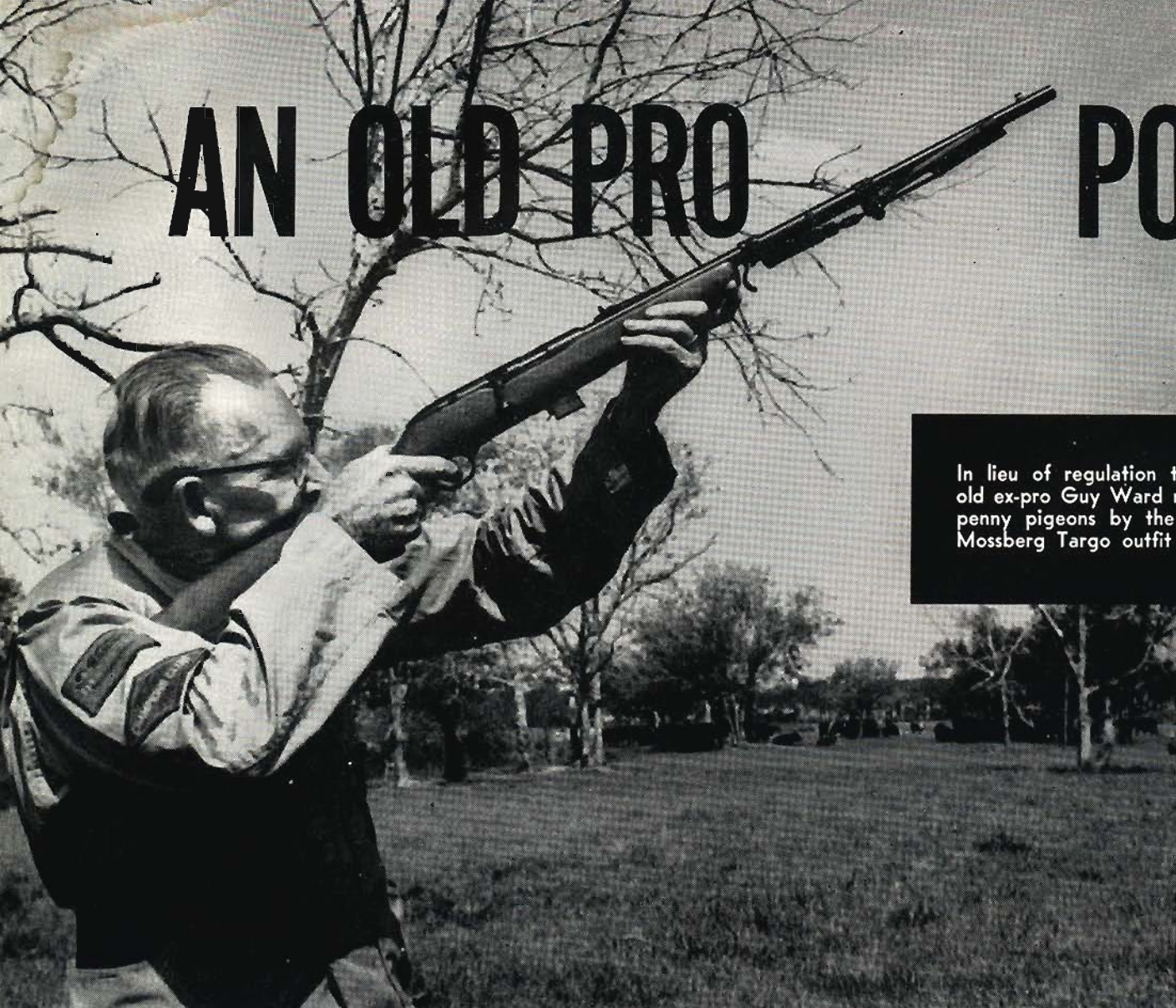
neat photographs of the family, or bring back photographic memories of your last hunt and of the one that did not get away. But for close-up work, you need special lenses, and some cameras just won't do the job. As a professional outdoor writer, I use three cameras: A 4x5 Speed Graphic, a 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ x2 $\frac{1}{4}$ Yashica, and for all-around work, a 35 mm Contaflex.

The large view camera is used primarily in still shots that can be composed at leisure, or for color work where a large negative is essential. The intermediate Yashica is mostly used for color shots outdoors where I cannot control action or light, and in some black and white photography. Action photos, close-ups either indoors or out, telephoto, and wide angle shots are taken with the Contaflex. This camera, made by the famous Zeiss Ikon outfit, comes with a standard Tessar f2.8, 50 mm lens. A wide angle Pro-Tessar f3.2, 35 mm lens, and a set of Proxar close-up lenses, do very nicely for all my gun photography, from long guns to detailed studies of gun parts and actions. Many other cameras will do the work satisfactorily. But even if yours won't, all hope is not lost, since many dealers will rent used photographic equipment to customers they know. Consult your camera dealer about this.

In setting up for taking pictures of guns, keep in mind that your light must be spread evenly over the gun, that shadows and "hot spots" (actually areas of greater light reflection from your photo floods) must be eliminated or reduced as much as possible. Next is the matter of back-(Continued on page 54)

AN OLD PRO

POPS



In lieu of regulation trap, 75 year old ex-pro Guy Ward now busts the penny pigeons by the hour with a Mossberg Targo outfit and thrower.

IN BASEBALL YOU "HIT 'EM WHERE THEY AIN'T" ON CLAY TARGETS YOU SHOOT WHERE THEY'LL BE!

GUY WARD WAS a smooth-faced, 19 year old youngster when he stood on the trap field in Indianapolis and called for the bird. That day he won the first North American Amateur Trapshooting Championship. Fifty-six years later, after 42 years as a pro and exhibition shooter, he is still busting birds, but, on this day at least, they were the pint-sized Mo-Skeet-O discs used with the Mossberg Targo outfit.

Now 75 and retired since 1948, Guy lives in Lake Charles, Louisiana, and shoots for fun. But ask him to put on an exhibition, and it's an even bet that he will be at the range before you get there. "I still get a bang out of shooting," Guy says, "and this little

rig," pointing to the Mossberg with the trap attached to the barrel, "keeps the sport within my budget."

Guy's first experience with a shooting budget was acquired at the age of seven in Walnut Log, Tennessee. He made a deal with his Dad, P. C. Ward, proprietor of the Sportsman Hotel on Reelfoot Lake and a wholesale dealer in fish and game. He was presented with a "hand-me-down" Flobert rifle chambered for .22 shorts. With it, he popped bull frogs along the lake, selling the frogs to his father. With the proceeds, he'd buy more ammunition and spend the remaining funds on licorice sticks and jaw breakers.

"Believe me," Guy recalls, "I had to



Use of hand trap allows shooter to concentrate on target, man who handles it controls the flight.

"TOY" TARGETS...

By GEORGE N. HEBERT

make every shot count to earn a profit, but I managed to collect enough cash to ease the sweet tooth of a seven-year-old 'professional' hunter.

"Dad made me earn my way, but he gave me two things that I've never forgotten. The first was a single shot, 20 gauge Hopkins & Allen as an eleventh birthday present. Market hunting for ducks with that gun developed the accuracy which was to make shooting a way of life with me. The second gift, at the same time he gave me the gun, was this bit of advice: 'Son, don't ever shoot *at* a flying target, shoot where the target's going to be.'"

Young Ward used both gifts to the best advantage. He developed an excellent reputation as a guide among the wealthy hunters who migrated to the Sportsman Hotel during the seasons. One of these, W. A. Dailey of Indianapolis, was so impressed by the youngster's shooting that he made it possible for Guy to make the trip to Indianapolis to compete in the newly established Amateur Trapshooting event in the Grand American.

In the next 42 years, Guy Ward fired an average of 15,000 rounds a year at "where the target was going to be." He racked up several national championships, left records riddled and forgotten as official scorers posted his new ones. The day he won his initial championship was the first and last time Guy Ward shot in competition as an amateur. Several weeks later, he accepted an offer made by a representative of the Nobel Explosives Co., Ltd., of Scotland, manufacturers of Ballistite powder, to shoot for them as a professional.

It didn't take long for the youngster from Walnut Log to become the topic of conversation wherever the nation's greatest marksmen gathered. In Wilmington, North Carolina, at the annual Inter-State Gun Club Tournament, Guy Ward, shooting for Ballistite, scored as high professional with 199 x 200 and a straight run of 143 targets. Next came the North Carolina State Shoot, and Guy won it with high professional average score of 492 x 500. Of the last

1,960 targets, Ward broke 1,875 for an average of 95.7 per cent.

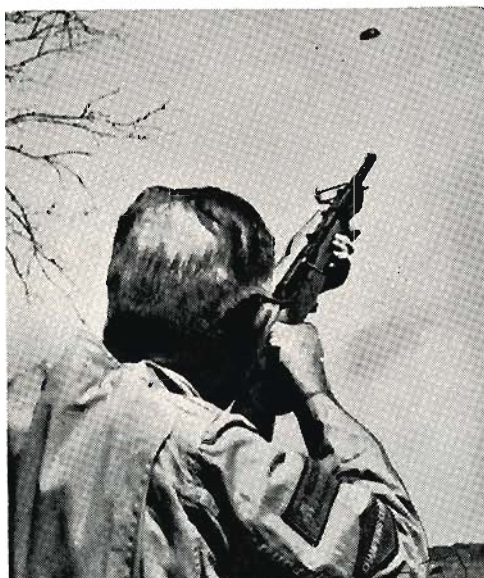
When professional gunners from all over the United States gathered at Marion, Ohio, in 1909 to participate in a tournament sponsored by the Queen City Gun Club, Guy was billed as "the boy wonder." He earned this tribute by breaking 124 x 125 targets and, at the same time, setting a record for 200 straights without a miss, a magic num-

ber seldom reached by trapshooters of the day.

He thrived on competition. Again in 1909, in Atlanta, Georgia, he met the fabled H. D. Freeman in a challenge match at the Atlanta Gun Club. The two shot for 1 hour and 55 minutes at 600 targets each. Guy Ward broke 490 and Freeman ran second with 484. In Birmingham, at the Alabama State (Continued on page 46)

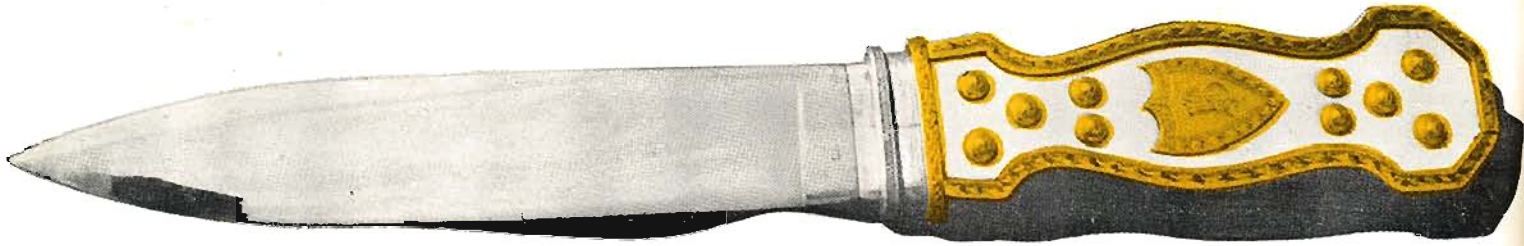


Guy Ward keeps his shooting eye and coordination between eye and trigger finger in shape by dusting the inexpensive birds, alone and by the hour.

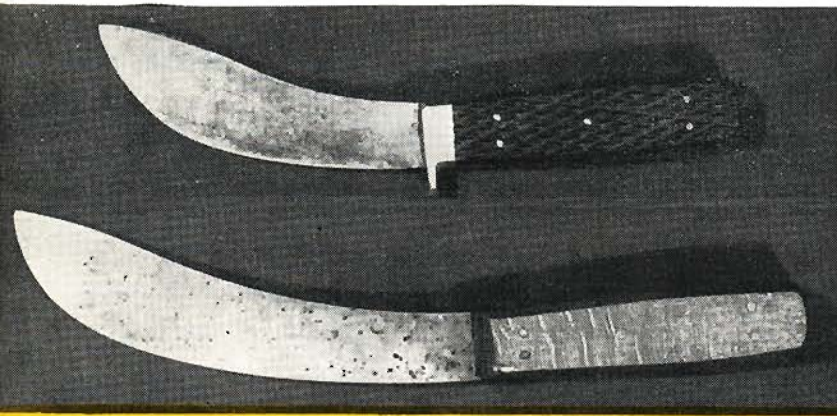


The tiny target can be missed easily with the small shot size and charge. Fast action is required, and Ward can supply that with the greatest ease.

KNIVES

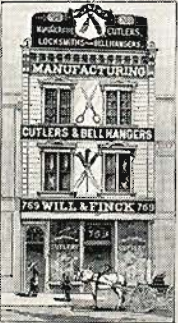


Knife made by M. Price, San Francisco. Hilt is bound with engraved silver border, gold studs and the shield are fastened to the ivory grips.



WILL & FINCK,
The Leading Manufacturing and Importing
CUTLERS & BELL-HANGERS
OF THE PACIFIC COAST,
ESTD. 1850 - 1851 - 1852 - 1853 - 1854

TABLE CUTLERY,



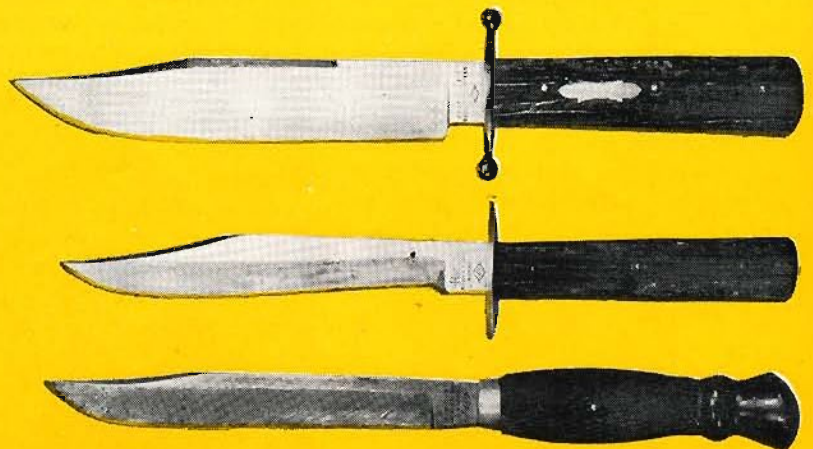
California Carving Sets

Will & Finck is a great source of FINEST KNIVES of the celebrated makers of Germany, Warranted, Reliable, Durable, also, they supply for the Pacific Coast, the best in use. Also Agents for the famous and famous, which they are engaged in selling. Manufacture all articles of IRON AND STEEL, IMPLEMENTS, CUTLERY, and JOBBING done and made to order. DELIVERED prompt and shipped at short notice.

769 Market Street,
EST. 1850 - 1851 - 1852 - 1853 - 1854
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

Green River Russell skinning knives, top, were considered the best. Grips were horn, checkered ebony, hard woods. Late hunting or sheath knives, at right, are Russell's.

Will & Finck knife is typical of fancy work sold to Californians in the early 1800's. Knives cost over \$50.

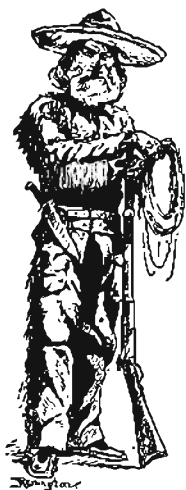


OF THE

By JAMES E. SERVEN

FRONTIERSMEN

**GUN AND KNIFE WERE PARTNERS
AS MEN BATTLED FOR SURVIVAL
ON OUR EXPANDING FRONTIERS**

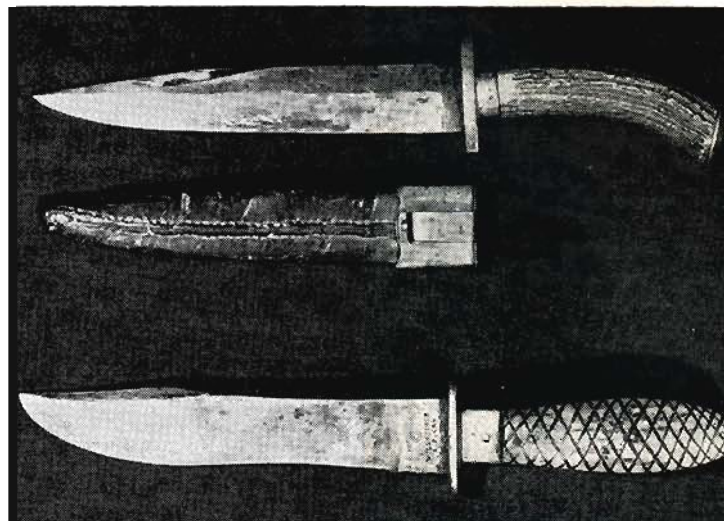


THE USUAL quiet of Fernandez de Taos was shattered by screams and angry shouts from within the house of Alcalde Don Cornelio Vegil. Here what started out to be a gay *jandango* had erupted into a mad melee of flashing knives and twisting bodies. Grouped in the center of the room were a half-dozen buckskin-clad Mountain Men. About them swarmed a score of vengeful Mexican *peleados*. When the room was finally cleared, the Americans were scathed but definitely in command of the situation. On the floor lay a number of the Mexicans. Two were dead, others were badly wounded.

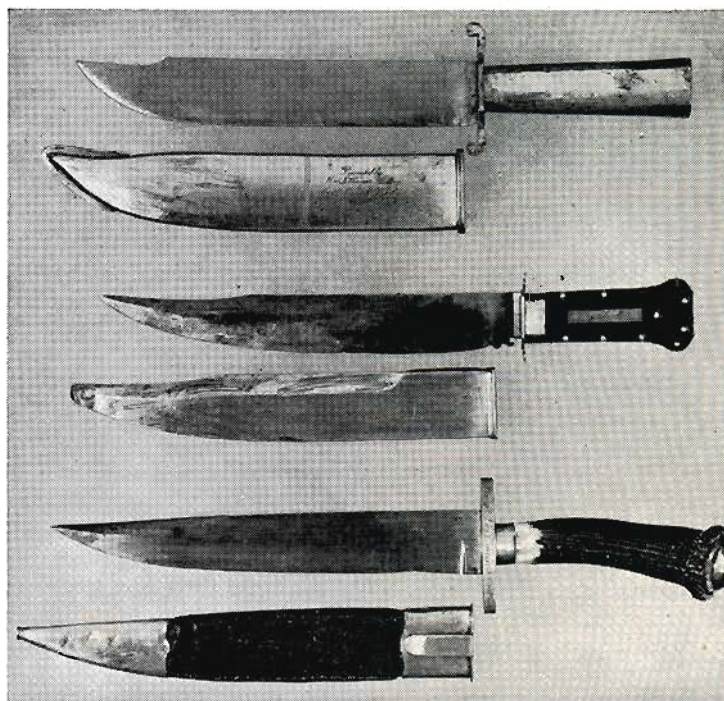
So wrote George Frederic Ruxton, traveler of note in the untamed West of the 1840s, and an able observer whose writing have provided much important on-the-spot information about the people, the events, the customs, and the speech of the time. Ruxton wrote that a knife thrust from the brawny arm of a Mountain Man was no minor incident, seldom failing to strike home "up to Green River"—a cryptic phrase that becomes chilling to the reader who knows its meaning.

Actually, "up to Green River" had two special meanings among that hardy group of frontiersmen who opened up our western trails and whom we generally describe by the nicely alliterated words Mountain Men. The sanguinary meaning of "up to Green River" indicated that the blade would be thrust deeply, right up to the "Green River Works" stamping of J. Russell & Co. on the knife blade near the guard. It should be considered that deep thrusts of the knife were not always acts of mayhem but often saved human life in encounters with savage animals. The second "up to Green River" meaning as used by the Mountain Men was to indicate quality, the equivalent to *sterling* on silver. "Up to Green River" in this sense meant up to highest quality.

On the frontier, a man's rifle, pistol, and knife were his most important possessions. His knife was indeed more than a weapon; it was an all purpose and indispensable piece of everyday equipment—used for skinning, preparing food, eating, and all other purposes requiring a sharp edged tool. We are told that, in the (Continued on page 44)



Heavy-Bladed Chevalier California knife, top, was very popular in west. All purpose sheath knife by Will & Finck was a rugged California-made product.



Bowie knives were not of standard size, shape, were made by a number of cutlery companies and by some individuals. These are in the G. G. Fox collection.



**YOU CAN'T HIT WHAT YOU CAN'T SEE,
AND YOU CAN'T SEE MUCH WITH
YOUR CHIN IN THE GRASS!**



Keep gun at shoulder when operating the bolt.

For that one fast shot in the field, the off-hand position is the one to learn, practice.



Fine for the paper puncher, prone position is poorest for hunter.



Kneeling position is useless for the hunter since it is much too unsteady.

By COLONEL CHARLES ASKINS

THEY TELL the story of the sportsman who, on a mule deer hunt in the Southwest, returned from a day's adventure to report that he had seen several fine bucks but hadn't shot one—"because there wasn't any place to lie down."

The story is probably libelous, but it does cartoon a fact—which is that a lot of shooters have been so nurtured on prone practice that they can't get off a decent shot at game under hunting conditions. And you sure don't find many occasions in game hunting where you can assume the belly-whopper position and still see anything to shoot at.

It's true that the prone position enables a shooter to learn more quickly the fundamentals of rifle accuracy. It's a fine position, provided you can point that rifle out over a few hundred yards of manicured Bermuda. The trouble is that, whether from sheer laziness or lack of urging, too few shooters ever get up off



Learn To Shoot Offhand!



You can become a good off-hand shot, but it takes much time and practice.

their belt buckles and learn to shoot the way they'll have to shoot in game country. Game just doesn't very often stay in country naked enough to let a prone gunner see much beyond the end of his barrel, and a hunter with his chin down in the grasses is about as useless as a Commie promise.

The same is true in combat, in spite of the fact that recruits get little else than prone practice in training. Only in rare circumstances, in combat, can the prone rifleman command a sufficient field of fire to make his prone accuracy potential pay off. This is not to say that the combat rifleman is not stretched flat on his face plenty often. He is! But this is to keep the other laddie from hitting him. It is not commonly the position from which he can hit the enemy.

For the practical shooter, be he combat rifleman or hunter, bench rest and prone position shooting are good for just one thing: to zero the rifle. When he was a novice, these positions doubtless did help him to learn the mechanics of sighting, of trigger control, of familiarization with the rifle; but if he is to graduate from paper targets, he should graduate to practical methods.

What is a practical shooting position that will enable a rifleman to perform effectively under field conditions?

The best position is sitting. It has many advantages. In a high percentage of circumstances, it provides enough altitude so the shooter can see over grasses, rocks, logs, and brush. It is a steady position—not as secure as prone, or as rock-like as bench rest, but certainly steady enough, with practice, to enable the shooter to deliver his bullet where he wants it. It is a stance that can be assumed in a twinkling, and it is one from which the marksman can get back on his feet quickly, moving forward or to either flank with the same movement.

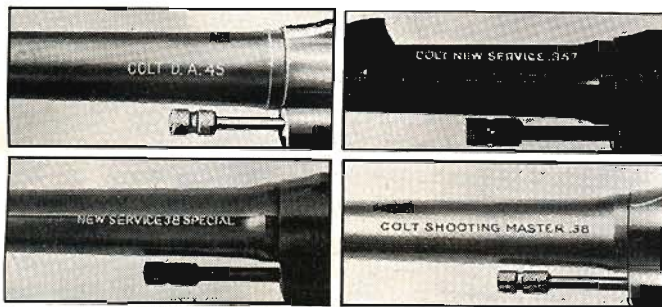
Yet it is indicative of the bad advice given hunters that most men—forgetting the chap who couldn't shoot at all except from prone—ignore the sitting position and drop instead into some adaptation of the kneeling posture. Kneeling is, at best, a sorry, wobbly, insecure shooting position. Nine target riflemen out of ten will make better scores sitting than kneeling—yet when they become hunters, they forget this and kneel when they could sit. If a man is afraid to get his backside in contact with cold, possibly even wet, terra firma, he had better stick to paper targets!

During World War II, the Army whumped up a brand new position which they called squatting. It is a pretty ridiculous posture, and it is not worth a plugged peso for shooting purposes. It is unsteady, muscle-binding, and even less likely than kneeling to provide firm support for the rifle.

There is still another way for a hunter to shoot, and that is standing. It is also called offhand shooting, and the average target rifleman hates it worse than poison. But it just happens to be the way a lot of shots have to be taken, in the game countries, if you expect to ride home with game back of your saddle or over your fender. There is no quicker way to get a shot off than from the standing position; and many times "quick" is the difference between getting and not getting. The trouble is that hardly one rifleman in a thousand can hit a saddle blanket, shooting offhand, from a distance of as much as 200 paces. It is not strange that this is so; shooting offhand is a rough, tough, he-man way to shoot, and many men refuse to give it the practice that is necessary to become good at it.

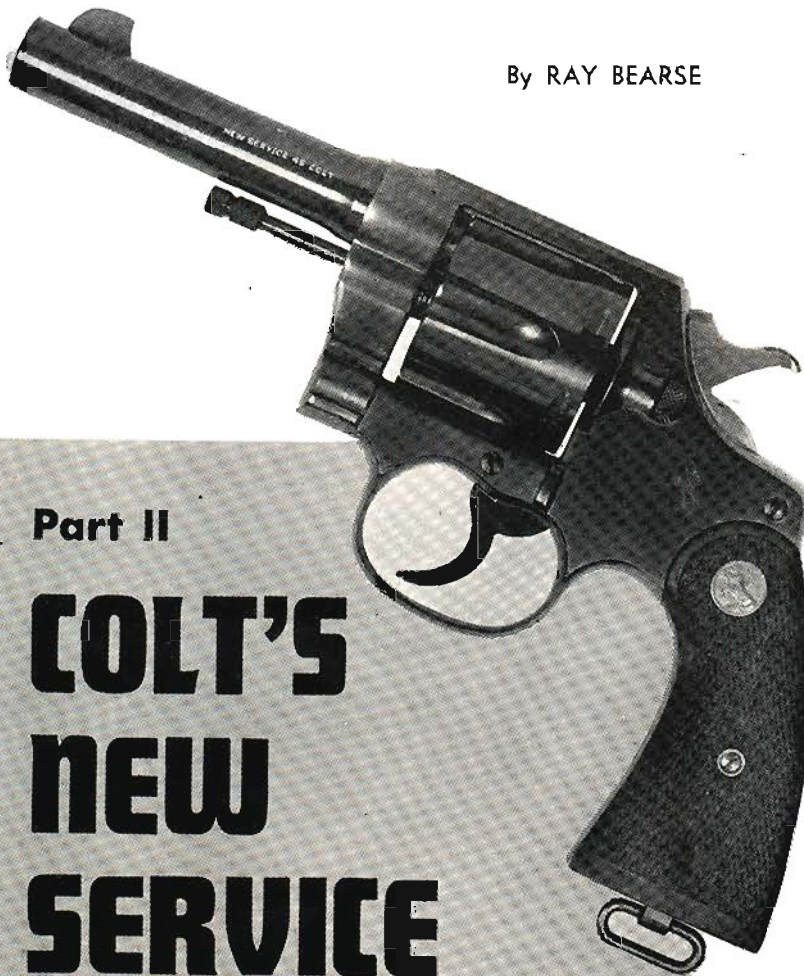
Nevertheless, it often happens that game must be shot offhand if it is to be shot at all, and the belly-slopper, however expert, finds his method useless. In brush that is hip-high to a moose, or in grass up to your eyeballs, or when the critter you want is going like a jet-goosed skyliner, the prone position won't get the job done.

Last spring, up on Kodiak Island, I watched a gent who most likely has not popped off a dozen caps offhand in the last decade, try to connect with a half-ton bruin which I reckoned (*Continued on page 52*)



Colt's New Service guns were chambered for a variety of different calibers. These were marked on the left side of the barrel and included tradename of the gun.

By RAY BEARSE



Part II

COLT'S NEW SERVICE



These are a few of the cartridges the various models of the Colt New Service were chambered for. Some of the models also accept ammunition of another caliber.

ACCORDING to Charles Coles, Colt collection consultant at the Connecticut State Library in Hartford, about 350,000 New Service guns were made by Colt, including 151,700 which were manufactured for the armed forces during World War I. Serial numbers on all guns ran consecutively, and each revolver, in addition to the government number, carried the Colt serial number. Government orders were stamped "UNITED STATES PROPERTY" on the underside of the barrel and directly over the ejector rod, and Government serial numbers were stamped on the butt. British military and commercial models carry British proof marks and military guns are also marked with the broad arrow. Several of the commercial models chambered for the .455 Eley have a rather crude stamping "Not English Made," but this is not an original Colt marking. Through the cooperation of Lt. Col. Harry W. Craig, technical liaison officer of the Ordnance Department, the following production data for the Model 1917 were made available from the report of Assistant Secretary of War Benedict Crowell "America's Munitions 1917-1918."

Colt Smith & Wesson Total

6 April — 29			
December 1917	20,900	9,513	30,413
January 1918	8,700	7,500	16,200
February 1918	8,800	8,550	17,350
March 1918	11,800	12,400	24,200
April 1918	10,400	10,650	21,050
May 1918	11,100	12,150	23,250
June 1918	11,100	14,250	23,350
July 1918	11,600	11,555	23,155
August 1918	11,300	13,358	24,658
September 1918	11,100	12,650	23,750
October 1918	13,500	16,675	30,175
November 1918	11,900	12,660	24,560
December 1918	9,500	11,400	20,900
Total	151,700	153,311	305,011

Caliber designations on the New Service are stamped on the left side of the barrel, about one inch ahead of the frame. Typical are these markings:

NEW SERVICE .45 COLT; NEW SERVICE .38 SPECIAL; NEW SERVICE TARGET .45; COLT SHOOTING MASTER .38; and NEW SERVICE .455 ELEY.

The Model 1917 chambered for the .45 ACP cartridge and the later standard commercial model chambered for this cartridge was marked COLT D.A. .45. One New Service Colt is known to be marked CALIBER .45 COLT AUTOMATIC, but no further information about this gun was obtainable.

The most common barrel marking, reading front to rear and placed atop the barrel was:

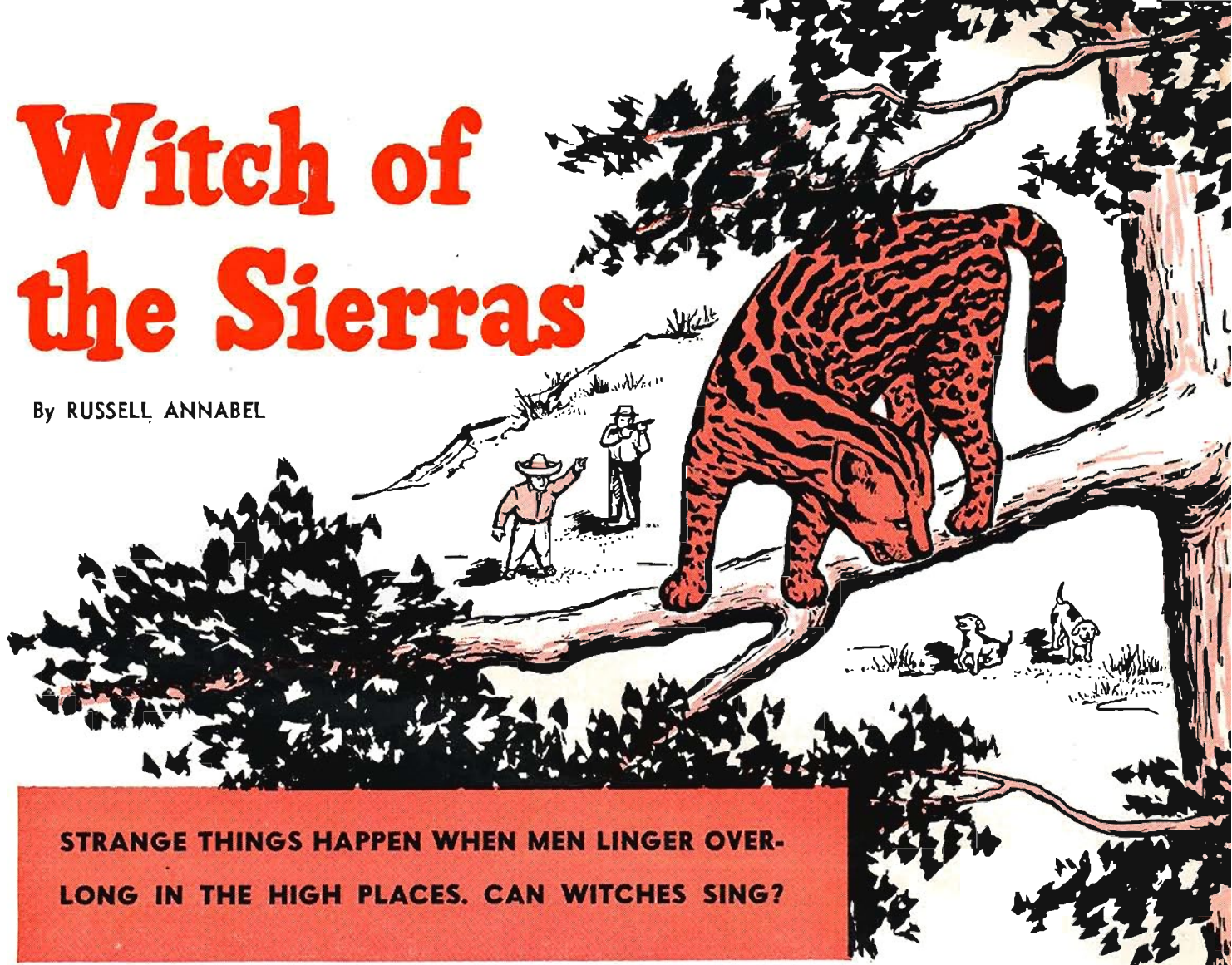
COLT'S PATENT FIREARMS MANUFACTURING CO. HARTFORD CT. USA PAT AUG 5, 1884.

Later the following additional dates were added: June 5, 1900; July 4, 1905; and Oct 5, 1926.

Army Model 1909 sixguns were marked with the government serial number on the butt and also were stamped U.S. ARMY MODEL 1917. Navy Model 1909's were marked USN 45 (*Continued on page 51*)

Witch of the Sierras

By RUSSELL ANNABEL



**STRANGE THINGS HAPPEN WHEN MEN LINGER OVER-
LONG IN THE HIGH PLACES. CAN WITCHES SING?**

IF YOU don't kill meat today," the cook said grimly, "I'm quitting this outfit. It will not grieve me to depart; I have never in my whole life had a worse job. Crazy gringo, crazy hunting for things no man wants, crazy country—all crazy, including me!"

I couldn't blame him. We had been out six months, trying to kill an onza, picking up specimens for a museum to help pay expenses; the roughest, toughest hunt in my experience. To make matters worse, we were presently in barren country from which the game, if there had been game, seemed to have disappeared completely. This was the Sierra Madre above Pueblo Juarez, in the state of Colima, Mexico.

So I told the cook that I would get meat even if I had to bushwhack a cow, if I could find a cow; and I set forth on a mule, with the spotted, battle-scarred hound who led our pack of cat dogs beside me, to fulfill my promise. I had prowled the ridges for

three hours without seeing anything that would make a meal for five men and six dogs, when the mule halted abruptly, his big ears waving. The hound uttered a low "whuf whuf," and whined a little. Only the sight or scent of a meat-worthy animal would have earned that reaction, for Pilot was a dour dog, not given to loose talk.

I hastily surveyed our surroundings, wondering if the dog had caught a hot scent or merely sniffed something from afar on the eddying breeze. Then, several hundred yards down the slope, huaraca birds started screeching and I caught, beneath them, a fleeting glimpse of a tan shape moving through the San Juan brush—a whitetail deer, angling toward me.

I slid my muzzle-loader out of its boot, and got down. The deer, a small buck, appeared in full view in an opening, and I saw that he was looking back, making a typical whitetail get-away. Something below had started him moving. His course would bring

him within 80 yards of me, but that wasn't close enough, and I started easing down the mountainside. Suddenly, far below me, a voice lifted in song. This was crazy enough, considering where I was, to remind me of the cook's comments.

It was nice singing, but the buck didn't like it. He started to run, pounding hell-for-leather up the slope toward me. I ran to get within range—tripped over something and fell; a catclaw thorn ripped my cheek; a rock rolled under me as I struggled up and I did a comedy ballet that might have earned applause in another setting. The buck heard me, of course, and set a new course. He was 40 yards off when I laid the muzzle-loader on him and pulled.

With the impact of the heavy charge, he whirled, made a long lunge, came down on his knees, and rolled. I sprinted toward him without bothering to reload—if he got away, the cook would quit! But the (Continued on page 47)

LUGERS! LUGERS! LUGERS! LUGERS!

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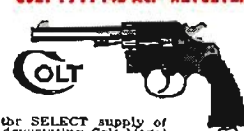
S & W 1917 .45 ACP REVOLVERS!



NOW! Famous Smith & Wesson 1917 .45 ACP Revolvers Good or better condition only \$24.95. Very good condition only \$30.00 additional. (Why pay more elsewhere?) Half moon clips only 10c each!!!!

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Select shipment of improved .38 Webley's. These have both the single and double action design and shoot the standard .38 S&W. Only \$3.00 additional for one in NRA excellent condition. A low bargain price for top value! SPECIAL! EXCELLENT to NEW leather holsters complete with loop ONLY \$1.50!



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RUSSIAN NAGANT REVOLVERS!

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Actual, original Russian army revolvers seized in close combat from Joseph Dzerzhavskii's legions by the lavishly fanatical German Wehrmacht. Now available from YE OLD HUNTER, the Irish Capitalist. Bourgeois Gun Trader in strictly good condition. Only \$3.00 more for special select. Plenty of 7.62 Nagant ammo in stock at only \$7.50 per 100!



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GLISENTI REVOLVER Cal. 10.35MM

Once again the rare Italian Glisenti Revolver at the most low price ever. The revolver that could have been the Continental fast-draw champ, received just in time for U.S. competition. Note the sleek grip and aft hammer position.



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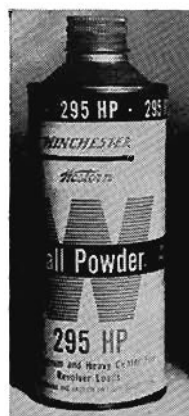
Unique, 2400, and H 240 are fine powders for the magnum handguns.

'GO MODERN' POWDERS For Big Sixes

By EDWARD M. YARD

Experimental Ballistics Associates, Trenton, N. J.

**START LOW IS THE RULE, AS
ALWAYS, BUT HERE ARE SOME TESTED
GUIDE LINES FOR "NEW"
POWDERS IN MAGNUM HANDGUNS**



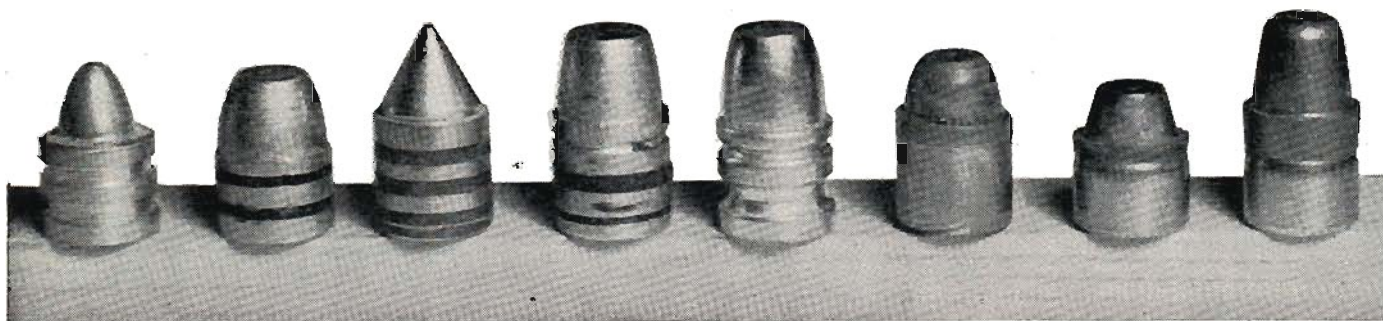
In tests, 295 HP did well.

TIME WAS when the handloader had only one choice of powder in building reloads for the .44 Special or .44 Magnum. That choice was 2400. That powder gave, and still gives, excellent performance in many loadings with a wide variety of bullets in the big handguns; but it is no longer the only powder that will do this. Today, you choose from a wide variety of powders to produce loads for every need, whether you are seeking high-accuracy with low recoil for target shooting, or smashing power for game, or long-range accuracy for varmints.

This report is based upon three years of work in testing hundreds of different load combinations in search of true reloading flexibility for the heavy handgun. All of these loads have been accurately chronographed on electronic crystal controlled counter-type instruments, and the results should give you the basic information needed for years of personal experimentation.

Powder and load development for the big handguns lagged behind bullet advances for many years. Half jacketed, zinc based, gas checked, flat or hollow pointed pills, in forms too numerous to list, made news, making the big revolvers the most effective handguns in the world. But for as long as Jesse Owens has held the broad jump record, all of these bullets were loaded ahead of just one propellant, No. 2400. The accepted top .44 Special load was around the 18 grain level of 2400 behind any of the 240 to 255 grain bullets, and more or less of the same stuff powered every other fireball.

After three years of experimenting and chronographing, I can now report on some "new" powders. Three Alcan powders (AL5, AL7, AL8), Hercules Herco, Unique, 2400, Hodgdon H240, and Winchester-Western 295HP make up an octet of versatile lead heavies unparalleled in previous years. Unique,



Double quartet of .44 slugs with new loads do better ballistic job than ever before. Loads were years in coming.



Although not new, use of these powders in handgun loads may be new to you.

once relegated to medium power loads only, can now assert its authority in new and stronger guns when assigned to accelerating light balls to fancy velocities. Winchester-Western's high power entry, 295HP, is joined by a target load partner, 230HP. Both of them are ball powders. Herco, like Unique, is an old timer that just recently came to full recognition because of stronger guns and modern chronograph facilities. Amateur ballistics experimenters, until very recently, have not had accurate chronograph equipment. Those few hardy souls who worked with pendulums were drastically curtailed in the amount of work they could do. Progress was painfully slow. Most of us, including the writer, were just out in the dark. Now, counter chronographs are available to us, and light is available where once all was darkness.

Some combinations in .44 Magnum and .357 Magnum run pressures up to 40,000 p.s.i. or higher and are safe only in guns designed to handle these pressures. No heavy load of any kind

should ever be fired in altered or converted revolvers or pistols, or anything but modern guns designed for these pressures. *A word of caution to the inexperienced:* load development work and ballistics experimentation is playing with gunpowder. Unless you know what you are doing, *leave it alone.*

Alcan's AL5, AL7, AL8, as well as Herco, are shotgun powders designed to accelerate heavy shot charges to handgun velocities with short pressure peaks. Unique has similar characteristics and is also used to load shotshells. This similarity with pistol powders led me to start an extensive load development program which began in 1957 and is not completed. So far, more than 400 different load combinations have been chronographed and over 5000 rounds were fired in the .44's alone.

The Alcan powders, made by Bofors in Sweden, are of the flake type and are excellent. AL5 and AL7 have burning characteristics similar to those of Herco. They are best with medium weight .44 bullets at maximum veloc-

ity, and heavy .357 bullets. AL8 is excellent with heavy bullets to maximum velocities. Its bulk makes accidental overloads improbable. All are clean burning.

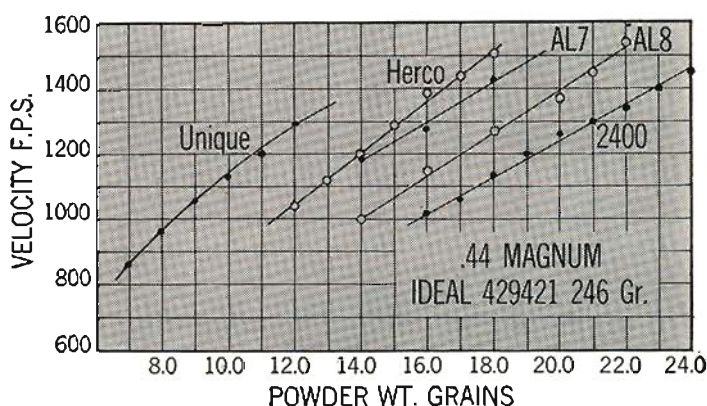
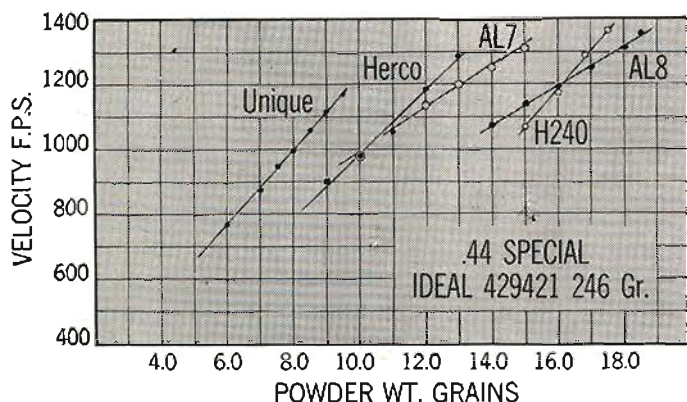
Herco is a disc grained powder, like H240, 2400, Unique, and Bullseye. It is close enough to AL7 so that it is often impossible to plot loads for both powders on the same graph. It is a very uniform performer, doing well with either light or heavy bullets, and gives very little velocity variation. If you had a single choice, Herco is one of the best.

Unique bears a superficial resemblance to Herco, as does Bullseye. Both are faster burning powders. Unique, in modern guns capable of taking magnum pressures, is an excellent propellant for light bullets—even to maximum velocities. It is also a versatile medium power propellant with any weight of bullet, giving very uniform velocities under wide variations in load density.

Hercules' 2400 is physically not distinguishable from H240, except for its almost black color. Care must be taken not to confuse them in loading as H240 is faster burning and must be loaded at least 10 per cent below 2400 data. 2400 is about as slow burning a powder as can be used successfully in short barrels, and is best used for heavy loads with large bullets.

H240 is faster and burns more completely than 2400. It can be used for a greater range of loads, overlapping the AL5, AL7, Herco area. It appears to be similar to the powder loaded in the Remington .44 Magnums ammunition. Winchester-Western 230HP, a fast burning ball type powder for match loads, is comparable to Bullseye and 5066. These powders are designed for target loads, are quick burning and small charges ignite easily. They are

(Continued on page 43)





Pull!

BY DICK MILLER

PULL! salutes the performance of United States men and women in the 38th International Shooting Union Championships, held in Cairo, Egypt. Yank gunners, despite some handicapping illnesses, gave a good account of themselves in all of the games, with pistol, rifle, and (of special interest to readers of this column) in the unfamiliar international-style clay target matches.

While the International Shooting Union Games are certainly, like the Olympic Games, not set up for, or designed for, propaganda advantage to either Communist or Non-Communist nations, human nature being what it is, the performance of nationals on both sides is closely watched and evaluated.

It was apparent in the recent ISU games at Cairo that the concern for performance of our shooters in international competition on the part of all responsible shooting organizations in this country is being reflected in better scores.

The United States skeet team won the team event in this portion of the games with a score of 394, and set a new world record. Team members were Thomas Heffron, Robert Rodale, Ed Calhoun, and Kenneth Pendergrass. The USSR team was second, Sweden third, West Germany fourth, and our sister North American nation, Canada, fifth.

Yank shooters had to share some of the skeet glory with a shooter from Russia, who won the individual competition with a perfect 200, also a new world record. Another USSR shooter took second, Heffron and Pendergrass nailed down third and fourth places in the individual rankings, with Rodale and Calhoun accounting for 7th and 17th places, respectively. Caliber of the competition is shown by Calhoun's 17th place score of 194, just six targets away from the new world record.

Not as an alibi, because no alibi is needed, but only in the way of explanation, as this column has previously explained, the international skeet game is not the skeet game you see at your near-by skeet club. The gun stock in ISU skeet games must be at hip level, can't be placed on the shoulder. A shooter must also be "steady to point," because the target does not come on call, but at any instant up to three seconds later.

Some of the skeet old-timers who read this column will remember variable timers, and will also remember with some relief the advent of the instant timer. Waiting for up to three seconds for a target to appear, and with the gun butt not on the shoulder, had a way of separating the men from the boys in skeet. And, I mean no downgrading

of the current crop of hot juniors by that comparison. Ron Ford's performance at Montreal, the first time he saw the international game, showed that juniors can shoot 'em when they call for 'em or at any later interval.

I do mean that scores under ISU rules run consistently less than under domestic rules. The old saying of "break 'em all, then outlast the rest of the gang who broke 'em all in a shoot-off," does not hold in the ISU game. As Russian Durniev's record-breaking 200 shows, a perfect score under these rules usually will let you rest in the clubhouse until time to award the trophies.

The United States ladies showed up better at Cairo than many of our female representatives in other sports. Marjorie Annan from Aspen, Colorado, took second in the Ladies individual event, won by a Venezuelan. Charlotte Berkenkamp took second for the U.S. in International trap, just one target behind the winning Russian.

And, if an explanation is needed that ISU skeet rules differ from the domestic version, it is needed even more in the trap game. ISU trap bears only a slight resemblance to the game we see near almost any American town. The ISU game calls for faster, longer, and much more difficult targets, thrown from 15 traps instead of one. About the only real similarity between ISU trap and the domestic version is that both are long-range clay target games.

American men also recorded a very creditable showing in the trap games. Our team of Lt. Bill Brauer, M/Sgt. Dave Dunsmoor, Sgt/Maj. Harold Grewe, and Lt. Gordon Horner, placed fifth in team events, behind USSR, East Germany, UAR, and Italy. Team score was 764, against the winning Russian effort of 777. Sgt. Grewe, whose shooting efforts have made Pull! in more than one earlier issue, posted a 293 score, good for fourth in individual standings, and just two targets off the 295 posted by Russia's Zimenko (winner) and second place Singh of India. Horner's 292 gained him seventh place. Scores of 287 and 283 brought 22nd and 37th places to Brauer and Dunsmoor.

Tryouts for the teams and individuals who represented the United States in the clay target events at Cairo were held at the Air Force Marksmanship Training Center, Lackland Air Force Base, Texas.

This column again expresses the opinion that fielding teams to represent the United States in international shooting events under ISU rules is far better than fielding larger teams for bigger shooting matches under rules laid down by a Geneva convention for international warfare. It's better

to shoot side-by-side with our opponents, even if we are beaten, than to shoot at them, and to have them shooting at us. And, medals won under ISU rules come easier than medals earned under Geneva rules.

* * *

Since it's beginning in 1958, your Pull! column has had only one purpose. That purpose has been to mirror the doings of trap and skeet shooters in the national shooter's magazine, and from time to time to interject some comments of interest to those shooters who follow the great games of skeet and trap. Your Pull! conductor whiled away many a pleasant day shooting in tournaments of both sports, after many years as a small-bore shooter, rifle variety (*I blush to admit*), and thus can claim to speak the language of the clay target games, and also to understand (so far as is possible) the workings of clay target shooter's minds.

This background prepared me in some degree to weigh the comments received as a result of an invitation to speak out on attitudes toward international clay target games included in Pull! for December 1962.

Mail received as this column is written indicates that domestic shooters have no really strong opinions on the international games, but that they did avail themselves of an opportunity to speak out on those domestic games that are near and dear to their hearts.

To no one's surprise, especially mine, mail from the December issue indicates that:

1. Skeet shooters, in the majority, are not interested in shooting for cash or merchandise prizes, and attach more than a little affection to the trophies usually awarded winners in skeet events.

2. Trap shooters, by and large, feel that suitably engraved photographs of Presidents, on green paper, and easily negotiable, make dandy prizes.

One former skeet shooter, whose job change took him from a town with a skeet range, to a town that offered trap as the clay target bill of fare, did come up with some observations that should be noted by conductors of trap programs.

While he was willing to grant veteran trapshooters the right to cash in on their shooting abilities, gained from long apprenticeship over the traps, he sincerely and fairly presented an observation that the sheep should not be thrown to the wolves quite so quickly.

In other words, he made the point that trap might gain more converts from the shoot-for-fun boys, if the neophytes were equaded only with those of comparable ability during the learning process. This, of course, refers only to club shoots, and not to tournaments sanctioned by the ATA, where shooters are grouped by known ability and record.

What this writer objected to was having a few hotshots spotting themselves with beginners, and walking off with the loot. This is a just complaint, in my opinion. Fortunately, few clubs are operated in this fashion, but even a few is too many. Club officials should make sure that their clubs are not among the offenders.

Observers from the ranks of all other sports have always marveled at the sportsmanship displayed by clay target shooters. Let's keep it that way, and help both these great sports continue to grow.



REMINGTON Presents The NEW M-1100

By E. B. MANN



**ALL THE PUNCH — HALF THE KICK
IS CLAIM MADE FOR NEW SHOTGUN**

THEY SAY that "Everybody talks about the weather, but nobody does anything about it." In guns, everybody has talked about recoil; but here, practically everybody has done something about it—muzzle brakes, butt cushions, even complex stock mechanisms to absorb the force with which a gun comes back against your shoulder.

Now Remington announces a shotgun which, without any of these devices, cuts recoil approximately in half—or, as Remington states it, reduces recoil "up to 40 per cent with magnum loads as compared to other automatics, and 55 per cent less recoil than 'fixed action' models."

This is a startling claim, but a number of pretty skeptical gun editors and writers who fired box after box of heavy trap and wildfowl loads through a battery of M-1100s at a recent Remington seminar came away convinced that the Bridgeport boys had scored a breakthrough. If we hadn't seen high-flying geese fold and fall when we hit them, we'd have thought we were shooting pip-squeak loads in sub gauges.

The Model 1100 is a five-shot gas-operated gun (three-shot plug furnished), with a cross-bolt safety operated by a button at the rear of the trigger guard. The receiver is solid steel, top matted, with scroll engraving on both sides. There is scroll work also on the bolt. Stock and fore-end are of rich American Walnut, standard 14" length, 2½" drop at heel, 1⅝" drop at comb. The weight is about 7½ pounds, subject to variations in the wood.

In addition to the metal engraving, stock and fore-end are both checkered with a fleur-de-lis pattern. The stock has a full grip with custom-style cap. Both the grip cap and butt plate are provided with white spacers. The grip cap has an inlaid white diamond pattern.

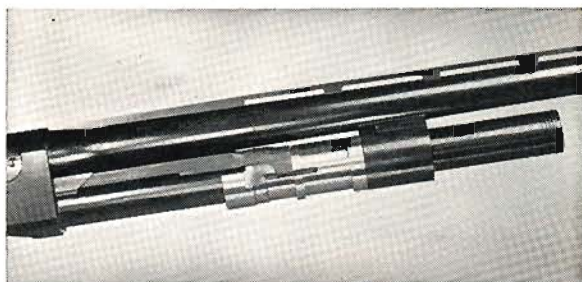
A new, more durable wood finish, "as tough as that used on bowling balls," was developed especially for this gun. Weatherproof and oilproof, it is chip and scratch resistant and color-fast. A new, high-gloss, rust-resistant finish is used on metal parts.

Remington claims too that the shooting life of the M-1100 is "up to seven times longer than that of other automatics," due to its light recoil, its buffered impact areas, new barrel extension (integral with the barrel) new receiver, and other factors. More than half a million shot shells of all kinds were fired to prove the ruggedness and dependability of the Model 1100 action.

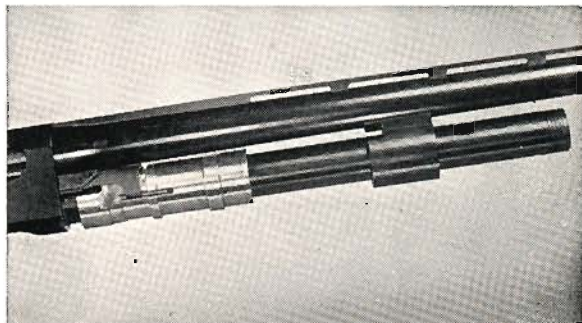
Because gas for operating the action is taken off nearer the chamber, where pressures are higher and more consistent, a smaller take-off orifice has been used. In addition, the piston is located (Continued on page 43)



Top matted solid steel receiver and bolt on new gun are engraved, walnut stock has the standard dimensions, is checkered, finish is weatherproof.

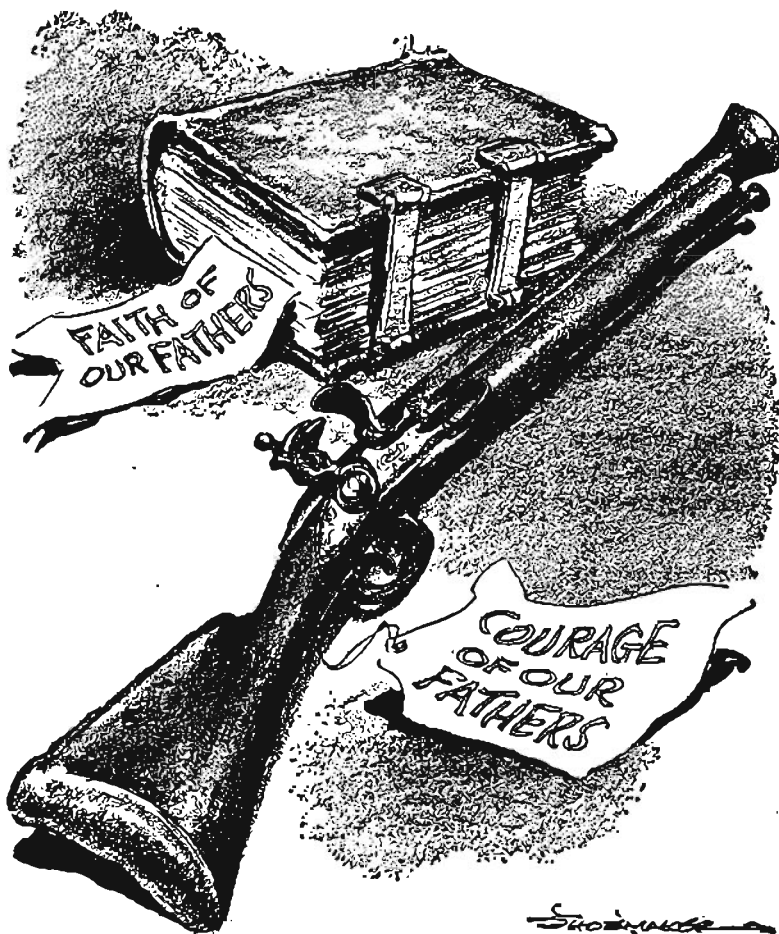


Detail of Remington 1100 shows gas port closer to breech where gas pressures are highest. Thus, smaller orifice is adequate, there is less kick.



Protect What Makes Us Strong!

WE NEED THEM BOTH



—Courtesy "Chicago's American"

**PARTNERS IN OUR PAST, GOSPEL AND
GUN MUST BOTH BE KEPT TO GUARD OUR FUTURE**

By JAMES E. SERVEN

THERE IS a saying that you can insure against loss by fire and theft but you can't insure against loss by legislation. This is only partly true—there are steps you can take to prevent loss by legislation, and I want to point out a few of those steps.

The first thing to realize in devising effective insurance measures against loss by legislation is that this kind of insurance cannot be bought—like freedom, you have to work for it. That means *everyone* who values the right to own and bear arms must get off the well-padded seat and do something about it. Too often we hear the question "What can I do?" You can do plenty! And we'll get into that shortly.

All efforts to educate and influence people are normally governed by a purpose, a plan, and a program. To determine these features, analysis and research must be undertaken first. So let us first analyze the factors which have the greatest influence in determining the rules by which we may or may not enjoy firearms ownership.

The United States Supreme Court has the final word on the important question of the constitutionality of laws which may affect firearms ownership; the laws originate primarily in the United States Congress, the State Legislatures, and in some municipalities. It is presumed that these laws are enacted in response to proposals in the public interest. Unfortunately, democratic process at this point runs into tricky waters. Through hysteria, pressure, or selfish interest, unworkable or unjust restrictive laws like the Volstead Act, the Sullivan law, and various others are occasionally hung around the public's neck. Many unwise proposals have been enacted into law because a majority of the lawmakers were misinformed, not because they were unresponsive to their legislative duties.

If we are to prevent unwise measures in the field of firearms legislation, we have a job to do in creating the true public image (*Continued on page 61*)

THE MAN WHO MADE MURDER DANGEROUS

(Continued from page 18)

tangled skein of evidence to find the thread that will lead to the killer is the intellectual exercise that surpasses all others. It is a test of wits and skill, giving him the same satisfaction some men get from unravelling a complex mathematical formula. It is a game of chess on the grand scale.

In his early years of scientific crime detection, Mathews developed improvements in the dermal nitrate test to determine by examination of the hands of a suspect whether he had recently fired a gun. He perfected the comparison camera for recording evidence that test bullets were—or were not—identical to bullets fired from a murder weapon. He developed a photographic technique for taking stereoscopic pictures of identifying marks on fired shells or edged tools—a three-dimensional view is often essential for the portrayal of true shapes.

"In one case," he recalls, "an accused man was cleared of a murder charge through an application of stereomicrography. The photographs showed conclusively that the test and evidence shells could not have been fired from the same gun, since the firing pin marks were different in shape. Ordinary photography had failed to show any difference, and without the stereophotos the man would almost certainly have been convicted."

Mathews' mind is an instrument of piercing logic, reflecting a lifetime of work in two fields where logic is the basis of all things—science and crime detection. It works for an accused as well as against him. Many men and women who might have been damned by circumstances against them, have reason to be eternally grateful to the complex instruments Mathews has devised—and to the mind behind those instruments.

By the late 1920s, Mathews saw the need for a wide variety of measurements of the rifling in all existing handguns. With this information in his file, he knew that the make and caliber of any pistol involved in a crime would be identifiable from a bullet fired through it, or at least the search could be considerably narrowed down by this information. Such measurements of these guns, if available in book form to all law enforcement agencies, would enormously expedite their work. Measurements of this kind would be particularly valuable, he saw, as more and more foreign guns of literally hundreds of makes and types began finding their way into the United States. Without this information on file, the police and he, himself, would be faced with the impossible job of identifying guns whose names, makes, and possibly even calibers, were unknown.

"Many cheap guns," he explains, "were not made according to any known specifications, and probably none existed in a great many instances. This is particularly true of the many Spanish guns made before Franco limited production to three manufacturers. Also, even when accurate specifications have been adopted by manufacturers, these specifications may not have been followed accurately by the men who actually produced the guns."

So Mathews began to compile records of the measurements of every gun he could get his hands on. He measured the diameter of the bore from groove to groove and land to land. He measured the slope of the rifling,

and noted the number of grooves and the direction of the twist of the rifling. To measure the slope of rifling in the barrels of pistols, he and a skilled mechanic named Lee Henke built the world's first—and possibly, even today, the only—rifling meter.



Mathews takes the land and groove measurements of a Colt automatic.

This meter is designed to force a lead disk through the gun's barrel. It engages the rifling and is turned as it moves through the barrel, acting in much the same way as a bullet. A calibrated dial then measures the distance required for the rifling to make one entire revolution—the standard method for measuring the twist of rifling. The lead disk can also be used to measure the distance across the lands and grooves within the barrel. With this instrument, Mathews rounded out his complement of exact measurements by which a gun's type and make can be de-

duced from measurements of a bullet fired through it.

One of the first cases in which Mathews turned to his file of information on guns to pinpoint a killer occurred in Milwaukee. In this case, there was no evidence other than two fatal bullets and two empty shell cases.

A horse trader named John Schill had gone to his barn one evening and failed to return. His wife became alarmed and investigated, and found him lying on the barn floor, a gunshot wound in the back of his head. At the autopsy, the pathologist removed two 6.35 mm jacketed bullets. These, along with two shells found on the barn floor, were brought to Mathews' laboratory.

"Measurements of the widths of the grooves on the fired bullets showed that they could not have been fired from any gun of American make, but there were four guns of foreign make that had lands capable of producing the extremely narrow grooves found on the bullets," Mathews relates.

The Milwaukee police were alerted to look for a 6.35 mm Bergmann or three other guns of similar caliber named by Mathews. None of the guns were by any means common, but three months later an enterprising detective learned that a certain bartender was believed to have once owned a Bergmann. He investigated.

"Sure, I've got a Bergmann," said the bartender, producing the gun promptly.

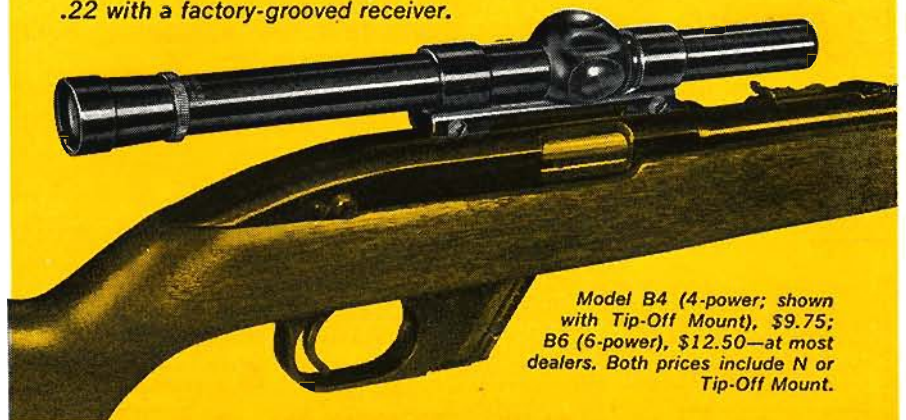
"Has this gun been in your possession continuously for the past six months?" asked the detective.

"Except for a few days," said the bartender. "A friend named Harry Moore said he wanted to buy it, and I let him try it out."

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He kept it a couple of days, and then he brought it back, said he didn't want it."

The bartender agreed to let the gun be taken to Mathews. Three test cartridges were fired. The test bullets all bore markings that matched those on the two evidence bullets. The marks on the test shell cases were identical to those on evidence shells.

Moore was taken into custody and confronted with the evidence. He confessed and is serving a life term.

"This case was of particular interest," Mathews says, "because the murderer was at no time a suspect. He had completely baffled investigators. There existed no apparent motive for the crime."

What police did not know until Moore confessed was that he had apparently been

nursing an infatuation for the victim's wife. He hoped to take over where Schill left off.

In murder, as in nearly everything else, it does not pay to take anything for granted, says Mathews. This was never more clearly brought out than in a multiple murder in northern Wisconsin.

An Eau Claire filling station operator named Brenden was shot in his car while parked in a cemetery one night about 1:30. The bullet which killed him passed through his head and was stopped by the glass of the car window. It dropped on his coat sleeve.

"Twenty minutes later, and 10 miles away," Mathews relates, "a filling station was held up in Chippewa Falls by a man who ran from the station to his car, firing upon some truck drivers who, he believed, could identify

him." The man then went home, shot his wife and children, set fire to his house, and committed suicide in his garage. In his pocket was a gun of the same caliber that had killed Brenden.

"The police called it an open and shut case," continues Mathews. "The man had time to drive from Eau Claire to Chippewa Falls, if he drove fast. It seemed all the more logical because filling station operators were involved in both shootings."

An astute district attorney, however, was not entirely satisfied with the evidence. He brought the bullet and suspect gun to Mathews. One glance told Mathews that the bullet could not have been fired from the gun. "The rifling twist on the bullet is left-handed," he said, "and the twist on the gun is right-handed. You must look farther for your murderer."

The search for the murderer of Brenden was resumed—but there was no evidence other than the bullet. A 17 year old boy became a suspect, and the police found a revolver in his dresser drawer. The gun was sent to Mathews. This time, it was a different story. Mathews positively identified it as the gun used to kill Brenden. Faced with the evidence, the young man confessed.

Mathews adds: "There was no other evidence against him. If he had known it, he could have reached over and picked the bullet up from Brenden's sleeve. Without that, we would have had no case."

In a great many murder cases such as this one, knowledge of the caliber and make of gun from which a fatal bullet was fired will lead to the killer. With this in mind, Mathews began work some 15 years ago on an enormous project. He began a collection of photographs and measurements of the rifling characteristics of every handgun known to exist. These pictures and measurements fill the monumental two-volume set of books recently published by the Wisconsin Press.

Some of the guns pictured in Mathews' volumes date well back into the last century, but information on them is important, since many are still in circulation and quite capable of firing a bullet. As Mathews points out, an old gun may serve a criminal purpose at least as well as a new one. In the volumes are photographs of some 3,000 guns, with rifling measurements on more than 2,300 guns from 23 countries. Hundreds of trade and other identification marks which might aid in identification have also been photographed.

In his work on handguns, Mathews has been far from the front line of criminal investigation, but his inventions and his compilation of handguns are among the world's major contributions to law and order. Techniques he has developed have helped make murder a dangerous business indeed.

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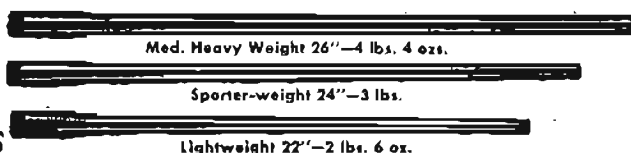
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REMINGTON PRESENTS THE NEW M-1100

(Continued from page 39)

outside of the magazine tube instead of inside, permitting freer venting of excess gas. This results in reduced carbon deposits in the orifice and on the gas cylinder, making for the cleanest possible operation.

A new magazine spring makes loading far easier. Magazine capacity is 4 shots. With one shell in the chamber, total capacity is 5 shots. A 3-shot plug is furnished for use when hunting migratory waterfowl.

The action spring is located in the stock, where there is plenty of room. This makes it possible to use a better designed spring, easing manual opening.

Takedown of the 1100 is simple. The barrel can be removed with the action either opened or closed and the fore-end can be removed separately if desired. Barrels of different chokes and lengths can be interchanged within gauges without any special fitting or tools.

The Model 1100 will be available in 12 gauge in early 1963 in models chambered for either 2 3/4 inch or 3 inch shells, in a

full variety of barrel lengths and chokes, with plain or ventilated rib barrels. It will be offered in 16 and 20 gauges in 1964.

Price is not yet fixed, but we were promised that it would be well within the market. If so, this gun will be a seller. Recoil is a major factor against shotgun effectiveness on either clay or feathered targets, even with shooters who claim not to be bothered by recoil. Maybe you don't flinch, but the punch of a hard-kicking gun certainly does interrupt the smoothness of your swing, after the correct positioning of the gun, on repeat shots. Lessen the recoil, and you will score more hits. This gun reduces recoil. If Remington can sell that to hit-hungry gunners, they'll find their new M-1100 breaking sales records.

The Remington boys have some other new items in their ammo lines about which we'll report in "Gun Rack" later . . . And don't look now but, later this year Remington will have another surprise for you. It's in the works now; watch GUNS for the unveiling.

"GO MODERN" POWDERS

(Continued from page 37)

not suitable for heavy loads, and are not included in this report.

Winchester's 295HP is a slow burning ball type powder that is approximately equivalent to 2400. It is suited only for heavy and magnum loads with large bullets, and is easily and accurately measured. It is so slow burning that most of the other powders do better in the .44 Special. Its best potential is in the .357 Magnum and .44 Magnum.

The tabulations of representative loads for these eight powders is a sampling of the best results obtained in my tests. A complete compilation of all tests would be unmanageable. The load velocity charts demonstrate how these powders perform, and the graphs will be valuable in guiding your load development work. The tables of loads for various powders and bullets are presented to show how these components work together in big handguns.

All listed loads were chronographed on accurate, counter-type instruments, and test fired in my guns. The velocities given are actual velocities fired from a revolver, and not pressure-test-gun values, which are usually high.

Although no hot loads are listed in the tables, it is quite possible that one or the other load might prove to be so in your gun. The data presented here are to be used as guides only, and you must develop your load to fit your need and your gun. And with some experimentation, it is quite conceivable that you'll hit on a load that will be even better than some of the ones I used. That is what makes handloading and load developing interesting, worthwhile and fun!

CHRONOGRAPHED LOADS

.44 SPECIAL

Ideal 431244—254 Grain Thompson Gas Check

AL5	11.0 Grains	1020 F.p.s.
	12.0 Grains	1085 F.p.s.
	13.0 Grains	1155 F.p.s.
Herco	11.0 Grains	1050 F.p.s.
	12.0 Grains	1160 F.p.s.
	13.0 Grains	1280 F.p.s.

AL8	16.0 Grains	1120 F.p.s.
	18.0 Grains	1310 F.p.s.
H240	15.0 Grains	1015 F.p.s.
	17.0 Grains	1300 F.p.s.
295HP	15.0 Grains	920 F.p.s.
	16.0 Grains	975 F.p.s.
	17.0 Grains	1050 F.p.s.

Harvey Jugular Jacketed—263 Grain

AL8	18.0 Grains	1310 F.p.s.
Ideal 429421—246 Grain Keith		
AL5	11.0 Grains	1045 F.p.s.
	12.0 Grains	1125 F.p.s.
	13.0 Grains	1185 F.p.s.
AL7	12.0 Grains	1140 F.p.s.
	13.0 Grains	1200 F.p.s.
	14.0 Grains	1250 F.p.s.
AL8	14.0 Grains	1070 F.p.s.
	16.0 Grains	1190 F.p.s.
	18.0 Grains	1310 F.p.s.
H240	15.0 Grains	1070 F.p.s.
	17.0 Grains	1300 F.p.s.

.44 SPECIAL

Ideal 429421—246 Grain Keith

Herco	11.0 Grains	1050 F.p.s.
	12.0 Grains	1190 F.p.s.
	13.0 Grains	1290 F.p.s.

.44 MAGNUM

(Ideal 429421—246 Grain Keith)

Herco	16.0 Grains	1385 F.p.s.
	18.0 Grains	1510 F.p.s.
AL8	22.0 Grains	1540 F.p.s.
H240	20.0 Grains	1380 F.p.s.
	21.0 Grains	1490 F.p.s.
	22.0 Grains	1545 F.p.s.
	24.0 Grains	1610 F.p.s.

Ideal 429220—175 Grain

Unique	14.0 Grains	1735 F.p.s.
295HP	23.0 Grains	1400 F.p.s.

Ideal 429303—205 Grain Gas Check

AL8	24.0 Grains	1535 F.p.s.
H240	22.0 Grains	1560 F.p.s.

.357 MAGNUM

Ideal 360302—130 Grain

Herco	12.5 Grains	1590 F.p.s.
	13.5 Grains	1665 F.p.s.

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2400	16.0 Grains	1445 F.p.s.
Herco	12.0 Grains	1550 F.p.s.
	12.5 Grains	1650 F.p.s.

Half Jacketed—155 Grain

Herco	11.5 Grains	1360 F.p.s.
2400	16.0 Grains	1420 F.p.s.
H240	15.0 Grains	1550 F.p.s.
	16.0 Grains	1675 F.p.s.

Ideal 358429—170 Grain

AL5	12.0 Grains	1360 F.p.s.
	12.5 Grains	1405 F.p.s.
2400	15.5 Grains	1375 F.p.s.

.38 SPECIAL


127 Grain—Half Jacketed

AL8	11.0 Grains	1145 F.p.s.
Unique	7.0 Grains	1150 F.p.s.

146 Grain—Half Jacketed HP

Herco	10.5 Grains	1350 F.p.s.
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KNIVES OF THE FRONTIERSMEN

(Continued from page 29)

early days of the '49ers, a crowbar, a sheath knife, and a gold pan were considered a full set of mining tools.

I have purposely given immediate attention to "Green River" knives of the Russell Company because this firm holds a unique position as a pioneer in the manufacture of American cutlery, and it has enjoyed pre-eminence in this field from its founding right up to the present day. John Russell founded his Green River Works in 1834.

Russell knives became known generally as "Green River" knives, and some confusion has surrounded this "Green River" derivation. The most prominent Green River is that tributary of the Colorado which wanders down through Wyoming, runs briefly into the northwest corner of Colorado, and then flows south through Utah to its junction with the Colorado. The valley of this river was a favorite hunting and trapping ground of Kit Carson, James Clyman, William Sublette, Jim Baker, and other Mountain Men. Baker had two hair-raising encounters with grizzly bears in the Green River valley. In each case it was deep thrusts with his knife that saved Baker's hide. Probably as many "Green River" knives were used along this stretch of country as anywhere in the world—but this was not the river which gave Russell knives their famous *Green River* trade-mark. They came by their name because of a small stream called the Green River that ran past the Russell Works near Greenfield, Massachusetts.

Despite a fire, destructive floods, and country-wide financial panics, John Russell guided his cutlery company in a successful manner right up to the time of his retirement in 1868. In that year, the company moved into a new plant at Turners Falls, Mass. In 1935, soon after the Russell Company merged with the John Harrington Company, the manufacturing efforts were transferred to a more modern plant at Southbridge, Mass., the present home.

In 1868, the Russell Company was incorporated and the name changed from *J. Russell & Co. Green River Works* to *John Russell Manufacturing Co.* In 1873, the company was reorganized and the name changed to *John Russell Cutlery Co.* In 1932, through merger, the firm name became *Russell Harrington Cutlery Co.*

We are told that, in the period 1840-1860, the Russell Co. shipped 5000 dozen knives per year. Most of these went west to such prominent outfitters as Pierre Chouteau in St. Louis. Cost at wholesale was \$1.50 to \$3.50 per dozen. The common type of skinning or butcher knives could be purchased for 50 cents apiece at retail in St. Louis, but out at the remote trading posts they cost \$1.50 to \$2.00 each. Here sometimes a beaver skin worth \$8-10 would be traded for a knife.

The few pages devoted to this story do not permit extensive or very detailed discussion, as interesting as that might be to some; but I shall attempt to provide, by the accompanying illustrations and this text, pertinent data about four of the prominent manufacturers who gave to American-made knives a quality at least equal to that of knives made by the older European manufacturers of Sheffield, Solingen, or Toledo.

Knives from Sheffield, England, were imported to America in great quantities. Many were very fancy, their blades etched with mottoes and figures. It is significant that some of these Sheffield knives were marked *GREEN RIVER KNIFE*, in an effort to capitalize on the excellent reputation of Russell's Green River Works. I have seen no knives made in the world-famous cutlery center of Sheffield (or elsewhere) which surpassed the best grade of the American-made product.

The belt (sheath) knife was given a rather prosaic place in American life until the early 1800s. Then tales of the prowess of the legendary James Bowie, one of the heroic martyrs at the Alamo, were spread about the land and the belt knife suddenly was elevated from its commonplace role to a position of dramatic prominence. Jim Bowie's brother, Rezin P. Bowie, is credited with designing Jim's first knife, and some claim that James Black of Washington, Arkansas, made the big Bowie knife that was used in many of Jim Bowie's knife-wielding encounters.

There is an interesting chapter in Harold L. Peterson's excellent book, *"American Knives,"* which treats with the question, "What is a true bowie knife?" It is pointed



out that there are four schools of thought on this subject. Some nominate only very large, heavy knives with a clipped point (a concave arc from point to top of blade). Some say large sheath knives of any kind qualify. Others say any sheath knife of the 1830-1890 period is a bowie. And still another group will classify a bowie knife as any sheath knife with a clipped point, regardless of size. It is apparent that these various views cannot be reconciled, and the definition of a bowie knife may always be subject to personal opinion.

In the early days, there may have been some distinct features to identify a true bowie knife. We learn in Edwin Bryant's 1847 description of a frontiersman that "a leathern girdle surrounds the waist, from which are suspended a bowie and a hunter's knife." Bryant was a newspaper man, a keen observer, and a man who knew frontiersmen from long association. This statement not only suggests the bowie was a special type of knife, but it also indicates that "bowie knife" had by 1847 become a common term.

It is certain that with the passing of the years an ever-increasing number of knives of various sizes and shapes were called "bowie knives." We can be reasonably accurate in assuming that a bowie knife, in popular parlance, was a good-sized knife carried in a sheath (scabbard) at the belt and capable of hard, effective usage for all the various purposes to which a knife might be put on our rough frontiers. In general, *belt*, *sheath* and *bowie* are here used as descriptive adjectives meaning very much the same kind of knives.

A good example of this general "bowie knife" class is a knife John D. Chevalier designated as his "California Knife," so let us now turn our attention to John Chevalier. We have good reason to believe that a knife marked "Chevalier's California Knife" in the Gerald G. Fox collection, also bearing presentation inscription and dated 1849, was one of a group of five or six knives purchased by Rezin Bowie and presented by Bowie to important people of that period.

I have two Chevalier belt knives in my collection, and these are two of the best-made knives I have ever seen. They are stout in construction, nicely finished, and well balanced. That kind of workmanship could be expected of a man like John Chevalier, who was expert not only in the making of standard cutlery but who also produced precise dental and surgical instruments.

The earliest Chevalier listing in the New York City directory is that of 1835-36, and at this time J. D. Chevalier's place of business was at 169 William Street. By 1853, Chevalier had moved to 360 Broadway. My presentation Chevalier knife illustrated here and dated 1857 bears the 360 Broadway, New York, address on the blade.

Several years after the sales office was moved to Broadway, the Chevalier manufactory was located at 14-16 Amity Place, New York. At the start of the war between the states, the sales offices were moved to 639 Broadway. The last listing for the Chevalier firm was in 1871-72, and this showed the address as 7 East 20th Street.

During the 35 years or so of John D. Chevalier's operations, he changed the firm name from John D. Chevalier to John D. Chevalier & Sons, and then to John D. Chevalier & Son. John D. Chevalier, Jr., was associated with his father in the latter years of the business.

The excellent products turned out by John Chevalier and his sons were very popular in the West, where knives were so widely used. An official of the Pony Express, in describing Pony Express riders, stated "they were girt occasionally with a brace of pistols, but almost always with a heavy bowie knife." By the 1860s, the bowie knife had become a common part of western attire and was widely used in other parts of the country by outdoor men; some men hung a bowie on their belt for self defense—some for less noble motives.

A number of small knife-making establishments turned out knives throughout the East and in the South during the 1800s, but I know of none in these areas who could approach the stature of Russell and Chevalier, with the possible exception of the Ames Mfg. Co., who made blades primarily for military use.

The west coast of the mid 1800s, feeling the effects of our most dramatic migration, provided an excellent market for sturdy belt knives and other cutlery. Two knife-making establishments soon rose to prominence here in this field, and first I would like to tell you of Will & Finck.

Frederick A. Will sailed around the horn in 1859, bound for San Francisco from his native New York state. It didn't take Fred Will long to make up his mind about two things—the girl he wanted to marry, and the trade he wished to follow. By 1861 we find him married to Anna Wright, and soon

thereafter he was a cutler with Frederick Kesmodel at 817 Kearny St., San Francisco. After having a go at making cutlery on his own during 1863, Frederick Will entered into partnership with Julius Finck (earlier spelling—Fink) in 1864. Their little shop was at 605 Jackson Street.

Julius Finck had been associated with A. Browning, well known as a San Francisco gunmaker and locksmith. Together, Fred Will and Julius Finck started a business destined to gain great prominence and to continue well beyond their lifetime—up until the 1920s.

During the existence of the Will & Finck firm, the address was changed from 605 Jackson to 613 Jackson; then to 821 Kearny, 140 Montgomery, 769 Market, 818 Market, 57 Third (factory 72 Jessie), and finally to 1686 Market (factory 65 McCoppin). The address (and in later years the ownership)

Hunting in Turkey

Turkey, we are told, is a veritable happy hunting ground for feathered, small, and big game, and now has a hunting season for native and foreign hunters. Wild pigeon haunt the marshlands, meadows, lakes, and rivers, and quail, also abundant, can be hunted from September until November. The quail are mostly found in the Black Sea territory in northern Turkey, and in all the lake districts.

changed, but the quality of Will & Finck knives did not. The Will & Finck bowie knife illustrated indicates the ruggedness of one of their standard grade belt knives—knives made for long and hard use. They made a wicked-looking short blade push-dagger, too, said to be popular with western gamblers. There is an excellent specimen in the William Shemerluk collection. I doubt that this type of knife was looked on with much general favor since its only employment was less than praiseworthy.

Of the knife-makers in the period we are discussing here, none was more colorful than Will & Finck's principal competitor, Michael Price. In addition to noting his great skill as a cutler, the *San Francisco Call* stated on April 3, 1889, the day after Mike Price's death, "There were few men in San Francisco better known than Michael Price. He was indeed a character, and what he did not know about sporting in all its phases was not worth knowing. He will be sadly missed by all those who enjoyed his caustic humor and ready wit."

Mike Price arrived in San Francisco in 1857. Like Frederick Will and Julius Finck, Price tried other endeavors for a few years, but by 1863 we find him hard at work with his grinding wheel and other cutler's tools at 110 Montgomery Street. In 1869, the business was located at 415 Kearny. A branch store was established at 10 Stevenson Street about 1872 and maintained for six years. The 415 Kearny establishment was last listed in the San Francisco directory for 1887-88.

There were many stories about Mike Price and his knives. One author of west-coast reminiscences wrote that he knew Price well, and that one of Price's high grade bowie knives never sold less than \$50.00. Some were said to have cost as much as \$250.00



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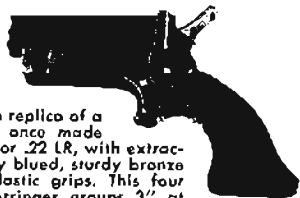
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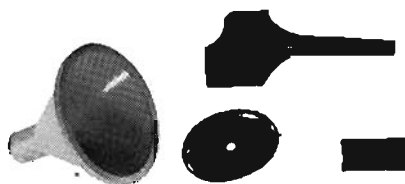


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and were ornamented with gold, silver, and inset diamonds. The Price knife in the well-known Robert Abels collection, and my own fancy Price knife, are enriched with gold and silver on the hilt. The tempering of the steel was as great an art with Price as the beautifully wrought ornamentation. Truly Mike Price was an artist—a master in the cutlery trade. His fame was not limited to the Pacific slope or to America; Price cutlery won high awards at exhibitions in London and Paris. Yes, Mike Price was a superior craftsman—and quite a guy!

My nominations of Russell, Chevalier, Will & Finck, and Price as the "big four" among 19th century American knife-makers may not completely agree with the thinking of some, but anyone familiar with the quality and importance of their work must certainly rate them very high.

We may pick up any book devoted to the history of our great migration westward and we'll not turn many pages before we'll find a bowie knife in the belt or in the band of men who played vital roles. The bowie knife became one of our national symbols in out-

door American life.

Accounts of the sanguinary use of cold steel give most of us a chill down the spine. We live in a time when a trip to the happy hunting ground can be provided in a more scientific manner—by nuclear bombs. Careful analysis, however, will show us that the bowie knife was used far more as a useful tool than as a deadly weapon.

We have so many conveniences in modern living that we have come to accept them without much thoughtful analysis or a backward look. We know we'd really be set back if we didn't have the wheel. Ever think of what life would be without a knife?

At the dawn of history man found the knife was one of his very first needs to sustain life. In the nineteenth century, practical employment of the belt knife was at its height. And it was then that John Russell's Green River Works in New England, the New York shop of John Chevalier, and the San Francisco manufactories of Will & Finck and Mike Price brought the sheath knife—the American bowie—to its high degree of perfection.



OLD PRO POPS "TOY" TARGETS

(Continued from page 27)

Fair Grounds, he treated spectators to a run of 142 straight hits while breaking 246 out of 250 targets. In New Orleans, in 1910, he and Harry Gibbs of Union City, Tennessee, and Walter Huff of Macon, Georgia—three of the most famous trapshooters in the United States—shot an exhibition with famed John Phillip Sousa who, in addition to being a great band leader and composer, was an ardent trapshooter.

"Trap shooting, where clay pigeons are used, is as clean and beautiful a sport as any in the world," Sousa was quoted in the New Orleans Times Picayune, "I am following it now because I love it and because it affords me the opportunity for rest and recreation. It requires endurance, concentration, and steadiness of nerve and eye; and, like dying, you have to do it alone. No one can help you."

Guy returned to New Orleans the following year representing DuPont, who had bought American sales rights to Ballistite powder. In the City Park Gun Club competition he broke 296 targets out of 300 with a continuous run of 233.

Record after record was broken by Guy Ward and, as he matured and gained more experience, he became more and more proficient. He won First Place in 22 of 29 registered contests in 12 different states in 1920, collecting four Seconds and three Thirds in the other seven. Guy completed the year by becoming the first person to win both Amateur and Professional Trap-shooting Championships by breaking a total of 6,249 out of 6,425 registered targets to become the Professional High Average Champion.

In 1924, he repeated the Championship performance with a score of 97.8 per cent on 1,050 targets, and tied with two other contenders in the Grand American with a score of 97 per cent of 582 x 600 targets. He shot his highest professional average in 1927 when he broke 673 of 700 targets for a 99 per cent average, and in 1929 he shot into a tie for High Professional with a 97.77 per cent average.

During a break in shooting, Guy joined us and the talk turned to guns. "A lot depends on your gun. I've shot just about every kind of shotgun made in America, including some that most people never heard of. Some of our hot-shots of today would have had a little trouble back in the old days with some of the firearms I've used in competition. I'll guarantee you one thing! I'll guarantee that not one of them will be able to blame our new crop of guns if they miss their pigeons!"

Unlike most old-timers, Guy offers very little resistance to change.

"Heck! If I were that old-fashioned, I'd still be shooting that old Model '97, solid frame Winchester I won the 1906 Championship with, or poor old Charley Young's bastard pump."

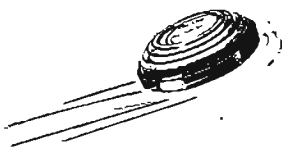
This was a 12 gauge shotgun manufactured by the late Charles A. Young of Springfield, Ohio. The gun, according to Ward, was beautifully proportioned. He remembers that it closely resembled the streamlined pump guns of today, but with one big difference: it worked in direct reverse to all other pumps! To open the action it was necessary to shove forward on the forearm and to pull back to close. Although several of the guns were made for investors, the American shooting public rejected the radical design, and it never was a commercial success.

"In some respects," Guy Ward says, "shotguns haven't changed in the last hundred years. They were and still are short-range guns. Even the basic proportion of shot and powder hasn't changed much, although the quality of the charge has undergone great refinements." He speaks from experience, having worked in the Western Cartridge Company ballistics department in East Alton, Illinois.

"In addition to improving shot patterns, the biggest advancements in shotgunning have been the development of a wide variety of guns suitable for every sporting need, at prices that put the great outdoors within the reach of millions of Americans." Guy feels that the Targo outfit can make "a great

contribution to sports-minded youngsters and those of us who couldn't afford to shoot as often as we'd like with the regular equipment."

His reference is to the unique feature of the Mossberg Targo guns and trap units. Model 340TR is a 7-shot clip repeater, and Model 320TR is a bolt action top-loading



single shot. With each gun, the purchaser gets two 3 1/2" adapter tubes. One is smooth-bore and the other is rifled. The adapters are actually threaded tubes which screw into the muzzle of the gun and may be quickly interchanged without tools. This makes the gun really two guns in one—a .22 caliber rim-fire shotgun using scatter shotshells, and a rifle using any of the three popular lengths of .22 caliber cartridges. Ballistics have proved that 3 1/2" of rifling, properly engineered, at the muzzle of an otherwise smooth-bore gun will impart sufficient spin to the solid bullet to hold it true in flight. The accuracy of the rifled tube has been NRA-tested to qualify for basic training and 50 foot rifle qualification shooting. The effective range of the #12 shot from the .22 Long Rifle cartridge is also about 50 feet.

"The Targo Trap Unit is really something," Guy observed. "You know, unlike shotguns,

there have really been some changes in targets and traps. The name trap, as most gunners know, originated from the fact that the first trapshooters used live pigeons which were liberated from a series of traps.

"Many ingenious devices have been invented for throwing targets. Traps have improved from the simple throwing arm of early days to complex, automatic, self-loading mechanisms being manufactured today. This Targo trap unit consists of three detachable parts—the aluminum base with adjustments for 10, 30, and 45 degree angle of elevation; a pistol-shaped frame, and a spring-actuated trap. The latter can be attached either to the frame to form a hand trap, or to the barrel of the gun. With it on the gun, the shooter can throw his own targets, thus enjoying the sport of trapshooting even though he's alone."

Guy Ward and his guns, including his Model 12 Winchester that the company gave him when he retired from active shooting, are always on tap for shooting exhibitions. After more than 50 years of shooting and selling guns, this old-timer is ready and eager to coach anyone interested in trapshooting. But there are limitations. You can't teach the perfect coordination that must exist between eye and trigger finger; a man either has it or he doesn't. Neither can Guy instill into a man the skill of calculating the bird's flight under windy conditions. His best advice is still the advice he got from his father: "Shoot where the target is going to be." As Guy's records prove, this is very sound advice.

THE WITCH OF THE SIERRAS

(Continued from page 33)

buck died before even the hound could reach him, and I stood over him, panting, and began to reload the rifle. I use a muzzle-loader because it suits me, which in my opinion is a good enough reason.

Below me, two riders and a packhorse came into view, apparently following a trail. They saw me and waved, and I recognized the horses. The man riding in the lead was Carmen Sandoval, a long-time friend and the owner of the vast acreage on which we were hunting. The other rider was the singer—a slender, dark-eyed girl in jodhpurs, orange blouse, and a buckskin charro jacket with silver buttons. Her blond hair shone gold in the sunlight, and she was a stranger.

"Hola, amigo," Sandoval shouted. "We were looking for your camp. I have brought you a guest." He explained that the girl's name was Patricia, and she was going to write a doctoral thesis on animal behavior in the wilds, and Sandoval had told her about our adventures in quest of an onza, and she had decided that she would join us to gather material. Sandoval shrugged. "My sister met her in New York," he added, as if that took care of everything.

"But it's impossible," I said. "Flattering, but impossible. We haven't any—uh—facilities. We camp under trees and in caves. Always short of grub. The mosquitoes are terrible at night. Also, a spell of bad weather is coming. Look at the sky." I floundered and ran out of words. Sandoval was grinning. He had found himself stuck with the chore of squiring this gal about the country, and was palming her off on me.

"She knows all that," Sandoval said. "This girl will fool you; she can take it." He handed

me the packhorse's lead rope. "Have a good time, amigo. Adios, Senorita." He whirled his mount, and departed.

"Gawdamighty, nothing like this ever happened to me before. Guy rides up, delivers a strange blonde, and takes off at a high rate of speed! There ought to be some kind of insurance a man could take out! Not that I've got anything against beautiful blondes, but, holy mackerel—"

"Don't blow a fuse," she said. "Everything will be all right." She had a nice voice; I had to admit it.

Anyway, I know when I'm licked. I dressed the deer, saving everything the dogs could eat, and lashed the carcass behind my saddle. Then we headed for camp.

We came out in a little rabbit-ear pass, and I was searching for a route down the other side when I heard the hounds belling somewhere in the greenery below. My segundo Policarpo, was working the dogs today, while two other crew members stood watch at a couple of bait carcasses. I dismounted fast and put a leash on my dog. The pack was bawling the bound dog "view halloo," and Pilot was quivering with eagerness to join them.

"They are chasing a cat, aren't they?" Patricia asked. "Will it come into the pass?"

"It might, if I had any luck," I said. "But I haven't, so probably it won't." I wondered how she had guessed that the dogs were trailing a cat. They were, but how could she know it?

She stepped down and stood beside me. She was taller than I had thought. Her hair was naturally blond, and she smelled the way a

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girl ought to smell. Staring narrow-eyed down at the boondocks, she clasped her hands and whispered, "Come on, cat. This way, cat. Come up into the pass."

It was sort of eerie. I started to ask her if she thought she could communicate with the cat, but at this instant I saw the animal. It was a mountain lion, and it was coming into the pass, making for a jumble of cliffs and rimrocks behind us. I grabbed Pilot's muzzle and held his mouth shut, and the rest of it was easy. The lion came into a stony opening 30 yards distant, loping easily, not even looking back, confident that he had it made.

I cut down on him with the muzzle-loader. The buckshot belted him off his feet. He screeched, somersaulted, then piled up against a boulder and died. "This is the way to hunt," I said. "Stand still, make a wish, and let the cat come to you."

Patricia was examining the kill. Presently, as the dogs came tearing up to us, she patted the lion's head and said, "Good kitty. You did as I asked you." Eerie? This girl was fey! Nobody pats a dead lion's head and talks to it. Nobody whispers commands to a fleeing lion.

The dogs were slamming into the open space, yelling with all the wind they had left, each dog trying to establish credit for the death of the cat, and Pilot was yowling back at them. Policarpio on his sweating pinto came up over the loose rocks. He is a lean, dignified, three-quarters Aztec who never displays emotion. But his jaw dropped now, and he shook his head like a fighter recovering from a haymaker. Deliberately, as if he wanted to make certain that he really was seeing what he saw, he examined Patricia, the deer, the lion, and the new packhorse.

"Of a truth," he said above the clamor of the dogs, "it appears that you have had a busy day. Perhaps this region isn't so barren after all."

I introduced him. "The girl is a bruja—a witch," I said. "She talks with animals and their ghosts."

We took off the lion pelt, and secured it and the carcass behind the pinto's saddle. Cathounds thrive on lion meat. Then we rode on to camp. Tiberio and Ernesto were there. A skunk had come to one bait, and an opossum to the other. Otherwise nothing. Every hunter in this state had sighted onzas recently, or so they said; but we drew a blank.

The crew members, dumfounded by Patricia's presence, mumbled their, "Buenas tardes, Señorita," and busied themselves with camp chores. "She is the new cook," I said, "in case our Tarasco still thinks this is the worst job he ever held and decides to leave."

The day was declining, and giant thunderheads stood in the south, with rain streaks slanting down to Sierra peaks in the middle distance. I asked Tiberio, who was born in these parts, if he knew where there was a handy, commodious cave. He said that he did, and we moved camp.

The cave was large and wide, with an overhang at its mouth. By nightfall, we had a pine fire burning, and racks of deer ribs roasting. When we had eaten, Patricia opened her baggage and brought out a box of cigars, a brick of cactus candy, and a guitar. Ernesto strummed ranchero songs and everybody sang. The cook had a fine tenor voice. Patricia was lying on her bedroll with a packsaddle for a pillow. I don't believe she had spoken a dozen words to me since we arrived here.

"I think you must really be a witch," I said. "Because nothing like this ever happened before in our camps. These men are tough characters. Bark grows on their chests. Normally they go around growling in unison."

Patricia smiled and said nothing. When the storm hit, the crew and I went out under the overhang, puffing cigars and listening to the rain. When we returned, Patricia was wearing pajamas and a blue robe. Pilot, who usually slept at the foot of my bed, abandoned me to curl up at the girl's feet. Thunder boomed, lightning glared, and a wild Sierra wind eddied into the cave. Once Patricia stirred, and said something unintelligible. I said, "You afraid of thunder and lightning?" She said, "No, I am thinking about tomorrow. It will be exciting, don't you think?" I said, "Don't ask me, tell me. You're the resident witch."

Morning broke clear and still. When I got up at first light, Ernesto and Tiberio had left to take up their vigil over the baits. Patricia, in jodhpurs and boots again, was sitting outside the cave gazing at the sunrise. We had our coffee, and ate venison steaks and beans. Tiberio rode in through the timber, using his spurs. He seemed to be suffering a mild case of shock. His eyes were overbright, and he broke two matches before he got a cigarette lit.

"I have seen a white buzzard," he said. "It came to my bait and circled above it, but did not alight."

Policarpio and the cook stiffened visibly. There is a long-winded Indian legend concerning the white buzzard. The bird is believed to be a witch-doctor in disguise, who reigns over all the buzzards. It holds court, surrounded by lesser, common buzzards, assigns hunting territories, banishes offenders of buz-



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zard law or, sometimes, sentences them to death. Humans almost never sight the white buzzard, you are told, but when it is sighted one can be certain that powerful magic is being worked in the area.

I said to Patricia, "I was right. Occult things are going on. But this white buzzard would make a novel museum exhibit. You got any objections to killing it?"

Maybe she didn't know I was kidding. Maybe I had been laying it on too heavy with the witch business. Maybe she thought I was another roughneck who had been in the jungle too long. She gave me a level look and said, "Why don't you try? It would be interesting."

Riled, I told Tiberio to bring in the saddle stock. We saddled up and followed Tiberio over a ridge and down to a rocky point above a deer trail to the bait. Here we tied the mounts and sat under an ancient primavera tree. For an hour nothing occurred. The sun climbed. A three-foot rhino iguana with a raccoon-striped tail browsed in the foliage overhead. Somewhere a guaco hawk uttered its falsetto laugh.

Then Policarpio said, "Señor, the white buzzard comes." He was pointing to the west. Two ordinary black buzzards were circling against a thunderhead. They turned toward us, riding the wind. Then, between us and them, I saw the glint of sunlight on white wings. It was a white buzzard, and it was coasting in our direction. As we waited, other buzzards kept appearing until there were 30 of them in sight.

"Tell him to come on in," I said to Patricia. "Tell him we only want to establish him in a new home in a museum. Expert taxidermy guaranteed."

"He is making up his mind," she said. "Wait."

The white buzzard pitched down steeply, then circled, losing altitude with each turn. I thumbed back the hammer of the muzzle-loader. The next time the bird came around, it was in range, so close that I could see the eye it cocked at us, and the toes of the foot it dragged to kill speed. I swung with the bird, and fired.

The gun bucked, black powder smoke billowed, and the white buzzard dropped in a crazy spiral, dead when it hit the rocks. Tiberio retrieved the bird, holding it by a wing-tip and looking unhappy. I gathered that brujos, even when in disguise, were supposed to be invulnerable to powder and shot.

Patricia took the buzzard and smoothed its feathers, looked at its eyes, and opened its beak. "You were a good white buzzard," she whispered. "You came down to us, flying so low and slow."

I told myself that this girl with the gold-bright hair was ribbing me as nobody else ever had, or else she was nuts and needed a psychiatrist. "What happens now?" I asked her. "Is there a payoff to this? Should I consider myself hexed for having killed the great white king buzzard?"

"Why, no," she said, smiling bappily for the first time since Sandoval unloaded her on me. "Now I can go home. But first I want to make one more hunt with you."

We returned to camp, where I weighed and measured the white buzzard, skinned it, dusted the skin with arsenic and stuffed it with cotton. This chore finished, we made a cast with the dogs, but had no luck.

After a venison dinner and more singing, I said to the shadow-shape that was Patricia,

"Who are you? Where did you go to school? You have an accent—what is it?"

She said, "You have answered those questions yourself. I am a witch, of course. But I am tired; even a witch needs sleep. Good-night, señor."

In the morning, rain was falling again, and this time it continued for two days. Policarpio rode to Sandoval ranch and brought two more bait goats. We remained in camp and relaxed. The third day came bright and calm, and we hunted with the dogs but found nothing.



On the following day, luck was with us. Patricia, Policarpio, and I rode eastward toward the spot where Tiberio was planted above his new bait. It was hot. Tiberio told us that during the night something had dragged the goat carcass 50 yards into a stand of scrub, and eaten part of one haunch. He hadn't gone down to the bait, not wanting to leave man-scent there, but with his glasses he could see what had happened.

Now that the dogs were here, it was different. We went down for a look. Tiberio couldn't find any tracks on the leaf-strewn ground, and a shower during the night had washed out the visiting animal's scent. But from the appearance of the bait, I judged that a small cat had worked on it. We rode a circle around the place, then a wider circle. Pilot went in under a ledge and I saw him wag his tail. Suddenly he let out a war bellow and headed into a sea of flowering zolocahuil trees. The rest of the pack joined in. They were on a fresh scent.

Tiberio dismounted at the ledge and examined the dusty earth under its sheltering overhang. "A cat slept here—a guinduri, I think," he said. "If it was the cat that fed at the carcass, its stomach will be full and it will not run far."

"Next to an onza," I said, "we need a guinduri."

Everybody talks about having killed guinduris, but the pelts of the handsome little jungle cats are scarcer than truth at a Liar's Club convention. The dogs were belling a quarter of a mile ahead, and we lined out after them. Within minutes Pilot let out the excited yow-yow that meant he had the cat bayed. When we reached the dogs they were at the base of a towering wild-fig tree. A dozen cats could have taken sanctuary in the massed foliage without exposing a square inch of hide. We walked around the tree, trying to take it apart limb by limb. No luck. At last Policarpio removed his spurs and prepared to climb the tree. I glanced at Patricia, and she was putting on that narrow-eyed, whispering routine again.

"Are you telling the cat to show itself, please, and give us a shot?" I asked.

"Wait," she said. "He needs time. He knows that he is going to die, and is afraid."

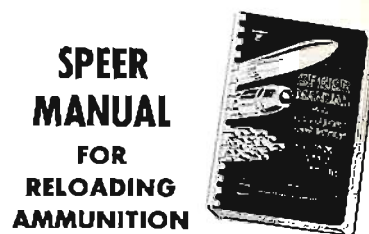
We waited. Policarpio stood there with his spurs in his hand. The dogs stopped belling. It occurred to me that she had us all bewitched. Suddenly Tiberio jerked up his arm, pointing. The guinduri was on a limb 30 feet up, trying to ease around to the other side of the tree. About the size of a terrier, long-tailed



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and spotted, but with tiger stripes on his shoulders, he was so well camouflaged that he was all but invisible except when he moved.

I put the muzzle-loader on him, and cut loose. The charge of shot blew him off the limb and he crashed, squalling, down into the midst of the waiting dogs. Policarpio and Ernesto waded in, throwing dogs right and left, to save the pelt.

When order was restored, I picked the dead cat up and carried it over to Patricia. Without looking at me, she took it in her arms, getting blood on her shirt, and stroked the animal's fur. "You were a good guinduri," she whispered. "You knew you were going to die, but the dogs and the noise frightened you."

"I give up," I said. "Maybe it's an ael, and maybe it isn't. But I never saw anything like it before."

Next morning Patricia asked me to ride to Sandoval ranch with her. She was going home. We rode without talking, but when the ranch house was in sight I broke down. "Look, don't leave," I said. "Until you came, I thought this was barren country. I thought my crew didn't know how to laugh and sing. Stay with us until we kill an onza."

Patricia looked at me a long moment, then said, "No. I must go home. But you will kill your onza. Goodbye."

She rode on to the ranch house, and I turned back to camp. I never saw her again. But you know what? If witches exist, beautiful witches, I'll bet that she was one. Anyhow, I like to think so.

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BELT GUNS ON THE RIO GRANDE

(Continued from page 21)

south of the Rio Bravo, not too many good shots are found among them. This is not due to lack of ability on the part of the Mexicans, but mainly to the fact that a box of .38 Super ammunition will cost the average cop or vaquero the equivalent of two or three weeks' pay. Shells are scrounged and hoarded like gold nuggets, and a celebrant would have to be very drunk before indulging himself in firing exuberant shots at the moon.

In the less affluent municipalities, where the city usually owns the policeman's guns, the police armament can sometimes be ludicrous. I once bought a pretty good .43" .45 Frontier from a policeman on a downtown beat under the condition that I give him a ride back to the police station so that he could get another gun. The .45 I got was loaded with four .38-40 shells, and the officer refilled his holster with an old Smith & Wesson K-22 for which he had no shells at all!

But don't be misled. There are some swift pistoleros in mañanaland. One such was the bodyguard and constant companion of a young army colonel I knew in Irapuato, Guanajuato. This iron-eyed gent carried a new, slick, well-oiled automatic in a well-made shoulder holster. My only objection to the auto as a defense gun was that it was a short barreled Colt Woodsman in .22 RF caliber. When I mentioned this to the colonel's protector, he quietly invited me behind the old army barracks where we were working and showed me some of the deadliest draw-and-shoot work I have ever witnessed.

He first lined up six empty beer bottles (and they come half size in Mexico) against an adobe wall, and backed off a full ten paces. Facing away from the targets in the manner used in the Mexican Defense pistol course, he shouted, "Ya!" and jerked his Woodsman, wheeling and shattering all six bottles in a fast sweep of his gunhand that couldn't have taken more than four seconds. To the olés of the watching Mauser-armed soldiery, he threw a bottle from his right hand about 30 feet into the sky, then drew from under his coat and broke it in the air. He repeated this trick, throwing two bottles at once and shattering both of them. Ed McGivern could have done better, but I was convinced that this man's colonel was in safe hands.

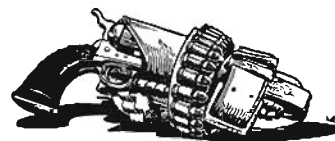
Only when nothing else is available does the Mexican gunslinger fall back on the large caliber revolvers. Although they have largely been picked up by Yankee collectors, Colt Model P single actions and Bisley models were found in abundance in the small *pueblos* and *ranchos* of Mexico less than a decade ago. The single actions, called "*Tejanos*" (Texans) by the Mexicans, could be bought for the equivalent of five or ten dollars U.S. in those days.

In 1951, I picked up a mini .41 Long Colt caliber Frontier model with original factory medallion ivory grips for a trifling \$25 in Nogales. Chet Carmichael of Tucson installed a new .45 barrel and cylinder for me, and the gun was my companion on a hundred desert horseback trips.

My job in those days was riding horse patrol for the U.S. Immigration Border Patrol. Our little three-man station in the Santa Cruz River valley cut for sign and followed up illegally entered aliens over an area of roughly 1600 square miles. The majority of the alien Mexicans we apprehended were not of the pistol packing breed, but just simple farmers looking for work.

An occasional pistol did turn up on a prisoner however, and the calibers of these hideouts ran to the popgun variety. Frisking one *pachuco*, I came upon a new Bernadelli .25 automatic in his right sock, and a tobacco sack half full of shells in his left.

My partner ran his hand over the back of another prisoner's shirt. The lump there



turned out to be a pearl handled .32 suspended by a string from the Mexican's neck.

In years of contact with gunmen operating inside and outside of the law, on both sides of the international boundary, I have observed that the tastes of the two nationalities in hardware is at opposite poles.

The Mexican police favor the .38 Super Colt auto. Three shoot-outs of which I have personal knowledge, let men be carried from the fray with a handful of .38 Super jacketed slugs in them—badly hurt, but alive.

A railroad special agent in New Mexico took four hits from a Super after emptying his .38 Special into a thug caught breaking into a boxcar. He spent his recuperative period looking for a bigger gun.

The border country is still rough and tough, and, to quote the old Border Patrol circular describing the work to prospective Patrol Inspectors, "Shooting affrays are not infrequent." The men on the north side of the border, men who know guns and use them every day on behalf of law and order, chose the big sixguns almost without exception. One old timer I knew took a switchblade in his lung, then drew and dispatched his two attackers with two shots from his .44-40 Colt.

A city marshal in a small Texas town went to the aid of a woman who was taking a terrific beating from her burly husband. When the man refused to be arrested and grappled for the officer's gun, he was dropped with one shot from the heavily loaded .357 Magnum.

Many of the Border Patrolmen I admired, good men who faced the toughest situations the border had to offer with a gun at their belt and grit in their hearts, are gone. My old Chief, Carson Morrow was one of them. His walnut-gripped Colt Frontier in original .45 ACP caliber was his constant companion.

Old-timer Frank "Pancho" Edgell of Amado, Arizona, had retired from active service when I knew him, but he still packed his beautifully engraved, flat top

Frontier .45 Colt with its yellowed, carved ivory grips.

Good natured Doug Shute, who had many hours of WWII combat time in both the RCAF and USAAF was a postwar Patrol Inspector, as quick with a smile as he was with his short Smith triple-lock .44 Special. His Border Patrol observation plane took him to his death in the rugged Texas Trans-Pecos country.

My partner and shooting competitor, Bobby Jarratt, Chief Patrol Inspector of the Chula Vista Sector, in California, still carries the target sighted .44 Smith & Wesson he got from me. Another tough man I rode with. Buck Smith, packs a pair of .45 automatics on the Pacific island where he is now stationed.

Bill Jordan, fastest gun in the Patrol, favors his cutdown .357 Combat Smith & Wesson for everyday wear. When I handed

him a box of hollow-point handloads to try in his light framed Magnum, I explained that I had loaded them down to a mere 1200 fps to reduce recoil. He gave me a quizzical look and drawled, "What did you want to load 'em so light for?"

One thing all of these men have in common is their love for guns and shooting. They are wonderful hunting companions, tough competitors on the firing line. And they are men who will use their guns if called upon, to defend themselves or you when it becomes necessary.

Like all men, they have their particular likes and dislikes, and they don't hesitate to express them. As long as there are guns on the border, you'll hear endless arguments about calibers, actions, and makes. And there'll be guns on the Border—and work for those guns to do—for a long time to come, if we are to judge by the present.

THE COLT NEW SERVICE

(Continued from page 32)

and government serial number, plus an anchor stamped on the butt. Marine Corps 1909 Models were marked: USMC followed by government serial number. Model 1917's were marked: US Army, Model 1917 and government serial number.

A frequent problem arising in the identification of New Service revolvers is the confusion between the Colt factory serial number and the government number. The Colt serial number is found on the frame and the crane. The government serial is stamped on the butt. New Service owners who have the misfortune to live in states which require permits to purchase, own or carry handguns, should give both serial numbers to the permit agency. In purchasing a New Service which was formerly government property make sure that the dealer lists the Colt serial and the government number.

During the past several years New Service revolvers in .455 Colt and .45 Colt, bearing the markings R.N.W.M.P. or RCMP, or in a few instances MP, have been offered for sale. These markings are usually found on the backstrap except on the MP guns which are marked on the butt. The R.N.W.M.P. was the former name of the present Royal Canadian Mounted Police and the M.P. is Mounted Police, not military police.

Inspector E.A.F. Holm, liaison officer for the Commissioner, RCMP, Ottawa, supplied the following information:

The force used both the .455 and .45 caliber Colt; the former in Western Canada, the latter in the East. Some guns were purchased in 1904, but the official re-arming of the Force occurred in 1905. The New Service succeeded the Enfield service revolver, but there are no records that indicate the number of Colts purchased by the RCMP. The New Service remained the official sidearm of the force from 1905 until 1950, when the Smith & Wesson Military & Police Model, caliber .38 Special replaced the Colt.

Another marking of interest to Colt collectors are the Model 1917 New Service revolvers, caliber .45 ACP or the .38 Special marked on the backstrap, top to bottom, "U.S.I.B.P." for United States Immigration Border Patrol.

Bill Toney, former national handgun champion and currently chief firearms instructor, U. S. Border Patrol, and James F. Greene, Assistant Commissioner, Enforcement, U.S. Border Patrol, kindly supplied the following data:

The Model 1917 Colt and Model 1917 Smith & Wesson, caliber .45 ACP, were the official sidearms of the Border Patrol from its inception in 1924 until about 1937 or 1938 when the .38 Special, Model New Service, was adopted and the .45 ACP's were retired.

The .38 Special was equipped with a four inch barrel and fixed sights. This gun has a lanyard swivel and may be identified by the four digit government serial number stamped on the butt, and the letters U.S.I.B.P. on the backstrap.

In the latter part of 1952 and early 1953 Colt was awarded another contract and made up about 400 revolvers to Border Patrol specifications. This is a .38 Special with fixed sights, a four inch untapered barrel which is .770" in diameter throughout, and the barrel is stamped COLT BORDER PATROL .38 SPEC.—HEAVY DUTY.

The Border Patrol Colt, similar to the commercial Colt Trooper model, weighs about 35 ounces and is equipped with walnut stocks but lacks the lanyard swivel. The Border Patrol will not accept factory plastic stocks but insists on the machine checkered walnut grips.

The .38 Special New Service model is still used by many Border Patrolmen. The more recent Colt was adopted only because the New Service was no longer available. The .38 Special New Service was the standard model but has a square butt and is equipped with a lanyard swivel. No New Service revolvers are known where a round butt model was equipped with a lanyard swivel, though some may have been made to special order.

The New Service, caliber .45 Long Colt, was for many years the official sidearm of the New York State Police. Several years ago the NYSP retired this model and caliber, adopting the .38 Special. Bill Keeler, former New York State trooper, recalls that some of the guns were stamped along the backstrap or on the butt N.Y.S.P. The

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retired .45's were sold to a New York City gun dealer.

The Postal Service had about 20,000 Model 1917 Colt's and S&W's when the standardization program commenced. These guns were recalled and sold in lots to certified gun dealers through competitive bids on the open market, the average price being \$10-11 each. Dealers have been re-selling these guns for \$10.00 to \$37.50, depending on condition.

S&W Model 1917's usually have somewhat smoother finish than the Colts, but most of these guns should be re-blued. The Model 1917 New Service makes a fine peace officer's sidearm when equipped with an adjustable rear sight and a ramp Baughman "Fast Draw" front sight.

Today, Colt's does not manufacture a large frame, double action sixgun. The .357 Magnum is built on the lightweight 41

Officer's Model frame, and no Colt is made in .44 Magnum. The dropping of the New Service from the Colt line is to be regretted, and handgunners are fervently hoping that Colt will produce, in the not too distant future, a new and perhaps somewhat improved version of this model. These improvements could take the form of a wide trigger, wide hammer spur, short action, and an adjustable rear sight. A more readily visible bead front sight would be greatly welcome.

If you are the lucky owner of a New Service, you can add an adjustable rear sight and either a fast draw or target type front sight. A trigger shoe with built-in trigger stop and custom grips will help in the score department. And even if you leave your New Service in "as is" condition, you still have one of the finest handguns ever made.

These things are only good for one thing, in my opinion: to catch in the brush and get wound around your neck. They have no place on a hunting rifle of mine. When I fire a shot from the sitting or the offhand, I won't be wasting precious seconds winding that snaky thong around my arm!

In many years of game shooting, under all imaginable conditions, I have found offhand to be the most useful of all the shooting positions. It offers advantages over all the others, none possibly more conclusive than the fact that the marksman is standing at his full height and may thus see the better. Practically as important is the speed with which the shot may be delivered. There need be no dilly-dallying; the gunner simply whips up the musket and jams away. When follower shots must be slugged home, he has his hand free to operate the bolt. If reloading is in order, he is in the best position to do this. If the target dodges, charges, ducks, or hides, he may instantly shift to one flank or the other, back up, go forward, or climb a tree.

But the average hunter-marksman cannot be sure of hitting a deer at 100 yards from the offhand position. At 200 yards, he will oftentimes miss a 1500-pound moose. At 275, he is apt to miss a middling to large house! What does he do about this? Nothing! It is too much work, requires range practice, the burning of many hulls. Even then, progress is so slow that he puts the chore behind him . . . But it can be done!

At the tryouts for the International Shooting Competitions, the winner, a member of the Army's Marksmanship Training Unit at Ft. Benning, scored 221 out of 250 on a course of fire involving 50 shots at 110 yards on a running deer target. This target flashes across an opening of 24 yards, moving at a speed of 6 yards per second—the cutout of the whitetail is exposed for 4 seconds.

Imprinted on the deer's shoulder is a 6-inch bullseye. Our trooper plunked 42 of his 50 shots into that 6-inch black bullseye while it whipped by at a speed of 18 feet per second. If you do not think this was some exhibition of marksmanship, just back off 110 yards and try panning a 6-inch bull, slow fire and immobile. Few indeed are the hunter-marksmen who can notch it even as much as half the time!

Shooters complain that they are not good game fields marksmen because they can neither afford the time nor the moola for practice. These are poor excuses. To develop acceptable skill, the gunner need resort to nothing more costly than dryfire practice. If the marksman will give 20 minutes every day, year-long, to sitting and offhand snapping, he will gain immeasurably in skill. Some actual firing is necessary, of course; but most of this can be done with a .22 rifle.

Forty shots sitting and forty offhand, the gun empty, will suffice. The target for the sitting should be a tough one, sufficiently small to make the marksman strain over every shot. The offhand mark, too, should be a toughie. This is slow fire and should eat up half the practice.

There must be rapid practice, as well. From the sitting, the weapon must be held at the shoulder, not taken down to function the bolt, but securely wedged into the hollow of the shoulder. It should be loaded with dummy rounds, and the bolt should be worked with force. The shots should be

LEARN TO SHOOT OFFHAND

(Continued from page 31)

was a mite over 200 yards from his muzzle. There wasn't, you understand, any place he could lie down, so he had to shoot standing. His first slug plunked into the muskeg a good eight feet over the bear's ruff. The second hit a good 20 feet this side of what must have been the most startled Kodiak on the island. After that it was ridiculous. The bear got into top forward speed, and when a Kodiak pushes the panic button he can really move! Our friend's third and final blast missed, I calculate, by about 40 rods.

There was an article in this magazine recently advising hunters to shoot from a rest whenever possible. This is fine, I'm all for it, when it is possible. It would turn a lot of misses and a lot of wounded-but-lost animals into clean-killed trophies. But there are times when no rest is possible. These are the times when a man must make do with what he can do, sitting or standing. If he can't, he should keep his finger off the trigger.

I have known shooters with lardy middles who tried the sitting position, found that it pushed their bellies up under their short ribs, crowded their lungs, made them huff and puff until they couldn't hold on the target. It's true that the sitting position works best for people with less than forty-odd inches around the middle; to make it work best, you need to lean far forward, with your elbows inside your knees and well down along the shin bones. The ankles

should be flexible enough, too, so that the feet can remain flat on the ground, or nearly so. That's the best sitting position.

But even a mediocre sitting position can be better than kneeling or squatting—and lord knows, a man who can't assume the sitting position is going to have a bad time attaining a good kneeling or squatting posture! Fat men can, with practice, work out sitting positions that will give at least a relatively steady rifle platform; and men with stiff ankles can drive their heels into the ground for firm foundation.

The marksman should practice going into the sitting position, so that when he plops his butt down he does not do a lot of screwing around on the ground attempting to find a secure position. When he wangs the old backside onto terra firma he should be ready to shoot. If he cannot do this, he is not ready to go into the game fields.

A lot of rifles are all prettied up with a leather strap which is fastened at one end to the forestock and at the other end to the main stock. I never could figure out what this thing was for so I take 'em off and use the leather to patch bridle reins. The army likes its troopers to get all wound up in this piece of cowhide—and then shoot that way. This has carried over to hunting sportsmen who, deluded by the military long-hairs, would sooner be caught at Hollywood & Vine without pants than afield without a sling on the favorite 270 rifle.

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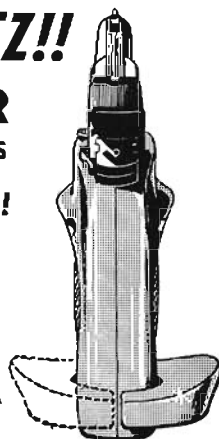
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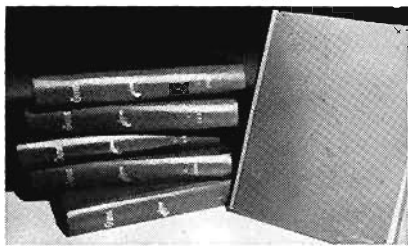
gotten away in a period of not less than 5 seconds per round. This is rapid fire.

This is likewise necessary when doing dryfire offhand. Half the grind should be rapid, the rifle held at the shoulder and the trigger squeezed in not less than 5 seconds per round. Again, use the dummy cartridges. Many marksmen, even gents who profess to be Old Hands, cannot hold the rifle at shoulder height and operate the bolt! They want to lower the piece to hip level and then yank the bolt back. These deserve to be called tyros, so far as hunting is concerned.

But, good though dryfire practice is, it cannot fully suffice. There must be actual powder burning, too. This shooting must be stretched out over the entire year. It is not enough to go out a fortnight before deer season and bang off two boxes of hulls. All this does is bruise a soft shoulder and develop a fine case of finching. We shoot hot calibers these days and this breed kicks. Unless the huntsman practices over the months between seasons, actual cap-busting to accomplish his diligent dry practice, he'll still flub it when game is in his sights. He need fire no more than one live round for every hundred dryfired, but this must be done! Small-bore shooting will help by proving and giving you confidence in the accuracy you have improved by dryfiring, but you must familiarize yourself with the big game rifle also. A few dollars worth of ammo is cheap insurance for an expensive hunt.

A happy solution to year-long practice is the reloading machine. Not only does this tool offer a whopping reduction in costs of cartridges, but the marksmen may experiment with loads until he achieves those combinations which provide him good accuracy and mild recoil. In addition, reloading gives you an excuse to spend more time with your guns, evenings, and days when the weather keeps you house-bound!

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MAKE PHOTO RECORD OF YOUR GUNS

(Continued from page 25)

ground. Take a look at the Ruger Single Six photographed against a dark background. A lot of light from the photo floods is lost, yet four 250 Watt lights were used. Now slip a piece of light cardboard under the gun—and, presto, there is your sharply contrasted picture.

Long guns can be photographed the same way. Use a larger piece of white cardboard, obtainable from art stores; place the gun the way you want to show it; set up your lights, and take the picture. Naturally, the longer the gun, the farther you must get away from it with the camera. Your viewfinder will not only give you a picture of what you will record, but will also show you faulty lighting.

If your camera does not have a built-in light-meter, be certain that your light-meter readings are taken from the reflected surface of the gun. In extreme close-up work, reading a light meter under the hot photo floods with the lens of the camera only inches away can become a miserable job. That is one of the reasons why I use the Contaflex almost exclusively for close-up work. This camera has a built-in light meter, and setting the camera is a cinch.

If there is a lot of gun photography to be done and you want to avoid using the hot photo floods, there is an easy technique for evenly distributed light. The pros call it "painting with light." Set up your gun, set the shutter of your camera for time exposure, hook the cable release on the camera.

Then take one photo flood on a piece of broom handle and start moving the light around in slow circles and ovals while you keep the shutter of the camera open. You may need a bit of practice with this method, but it works.

There are a number of tricks that are used by the professionals. If you want to show the markings of a gun, you can use angled light so that the depression of the die or stamp throws a shadow. Better yet, some talcum powder rubbed over the marks will make them show up sharp and clear against the blue of the gun steel.

Another device that is often used is the illuminated glass table. This runs into money and is only worth while if you do a lot of gun photography. Simply build a coffee table as long as the longest gun you will want to photograph. Instead of a table top, get a piece of ground glass (don't faint at the price), and then place your photo floods around the table. A piece of old bed sheet or white cardboard with additional lights on the underside of the table, so that they reflect through the ground glass, will give you a completely shadow-less picture.

Another way to photograph long guns is to hold them upright and take the picture with a light background that is far enough removed from the gun so that your lights won't create shadows on the background. The simplest way to hold the gun upright is the device known as a dowel-bucket. A five gallon can filled with concrete, with a small

hardwood dowel or steel rod set upright in the concrete, is placed on the floor, and the gun muzzle is slipped over the rod or dowel. The bucket is then touched out of the negative or prints.

If you have a strobe light, you can use this quite effectively for your gun photography, but be certain that camera and light unit are directly above the gun—otherwise you'll get shadows which require retouching, and that is expensive and not always satisfactory.

Just a word about films. Kodak's Plus-X will do very nicely for most uses. This is a film with very little grain and, when the print is enlarged, the grain of the film will not interfere with the picture. For ultra fine grain, I like to use Adox KB 14 in my Contaflex. With the excellent Carl Zeiss lenses and the fine-grain film, negatives are sharp and clear, can be enlarged and cropped to my heart's content.

Cropping, by the way, is nothing more than looking at the contact prints and making marks with a grease pencil that will show the studio what part of the print you



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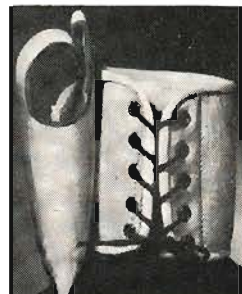
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want enlarged. If you do your own work, you may find that marking the contact sheet is a great help, especially when there is a lot of enlarging to be done in the course of an evening.

For my indoor shots and close-up work, I prefer the 20 exposure rolls. This gives me enough film to add a couple of touches to my gun photography. First I take a straight left and right view of the gun, and if important, also a top and bottom view. Then I might add a ruler to give an idea of the size, or a couple of appropriate cartridges may serve the same purpose. Often, and especially with antique guns, I place a related gun next to the major specimen, partly to show relative size, but also to show variation in stock or grip form, round or octagonal barrel, action open or closed, and so on.

A friend who has a small spur trigger revolver collection has devised a neat system. After I took some of the pictures, he had 4x5 inch prints made. On the back of each print, he marked down from whom he acquired the gun, name of maker, and other data such as caliber, and the price of the gun. If these guns should ever be stolen, he has a complete record of each specimen, and the pictures are kept in his desk, together with his other gun records.

Gun photography for the amateur is simple and assures you of a permanent gun record. Once you have experimented and found the ideal set-up for your purposes, it is a simple matter to get out the flood lights, set up the guns, and take the pictures. After a few rolls of film, you'll have the technique down pat and you'll be amazed how many things you'll find that you'll want to photograph.



MEL JOHNSON'S NEW "SPITFIRE"

(Continued from page 23)

and the face-lifting your gun will get is shown in the photographs. A brand-new Carbine-Spitfire goes for \$130 complete.

The carbine-conversion Spitfire can be handled like a handgun with one hand, can be fired with a two-handed pistol-like grip, or with the folding wire stock extended, can also be fired in any of the standard rifle positions. The safety of the carbine is retained, and the sights are the M1 carbine post and adjustable or "L" rear peep. If you want other sights, they can be installed, providing they are of standard commercial U.S. make.

The barrel of the carbine is relined, the gas port altered and the action balanced to handle the MMJ 5.7 Spitfire cartridge. You'll have your gun back in about 30 days, and you can buy ammo for the gun from Mel for \$15 a hundred. Your newly streamlined carbine will weigh 4.8 pounds empty, and you'll have a choice of magazines for 5, 15, or 30 cartridges. As with all magazine-fed semi-autos, it is a smart idea to reduce the actual number of cartridges loaded into a clip. The 30-rounder is best loaded with 25 cartridges, while the 15-shot clip will do nicely with 13-14 rounds. The standard five shot clip can, of course, be used as is.

Over-all length with the 18 inch barrel is 27½ inches with the wire stock folded, unfolded the total length is 35 inches. Although kick is a highly subjective matter, the general consensus of opinion is that it appears to about half that of the standard M1 carbine, or practically nil. Ejection of brass from the altered carbine produced undeformed and unstained brass that is suitable for reloading. Loading dies are being made by the Lyman Gun Sight Corporation, Middlefield, Conn.

Your third choice, as previously mentioned, is to have Mel Johnson (Johnson Guns, Inc., formerly Advanced Developments, Inc., Room 308, 152 Temple Street, New Haven, Conn.) make you a custom sporter. This will set you back \$160. The Sako action used in these sporters is presently in short supply, but when you get your custom sporter in the MMJ 5.7 Spitfire, you won't be sorry about the delay. Slap a scope on the gun, sight her in, and you'll be able to hold your own in any and all varmint competitions. What will happen when Mel puts the 5.7 Spitfire into a benchrest gun will cause headlines.

Lysle "K-Hornet" Kilbourn describes the MMJ 5.7 Spitfire as a super K-Hornet with a case that will hold more powder. Ballistically, the Spitfire is just below the .222 Remington and above the .218 Bee, and the loaded 5.7 mm round is 0.58 inches shorter than the .222 Remington Magnum. The cartridge is ideally adapted to semi-automatic firing, and the carbines sent in for Spitfire conversion have about 20 per cent more power in the driving spring and about twice the operating gas compression ratio of the original .30 carbine. Cartridge design of the MMJ 5.7 Spitfire consistently improved the positive feed in converted carbines.

Now what about the accuracy? Let's take a look first at the witnessed records established at Lyman's Blue Trail Range in Connecticut where the ammunition and guns were tested not only by Mel, but also by the late Frank Jury, Lysle Kilbourn, and

Elihu Lyman to mention only a few. On the 30th of September of last year, Elihu Lyman fired a Johnson-Sako sporter rifle in 5.7mm Spitfire at 200 yards, 15 rounds with shifting 15-25 mph winds. Sighted for 100 yards, the center of impact was six inches or three minutes low, and the group measured five inches extreme spread. The same day, Leo Zieller fired five shot groups at 100 yards. This was witnessed by Charles Lyman. The mean radius of the group was 0.304 inches with a total spread of 0.75 inches. Al Mason of the Blue Trail Range fired the carbine conversion, and groups averaged 2.25 to 2.50 inches at 100 yards. Two MMJ 5.7 Spitfire target, bolt-action rifles, with 6x Lyman scopes were fired by 3 shooters at 100 yards, all men shooting 5 shot groups. The largest group measured 1.5 inch, the smallest 0.625, and the majority of the groups measured one inch. One consecutive group of four shots measured 0.50 inch, the fifth shot producing a flier, thus enlarging the group to 0.9 inch. Now, that is pretty impressive accuracy, but as the saying goes: "You ain't seen nothing yet."

Barrel heating and subsequent wandering or spreading of the group has been the major bugaboo with light weight sporters and slim tubes. At one time, it was standard procedure to talk about groups in terms of five shots, and with the light guns and hot loads, three shot groups have become more

(Continued on page 59)

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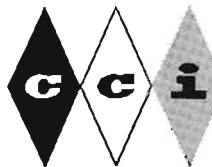
I have used a couple of thousand of your primers and I have NEVER had a misfire yet. — John D. Darden, Palatka, Florida.

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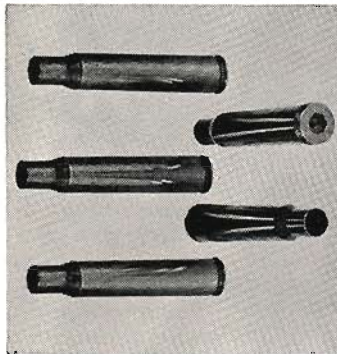


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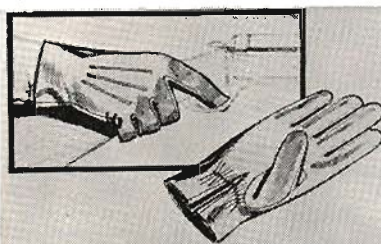


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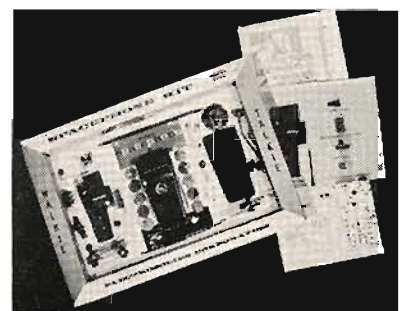


DEERSKIN SHOOTING GLOVES have soft fit and "bare hand feel" necessary for proper trigger pull. Cut from tan colored, soft, light weight deerskin, gloves offer protection from cold and brush. All fingers have reversible seam for smoothness. Elastic gathering at wrist, cut 1½" longer than standard gloves to slip under shirt or coat sleeves. Men's sizes 7 thru 10½; women's sizes 6 thru 8. Priced \$6.95 from: Gokey Co., Dept. G-3, 94 E. Fourth St., St. Paul 1, Minn.

INTERMOUNT to fit Weaver B4 Scope with tip-off mount for their Silver Streak and Blue Streak models has been introduced by Sheridan Products, Inc., Dept. G-3, 1234-13th St., Racine, Wis. Combination assures great accuracy. New scope mount allows company to make best use of their ballistically correct ammunition and controlled power. Easier to aim rifle. Rugged, dependable mount fits all Sheridan rifles, regardless of age.



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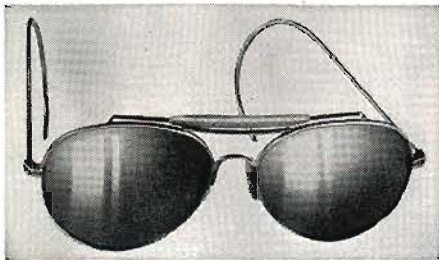


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NEW MOTOR SCOOTERS in Standard and Deluxe Wren models, manufactured by Bird Engineering, 206 So. 19th St., Omaha, Neb. Standard Wren features a powerful Clinton A 500 2 1/2 hp engine with auto-



matic recoil starter. Light weight, speeds can be attained up to 30 mph and up to 100 mpg. Other features include polyfoam upholstered seat, pneumatic tires, automatic clutch, finger tip throttle and brake controls, and two coat baked on metallic blue finish. Wren sells for less than \$100.00.

POCKET-SIZED GUN CLEANING KIT. 22 Cal. and larger field kit contains essentials to clean, rustproof, lubricate firearms. Utilizing Clezoi (a 3-oz. bottle is included), kit contains plastic squeeze bottle with spout and leakproof cap; heavyweight cotton flannel for patches; a sheepskin wiping pad; and a braided nylon pull-through cord. Packed in an oilproof vinyl pocket-case, to be carried in pocket or packed with gun in case. Priced at \$1.95 from Lenz Products Company, Inc., 649 Vincent Road, North Canton 20, Ohio.

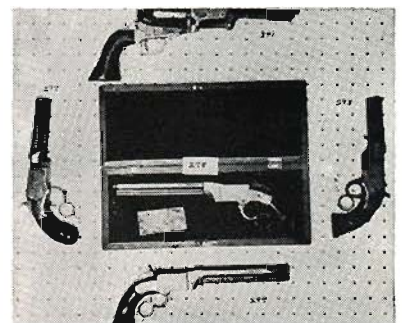
MILITARY & POLICE shoulder Holster for .45 Colt Automatic. Detachable leather harness, holster may be worn on belt or as a cross draw. Gun held securely in place without springs or clamps. Three holsters in one. Heavy weight leather, tan or black. Plain finish, priced \$14.50. Other attractive models in line. A Combat Action Holster by Protector Brand Holster Co., 509 Hacienda Dr., Monrovia, Calif.



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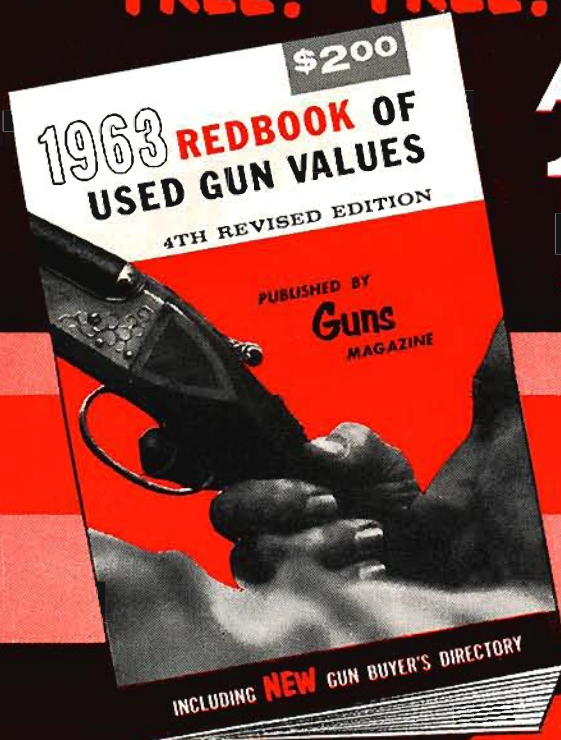


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FREE CATALOG from Walter H. Craig, Dept. G-3, 413 Lauderdale St., Selma, Ala., lists about one-third of his shooting goods items. It is on best grade, slick paper and contains about 100 pages and pictures of literally hundreds of guns. Cost of catalog printing and mailing is \$1.00 and amount would be appreciated, though not necessary. Makes good reference book for weapon identification.

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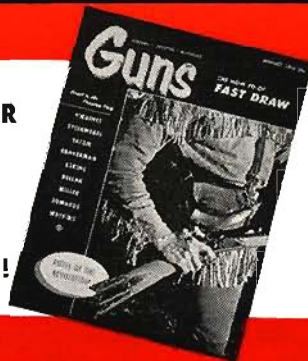
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(Continued from page 55)

or less, the standard. Reason behind this is the fact that most shooters will shoot from a cold barrel and won't have a chance to get off more than two or three shots before the game leaves the county. Rapid firing heats the slimmer barrels too rapidly to hold the original point of impact. A Johnson conversion carbine in 5.7mm Spitfire was tested for rapid-fire spread. All shooting was at 100 yards, and record groups were fired for five and ten shots. The first groups averaged 2-3 inches. The 10-shot group averaged 3 inches. Five shots in a smany seconds measured 2.35 inches, while timed fire produced 2 inch groups. Normal fire, again with five shots, produced a 1.9 inch group. About 80 per cent of the 10, 20, and 30 shot groups averaged 3 inches at 100 yards.

Extensive accuracy tests by Mel and his staff, by members of the Lyman Gun Sight Corporation, and by shooters who were at the Blue Trail range when the MMJ 5.7 Spitfire was tested, proved two or three points worth considering. First of all, the inherent accuracy of the cartridge-gun combination, even in the streamlined carbine version is outstanding. Compared with accuracy obtained from .30 caliber M1 carbines, groups at 100 yards were consistently one-half the size when the Spitfire was pitted against the .30 caliber gun. The carbine conversion is accurate enough for all practical varminting and plinking and could, in case of need, be used as survival gun, especially when you consider that 300 rounds weigh only 5.1 lbs. In this conversion, the carbine is an excellent pest gun and affords ample fire power. A gun like the Spitfire can easily be carried in any vehicle as survival arm, especially in airplanes flying over desolate areas. The Johnson-Sako custom rifle is, because of barrel length and stocking, more accurate than the carbine version of the Spitfire and the bull gun

now being put together by Lysle Kilbourn and Mel Johnson, promises to be a tackhole driver giving MOA groups with standard ammo. Mel and Lysle are now working on some special target loads that could, and this is nothing new to handloaders, increase accuracy to an incredible degree.

Mel Johnson, in designing the conversion carbine, kept in mind some extremely rugged function tests, and all conversions leaving the plant are tested with a fully loaded 30 round clip, and are fired, loosely held, with a completely dry firing mechanism. The little gun spits out the empties with great ease, and the bullets home in on the target as if they were radar controlled.

This is not a big game cartridge, but a fine varmint load that is extremely accurate and flat-shooting when you consider the 40 grain pill. Although Mel has experimented with different bullet weights and powders, ballistics performance was most satisfactory with the current load. Neither does Mel believe in boosting up pressures to the point where the jaw of diminishing returns takes hold, when a few feet per second increase means internal pressures that will shorten the life of the brass or the gun.

As yet, Mel and Fitz have not worked up hand-loading data, but these should be available shortly. When you get your Spitfire carbine or custom rifle, you'll have to buy ammo anyhow. By the time this is gone, complete loading data and dies will be available from Lyman and probably also from other companies.

The Spitfire in field tests was poison on jackrabbits and other varmints, and could do real yeoman service for the camper who wants to pot a rabbit or blue grouse for the pot. Matter of fact, the Spitfire is sheer poison on any small critter—either from the rifle and from the carbine conversion. And what else do you want from a

HANDLOADING BENCH

(Continued from page 15)

I designed a cruciform sizer punch to do a perfect job as bullets are sized. Cross knives are cut in round steel stock and inserted friction tight in the punch. James Gibbs, of Hensley & Gibbs fame, made me a couple that I value highly. He doesn't do this commercially. But anyone handy with a file can do it. Fairly soft alloy starts expanding at less than 900 fps in H.P. pills, adding a lot of punch to .38 and .44 Specials, and more to Magnums. Anyone is welcome to use my idea commercially. Drawings show details for .38-.357 pills in Lyman's top punch.

Shooters Service, Inc., Clinton Corners, N.Y., have a new line of Newline handgun bullets. (Two-bits brings their catalog with details on all bullets, loading data and custom ammo.) Newline pills are a modification of Harvey Jacketed Jugulars. The shoulder is eliminated so the tapered nose helps start bullets in alignment with the bore, as in rifle types. I believe it has an accuracy advantage, plus reduced leading. Prices are \$4.25 per 100 for .357's in 100, 115, 130 and 150 grain, or \$4.95 for .429's in 215 or 245 grain, plus postage on 4 pounds.

Ted Smith, of Little Dripper and Electric Dripper fame, has invented another "first,"

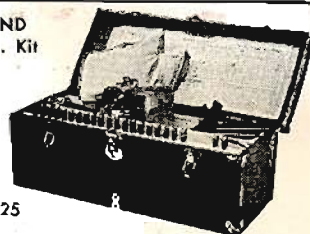
a bullet caneloring tool, at \$8.50. With the tool screwed on a bench, place a bullet in the rollers, set the adjustment screw for a canelure in the desired place, press down the handle and turn the crank a few turns. In three seconds your pill looks like it was factory canelured! Real clever. You or your dealer can obtain it from SAS Dies, Box 205, North Bend, Oregon.

It's for chaps who swage rifle bullets, or pills for tubular magazine rifles, or if you desire to crimp case mouths. It puts a lube groove in handgun pills. The best .38 wadcutters are swaged and lubed factory types with a hollow base. One firm has made swaging dies for such pills without lube grooves. The alloy requires a high tin content to prevent excessive leading. This isn't too good.

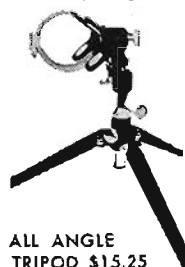
Bullets could be swaged with a softer alloy and lube grooves rolled in the bearing surface before running in a Lubri-Sizer. Accuracy might equal or exceed factory types. I don't say it would, but it might. Only extensive testing will tell. Swaging increases metal density and "squeezes out" interior defects. This, plus a fairly soft hollow base may account for the superb accuracy of factory pills. Yet they are handled

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roughly, have exterior nicks and considerable weight variation, that could be eliminated in hand-made bullets.

Bench resters use great care in swaging bullets superior to factory production types. Results are reflected in groups that go almost (but not quite) in the same hole. Handgunners may fire 20 rounds for every one fired by bench resters. Why do pistol shooters think any old slug is OK in a short tube, but only the finest is fit for rifles? It doesn't make sense. Results are reflected in lousy groups.

Some .38 factory ammo groups 1.0" to 2.0" at 50 yards in test barrels. The S&W .38 Master nearly holds the accuracy in 1.0" to 2.5" groups. It takes good reloads to do 2.5". Crummy ones give 6.0" shotgun patterns. Yet we can sort and trim cases for more uniformity, use more uniform charges, and primers designed for reloads. I'm sorry our bullets do not exceed factory type accuracy. Perhaps this sad situation will change before long.

Norma's .308 Magnum, in a strong, belted case, is going like wildfire in velocity and sales. Let's hope we have more factory guns for this superb cartridge. Most gunsmiths chamber for it, turning .30-06's into potent,

flat trajectory pieces. Ballistics are superior to a .300 H&H Magnum, extraction is easier, a shorter action is an advantage, and the case is superior for reloading. A screw-ball .300 H&H, designed for extremely high nitroglycerine content (58.00%) English powders, is not ideal for modern U.S. powders. Norma's design is superb in every way. A top load is 76.0 grains 4350 backed with a 180 grain bullet and CCI Magnum primer (specified) for 3100 fps. Or 76.0 grains 4831 is tops with the same primer. It is best to start with 2.0 grains less powder, giving you a load adequate for all shooting.

Norma's cases are superior to excessively trimmed and formed H&H hulls in short Magnum wildcats, that filled a void before the .308 Norma Magnum was created. Good as they were, they are now dead ducks in my book. Norma's hulls fit the .300 Apex Magnum, a "Wildcat of Merit," by sizing in the usual manner for reloads. Case capacity is reduced a bit. Use 2.0 grains less powder. Both, 4350 and 4831, are the best powders in either version, with CCI Magnum primers. For slightly reduced loads I like HiVel powder, that ignites OK with standard primers. Do not fire greatly reduced charges of 4350 or 4831.

RANGE FINDER FOR HUNTERS

(Continued from page 19)

this is a little more complicated. Rather than trying to figure it out, it's best to choose an object as high as your target, pace off 100 yards, and check its size in the scope, as compared to some part of the reticle. If your scope has, for example, a 3-minute dot reticle, that dot will cover 3" at 100 yards, 6" at 200 yards, and so on. These measurements can give you a close estimation of range when measured against an object of known size, such as a deer's head. Remember, always use the same scope power when checking ranges.

In the days of black powder guns and lobbing trajectories, many hunters used the sight post method. The hunter would place the sight post on his game-target, quickly judge the range, hold two or three sight post heights above its shoulder, and blast away. Sometimes it worked, and those are the ones we hear about; but sometimes it didn't.

The point of learning range gauging is to enable you to glance at your target and say, "He's between 175 and 200 yards away." There is a New Shooter's Range Guide now on the market which will help you to become just that nonchalant about your range estimates.

The Shooter's Range Guide works on the same principle as sight-post ranging. The only difference is that it has standard animal silhouettes as they would appear at various ranges, printed on a clear plastic card. The guide is held just as if you were shooting a handgun and the height of the silhouette is

matched against the height of your target. The first Range Guide was developed for whitetail deer. It shows the height of a deer at 50, 100, 150, 200, and 300 yards.

The Range Guide, used during the off-season will keep your eye sharp by checking the distance to posts or bushes that are about deer height. And carry it in your pocket during the hunting season. You almost never will have time actually to gauge the range to your deer, but you can use it when you are on a deer stand. On your way in, check the distance of a few bushes and tree branches about five feet high. When you get to your stand, check the ranges to your marker trees so that you have a good idea of the distances you may be shooting at.

The Range Guide math was figured on a Guide-to-eye distance of 27 inches, which is about the average arm length for a medium-sized man. If you have shorter or longer arms than average, your accuracy will be improved if you hold the Guide so that it is exactly 27 inches from your eye.

Shooter's Range Guides (14 East 34th St., New York 16, N.Y.) are now being developed for most of the big game animals of North America, including moose, elk, bear, antelope, sheep, goats, and mule deer, as well as ducks and geese. Get yours soon and practice range estimation with it during the summer. Come fall and hunting season, you'll be able to mumble casually, "Oh, he is 250 yards off!"



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PROTECT WHAT MAKES US STRONG!

(Continued from page 40)

of our firearms position. It will serve our interest best if we present our views fairly, calmly, and convincingly to our friends and neighbors who are chosen to determine what laws are desirable. This, of course, is a generalization, but it is an over-all formula and we can take the details from here.

The public image of firearms ownership, influenced by reporting media such as newspapers, magazines, radio and television, has a changing face. How good or how bad this image may appear at a given period has a great influence with legislators. Thus, it is vital that all firearms owners observe faithfully the rules of safety and restraint, bringing no discredit to firearms ownership. It is always helpful to establish a friendly liaison with the reporting media to prevent over-dramatized or one-sided accounts of firearms incidents. Many cases can be cited to discredit claims that the sole use of firearms is to take lives. More often firearms save lives. Incidents where guns were used to preserve the law and save lives are regularly

reported in "The Armed Citizen" columns of the "American Rifleman." You can remind news reporters and legislators of cases like this: In Chicago recently a knife-wielding thug broke into the rectory of St. Patrick's church, stabbed the housekeeper to death and seriously wounded the cook. Hearing screams, Father Stephen O'Donnell rushed downstairs. The thug lunged at Father O'Donnell, intent on killing him, too, for Father O'Donnell could identify the thug as a murderer. But Father O'Donnell did not come down the stairs with hands clasped in supplication. In Father O'Donnell's hand was a .45 pistol. When the thug lunged at him, Father O'Donnell knocked him down with a bullet in the leg, and held him for the police. If this attack on innocent women and a priest had happened in New York City, where citizens who desire a pistol for self-protection find permission almost impossible to obtain, probably all three would have been killed and the murderer far from the scene by the time "protection" arrived.

Possibly Father O'Donnell had seen that

excellent Shoemaker cartoon which pictures a Bible and alongside it a gun. The Bible is labeled "Faith of Our Fathers," and the gun is labeled "Courage of Our Fathers." The title of the cartoon, "WE NEED THEM BOTH."

The various ways of establishing a true public image of firearms ownership and use are well known. Here we wish to center our attention on the men who make our laws. To understand these men and their views clearly I interviewed a number of legislators.

It is useful to know what kind of backgrounds these men have. Members of the Congress, must devote the major portion of their time to the task of law-making. On the other hand, state legislators meet for much shorter periods, the pay is not sufficient to provide an adequate income, and these citizen lawmakers usually combine other interests with their task of state government. A study of the composition of one state legislative body recently revealed that among its members were: accountants, attorneys, real estate men, insurance men, teachers, farmers, a retired Navy captain, a retired police officer, a newspaper publisher, an industrial relations man, a labor relations man, a social worker, an economist, an oil

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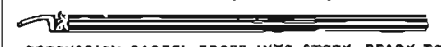
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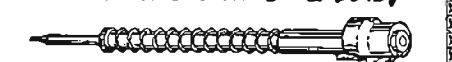
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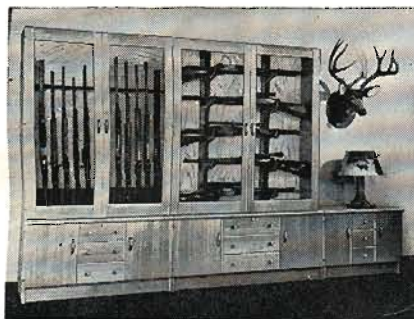


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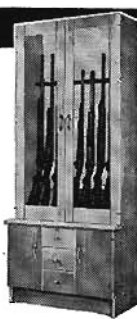
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one-page letter. If a brief statement of your views needs supporting data, it is better to attach that data to the letter rather than make it a part of the letter. It is important that you mention the bill by number and the name of its author.

Legislators tell us that sincere personal letters have much greater influence with them than a flood of form letters, petitions, or resolutions. It is wise to minimize reference to others in your expression of views, steering clear of the impression that your letter is sponsored by some special interest organization.

In the field of firearms legislation, thousands of hours of study have been devoted to the perennial proposals to regulate, register, or restrict firearms. The National Rifle Association maintains a far-reaching legislative advisory service, has prepared a number of informative booklets, published specific articles in the "American Rifleman," and provided careful reports and analyses for gun owners.

Criteria for the basic formula of acceptable gun laws have been often mentioned, but I shall repeat them here for your convenient reference. They are: (1) Is the law enforceable? Constitutional? (2) What is the true purpose, and will it accomplish the intended purpose? (3) Is it necessary, or does it serve only to impose a web of costly, burdensome entanglements? (4) Is it an effort to accomplish by prohibition what could be done more effectively by education and training? (5) Is it a foot in the door by which the unscrupulous might extend their own power? (6) How have similar laws, if any, proved effective or desirable?

To use a simplification, we wish our lawmakers to be sure that any firearms law given favorable action is aimed at the wrongdoer and not the law-abiding, that it is aimed at the unlawful act and not the instrument, and that the law will do the job for which it is intended without infringing upon basic rights of the American citizen.

We can help materially in providing informed views for our lawmakers. These views can be firm, but they will lose conviction and force if they are emotional or abusive.

Yours is an important voice—if it is properly directed, speaks wisely, and remains strong. It is our job to see that firearms ownership is not fettered by enactment of laws proposed by starry-eyed theorists, ill-advised crusaders, or police-state thinking.

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distributor, an engineer, an actor, a securities broker, a pharmacist, and men and women from several other fields of endeavor. Attorneys are by far the most numerous and, as a general group, are more politically conscious than the average citizen.

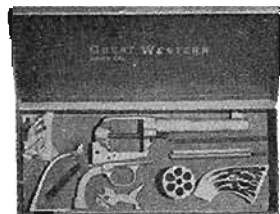
You must know who your district representatives are. Most of the state legislatures publish a free booklet which lists members of both houses, provides home addresses, and tells on what committees the various legislators serve. Your local newspaper also can help you with this information. At the Federal level, the most complete and reliable roster of members of the Congress is the *Congressional Directory*.

These lawmakers worked hard to get that *Honorable* before their name, and your letter may have a less cordial reception if you address the *Hon. John Smith* as *Mr. John Smith*. The impression must be given that you are familiar with the background and policies of legislator John Smith, not that you think of him only when you want something. A member of Congress told me that he was always favorably impressed when a letter started out something like this: "I am aware of your reputation for soundness and sincerity as a legislator, which is assurance to me that you will give serious consideration to the matter I wish to lay before you."

Let us assume now that a bill comes before the legislature which you consider to be a bad one. First, be sure you fully understand the bill. Copies usually may be obtained on request. Having studied the bill, informed yourself on any interpretive matters (a service rendered by N. R. A.), and formed your opinions, you sit down to write your senator or representative. Here is a critical moment. Lawmakers in session are busy men, so express your views precisely and in as few words as possible. A three-page letter will have less chance of attention than a

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GUN RACK

(Continued from page 10)

are available as either a fixed 4X power- or a 2½X-8X Vari-power. The 4X scope retails for \$50, while the Vari-Power Continental VIII will set you back \$75.

When our Vari-Power arrived, we put it first through the various lab tests—fogging, drop-test, and so on—and found that it took the "worst beating without any ill-effects. Having often wondered if scope tests on such guns as an '06 were adequate, we took the Vari-Power Continental and gave it a wringing out that few scopes will normally encounter. We started with a .35 Whelen, worked up and down the caliber scale, and nothing effected the performance of the scope.

Clicks are ¼ minute at 100 yards, optical definition is excellent, lenses are hard coated, the objective is of the 40 mm variety and gives a bright, clear image. The scope furnished us for tests had the standard cross hairs, and changing of power while shooting did not effect either the point of impact nor the visual picture. These are fine scopes, and the Continental VIII passed the scrutiny of two other testers with flying colors.

Quails Fargo

Run, don't walk, to the nearest gunshop and take a look at this little sweetheart. It is a side-by-side double shotgun, chambered for the powerful 3-inch 20 gauge Magnum. The over-all length of the gun is but 38½ inches, the barrels measuring just 22 inches. Barrels have open bores, and are topped with a Simmons ventilated rib and the Glow-Worm front sight we like so much. The gun is available with either double triggers (\$150) or single trigger, which will set you back another \$10. The safety is automatic, and the center of heft is where it should be. Ejectors are non-automatic.

The walnut stock is finished a bit on the light side, and the checkering is of the standard pattern. The action of the Quails Fargo is hand-engraved, but the most important is the handling quality of the gun. This is perhaps the fastest handling shotgun we have ever had in our hands and because it is so short and lightweight, carrying the gun a whole day while hunting pheasants, quail, and rabbits was absolutely no chore.

Using Federal 20 gauge, 3-inch loads, we took the gun first to the trap range where it did fairly well in competition with full length tubes, but where it really excelled was in the dove field. With the Quails Fargo, Ernie Simmons has a winner—fast

(Continued on page 65)

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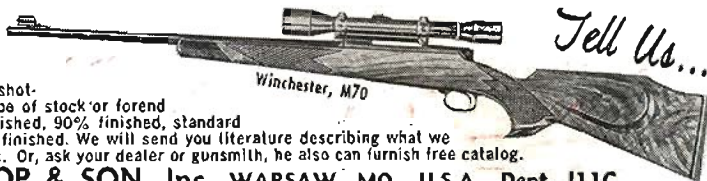
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(Continued from page 63)

handling, well balanced, and fine performance when the shooter does his part, this little double is certain to please upland hunters. Made in Spain, the gun is imported by the Dakin Gun Co., 1739 Locust Street, Department G, Kansas City 8, Mo.

Primer Seater

We have been using the Vamco Primatic Seater #300 on our loading bench for several months. This little tool seats primers only and comes in very handy when priming gets near the mass production stage. Fully adjustable for all cartridge sizes, the Vamco Primatic Seater handles large and small rifle and pistol primers of all makes without the slightest trouble. In using the seater, it is necessary to be certain that the brass fits smoothly and easily into the jaws, yet is held firmly enough to seat the primers deeply enough. The tool retails for \$25, and full information can be had from the Valley Automatic Machine Co., Inc., Dept. G, Vestal Parkway, Vestal, New York.

Jax Dies

Jack Ashurst of Jax Die Co., P.O. Box 6238-G, Riverton Heights Annex, Seattle 88, Washington, recently submitted a set of his

Jax rifle dies in caliber .257 Roberts to us for tests. Built along the standard lines and apparently made on a screw machine, the dies performed all of the sizing and bullet seating operations in a satisfactory manner. Dies are not plated but are solid steel, and locking rings are adjusted with hex lock nuts. Dies are available for practically all popular rifle calibers and all pistol calibers. A three-die set retails for \$11, two-die set sells for \$8.95.

Tradewind Zoom Scope

Tradewinds, Inc., P.O. Box 1191-G, Tacoma, Washington, imports three different scopes from West Germany. One is a fixed power scope, two are variable power telescopic sights. We tested the TW-Zoom 1½X-4X scope extensively and enjoyed using it very much. This is a short scope with tapered post and cross-hair that give excellent visibility in brush and on the range. The scope was mounted on our Ruger .44 Magnum carbine where it withstood the pounding of some very hot and experimental loads without either a change in point of impact or damage to the crosshairs. These scopes have integral windage and elevation adjustments and fit all standard mounts and rings.

This TW-Zoom scope is rugged and provided more than enough magnification on the brush guns we mounted it on for tests. Under adverse light conditions, we found that it had better than average light-gathering power when compared with a scope of similar power.

Trapshooters, Please Note

Most of the confirmed trap and skeet shooters today load their own hulls. Time was when reloading hulls was simply a matter of a few mechanical steps and presto, here was your reload. Since early this year, a number of "protected" shot column shells have been possible for the handloader, and the latest to make its arrival is the Fordwad.

The Fordwad is a polyethylene collar that resembles, in part, a paper shotshell that has been cut in strips about half-way down. Decap and prime your case in the usual manner, but reduce your powder load to 18 grains of Red Dot. Snap the paper disc that comes with the Fordwad into the plastic wad, then set the entire unit into the shotshell hull. The manufacturer claims that hull life is increased, shot suffers less deformation, that the reduced powder charge not only reduces kick but also offers considerable economy.

Fordwad can be used in any hull that accepts a ½" wad column, and since the use of Fordwad does not require any other wads, it is a faster method of loading. H.P. White Laboratories tested the ballistics of the shells. There is an increase in the fps, that is accomplished with a 25 per cent reduced powder load.

Personally, we cannot make a comparison of the kick or recoil, since we are fairly immune to this bugaboo, but others who have shot shells with Fordwad claim that they did feel a difference. Fact remains, that loading hulls with Fordwad does turn out neat looking hulls at less cost—the main purpose in reloading shotshells. Fordwads can be obtained through your gunshop. If it is not available there, write to A) Siegel Associates, 3603-G Lindholm Rd., Shaker Heights 20, Ohio for complete information.

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ARMS LIBRARY

(Continued from page 6)

GUNS ON THE EARLY FRONTIERS

By Carl P. Russell

(U. of California Press, Berkeley, Cal., 1962. \$2.45)

This book is a fine example of scholarly research. Simply stated, Carl Russell has written a history of the gun in the United States, from the very first report dated July 30, 1609, to the guns of the traders and the Army around 1830. Unlike so many other pieces of research, author Russell uses a lively style that makes reading this book a pleasure rather than a chore. My only complaint is that the book is not of the hard cover variety.—R.A.S.

SMALL ARMS OF THE WORLD

By W. H. B. Smith and Joseph E. Smith
(Stackpole, Harrisburg, Pa., 7th edition, 1962. \$15.00)

With the death of Walter H. B. Smith, his monumental work on this book came to an end and for a while it seemed likely that no suitable expert would be found to continue his work. The new edition is completely updated, and includes such U.S. arms as the

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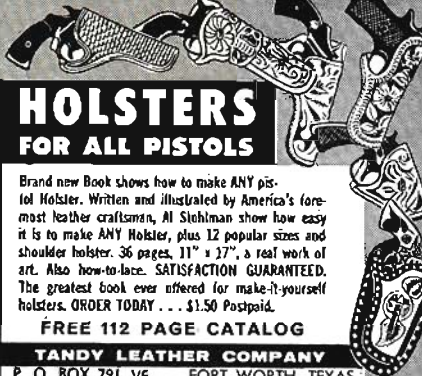
M 14 and the AR 10 and the AR 15. If you don't have the 7th edition, you are missing something of value.—R.A.S.

TROPHY HEADS

By John W. Moyer

(Ronald Press, New York, 1962. \$16.00)

From Pudu to elephant, from bear to kudu, whatever your trophy, author Moyer has information about it. Profusely illustrated, the 258 pages of the book represent a complete biological survey of game trophies all over the world. Each animal is described, heads are discussed, habitats and location are defined—and this is compiled for five continents. Add to this that Mr. Moyer is associated with the Chicago Museum of Natural History and has written a book on taxidermy—and "Trophy Heads" assumes even greater importance. Noteworthy are chapters on care of the trophy in the field, at home, and the selection of the gun for trophy hunting. A worthwhile addition to the big game hunter's library.—R.A.S.



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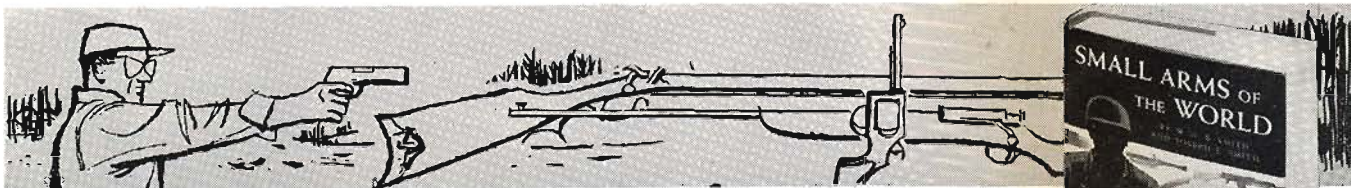
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One of the basic reasons for reloading is to be able to do more shooting. Right? But nobody wants a "second-best" shell, just because it's a little bit cheaper. It's not good economy — or good shooting.

A good example of Winchester-Western quality is the careful mouth annealing of specialized straight cartridge brass — as you can see in the center of this illustration.

This same individualized care goes into every item in the full Winchester-Western component line — from primers to shot pellets. No shooter can do his best, unless he's shooting the best. That's Winchester-Western.

And it always will be.

WINCHESTER-WESTERN DIVISION **Olin**