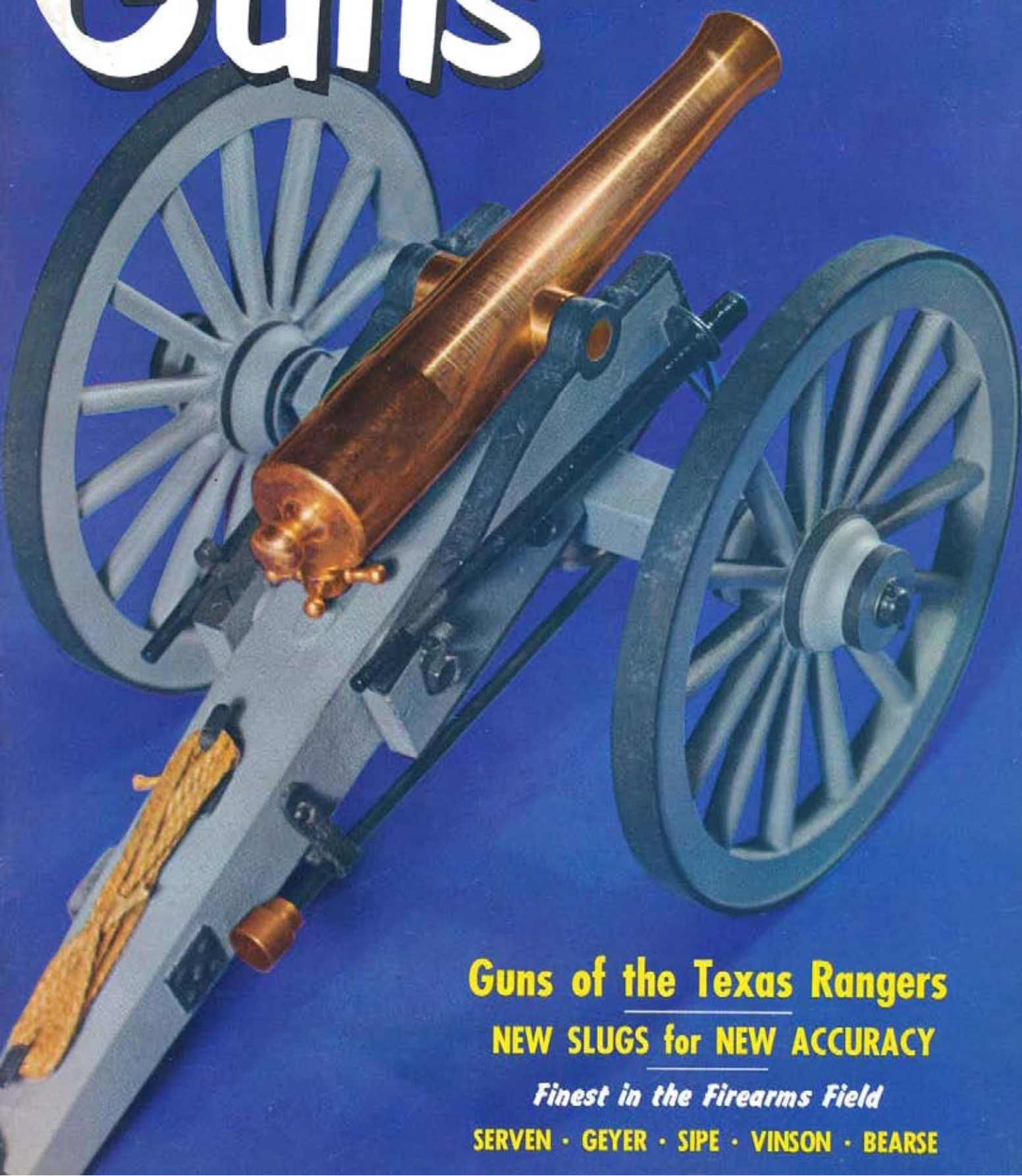


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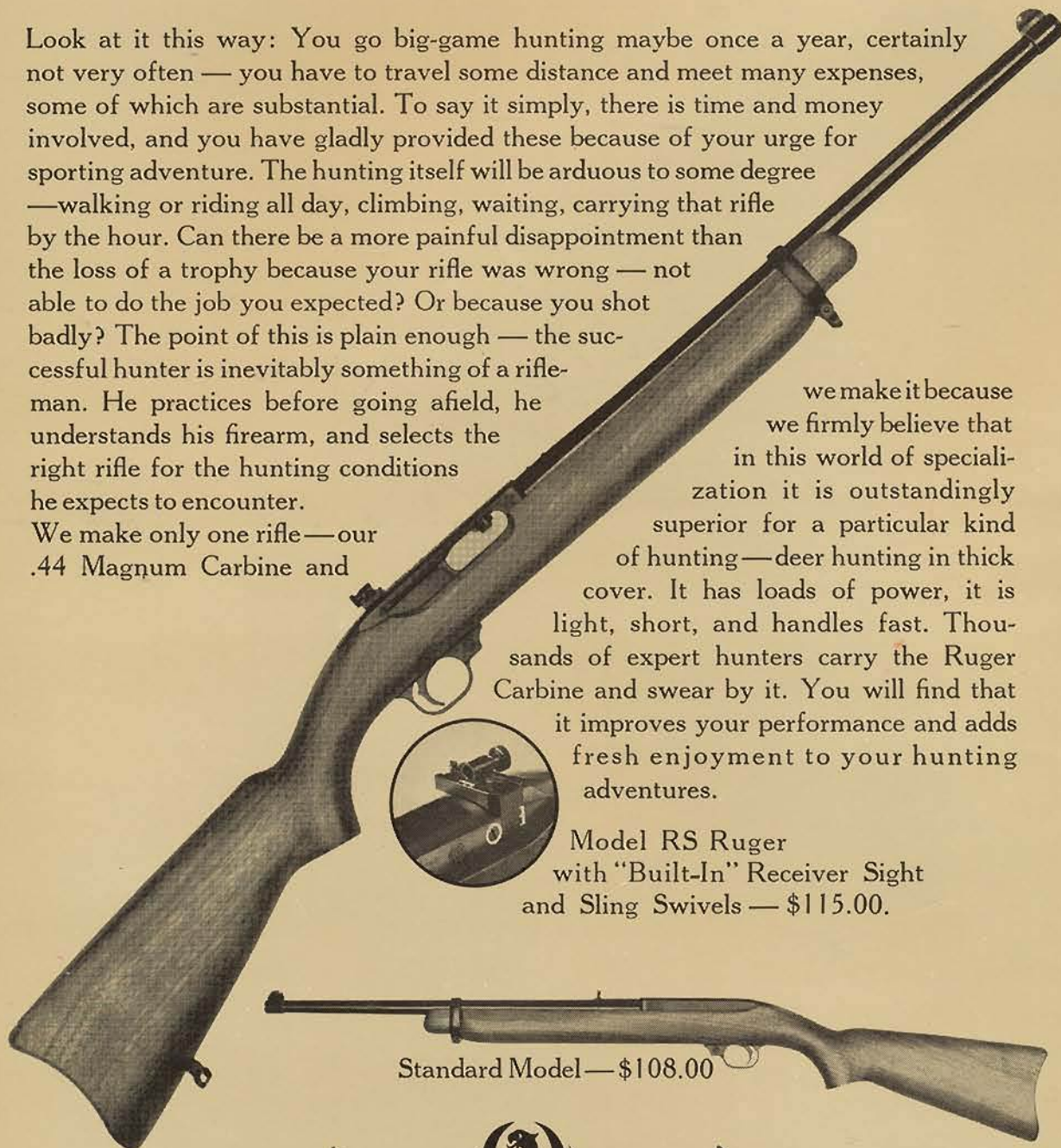


Look at it this way: You go big-game hunting maybe once a year, certainly not very often — you have to travel some distance and meet many expenses, some of which are substantial. To say it simply, there is time and money involved, and you have gladly provided these because of your urge for sporting adventure. The hunting itself will be arduous to some degree — walking or riding all day, climbing, waiting, carrying that rifle by the hour. Can there be a more painful disappointment than the loss of a trophy because your rifle was wrong — not able to do the job you expected? Or because you shot badly? The point of this is plain enough — the successful hunter is inevitably something of a rifleman. He practices before going afield, he understands his firearm, and selects the right rifle for the hunting conditions he expects to encounter.

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QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

By GRAHAM BURNSIDE

Questions submitted must carry a Shooters Club of America number or must be accompanied by one dollar. Questions lacking either number or dollar will be returned.

Shotgun For Deer

If I'm able to stand the extra recoil, will it be safe to use the heavy Super-X 2 3/4" magnum loads in my new 6 lb. Marlin Premier Mark I 12 Ga. shotgun?

What choke would you recommend for use with buckshot for deer hunting?

John Mabarak
Brooklyn 9, N.Y.

Yes, you can use the Super X 2 3/4" shells in your Marlin, but as with any arm you should always watch for signs of loosening or any undue stress.

Assuming that you have a choke device on your shotgun I would advise using full choke for deer hunting with buckshot. You'd best pattern the piece to get an idea of the drop and the pattern itself.

A deer can walk through a pattern of "00" buckshot. No. 4 buckshot is far better for deer.—G.B.

German K98

I have a German gun, Model 98, series K, that my father picked up during World War II. A friend of mine said it was an 8 mm, but I think it is a 7 mm. Who is right?

Bobby Land
Melvin, Alabama

Your friend is right. The cartridge involved is the 7.92 x 57 mm, normally called 8 mm in this country.—G.B.

An Iver Johnson

I would appreciate any information you can give me on the following: a small frame revolver, apparently .38 cal. break-open (top) type, the only markings on it are: U. S. Revolver Co. made in U. S. A.

The barrel is 3 3/4 inches. It has a 5 shot cylinder, and is a hammerless model.

WALT'S WEAPONS
Avondale, Ariz.

There never was a company by the name of "U. S. Revolver Co." This was a brand name that was used by the E. K. Tryon Co. of Philadelphia during the period of 1905 until W. W. 1. The revolvers were made—at least in part—by the Iver Johnson Arms & Cycle Works of Fitchburg, Mass.—G.B.

A What-is-it

I have just acquired a revolver and have no idea as to its make or caliber. It is a five-shot, about five inches in total length,

with proof marks which I am reproducing as well as I can. I'm pretty sure it is European, and a .32 cartridge is slightly too big.

Gary Perlstein
Kansas City, Mo.

Your revolver was manufactured in Belgium. The oval proofmark has—or should have—an E. L. G. and a star within the oval.

Although the .32 Smith & Wesson cartridge will not quite chamber, I think it is still a .32 caliber revolver and probably takes the European .320 revolver cartridge. That has a smaller diameter case. This .320 round is called .32 Short Colt in this country, and is available through normal channels.—G.B.

Mounting A Sight

I have a U.S. Army Colt auto-loading pistol which I am making into a target model. I am planning on using a S & W K-38 rear sight, mounted in a notch milled out of the top of the slide. My problem is, how can I calculate the correct height for the blade front sight?

Neil W. Pheiner
Yankton S.D.

I would measure with a steel rule and determine that the rear sight would be at least as high as the front when in a neutral position. The easy way is to have the front sight obviously high, and then work it down slowly until it hits where you want it to.

Even if there were a mathematical way of mounting those sights, your particular hold and sight picture may be such that the method wouldn't work.—G.B.

Three Revolvers

Attached are some photographs of a pistol I recently purchased. There is no identifying marks other than the number 263 on the side of the pistol underneath the cylinder. It is a six shot .44 caliber, side loading, single action, with stag grips. The pistol is in very good working condition with good bluing.

I also have a Smith & Wesson .32 center fire, side loading revolver, nickel plated, with the following inscription on the top of the barrel; Smith and Wesson, Springfield, Mass. U.S.A. Pat'd Jan. 17 & 24, 65, July 12, 65, Aug. 24, 69, Jan. 19, 1875, Reissue July 25, 1871. Serial number is 1448. The pistol is in excellent condition. What is the age and value?

I also own and would like to know the age and value of a .32 caliber rimfire, side loading pistol that has the following letters on the top of the barrel; Whitneyville Ar- (Continued on page 71)

Guns

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

George E. von Rosen
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DECEMBER, 1963

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THE COVER

In 1857 the United States adopted the 12 pound Napoleon as field artillery piece. This replica is made from copies of the original drawings on a scale of one inch to the foot. Early Napoleons were heavily ornamented, later ones are devoid of decorations. Photograph was taken by Dick Friske, a California gun collector and professional photographer.

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KNOW YOUR LAWMAKERS

Senator J. W. Fulbright Arkansas



While the Militia was vital for local defense at the time of the adoption of the Second Amendment, it has been replaced in our modern world by the Army Reserve and the National Guard. However, I believe the right of our people to own firearms should not be abridged beyond the limitations needed in the interests of public safety.

Senator Paul H. Douglas Illinois

While I personally am not a hunting enthusiast, I am very anxious that our wildlife species have adequate conservation areas in which to live in order that the American public may be able to see them, and, if desired, hunt them in their native habitat.

The Constitution and the Bill of Rights protects the right to bear arms, and I do not believe Congress will enact legislation which will violate that Amendment.

Congressman Don H. Clausen 1st District, California

The Constitution of the United States is absolutely clear, in my opinion, on the matter of requiring that there shall be no infringement upon the people's right to keep and bear arms. I recently attended the Washington convention of the National Rifle Association of America and assured them of my support in this matter. Any imposition upon the right to bear firearms, whether for hunting, target shooting, or simply collecting weapons, would be a violation of a basic, guaranteed right.



Senator Peter H. Dominick Colorado

Many thanks for your letter concerning legislation which would require Federal registration of firearms.

I have opposed such legislation while in the State Legislature and the Congress. It seems to me these anti-gun laws crop up every session of Congress. Frankly, I don't believe there is much chance of passage, but if any of these bills should reach the floor of the Senate, I shall oppose them.

Congressman Donald C. Bruce 11th District, Indiana



Since I am a firm believer in personal freedom and the inviolability of individual rights, I would have to abide by the Second Amendment to the Constitution in its most strict interpretation. This amendment is clear in its meaning. It states that no laws shall be made to infringe the rights of citizens to keep and bear arms. Once we attempt to skirt around this amendment and begin to place undue restrictions on the maintenance of firearms by private citizens, we are taking a fearful step toward State Dictatorship. For a people denied the right of defense of their person, family and property are no longer a free people, but are at the mercy of the State.

Readers Note: All Congressmen may be addressed at "House Office Building," and all Senators at "Senate Office Building," both at "Washington 25, D.C." Address all Governors at: State Capitol, name of capital city, name of State.



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HANDLOADING BENCH

By KENT BELLAH



Loads and News

SPEER'S MANUAL lists their excellent 146 gr. H. P. jacketed bullet in a top .357 Magnum load with 16.0 gr. 2400 and CCI 500 primers at 1319 fps, in the 25,000 psi pressure range. For a hotter, more accurate load use 16.5 gr. with CCI 500 Magnum primers. Velocity in a test barrel is 1670 fps at 37,400 psi. Revolver velocity is less, due to gas leakage between cylinder and barrel.

You should work up to this load. It's safe enough, even in our light (K) frame Smith & Wesson Combat Magnums. These fine guns are made with the original 4" barrel, or a new 6" tube, that I long ago suggested the factory bring out. The gun was designed primarily as a superb target grade gun for lawmen. The company told me that most lawmen used the handier, faster handling 4" barrels. I doubt they knew how popular these guns were with sportsmen for hunting, plinking, and all-around use.

Many sportsmen prefer a 6" tube for the longer sight radius, or the slight velocity gain. Now we have it in the most versatile revolver in the huge S & W line. They handle faster and are easier to pack than the heavy (N) frame S & W original .357 Magnum, long considered by many as the world's finest revolver. Despite the light weight, the Combats are suitable for all loads I consider safe in the N frame models. Combats are beautifully finished in quite durable S & W bright blue. Inside fitting and finishing is of fine target grade. Walnut target stocks for all-around use are standard.

My "Pair & Spare" have digested many thousands of factory loads that varied from 30,200 to 51,900 psi (the latter being one lot of 1935 vintage original WRA ammo that is entirely too hot today) and reloads up to 48,800 psi. The guns are still perfect. I don't recommend reloads much over 40,000 psi in any .357 Magnum caliber revolver, and less is better for a steady diet. My top load with the deadly and destructive Speer H.P. is hot enough. Firing it in a large box we found the charge burns completely in a 4" Combat. It won't do so with any pistol primers we have tested except CCI Magnums. You can cut the charge as low as 14.0 gr. and still hold accuracy.

For reduced velocity use 6.0 to 8.0 gr. of Unique with the same primers. For hotter loads use 2400 powder.

There is quite a difference in Speer's pressure figures and mine, even with my increased charge and different primers. This isn't unusual. Different barrels and loading technique may result in considerable variation. CCI Magnum primers burn more powder in the bore rather than ahead of the

muzzle. In the high pressure range a bit more powder increases pressure rapidly. We test fired 17.0 grain to be sure of an adequate margin of safety.

After firing several thousand loads, many hot ones, in one Combat Magnum, I sold it to Monroe Thomas. Monroe liked the slick action, the excellent trigger, and the way it shot and handled. In 6 years he fired about 60,000 reloads, including many hot ones with jacketed bullets. The gun bagged enough varmints and game to fill a truck. It's good as new, except the stocks are badly worn and the blue shows holster wear. Did you ever hear of a center-fire rifle firing some 60,000 rounds and still have equal-to-new accuracy?

I know of a .30-06 "hunting grade" rifle that was fired in the CCI laboratory over 60,000 times with CCI primers behind 50.0 gr. of 4895 and 150 gr. Speer bullets. It still had hunting accuracy, but wasn't equal to new. It proved CCI primers are very easy on a bore. The jacketed bullets had much higher velocity than a .357 Magnum, and the smaller bore contributed to faster wear. Monroe uses CCI primers exclusively, except a few others for testing, and he wouldn't trade his Combat for a new one. I'll report on how it's holding up from time to time. Many rifles have the bore ruined with less than 1000 rounds. One chap ruined a .257 Weatherby for fine accuracy with 300 rounds that were too hot. It was an old model. Weatherby's new Mark V barrels and actions are much better and stronger.

I never got a double charge, and never will, although I've reloaded since I was in grade school. There is no excuse for it. Beginners may worry about it with fast pistol powder, and once in a blue moon it happens. The damage is nearly always to the gun rather than to the shooter. If you worry about it, look in every charged case of Bulls-eye and you can detect a blank or double charge. Or use 5066 powder in the usual 3.0 to 3.5 grain target .38-.357 charges. We loaded 7.0 grains to test in a Combat Magnum. It didn't damage the gun, but *don't ever fire this load!* Magnum revolvers provide a much larger margin of safety than .38 and .44 Specials, which is an advantage with any loads.

I've never damaged any hand fired gun, and I've worked up top loads for a great many. The only ones I ever damaged were fired by remote control to obtain data for your information. The only damage was slight chamber expansion, except a few wrecked deliberately. There is no reason for you to damage a fine gun.

Most chaps use .38 Special ammo for plinking and practice in .357 Magnums. Ad-

(Continued on page 63)

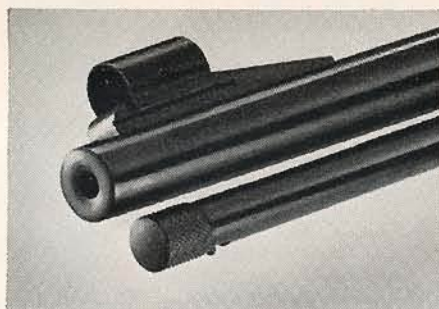


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CROSSFIRE

Help Wanted

As a gun-starved Englishman, I frequently look longingly at the rifles advertised in *GUNS Magazine*, for I am a collector of military-type weapons. One rifle I am particularly anxious to obtain for my collection, and for use, is a Czech VZ-24 7.9 mm Mauser rifle.

All my attempts to obtain such a rifle have failed, although they seem to be plentiful in the U.S.A. However, those firms who advertise these weapons seem to limit their sales to your continent.

Perhaps one of your readers would be good enough to assist me? I am at present on a long hunting trip to Kenya, but letters carrying the address below will find me.

Martin Button
P. O. Box 30011
Nairobi, Kenya

Welcome, Bill

Enclosed you will find my father's check covering the fee for my birthday present, a membership in Shooters Club of America. I think it is just about the best birthday present a fellow could have.

I am only 13, but I am an avid reader of your magazine, and I love guns very much. My favorite gun is the Winchester M94 in .30-30 caliber, and I plan to have money enough by this fall to buy one in time for deer season.

I am proud to be a member of the SCA, and good luck in your gun-legislation fight. Your new "Questions & Answers" department is great.

Bill Hodge

The Ladies, God Bless 'em!

Just a line to let you know that there are some women interested in our right to keep and bear arms! Having eight firearms of my own (three rifles, two shotguns, two revolvers, and one semi-auto pistol) I want to keep them and be able to use them.

I belong to the NRA and the California R. & P. Association, read all gun magazines, absorb all I can, and leave the too-technical-for-me things to my husband.

I only wish more women and girls would learn about guns and shooting and the many hours of enjoyment and the sense of achievement one gets from them. Incidentally, my sixteen-year-old daughter is often my companion on hunts.

How about articles by women?

Julie M. Weaver
Fontana, California

Some weeks ago, I sent you my check for two memberships (mine and another) in Shooters Club of America. We are both Life

Members of NRA, and are delighted to become members of another organization which is so actively assisting the fight to possess and use firearms.

Being a woman and a comparatively recent newcomer to the ranks of gun lovers, I nevertheless have no sympathy with any form of legislation which will deprive me of the use and ownership of my guns. I live alone with an elderly mother, and believe me, it is a great comfort to know that, should the necessity arise, I have something more than a cry for help as protection! My friend, Richard Green (the other member included in my check), has been interested in guns since he was a small boy, and we have many enjoyable hours target shooting with handguns and rifles, and we have recently been bitten by the reloading bug.

It is unfortunate that more women are not interested in shooting. They miss a sense of security from knowing that they can defend themselves, as well as missing a lot of fun. I regret not having started years earlier.

Frances M. McKay
Shrewsbury, Mass.

Attention Col. Springer

In the August "Questions & Answers" department, Col. Robert C. Springer of San Antonio, Texas, asked about brass shotshell cases. I have two boxes, 12 gauge, new Remington brass, that he can have. Trouble is, no street address was given with his letter. Can you get this word to him?

H. V. Atkinson
Atkinson Chevron Service
Miles City, Montana

Please tell Col. Springer that we have small amounts of Remington brass cases on hand except in 20 gauge. We can fill orders up to 500 quantities. Also, I believe Alcan Incorporated has brass cases in shotshell gauges.

Glen L. Mittelsteadt
Herter's, Inc.
Waseca, Minn.

Sacco-Vanzetti

Your fine article on the Sacco-Vanzetti case makes it clear that we must all keep our eyes and ears open to prevent such unfortunate incidents.

I would like to point out, however, that the field of technical investigation and the expert testimony resulting from such investigation is no longer the hit or miss thing it was in those days. Today, the profession is carefully and closely controlled, and is organized into groups of people who cannot be bought or pressured. The International Association for Identification is composed of

highly trained experts in numerous fields, such as firearms identification, polygraph, fingerprinting, document examination, chemistry, and many more. These people are not all police or judicial officers; there are a great many private experts and consultants who are not interested in any false testimony, but in getting at the truth with the help of the best modern equipment and the aid of other specialists in that particular field in which the expert will testify.

There are still charlatans in technical investigation, as there are in any profession; but when they are exposed to the cold and penetrating light of truth, they do not survive very long. The courts and science have come far, and it isn't fair to lead the majority to believe that corruption is commonplace.

DON H. BANNING

Consultant in Identification,
Police Department, Rockport, Tex.

Know Your Lawmakers

Your September issue is great, and the greatest thing about it is the revival of the "Know Your Lawmakers" department. I get around among shooting people a good deal, and have heard many rate this as the best aid yet offered in the fight against gun legislation. It provides a ready check-list of friends and non-friends when we need to go to bat against bad laws pending in Washington or in the states. The interview with Senator Frank Church tags him very definitely as a friend of shooters, and God bless him!

But you were wrong when you said that this department had been "featured in GUNS from November '59 to March '62." I keep a complete file of GUNS, and "Know Your Lawmakers" first appeared in June, 1959, not November! I don't know why I bothered to check, but I did.

Incidentally, it now appears that "Know Your Lawmakers" had even more admirers than the ones I met! Just picked up the September issue of one of your competitors in the field, and they've copied the idea.

John Haynes
Miami, Florida

Imitation, they say, is the sincerest form of flattery.—Editor.

The Price of Freedom

Just want to tell you how much I appreciate your the Shooters Club of America.

There are large pressure groups in this country that actively campaign for anti-gun legislation, financed, I presume, by groups that seek to render the people of the United States harmless.

GUNS Magazine is to be commended, in that it has taken up this fight to protect "The right of the people to keep and bear arms." This is why I seek membership in your organization. I am a Life Member in the NRA, and joined that organization for the same reason.

It boils down to this: lose your right to weapons and you'll lose your freedom. History has proven that in any number of nations.

Please keep up the fine job and accept my check for Charter Membership in the Shooters Club of America.

Roy B. Kenneally
Boston, Mass.



Suddenly You're A Kid Again (With A Flite-King Pump)

Take one bracing morning with the smell of autumn in the air and the dew still on the grass. Add one eager dog (you name it) with a nose for birds. Stir up one explosive covey of quail. Man! No matter what the calendar says, you're a kid again — and really living.

Ideal companion for this scene is a High Standard Flite-King Pump, 20 gauge or .410. Light to carry, lightning fast on target. These are the guns that make tall shooting tales come true. With regular shells they're in a class by themselves for introducing youngsters to the robust sport of field shooting. With 3-inch magnum shells they've got range and wallop to satisfy even shellback "meat hunters".

The name High Standard is your guarantee of a proud choice for the years ahead. In important features like Lock-Aligned barrels, receivers machined from a solid steel forging, super-finished operating parts and 100 percent individual factory inspection and testing — including test-firing with normal loads and extreme overloads. And, in such aristocratic details as rich American Walnut stocks and forearms, and polished exterior metal parts. Each has five-shot capacity of standard shells, including one in chamber. Prices start at \$76.95. See them at your High Standard dealer.

(Illustrated at left) Flite-King 20 gauge Trophy with ventilated rib and adjustable choke. Price \$98.95.

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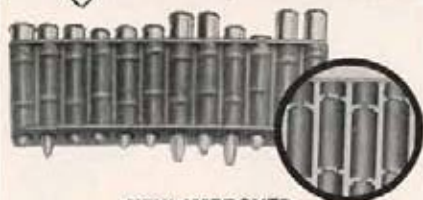
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GUN RACK



Pre-Serv Gun Oil

Gun oils, we have always heard, are to be used on steel only, and getting oil on the stock is bad for the wood. While attending the Grand American Trap events, we had a demonstration of a new kind of oil that can be applied to wood and steel with excellent results on both.

Pre-Serv Gun Oil is applied with a soft cloth to stock, action, and barrel; even if you get too much oil on the gun, it won't harm the firearm. After application, wipe the gun down with a soft cloth—an old piece of terrycloth will do fine. The amazing thing is that Pre-Serv Gun Oil does not leave a greasy or oily film on wood or steel, that you cannot see fingerprints, that wood takes on a beautiful sheen, and the bluing looks bluer.

After a treatment with this oil, you can put the gun into the rack without having to worry about rust or finger marks. At Vandalia, we saw a four-year-old, hard-used trap gun that had been treated with Pre-Serv Gun Oil, and it looked the way it did the day it left the factory. A four-ounce bottle costs one dollar, and you should be able to get Pre-Serv Gun Oil in your gunshop. If you can't, write Pat Sugrue, Pre-Serv Gun Oil, Woodbury, Conn.

For Trap and Skeet

Tired of trying to dope your trap or skeet averages? If you are, stick 35 cents into the mail to Federal Cartridge Corp., Minneapolis 2, Minnesota, and they'll send you a handy little slide calculator that will give you your average with one simple setting. Number of targets goes from 50 to 2000, and the number of breaks goes from one to 1,000. A handy gadget that will save you some math homework.

Browning Guarantee

Browning Arms Company now issues a lifetime guarantee with the purchase of a Browning Superposed shotgun. The guarantee is good for the time the gun is in the possession of the original owner, even for his entire lifetime. If a Superposed under this guarantee ever should require service, the company will repair the gun without charge.

Custom Barrels

For years we have had a pet .270 that shot MOA without fuss or bother. The gun had seen considerable wear and tear, and the day came when it required a new tube.

Upon recommendation of a friend, we asked Bill Hobaugh of The Rifle Shop, Box 657G, Phillipsburg, Mont., to fix up a barrel for the gun. Bill has been making fine custom and standard barrels for a number of years, and those who are particular about their barrels, have been getting Hobaugh tubes.

Bill's barrels give MOA easily, and we know of several Hobaugh barrels that do quite a bit better. Barrels are pre-turned before drilling and only finest steel and machines are used to produce these barrels. You can get Hobaugh barrels either through your gunshop, or you can ship your gun to the above address, but barrel installations are on first come, first served basis. Barrels are chrome-moly steel, and our barrel is a Wheelock Lovejoy Hi-Ten B-340 with a Brinell rating of 270/295. All stress is relieved and thus straightness and stability in use are foregone conclusions.

Winchester's New Magnum

Well over a year ago we got the word about this newest Winchester cartridge—the .300 Magnum. Chambered in the Model 70, the new .300 Winchester Magnum spells the end of the much cursed and also much beloved .300 H&H Magnum. Let's say right now that the Model 70 that reached our testing lab did everything the advance publicity said it would do—and then some.

Using the new B&L mounts and B&L's new 2 1/2X to 8X Variable scope, the gun without any tuning, performed exceptionally well, with



Amber

Steindler

the 180 grain factory loads, the 150 grain factory ammo, and with handloads. With the 180 grain factory loads, we fired a number of five shot groups that averaged a minimum of 1 1/8 inch and a maximum of 1 1/2". The 150 grain ammo showed a minimum spread of 5/8" and a maximum spread of 1 1/4 inch. Shooting with John Amber of "Gun Digest" (Continued on page 52)



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C20-629. Leather line-on cheepiece and sling. . . . \$3.95
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C23-1600
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12 GA. BOLT ACTION SHOTGUN

Special Marlin 3-shot repeating shotgun with adjustable choke! First time ever at this low Klein's Price! Positive safety. 1 take-down screw for easy disassembly. One-piece stock. Drilled and tapped for deer slug receiver sight. Heavy duty extractors. Marlin Micro-Choke. Gives 16 settings. Model 35 "Hunt-Down" Factory Packed. . . . \$337
C23-1387



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NRA Excellent Condition! Amazing cheap price due to special purchase from British Air Ministry. Available with or without scopes. The finest lot 21 Mark III Rifles we've ever seen, and possibly the last of this quality that may be available for a long time. This is the lowest price we have ever offered for a gun of this quality. Smooth oiled, fine-grained walnut stock. Superbly stock balanced. Well, permits fast handling. Rear sight adjustable. Blade front sight. Turned-down butt handle, solid brass butt plate, 10-shot removable clip. Sling swivels, 44 1/2" overall, 303 British caliber. . . . \$197
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C20-1598. ENFIELD RIFLE with Fleetwood 4X Scope, 8 1/2" dia. mounted. . . . \$29.78
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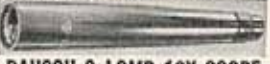
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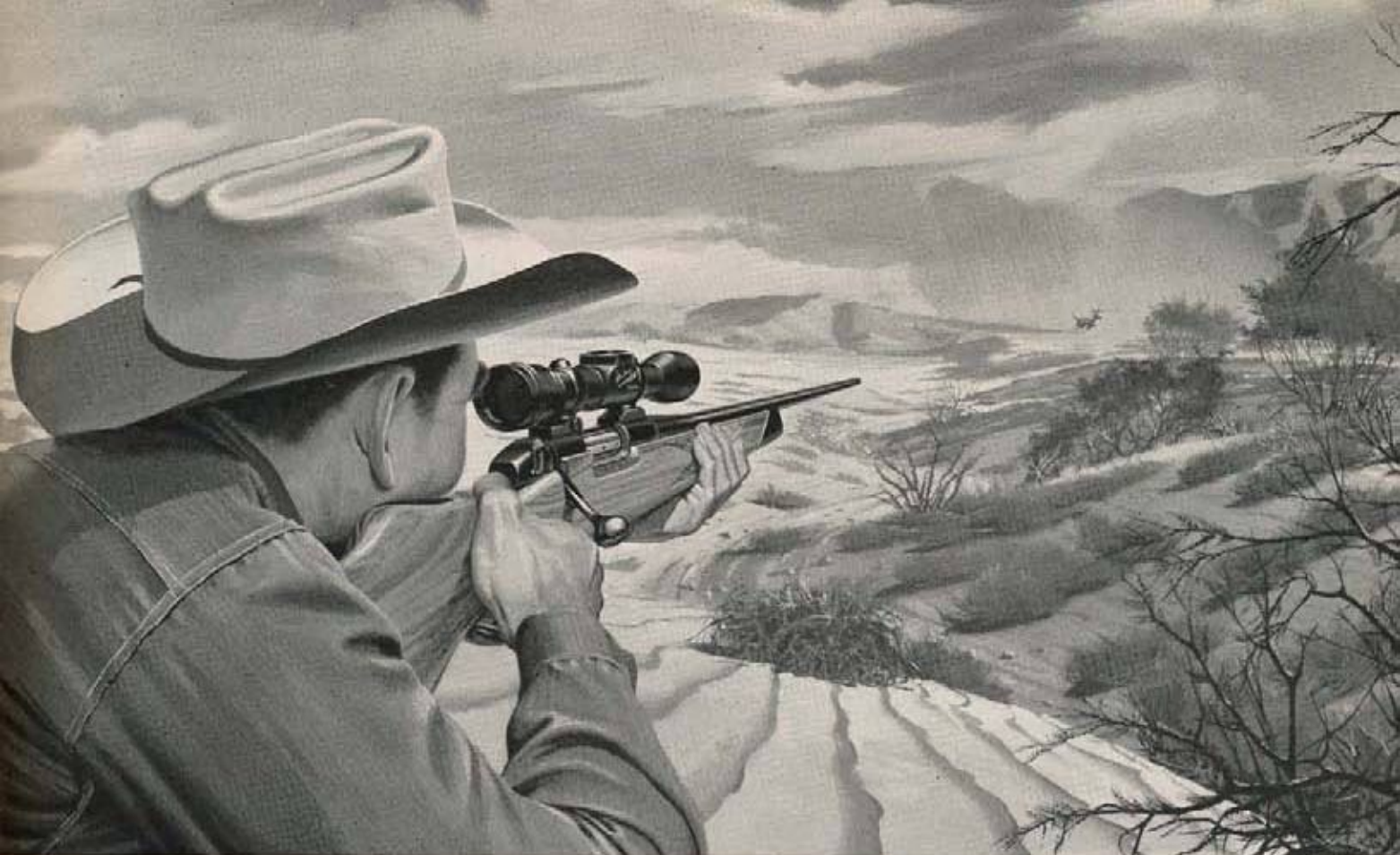
NEWS from the SHOOTERS CLUB OF AMERICA

ALL-OUT MEMBERSHIP DRIVE is off to a roaring start! Here's a sampling of the response from members all over the country: "I am definitely interested in promoting your organization. Please send promotion material and application forms immediately for about 40 people" . . . "I know many who would be interested in joining the SHOOTERS CLUB OF AMERICA. Send any promotional ideas and I'll get right on it" . . . "Your list of prizes are really worthwhile. I'm talking up the SHOOTERS CLUB to all my gun friends and will have them signed up very shortly." . . . "When I go to my Police Reserve meeting I will distribute the applications for membership in the SHOOTERS CLUB and I am certain that I will be able to sign up a large number of them." The SHOOTERS CLUB OF AMERICA is your organization. Help build it into a strong new force to defend your right to use and enjoy guns. You are rewarded with valuable firearms products from leading manufacturers in the field—famous make rifles, shotguns, handguns, scopes, reloading equipment, gun cases, firearms accessories, books, official club jewelry and many other exciting gifts—all given away free for signing up new members. Start your personal campaign drive now! Talk up the SHOOTERS CLUB among your friends—at local club meetings. Send for promotion material and application forms today. Write to: George Tsoris, SHOOTERS CLUB OF AMERICA, 8150 N. Central Park Avenue, Skokie, Illinois.

SHOOTERS CLUB NEWSLETTER was recently mailed to all members. The lead article: "Action on the Legal Front" features H. R. 6364, introduced by Congressman Bob Sikes of Florida to amend Section 33 of the Arms Control and Disarmament Act. It contains the following important sentence: "Nothing contained in this Act shall be construed to authorize any policy or action by any Government agency which would interfere with, restrict or prohibit the acquisition, possession, or use of firearms by an individual for the lawful purpose of personal defense, sport, recreation, education, or training." Write your Congressmen, your Senators, to support H. R. 6364. We've told them you want it passed—it's up to you to support us!

SECOND AMENDMENT IS NOT ENOUGH! This is the title of a feature article which will appear in the next issue of GUNS Magazine. We talk a lot about the Second Amendment and how it protects our right to private ownership of arms, but the fact is that the right to own and bear arms is infringed—by federal law, by state statutes, and by city ordinances. This provocative article perceptively analyzes the problem and asks the question: "Why not a pro-gun law?" SHOOTERS CLUB and GUNS has an answer, and a plan of action you'll surely want to know about. Don't miss it in the January issue!

JOIN SHOOTERS CLUB AT SPECIAL LOW RATE! If you are not already a member, take advantage of our special Christmas offer. Join the SHOOTERS CLUB at the reduced rate of only \$6.00 for one year instead of the regular \$7.50 fee. This offer is being made available during the holiday season only. Join the fight against restrictive firearms laws. On the last page of this issue you'll find all the membership benefits and privileges you get. Use the handy postage free reply envelope. Order gift memberships for your friends—all year long they'll be reminded of your thoughtfulness at Christmas time. Avoid the Christmas rush and mail early. Remember, the special reduced rate is for a limited time only.



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The reason is simple . . . out at 300 yards, the .300 Weatherby Magnum delivers about *twice* the striking energy of that old favorite 30-'06! Even at 400 yards and beyond, the added punch of the .300 Weatherby Magnum (or indeed, *any* of the Weatherby Magnum calibers) can make the difference between failure and success.

Since its introduction 17 years ago, the .300 Weatherby Magnum has earned an envied reputation by providing hunters on five continents with extra long range killing power. Go and see for yourself the ultimate in big game rifles; the Mark V, available in any of the Weatherby Magnum calibers:

.257, .270, 7mm, .300, .340, .378, and .460. All are famous for flat trajectory and long range killing power.

Notice too, the beautifully shaped and polished classic Monte Carlo stock and the high quality of workmanship. The barrel is hammer-forged by an exclusive Weatherby process and the action is today's safest and strongest.

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ORGANIZED TO PROTECT LIFE AND PROPERTY IN
THE NEW REPUBLIC, THESE MEN LEFT THEIR MARK ON TEXAS



Courtesy the Estate of William A. Dial

Photo of Rangers in Temple, Texas shows that they wore 'em high (See Oct. GUNS).

By JAMES E. SERVEN

GUNS OF THE TEXAS RANGERS

THE NAME OF John Coffee Hays is highly honored in Texas—and rightfully so. Although the Texas Rangers were given legal status in 1835, the best traditions of that famous organization are said to have had their beginning a few years later, when Jack Hays (sometimes spelled Hayes) was authorized by the new Texas Republic to raise and lead a company of mounted fighting men. The Rangers' job was to protect Texans and their property and to pursue the lawless over a vast territory from the Red River to the Rio Grande—especially along the southern and western frontiers. On the west were the fierce Comanches and Apaches; on the south were vengeful and wily Mexicans. The horse made them all potentially dangerous and elusive through mobility.

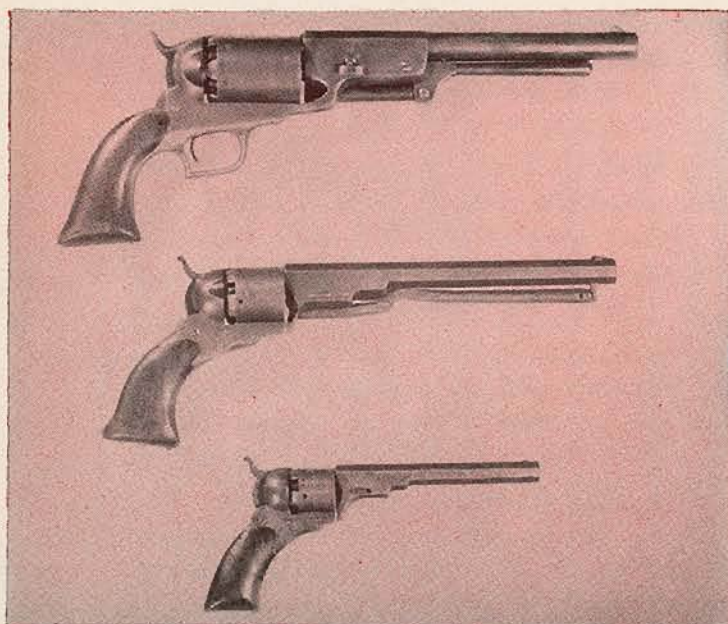
Among those in Jack Hays' company were many fearless men, some whose names loom big in Texas history—Samuel H. Walker, Ben McCulloch, W. A. A. (Big Foot) Wallace, and John S. (Rip) Ford, to name just a few.

Our purpose here is to examine the use of firearms among the Rangers, so we shall proceed directly to the few available records and see what can be learned about the early weapons of this unique force. First-hand information has been preserved for us in the following account

given to Frederic Remington by Ranger Captain Rip Ford:

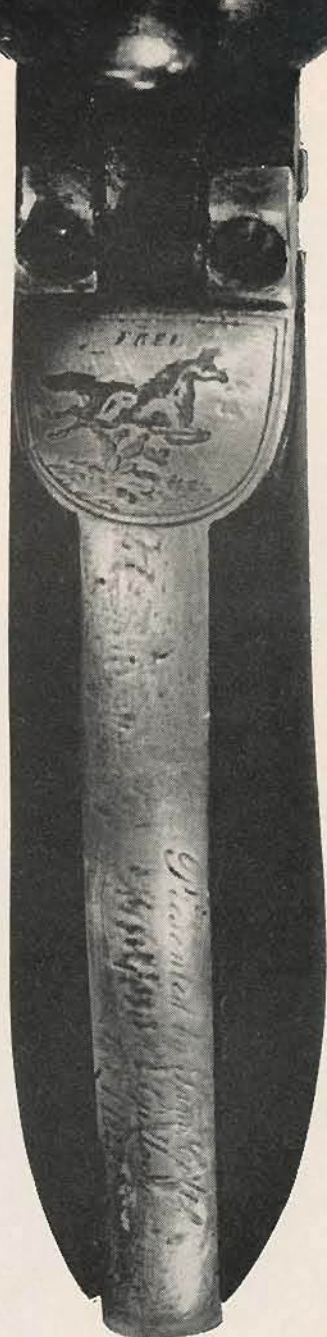
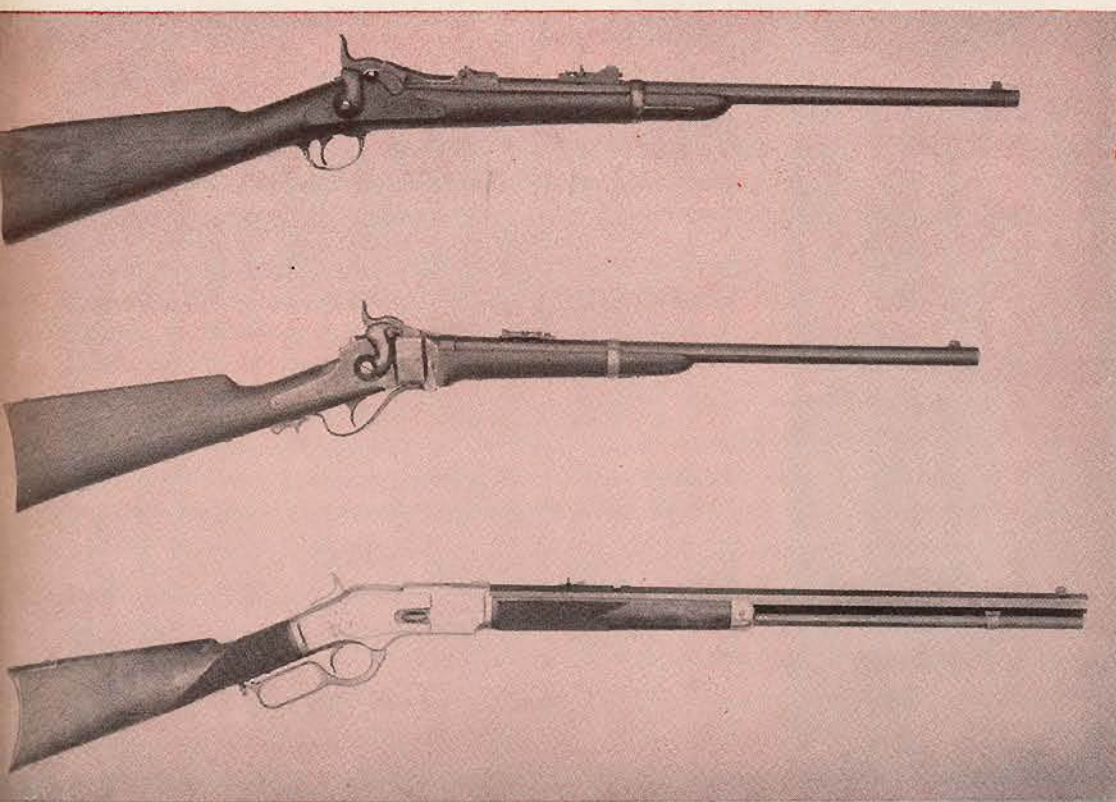
"A merchant of our country journeyed to New York, and Colonel Colt, who was a friend of his, gave him two five-shooters (Paterson Models of 1836)—pistols they were and little things. The merchant in turn presented them to Captain Jack Hayes. The captain liked them so well that he did not rest 'till every man Jack of us had two apiece.

"Directly, we had a fight with the Comanches—up here above San Antonio. Hayes had fifteen men with him—he was doubling around the country looking for Indians. He found 'sign' and after cutting their trail several times he



Famous Walker Colt is shown above Paterson models, of the types first used by the men of the Texas Rangers under Capt. Jack Hays.

Top to bottom, single shot Springfield, the Sharps carbine, and a Winchester '73. Shown at right, grip of Ben McCulloch's revolver.



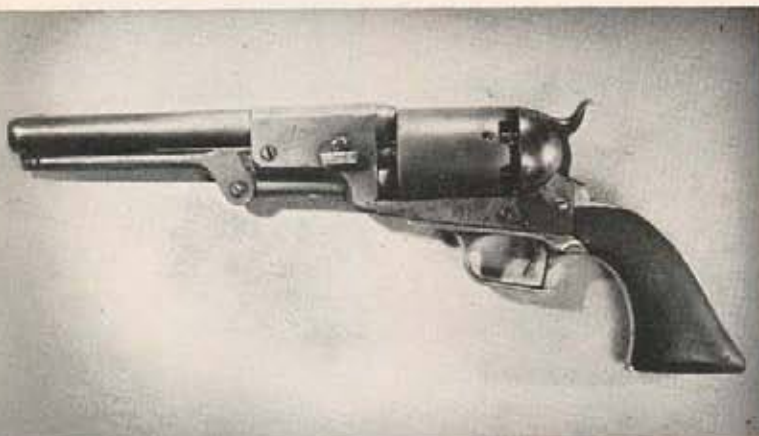
could see that they were following him. Directly the Indians overtook the Rangers—there were seventy-five Indians. Captain Hayes said, 'They are fixin' to charge us, boys, and we must charge them.'

"We charged and in the fracas killed thirty-five Indians—only two of our men were wounded—so you see those five-shooters were pretty good weapons. Of course they w'an't any account compared to these modern ones, because they were too small, but they did those things. Just after that Colonel Colt was induced to make bigger ones for us, some of which were half as long as your arm." This is the

now famed Walker Model of 1847.

Prior to the advent of Samuel Colt's five-shot repeating pistol in Ranger service, the Rangers had carried a brace of single shot pistols, a hunting knife, and caplock rifles or shotguns of the style used in Tennessee, Missouri, or other earlier frontier states whence many of the Rangers had originally come.

None of these weapons was well suited to fighting while mounted, and it was not until the Colt repeating pistols were obtained that the Rangers changed their old tactics of pursuing as cavalry, but fighting as infantry when the



Revolver presented to Ranger Ben McCulloch by Sam Colt in 1848. Now in Joe W. Bates collection in Texas.



An early photo of a big Texas Ranger and two friendly Indians, perhaps his trackers.

Rangers of Lieutenant Burleson, armed with Colt rifles, quelled a force of Comanches.

enemy was engaged. The repeating pistol revolutionized border warfare by making mounted engagements effective.

The early Rangers were primarily a guerrilla military force; they had not been long organized before the Mexican War was upon them. Texas, having been admitted to the Union as the 28th state in 1845, placed her Rangers under the national command. The Rangers rendered especially valuable service to General Zachary Taylor as scouts and hard-hitting light cavalry. Ranger Samuel H. Walker was selected to go north to obtain arms and to help Samuel Colt redesign his repeating pistol from a five-shot to a six-shot weapon, more rugged in structure than the original Paterson models, and easier for mounted men to reload. Walker's negotiations resulted in production of a little over 1000 big 4 pound Colt pistols in the manufactory of Eli Whitney—these are known today as Colt Whitneyville 1847 Dragoon pistols. These big six-shooters were delivered to the Rangers at Vera Cruz, and saw some good service before the Mexican War was ended by the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo. Thus was born the Colt "six-shooter," a side arm with a six-chambered cylinder which, in one model or another, was a great favorite with Texas Rangers during the remaining 88 years of their existence as a separate organization.

Although seeing but minor action, Colt six-shot cylinder rifles made at Paterson, N. J., about 1840 were used by a few Rangers. Captain Rip Ford has recorded an encounter during 1851 wherein his lieutenant, Ed Burleson, and seven men, all armed with these caplock Colt repeating rifles, killed or wounded twelve Indians who had charged them.

The Walker model Colt six-shooters had a long 9 inch barrel, useful as a head-cracker for close-fighting after its charges were fired, but for general purposes the long barrel made the pistol muzzle heavy and awkward to handle. Some mechanical improvements were made and the barrel shortened to 7½" in subsequent Dragoon pistols produced by Colt from 1843 on. One of these later pistols, owned by the famous Ranger Ben McCulloch, is now in the Joe W. Bates collection in Wortham, Texas. It is worthy of note that 49 Texas counties were named in honor of Rangers, including Hays, Walker, and McCulloch.

The ten years following the Mexican War found the Ranger organization reduced almost to non-existence. Federal troops were given the responsibility of guarding the Texas frontiers, but they were too few and their efforts met with little success. One newspaperman commented that the soldiers were about as useful in the Texas chaparral as a sawmill on the ocean. Sam Houston was once moved to declare publicly, "You may withdraw every regular soldier from the borders of Texas if you will give her a single regiment of Texas Rangers."

Texans began to realize that, with an increase in widespread fighting and bloodshed along her frontiers, they must put more reliance on their own fighting men than on the small and rather impotent Federal forces then deployed.

Governor Hardin R. Runnels decided drastic action was needed. Realizing that no service is better than the men of which it is composed, the governor called on a man who had already served Texas well as a Ranger, Rip Ford, making him Senior Ranger Captain in 1858. Capt. Ford was authorized to select 100 extra men and wage an aggressive war to end the Indian depredations and any other threat against the people of the state.

John S. Ford's nickname "Rip" (Continued on page 42)

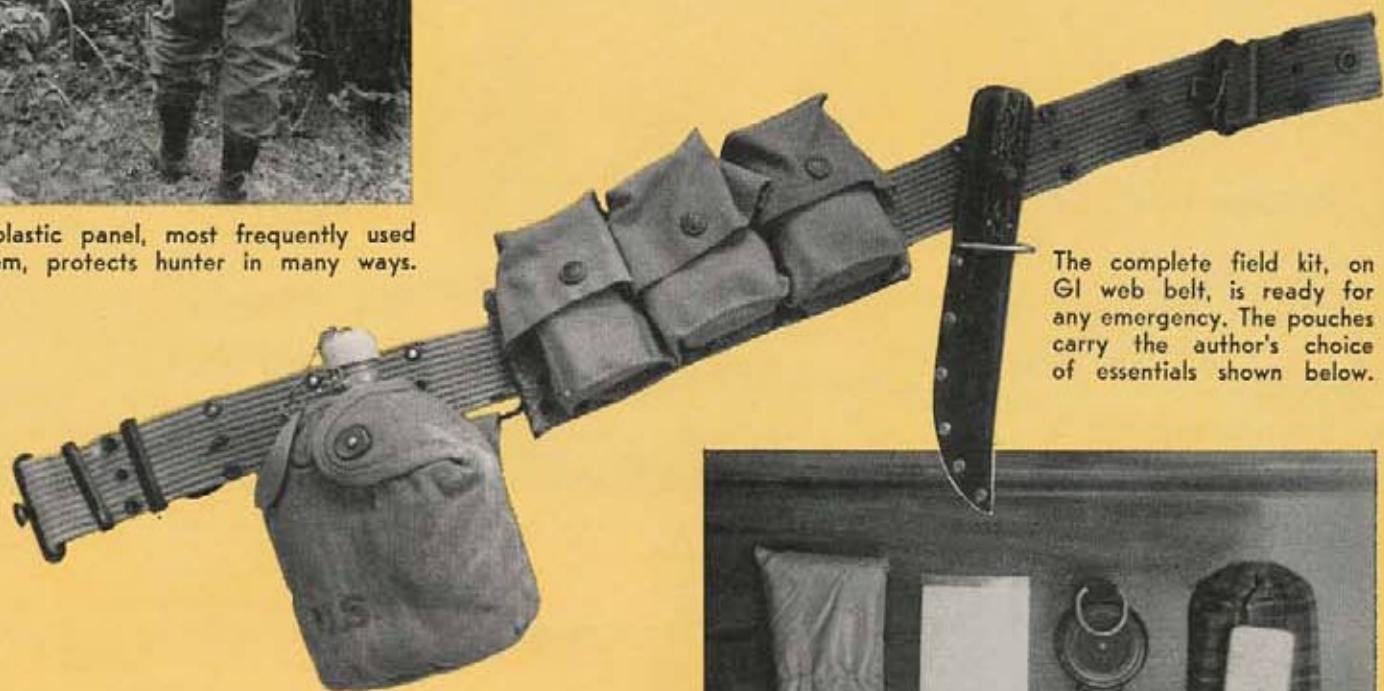


Red plastic panel, most frequently used kit item, protects hunter in many ways.

A BASIC FIELD KIT

For Comfort or Survival In the Woods

By WARREN SIPE



The complete field kit, on GI web belt, is ready for any emergency. The pouches carry the author's choice of essentials shown below.

TOO MUCH AND YET not enough, is a paradox, but it is exactly the situation encountered every day whenever hunters are in the field. Though their pockets may bulge with a hundred and one items, too many times they are without the one all-important article when an emergency arises.

The items listed here won't cover every possible contingency—that would be well nigh impossible. But in my six years in the field, my kit has never let me down.

To carry the smaller items, cut three pockets from a GI issue cartridge belt, checking to be sure to get three full sized pockets without partitions. Sew a loop on the back so that it can be worn on a web issue belt.

Now, for the first pocket, let's consider ammunition. Most every hunter burdens himself with too much ammunition. Let's figure out how much should you carry. Ralph Totten in the July, 1948 "American Rifleman," writes that in 40 years of hunting in the U.S., Africa, Europe, South America, and Canada, he has fired but 200 serious shots at medium and big game to collect between 85 and 100 heads. Jim Corbett writes that a friend "takes five cartridges, never more and never less, when he goes after big game." Corbett, himself, hunted the Champawat man-eater with only three rounds. You may not want to shave it that close, but why carry a ten year supply for a single day's

hunt? I fill my rifle magazine and carry four extras—and that's too many. As a substitute, in the first pocket, you could carry some of the new signal-flare cartridges if they are legal in your territory.

In the same pocket carry a 39 inch square of red plastic. This has been the most frequently used item I carry, serving in many ways. It can be used as a signal, you can sit on it, and twice, as I remember, it served as a windbreak when my clothes were not heavy enough. Two years ago, I was deep between two ridges, the spot thick and brushy where two deer trails crossed. I heard several shots and then the shouts of excited hunters, and knew I was in the line of fire. I bent a slender (Continued on page 50)



CIVIL WAR BULLDOGS



An exact replica of the famous Model of 1861 3" Ordnance Rifle belches smoke and flame in battle re-creation.

CANNON WERE FEARED FOR THEIR EFFECTIVENESS, BUT OFTEN WERE SILENT FOR LACK OF AMMO

By RICHARD E. GEYER



THE ANONYMOUS AUTHOR of "The Light Artillery" aptly described the field pieces of the Civil War—the Parrotts, Ordnance Rifles, and field howitzers—whose bark made brave men tremble—when he wrote:

"Hurrah! Hurrah! Our bulldogs bark,
And the enemy's line is a glorious mark;
Hundreds fell like grain on the lea,
Mowed down by the light artillery."

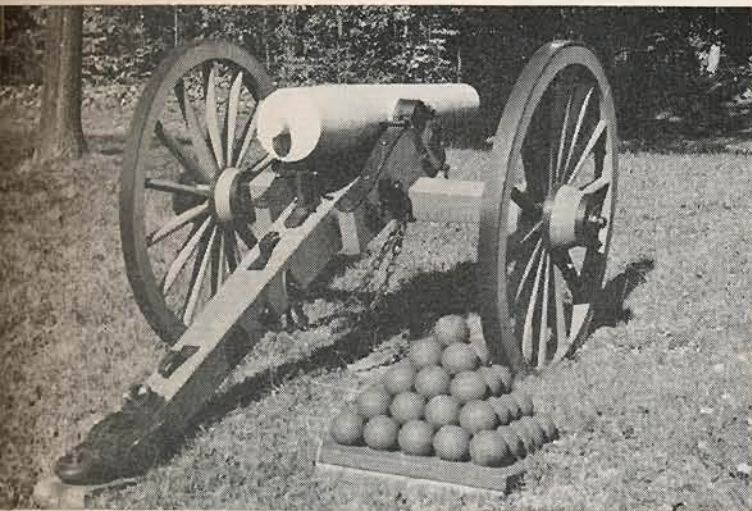
The "bulldogs" of the Confederate and Union armies repulsed attacks and helped turn the tide of battle. At Antietam and Fredericksburg, fear of the mighty Yankee guns influenced the Southern Army in deciding against attacks. The Rebels failed to use such caution in an assault on Culp's Hill at Gettysburg and were mowed down by five batteries of the vaunted Yankee guns.

Field artillery was identified by its lightness and mobility, and those used in the Civil War were generally improved in both respects over those of previous eras. A gun was mounted on a two-wheeled carriage, but to ease the towing task for the artillery horses, a "limber," two-wheeled

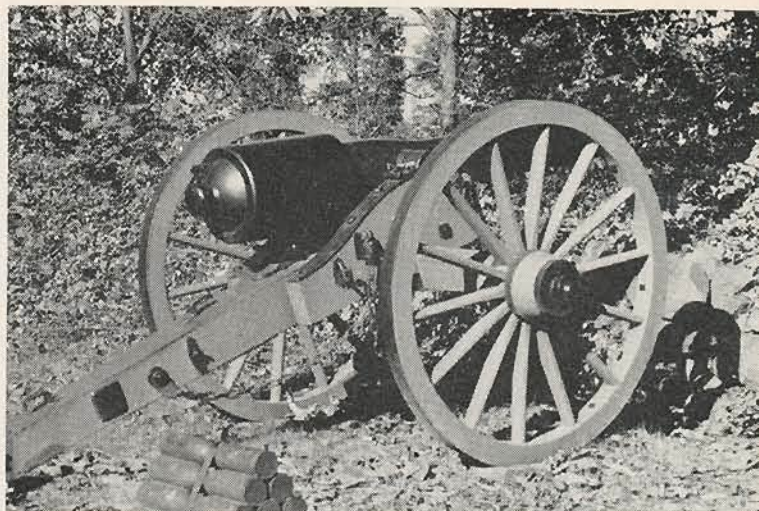
carriage, was attached for transport. The limber also carried an ammunition chest. Extra rounds were hauled on caissons, two-wheeled rigs which carried two ammunition chests and a spare wheel.

Ammunition supply was a headache, for what the Civil War field cannon lacked in abilities, they made up in variety. Different ammunition was required for almost every gun, and there were more than a dozen different basic cannon models. Some were cast iron, others bronze, and either smoothbore or rifled.

Rifled cannon, with greater range and improved accuracy, were introduced in the 1850's, but despite their advantages were still outnumbered as late as 1863. The smoothbores most popular for field work had effective ranges of only 600-700 yards, although they could fire up to four times as far. Larger smoothbores had ranges up to three miles, and some rifled cannon reached five miles or more. Though some military people still favored the smoothbores, by 1860 the U.S. Ordnance Department officially accepted rifles—three years after the Army be-



Confederate 12 pounder Napoleon cannon at Gettysburg, named after Napoleon Bonaparte's nephew, Napoleon III.



The 20 pound Parrott Rifle lacked ease of mobility, especially in the rolling Civil War battlefields.

gan to specify rifling in its muskets.

Rifling lagged behind the switch in metals used in weapons. Although cast iron was cheaper and more readily available than brass (today called bronze), the U.S. Ordnance Board wavered between brass and iron, until it was discovered that rifled bronze guns would not hold up when fired. Most of the cannon available at the beginning of the war were smoothbores. But more important, rifles were less effective against dispersed infantry than were the old, reliable 12-pounder smoothbores that could spray a target better because of their larger bores.

Though cannon types were many, three guns dominated artillery on both sides. The workhorse for both armies was the 12-pounder Napoleon, muzzle-loading bronze smoothbores named after Napoleon Bonaparte's nephew, Napoleon III. The Union used the U.S. 1857 model; the South a gun supposedly copied from Union drawings.

While its maximum range was some 1,600 yards, the Napoleon was used most effectively against infantry at 600 yards or less. At that range, it became a huge shotgun when it fired the 12-pound canister projectile from its 4.62 inch bore. The 1200 pound Napoleon was considerably heavier than the other two popular guns, both rifles, yet it was ideal for the Civil War since the wooded and rolling battlefields minimized the value of long-range artillery.

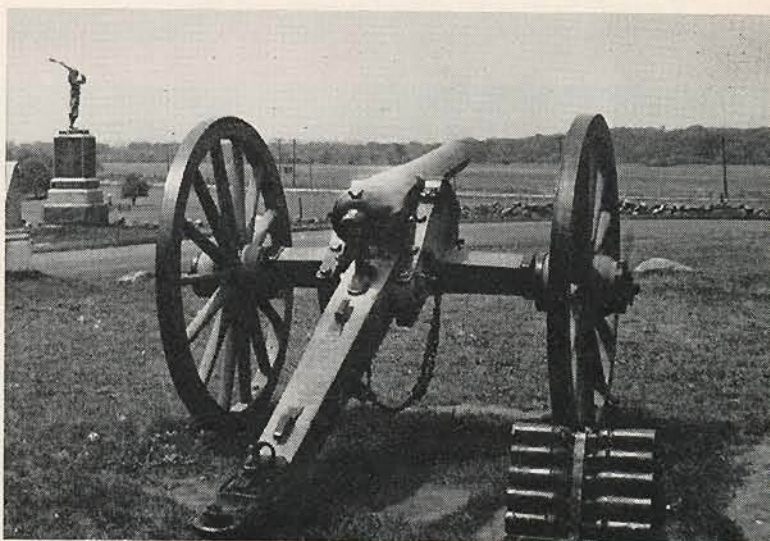
The Napoleons were principals in many heated battles. The famous Battery B, 4th U.S., armed with six Napoleons, withstood scorching musket fire from Rebel riflemen hidden in the cornfield at Antietam. Unsupported by infantry and facing well-protected enemy soldiers as close as 30 yards, cannoneers of Battery B rammed home double canisters and held the ground, despite 40 per cent casualties.

One round from a Napoleon killed or wounded 30 attacking Confederates at Gettysburg's Peach Orchard. The shot came from a gun of the 9th Massachusetts Battery, which held a weak portion of the Union line without infantry help for 30 minutes.

In these two incidents, the cannoneers were, by necessity, abandoning artillery's primary tactical missions—support and reinforcement—assuming an infantry role though they were seldom armed with (Continued on page 40)



Typical scene at many Civil War Battlefield sites, where Civil War "bulldogs" remain in the field.



Union cannon aimed toward stilled Seminary Ridge, is silent reminder of the battle on July 2, 1863.

The M.



Lever, fully down, will pull shell out this far. Faster "snap" of lever will eject case completely out of gun.

The Greener trap gun looks like a rifle, but performs the way a trap gun should. Inset shows right side of receiver with GP "General Purpose" marking. Safety is up, or "Fire" position.



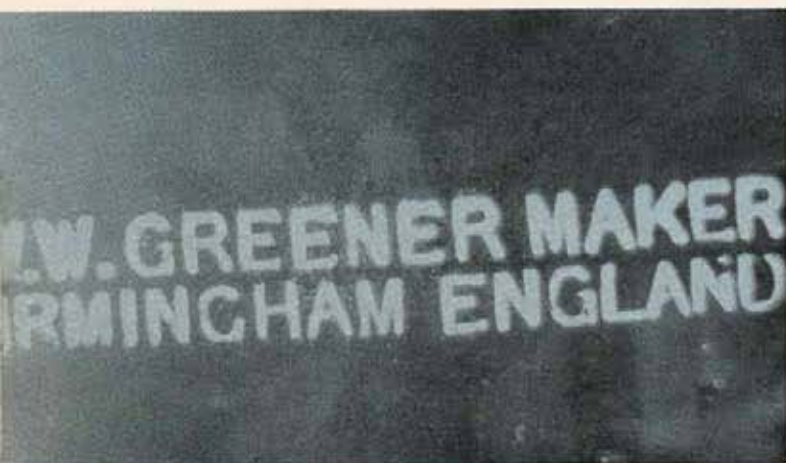
THE PROUD ENGLISH gunmaking firm of W. W. Greener Limited, Birmingham, England, has long been associated with the manufacture of some of the world's finest sporting arms. Their "Best Grade" shotguns and rifles are held in the same esteem as those of Boss, Purdey, Westley Richards, Holland & Holland, and others.

With the British preference for the double and single barrel sporting shotgun, it is not surprising that Greener would invade the realm of the target shooter with a one-shot trap gun. They are offering their GP "General Purpose" gun with 30 inch, 32 inch, and even 34 inch ventilated rib barrels, choked a good and tight "Full."

My first trip to the range with my Greener—I have the

OLD BRITISH GUNMAKER IS OFFERING A FINE "GENERAL PURPOSE" GUN

By DOUGLAS HOUGH



The proud name of W. W. Greener, stamped on the left side of the Martini-type action of the "GP" trap gun.

Model No. 6 with 32" barrel—began with this distressing comment from the club official, "Sorry, Mac, no rifles allowed on the trap range."

The lever action and long fore-end do suggest the image of a repeating rifle, or perhaps a bench-rest arm, but underneath this misleading visage is a dyed in the wool shotgun and, because it is a single shot, it is ideally suited to the needs of the trap shooter.

This trap gun utilizes an improved Martini-type action, with two notably unique features: a lever safety and a split ring receiver.

The receiver allows quick takedown and assembly of the shotgun. When the takedown screw, on the left receiver wall, is turned counter-clockwise, the threaded portion of the receiver opens up, and the barrel may then be easily screwed in. The takedown screw is then tightened firmly, clamping the receiver sidewalls inward onto the barrel

W. Greener Trap Gun



threads and solidly locking these two pieces together.

The foolproof safety, which automatically goes on "Safe" when the action is opened, does not engage the trigger itself. Operating directly off the "tumbler," it blocks the firing pin's forward travel—a very safe method.

The tumbler is a single unit used to transmit movement of engagement and disengagement from the trigger to the firing pin on a very simplified basis. Therefore, our firing process uses a minimum number of moving parts, resulting in very quick lock time. These parts are: trigger (with integral sear); tumbler (acting as messenger); and the firing pin itself.

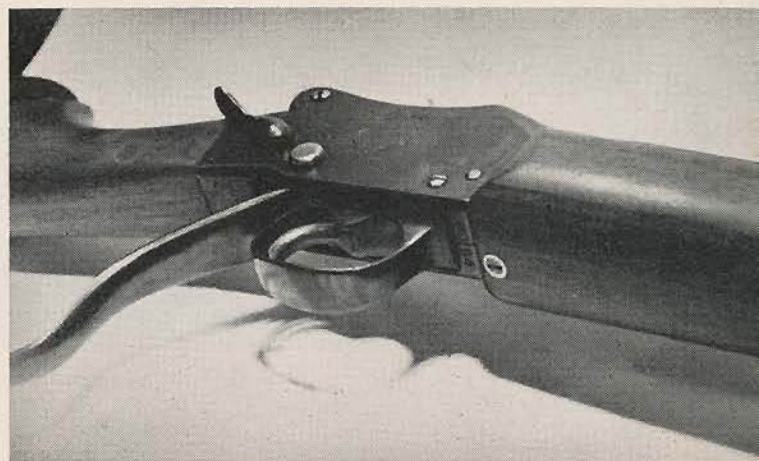
Moving the safety lever from "Safe" to "Fire" is as easy as it is comfortable. With the gun cocked and ready for action, and the trigger finger away from the trigger (following good gun habits), the upper knuckle of the trigger finger is just touching the safety lever. When the gun is being brought to the shoulder and the hand is moved forward onto the trigger, the knuckle of the hand automatically pushes the safety off and the gun may now be fired. This eliminates the need to look down for the safety.

English guns have, for many decades, been fitted with stocks which have never proved too desirable for shooters over here. Essentially straight grip stocks, without a Monte Carlo comb but with excessive drop, leading to one chief complaint—magnification of the gun's recoil to the shooter's shoulder. The drop of my Greener stock is $2\frac{1}{4}$ ", compared to the average $2\frac{1}{2}$ " to $2\frac{3}{4}$ " drop of U. S. gun stocks. This difference is only a quarter to a half inch, but it means a great deal in proper fit.

When I first fired this gun, shortly after buying it, I was beaten quite noticeable on the cheek. A satisfactory

improvement, though temporary, was made by the addition of a Pachmayer recoil pad directly to the end of the stock after the buttplate was removed, and applying a cheekpiece pad. The pad I used is the "Shock and Stock Pad," useable either as a cheekpiece for the gunstock or applied to the shoulder pad area of a shooting jacket. Made by the Penguin Associates, Inc., Pennsylvania Ave., Malvern, Pa., it sells for a modest \$1.59 in either $\frac{1}{8}$ " or $\frac{1}{4}$ " thickness.

The Greener shotguns currently being imported into the U.S., such as those brought in by Bob Sanderson, 724 W. Edgewater, Portage, Wisc., now have an improved stock design with a Monte Carlo comb that solves most of the problems mentioned above. *(Continued on page 49)*



Greener action has two improvements on the Martini system; an automatic safety, and split ring receiver.

A REPORT FROM THE FIRING LINE



All eyes were glued to the big scoreboard at Vandalia, watching constant position changes.

THERE WERE MORE SHOOTERS ON THE FIRING LINES IN THE BIG MEETS, AND COMPETITION WAS TOUGH. WHO'LL BETTER THE SCORES?

By R. A. STEINDLER



Focal point of all activity at the Grand American is Commercial Row, just east of famous ATA water tower.

THIS WAS A BUSY summer for competitive shooters. The skeet addicts had their innings at the Rochester, New York, Brooks Gun Club. Pistol and rifle shooters gathered once again at Camp Perry, and the Grand American was fired at its traditional home in Vandalia, Ohio. Attendance was excellent and the weather favorable.

All of the shooting events had exciting and tense moments, and there were moments of heartbreak and of triumph. One of the most sensational events I have ever witnessed, either as spectator or as competitor, was the day Army Sergeant First Class William B. Blankenship, Jr., took the National Pistol Championship title—for the fourth consecutive time!

Bill had made history in 1962 when he collared the title against a very strong field. But in the course of the year, he had suffered defeat several times and the very same men who had outscored Blankenship during the year would be his opponents again on the firing line at Perry in 1963. With the intense psychological pressure on the top-ranking



The world famous firing line at Vandalia, permanent headquarters of the Amateur Trapshooting Association.

Proud wife pins the rare 100 x 100 medal on Albert Kees, Richmond, Indiana, who won Handicap Championship at 21 yards.





Pistol firing line is always a beehive of activity at Perry, with Range Officers on hand to keep things moving smoothly.



Hawaiian small-bore team, facing the camera, worked for two years to finance trip to compete at the Camp Perry Matches.



SFC William Blankenship, Fort Benning, Ga., 1963 NRA National Pistol Champion. He's held this coveted title four consecutive years.



The moment of truth comes at the targets as the pistol shooters examine results of match.

shooters, it was anyone's guess who would stand up best under the pressure.

Most of the competitors I talked with admitted that they not only tried to fire the best possible scores, but that they also kept track of the scores their opponents fired. As one man said: "You just cannot forget that there are fellows like Benner and McMillan on the line, that you must score better than they do. Every time I think of that, I wonder why I am standing here on the ready line."

On Tuesday, August 6, Sgt. Blankenship scored the incredible 890-49X in the rim-fire competition. The following day he swept the center-fire competition, racking up a score of 882-51X. Wednesday, Camp Perry was ripe with excitement, and lights in the competitors' huts burned much longer than usual. Would Blankenship take the .45 caliber matches? Would he be able to stand the pressure of shooting against the nation's top pistol shooters?

On Thursday, August 8, Blankenship did it again, scoring 882-51X. This gave him the three Aggregates, plus the Grand Aggregate, made him the first U.S. Army man to sweep three old records and hold the Grand Aggregate.

What makes a champion? I was fortunate enough to spend almost an entire day with Bill Blankenship, and I have never seen a more unassuming man. Here is a champion shooter, but instead of talking about his scores, his trophies, and his triumphs, he talks about other members of the Army Pistol Team, about his friend Sgt. Merx of the Air Force Team, Sgt. Joe Benner who is a close personal friend and frequent opponent on the firing line—in short, Bill Blankenship is a likeable fellow, the sort of guy who admits that he works at his scores, that he has dropped points when he had no excuse for it.

Bill entered the Army in 1948 and became a bandsman, playing the French horn and also doing trumpet solos. "Walking past the pistol range one day and seeing some of the fellows shooting, made me want to try my hand at it." That was 10 years ago, and Bill bought himself a Christmas gift—a .45 auto. He took his shiny new gun to the range, and despite his efforts, his scores were pitiful. Lt. Col. Elgin G. Radcliff passed by and asked Blankenship if he would like some coaching. The deal was made and Col. Radcliff had an apt student. (Continued on page 45)



Youngster, above, sets out decoys before the hunt. Below — Area superintendent, Don Kirkpatrick makes sure that adult, as well as youngsters, have a valid license.



WHERE CAN A TEENAGER find a place to hunt without bucking the normal adult competition, and yet receive the proper guidance and advice, not only on hunting procedures, but on the important principles of firearms safety and good sportsmanship? Where can all this be accomplished without losing the close relationship that comes of learning these fundamentals from a parent, friend, or guardian?

There is such a place in Oregon, the E. E. Wilson Game Management Area—75 miles south of Portland on U. S. Highway 99-W. Recognizing the problems that juveniles face, the Oregon Game Commission came up with a double barrel program that works, and works well. How?

First, the members of the Commission established a hunting area abundant with waterfowl, and opened it exclusively for boys and girls from 14 to 17 years of age. The area provides every type of duck, goose, and coot hunting, with a pond of substantial size bordered by fields

DUCKS FOR TEENS

By MILTON GRASSELL



Adults cannot hunt on the Wilson Game Refuge, but do supervise and teach the youngsters. Roland Fisher, like many other proud fathers, enjoys making movies of his son, Tom, during the hunt.

of unharvested corn and sudan grass. This natural feed assures the young shooters a good supply of fast-flying targets. Well-built blinds are strategically located around the pond, and are assigned to the teenage hunters by a drawing held at the check-in station.

The second, and most important, phase of the program is set up in such a way that the proper use of guns and good sportsmanship habits are developed in a safe, efficient manner. Don Kirkpatrick, game area superintendent, says, "We are able to carry out part of this ourselves. We answer questions, and review general safety precautions at our 'check-in' and 'check-out' station. In addition, our men patrol the actual hunting area to make sure that these teenage hunters are *learning* as well as shooting. But, *we* can't do it all. That's why each hunter must be accompanied by an adult 25 years old or older."

The accompanying adult may be a parent, guardian, or friend, either male or female, and both the adult and the

teenager must hold a valid hunting license. However, no adult may carry a gun. "That would destroy the whole purpose," Kirkpatrick says. "The adult is there to assure safety. That's his primary purpose. But we hope the adults will go further—and they do. For instance, the adults teach the juveniles where to set the decoys, how to call ducks, when and when not to shoot, and teach waterfowl identification." Each adult may sponsor one or two youngsters, no more, and must assume full responsibility for the activities and welfare of his charges. The limit of two youngsters assures adequate supervision at all times.

Many of the young hunters bring decoys, others use calls, some use both techniques. But the important thing is that there is enough waterfowl so that the beginning juvenile hunter with just a gun and a supply of shells can bag his limit. This is one place where it is not necessary for the beginning hunter to purchase numerous gadgets and accessories in order to find (Continued on page 58)



Keith Axelsen of Portland, Oregon, shoots, retrieves, and proudly displays his first duck of the day. Each year, 60 fortunate youngsters enjoy the facilities offered here.



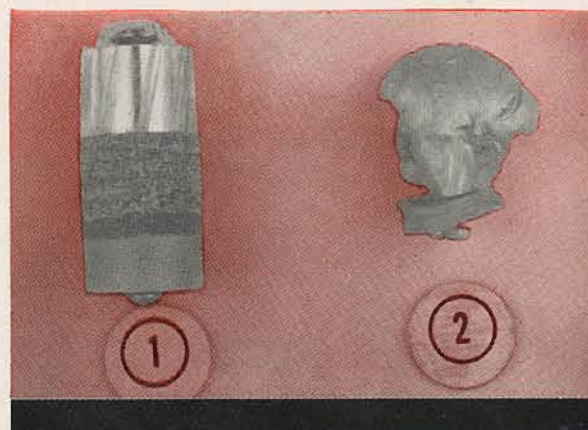
It took 6 years of designing, loading, and constant shooting to produce the improved Vitt shotgun slug. New Vitt slugs are extremely accurate and also offer the hunter improved and deeper penetration on big game.

NEW SLUGS FOR NEW

THESE SLUGS, DESIGNED BY AN AERONAUTICS EXPERT AND SHOOTER, GIVE TOP ACCURACY AND PENETRATION

IN MORE AND MORE areas of our country, the shotgun is the only firearm permitted for deer hunting. This is especially true in the East and Middle West, where the population explosion is encroaching on the available hunting lands at an ever increasing pace.

Because more hunters were depending on the commercial rifled slug to bring down game, I began to wonder if the slug, as available to hunters today, was doing a good job. Modern developments in rifle bullet designs have increased accuracy, stability, and penetration, but the old slug has not changed in many years. The Brenneke slug is expensive, and, being an import, it is not too well distributed. It is an improvement over the standard American rifled slug, but those that I have examined were considerably oversize for American guns. They fit snugly in a cylinder bore, and are oversize for all chokes. I bulged one full choke barrel of an expensive double with the



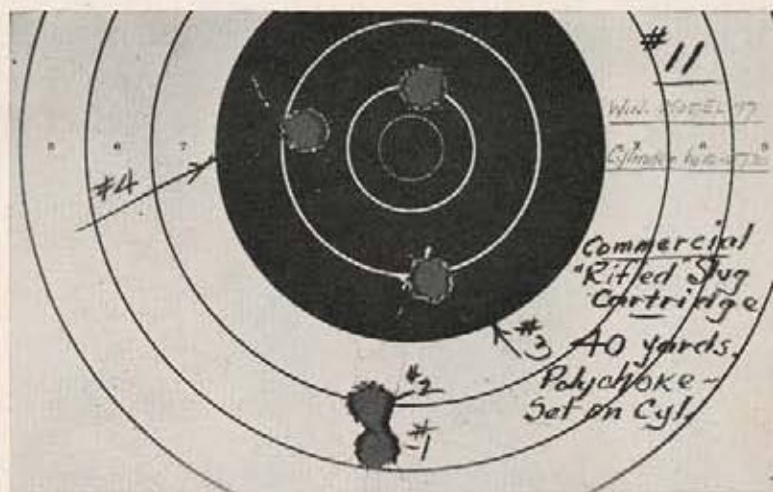
Vitt slug provides better expansion in game.

Groups shot with newest Vitt slugs demonstrate the accuracy potential. 1. Group shot using the Browning I.C. barrel is the best. 2. Excellent group with new Browning Buck Special. 3. Group using commercial slugs shows wide dispersion.

2



3



ACCURACY

By GEORGE N. VITT

first Brenneke slug fired. Examination showed it to be about .050" larger than the choke diameter.

About five years ago, in northern Maine, I witnessed my friend and neighbor, Henry, miss the broadside of a standing buck at some 40 yards with a carefully aimed 12 ga. rifled slug. He wasted two more slugs, which only served to speed the deer into the next county. Back at our camp, we tested Henry's pump gun, one of the best and oldest makes, and found that it could not keep five rifled slugs in a 15 inch circle at 40 yards, yet Henry is an artist with this gun on ducks, pheasants, and woodcock. After returning home, I discovered why Henry's shotgun cannot be accurate with the commercial rifled slug—the slug did not fit any part of his choke-bored barrel; the cylinder portion measured .731" and the muzzle .705", while the rifled slug averaged .685". This made it a loose .046" in the cylinder

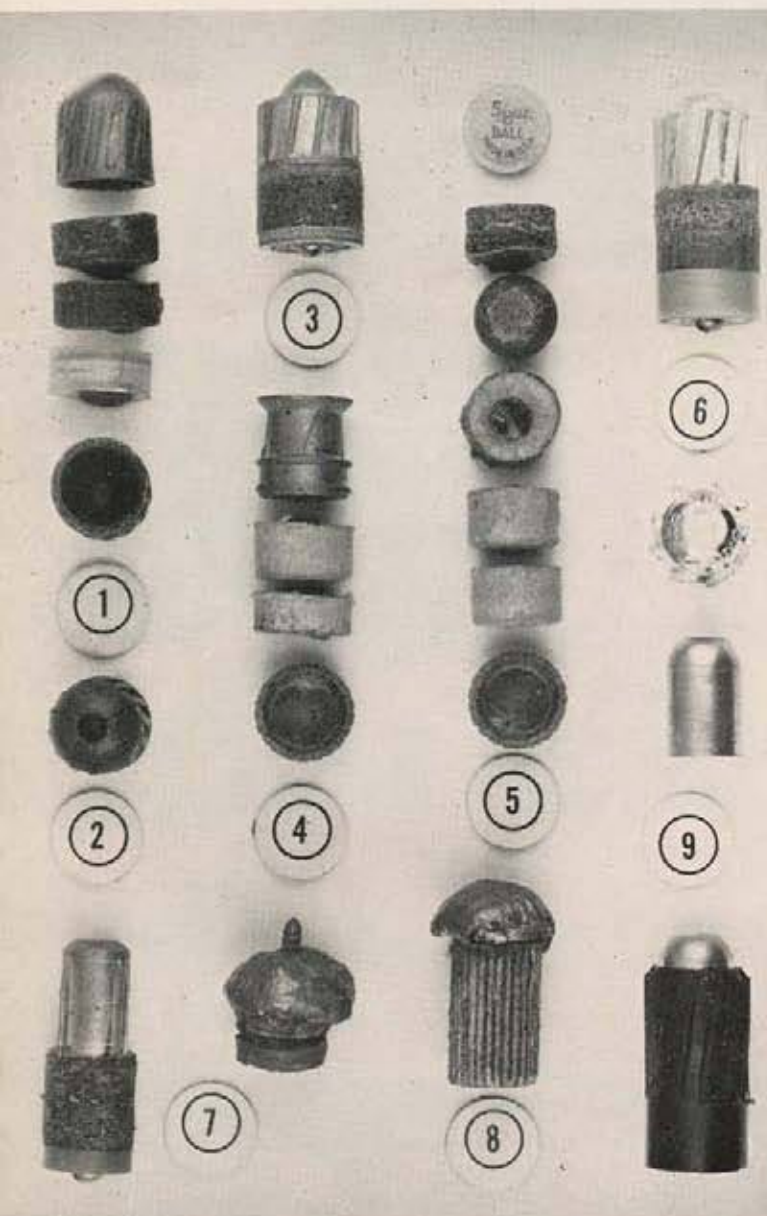
and .020" in the choke. Thus, the slug was certainly safe to shoot even in a tighter choke, but never accurately, because each shot would strike the taper of the choke constriction at a different point, resulting in a deflection from the line of aim with practically every shot. The claim that the slug expands to the diameter of the barrel doesn't seem to hold water. If it were true, commercial slugs would shoot better, and could, conceivably, bulge some thinner barrels with tight chokes.

I decided to try to develop a better slug, and find that "ideal" shotgun; the ideal, all-around, shotgun would be equally as good with slugs as with birdshot with one standard and accurate barrel.

I went back to my early experiences in Siberia, during 1910 and 1917, when I first learned the delicacies of reloading, ballistics, and shooting from my uncle. In addition to



Latest Vitt slug comes complete with wads.



Slugs tested by author: 1. Commercial slug as loaded; 2. Meyers hollow point; 3. Imported Brenneke; 4. French Faunia; 5. Commercial round ball load; 6. Latest Vitt slug; 7. Early prototype Vitt showing expansion after hitting pine board; 8. Expanded Siberian wooden tail; 9. Experimental Vitt inserted in plastic rifled cup.

being a guncrank, he was the ranking general of artillery and a part-time professor of ballistics. The secret of good slug accuracy and power is the centuries-old principle of starting with an accurate, standard bore barrel, then tightly fitting the slug to that barrel (*not* the other way around); making the slug at least as heavy as a good load of bird-shot; and carefully selecting an optimum powder charge. There were two "best" combinations that I remember: A tightly patched round ball weighing about 550 grains for true cylinder bores, and for choked barrels an equally heavy cylindrical slug with a solid lead head smaller than the choke, fitted with a long, longitudinally grooved, wooden tail, which was a tight fit in the cylinder. The wooden ridges easily and safely swage in the choked muzzle with only a small loss of shooting accuracy.

I set up a goal of developing two techniques: One for the round ball, and one for the more useful cylindrical slug.

In analyzing and testing our present slug and shot combinations, I found that most guns give good shot patterns with factory ammunition. The picture changes abruptly when you come to the commercial rifled slug or the "pumpkin" round ball—few of our standard bore shotguns will shoot them accurately. I also found that, instead of fitting the slug to existing barrels and doing something about the safety of shooting it from chokes, we use reverse-gear thinking by fitting special barrels to the existing rifled slug. This gives good results, but sacrifices the bird shot patterns. One such 12 ga. slug barrel is actually 14 ga. and is a true .700" cylinder which fits the 12 ga. rifled slug with an initial looseness of about .015", but shoots accurately. However it is much too tight for the 12 ga. shot column, squeezing it excessively and resulting in deformed pellets and poor patterns at the standard distance of 40 yards. There also is an appreciable increase in recoil. This could be considered to be worthwhile if the commercial rifled slug were a really good projectile.

I based my approach on fitting the slug to the standard barrels in order to create the ideal 2-in-1 shotgun for those who do not have Drillings or cannot afford a diversified battery of guns. Thus, my goals became:

1. Find gun barrel combinations, which would shoot a round ball or a new slug design accurately and also be capable of good bird shot patterns (a) without any changes, or (b) by changing the amount of choke to suit.
2. Improve the potential slug accuracy by (a) tight fit of the entire slug body in the cylinder with complete safety in the tightest choke, and (b) induce greater rotational speed for gyroscopic stabilization during the flight through air. This was achieved by making the helical ribs on the slug high and thin, and working out, with the help of aeronautic principles, an optimum rate of twist.
3. Greater energy over a longer range and better penetration and nose expansion by providing about 40 per cent greater weight (575 grains against 400 grains) and elongating the body of the slug.
4. Better utilization of powder gas expansion by using the Alcan Air-Wedge over-powder wad, which also forms a concentric rear face of the slug for better accuracy.
5. Simplify handloading by making the slug and wads a single component with a flat nose, ready to seat on the powder charge.
6. Making the forward ends of the helical ribs square for a neat unfolding of the roll crimp to prolong the reloading life of paper shells. (Continued on page 56)

A FAKE SMITH & WESSON!



Gun OF THE MONTH



The "imitation," seen below a third variation of the S&W Model 1 1/2. Hammer, in fired position, raises rear sight.

**WHO MADE THIS
S&W FAKE THAT IS
NOT MARKED, HAS
UNDESIRABLE DESIGN
IN THE HAMMER?**

By DR. DUNCAN McCONNELL

THE SOLID FRAME .32 rim-fire revolver illustrated, an imitation of the early Smith & Wesson models, has a cylinder locking mechanism actuated by the hammer raising and lowering a bolt which also serves as the rear sight. Somewhat simpler than the original version, the hammer does not glide through a split ring fastened underneath the sight as on the S&W's, but merely raises and lowers the sight by sliding under a curved ridge that begins at the extreme rear and lower portion of the sight.

This simple system has the undesirable feature of unlocking the cylinder momentarily as the hammer falls—something avoided by the Smith & Wesson and the Manhattan copy of the first issue .22 S&W.

Do not mistake this revolver for a "suicide special." It has no patent date or trade name, and is very well made. The frame is brass and the steel barrel is well rifled. None of the usual save-a-penny tactics were employed here.

The only mark of identification is the number 13, found in several places; on the underside of the barrel near the frame, on the left side of the butt under the wooden grip, on the front of the cylinder, on the cylinder pin, and elsewhere. The grips seem to be mahogany or butternut wood. Everything except the hammer, trigger, cylinder pin lock, and sideplate screw is nickel plated.

This "sleeper" was discovered at the March 1963 meeting of the Ohio Gun Collectors Association, on the table of a well-known Pennsylvania dealer, and with a very modest price tag. It seems that it was contained in a collection that he had acquired "only a few days before the show" and he "hadn't had a chance to examine the individual items carefully." In response (*Continued on page 72*)

SMALL BOY—BIG RIFLE

RIFLEMAN-FATHER FINDS THAT A SMALL BOY

AND BIG BORE RIFLE BELONG TOGETHER

By RICHARD H. STANSFIELD



Bob's smile reflects his pride in ownership of first big-bore rifle.



Transition from rim-fire to big-bore rifle came only after Bob had shown a responsible attitude toward care and handling of a firearm.

DRIPPING WET, and with a box of ammunition stuffed into the hip pocket of his jeans, my boy, Bob, tips the scale at a scant 66 pounds. But he takes to big bore rifle shooting as eagerly as a buck muley takes to the nearest hill at the sight of a hunter.

At Fox Valley Rifle Range, near Carpentersville, Illinois, we're practically part of the scenery on weekends. Several times I've been amused when Bob glanced condescendingly at the .22's with which other boys—some several years his senior—plink away. From his expression, it's obvious that he considers the rim-fire a fit round for beginners, but lacking in appeal to the man with gun-savvy.

Bob didn't acquire his big bore know-how over night or become proficient by sheer chance. Bob acquired his love for a big bore naturally enough. From the time I traded knickers for long pants I've been fond of the outdoors and have loved guns, shooting, and hunting. I want my boy to know the joy of the outdoors, the thrill of the stalk, the fun of the hunt, and the spiritual satisfaction of soaking-in the splendor of our majestic

wilderness areas. Since shooting is the key to hunting, I wanted Bob to learn to shoot, and fortunately he felt the same.

Guns have a powerful attraction for boys. Their earliest toys, once they've passed the plastic rattle and stuffed animal stage, are apt to be a pair of fancy six-shooters chambered for a roll of caps, or perhaps a bolt-action "training" rifle. With these make-believe arms they blast away at the flickering fantasy of TV bad men, and open fire at savage squirrels, man-eating chipmunks, and other untamed inhabitants of suburbia.

As sure as you're a foot high, boys are going to shoot—with or without adequate instruction, with the parents blessings or without. Unless they have a bank of experience on which to draw, all of the elements of tragedy are there. Childish curiosity and firearms do not mix.

Thorough instruction, carefully supervised, is the only way to instill an abiding respect for firearms and to make sure that caution and care become ingrained habits. Give a boy a gun of his own, then teach him how to

use it so that "safety first" becomes second nature. That was my approach, and one with which my wife concurred when I got Bob a single-shot Stevens .22 rifle.

First sessions were held in the living room. To teach sight-picture, we used the Army's classic steady-rifle, moveable-target method, and for a rifle rest I nailed a pair of X-shaped pieces of 1 x 2 lumber onto a wooden box.

As Bob lay in a comfortable position behind the .22, I sat on another wooden box some twenty feet away. I moved a one-inch bullseye, attached to a short length of yardstick, up and down, back and forth, in contact with a sheet of blank paper thumbtacked to the box.

When the sight-picture looked right, Bob called, "Mark!" With the pencil I then made a dot on the backing paper through a hole in the bull's center. After each shot I moved the bullseye out of position, and Bob then tried again for a perfect sight alignment. Group sizes of his shots testified that he learned quickly, that the sights were lined up properly.

I reiterated time and again the prin-



Bob's early sight picture training with a .22 helped him score with the big-bore. Kick of the .30-06 was reduced by using lighter power mid-range loads that Bob and his father handloaded at their basement workbench.



That a small boy can do well with a big-bore rifle is shown by this 100 yard target, a culmination of his dad's training skill and his honest efforts.

ciples of safe gun handling during Bob's dry-firing sessions, and each evening's practice period ended with an oral examination. Replies to the test questions showed the boy recognized this as serious business, not kid's play.

At no time did I attempt to frighten him. I always pointed out that guns are for fun, but I stressed also that they could be dangerous. Never did I let Bob forget that supposedly empty guns are the worst offenders, and soon it was a point of pride with Bob that, when I handed him his rifle, he immediately threw open the bolt, looked into the chamber and then stuck a finger in to be positive it was empty. And this was with a rifle that had never had a shell in it!

He also took to heart the tenet that to earn the right to retain ownership of his shiny new .22, he must always know where the muzzle pointed—and the direction must be a safe one.

Bob's gunning grade school came on a sunny Spring day when he squeezed off his first .22. Early that morning we went to the range and, despite his eagerness to burn powder, I first took him to an *(Continued on page 48)*

The WINCHESTER the RUSSIANS

By RAY BEARSE



AS A BIG GAME GUN OR AS MILITARY WEAPON, THE MODEL 95 DID THE JOB WELL

THE MODEL 95 WINCHESTER rifle is probably the most "international" big bore, lever-action rifle made. Though it was first marketed in 1896 and has not been produced since 1931, it is still in use by big game hunters from Africa to Alaska. It saw military service with the Imperial Army of the Czar from Poland to the North Pacific, and with Russian troops in World War II. A few Model 95's (in .30-40 Krag caliber) were with the American Army in the Philippines, and more than 50 years later some of these same 95's were used by Castro in his fight for and then against freedom.

At the time that John Moses Browning created the design of the Model 95, Winchester was already cashing in on the products of this fertile and versatile Mormon genius. Earlier products of the Winchester-Browning marriage included the Model 1885, the Model 1886, Model 1892, and the venerable Model 1894.

The advent of smokeless powder, the resultant higher velocities, and the development of the spitzer (sharp point) bullet came at a time when sportsmen were not completely sold on the bolt-action rifle. The tubular magazines of the popular lever-action rifles were unsuitable for the sharp pointed spitzers, recoil often causing the point to strike the primer of the cartridge ahead with enough force to result in ignition. This wrecked a substantial number of guns, and relegated the lever-action rifle to the use of lower velocity ammunition with round nose bullets.

This was just the sort of challenge needed by at least two American inventors. Arthur Savage was working on his spool magazine, and John Browning, on November 19, 1894, filed a patent application "for an improvement in Box-Magazine-Breech-Loading Guns."

Browning noted, in the prelude to his patent application, "My invention relates to an improvement in that class of magazine breechloading firearms which have box instead of tubular magazines, the object being to produce a convenient, safe and effective arm, constructed with particular reference to having a compact, narrow frame."

Nearly a year later, November 5, 1895, the U. S. Patent Office issued Patent #549,349 with rights assigned to Winchester. Production began in February of 1896.

Browning's first working model of the 95 is now in the Browning Collection of the Utah National Guard's John M. Browning Armory, in Ogden. Specifications of this model are: .30 U.S. Army (.30-40 Krag) caliber; 30" barrel; weight, 8 lbs. 13 oz.; 5 shot magazine; 48" over-all; receiver length, 6". This model has a full-length wooden military type forearm, but no handguard, and is equipped with a one piece cleaning rod.

The Model 95 was initially offered in three calibers: .30-40 Krag, and two black powder calibers, .38-72-275 and .40-72-300, both later loaded with smokeless powder. The first Winchester catalog to list the M-95 and an advertisement in "Shooting and Fishing," March 26, 1896, listed the rifle in caliber 6mm Lee Navy (.236 U.S. Navy). However, Winchester records show that none were produced in this caliber.

Two calibers especially designed for the 95, .35 WCF and .405 WCF, were introduced in 1903. The Model 95 was chambered for the .303 British cartridge in 1903, and for the U.S. Service cartridge, .30-1903 around 1904. When the .30-06 replaced the .30-03, the 95's were chambered for this new round. Some 300,000 95's were chambered for the 7.62 Russian service cartridge during World War I—more on this later.

The Model 95 was offered in several styles: Sporting rifle (plain or fancy), military (*Continued on page 59*)

WANTED—AND GOT!!



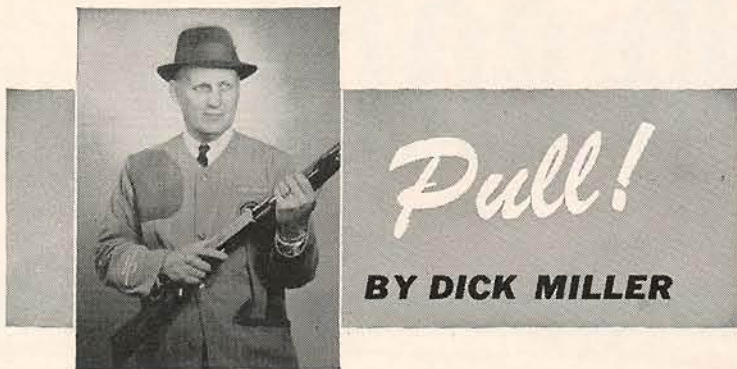
Val Browning, son of inventor John M. Browning, holds first Model 1895 rifle. Note lever cut away to fit around the magazine. Photo of John Moses Browning (1855-1926) taken in 1890, at age 35.



Inventor's working model of 95 Winchester rifle is at the John Browning Museum of the Utah National Guard Armory in Ogden.

Winchester Model 1895 Musket with short model bayonet, caliber .30-06. Identical to Russian model, but lacking charger guide.





WOMEN AND KIDS walked off with a major share of the honors in the 1963 Skeet national championships at Rochester Brooks Gun Club in New York. Or, perhaps more accurately, one woman just out of the "kid" category, and one bona-fide youngster, male species, grabbed a major share of the 1963 national skeet titles.

Junior shooter J. A. Bellows from Encino, California, broke 250 straight targets in the tough all-gauge event, and disposed of five other amateur shooters for the top trophy in 50 extra birds. Bellows also took the junior trophy in 410 and 28 gauge events, and wound up high-over-all junior with 542 of the total 550 targets.

Pert Miss Kathy McGinn, the pride of Houston, Texas, set a new world record in the Woman's high-over-all competition with a score of 536x550. Along the way to the new world standard, Kathy won the special college trophy in all-gauge with 246 of the total 250 targets, the 28 gauge woman's race with 99x100, and repeated her 1962 victory in Ladies 20 gauge with 99x100. Her victory in the high-over-all was also a repeat of the 1962 Skeet nationals.

For the benefit of our readers who are uninitiated in skeet terminology, skeet championships are awarded in a number of categories. Shooting is divided into four gauge classifications, and separate champions are returned in each gauge. The gauges are .410 (called sub-small bore, and shot with 2½ inch shells) 28 gauge (called small bore, and shot with either 28 gauge or 3 inch .410 shells), twenty gauge, and all-gauge. A shooter in the all-gauge may use any gauge gun (except ten gauge) that he chooses, but for the advantage of more shot and pattern, almost every shooter relies on the twelve gauge in this classification. There are further championships in each of the gauge divisions.

Shooters receiving a major portion of their income from arms and/or ammunition companies compete in the industry class, and do not compete against amateurs. Separate championships are awarded the high man and high woman in each event, and to junior shooters (16 years and under). A special trophy for shooters of college age has been awarded for several years in the 250-target all-bore classification.

Another special event, called the Champion of Champions contest is limited to top winners in state, provincial, and territorial championships, who are present at the Nationals. This year's Champion of Champions was Ken Pendergrass of Jacksonville, Fla.

The Skeet nationals are a real test of shooting ability, because they require a

shooter to keep at tournament pitch both physically and mentally for a week of shooting. In most years, the .410 gauge championships are decided on Monday, 28 gauge on Tuesday, 20 gauge on Wednesday, and the all-bore 250 targets are fired at the rate of one hundred each on Thursday and Friday, with the final fifty on Saturday.

Any of our readers who has shot in competition will grant that getting "up" for one day's shooting, or any other contest is difficult, but that getting up and staying up for seven days takes a lot of doing.

For this reason, the National High-Over-All championships are especially coveted trophies. This trophy is awarded on the basis of total score in the three 100-target small gun events, plus the long 250-target all-bore (or 12 gauge) event, for a total of 550 tournament targets.

It has always been said that consistent shooting over the entire week contributed much toward the High-Over-All trophy, and this year's winner, M. Hambrick, of San Pueblo, California proved this by winning his trophy with 544 of the 550 targets, yet he did not win a single championship along the way. In other words, he dropped only six targets all week, yet did not win a single trophy in addition to his High-Over-All victory.

The 1963 Nationals showed a steadily increasing interest in the game by attracting record entries in every gauge except all-bore; this also indicated a healthy trend toward interest in the smaller guns. Box score on the entries was: All-gauge 376, 20 gauge 344, 28 gauge 286, and the little .410 had 283 hopefuls (15 over the record). After shooting a couple of days at the Ludlow Gun Club in Massachusetts, I'm inclined to think that the increase in .410 shooters might have come out of this one club; members probably fire more .410 targets than any other club in the country.

Another indication from the 1963 Nationals of steady growth in skeet, the infant of the clay target games, came from the surprising number of new names and faces in the box score of winners. Many of this year's winners are brand-new in the Nationals, and a number of familiar names from previous trophy lists were missing.

Bob Shuley, who has racked up his share and more of trophies in the past several outings didn't score this year, but Dad Al Shuley took up the slack with a victory in the .410 event.

The Nationals always produce at least one blistering shoot-off, and this year was no exception. Lee Braun and Barney Hartman shot their usual 250 perfect targets in

the all-bore event. After each had broken 225 more targets, or almost a repeat of the original event, they were declared Industry Co-Champions, or the shoot might have still been in progress as this is written. Incidentally, Barney gives every indication of faring as well in Industry ranks as he did as an amateur.

The box score:

High-Over-All:

M. Hambrick—San Pueblo, Cal.—544x550—Champion

Ladies—Kathleen McGinn, Houston, Texas—536x550

Junior—J. A. Bellows, Encino, Cal.—542x550

Industry—Barney Hartman, St. Lambert, Quebec—542x550

All-Gauge:

Champion—J. A. Bellows, Encino, Cal.—250x250, plus 50 straight, shoot-off

Women's Champion—Mrs. W. H. Muchnic, Atchison, Kansas—248x250

College—Kathleen McGinn, Houston, Texas—246x250

Junior—J. A. Bellows

Industry—D. Lee Braun, San Mateo, Cal., and Barney Hartman, St. Lambert, Quebec—Co-Champions—250x250 plus 225 each in shoot-off.

Twenty-Gauge:

Champion—Ken Sedlecky, Baldwin, Michigan (after shoot-off with E. Tuvo, Montreal, Quebec—Sedlecky 225x225—Tuvo 224x225)

Ladies—Kathleen McGinn—Houston, Texas—99x100

Junior—J. Thomas, Ocala, Florida—99x100

Industry—Fred Missildine, Sea Island, Georgia—100x100

Twenty-Eight Gauge:

Champion—Ed Lee, Norwich, New York—100x100

Ladies—Kathleen McGinn, Houston, Texas—99x100

Junior—J. A. Bellows, Encino, Cal.—99x100

Industry—Barney Hartman, St. Lambert, Quebec—100x100

410 Gauge:

Champion—Al Shuley, Roselle, Illinois—98x100

Ladies—Mrs. Kit Dinning, Ruxton, Maryland—94x100

Junior—J. A. Bellows—Encino, Cal.—98x100

Industry—Fred Missildine—Sea Island, Georgia—96x100

* * *

Shooters, instructors, gun clubs, program chairmen, and a host of others have clamored for lo these many years that a good instructional film on trapshooting was sorely needed. Trouble was, films cost money and who would make the film.

A happy wedding of the skill and patience of the great Joe Hiestand, and the devotion, know-how, and generosity of Lou Greenblatt (not to slight in any way Corinne Greenblatt—the Cor of Corlou Productions) has produced "Trapshooting Tips," available to clubs for \$50 for two days, plus postage.

"Trapshooting Tips" is in 16 mm Eastman color and sound, and has the unqualified endorsement of this column, both for the film, and a couple of nice guys and a great lady. For details, write Lou Greenblatt, 12 Ladue Manor, St. Louis 24, Missouri.



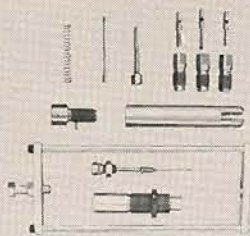
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*dies, shell holder, priming arm extra

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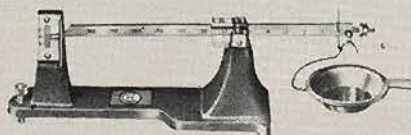
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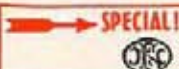
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more than sabers. Sometimes, however, results were not as favorable. Battery B, 1st Rhode Island, was nearly demolished when it took position a mere 150 yards in front of Confederate infantry and artillery entrenched behind a stone wall at the crest of the slope behind Fredericksburg. There was not enough infantry fire to cover the battery.

The same situation contributed to the silencing of two Yankee batteries in the war's first major battle at Bull Run, although a tragic error was directly responsible. During the Yankee offensive, Regular Army batteries commanded by James Ricketts and Charles Griffin were sent to face the Union Army, with the promise that infantry would soon be along to help.

Noticing a battle line forming to his right front, Griffin prepared to fire on what he thought were Confederate soldiers. But a military superior who was certain they were the promised Federal infantry support, said to wait. Griffin was proved right, but too late to prevent exposure of his and Ricketts' batteries to murderous musket volleys that rendered the batteries ineffective for the rest of the day. A smashing Confederate victory followed.

A second popular Civil War cannon was the 10 pounder Parrott Rifle, a muzzle loading, cast iron gun that fired a 9 $\frac{3}{4}$ pound projectile out of a three-inch bore at a range of some 3,000 yards. Weighing about 900 pounds, the Parrott was reinforced at the breech by an encircling wrought iron hoop. Invented by Captain Robert Parker Parrott, it appeared just before the start of the Civil War.

Lightness of the Parrott proved to be beneficial, particularly at Gettysburg when a Union battery dismantled its Parrotts and lifted them to the top of Devil's Den, a steep-sided mass of craggy boulders. Unfortunately for the North, some of the Parrotts, having lost mobility, were eventually surrendered when Confederates overran the position.

There was a 20 pound Parrott Rifle, but that gun was unpopular, since it was too bulky for field use and too light for siege war. Parrotts were also made in 30, 60, 100, 200, and 300 pounder sizes.

The heavier guns, when built for field use, were less mobile and were used at longer ranges. But their success was limited. Yankee guns firing from 2,000 yards or more failed to weaken Confederates entrenched at the crest of the slopes surrounding Fredericksburg. It was one of the best examples of the ineffectiveness on offense that plagued artillery of both sides throughout the war.

Although Confederate artillery came to be known as "The Long Arm of Lee," Yankee guns were generally conceded to be better. Southern General D. H. Hill was said to have exclaimed, "Give me Confederate infantry and

CIVIL WAR BULLDOGS

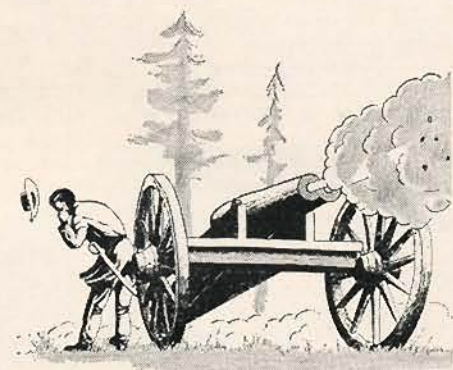
(Continued from page 21)

Yankee artillery and I'll whip the world!"

The Union army was fortunate to start with a nucleus of artillery available from the U.S. Army. The industrial North was better equipped to produce cannon and the mechanically-minded Northern soldier was better prepared to maintain and serve the weapons. The South was tactically weak. Southern artillerymen did not catch on as rapidly as their enemy to a principle that remains today: As cannon ranges lengthen, artillery fire can be massed with less repositioning of the field pieces. They still held to the belief that massed fire had to come from massed guns.

Lightest of the artillery pieces that reigned over Civil War battlefields was the 3 inch Ordnance Rifle, a wrought-iron piece which weighed only 850 pounds. First of the rifles to be used by the Federal Army, it was made by wrapping sheets of boiler iron around a mandrel. The cylinder thus formed was heated and passed through the rolls for welding, then cooled, bored, turned, and rifled. With a 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ pound charge, it could hurl a 10 pound projectile a maximum of 2,000 yards.

Other cannon appeared at various times and places throughout the war, including



three types imported from England by the Confederates. One was the Whitworth Rifle, an accurate gun that helped introduce the breech-loading concept to American armies. Few breech-loaders were used in the Civil War, but artillerymen who manned them considered themselves fortunate. Unlike their compatriots with muzzle-loaders, they were able to load the round and still face the enemy.

The Confederate Ordnance Department came up with some of its own creations, and one of these was the Brooke Rifle, similar to the Union's Parrott Rifle. Like the Parrott, it was made of cast iron. Another, the James Rifle, had a 3.67 inch bore and took a 12 pound round. It was bronze, a rarity for rifles, and had an unusually short range.

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Howitzers were invented during the 17th century by the Dutch to combine the high angle of fire of a mortar with the mobility and light weight of the field pieces. Early howitzers were relatively heavy, but during Civil War times had been slimmed down—to less than 800 pounds in the case of the smaller 12 pounders. Two other field howitzers, 24 and 32 pounders, saw some use, the 32 pounders weighing just under 1,900 pounds. Field howitzers had ranges of from 1,000 to 1,500 yards, and their calibers varied from 4.62" (12 pounder) to 6.4" (32 pounder).

Six guns were normally found in a field battery. Theoretically, each cannon was served by a crew of nine men trained in the art of artillery fire. But during battle, when a cannoner fell, battery crews often drafted passing infantry men. A young bugler was even pressed into service once at Antietam and won a medal for his efforts. When replacements were not available, the abbreviated gun crews did double or triple duties. Firing procedure was prescribed in minute detail, and each crew member was assigned a number with specific duties and positions.

Civil War artillerymen worked with four basic types of projectiles: solid shot, exploding shells, canister shot or shrapnel, and canister. Solid shot, as the name implies, was a completely solid sphere, most often of cast iron. It worked especially well with smaller bore rifles, being most effective at long ranges where accuracy and penetration were important.

The exploding shell was simply a hollow cast-iron sphere with a single hole where powder was funneled in. It was activated by a fuze, and was adapted for destroying buildings and similar bombardment work.

Canister shot or shrapnel was the forerunner of the shrapnel that came into wide use in World War I. Like the exploding shell, it was basically a hollow, thin-walled iron projectile, but filled with musket balls. A small charge, activated by a fuze, turned the projectile into an effective weapon against scattered personnel.

The last major ammunition type, canister, probably caused more casualties in the Civil War than all other types combined. It was an elongated tin can, filled with 27 to 48 musket balls of various sizes, that burst as it was being fired from the cannon. The canister made the cannon a huge shotgun. At ranges of less than 150 yards, double canister charges were used. It worked best with the larger-bore smoothbores, and the combination of a Napoleon with double canister was feared by all infantrymen.

Most of the ammunition of Civil War times

was fixed—that is, it was an all-in-one cartridge containing both shot or shell and powder bag, fastened together by a sabot or collar-like wooden disc.

The different types of projectiles, along with the many gun models, made for a great number of different kinds of ammunition. Before the war was two years old, there were an estimated 600 different varieties in the North. It was not unusual for a battery to stand without ammunition while supplies of non-usable rounds stood nearby.

But guns were silenced more often because the artillerymen merely shot up rounds faster than the ammunition chests could be replenished. The Union Army carried approximately 270 rounds per gun at most, and had problems supplying batteries such as one that claimed it fired 1,342 rounds in one day at Gettysburg. Another used 1,392 rounds in a day at Malvern Hill.

Firing was ordered cut back for economy reasons on several occasions, and the strict economy measures of the Union artillery, enforced by General Henry Jackson Hunt, were a factor in its superiority. Hunt suspected batteries that expended their ammunition rapidly of wanting to leave the battlefield, so he ordered them to stay on the field and wait, without ammunition, to be resupplied.

Many of the big guns used in the Civil War have been preserved over the century that has elapsed and can be seen on Civil War battlefields. For artillery displays, the hallowed grounds of Gettysburg are unmatched. More than 400 cannon—two-thirds of the guns engaged or held in reserve during the battle—are spotted at various locations on the battlefield, most of them approximately where they were in the battle. A majority of the pieces are the three popular models—Napoleons, 10 pound Parrott Rifles, and 3 inch Ordnance Rifles. But there are others—five 20 pound Brooke Rifles, two James Rifles, two Whitworths, and five 20 pound Parrott Rifles. There are howitzers—eighteen 12 pounders, four 24 pounders, and over twenty 6 pounder smoothbores. Gettysburg has several caissons and limbers, too.

Other parks with excellent collections of Civil War field artillery include Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park and Shiloh National Military Park, both in Tennessee; Petersburg National Military Park in Virginia; and Vicksburg National Military Park in Mississippi.

Cannons from Civil War days are found in other battlefield parks. They make a battlefield tour interesting and informative for the person who is intrigued by the "bulldozers" of the Civil War.

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GUNS OF THE TEXAS RANGERS

(Continued from page 18)

is said to represent an abbreviation of "Rest
In Peace," words which he had numerous
occasions to utter over marauding Indians,
Mexican bandits, or lawless Americans.

Captain Ford added to his force of Ran-
gers 113 friendly braves from the Brazos
Indian Reserve and headed toward the home
territory of the Comanches. Unlike the fed-
eral soldiers, Ford's little army of Rangers
and friendly Indians pursued the hated
Comanches relentlessly, not at all bothered
by going north of the state line and into
the Comanches' hunting grounds. They did
not turn homeward until they had killed 76
Comanches, captured 300 horses and taken
18 prisoners. On this campaign two Texans
were killed and two wounded—a rather one-
sided score. And never again did the Co-
manches attack Texans with the reckless
confidence they had demonstrated in the
past. The Indians knew now that they had
no immunity from pursuit into their home-
land by as ruthless a group of fighting men
as ever took up a trail. Many of the Ran-
gers were spurred on by memories of loved
ones brutally butchered or captured and
outraged by these savages.

Rip Ford tells us that some of his force
was armed with "Yager" rifles. These are
the Model 1841 caliber .54 rifles which had
their baptism of fire during the Mexican
War and which were the favorites of the
Mississippi militia. Sometimes collectors re-
fer to them as "Mississippi" rifles. This par-
ticular brass-bound rifle was a great favorite
all through the West, and numerous accounts
of its use are to be found—the U. S. govern-
ment loaned 60 Model 1841 rifles to the
Pony Express in 1860 during Pah Ute In-
dian troubles in Nevada. Records show that
the Texas Republic ordered 1500 rifles of
this type from Tryon Son & Co. of Phila-
delphia and that up to the time Texas joined
the Union, only 860 had been delivered.
Guns delivered under this Texas Republic
contract are rare and eagerly sought by
collectors. The lock-plate bears the marking
REPUBLIC OF TEXAS encircling a five-
pointed star, as well as the TRYON name.

The bowie knife, a most useful implement
and weapon, hung from every Ranger's
belt. For side arms in the late 1850s the Colt
cap and ball six-shooter was the favorite,
either in the heavy .44 Dragoon size or the

lighter .36 Navy size.

At about the same time as the Indian
troubles were acute in the West, a particu-
larly wily Mexican named Juan (Cheno)
Cortinas was giving the Rangers serious
trouble along the Rio Grande in the Browns-
ville to Rio Grande City area. Raids on
ranches north of the Rio Grande were made
by Cortinas and his men and they would
retire with their loot to comparative safety
on the Mexican side of the river. The regu-
lar soldiers observed the polite amenities
by pursuing Cortinas' bandits only as far as
the river; the Rangers on occasion had no
such scruples. If stock was stolen and driven
across the river, the Rangers splashed across
to the south side, often killing bandits and
recovering stolen horses or cattle—ignoring
American censure or Mexican indignation.
They had a job to do—and they did it. A
favorite saying was that they would charge
the fires of hell armed with nothing more
than a bucket of water!

During Sam Houston's 1859-1861 term as
governor he wrote to Secretary of War John
B. Floyd and requested that the Federal
government furnish Texas 2000 percussion
rifles (presumably Model 1851), 1000 Sharps
carbines, 3000 Colt pistols, and 1000 cavalry
accoutrements.

With war between the states threatening,
Floyd advised Houston that Texas was then
entitled to only 169 muskets, in accordance
with allotments permissible to the militia of
the various states. Thus it was that Texas
and her Rangers had to wait until after the
war to obtain the Sharps carbines which for
a short period became the standard saddle
gun of the Ranger service.

Failing in his request for arms from the
Federal arsenal, Houston wrote to Ben Mc-
Culloch, asking him to ascertain the avail-
ability of rifles designed by Geo. W. Morse.
Gov. Houston stated that the model he had
in mind should have a 36" barrel, a .44
caliber bore, and the rifling was to have no
twist—it was to be perfectly straight. Weight
was to be between 7 and 8 pounds.

In 1861 Ben McCulloch was authorized to
purchase 1000 Colt pistols and 1000 Morse
rifles for the state of Texas. McCulloch ad-
vised he found it impossible to obtain the
rifles. The Colt pistols were obtained, but

(Continued on page 44)

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(Continued from page 42)

before payment was made, war was declared and Texas "deferred" payment inasmuch as Samuel Colt was "a citizen of the government with which we are at war."

As had been the case during and after the Mexican War, activities of the Texas Rangers in the Civil War period were sharply curtailed. Many of the Rangers joined the Confederate Army and went off to eastern battle fields. For nine years after the war the Federal government refused to permit the state to maintain any armed bodies of men. Policing the state and its far-flung borders were assumed, if not performed, by troops of the U. S. Army, many of them inadequately trained colored troops. There was great unrest, financial chaos and an influx of desperate, destitute people. The saying "Gone to Texas" was coined and it was applied to persons who left their debts, errors, and troubles behind them and headed for the vast frontier.

In January of 1870 E. J. Davis was placed in the governor's chair. He was very unpopular with many Texans. To hold power, Davis formed a substitute for the Texas Rangers called the State Police. The Davis police force was born July 1, 1870 and was thrown out in April of 1873. There were some good men in this organization, but most Texans hold the view that its record was one of legalized murder and oppression. The Adjutant General, commander of the Davis State Police, absconded with \$34,000 of the people's money.

The year 1874 marked the beginning of a brighter future for Texas. The Texas Ran-

gers were brought back on the job under Governor Coke, and the Ranger Frontier Battalion was organized under one of the ablest of all lawmen, Major John B. Jones. A special force was sent to the Rio Grande under Capt. L. H. McNelly, a man who was to bring terror to the hearts of Mexican bandits—he seldom took a prisoner. In those days a large number of marauding Indians, Mexican bandits or American out-



laws were shot "resisting arrest" or *a la ley de fuga* (attempting to escape). The Rangers were given unusually broad authority, and theirs was a stern directness of purpose.

One of Capt. McNelly's more spectacular exploits was to lead a forage into Mexico near Las Cuevas with a small force of Rangers. Learning a herd of 100 stolen Texas cattle was at that place, McNelly led his men across to the Mexican side. Each man had 40 rounds only for his pistol and for his rifle. The Mexicans at this place numbered several hundred. Soon, under leadership of General Juan Flores, the Mexicans charged the Rangers. At the first volley General Flores was shot from his horse, his new gold and silver plated .44 Smith & Wesson pistol sent glittering in the dust.

Although a detachment of U. S. soldiers was encamped on the American side and trained two Gatling guns on the Mexican bank, they refused to cross over or fire the guns. McNelly sent a messenger into Las Cuevas, saying unless the cattle were driven back across the river he would attack! Although McNelly was outnumbered almost ten to one, the Mexicans knew the fierce determination of this man and his Rangers. The cattle were surrendered.

Perhaps it may be well to take a moment here to comment on the appearance, equipment, and duties of the Texas Ranger, for in all these he was unlike any other constabulary.

Some men of small stature were taken, but most of the Rangers were men of above-average size; they were invariably excellent horsemen and expert in the use of firearms—many in Major Jones' Frontier Battalion, including the Major himself, were ex-soldiers of the Confederate Army. No badge hung on their vests and no uniform distinguished them—they dressed like average ranchmen of the day.

Each Ranger had to provide his own horse and gear. If he did not have a suitable pistol and rifle, these would be furnished him—and the cost taken out of his first month's pay (something around \$40 a month). The State furnished ammunition, rations and the pack mules or teams and wagons used when the men were afield—which was most of the time. Rangers might use weapons other than those available from the State, but if they were of different type or caliber, the Ranger must then supply his own ammunition.

(To be concluded)

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A REPORT FROM THE FIRING LINE

(Continued from page 25)

In 1953 and 1954 Bill fired as member of the Army Rifle Pacific Team, and he was awarded the Distinguished Rifle Medal. He also holds the Distinguished Pistol Medal, and the International Distinguished Shooter's Badge—making him the top marksman in the Army.

Asked how he felt when he fired the .45 for the first time without coaching, Bill



smiled. "When I got through counting the holes in the target, I knew I'd have a long ways to go with the gun. Out of 10 shots, only three landed on the paper, and I decided that I would have to do better." Col. Radcliff's coaching at Ft. Shafter, Hawaii, helped a great deal, and three months after he started shooting, Bill Blankenship entered his first match. This was the beginning—he won 10 medals in the Tyro class, and his first visit to Camp Perry took place while he was a member of the Army Rifle Team. In 1955 he switched to pistols and participated in the National Mid-Winter matches in Tampa, Florida. Competing against a

strong field, Bill won fourth place and his first NRA qualification—Master. "I was firing as member of the Army Pistol Team, and kept running against fellows like Harry Reeves and Joe Benner. Those were the fellows I had to beat, and they were the very best shots in the country. I think that the .45 caliber pistol is what helped me over the hump. The .45 is the most misunderstood gun in the field, and I think it is one of the easiest guns to master. Many shooters start out with a mental block, and the .45 is no harder to handle than the .22."

What suggestions could Blankenship offer? "Well, let's start with the essentials. I use a plain six o'clock hold, and my trigger squeeze is nothing unusual. I merely increase pressure on the trigger until the gun goes off. As my .22 pistol I use a S&W Model 41 without any modification or changes. I use a Clark Super rebuilt for .38, and the standard GI .45 auto. The .45 and the .38 have Eliason sights. I don't fuss with my guns, but I do make sure that they are in good condition. While I am firing a match, or just before going on the line, I don't worry about what the other fellows have been doing or what they might be doing. I simply go out there, knowing what my last score was, and then I try to improve on my own score." I was with Bill before he fired the .45, and he was the most relaxed man on the ready line at Camp Perry. When his time came, he picked up his gear and ambled off. When someone yelled "Good



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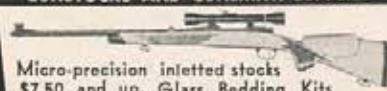


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luck, Bill," he just waved, turned and said: "I'll see if I can't win this one too—sort of make it nice and tidy."

Sgt. Blankenship set a new National Match record in 1960—2636-128. He broke his own record this year, with 2654-151X, and he set four new records for matches in the sub-aggregate championships. His proudest moment came when he was awarded the International Badge at the Cairo matches in October 1962. He was the eighth U.S. shooter to be so honored, and in order to qualify, you must have won in first, second, or third place while shooting as member of the U.S. International Shooting teams.

At 33, Blankenship has gathered the nation's top honors in rifle and pistol shooting. His wife, Helen, daughter Linda, 12, and son William E., 7, are of course happy with Bill's achievements, but I would not say that they are overly impressed. Bill is stationed at Ft. Benning where he is an instructor-shooter with the Army Marksmanship Training Unit, and he believes that the records he set can be broken. Does he think he will be the man to bust them? "I'll certainly try—I am sure that I could do better." Bill Blankenship is just the sort of guy who would try the trick, and with his attitude, he is a hard man to beat. Will he again make pistol history at Camp Perry in 1964? I don't know, but when Bill goes on the firing line, I'll be there to spot.

One of England's best small-bore shooters, Miss Barbara Russel of Coventry, participated in the rifle matches. She captured the British Women's Smallbore Prone Championship this year at the British equivalent of the National Matches. The shooting Driv-

ers (see GUNS, May 1962) had met Barbara in England during a rifle match, invited her to participate in the Perry events, and the pretty British shooter used her vacation to join the Drivers' in the small-bore matches. Miss Russel is one of the top ten shooters in England and fires in the Master class.

The kids from the H. P. Baldwin High School Rifle Team worked for two years at various jobs in canning plants, polishing and washing cars, and selling candy from house to house so that the team could make the trip to Camp Perry. The all-girl team with coach Charles K. C. Leong and assistant coach Carol Matsuka, journeyed all the way from Wailuku, Maui, to represent the shooters of Hawaii at the National Matches. The girls had a great time at Perry, and plan to make a swing to the east coast to see that part of the country after the matches. Will they be back next year? "No, we cannot send a team every year, it is too expensive," Charley Leong, told me. "The kids we left behind are now working, and we hope to be able to bring a team over to Perry again in 1965. This trip has the complete support of the school authorities, the parents, and the people of our beautiful island. We have a great many kids in school who shoot, and shoot well, and the hardest thing is to cull out those who can come to Perry." After seeing the girls shoot, I can only hope that we will see more, much more, of the Hawaiian team—they are nice kids and fine shooters.

There was some drama, some excitement, and some heartbreak during the small-bore and the big-bore matches, but nothing quite equalled the tense moments during the pistol matches when Bill Blankenship fired scores that made him, for the fourth consecutive time, National Pistol Champion.

The Prone Championship and the Four Position crown went to Army Reservist 1st Lt. Lones W. Wigger from Carter, Mont. He topped other shooters with 4780 X 4800 and with 1516 points. The former Lenore Driver, now married and teaching her husband to shoot and as school marm teaches kids the ABC, cleaned up as prone women's champion with 4773 points, and Miss Elizabeth Espointour, St. Paul, Minn., collected the position championship with a total of 1484 points.

Firing the Service Rifle, Staff Sergeant Frank V. Kruk, U.S.M.C., fired a record score of 972, and bolt-action honors went to Airman 1st Class Middleton Tompkins.

Since 1949, the 61 year old Albert G. Kees, had made the week's pilgrimage to the Grand American Trapshooting event at Vandalia, Ohio. Because his employers have always given him the whole week off for the shoot, the Richmond, Indiana, machinist decided that this year he'd come up for the big one only. Al had little hope of shooting well enough to get into the money, and he fired his best Vandalia score (97x100) 13 years ago.

"When I hit my pattern and am all set and can shoot without interruption, I usually hit what I am shooting at. I've been shooting for 50 years. I love to hunt quail; nothing else, just quail." Al Kees was in the groove on Friday—he broke 100x100 to win the Grand. He had a bad moment with the 94th bird. It came sailing out of the trap broken, but before his eyes registered that fact, his gun was lined up, and he released the trig-

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ger . . . the shot took a chip out of the broken bird and that was that.

Al used an old Model 12 that he bought four years ago for \$75. He wanted the action and the barrel, and since the stock was in poor condition, he re-stocked the gun and installed a release trigger. To reduce recoil, he added two pounds of lead to the stock, and now "the gun does not kick at all." Al's handicap is 21 yards—the average handicap for those competing for the big price at Vandalia.

In Richmond, Al is known to the local shooting fraternity as "Blind Al." Since the club does not have lights for trapshooting at night, the shooters turn their cars toward the traps, then turn on the headlights and proceed with the business at hand. Very often the birds will fly out of the limited range of the headlights, and Al always claims that he can't see 'em; this may be so, but he sure can hit 'em.

Al Kees was the eighth shooter to break 100x100 in the 64 year old Grand event, and it was a proud moment for Al and his wife Edith when she pinned the little 100x100 medal on Al's trap jacket. Mrs. Kees did not watch the shoot. She claims that she brings bad luck to her husband when she watches, and it took ATA officials a while to find Mrs. Kees to give her the good news. Al will use his winnings from the Grand to retire a little sooner than he had hoped he could, and then he will devote more time to shooting. Will he be back for another crack at the top place next year? Al had not decided, but his friends feel that he will be back to try again. This year's entries for the Grand topped the record 1960 crowd of 2,429 shooters, and chances are that next year's crowd will exceed this year's 2,527 trap addicts.

Al had broken 100x100 before, but never at the Grand. Both of these victories were achieved from the 16 yard line. Blind Al took two souvenirs home: The little 100x100 badge, and the empty Remington shell that broke the 100th bird.

As in any other sport, there were some bad moments here too. One shooter was close to the magic 100x100, when he took his eye off the bird to watch a plane landing. Result: One missed bird, and a chance to win the Grand. A misunderstanding cost Rob Deitemeyer, son of Bob Deitemeyer of the Pacific Gun Sight Company, the runner-up sub-junior place. Rob, a very accomplished shooter, neglected to see that he and another youngster were tied. He missed the dusk shoot-off and lost by default.

The National Skeet Shoot, held in the beautiful setting of the Rochester club, produced some surprises. The National Skeet Shooting Association can proudly point to an increased interest in the sport, and there was a total registration of 1289 shooters. Skeet regulations presently call for a mounted gun, and many participants showed considerable interest in shooting skeet the international style, with the gun unmounted and the bird released within three seconds after the shooter calls for it. This revived interest could easily spell the difference between victory and defeat for the U.S. team when it faces the teams of other nations.

The All-Gauge honors were collected by J. A. Bellows of Encino, California. Bellows tied five other shooters with 250 X 250

in the main event, then took the next 50 birds in the shoot-off. Again scoring 250 X 250, Bellows also took the Junior All-Gauge event, using Winchester shells to win the skeet honors. Al Shuley, of Roselle, Illinois, became National .410 Gauge Champion with 98 X 100, Bellows took the Junior title with 98 X 100, and Winchester-Western's Fred Missildine, who also was at the Vandalia shoot fest, retained his champion's crown as Industry shooter in the .410 events.

Ken Pendergrass, who hails from Jacksonville, Florida, topped current state, provincial, and territorial champions in a special 100 target event. As in the All-Gauge event, guns must be 12 gauge or smaller, and this was one of the highlights of the week-long skeet meet at the Rochester club.

The shooters who did not make headlines in the local press packed up their gear and headed home, not to murmur to themselves, but to start practicing for next year's events. It is seldom that a champion repeats, and there is plenty of room at the top.

See you on the firing lines!

CORRECTION

In William Brent's story, "Old Timers Wore 'em High," October issue, the dates under the picture of Pat Garrett and his deputies should have been 1883-4, not twenty years earlier! And the picture on page 28 is of Lloyd Mabery, whose brother Bob is the member of the family who wears the title "Chief."—Chief of Police, Yuma, Ariz.



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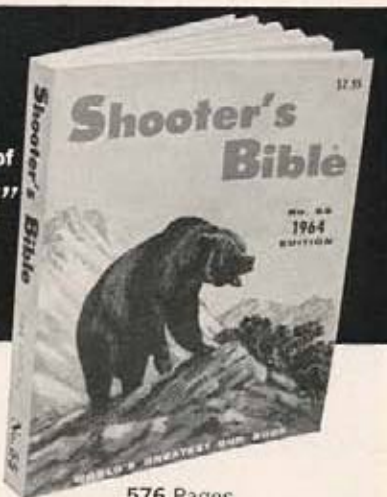
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SMALL BOY—BIG RIFLE

(Continued from page 33)

isolated backstop that wasn't being used. There he saw graphic proof of the destructiveness of the insignificant looking little rim-fire cartridge.

From ten feet I slammed a high-speed hollow-point into a water-filled tin can. Results were spectacular and gratifying; water splattered in every direction as the can burst. Effects of the shot made much more of an impression, I'm sure, than any safety lecture.

Bob wasn't the only one who learned. After a number of Saturdays on the range, it became apparent to me that there is no easier way to make a friend of a son, no better way to build a warm father-son relationship, than by sharing shooting fun.

Bob learned that holes didn't just appear in his targets—he had to put them there. It sank in fast that he could take his time, hold, squeeze, control his breathing and put one in the black. The alternative, if he hurried and ignored his lessons, was a flyer that stared accusingly through the spotting scope. It was strictly up to him and he knew it.

So we settled into a pattern. First Bob touched off his weekly quota of .22's while I coached and spotted, then he accompanied me to the 200-yard range and watched while I tried for half-minute-of-angle groups with my .30-06 Winchester Model 70.

Sitting and watching began to pall, however, and one day he piped up, "Dad, I think I'm getting too big for a .22, don't you?" The question in my ear caused me to jerk one out of a four-shot group that wasn't quite an inch. "Yeah," I replied, "I'll get you a .460 Weatherby Magnum next week."

On the way home, though, I did some serious thinking. Bob had a sound grasp of shooting fundamentals, and was as safety conscious as anyone I knew. Maybe he was

outgrowing the .22, perhaps he could handle something bigger. If so, we could shoot together instead of watching each other, with the net result of more fun for both of us.

After careful consideration I ordered a DCM Springfield '03-A3 through the NRA. The Springfield is far and away the best boy's big bore. It's inexpensive, ruggedly built, strong, and safe. An added advantage for me, since I already owned .30-06 dies, is the plentiful supply of brass.

Several weeks later the Springfield arrived. Bob was ecstatic when we opened the box, and overjoyed that the rifle was in almost mint condition. "What do you say we load . . ." But I was talking to an empty room. Bob was half-way down the basement stairs, headed for the loading room.

I dug into my file of data for mid-range



loads, and settled on the late Colonel Townsend Whelen's .30-06 small-game load, 18 gr. of 4759 behind a 150 gr. bullet. Speer's 150 gr. soft-point spitzer, the same one I've found accurate and effective on muleys and antelope, was selected. This combination should turn up around 1500 fps at the muzzle, ample for accurate shooting at 100 yards, and probably out to 200 on a calm day. Formula juggling indicated recoil in the heavy Springfield should be in the neighborhood of 6-7 ft.

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lbs., something the boy could easily handle.

Thus, at nine, Bob entered shooting's high school. He quickly got the hang of resizing brass and swaging the crimp out of GI primer pockets. Bullet seating is easy, of course, and is his favorite reloading operation. I felt it wise to weigh the powder myself, but the boy loaded his own ammunition from the day he got his .30-06.

Altering the Springfield from soldier-size to boy-size was simple. Springfield stocks are usually too short for the average man, but that doesn't mean they're right for a nine year old. To remedy this, I simply sawed off the stock at the rear sling swivel, then rasped down the raw edges until they were smooth. But only after making a solemn promise to buy a new GI stock when the boy grows into it!

I assumed that the issue sight, designed for arsenal ammo, wouldn't depress far

enough to permit sighting in with the 1500 f.p.s. loads, and I had a Redfield receiver sight installed. The rifle was now ready for the big day, and so were we—Bob very decidedly so.

Shooting from a bench rest, Bob's first shot was on the paper, as luck would have it. Admittedly, he was a bit leary of the big rifle at first, but when he saw that recoil was not fearsome, he settled down and sighted in.

After intensive instructions in the next three years, I have every confidence he will graduate, ready to take to the field. I look forward to the day when my son takes his first big game trophy, and I hope it's a good one. But if the luck of the hunt forces him to settle for less than a record-book head, I'm sure it will have been earned honestly, taken fairly, and killed quickly, cleanly, and humanely.

THE W. W. GREENER TRAP GUN

(Continued from page 23)

The straight grip design of the Greener stock is greatly improved by the bent lever handle which, when gripped by the shooter's hand, holds like a full pistol grip stock.

The stock and fore-end of my Greener are of straight grain English walnut, displaying the simple tastes of the English gunmakers in this modern-day trend toward fancy grained "specialty" guns.

A great many shotguns, looking at the bulky appearance of the Greener, will undoubtedly insist that it is taboo for trap shooting because of its obvious weight. But once they handle the gun, their opinion will quickly change. My 32" barrel gun weighs under 6½ pounds, more than a pound lighter than the Ithaca single barrel trap gun.

Shooting trap with this more or less unconventional "long tom" is quite exhilarating.

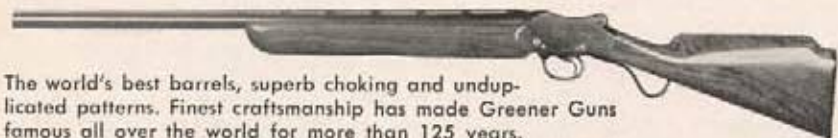
Having started trap shooting a few months ago, I enjoyed an enviable 19 yard handicap; that is until I began shooting the Greener. Teamed up with the Winchester "Mark 5" shotshells, the Greener has fantastic long range shooting capabilities. While you may get a few belly laughs from the other shooters when you first bring your odd-looking Greener to the trap field, they'll soon stop when you begin peppering those birds 'way, 'way out there.

The price? Well, my Model No. 6 ran about \$140, and other General Purpose guns run from just over \$100 to somewhere around \$240. Not bad at all for the wonderful shooting characteristics and the old world workmanship that come as standard equipment on these kings of the 20-yard firing line.

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FOR COMFORT OR SURVIVAL IN THE WOODS

(Continued from page 19)

pine, tied the red square to the top, and let the tree snap up into place. Before long I heard another shout, "Careful, up ahead, I see a red flag."

To prepare the plastic square, slit the center long enough so that your head goes through easily and bind the edges with tape so it won't tear. Grommets near the corners hold strings that can be used to tie the square to the arms and, in high winds, front to back, to keep the plastic close to the body. If your wife doesn't have a grommet tool, take it to the salesgirl at the purse counter of your favorite department store, she has a tool for placing eyelets in belts. The red plastic costs about 39c a yard.

When you push into the woods, there's no guarantee that you won't get lost. And here is where a cool head and the compass in the second pocket will help. But, carry a "good" compass. Get one with "North" so definite you can't make a mistake. One with a pointed arrow, not a painted needle. You'll have problems enough when you need it and can't afford to worry which color is North. Learn how to use it quickly and accurately. I once took a fellow into the Gila National Forest and told him to work east of a stream (the morning sun, you know) and should he want to return to camp all he would have to do is go back to the stream and follow it. Damn if he didn't get lost. He got back to the stream all right, but forgot whether he was to go up or down stream. We found him about nine that night.

When I get around to writing a set of instructions for lost hunters, near the end you'll discover the word "Sing." It may sound silly, but I know that if I can throw myself in a mood to sing—even hum, for I sing terribly—I've made the first move in getting out of trouble.

Your hunting territory might require more than a compass and the knowledge to use it. You will need maps then. Prepare a home-made map before leaving camp; get someone to help in order to avoid any mistakes. Mark the streams, the ridges, the location of your camp, and the path of the seasonal sun. For the best information, write the Geological Survey, Washington, D. C., for an index of the state in which you plan to hunt. This index will show the maps available. For a Canadian hunt write first for map prices to Surveys and Engineering Branch, Department of Mines and Resources, Ottawa, Canada. Sometimes your State Forestry Department can help you, and I got maps from the National Park Service. Don't be proud: Make thorough plans for your safety.

One more thing. The most maps will show a declination figure. The magnetic pole and the true north seldom coincide. The single line runs a zig-zag course from the southeast

corner of Georgia to a point north of Michigan. The declination—in some cases as much as 22 degrees—on both sides vary and make little sense. The maps correct this, or show you how. Send 20c in coin to the Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., and ask for the "Map of Compass Declination in the United States."

The 10 foot length of twisted wire in the picture has been changed to a 375 pound test nylon cord. With a piece of branch as a handle, it's just the thing for dragging your buck out of the woods. The length of cotton cord is for tying the anal vent while dressing out your game.

The two "Ioply" tubes contain iodine, in their own applicators; simply crush and apply. Ask your druggist about these. They are made by the Davis Emergency Kit Co., 43 Halek Street, Newark, N. J. These are also furnished in the No. 2006 Asepto Snake Bite Outfit put out by Becton, Dickinson, and Company, Rutherford, N. J. Your druggist has this for about \$2.25.

For a contented belly, I take along four bouillon cubes. I've never had to use them, fortunately, but with some hot water they could make a long night more comfortable. The midget bottle holds 12 water purification pills. All GI's know about these; two tablets in a canteen full make doubtful drinking water safe. The tourniquet is made from an old inner tube, or you can use the one from the snake bite kit. If there is still a little room in this second pocket, I sometimes carry a bottle of buck lure and some cotton scent patches.

Two handwarmers and a windproof lighter come next. Remember, this is an emergency kit; be sure to fill the warmers and lighter before leaving camp and wrap them in a small piece of red plastic. Also, wrap the compass as a protection against rain or a fall into a stream. You'll need the lighter to get the handwarmers started. As an alternate for this third pocket, in warmer weather the entire anti-venom kit should be carried.

The complete kit, including the three pockets, canteen and knife is light, and takes up little space. A word about your knife and sheath here. A snap strap around the handle and a riveted seam edge are the best insurance against loss and accidents that I know.

You're now prepared. When you're ready to leave camp, all you have to do is grab the works from a peg on the wall and put fresh water in the canteen. Your pockets are empty. They can be used for things needed during the day. An apple, a sandwich or two, some chocolate bars, your cigarettes and some waterproof matches. And, by the way, after you've eaten, don't toss the waxed sandwich wrapper and that brown bag away—they're prime stuff to get a fire going. Should you need one!



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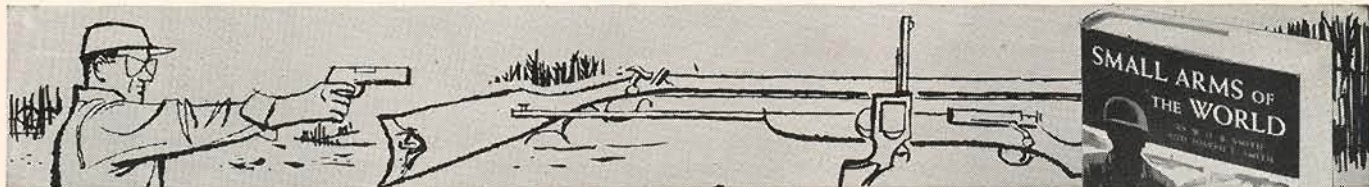


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GUN RACK

(Continued from page 12)

fame, and using his test gun, we fired five rounds of 180 grain ammo, with a maximum spread of 2 3/4 inches, while the 150 grain loads had a spread of 1 3/4 inches. Interesting on these groups is that the 150 and the 180 grain bullets printed to the same point of impact, and the 10 shot group thus produced showed an extreme spread of 3-3/16".

Handloads were worked up and for complete handloading dope for this new Winchester cartridge, refer to Kent Bellah's article in October GUNS. Our handloads, based on data derived from the RCBS shop, were most gratifying. Since the .300 Win. Magnum is a close relative of RCBS's .30-338 and the .308 Belted Norma Magnum, the first loads required little or no adjusting, and results with handloads are only slightly superior to the groups obtained with factory loads.

Velocity checks were run on the Herter chronograph, and considering variations of testing conditions, they were almost on a par with the factory data. Most impressive are the drop data, and the .300 Winchester Magnum will, we feel, rapidly become one of the most desirable big game cartridges.

Berns-Martin Moves

Berns-Martin, the holster folks, moved their operation from Calhoun City, Mississippi to Elberton, Georgia. A bigger plant and additional manpower will help to meet the demand for the Berns-Martin holsters.

Womack Bench Rests

If you are a bench rest shooter, you owe it to yourself to take a good look at these new rests. W. H. Womack, riflesmith, of 2124 Meriwether Rd., Shreveport, La., not only builds rifles, but he also is a bench rest addict and designed the rests for the serious and competitive shooter. The front rest has three, fully adjustable set screws that settle the rest solidly on the bench, and the resilient molded rubber offers a firm and non-slipping rest for the fore-end. The front cradle has provisions for a rubber-lined fore-end stop that snaps into place and we found that the three positions for this fore-end stop are more than adequate to offer support for the battery of rifles we used in testing this rest. The front rest has a raising and lowering mechanism that allows a 4 1/2 inch up and down travel, more than enough to cover three standard bench rest targets without moving the rest. The rear rest also has elevation provision, and we found that the use of the rear rest offers a great deal more support than the conventional sandbags. The front rest retails for \$32.50, the rear rest for \$22.50, f.o.b. Shreveport, and we found that precision shooting with our bench rest wildcat rifle was easier with these Womack rests.

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Core Cutter

Don Roman, Box 15568C, Lakewood, Colo., has now in stock one of the finest core cutters we have ever seen or used. The Core-Matic is a precision built piece of equipment



that, in extensive tests, has proved itself, by cutting swaging cores cleanly, squarely, and most accurately.

Operating instructions and change-over instructions from one caliber to another are exceptionally complete. Cores are cut by feeding the lead wire into the Core-Matic and working the handle of the tool back and forth. The gear ratio of 2:1 provides excellent mechanical advantage, and the automatic ejection of the cores speeds operation. Good swaged bullets are, to a large extent, dependent on the accuracy which went into making the core, and this tool makes cutting good cores a cinch. We made up some test cores, then weighed them on our Ohaus scale—maximum deviation was less than 0.8 grains in ten cores. The other ten cores, made from home-extruded wire, varied a maximum of 1.5 grains; this variation was due to a variation in the diameter of the wire. The Core-Matic retails for \$29.95 with one set of dies, additional dies are \$4.50. Dies are available in .30 cal. (.250" wire), .38 caliber (.301" wire), and .44-.45 caliber (.365" wire). If you swage other diameter wires, Don can make up custom dies for \$5.50.

Commercial Reloads

While attending the National Rifle and Pistol Matches at Camp Perry, we met a representative of the Midwest Reloading Service. This company makes reloads for .38 Special

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and .45 ACP, and the ammo we tested was
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Write to Midwest Reloading Service, Dept.
G, 1757 Southfield Rd., Lincoln Park, Mich.,
for a price list and shipping information.

Pachmayr Accuracy Job

Recently we shipped our Colt .45 to Frank
Pachmayr for a tune-up and accuracy job.
This was a factory gun without any custom
features and a trigger pull that left much
to be desired. When the gun came back, the
first thing we noticed was the over-all tight-
ness of the gun. The trigger pull was just a
shade over the allowed NRA pull, and the
target that John Pachmayr fired with the
gun was a revelation. At 25 yards and with
the 230 grain hard ball factory ammo, five
shots went just a shade under 1 1/4 inches.
Since John is a crack shot, we did not at-
tempt to duplicate this accuracy, but found
that there is a vast improvement over the
groups we used to fire with this gun before
the Pachmayr accuracy job. It has often
been said that the .45 is the hardest gun to
fire well, and with this Pachmayr accuracy
job, we found that a great deal of the curse
of shooting the course with the .45 has been
removed.

Richland Model 707

Richland Arms Co., Dept. G, Blissfield,
Mich., recently submitted one of their new
Model 707 shotguns for tests. This gun,
chambered for the 20 gauge Magnum shell,
is a deluxe field gun with double triggers
and extractors. Tests on clay birds and doves,
as well as on the patterning board, proved
that the Model 707 is an exceptionally well-
made gun with fine handling qualities. Stock
dimensions are 14 1/4 x 19 1/8 x 2 1/4, and the
triple bolting system gives the action a great
deal of strength. Stock finish and bluing are
of the highest quality, and firing the gun was
a pleasure. The Model 707 in 20 gauge is
available with 26 inch (IC&M), 28 and 30
inch (M&F) barrels; also available is a
lightweight version of the Model 707 in 12
gauge with 28 inch (M&F) and 26 inch
(IC&M) tubes. Although doubles usually
run into a fairly high price bracket, the
Model 707 retails for only \$159.50 which is
most reasonable for a fine imported side-by-
side shotgun.

Alcan Shot Protector

Kwik-Sert is a polyethylene strip that has
a part that fits over the wad and that, when
inserted into the hull, forms a protective shot
collar. We have used Kwik-Sert in a couple
of boxes of test ammo and found that it is
easy to use and does offer a fine means of
protecting the shot column. Alcan Co., Inc.,
of Alton, Ill., offers Kwik-Sert in 12, 16, and
20 ga. for \$3.25 per thousand, and in 10 ga.
for \$4.20 per M.

Sodia Guns

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mounts and scope. Ferlach guns are imported by Frank and Walter Klepeis, Rosendale, N.Y., and our test gun, Model 241, is chambered for the 12 gauge shotshell in the upper barrel and the .30-06 in the lower barrel. We have several fine quality guns in our own personal gun rack, and even one of my pet rifles that is an exceptionally fine gun, looked sick next to the Sodra gun. Woodwork is outstandingly good and finish is in the best European tradition of a fine, hand-rubbed oil finish—the sort of finish it takes months to complete and that, once completed, hardly ever needs touching up. Fitting of wood to metal was extra carefully done and the metal work, including the engraving, was excellent.

The shotgun barrel delivered a full pattern, and the rifle barrel placed the bullet consistently into the center of the pattern.

We used several brands of factory ammo as well as some of our pet loads for the rifle barrel and found that with practically all loads we got MOA. With a special handload and the 165 grain Speer bullet we were able to duplicate our groups that we get with our custom Griffin and Howe— $\frac{3}{4}$ " at 100 yards. It should be noted that the claw mounts do not obstruct the sights when using the shotgun barrel and we tried a round of trap with the scope left on the gun. The mounts have the equivalent of peep sights, and thus the shotgun or metallic rifle sight can be used.

The Klepeis brothers import the finest line of Austrian firearms, and they handle doubles and drillings in most American and European calibers, as well as fine shotguns and rifles. These are custom guns, well worth the money, and we know several of these guns

that are now being used by the third generation of shooters. Write to the importer for a price list—you'll be pleasantly surprised at the relatively low cost of these fine guns.

Shotgun Slugs

We recently received a box of the newly designed Benco-Vitt Aerodynamic shotgun slugs. Having hunted with slugs, and having used commercial as well as handloaded shells, we were interested to see how these slugs performed on the range. The slugs have fins that increase the ballistics of the slug and give the projectile a greatly increased accuracy. The Benco-Vitt slugs have attached to the slug an Alcan Combo-Wad, and loading them requires only the empty hull, powder, and primer.

Following the suggestions supplied by George Vitt, we loaded our test rounds with 22.5 grains of Unique, and used a light roll crimp so that the ammunition would function through our Browning Buck Special. It is generally conceded that slugs for best accuracy, should not be used at ranges longer than 50 or so yards, and our first tests were made at that distance. After five shots we checked our group, then repeated the test on a new target. Again the group measured slightly over two inches by two inches. We then set up a target at the 100 yard point, and again shooting from a bench and using the Browning, our groups measured $4\frac{1}{2}$ by $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches—amazing accuracy for a slug. Living in an area where deer hunting is limited to slugs, we kept five loads for our annual venison collection. Benco-Vitt slugs are not inexpensive, but they do make a difference on the target and according to actual field tests, they are highly effective on game. You can get full information and slugs from George N. Vitt, The Beaver Engineering Co., Dept. G, 11 Sugarloaf Drive, Wilton, Conn.



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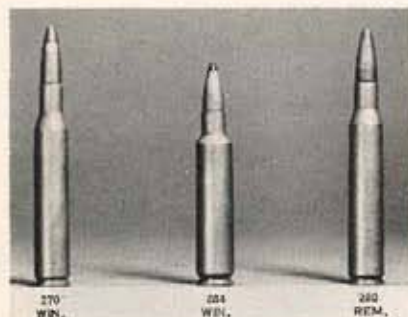
Acc-U-Ream Products, a division of Ma-Rep-Co., Inc., Dept. G, 6121 N. Blackstone, Fresno, Cal., recently submitted several items of interest for tests. Their Mark I shotshell loader, for 12 gauge only, is a simple and highly portable unit that enables you to load shells in the field, on the range, and at the kitchen table. We made up a box of trap and a box of hunting loads with the Mark I and found that, by following the detailed instructions, we could make some fine shells without much effort or trouble. The Mark I has an adjustable wad pressure ring that can be adjusted to 50, 60, and 70 pounds of wad pressure. Price is \$14.95 plus postage.

Rifle shooters are always on the lookout for greater accuracy, and this is especially true of the bench rest clan. Acc-U-Ream now offers flash hole diameter and primer pocket diameter gauges that speedily indicate which hulls can be reloaded and which ones should be put aside for either plinking or should be thrown away. By separating brass according to the diameters of the flash holes and the primers pockets, and then using brass that has identical dimensions, better ignition is assured, and this better and more uniform ignition means a more even rate of powder burning that results in greater accuracy. The Acc-U-Ream gauges will tell you easily and precisely what brass needs culling out. Write to Acc-U-Ream for their folder on this sub-

ject—the gauges are a good investment for the handloader, and we found that we did get better accuracy by sorting the brass according to the directions.

Winchester's New .284

The newest Winchester cartridge, the .284, is based on the .308 Winchester case and ballistically the cartridge is identical to the



venerable .270. Presently, the Model 88 lever-action and the Model 100 autoloader are chambered for the new cartridge, and our first tests were made with the Model 88.

Winchester offers the cartridge in two bullet weights. The 125 grain and the 150 grain Power-Point. The 125 grain load carries a powder load of 50.6 grains of a non-canister powder, while the 150 grain load has a charge of 47.7 grains of powder.

We fitted our Model 88 with Weaver mounts and a 4X Browning scope. Shooting at 100 yards, we fired several test groups at first with three shots, then with five shots. The three shot strings averaged a maximum spread of $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches by $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, while the five shot strings averaged $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches by $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches. We sighted our gun to shoot $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches high at 100 yards, and placed five shots into the target. We then marked the tips of five rounds of the 150 grain loads with bright red lipstick and fired them. It was a pleasant surprise to note that the 125 grain and the 150 grain Power-Point bullets had the same point of impact at 100 yards, a fact that makes it quite feasible to carry both loads in the field and allows you to change ammo during the hunt.

Editorial deadlines precluded extensive testing of handloads, but we did come up with some figures and were able to check them against those sent to us by Fred Huntington of RCBS. With the 130 gr. Speer bullet, 57 grains of 4350 set off by CCI primers gave us an instrumental velocity on the Herter chronograph of 3100 fps at the muzzle. For bolt-action rifles, the velocities and powder loads can be stepped up somewhat, and Fred's data indicate that 59 grains of the same powder drive the Speer bullet at 3320 fps at the muzzle. The 154 grain Hornady bullet with 55 grains of 4350 gave a 2900 fps reading at the muzzle, and the 160 grain Nosler bullet with 55 grains of powder developed 2893 fps on Fred's chronograph. Again, higher velocities are possible with bolt-action rifles than with lever action guns. When the Model 100 reaches us, we shall do some further handloading tests and report on them.

The introduction of the .284 means that the southpaw, or those who prefer a lever-action or a semi-automatic rifle, can have a gun for a cartridge that has excellent ballis-

tics. Here are W-W data based on a 24 inch barrel. With the 125 grain bullet, MV is 3200 fps, MV 100 is 2880, MV 200 is 2590, while MV 300 is still a respectable 2310 fps. For the 150 grain bullet, in the same order, W-W gives the following velocities: 2900, 2630, 2380, and 2160 fps.

Sheridan Pell Gun

Being plagued with some undesirable wildlife around our home, we acquired a Sheridan air rifle, complete with Williams peep sight and a Weaver scope in Sheridan mounts. The Blue Streak rifle is a single-shot, bolt-action gun that fires the 5 mm or 20 caliber Sheridan Bantam pellets. Shooting the gun, first on our indoor range and later on the testing range showed not only excellent accuracy, but also considerable penetration of the little Sheridan slug.

The gun is exceptionally easy to handle, and though a single-shot, reloading the gun for a second shot is done speedily and without fuss. Although the gun was acquired to keep varmints away from our pheasants, we found that it offers a fine way of sharpening up the old shooting eye—we set up an indoor bullet trap and had a shooting match. The Blue Streak easily doubles as a highly accurate target rifle that is inexpensive to shoot and has such a low noise level that our hunting dogs did not set up the usual ruckus that we have come to expect when we use our indoor range. This is a gun that can be enjoyed by the whole family for indoor and outdoor fun and it should make a dandy training gun for youngsters.



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Beckelhymer's
SAN BERNARDO AT HIDALGO
LAREDO, TEXAS

NEW SLUGS FOR NEW ACCURACY

(Continued from page 30)

These aims were finally accomplished to the point where I can say that, if you do not get good results, the fault lies in something other than the slug. It follows that the hunter owes it to himself to select his gun carefully and check it on the range, bearing in mind that there is no more room for compromises and sloppy dimensions here than there is in good rifle shooting.

The selection of the shotgun is the first step to better slug shooting—remember, we'll fit the slug to the barrel. Generally, best results may be expected from an accurately bored single-barrel shotgun—pump, auto-loader, or single shot. This also means concentrically accurate wall thickness.

For the 12 gauge, the best cylinder bore dimensions must be standard, .722" minimum (Browning) to a .730" maximum for most other guns (See Table I).

If you intend to handload the new slug and will be satisfied with bird shot patterns of about 45 per cent at 40 yards with factory ammunition, then an improved cylinder, such as made by Browning, can be the ideal and the simplest choice.

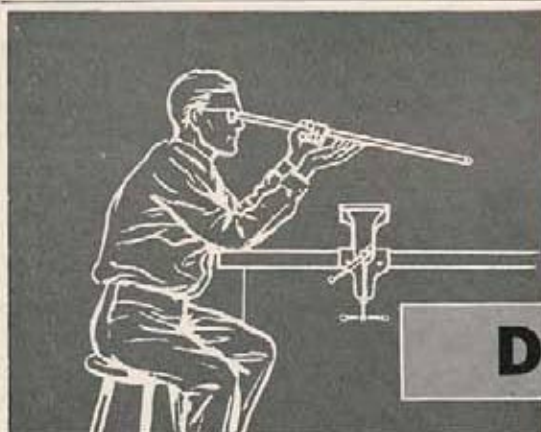
If you'll need several or tighter birdshot patterns, then you should go to a variable choke device. Several pitfalls await the unwary here. First, any such device must be fitted with true precision, exactly concentric and coaxial with the bore of the gun, and should be checked with a micrometer dial indicator. Second, some of the screw-adjustable chokes have a short cone of con-

striction, and may "walk" the slug and the shot impact center all around the bullseye. Third, the ventilated "anti-recoil" terminal sleeves and particularly the intermediate "cages" can spoil slug accuracy, while their "anti-recoil" qualities in field shooting are negligible.

In my opinion, this boils the case down to the reasonably priced Lyman-Choke or its equivalent. The tubes are long enough, 3" and over, to allow well formed choke constrictions, are a true solid continuation of the bore and they can be mounted with true precisions.

If you're using a round ball, specify the Lyman-Choke tube to be of exactly the same diameter as your gun barrel. Use a Lyman single cavity round ball mold to cast .020" smaller than your barrel and load the ball into the paper shell with a bullet patch (you can use Hoppe's 1.75" round flannel patches, which compress to a total of 0.020"). If you care to, lubricate the patch with high melting point grease, such as Lyman bullet grease or Texaco pump grease, using the new folded crimp—it unfolds in shooting with no wedging action of the ball, as happens with the roll crimp.

For the new Vitt slug get two Lyman-Choke tubes: One of true barrel cylinder diameter, and the other with a gradual constriction of up to 0.010", following the Browning profile (see Table I). This tube may well prove to be the ideal two-in-one, slug and shot combination for you. For



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tighter shot patterns, you can buy as many additional tubes as you wish, down to the .695" or Full choke.

After firing thousands of rounds from a variety of U.S. and foreign shotguns, using different loads, and, at the same time constantly improving my slug design, I am positive that my Vitt slug materially contributes to the accuracy of standard bore shotguns. Also important is the fact that the heavier slug shoots into the same area of impact as a factory trap load of shot, at 40-50 yards. At 100 yards, of course, there is no comparison as the shot fades out of the picture. Incidentally, this is the first time that I have ever shot slugs so well at 100 yards.

I was interested in getting optimum performance with shot and slugs with one barrel, and, since good birdshot patterns can be obtained with standard barrels, I started with these. I designed the slug to fit the barrel without bulging and used the standard paper shells to assure easy chambering of the loaded cartridge. This limited 12 ga. cylinder dimensions to .722" to .730". Among the guns tested I was fortunate in having three barrels which measured exactly within these limits: A Browning Buck Special and Improved Cylinder at .722" and a Winchester M97 at .730". The chokes on these barrels (see Table I) did not hurt slug accuracy and helped with shot patterns.

All testing of the Vitt slug was done in 5 shot strings, for group only. No effort was made to zero in on the bullseye. The center-to-center vertical and horizontal dispersion measurements of a few representative groups, and the guns and loads used, are shown below.

Gun & bbl.	Load	Range, yds.	Group
Browning Buck Spl.	33 gr. Herco	50	1 1/4" x 2 1/4"
Browning Buck Spl.	32 gr. Herco	100	2 3/4" x 4"
Winchester M97			
Poly Choke @ .728"	22 gr. Red Dot	40	2" x 2"
Poly Choke @ .731"	24 gr. Unique	40	1" x 2 3/4"
Poly Choke @ .738"	22 gr. Red Dot	40	4" x 2"
Browning, Imp. Cyl.	32 gr. Herco	50	3/4" x 1 1/8"

TABLE I
Bore Dimensions (inches)
Average

Make	Cyl.	Imp. Cyl.	Mod.	Imp. Mod.	Full
Winchester	.730	.723	.714	.705	.700
Remington	.730	.721	.712	.702	.694
Browning	.725	.712	.701	—	.687
*Winchester					
M 97, Poly Choke	.730	.728	.721	.715	.707

BROWNING BARRELS

Measured at indicated distance from muzzle

	5"	4"	3"	2"	1"	Muzzle
*Buck Special	.722	.721	.720	.714	.712	.712
*Imp. Cyl. bbl.	.722	.722	.721	.716	.714	.712

* These measurements taken from author's guns. Poly Choke on M 97 does not go to a full choke, and though precisely mounted, walks groups around target.

TABLE II
12 GAUGE SLUGS AND LOADS

Gauge	Bore Dia.	Slug Brand	Slug Dia.	Weight, Grains	No. of wads	Powder, Grains
12	.730"	W.R.A.	.685"	400	4	34.0 to 35.0
12	.730"	Remington	.685"	400	4	31.5 to 32.5
12	.730"	Brenneke	.730"	420	Integral	38.0 to 38.5
12	.730"	Vitt	.728"	575	Integral	Herco, 32.0

Note: Weights of slugs and powder charges in commercial loads resulted from breaking down 20 cartridges of each brand.

When handloading the new Vitt slug, use any good quality 2 3/4" paper shell. Low base shells are preferred, but the high base Winchester-Western Ranger and Expert have



enough room for up to 34 grains of powder and a nice short roll crimp. Do not use brass shells (I.D. is too large for standard bore) or 3 inch paper shells (no good for 2 3/4" chamber). Use only progressive powders due to the full weight of the slug. I've found that the following powders and charge ranges worked best for me: Unique, 22-24 gr.; Herco, 31-33 gr.; A1-7, 32-34 gr.; A1-5, 31-33 gr., but select your own by experimentation. Uniform accuracy in charge weight is important, allowing no more than 0.3 gr. variation, which some of the shotshell loading machines cannot maintain, but any good powder measure can. When seating the slug, use *no other wads*. Start the slug by hand and complete seating with the loading tool ram with pressures of 50, 90 and 70 lb. respectively for the above powders. Do not use wad guides with spring fingers.

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shells for a break-open gun crimping may be omitted owing to the tight slug fit. Do use a roll crimp for proper functioning in magazine guns. The only roll crimper available seems to be the Lyman, which can be run by a 1/8 or 1/4 h.p. motor. Mount the large pulley directly on the crimping head shaft, and allow for no more than 600 RPM of the crimping head.

Since the new slug is one single loading component, the reloading equipment and labor can be reduced to a minimum. *Under no circumstances use the new Vitt slug as a replacement for the factory loaded rifled slugs or bird shot—it not only can be, but is dangerous because of the difference in the powders used and the weights of lead.*

All of this is not meant to hand you optimum slug shooting performance on a silver platter. Instead, it is presented to show you what can be done to get better results with slugs and, at the same time, lose little or no effectiveness when using shot—all in the same barrel.

If you want an effective two-in-one shotgun, one that will give you slug shooting accuracy and power you've never thought possible, and retain the bird-killing patterns that you want, I'm afraid you're going to have to work for it. Experiment as much as possible—with guns, with loads, and with shooting techniques.

The tables shown here are the results of long and exacting experimentation, and may help to show how much variance there can be between guns, slugs, and results.



DUCKS FOR TEENS

(Continued from page 27)

out whether or not he will like hunting.

I spent a rewarding day at the Wilson Game Management Area, last season, and watched as the eager youngsters listened to every word of Don Kirkpatrick as he filled them in on the rules and procedures for



hunting in this, their own hunting area. After the drawing for blind assignments was held, the hunters and their adult supervisors headed out for the pond.

I watched the prideful fathers as they showed their sons the fine points of laying out a set of decoys, or the proper way to use the duck call to bring in the wary birds.

Later, I watched as the youngsters brought their game into the checking station, some with their limit in only a few hours of shooting. Here, Don Kirkpatrick, or one of his men, records the number and species of game taken and other information which will help the Commission in laying out and operating this and other game areas like it. Presently there are several such junior hunting areas in the planning stage.

What do the boys and girls who hunt on this refuge say? Records of their reactions have been kept for four years, and their feelings can be summed up in three pinpointed statements: "It's great! It's a natural way to learn to hunt. More areas just like it should be opened to teenage hunters."



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THE WINCHESTER THE RUSSIANS WANTED—AND GOT

(Continued from page 35)

Barrel: 28" round, nickel steel; Weight: (without bayonet or sling) 8 lbs. 9 oz., (with bayonet and sling) 9 lbs. 12 oz.; Magazine capacity: 5 rounds. The musket has a finger groove forearm which extends to within about 2" of the muzzle. The upper hand-guard covers only the rear half of the barrel and extends forward to the first barrel band. The musket, introduced in 1898, was discontinued in 1924. The so-called Navy type bayonet, has an 8 1/4" blade and weighs 11 oz. The musket sold, in 1905, for \$32.00, bayonet and scabbard for \$6.00.

Musket NRA Type: .30-40 Krag, and .30-06; Barrel: 30" round, nickel steel, with 1901 Krag rear sight. Cost in 1905 was \$32.50. Other details are the same as for the military musket. This musket was accepted by the N.R.A. as conforming to regulations governing their military arms contracts.

Carbine: In .30-40 Krag, .303 British, .30-03, and .30-06. Barrel: 22" round, nickel steel. Weight: 8 lbs. Magazine capacity: 5 rounds. Stock: handguard over finger groove forearm. This is the famous Model 95 saddle ring carbine. The carbine cost \$30.00 in 1905, \$43.00 in 1934. The carbine was available in solid frame only.

Sporting Rifle, Short Magazine Model: .30-03, .30-06, .35 WCF, and .405 Win. Bar-

rel: 24" round, nickel steel; weight: 8 lbs. musket, military carbine, NRA musket, and a sporting rifle with reduced magazine capacity and shorter barrel. The specifications for these variations are as follows:

Sporting Rifle: In .30-40 Krag, .303 British, .35 WCF, .405 WCF, .30-03, and .30-06. Barrel: 28" round, nickel steel. Weight: 8 lbs. 4 oz. Magazine capacity: 5 rounds. Stock: walnut with steel butt plate.

Introduced in 1896 and advertised through 1934, it was, at one time, Winchester's most expensive rifle, selling for \$30.00 in 1905 and \$43.00 in 1934. A take-down version was available. Calibers .38-72 and .40-72 were also available, and these rifles had 26" barrels, either octagon (8 lbs. 4 oz.) or round (7 lbs. 8 oz.). Purchasers of guns in these two calibers were asked to specify sights for black or smokeless powder loads. The 1905 price was \$21.00 for the round barrel model and \$25.00 for the semi or full octagon barrel version.

The regular sporting rifle, equipped with a "Fancy Walnut Checked Stock and Forearm," cost \$10.00 more than the standard grade rifle. The Fancy Grade, regularly furnished with a rifle type curved butt plate, was also available with a flat shotgun type butt plate of either hard rubber or steel at no extra charge.

Musket: In .30-40 Krag, .30-03, and .30-06;

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rel: 24" round, nickel steel; Weight: 8 lbs. 8 oz.; Magazine capacity: 4 rounds. Introduced in 1903, and discontinued in 1934. Solid frame models cost \$30.00 in 1905 and \$43.00 in 1934, the take-down model cost an extra \$3.35 in 1934.

Russian Musket: In 7.62 mm Russian only. Identical to standard musket except for a Mauser type cartridge charger or clip guide to facilitate loading under combat conditions. Made in 1915 and 1916 for the Imperial Russian Government. The rear swivel on the Russian musket is in the usual position near the toe of the buttstock but standard muskets have it just forward at the magazine. The bayonet is similar to the 17 inch Model 1917 Enfield bayonet.

Model 95 extras include: In calibers .38-72 and .40-72, barrels up to 36" at \$1.00 per inch. Nickel steel barrels were not usually available in other than standard lengths. The 30" barrel on the NRA musket was maximum. Checkered forearms and buttstocks in either plain or fancy walnut were available, and Model 95, was also furnished with full nickel plating or with nickel, silver, or gold plated trimmings.


The start of the Spanish American War found our troops equipped with a medley of long arms. Regular troops were equipped with various models of the .30-40 Krag-Jorgenson rifle, the infantry had muskets, and the cavalry carbines; state militia units were variously equipped with 1873 Springfield rifles and carbines. Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders was largely equipped, through TR's influence (he was Assistant Secretary of Navy at the time war was declared) with Krag carbines. However, some of the men, mostly Westerners who were reared on lever actions, carried their own personal Model 95 carbines. Teddy Roosevelt is said to have carried a Model 95 carbine which he later gave to one of his men (Bob Wrenn) who carried it home after the war ended.

Col. Addis, is reported to have convinced Secretary of War Russel A. Alger that the Army should adopt the Model 95 in .30-40 Krag as a Substitute Standard. Alger agreed and ordered 10,000. A note in an old Bannerman catalog indicates that the rifles were not delivered until September 1899. One hundred were shipped to San Francisco for shipment to the Philippines, but adverse reports from Manila caused them to be shipped back to the States, for eventual sale. The remaining 9,900 were purchased by Marcellus Hartley who sold them to Cuba.

Some firearms writers, including the late Captain Philip B. Sharpe, believe that the Navy purchased 10,000 Model 1895's. A search of Winchester's records and Navy files revealed no mention about a Navy purchase of even one Model 95. It appears likely that writers confused the Winchester Model 1895 with the U.S. Navy Rifle, Model 1895, manufactured by Winchester, but designed by James Paris Lee. This rifle, also known as the Lee Straight Pull Rifle, caliber 6 mm (.236 Lee Navy), was a bolt action weapon.

There is only one other reported and known purchase of the Model 95 for use by the military. Late in 1914 the Russians contacted the Baldwin Locomotive Works, who contacted Winchester. On Nov. 4, 1914, Winchester negotiated a contract for 100,000

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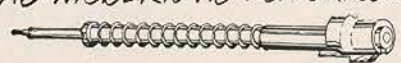
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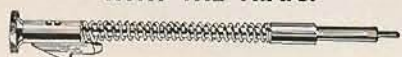
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Model 95 rifles chambered for the 7.62 Russian cartridge. The contract called for a final delivery date on Nov. 14, 1915, and a price of \$22.90 for the first 26,000 and \$23.40 for the balance.

The contract pleased the Winchester executives who had recently ordered production of the Model 95 halted because of declining sales. From its introduction in 1896 to 1914, some 67,000 Model 95's had been sold.

The contract was fulfilled on November 15, 1915, only two weeks after the original contract delivery date. But in the meantime the British, through the House of J. P. Morgan & Co., acting for the Russians, negotiated a new contract with Winchester for an additional 200,000 Model 95 rifles. The

contract price per rifle was \$27.15, and the final delivery date set at Dec. 31, 1916. This contract was completed on schedule. Presumably, this would mean that 300,000 rifles were delivered to Russia, but Winchester records show a total of only 293,816 were shipped. This discrepancy may lie in the meanings of "delivered," "shipped," and "accepted."

On May 17, 1915, Winchester and J. P. Morgan representatives signed a contract calling for the delivery of 300 million rounds of 7.62 ammunition to Russia by Dec. 31, 1916. The price to be \$36.50 per thousand, or a total contract price of \$10,950,000. By September 1916, only 10 per cent of the contract had been delivered, and the British

(Continued on page 62)

(Continued from page 60)

government, as agents for the Czar, ordered production to cease on Dec. 31, 1916, regardless of the number delivered. Winchester, however, secured an extension to May 1, 1917, at which time they had delivered 174 million rounds.

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The Model 95, though used more widely in military service than any other lever-action rifle, achieved its reputation in the hands of famed big game hunters.

It was Teddy Roosevelt's 1909 African safari which popularized the .405 caliber Model 1895 Winchester. No safari before or after ever had as much publicity. Roosevelt took three Model 95's, two .405's, and one .30-06. Both the safari and the weapons were widely publicized in sporting magazines, in TR's best seller "African Game Trails" and in a series of articles in "Scribner's Magazine." Teddy referred to his .405 as "my big medicine gun for lion."

Though Roosevelt preferred the smoother action of his .45-70 Model 1886, he took the .405's at the recommendation of Winchester President T. G. Bennet, and in a letter to Bennet, dated August 10, 1908, said "a friend of mine, young Forbes of Boston" had used the .405 for lions and rhino, but had the rifle jam on two occasions. TR wanted assurance that the .405 would not jam and Bennet apparently assured him that the gun, if properly handled, would not jam.

Charley Cottar, who preferred Africa to Oklahoma and was killed by a charging rhino when he was over 70, used a .405 on elephant, buffalo, and rhino. American Ben Burbridge, who made four long safaris to Africa, used a .30-40 Model 95 "for plains stuff." Novelist Stewart Edward White used a .405 in Africa where he killed 14 lions with 33 shots of which only 4 missed their mark. This is not an impressive record, but White was an amateur hunter who used a

.30-40 Model 95 for big game hunting in the States.

Winchester ceased manufacture of caliber .30-06 rifles in the early 1920's, after many reports of Model 95's blowing up while firing service ammo. Research indicated that the rifles had been damaged when uninformed users had fired the German 8 mm service cartridge in the rifle!

How does the Model 95 stack up for today's hunting? There are thousands of hunters using .30-40, .30-06, and .303 British calibers, and if you're partial to lever action rifles, there's no reason to pass up the 95. In these calibers ammunition is no problem, and some dealers may still have stocks of 7.62 Russian sporting rounds. Ammunition for the .30-03, .35 WCF and .405's is difficult to find. Rifles of these three calibers can be rebarreled to .30-40, or the .30-03 barrel can be set back and rechambered to .30-40.

Owners of rifles in the hard-to-get calibers can, if they locate an initial supply of cases, reload these cases, and get a dozen or so firings from each case. It should be remembered, however, that the tolerances in the chamber of the 95 are much greater than those of a bolt action rifle. This means that the cases may have to be full length re-sized after each firing, and this shortens case life.

Rifleman aware of a rifle's limitations will find that the Model 95 Winchester can provide them with many years of reliable service, and should think twice before relegating this old veteran to the classification of an antique. It was—and still is—a grand sporting rifle.

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(Continued from page 8)

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(Continued on page 66)

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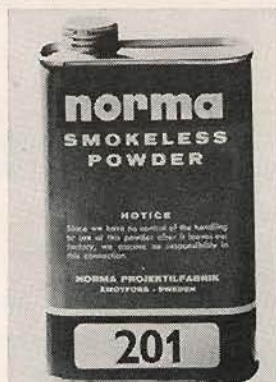
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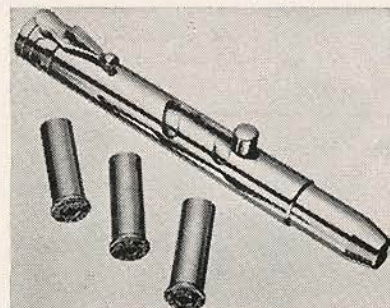


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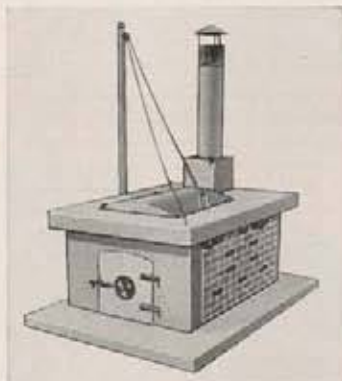


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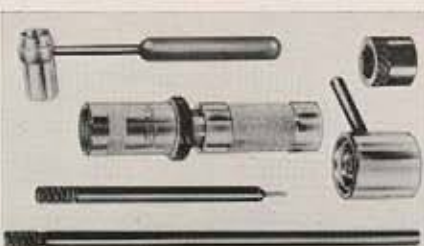


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(Continued from page 63)

cartridge quite a lot. Mace likes the heavy 160 grain Hornady bullet backed with 41.5 gr. 4350 and CCI Magnum primers, in Norma cases. He gets 2218 fps at low pressure, and says it's adequate for most game the rifles should be used for, with bullets well placed. I agree. But for medium game I prefer the 2600 fps of a 140 grain Speer backed with 50.0 gr. Hodgdon's 4831 and the same primers. I like the Swedish Mausers better than the Norwegian Krag. Norma's factory 139 gr. bullet is loaded about flat out at 2789 fps.

To crimp or not to crimp is the question on .30-30 shells. Some die makers do not think it's necessary, and their seater dies won't crimp. C-H and RCBS, and some others, consider the crimp very desirable with cannellured bullets for use in tubular magazines, and you can use their seaters to crimp or not, as desired. The factory crimps .30-30 cases heavily in cannellures to insure perfect functioning in lever action rifles. I recommend it for reloads.

Case wall thickness varies enough that sometimes dies made to close specs won't size enough to hold bullets friction tight. Sometimes they work by sizing cases without expanding necks. Best deal is to crimp for all hunting ammo. It's satisfactory in bolt action pieces. But these give a bit better accuracy with uncrimped cases and uncannellured pointed bullets. Some chaps forget that pointed bullets can be dangerous in tubular magazines. Recoil inertia could fire an entire magazine of cartridges. In a .30-30 the flat or round nose bullets made for .30-30 velocity are much more efficient on game. The pointed pills expand too slowly.

Speer's cannellured flat nose 150 gr. pill for the .30-30 works well in all these guns with their loads at close to 2400 fps. They are extremely deadly on deer when souped up in larger cases, with moderate charges. In a .308 Win. use 39.0 gr. HiVel No. 2; in a .30-40 Krag try 48.0 gr. 4350; and a .30-06 is good with 43.0 gr. 3031 or 42.0 gr. HiVel No. 2. Driving these fast-expanding bullets at close to 300 fps higher velocity makes great, gaping holes in game. If you load much hotter than I've listed, accuracy suffers. Loads are good for deer beyond .30-30 range with mild recoil and pressure, yet they do more damage than some full charge .30-06 loads. Your wife or youngster can handle them easily and loads can be reduced a couple of grains if desired. Use CCI Magnum primers.

I haven't checked these loads for pressure or velocity, but did test for expansion, which is excellent even with 2.0 grains less powder. If you need such loads, work down, or per-

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haps up a bit for best accuracy in your rifle. A friend bagged two deer with these pills in a .300 Savage, using the specified primers to kick off 43.0 gr. 4320. The wound channels showed fast, progressive expansion with more tissue destruction than a .30-30 could make.

You may make good hits and lose fine animals with Hi-V and poor bullet expansion. I remember the gent who switched from a .30-06 to a .300 H & H for longer range on Colorado deer. He punched 4 clean holes completely through the body of a buck with heavy bullets in factory loads. The bullets were designed for deep penetration on larger game. Next season, reloads with faster expanding custom bullets dropped big Colorado bucks 'way across the canyons. Many deer hunters use bullets that are too heavy.

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(Continued on page 69)

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(Continued from page 67)

or hollow) are sold by many dealers, and weigh 20 per cent more than some makes. Or order direct from The Bullet Pouch, Box 4285G, Long Beach 4, Calif., at 60c each plus 5c postage, or 12 sticks \$6.80 postpaid. Each is good for about 600 bullets, depending on the caliber and grooves, making the cost of quality lube nearly nothing. You'll want an adequate supply for lube and flux.

Tod-O Mfg. Co., Box 264G, Thousand Oaks, Calif., make a new "Pistolite" replaceable cylinder for all center-fire single-action revolvers, at \$7.95 pp or from dealers. The plastic cylinder, that looks real, encloses a lens, bulb and batteries. Fire and the "Spot-O-Lite" hits where a bullet would. The bright spot is about 1½" in diameter at 15 feet, and good to 30 feet. Use it for silent indoor practice on fast draw or hip shooting. It's a bright idea, with no pun intended. My sample in a .357 Magnum Colt was a lot of fun.

Fitz Grips in target types are well designed and justly famous. To boost your scores pronto, install the new Fitz Accu-Riser Grips at only \$9.95 for most fine target pistols. They are one of the few low priced items that are fine quality. The panel adjusts to custom fit your hand, either right or left. The gun holds like you were born with it attached to your arm. I can gain about 5 points over factory stocks with my S & W .38 Master, M52! Fitz revolver target grips are well designed for targets or hunting. The "Gunfighter" makes a Chiefs Special hold like a target gun, and accuracy nearly equals target guns.

The Fitz Amm-O-Cone is the best designed powder funnel I've ever used. It takes all calibers, even sharp shouldered cases, without spilling powder. You don't have to hunt for the transparent fluorescent red funnel, or clever Fitz Flipper, that speeds reloading and permits fast primer inspection with the naked eye or a magnifying glass. The Flipper works like cut-edge dice on an Army blanket, except it costs you less to learn. Fitz, Box 49702G, Los Angeles 49, Calif., have free circulars.

"High" primers (those not fully seated) make poor reloads. Ignition is poor with some makes. They may prevent revolver cylinders from turning, or cause rifles to discharge when the bolt is closed. CCI's are not critical in seating depth, but all makes should be seated .003 to .008 below the case head face, depending on the make. If a cartridge wobbles when placed on a surface plate or sheet of glass, the primer is extremely "high." Chamber one in a rifle and the firing pin hole will be imprinted on the primer.

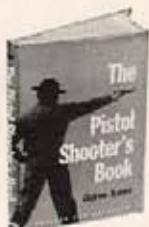
Zenith's \$6.95 Primer Mike, from R 1, Box 275G, Del Mar, Calif., checks primer seating high or low in thousandths. Made for .45 and .30-06 size case heads, it's slower to use with smaller cases. I made press fit ring inserts to fit several smaller cases in my mikes. Zenith is welcome to use the idea if they care to. If they have enough requests they will supply the mike in various sizes, or an adjustable type. Let them know if you want one, and tell 'em you'd like their Site-Lite made available to hobby shooters and civilians. It's a neat \$6.95 flashlight that zeros the spot with revolver sights when the gun is placed in battery. Your bullet hits where the spot hits, eliminating aiming. It's fine for varmints and home defense at night.

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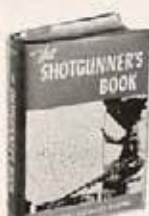
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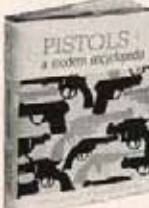
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QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

(Continued from page 4)

mory Ct. U.S.A. It has octagon steel barrel, steel hammer and trigger. The rest of it is brass. Has wooden grips with jewel in the center. The serial number is 3737. The pistol is also in excellent condition.

Glen F. Lambert
Apalachicola, Fla.

The revolver in the photographs is a Merwin & Hulbert Army revolver model of 1876. The U.S. Army tested this revolver in 1876 and rejected it as unfit for service use. The revolvers were made by the Hopkins & Allen Manufacturing Co. of Norwich, Conn. Commercial sales of the revolver were moderate, and the outfit discontinued manufacture. They are not rare and are not commonly sought by most collectors. In good condition, such a specimen is worth about \$40.

From your description, I cannot accurately determine which S. & W. model you have, but usually these revolvers are of very nominal value. The piece was probably made in the 1880's.

A Whitneyville .32 rimfire revolver in excellent condition is worth about \$35. It was made in the 1870's. Whitneyville armory was bought out by Winchester early in 1888.—G.B.

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Recently I gained possession of an Iver Johnson revolver, five shot, .38 caliber, with 2½" barrel. The last patent date on the top of the barrel is "Dec. 26, 98." Followed by "Pats Pending." The frame butt is stamped 45 938.

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Without the serial number, would this arm be rather unique, and could you estimate its value? Unfortunately, I do not know what model it is.

Jack R. Kratt
Chicago, Illinois

I'm sure your Iver Johnson .38 revolver is only worth what it should be as a useable revolver—and that is not much.

Not all I.J. revolvers had the serial number stamped on the inside of the frame. Anyway, why is the "45938" not the serial number?

Such inexpensive arms are available from \$5 to about \$15. The higher priced ones should be in top condition.—C.B.

FAKE SMITH & WESSON

(Continued from page 31)

to my question, "What have we here?" he implied that I had found something with a "crazy" price tag which was going to be changed immediately if I didn't buy it.

Having bought it, I showed it to some of the prominent dealers and dealer-collectors at the show, and, through correspondence, other S&W experts have had a chance to comment. No. 13 stops them all, including me. Possibly it is one of a baker's dozen that was never made commercially but was merely intended for promotional purposes. Finally we come to the question: Where are the other twelve?

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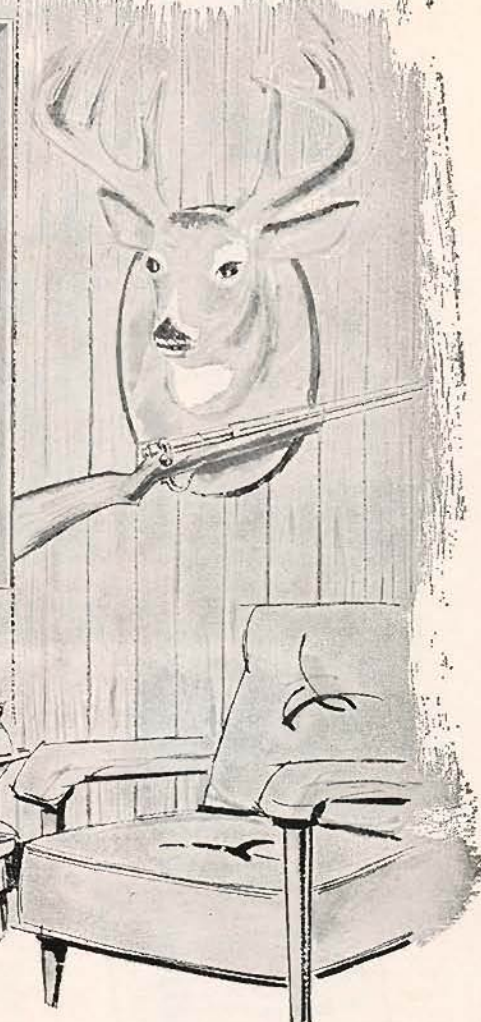
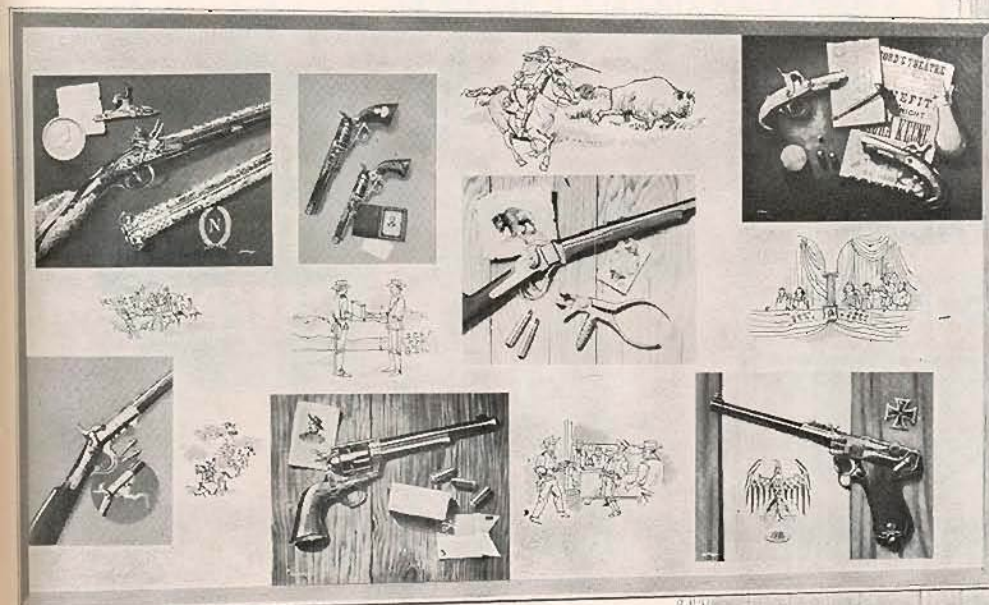
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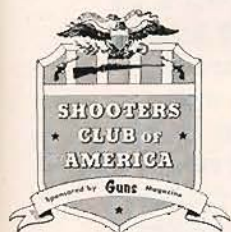
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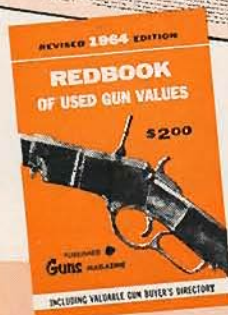
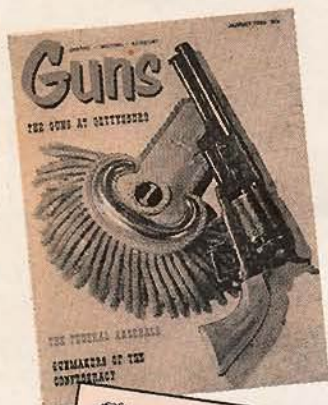
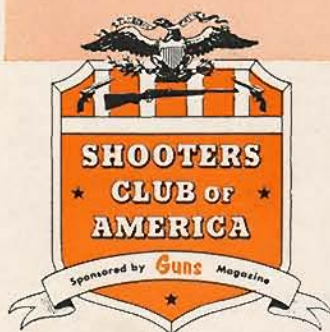


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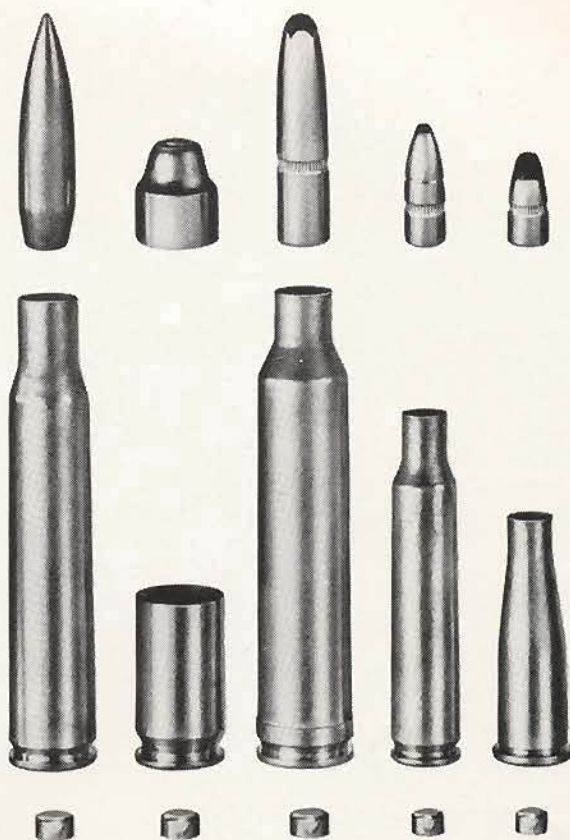
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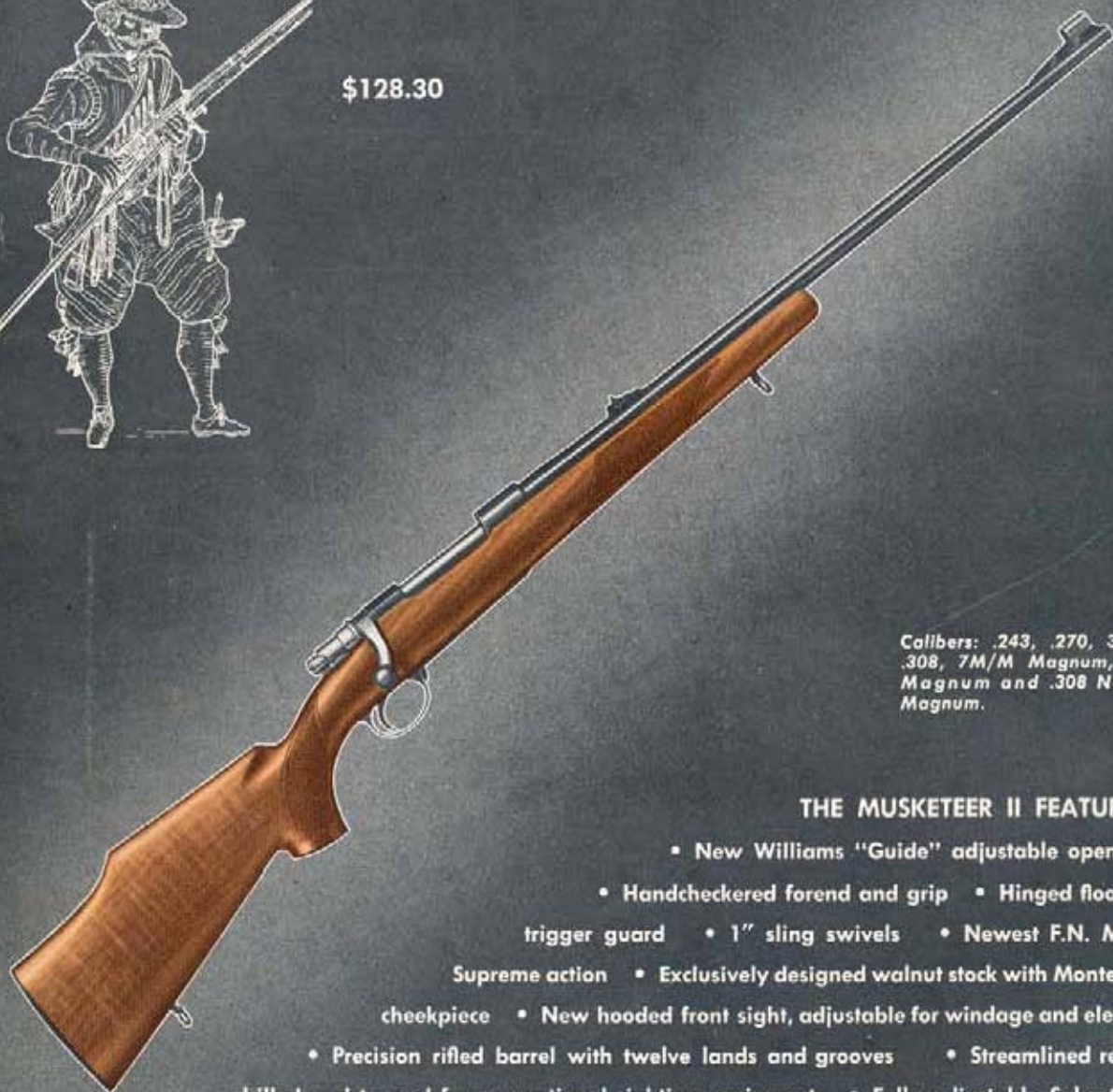
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- Precision rifled barrel with twelve lands and grooves
- Streamlined receiver drilled and tapped for conventional sighting equipment
- Fully adjustable Sako trigger with silent sliding thumb safety.

SPECIFICATIONS

BARREL LENGTH	OVERALL LENGTH	MAGAZINE CAPACITY	APPROX. WEIGHT
24"	44½"	4 STANDARD 3 MAGNUM	7½ LBS.



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