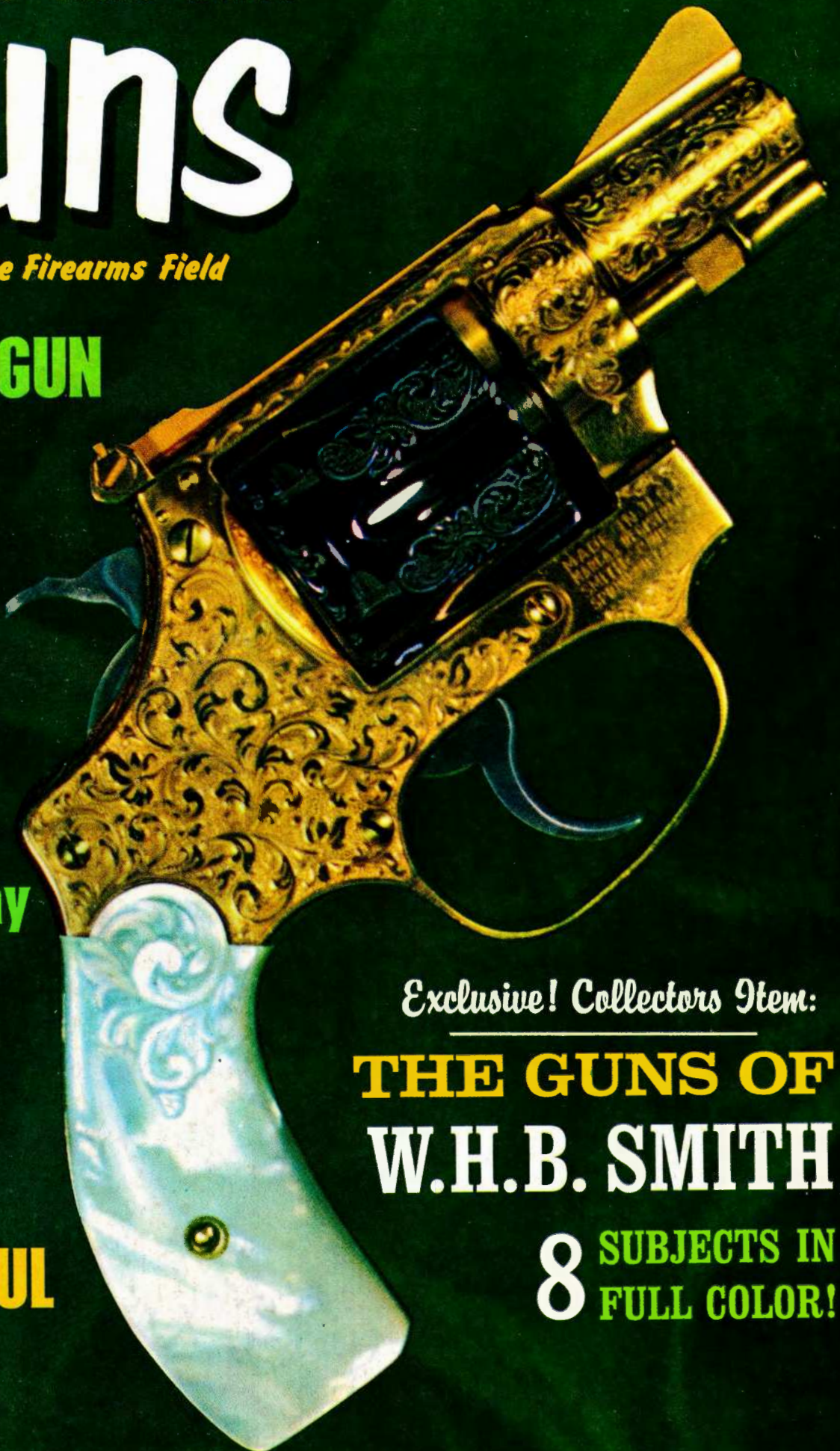


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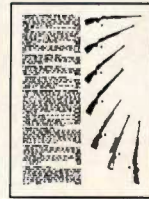
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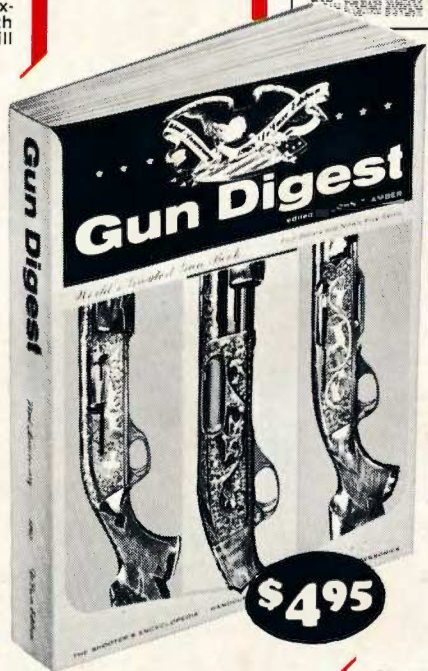


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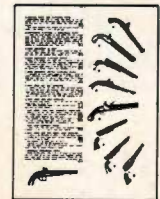
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# TRIGGER TALK

**T**HIS IS THE biggest issue of GUNS Magazine ever published, and in accord with reader demand, we have added four more pages of full color. And, this is not a one-shot deal; each issue of GUNS will be this big—or bigger—and will have at least eight full color pages.

The articles in this issue speak for themselves, and it would be foolish for me to try to sell each and every one of them to you. However, they do hold some indication of what is coming up in future issues, and thus deserve some comment.

When our Shooting Editor, Charles Askins, made his trip to visit the manufacturers, he saw, discussed, and made notes on some of the future gun developments which will be coming out before too long. This trip gave him a chance to consider developments before he actually received samples for testing, and a chance to prepare for the types of tests required by the new firearms.

In this issue we kick off the series on W.H.B. Smith. The story of Smith gives background to what is coming up in future issues. First, we will have a look at several W.H.B. Smith handgun designs, and this will be followed by a description of rifle and shotgun developments. None of this material would have been available without the cooperation of many people: Rex Applegate, Joel Gross, Henry J. Fox, and others. To them, we are extremely grateful.

Al Heiss, who wrote the article on the .38-45 conversion (page 20), was slighted in our August issue, and for that we must apologize. It was Al Heiss who provided the handsome photograph of the Luger pistol which appeared on page 39, and for this magnificent effort, we must give credit to him.

While we're on the subject of credits and photographs, the cover photo on the July issue (the engraved Paterson Colt) was credited as having been taken by R. L. Wilson. Actually, the gun and document were selected and arranged by R. L. Wilson, and the photography was done by E. Irving Blomstrann. Blomstrann's works have appeared in GUNS before, and each has been striking and technically perfect. Our apologies to Mr. Blomstrann, and our hope that we will be seeing more of his work, soon.

After our first visit to a national muzzle loading match, (see report on page 48) we found ourselves captivated by black powder smokepoles. And, you'll be seeing more on this exciting shooting spot in upcoming issues.

## THE COVER

The Smith & Wesson Chief Special on this month's cover is only one of many guns from the W.H.B. Smith collection—now disbanded—that were photographed by Joel Gross as he worked with W.H.B. Smith. Other engraved guns from the Smith collection will be found on pages 41 and 42, as part of the article on W.H.B. Smith by E. B. Mann.

SEPTEMBER, 1967

Vol. XIII, No. 9-153

George E. von Rosen  
Publisher

Arthur S. Arkush  
Ass't to the Publisher

# Guns

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

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# CROSSFIRE

## We Get Letters . . . Pro

After reading your letter to Mr. Jerome Rakusan, Editor of GUNS Magazine, in the July, 1967, issue, I was delighted. For several years I have taken much the same view as your letter expressed on the problem of firearm legislation, only to be called about every name in the book for my "un-American" stand.

While I don't necessarily agree with your proposal to license shooters, I think you are on the right track and your points (a) through (e) hit the nail right on the head. Like you I depend on guns and the shooting industry in making my living, and I want it to be around for a long time to come, not die a violent death in a do or die situation. Not long ago the phrase "I would rather be dead than Red," was popular . . . well I don't want to be either dead or Red. I think it takes sensible people to understand and try to work out a solution. I think you for your help, and the courage in writing your letter to Mr. Rakusan.

Sam Barington  
Minn., Minn.

## . . . And Con

I wish to answer the letter on page 21 by Mr. Fritz (July) as follows:

Mr. Dwain E. Fritz of Avtron is a well informed shooter who is living under a delusion. The delusion is that if a so-called reasonable gun law is passed, this will be the end of the anti-gun clamor.

The reason for the anti-gun clamor is basi-

cally the rising crime rate. Experts have agreed that gun laws or no, the crime rate will still rise. When and if, so-called gun laws are passed, and the crime rate is unaffected, a new clamor for more, stronger, and more prohibitive laws will come forth.

I too once felt that perhaps a compromise bill might be the answer. After seeing the effect of the Philadelphia and New Jersey laws, I now no longer feel this way. Since gun laws will only be obeyed by the law abiding shooters, just what good will it do? Obviously no good. Why should we law abiding shooters and hunters be placed under restrictions of any sort?

The United States was founded on the premise that the rights of the individual were foremost in importance. The ill conceived idea that a shooters license would be mandatory, reminds me of New York's Sullivan law. Originally it was to permit only registration of handguns, and it has resulted in the practical elimination of private ownership of pistols. The anti-gun factions will leap with joy at Mr. Fritz's words, and I for one loath them. To hear a so-called member of the shooting community spout forth thus is sickening.

The 15 year old who shoots a man and the 4 year old who shoots his brother, as quoted by Mr. Fritz, will still do the same, laws or no laws. Whether the gun used is registered or not will be no conciliation to anyone.

I find his sub columns (a) through (e) too silly to even comment about, other than to say that if Mr. Fritz feels that the Communist argument is silly, let him visit a Communist country and see how many citizens own guns of any sort. I frankly feel that we shooters have enough enemies in the other

camp, without having to find enemies in our own.

I would rather all shooters and hunters in America, 50 million strong, band together and tell Big Brother, that we want our guns, and intend to keep them, regardless of Bobby Kennedy and Emanuel Celler, and now Dwain E. Fritz.

Steve Miller  
New York City, New York

I have just completed reading your fine magazine, which is always a refreshing interlude each month. I have been a faithful reader since I was 13 which was long before I purchased my first gun. Your magazine has been of great influence on me and on my wholesome fervor for the collection of fine arms and their use.

This, however, is not the purpose of my communication. I am completely taken aback by the letter submitted by Mr. Dwain Fritz of the Avtron Manufacturing Co. I am sorry it appeared in such a fine magazine although that perhaps its printing was in fact a necessity.

I have two hobbies: The first is collecting German military arms of WW II; the second is collecting German military relics, such as uniforms, daggers, decorations, publications, etc. I often get leads on where to purchase quality items for my hobby through gun magazines. Mr. Fritz seems to think that anyone who mixes his guns with Nazi relics must be a maniac from the "far right." This is not so. I collect these items as historical relics and feel it a worthy and rewarding pursuit. No one who has seen my collection has ever expressed opposition to the fact that firearms are also in evidence. No one seems to think me a potential George Lincoln Rockwell either. As a matter of fact, I receive compliments on my efforts to preserve historical items and not abuse. Not long ago an east coast TV station did an anti-gun editorial on a late show. They were sure to show plenty of Nazi armbands and American Nazi rallies along with the guns. This is harmful propaganda to legitimate collectors of both hobbies. It hit people like me both barrels and so did Mr. Fritz' letter.

Thank you for your efforts to print the finest firearms magazine available.

Edward D. Bennett  
Clifton, New Jersey

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I read with interest the letter by Dwain E. Fritz in the July issue of GUNS. I do not share his willingness to give up my rights because some hoodlum has abused HIS rights.

Now, if licensing should be required I will, of course, make an effort to secure one so that I might continue to own and use my guns without breaking the law. But if the license is denied me, you needn't think that I will rush down to the nearest police station to turn in my guns, or that I will dispose of them, law or no law.

We are all familiar with the Second Amendment to the Constitution, which is one of the first ten amendments collectively known as the Bill of Rights. This states that ". . . the right of the citizen to own and bear rights shall not be infringed." This is in

(Continued on page 17)

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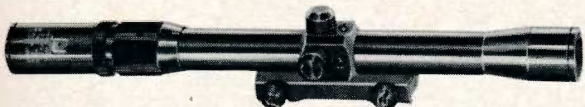
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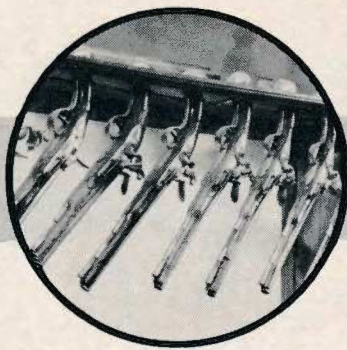
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# GUN RACK

## Lyman Reloading Handbook

The 44th edition of the Lyman Gun Sight manual is out. This looks to me like the best of these reference tests ever to be whumped up. It took upwards of 22 months of sweat, blood and tears by a sizable technical staff to put it together. Jim Sheridan, Ed Matunas, Charley Norton, and the inimitable Lysle Kilbourn are the authors.

As some indication of the effort which has gone into this very latest Lyman tome is the fact that this team chronographed and pressure-tested more than 5,300 rifle loads alone. It necessitated 150 rifles and some 60,000 rounds of firing! There is, as well, a big handgun and shotshell section: Certainly a monumental effort.

An appreciated approach in this 44th revival is the practice of the Lyman ballisticians to give all the data on the cartridge as to its dimensions. Then, too, the rifle by make, model, and barrel length is indicated, when figures are quoted as to accuracy and velocity. These data are based on average sporting models and unlike the practice of the arms factories to quote figures from a precision made 26" heavy barrel with exceedingly tight chamber, are much more likely to be exactly like the results you will get from your own rifle.

By the use of blue shading in the tables the max loads are indicated. There is an indication under every caliber of the handload which most nearly delivers factory ballistics; and also the most accurate loadings as discovered by the Lyman team. The two don't necessarily always coincide!

The 44th edition is larger than all those books that were its forerunners. It is more readable if for no other reason than it is larger in format. For quick reference it is color coded and finger-tabbed.

There is the usual section on how to be a reloader. There is a whole series of excellent line drawings which depict the step-by-step procedure.—Col. Charles Askins.

## Tikka Shotgun/Rifle

The Finns fought the Rusksies during the winter of 1939-40. It was a hard campaign and the Soviets found the Finnish soldiery were a hardcase lot. One of the most effective choppers used by the Finns was a 9 mm tommy gun. It was called the Suomi and was

regularly equipped with a huge drum-type magazine. Some magazines held 50 cartridges; others could be crammed with a hundred rounds. The outfit that used to make the Suomi, the Tikkakoski Company, is now making a new gun. This time it is a sporting number and not intended for war.

The firearm is a rifle/shotgun combo. It is called the Tikka and is imported by the Sullivan Arms Corp. of Indianapolis. It sells for \$234.50.

The Tikka I have been shooting has a 12 gauge over-barrel that is 26 inches in length. It is bored full choke. The choke measures .694 which is extra tight. It shoots good 68 percent to 76 percent patterns at 40 yards. The under barrel is chambered for the .222 Remington. The barrel is 24-13/32" in length with a compensator. The comp. is 1-19/32" in length. The two barrels are ventilated and joined at the muzzle with a common yoke. I shot the .222 barrel at 50 meters using the open sights: 5 groups of 10 shots each averaged .92 inch. The receiver is grooved for a tip-on scope mount and with a scope attached would shrink the groups. However this gun is also a scattergun and with the rifle scope in place it would not be very handy as a shotgun. I don't believe in glass



sights on these rifle-scattergun types.

The Tikka weighs 8 pounds. It has a good fitting stock with a sort of abbreviated cheekpiece and a Monte Carlo. There is a pistol grip. The forestock has skip-checkering as does the pistol grip. There is a change button on the left side of the receiver so you can switch from one barrel to the other. There is an outside hammer. The trigger pull is first class. All the metal parts show a high order of bluing which is quite appealing. The fit at the barrel joint and such things as the extractors show a high order of workmanship.

All my shooting of the scattergun/rifle, a total of 40 patterns from the 12 gauge barrel  
(Continued on page 66)

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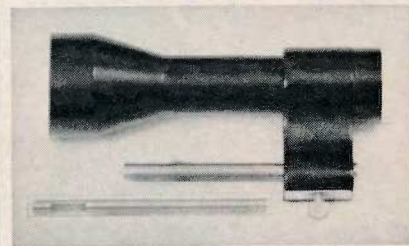


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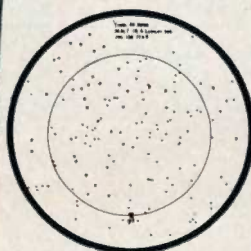
12 ga. Shotgun

.222 Remington Rifle



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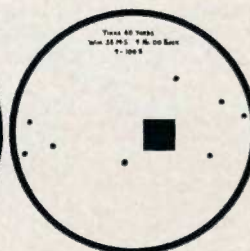
SHOT

.77.4% pattern with 4's at 40 yards



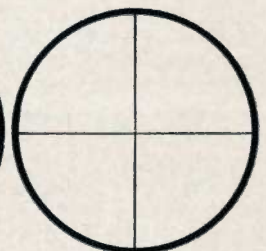
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## HANDLOADING BENCH

By DAVE WOLFE

Editor and Publisher of  
The HANDLOADER Magazine

IT WOULD SEEM today that the 9 mm Parabellum (Luger) pistol cartridge has almost eclipsed the .45 ACP insofar as casual shooting activity is concerned. Several factors have contributed to this, primarily the continued availability of good military surplus 9 mm pistols, and the ever-increasing cost and scarcity of good .45 ACP military ammunition—coupled with an apparently endless supply of good-quality, low-priced 9 mm military ammunition. The inflated price of military .45 autos—up to \$85 or \$90—has also played a part.

There is enough boxer-primed surplus 9 mm ammo on the market that the boys who originally buy pistols intending just to shoot the military stuff because it's cheap, eventually wind up saving those empties—to either reload them themselves, or pass them on to someone who does. Interest in a good, jacketed, soft point Luger bullet grew from this.

And so, it was only a natural development when both Speer and Norma introduced new soft-point bullets for the 9 mm Luger cartridge. The latter is supplying a 116-grain soft point and a 112-grain hollow point, while the former is limiting its output to a 125-grain soft point. Both makes are a nominal .355" diameter, correct for all 9 mm Parabellum barrels.

Though we had a few samples of these bullets some time ago, not until April were they available in sufficient quantity to give them a good wringing-out on the range. Having now sent several hundred down-range, we can tell you what they do, and what it takes to make them do it.

All three bullets were checked for proper feeding and functioning ahead of 6.0 grains of Hercules Unique powder, loaded into new Norma cases primed with Sullivan Arms Corporation's "SACMAG" small pistol primer. Both the Norma and the Speer soft point functioned perfectly in the following guns: S & W M-39, FN/Browning H.P., Star Model B, Walther P-38 and Astra M-600. The Norma hollow point produced occasional failures to feed, the mouth of the large nose-cavity hanging up on the feed ramp. This malfunction occurred more often when magazines were fully charged than when loaded to less than full capacity.

When assessing the knock-down capability of these three bullets, the Speer wins hands down. Driven at the 1175 fps, which the above load produced in the 4" S&W, they consistently expanded to slightly over 1/2" diameter when fired from 20 feet into clean, dry sand. The thin jackets peeled back uniformly, and only occasionally separated from the core. The Norma soft point, traveling at approximately the same velocity, expanded

less uniformly and to only about 7/16" diameter. The Norma hollow point only expanded occasionally, and then not very much. Most recovered hollow points showed some deformation of the hollow point, but no real useful expansion. It appears from this that the Norma bullets have jackets just a bit too thick for best performance at reasonable 9 mm Parabellum velocities.

So then we decided to work up a few more loads with the Speer soft point, using the S&W M-39 and the Browning H.P. Checking a few references, we found that factory loads produce approximately 33,000 psi chamber pressure, and it seemed a good idea not to exceed this for general use—particularly in the Luger pistol with its springy, toggle-link action. Interpolating a bit from pressure test results available, the following loads were developed and it is estimated with reasonable accuracy that they will not exceed factory pressures. All loads were assembled with the Speer bullet, new Remington cases, and SACMAG primers.

- Load 1 3.5 grains Bull'seye—910 fps—4" barrel.
- Load 2 4.0 grains Bull'seye—1,010 fps—4" barrel.
- Load 3 4.5 grains Bull'seye—1,100 fps—4" barrel.
- Load 4 5.0 grains Bull'seye—1,175 fps—4" barrel.
- Load 5 5.0 grains Red Dot—1,130 fps—4" barrel.
- Load 6 4.0 grains 230 P Ball—990 fps—4" barrel.
- Load 7 4.5 grains 230 P Ball—1,090 fps—4" barrel.
- Load 8 4.0 grains Unique—875 fps—5" barrel.
- Load 9 4.5 grains Unique—1,000 fps—5" barrel.
- Load 10 5.0 grains Unique—1,100 fps—5" barrel.
- Load 11 5.5 grains Unique—1,280 fps—5" barrel.
- Load 12 6.0 grains Unique—1,330 fps—5" barrel.

None of these loads produced any evidence whatever of excessive pressures in either the S & W or Browning, however, I think that if I were loading for extensive use in a Luger, I would reduce the top charges of Bull'seye and Unique by at least 0.2 or 0.3 grains.

In my particular guns, which have been shot a good bit and are thus well broken in, all loads except No. 8 produced perfect functioning. It produced an occasional short recoil in the Browning, but worked fine in the S & W.

Just to see how this .355" bullet would

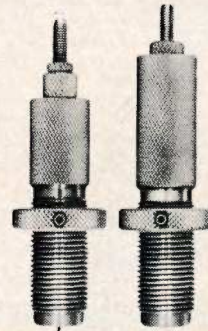
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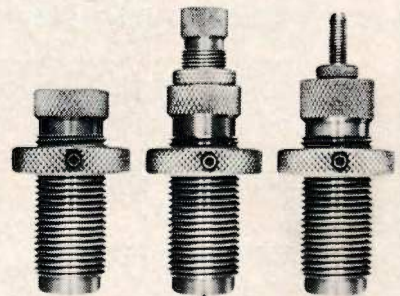
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
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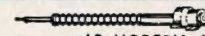
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work in the .38 Super Automatic with its .357—.358" groove diameter barrel, a batch of fired W-W cases were loaded with 6.0 grains Unique. Functioning was fine in both a 1927-production Colt, and a brand-new Llama, but velocity wasn't up to factory loads. Going up to 7.0 grains Unique seemed to give pretty close to factory-load performance. With 8.0 grains Unique, we got 1,440 fps without any signs of excessive pressure in the Colt gun. However, while the Llama digested the hot loads perfectly, fired cases showed signs of a bit more pressure than we like. Cutting the charge back to 7.5 grains in the Llama cured this problem.

Using the Colt, a dozen rounds of the 8.0 grain load were fired into sand (as above) and the recovered bullets were expanded to an average of approximately 5/8" diameter.

Accuracy wasn't really given a great deal of attention in this shooting, inasmuch as we were primarily concerned with finding out what might be expected in the way of performance on people and game. However, shooting at the standard 25-yard, timed and rapid target, ten shots were fired rapidfire cadence with the 6.0 grains Unique load in the 9 mm Browning H.P. Seven shots were nicely grouped in the ten ring, two in the nine, and one I waved out for a seven o'clock eight. Using the Colt and the 8.0 grains Unique load in .38 Super, ten rounds were fired two-handed over sand bag rest at fifty yards. Four inches was the spread between widest shots.

It would appear that with proper load and this bullet, the various 9 mm and .38 self-loaders don't fall very far behind the vaunted .357 Magnum.

Every so often an argument arises concerning the relative merits of rimless vs. belted vs. rimmed cartridge cases. The argument usually seems to revolve about the question of which type is the "strongest." Or perhaps it will be about which is "best," with every participant using his own private definition of the word best. Depending on who you talk to, the belted (or rimmed) case may be far superior to the rimless—or it may be next to useless.

Actually, at the pressure levels with which the sensible handloader works, all three types of case are entirely satisfactory. If any one was not, it would have been discarded by the major manufacturers many, many years ago. That they all remain in continued use, seems ample evidence of their excellence.

The most common complaint leveled by handloaders against any one of the three types is that it provides inadequate life. More often that I care to remember, I get letters from people complaining that they have experienced assorted case failures after only two, three, or four reloadings. The letters always contain a question "Will I get longer case life if I switch to a rimless (belted, rimmed) case?"

The answers to such questions are not to be found in the type of case being used, but rather in the use being made of the case, and its specific relationship to the gun and chamber in which it is being fired. Lack of understanding of these relationships and of the behavior of brass under pressure is responsible for most of the problems that come up.

If the brass of the case walls expands any great amount in any direction, and is then brought back to its original dimensions by

resizing, then fired again under the same conditions—and this process repeated for several reloadings—the case *will* fail. Every time expansion and elongation take place, brass moves from one place to another. And resizing does not necessarily move it back to the place from which it came. Consequently, after several repetitions of the process (and it need not be many, often only two, three or four) the point from which brass has been flowing (and to which it has not been returned) becomes incapable of standing the strain, and ruptures. Contributing to this type of failure is the fact that with repeated expansion and resizing brass “work-hardens.” This means simply that it gets hard and brittle. You can illustrate this quite graphically by taking a piece of fresh, soft brass and striking it repeatedly with a hammer. It will eventually become so hard and brittle that it breaks under the hammer. The same thing happens to the brass of a cartridge case when it is repeatedly “worked.”

In fact, only a single firing is necessary to cause a case failure if that firing results in sufficient expansion to stretch *any* area of the case beyond the elastic limits of cartridge brass. Anyone who has been a gunner on the Browning .50 caliber ground machine gun will attest to this. I have long since lost count of the number of times I've removed the front half of a cartridge case from a .50 barrel. Invariably when the barrel is not screwed fully into the gun (which used to happen all too often), the front part of the case is blown forward to fill the chamber, simply stretching the brass until it breaks.

This same situation first came to my attention in rifles many years ago when I was shooting up a goodly quantity of World War II .303 ammunition in a couple of Ross rifles. One rifle produced fired cases that could easily be reloaded several times—while cases from the other would rupture just ahead of the rim with only one or two reloadings.

Examination of fired cases disclosed that those which caused the trouble had their shoulders moved forward nearly 1/16" farther than the others—and they were also measurably larger in diameter at the shoulder. It seems that in attempting to alleviate the jamming problems encountered with Ross rifles in the muddy trenches in France, chambers were enlarged in the field. When a cartridge was fired in such a chamber, the brass was blown forward into this enlarged portion of the chamber, stretching the walls of the case much thinner near the rim. When those cases were resized in a standard full-length die, and then fired again, the second or third firing simply stretched the front two-thirds of the case completely off the head—just as you'd pull a wire in two.

And that is what has happened normally when a fellow complains that his cases are giving out near the head after only a few reloadings. A condition has been set up (not always by the plaintiff's act) for the brass to be stretched too much in firing and resizing. If this condition exists, it makes no difference which type of case is being used—all three *will* fail.

So you say “all I have to do is make sure my chamber and head space are O.K., and there'll be no trouble.” If your case is a rimless one, then that is reasonably correct. But if your pet is chambered for a rimmed or belted case, regulating headspace (as specified in the manufacturing drawings) will

have no effect whatever.

The reason is simple but seldom understood. Rimless cases headspace on the shoulder. Therefore, when headspace is correct, that portion of the case which—if moved forward and back repeatedly—causes separations to develop is prevented by the chamber from making that initial movement. Not so in the belted and rimmed cases. They headspace on a solid “shoulder” near the head, while the true case shoulder may still be free to blow forward and then be resized back.

Such a situation is brought about by the relatively large tolerances allowed by the manufacturers in shoulder location of both cases and chambers for the belted and rimmed calibers. The largest cartridge made must fit the smallest chamber made—and this means that the smallest cartridge made may lack one hell of a lot of filling up the largest chamber made. And reloading dies must be made to set the shoulder of the fired case back far enough that the resized case will again go into the smallest chamber likely to be encountered. Thus, we have an accumulation of tolerances of cartridge case, chamber, and resizing die. And this accumulation can result in the case shoulder first being blown forward nearly 1/32", then shoved back an even greater amount, to be blown forward again, etc., etc. Who can blame the case for failing under those conditions? It simply can't withstand such abuse.

At this point, it should become apparent that the faults resulting in ruptured cases (or extremely short case life) cannot be laid at the door of case design—but rather at the circumstances under which it is used.

So what can you do about it? Nothing insofar as the initial weakening of the case is concerned, if you begin with factory-loaded ammunition. However, for the first and subsequent resizings, you can adjust the die so that the case shoulder is not moved rearward any more than absolutely necessary to allow easy chambering of the reloaded cartridge. However, the initial damage to the case, that of weakening the side walls directly in front of the head, has already occurred. However, if you are willing to begin with fresh, unfired cases, even that initial weakening can be largely avoided. Simply take your fresh cases and expand the necks approximately 1/16". Then, neck them back down to the original caliber, adjusting the die so that the small secondary shoulder formed contacts the chamber solidly—causing the bolt to close on the case with a fair amount of drag. The first firing will then fire-form the case, producing little or none of the wall thinning that would normally result if excessive clearance existed between the shoulder of case and of chamber. This, incidentally, is also the procedure that should be used in fire-forming “improved” cases or in moving any case shoulder forward to fit it to a specific chamber. It also works the best of any method for preparing rimless cases to be used in a gun that has definite excessive headspace.

In any event, the next time you are having trouble with incipient or real head separations with belted or rimmed cases, don't start hollering that the design is no good. About 99 percent of the time it will be the chamber of the gun that is causing the trouble, and that problem will be with us until such time as the manufacturers are persuaded to utilize the same head-to-shoulder tolerances they apply to rimless calibers.

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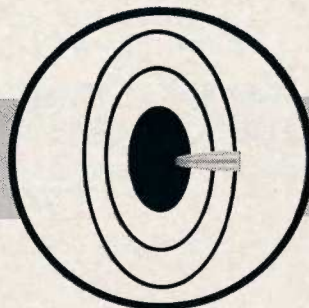
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# POINT BLANK

By COL. CHARLES ASKINS

**I**T LOOKS LIKE there will be a lot of M-14 service 7.62 rifles for sale one of these days. The secretary of defense, McNamara, has just put the whammy on the rifle for use in Vietnam. Not only will no more be issued to our troopers over there but those in the theatre will be all shipped out. The M-14 is the standard service rifle. The newer and controversial M-16, the little pipsqueak that shoots the .223 cartridge, will replace the older gun. This smaller number has been a limited issue piece for the Vietnam embroglio but here more lately has been re-designated the service rifle. This makes it look like the sec/def intends to give the bigger gun the one-way ride.

rifle but like the M-1 it sure ain't no sporting model! If some clever gunsmith can come up with some sort of a sporterizing job on it he will indeed be a genius!

The M-14 is a long-range shooter and is accurate out to 1,000 yards. It is used at the National Matches for matches at 600 and 1,000 yards. The M-16 is a short-range quick-firer. It is limited to 300 yards. When the rifle becomes our only service weapon the shooting programs around the country will feel the effect of the change. Instead of firing at 600 yards we'll be revising programs to place the emphasis on short range events. And since the rifle is an automatic the most of the programs will be taken up with rap-



The M-16 is replacing the M-14 (above) for duty in Vietnam.

Right now the M-14 is standard issue in Europe, Korea, and here at home. However, all the emphasis stateside is to get the trainee ready for the Indo-Chinese gambit, and it doesn't quite make sense to train him on the 7.62 and then when he goes into combat to switch and hand him the little twenty-two. It is likely the dept. of defense will replace all the M-14's with M-16's as soon as the supply can afford this change.

If the military switches to the M-16 in its entirety—and it looks very much that way—this will have a lot of implications, not all of them confined to the battlefield. First among these will be the release of a good many thousands of the 7.62 (.308) M-14 rifles, not only through the Director of Civilian Marksmanship but also through military surplus channels just as has occurred to the old Springfield, the Enfield, the M-1 rifle, and the .30 caliber Carbine. The M-14 is a good

id-fire competitions. Too, the bull'seye will be more and more pushed into the background in favor of man-silhouettes. A year or so ago a study was made by the Army and it was decided the old round bull was a poor sort of a mark for the soldier who is training for war. Ever since these findings were made public the bull'seye has been slowly abandoned.

While the .22 caliber M-16 is finding increasing favor with the man who built the Edsel, the Army Weapons Command at his bidding is looking into the rifle of the future. What the findings will be is top secret right now and most likely the committee charged with the study has reached no conclusions. But it is interesting to speculate on tomorrow's military service gun.

History shows it will be even smaller than the present .22. Since the Indian wars of 80 years ago we've followed a continual path of

bore shrinkage, from .45 to .22. MacArthur put a wrench into the works back in the 1920's or we'd have fired a .276 caliber during WW II. He said any caliber below .30 was worthless. This held up the parade for a while but Mac is gone now and the whiz kids are in the saddle! Two years ago it looked like the SPIW was going to be the rifle of the future. It shot a cluster of darts; each little arrow with a weight of 8 grains and a diameter of approx .12". These were fired in clusters and salvos. But somehow the SPIW did not work out, as problems arose which have, apparently, shelved this truly revolutionary hardware.

Along with an ever tightening bore we have continually shaved weight off our service arm. The M-16 is almost 4 pounds lighter than the M-1 of World War II fame. The new rifle, if and when it surfaces, will have to go even lighter. Likewise we've shortened the rifle from a length of 5 feet to three. The new gun will have to beat that. Colt, who are the makers of the M-16, have shown how easy this can be done. They have a version of the M-16 which has been chopped back a full half-foot. What the reduction in weight may be I do not know but it's bound to be lighter.

As a prognostication then I'd say the new rifle for the military will be even less than twenty-two in caliber, perhaps a .17 or even as small as a .14—both calibers are in existence right now—will weigh less than 6 pounds, and will be shorter than 36 inches. Too, the rifle will be capable of both full auto and semi-auto fire and while the present M-16 is gas-operated this system will be discarded.

The future rifle will be functioned electrically. It will possess a transistorized motor and a miniaturized battery to provide power and this development will give us the most reliably functioning action ever seen. Heretofore we've depended on either recoil or gas to operate the firearms; neither are very reliable. Both depend on a completely normal cartridge and a lot of cartridges are not just like all the others in the clip. Sometimes there is a squib load of powder; other times the primer is a complete misfire, or a hangfire, or burns weakly. These abnormalities immediately effect the functioning of the weapon. With an electric motor functioning the action the identical impulse will set it in motion quite apart from the performance of the cartridge and the reliability of the firearm will be greatly improved.

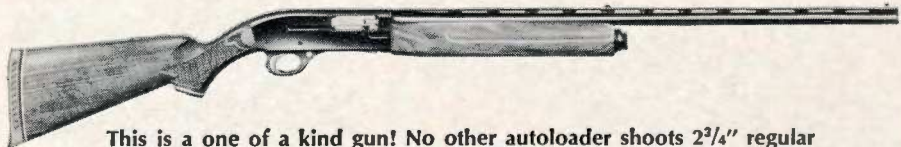
Right now all that is holding back the use of an electric motor on the auto-loading firearm is the size of the engine. It cannot be miniaturized sufficiently to fit neatly inside the receiver. This will be overcome and we'll see electric power successfully utilized not only on the military rifle but on all manner of machine guns and on our own sporting rifles as well.

• • •

**SCATTERGUN SLUGLOADS:** For an hombre who has never killed a deer with a 12 gauge slug, I have probably tinkered with these big globules of lead as much as anyone in the game. One time, just for the hell of it, I fired a long series of shots at 300 yards. The shotgun was the Model 12, with modified barrel, 28 inches in length. The gun had a raised solid rib but no rear sight. The target was the Army "A" which is 6' x 4'.



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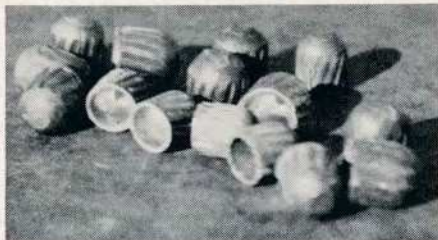
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The first shot hit the ground and so did the 2nd and 3rd. I finally got the 4th on the paper and by this time I was holding what I judged was 36 inches over the top of the target frame. I found I could keep about 60 percent of the shots on the frame. It was simple to watch the great hunks of lead going down to the target. We were spotting with a 60X scope and the base of the slug is hollow which casts a dark shadow and permits a ready pickup by the scope at about 20 yards beyond the muzzle.

Even at 300 yards the 12 gauge slug will not tumble. It cannot. Like an arrow the



weight is all up front and it is a ballistic law that the light tail portion simply cannot get ahead of the heavier nose. However this does not mean to say a lot of wobble does not develop. It does. And the ragged holes in the target further attest to this fact.

There is no sound reason to fire the shotgun slug beyond 100 yards. Within this range you can be sure of hitting the vital portions of a whitetail deer almost every shot. To do this the shotgun has got to have a rear sight. I have experimented extensively with the low-powered scopes for shotguns and if you find one that won't shift its zero


from the recoil then it is best. Next best is an aperture receiver-attached iron sight.

It is usually contended that the slug ought to be shot out of an improved cylinder barrel. In the 12 an improved cylinder has only .003" of choke, and this is, I reckon, thought necessary so the big hunk of softest lead won't be cramped when it passes through the choke. I have measured scores upon scores of these big projectiles and the average diameter is .676". The 12 gauge full cylinder is .729" so the fellers who are concerned about the fit are just piddling into the wind. There ain't no problem. I have shot the slugs in every choke and I'll be hanged if I have ever been able to find that one is better or worse than the other.

It looked like the Williams Gun Sight had something when they came out with their rifled muzzle attachment which was going to catch the big ball some 7 inches from the muzzle and give it a slight spin. It needs to rotate to better the accuracy. The only trouble with the Williams device is that sometimes it passes a slug which is the right diameter to be caught by the shallow lands and it is then given a spin. Most of the times, however, the slugs are so undersize that they simply go rattling through the Williams gadget just as they have rattled up the bore. Until the manufacturers get a lot more careful about swaging the big hunks all to the same diameter such accessories as the Williams device are something less than a success.

• • •  
SHORTENED .45 AUTO: When the Colt company came along with the Commander model they shortened the standard Model

1911 by ½ inch. This does not seem much but you can instantly spot the chopped off gun whenever you see it. I like the Commander and in the 9 mm or the .38 Super Colt it is especially appealing. I determined to make my own "Commander" model the other day. I had a NM grade .45 M1911 and with this as a beginning I sawed through the slide directly behind the front sight. This portion of the slide was again cut ¾" to the rear of the first cut. After dressing up the two faces, I welded the part of the slide carrying the patridge front post back to the remnant of the slide. The barrel was then shortened by ¾" and carefully squared up to insure good accuracy. While the original muzzle is crowned, this was not done after the amputation. The driving spring was shortened two full rounds and some fine file work was needed to insure that the shortened slide was going to move freely.

The chopped-back .45 works as slick as a whistle. It is now a little bit shorter than the Commander but, of course, weighs more because it is of all-steel construction. This is a small point. Julian Hatcher always contended that the Commander with its lightness and its foreshortened barrel and slide kicked no more than the standard .45 auto. This is a load of that stuff! It certainly does recoil a good deal more. Too it is harder to hit close with the sighting radius suffering a three-quarters inch shortening, but it does make the pistol a bit handier. One of these days I shall commence on the slide again and this time will lop out a full inch and in so doing will foreshorten the receiver. It can be done and from early studies I see no major problems involved. 

**M  
22**

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(Continued from page 6)

plain English, and is not really subject to misunderstanding.

You will notice that the word used is "right", and not "privilege," and that the wording suggests that this was a pre-existing right which is merely recognized and guaranteed, not GIVEN by the Second Amendment. Furthermore, any trespass whatsoever upon a right is an infringement. This includes the ubiquitous "concealed weapons" laws, the Federal Firearms Acts, registration laws, and Mr. Fritz's proposed licensing of shooters.

The Federal government preaches that crime and violence can be controlled by "adequate firearms control bills," etc. Yet the Government doesn't practice what it preaches. The United States is armed with hydrogen bombs, atomic bombs, intercontinental ballistics missiles, and supersonic long-range bombers, among other things. If we didn't have these "toys of war," we would be at the mercy of our enemies. We would either be enslaved or dead!

Police also carry guns. They have to use them to enforce the law or, increasingly, just to protect themselves. I understand that 10 per cent of all policemen were assaulted in the performance of their duties last year. If a police officer isn't even safe from attack on our streets, do you think YOU are?

One more question, Mr. Fritz. Who gets these gun licenses? The social elite? The "country club" set? I get the distinct impression that only gun collectors and serious target shooters are the sort of "right thinking people" who should be allowed to have guns. At least, that's probably the way it'd work out.

I thought this was a democracy!

Now, I don't belong to the N.R.A. or to any gun clubs. I used to, but it was sort of dull. I sort of felt a 17-year-old kid with a pump .22 wasn't too welcome there among all those target shooters with 52 Winchesters. I think the "Rifeman" is a little dull. I belong to Shooter's Club of American, and subscribe to GUNS. In fact, I've written a few pieces for GUNS.

My guns are not toys to while away the idle hours. They are deadly weapons, and treated as such. I know they'll kill, and give them due care and respect. I keep them in good shape, clean and dry, and I keep in practice with them. Some day my life, and the lives of my loved ones, may depend on these weapons. They'll be ready.

John W. Rockefeller  
Giltner, Nebraska

I offer this letter in protest to publishing the strange letter from Mr. Dwain Fritz (Page 21, June, 1967, issue).

So Mr. Fritz fought gun registration and legislation "with every means." I wonder. I imagine Mr. Fritz was a "Yes, but . . ." supporter of guns. He was likely for arms ownership, "but" subject to this petty rule and that and the other, the whole making up a package more irksome than that often made up by our avowed enemies. In fact, his let-

ter itself is full of this sort of quibbling. Such men, searching for a "compromise," when it was not necessary, and seeking to write their own petty notions of things into law, have done our cause more harm in the last 10 years than has Senator Dodd, at least so far. We will miss the vote of anyone but we need no more help of this nature.

If he knows of any way to keep guns, or anything else, out of the hands of irresponsible people, let him by all means come forward and present the idea. To date no idea in practice, nitwit or otherwise, seems to have made the slightest difference in the eventual toll of murder, especially since guns still account for only a minority of murders. Whitman, the deranged Texas killer, would likely have been adjudged an ideal man in any nation to own arms, and likely might have been given authority to permit others to do so, if a permit system were in effect. A shooter's license is a nice silly idea. Who will give the tests? Whitman?

It is already a good deal harder to own a gun than a car in many states. Anyone can buy a car. Many men who do not drive own fleets of cars. Likewise a driver usually need not be licensed if he never leaves his premises. But we have already moved far beyond this with gun ownership in many states and jurisdictions. To "possess" a pistol that never leaves your house, you must have a permit

in many areas, and then they tell you you can't get that. Mr. Fritz' license system would demand a permit to own a shotgun with which to shoot snakes in the back forty. And if we had it, murders would likely increase in numbers, and every murder would be committed with an unlicensed gun, as they are now in the states that "control" guns.

Yes, Mr. Fritz, we do have the right to keep and bear arms. It took a six-year war, mostly fought with illegally owned guns, to get that right for us. The Bill of Rights, along with the rest of the original Constitution, was and usually still is, held to be basic for free men to remain free. Even now, with all the silly blah-blah and all sorts of silly opinions, no one has the guts to offer a repeal of the Second Amendment as such. Rather, they try to gain the same end by devious routes.

Normally a man accepts laws he has lived under a while. Later, he may even defend them, no matter how rotten they are. It has been said that the one-eyed man would be king in the kingdom of the blind. A lot of us wonder if the one-eyed man is not also at times controlling those with good eyesight. I hope not.

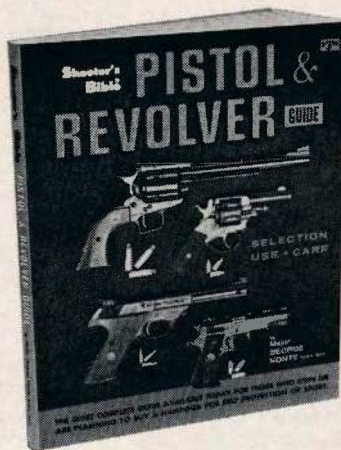
R. A. Bennett, Jr.  
Salem, Oregon

The foregoing is excerpted from a very long letter by Mr. Bennett.

These letters are excerpts from a representative sampling of many we have received concerning Mr. Fritz' letter in the July issue. We will continue to print them as long as interest appears to continue.—Ed.

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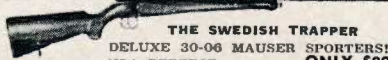
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# OUR MAN IN WASHINGTON

CARL WOLFF



## NATIONAL MATCHES IN JEOPARDY!

The supporters of gun legislation have been saying that the shooters really have nothing to fear; it isn't the shooter or the sportsman, but the criminal misusers of firearms that would be affected, they say. But recent revelations may point out the length to which legislative sponsors have gone to further their cause.

Last spring, someone came up with the idea that it would be a good thing to turn Camp Perry facilities into a summer camp for some 5,000 slum kids of nearby Cleveland. Congressman Charles Vanik (D.-Ohio), representing Cleveland slums, sent a letter to Defense Secretary, Robert McNamara, requesting the facility be made available. Riot-torn Cleveland was expecting another "long hot summer." The Defense Department answered that Camp Perry belongs to the State of Ohio, and that the Department of the Army only used the facility for the National Matches during the months of August and September. The implication was that the matter was for the State of Ohio to settle.

Standing in the way of moving the proceeding to another state were two things: One, the Ohio government takes great pride in the fact that its state hosts the annual event. And, two, the township facing Camp Perry did not want any part of Cleveland's slums-fed social problems. The township also needed the business the matches bring each year.

Congressman Vanik, on June 13th, turned his efforts to get Camp Perry toward the Matches themselves. On that day he offered an amendment to the Defense Department Appropriations Bill, which would bar military participation. He told the House, during debate on the bill, "It has just come to my attention that, in addition to providing for the travel and subsistence of 8,000 participants of the National Rifle Matches at Camp Perry, the Department of Defense spends an additional \$2.7 million to provide personnel and facilities to support the 8,000 trainees during this period. In addition, 3,000 active members of the U. S. Army are assigned to Camp Perry to take care of other needs of the training group . . .

"While 3,000 Army personnel are doing training and porter work for the civilian participants at the Camp Perry training program, young men, 29,000 in the month of August alone, are being drafted to do military work in their stead."

Obviously the Congressman gave confused facts. It is the Army Reserves participating in the matches that



receive pay and traveling expenses, not the civilians. The Army personnel are sent to give refresher training to the Army Reserves which in turn take back the knowledge to their home units.

On the same day, in the Senate, Senator Edward Kennedy also jumped military participation in the matches. In a letter to Secretary McNamara, he stated, "I have serious doubts about the justification for continuing the entire Civilian Marksmanship Program in this nuclear age, and especially about the privileged position given the National Rifle Association under that program despite certain developments in the NRA's finances, purposes, and activities. These questions will certainly be reviewed at our hearings. But there is one facet of this problem which should be resolved immediately and to which I wish to draw your attention at this time; namely, the appropriateness of holding the National Rifle Matches this year in light of the pressure of the Vietnam conflict on the personnel and budget of the Defense Department, and in light of alternative possible uses for its (Camp Perry's) facilities and equipment."

Obviously, Sen. Kennedy's letter aimed itself at the National Rifle Association. Franklin L. Orth, Executive Vice President of NRA charged that the Senator was "deliberately misleading the public when he says participants receive travel expenses, free lodging, meals, ammunition, and trophies while at Camp Perry." All civilian competitors in the National Matches, except the small civilian State teams operating under the sponsorship of the Director of Civilian Marksmanship, pay their own expenses to and from the matches, housing costs, meals, and entry fees. State teams only get \$1.50 per day and for living expenses and 5¢ a mile toward their travel.

Senator Strom Thurmond (R.-S.C.), on June 15, came to the defense of the National Matches and the NRA. In a letter to the Secretary of Defense, he said, "I do not at all share the views expressed by Senator Kennedy . . . I applaud your Department's position in support of the program of the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice and the National Matches."

Sen. Thurmond also took to the floor of the Senate. He said, "Four times within the memory of many of us now living the United States sent citizen armies into war. So long as our young men are expected to do a soldier's job with a soldier's skill, there is an imperative need for civilian marksmanship training."

"As a member of the Defense Subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I have had occasion to review very carefully the annual appropriation for the National Board for the promotion of Rifle Practice . . . This appropriation, which amounts to considerably less than the cost of one combat aircraft, is the minimum that should be done to train, in rifle marksmanship, those who will be called upon to wear the uniform of their country."

Both Senators Thurmond and Kennedy are members of the Dodd Subcommittee which will shortly review fire-arms legislation. The two will surely clash over civilian marksmanship. It is expected at that time the Army will disclose the program under study.



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Extensive testing of bullets, powders, and charges shows that the .38-45 is happy with a variety of loads.

By ALLEN J. HEISS

**A** FEW YEARS BACK, Bo Clarke, then of the Armory gun shop in California, really came up with a tremendous piece of ordnance ramification when he hit on his .38-45 Wildcat creation. This is something of a takeoff from the old Mars pistol insofar as the shape of the cartridge is concerned, but Clarke incorporated this design into our old favorite .45 caliber service automatic by nothing more than a change of barrels and a necked-down .45 case. This is really great because we now have a target and hunting arm plus a .45 military all wrapped up in one automatic.

Howard French, experimenter and author, added to the fires of this creation by several articles on .38-45 and apparently has gone way out over this bit by installing a long barrel and scope for accuracy work. Thus equipped he souped up some loads to a sizzling 2100 feet per second using a 108 gr. Jurras bullet with 12 grains of Herco. Incidentally, these past articles about the .38-45 have been a little Herco-happy in my

opinion; personally I have not had any degree of accuracy with this powder or found it to be as clean burning as other powders, but it does have one big asset. More about that later.

Frank C. Barnes describes in his invaluable "Cartridges of the World," under the .38-45 cartridge, "The idea behind the .38-45 was to produce a satisfactory target round that would function with any type of bullet and any load sufficient to operate the mechanism. However, it should also be an excellent field cartridge because it will allow the use of hunting type bullets. There is a definite need for an improved auto pistol hunting cartridge." The .38-45 sure fills the bill.

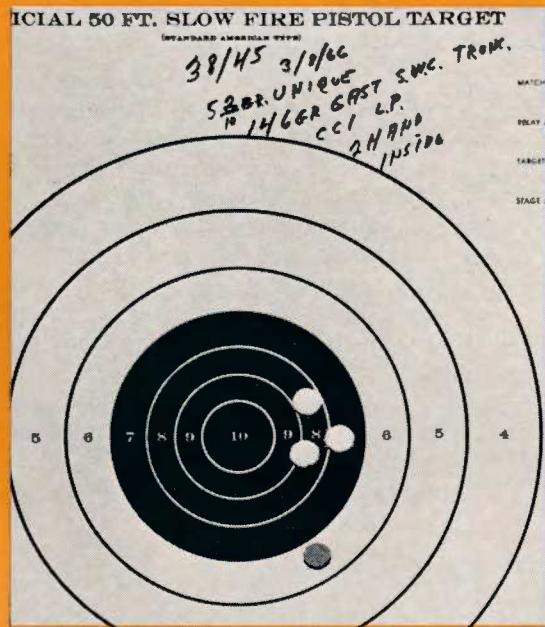
All this of course has fired the imagination of countless handloaders, myself included. What really got me hooked on this combination was the fantastic ability of this cartridge to feed and eject any and every conceivable type of bullet. In fact it's so fantastic it will feed and eject empty shells. I doubt there's an automatic

# Pistol Powerhouse

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# .38-45

THIS VERSATILE WILDCAT WILL FUNCTION SMOOTHLY AND IS EASY TO LOAD



Some of the author's .38-45 loads show erratic accuracy, while others would group quite well.



There is a tremendous selection of bullets available in .38 caliber, making this wildcat a handloader's dream.

## TEST REPORT ON .38-45 LOADING

Powder	Powder Weight	Primer	Bullet Weight	Bullet Diameter	Make and Type of Bullet	Comments
Bullseye	3.5 gr.	CCI 300	146 gr.	.357	Speer S.W.C. H.P.	Fair group. Clean burning. No ejection.
Bullseye	3.5 gr.	CCI 300	146 gr.	.357	Speer S.W.C. H.P.	Cut down main spring Fair group. Clean burning. All ejected.
Bullseye	3.8 gr.	CCI 300	116 gr.	.355	9 mm Norma F.J.	No ejection. Clean burning. Poor group.
Bullseye	4 gr.	CCI 300	146 gr.	.357	Speer S.W.C. H.P.	All ejected. Clean burning. Poor group.
5066	3.5 gr.	CCI 300	146 gr.	.357	Speer S.W.C. H.P.	Cut down main spring. Fair group. Clean burning.
5066	4 gr.	CCI 300	116 gr.	.357	Custom Swaged	No ejection. Clean burning. Excellent group.
5066	4.5 gr.	CCI 300	146 gr.	.357	Speer S.W.C. H.P.	All ejected. Clean burning. Fair group.
5066	5 gr.	CCI 300	160 gr.	.358	Cast Lead Lyman #358429	Signs of melted primers. Danger. Fair group. All ejected. Clean burning.
2400	8 gr.	CCI 350	146 gr.	.357	Speer S.W.C. H.P.	Very good group. No ejection. Signs of unburned powder.
2400	9 gr.	CCI 300	160 gr.	.358	Cast Lead Lyman #358429	Signs of unburned powder. All ejected. Very good group.
2400	9 gr.	CCI 350	148 gr.	.357	Cast Lead Truncated	All ejected. Very good group. Clean burning.
2400	10 gr.	CCI 350	146 gr.	.357	Speer S.W.C. H.P.	All ejected. Clean burning. Fair group.
2400	13 gr.	CCI 300	116 gr.	.355	9 mm Norma F.J.	All ejected. Poor group.
Herco	5 gr.	CCI 300	160 gr.	.358	Cast Lead Lyman #358429	All ejected. Signs of unburned powder. Excellent group.
Herco	5.5 gr.	CCI 300	148 gr.	.357	Cast Lead Truncated	All ejected. Fair group. Signs of unburned powder. Keyholing.
Herco	6 gr.	CCI 300	146 gr.	.357	Speer S.W.C. H.P.	Signs of flattened primers—Danger. Good group. Clean burning. All ejected.
Herco	8 gr.	CCI 300	116 gr.	.355	9 mm Norma F.J.	All ejected. Poor group. Clean burning.
H-110	9 gr.	CCI 350	146 gr.	.357	Speer S.W.C. H.P.	2 shots did not eject. Signs of unburned powder. Fair group.
H-110	9 gr.	CCI 350	148 gr.	.357	Cast Lead Truncated	All ejected. Clean burning. Excellent group.
H-110	9 gr.	CCI 350	150 gr.	.360	Cast Lead Thompson Gas Check H.P.	Blew out primers—Danger. Poor group. Load too hot for .360 diam. bullet.
H-110	9 gr.	CCI 350	160 gr.	.358	Cast Lead Lyman #358429	All ejected. Very good group. Signs of unburned powder.
H-110	9 gr.	CCI 350	160 gr.	.357	Cast Lead Thompson Gas Check	All ejected. Fair group. Small amount of unburned powder.
Unique	5 gr.	CCI 300	146 gr.	.357	Speer S.W.C. H.P.	All ejected. Some signs of unburned powder. Very good group.
Unique	5 gr.	CCI 350	148 gr.	.357	Cast Lead Truncated	All ejected. Excellent group. Clean burning.
Unique	5 gr.	CCI 350	160 gr.	.358	Cast Lead Lyman #358429	All ejected. Clean burning. Very excellent group.
Unique	6 gr.	CCI 300	148 gr.		Cast Lead Truncated	All ejected. Poor group. Keyholing. Barrel leading.
Unique	6 gr.	CCI 300	160 gr.	.358	Cast Lead Thompson Gas Check	Pressure marks on primer. Danger. All ejected. Signs of unburned powder. Poor group.

in existence that will match that. Basically there are three aspects to the .38-45: namely target, hunting, and unlimited handloading experimentation. Now if anything will grab a handloader, "unlimited handloading experimentation" certainly will. As can be seen in the accompanying photograph a wide variation of bullets, some of which are custom swaged, will feed and eject smooth as silk. Bullet weight can vary from 95 to 160 grains with 160 grains generally maximum.

The .38-45 barrels and dies as a combination kit can be obtained from the Armory C-H Gun Shop at 1600 W. 166th St., Gardena, California for around \$42.50. RCBS also makes dies for this caliber and they can be purchased from local gunsmiths or RCBS direct. Handloading this baby is really a ball—one pass through the case forming die and you have the basic necked down shape, one more pass in the case finishing die and you have this little bomb ready to go.

Naturally I was curious as to what different powders and bullets would achieve and then what the results would be on wood, soap, and telephone book penetration and expansion.

Developing loads takes time and patience and each handloader must start low in powder weight in order to work up to the best combination. You will see on the test chart many loads that did not eject the empty shell. This is nothing more than starting low. Each gun has its own characteristics in regard to what it will digest, so again, start low and work up. Generally speaking a safe starting point is any handloading data for the .38 Special.

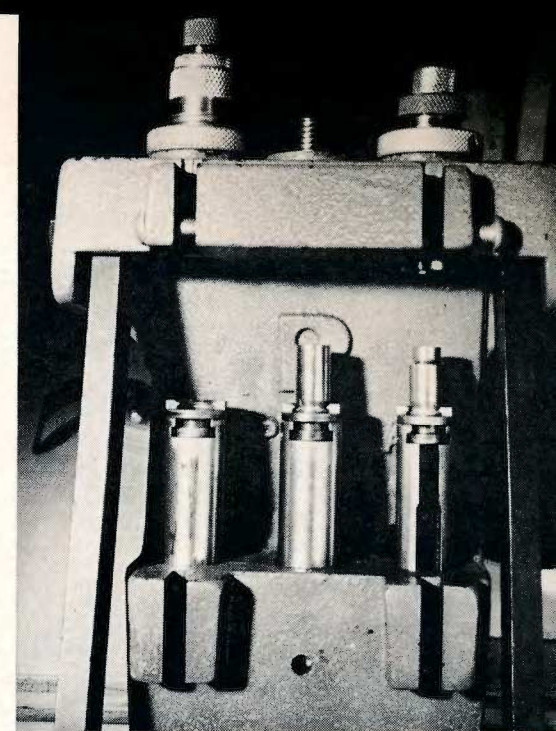
The .38-45 barrel is really .355" or 9 mm, therefore care must be taken when .357" or larger diameter bullets are used; pressures can build up fast. Cast bullets should be sized as close as possible to .355".

A quick check on the chart will show the results of what 9 gr. H-110 powder will do with a 150 grain Thompson gas check H.P. lead cast bullet. It melted and blew out the primer, an extremely dangerous condition as you can imagine. After checking out everything on this load it was found the bullets ran .360" to .362" instead of .357", hence the extreme pressure.

From this experience, I would say that .358" is the maximum diameter that can be used in cast lead bullets and absolutely nothing larger than .357" with copper jacket bullets. Generally, as close as possible to .355" will



The author's reloading bench exhibits most of the powders and a few of the bullet types tested. The partially hidden powder cannister contains Herco.



Only one pass in a case forming die and one in a sizing die were needed.

give the best results without fear of additional pressure.

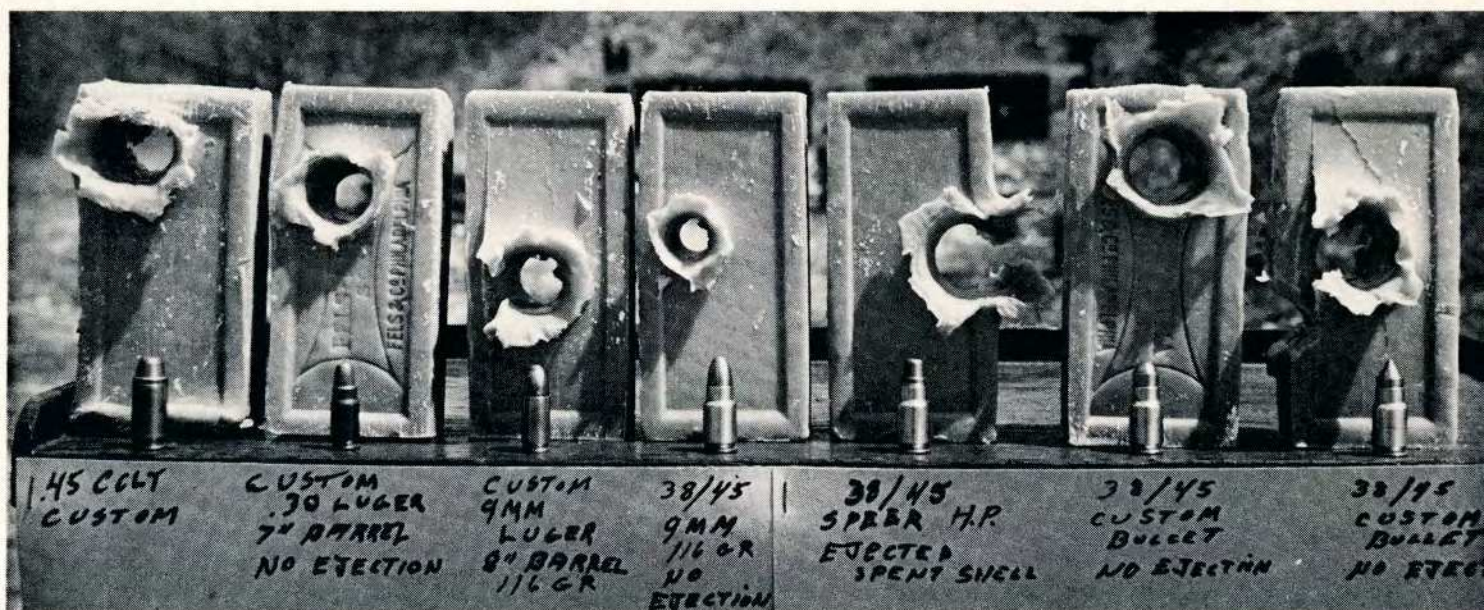
All the tests were made with a government .45 as issued except for the conversion to .38-45 with no special custom work on trigger or sights. A two hand hold was used with a sand-bag rest, shot in a 30 foot inside range. With this combination the best performance was a 1 14/16" group with 5 gr. Unique, 148 gr. cast lead truncated S.W.C. The 150 gr. cast lead Keith type Lyman #358429 came a very close second, just a little over 2". I imagine each barrel and gun combination will have different prefer-

ences. Naturally, a souped up .45 with custom sights and trigger would tighten up these results considerably, but for the sake of comparison the tests are quite revealing.

The best target load was 3.5 gr. of 5066 with 146 gr. Speer S.W.C. H.P. bullet. Target loads are very light loads and in order to have the .38-45 feed and eject, it is necessary to acquire an additional main spring and cut it down to the proper length. The best way to arrive at the right length of spring is to test fire, then cut off a coil of spring, and repeat this until the shells eject. It's quite nice from a handloading

standpoint to have the shells eject just enough to drop at your feet where they are easily collected. Since Dupont 5066 is no longer commercially available, Bullseye or any other fast burning powder will fit the bill for mild target loads.

After finishing all the bullet and powder load tests I was pretty anxious to see how the .38-45 would stack up against the old formidable .45 and in general how it would do on wood penetration, soap, and telephone books. So one fine day I collected a box of soap, built a wood baffle, loaded my cameras and guns (Continued on page 71)



Expansion tests on soap showed performance equal or better in some cases than .45 ACP. Velocity is also higher.



*Charles Askins*

By CHARLES ASKINS



Sheldon Smith, president of Ithaca, proudly shows off a skeet-grade Ithaca-SKB over-and-under shotgun. The Ithaca-SKB's are now available in both over-and-under and side-by-side styles and both come in three grades.

## GUNS VISITS THE

# Manufacturers

ONCE EACH YEAR the big gun makers—Winchester and Remington—invite all the guns writers to a seminar and there they take the wraps off all their new offerings. This is an interesting get-together. The big name outfits always send along their top design people and it gives the firearms scribes the opportunity to pick their brains.

This is fine so far as the larger outfits are concerned but the lesser firms must depend on written releases and photos. This is good but not nearly so realistic as to see the gun in its flesh and blood form. And to sit down and discuss with the designer just why he made it like that.

The Editor of GUNS had a better idea. He got me on the hot line the other day and said, "Saddle up." This was Jerry Rakusan speaking and he does not waste words. "Where to now?" I asked mildly.

"We want you to be in Ithaca, New York, tomorrow and after looking at Ithaca's newest SKB scatterguns, you'll go east and visit all the guns companies. You can then give us a story on the sweep."

The next day Gene Pollock, GUNS Eastern rep., and I were shaking hands with Col. Shelly Smith, the Big Wheel around the Ithaca headquarters. Shelly Smith is president and general manager of this old-line shotgun outfit. His SKB over/unders and side-by-side smoothbores, made in Japan, are coming through in numbers. Art Harris, late of

the US Air Force, is now in the SKB plant as a quality control technician. This is a mighty wise move. Ithaca is considering a 12 gauge autoloader from the Nips but bugs in the first shipment to come over have held up final acceptance. Corrections are minor and I look to see the gun announced before the fall.

For one of the more conventional guns in the line, the fine old Model 37 pump repeater, the company has developed a sturdy scope sight base for the Deerslayer version. This gun, if you will recollect, is made up especially for throwing slugs. The new scope base is mounted not on the receiver but on the barrel. It will necessitate a scope with long eye relief, like the Redfield IER line.

Ithaca makes a fine single barrel 12 gauge, the Model 66 Supersingle. Down South, the boys fire what they call a turkey match. The game consists of whanging away at a 4'x4' square of paper at 40 yards. In the middle of the sheet, and invisible to the shooter is a cross made with a pen. The fellow who places a pellet of shot closest to the very center of the cross gets the bird. Ithaca has been asked to specially bore and choke their single barrel gun so it will best throw a special loading of 2 drams powder and 2 oz. of No. 10 shot. Now this kind of a shot load is utterly useless for game taking; the boys from Dixie only want to send a heluva cloud of smallest pellets down there





George Numrich, president of Numrich Arms, and Col. Askins, GUNS Shooting Editor, pose with the old and the new. Both the Hopkins and Allen flintlock and the semi-automatic Thompson are Numrich products.



The new Smith & Wesson .45 auto pistol, held by Fred Miller, Sales Manager for the Springfield, Mass., firm, has been made in sufficient numbers to be thoroughly tested: It shoots 2" machine rest groups at 50 yards.

to the pattern sheet. Ithaca is aiding and abetting.

From Ithaca, Gene Pollock and I went to see George Numrich of the Numrich Arms Company at West Hurley, N.Y. While Numrich Arms makes both flintlock and percussion rifles and pistols, when I came to call, the accent was on .45-70 octagon barrels for the Remington rolling-block rifle. The shooter provides the action: Numrich does the rest. The .40-75 cartridge is a good one. It has been loaded for a long time and gives good ballistics. If the action the owner sends forward has a busted stock, the company will replace both buttstock and forestock. "We are thinking about chambering the gun for the new .444 Magnum loading," J. F. Voegel, design engineer, told me. "I've tested it thoroughly in the Remington action and it works very well." He also told me that they might make up barrels for the Winchester Model '94 for the .444 round.

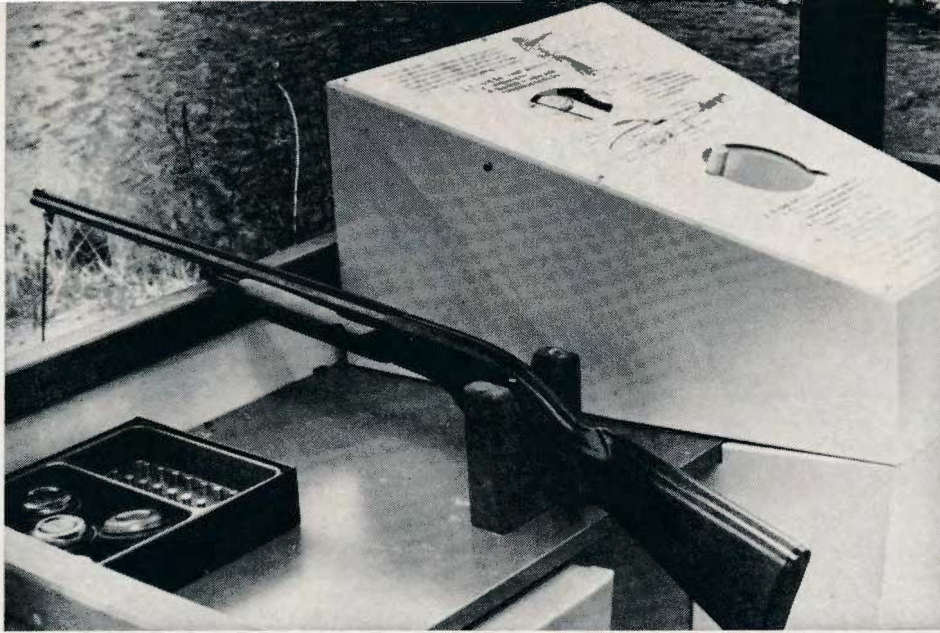
When I was at West Hurley, Numrich had just taken over the entire stock of cartridges, brass, bullets, and assorted dies, tools and other odds and ends from the Connecticut Cartridge Co. This outfit has always been a godsend to the fellow who liked to play around with the obsolete numbers, such old timers as the .236 Navy, .256 Newton, .30 Newton, .35 Newton, .35 WCF, .33 WCF, etc.

Over at the Harrington & Richardson shop, Ted Rowe, the president, trotted out a brightly chromed .30 caliber barrel and said, "Look through this one." The barrel was chambered, but there were no lands in it.

"We put this one up in a hammer forging machine and put four sides on it," he explained. I asked to see a bullet fired out of this tube. Sure enough the slug showed four scrapes on it but no marks of the lands. "How is accuracy?" I wanted to know. Rowe assured me it was gilded. There is more here than meets the eye. You can



D. E. "Del" Shorb, Colt's new Sales Manager, holds one of the WW I Commemorative models of the M1911 .45 auto. This is the first time that Colt has decided to use one of their auto pistols for a commemorative model.



Remington currently has three 310 Skeet ranges operating on a test basis near Hartford, Conn., Boston, and Chicago. Target launchers in the booths are shooter controlled.

hammer a rifle barrel into a rectangle easily enough but this don't make it shoot any better. The English, during the last century had two kinds of rifle barrels: the first the Whitworth; the second the Metford, and both partook somewhat of this system. But the bullet has still got to be given a spin. Undoubtedly H&R have figured out how to do this but you could not see the spin or turn simply squinting through the bore.

Harrington & Richardson has a new auto pistol. This one made by Heckler & Koch, the West German gun builders. This automatic has a series of .22, .25 ACP, .32 ACP and .380 ACP tubes. With a quick switch in magazines and a change in barrels and recoil springs, the pistol can be adapted to shoot all this array of cartridges.

At Savage-Stevens-Fox, all the talk was on the forthcoming Anschutz Model 250 precision air rifle. This rifle is a high precision arm and is intended for the new air rifle competition game. The NRA is pushing this kind of shooting and I think it has a lot going for it. The regulation distance is only 33 feet, a big selling point, and the Model 250 will literally plug all its .177 pellets into the same hole at this distance. "We expect to have the Anschutz 250 here in quantities from the West German manufacturers by the first of the year," Charley DuBuisson, vice-president, told me.

Down at the Smith & Wesson place I saw the new .45 S&W target automatic. This is a dead ringer for the Model 52 auto .38 wadcutter. You can lay the two guns out on the table and can scarcely tell them apart. "We have made a number of these prototypes," Fred Miller, the sales manager, said, "and the gun regularly shoots into a 2" ring at 50 yards, just like the Model 52."

Smith & Wesson will guarantee this bigger version when it is put on the market. The Model 52 is sold with a guarantee that it will pour all its slugs into the 10-ring of the standard American target at 50 yards. There are no plans to put the big .45 auto into production. "When we work our way out from under this deluge of orders we have we'll consider this baby," Fred said. A bit farther down the road on this current soiree I heard on what I consider very good authority that S&W has orders for 300,000 revolvers. That's a heluva lot of hardware!

At Colt, an outfit up to its ears in military contracts—25,000 of the M-16 rifle monthly—it was encouraging indeed to have the president, Paul Benke, trot out a brand new commemorative gun. This time, and for the first time in the commemorative series, it's the Model 1911 .45 auto. "We are commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of our entry into World War I. It seemed altogether fitting and proper to select the old .45 pistol for this one," spoke the president. And so it does.

There will be 12,000 of the special guns made. These will be not the Model 1911A1 but the old original with the flat mainspring housing and the long trigger. Four of our major WWI battles will be designated with proper medallions imbedded in the stocks. These battles are: Chateau Thierry, Belleau Wood, Argonne, and the Meuse River. This should awaken some

(Continued on page 64)



High Standard's Model Ten police weapon is a radical departure from a shotgun's normal lines, despite its adaption from the Supermatic. Sold to police units exclusively, it fires magnum or express loads only.



# DO-IT-YOURSELF

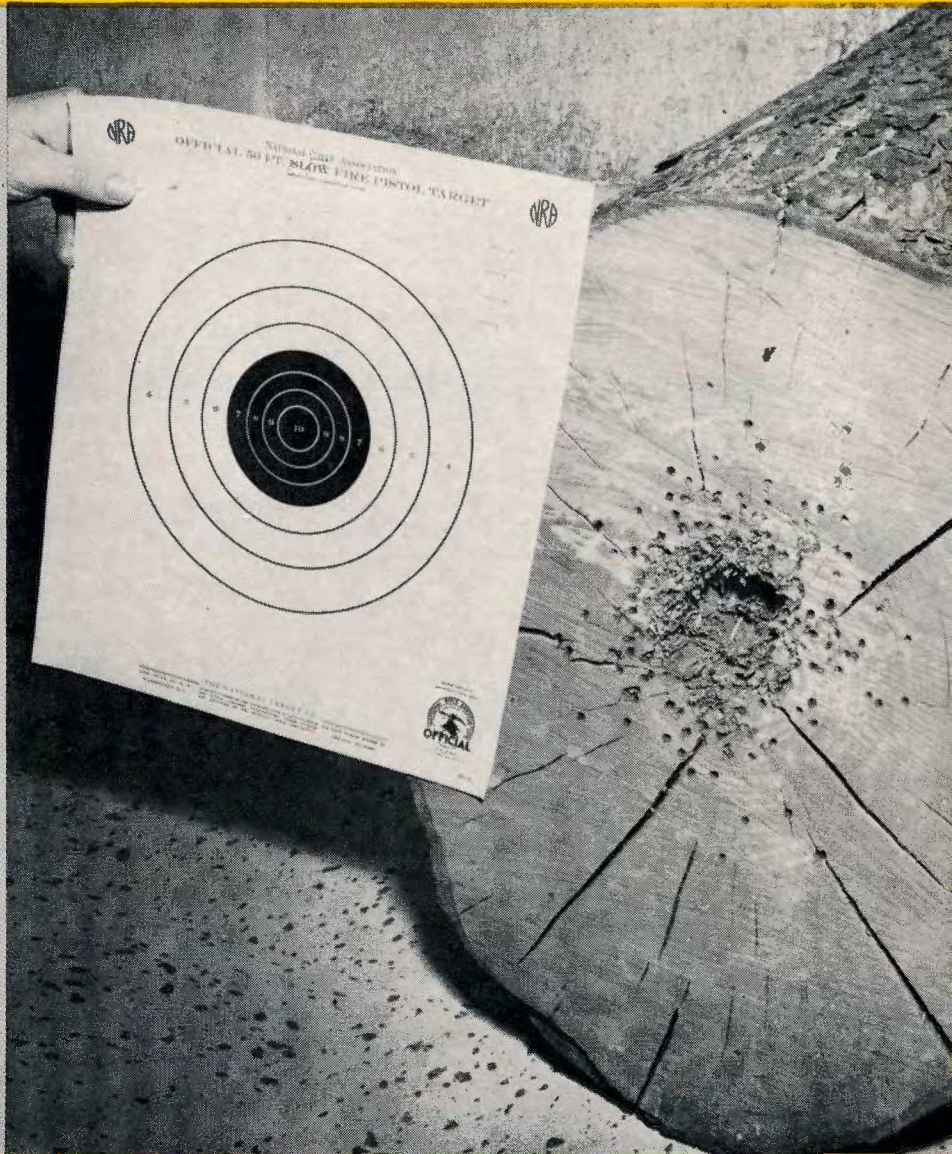
# BULLET STOP

By GEORGE H. PADGINTON

**A** BULLET STOP which is most effective and can cost you very little, or nothing at all, can be had by acquiring a large section of any good solid log. Living in the vicinity of a sawmill makes things a bit easier, though you can cut out your own if you wish.

The cross section of the log should be large enough to accommodate the size of the paper target you wish to shoot at. After placement, the log should be firmly secured or wedged in position so that the force of bullets impacting upon it will not dislodge it. The firing must be done into the end grain of the log so that the bullets will follow the grain and become entrapped in the wood fibers. Be careful, too, to shoot roughly at right angles to the log.

This type of stop is not recommended for high power rifle or pistol ammunition. Large caliber, medium range pistol ammo may be used, but it causes a more rapid deterioration of the log than if just .22 cal. rimfire ammo were used. After one end of the log has been shot out and become impacted with lead, it can be turned end for end, giving a fresh shooting surface. I've found that this is a good inexpensive bullet trap.



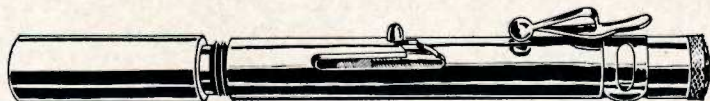


# GUNS and the LAW

## PERSONAL PROTECTION...

If you are an average citizen (or police officer) who is about to be beaten, slashed, slugged, mugged, maimed, raped, or otherwise attacked, any weapon that will help you survive the experience with a minimum of injury will be welcomed. Skill in Judo, Karate, or other unarmed combat techniques will help, but relatively few individuals have this capability. Accordingly, weapons for personal defense are of prime and immediate interest to our citizenry in this decade of escalating lawlessness.

As far as this writer is concerned, the best individual weapon for home and individual protection is the hand-



A police model magnum tear gas pen of modern design.

gun, if the person is trained in its use and practices the safety precautions necessary when any potentially lethal weapon is used. The subject of firearms for home defense has been covered from many angles by many authorities. However, the following possible new approach is offered for consideration by the home owner—and police. It works well and at the same time provides the unskilled citizen with a means to use a firearm with confidence and a minimum of training in defense of himself and family while in the home.

Local laws permitting, police can recommend that the citizen (male or female) procure a revolver, learn basic safety and loading techniques from a shooter friend (or police), and fire a few rounds double action at silhouettes, at close range using the two handed, or instinctive pointing technique. Niceties such as proper breathing, use of sights, trigger squeeze and stance should be eliminated. The convulsive grip, natural under conditions of tension, should be permitted and advocated. After the individual sees the bullet holes appearing in the target with consistency, without all the target shooting training preliminaries and folderol, he will quickly develop confidence and a limited but effective defensive capability in himself and his gun.

Dangers of accidental discharge, availability to children, etc., can be greatly minimized by suggesting that the first

one or two cylinders be loaded with blanks, followed by live rounds. The use of blanks in this manner is a perfectly sound and practical approach to the problem that will enable the person, to own, store, and use a firearm in a home emergency. Generally, the blank alone will frighten away many would be intruders and will also prevent any serious, accidental discharge incidents. Blanks loaded in this manner will not prevent the use of live ammunition should the situation warrant. Obviously, proper loading, fast, double action, dry firing, and basic advice as to the best location in the home to keep the weapon, should be considered.

While most citizens can still keep firearms in their homes for defense, it is usually illegal to carry a loaded, concealed weapon on the person, when in daily contact with the public. It follows then that consideration must be given to the public for protection on the city streets.

### Tear Gas Pen Guns

Devices using an explosive charge to fire dust type tear gas particles have been sold for individual protection almost since the tear gas industry was established. In 1926, the first patent was issued on a fountain pen type projector that fired a standard small arms cartridge loaded with a dry tear gas agent. Since that time tens of thousands of such devices have been and are being sold to the police and public. They are carried in handbags, vest pockets, glove compartments, on car visors, and in other concealable places. Due to the natural camouflage



A police model tear gas pen in .410 gauge.

of design and the defensive nature of these weapons, they have had wide appeal to women, taxi drivers, service station operators and others who by nature of their profession, must walk the city streets, especially late at night.

The effectiveness of pen gun devices is almost entirely dependent on the persons who use them and who must be aware of their limitations as well as their defensive capability. They are not "quick draw" weapons and



By  
**COL. REX APPLGATE**

## TEAR GAS GUNS

should be carried ready in the hand in danger areas. The target must be in range. Provided these general requisites are met, they can be an effective defense arm.

The ordinary pen gun projects a cone shaped cloud three to four feet in diameter at distances of 8-10 feet. The size of the cartridge used will determine the amount of tear gas delivered and the size of the cloud. Aside from the temporary tearing and incapacitating effect, the noise and flash of the propelling charge (usually a shotgun or pistol primer) has some frightening effect on the recipient.

Tear gas pen guns are legal and are carried for protective purposes in most states. New York and California being two exceptions. Some municipalities rule against their use and sale, in others registration is required.

Most pen type tear gas projectors sold today comply with the National or Federal Firearms Act. Simply stated, this law covers those tear gas devices capable of firing loaded firearms cartridges or shot loaded shells. All such arms must be registered with the Alcoholic Tax Division of the department and a prohibitive transfer tax is placed

on them that virtually eliminates commercial sale.

In order to circumvent the rulings and requirements of the act, all manufacturers of pen guns today have modified their models so that regular small arms ammunition will not chamber or cannot be fired in their products. The basic approach has been to manufacturer a special tear gas cartridge that is *threaded* and screws into the the firing tube. By this means Federal control and registration is avoided. All current indications are that they will continue to be offered to the public on an unrestricted basis. However, there have been a few cases where police have encountered these threaded cartridges, reloaded with powder and shot by criminal elements but this is as yet relatively uncommon.

Enforcement of the National Firearms Act is spotty, but it does exist, and law enforcement officers should be aware of this legal aspect. The increasing sale of these devices due to the "crime in the streets" situation, makes it is most likely that most police departments will eventually come into contact with some aspect of their use by citizens or criminal elements.

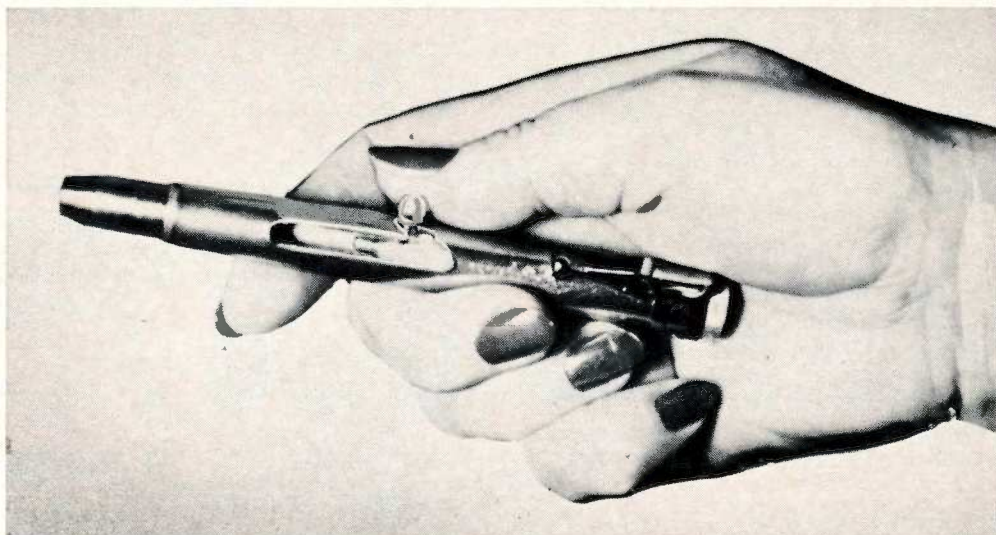
Many of the older models of pen guns that can be used to fire live ammunition are still around and being carried, by innocent citizens, illegal though they may be. It is important for police to be familiar with this side of the coin as well as the "zip gun" aspects of criminal use.

Newspaper accounts and police reports indicate that tear gas pen gun devices have been used with varying degrees of success over the years. Frequent mention is also made in the press of accidental or deliberate discharge of these weapons in crowded theaters and other mass gatherings. Criminal use in holdups and getaway maneuvers has also been covered.

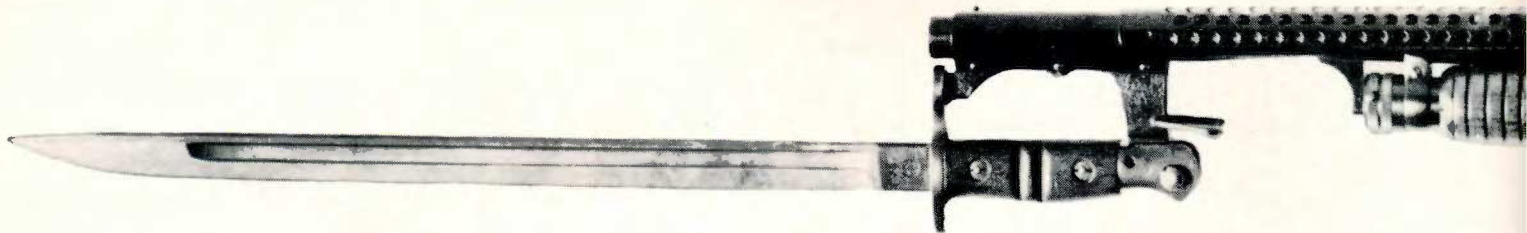
Generally, the amount of tear gas loading projected is so limited that those firing cartridges with *less* capacity than that of a .38 Special shell are the least effective. Larger type cartridges containing the loading equivalent of a .410 ga. shotshell case are best for police use. Accordingly, any tear gas pistol, cartridge, or device with a pay load of less than the .38 caliber size should not be considered or recommended for personal protection.

Pen guns should be considered tactically as "one shot" devices. There are some derringer models and some pen types firing a cartridge

(Continued on page 79)



A modern civilian model tear gas pen.



# THE DEADLIEST GUN



Shotguns are well adapted to brush fighting since they can score where rifles or machineguns won't.

**T**HERE CAME A DAY in 1918—somewhere in France—when dirty, unshaven “Yankees” charged madly behind a rolling barrage, through a hail of machine gun fire, to erupt screaming over the parapets of Hun trenches. Up to that point it was pure WW I—but as the doughboys plunged among the entrenched *soldaten*, not all of them carried the slender Springfield '03 rifle to clear trenches with bullet and bayonet.

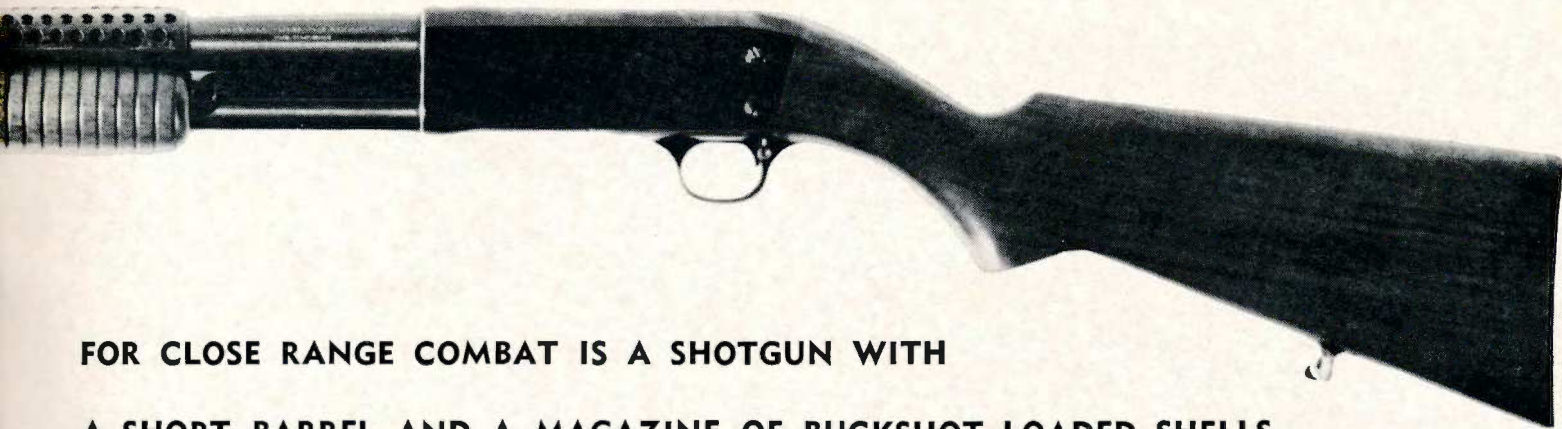
A fair percentage of them tumbled to the bottom of enemy trenches where they whirled, and with a thudding, rolling roar, released six shots in half as many seconds to sweep the enemy from the traverse as leaves before a gale.

The guns those vigorous lads carried were strangers to the battlefield, black and ugly with their perforated metal barrel guards and gleaming bayonets nearly as long as the barrels to which they were affixed. The repeating, slide-action shotgun—barely a score of years old itself—had in one day made its debut and won its spurs in modern warfare.

The gun in question was the Winchester Model 1897 Trench Gun, derived from the standard Winchester '97 shotgun. With barrel shortened to 20", and fitted with a heavy, perforated metal hand guard and the long, 16"-blade bayonet of the M-1817 rifle, it was indeed, a most deadly piece of ordnance. With a capacity of six-all-brass twelve-gauge shells, each loaded with nine .32 caliber balls, it could be emptied in little more than a pair of seconds with the effect at short range of a 50-round ma-



By Maj. George C. Nonte



**FOR CLOSE RANGE COMBAT IS A SHOTGUN WITH**

**A SHORT BARREL AND A MAGAZINE OF BUCKSHOT LOADED SHELLS**

chinegun burst. And it could deliver that mass of projectiles in half the time required by machineguns of the day. The '97 that had stood the slime and mud of duck marsh in happier days digested trench mud with equal aplomb, and kept firing. And, so the story goes, the Germans screamed "foul," loud and clear—proclaiming the soft leaden balls that so effectively cleaned their trenches were in the same class as the "dum-dum" bullet prohibited in "civilized" warfare by the Geneva Convention. It seems, then as now, that there are always those who tell a soldier to go kill his enemy—then try to tell him that only "nice" methods may be used to do the job.

Be all that as it may, the repeating shotgun quickly proved itself clearly superior at short range to the hand-manipulated magazine rifle then standard among the armies of the world. A reasonably dexterous soldier could, with little training, slam out six, nine-pellet loads in less time than it took his rifle-carrying compatriot to fire half as many single bullets. And in fact, those fifty-odd leaden balls could be launched in about half the time required for machineguns of the day to clatter out an equal number of projectiles. And in addition, the scattergunner was far more likely to achieve hits at close range than either of the other arms just mentioned.

In spite of all this, no truly great number of trench guns got into action in WW I. All told, Winchester delivered to the United States Army somewhat in excess of 19,000 '97's. While the other combatants in that war did occasionally use any and all weapons that were available, I have seen

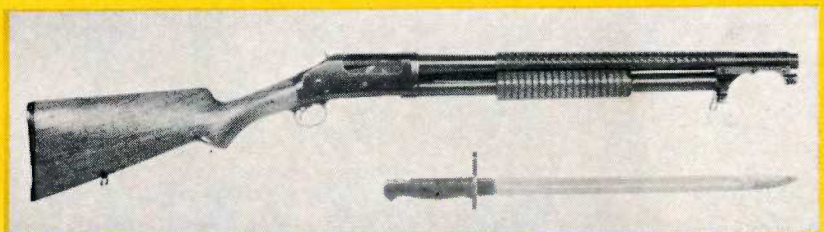
no evidence that repeating shotguns were ever standardized and deliberately issued by them to line troops for combat.

After that war the shotgun was relegated to guard use—partly because it was available, but also because the guard had an appreciably better chance of bringing down an intruder or escaping prisoner than with a rifle. And of course, the limited range of the buckshot load was especially desirable when fireworks started up in the middle of a cantonment area. Only military police and a few other selected personnel were trained, or even familiarized, with the shotgun. The shotgun-armed "prison chaser" became a familiar figure at most U. S. military installations, as he casually herded his guardhouse charges through their enforced menial labors.

When WW II erupted there was little, if any, deliberate combat use of the shotgun. Probably because the sub-machine gun had reached a high state of development and was considered the ideal close quarters individual weapon. Shotguns did show up in considerable quantity among home defense and home guard organizations and were recommended as the ideal weapon for John Q. Citizen to use against enemy parachutists. The U. S. Army did procure considerable quantities of the Winchester Model 12 Riot gun (and other makes, as well), but did not generally consider it a front-line combat arm. I can recall numerous comments by Pacific Theatre returnees—to the effect that they could have made excellent use of the old '97 Trench Gun in the island jungles. *(Continued on page 75)*

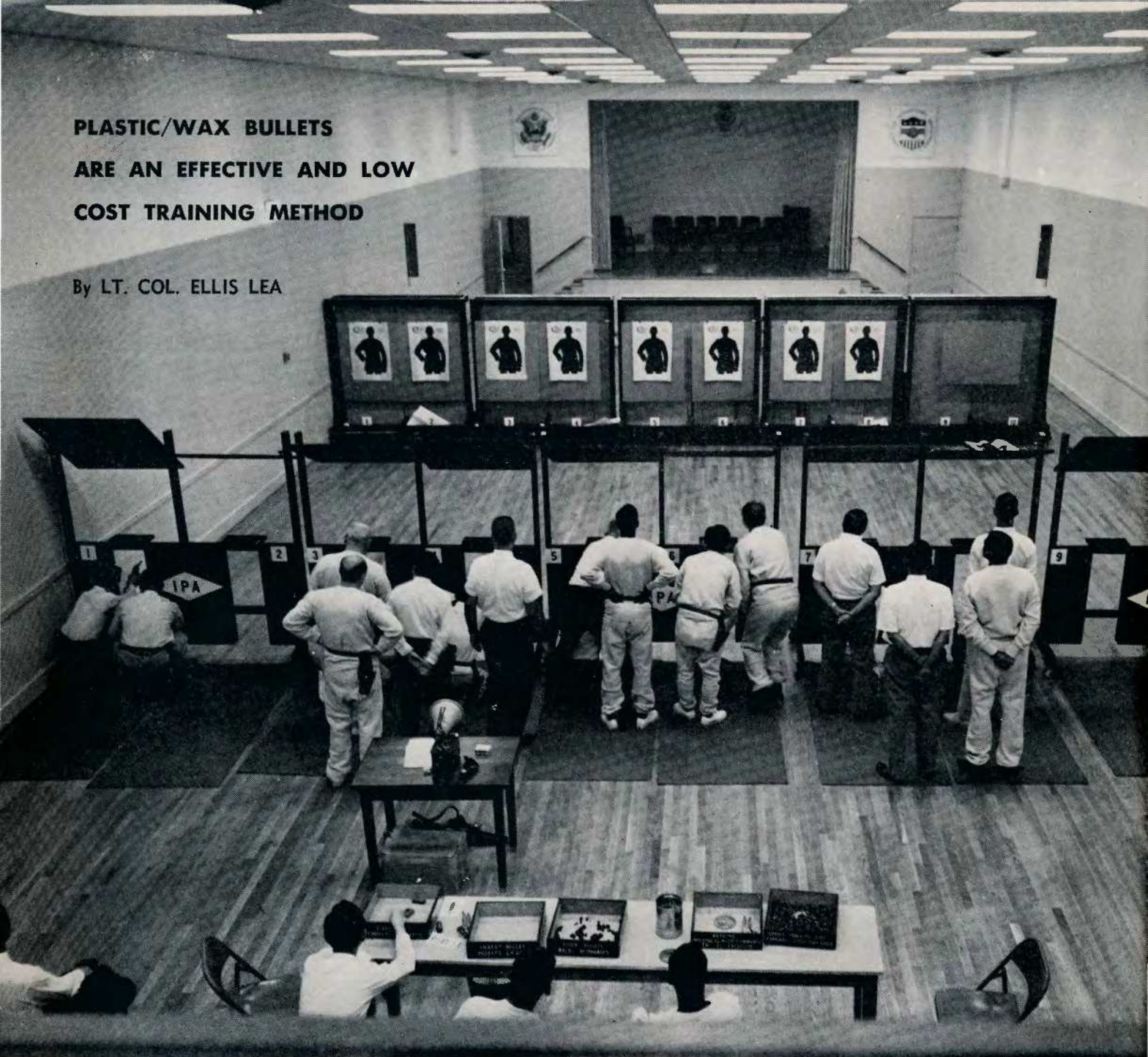


Above: The Savage 69-R riot gun is being supplied to the Army for use in Vietnam. Right: The Winchester M-97 trench gun was successfully used by American troops during WW I.



**PLASTIC/WAX BULLETS  
ARE AN EFFECTIVE AND LOW  
COST TRAINING METHOD**

By LT. COL. ELLIS LEA



Using portable equipment allows the International Police Academy to use their auditorium for several purposes.

# BETTER COMBAT SHOOTING

**D**URING THE DAYS when I was shooting and coaching pistol and rifle teams there used to be a saying prevalent, and may still be, that went "the only kind of shooting that hurts you is none at all." While this is not literally true, it is a good rule of thumb. To shoot better you must practice.

Some years back some weissenheimer with more desire to shoot than money developed a cheap way to practice by using paraffin bullets and pistol primers. For a while shooting at yourself in a mirror was great sport. At last report no one outdrew his image, I understand. Even Bill Jordan and Walter Walsh failed.



Since it is not the American way to do with makeshifts when something better can be made, various manufacturers of a variety of things decided to get into the act. The next step was a more durable "bullet" made of a wax/plastic mix that could be reused and which produced little or no barrel fouling. This bullet required the use of a standard .38 Special or .38 S&W case which had been modified by boring out the primer flash hole to allow more of the primer force to drive the "bullet."

The success of wax and wax/plastic bullets made the next step inevitable. There followed in rather quick succession a series of rounds made with plastic cases and bullets for revolvers and automatics. Bullets were designed like wadcutters, with hollow bases, with finned tails; they were made of hard plastic and soft rubber; cases and bullets were given different colors and almost all of the calibers from 9 mm up were favored.

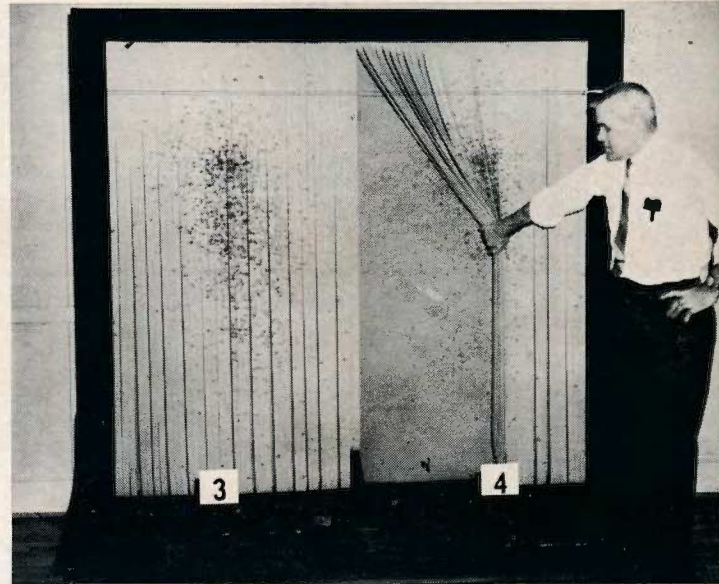
Some plastic rounds used the large pistol primer; others used the small pistol primer, so, with an infinite variety of parlor practice pistol ammo, shooters went to work and wrung it out.

In a short time the indoor leather-slappers noted that wax bullets were useful at only rather short range (about 10 ft.) for quick draw practice. Barrels became fouled with wax and accuracy was lacking. Wax/plastic bullets shot better, but accuracy suffered as the bullet diameter was reduced by repeated firing. Also, the bullets would fragment if they struck hard objects so mirror shooting was out. Plastic bullets not only shot better but lasted much longer. They could also be used for precision firing, with emphasis on score, up to about 30 feet.

I doubt there is a domestic police department in cities of less than 250,000 population that does not have a problem with providing regular firearms training for its members. Some with higher population have this trouble too. Sometimes, even by reloading their ammunition, only a small number of cartridges can be afforded per month, per quarter (Continued on page 72)



Waiting for their turn to get back on the firing line, the officers load the plastic cartridges.



Two rubber sheets, the first cut into one-inch strips, make a secure backstop for the bullets.

TABLE I  
COURSE OF FIRE, PLASTIC AMMUNITION

<u>No. Rds.</u>	<u>Positions</u>	<u>Type of Fire</u>	<u>Target</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
20	Standing	Slow	IPA	10 Mins. ea.	1 or 2 hands
6	Crouch	Rapid	50' Colt silh.	10 Secs.	Pt. Shoulder
18	Standing to kneel & sit	Rapid	50' Colt silh.	120 Secs.	12 Rds. kneel, 6 rds. sit
6	Standing to prone	Rapid	50' Colt silh.	30 Secs.	

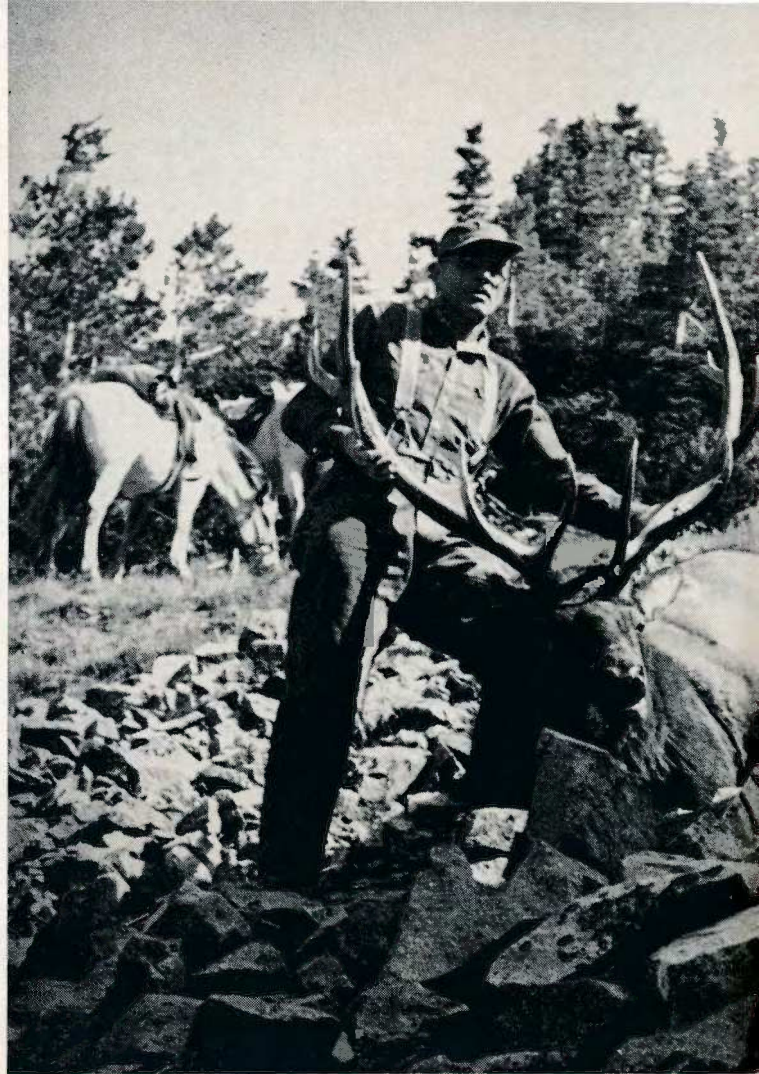
NOTE: Rapid fire exercises are begun with the pistol loaded and holstered.

# Rifles For ELK



*Les Bowman*

By LES BOWMAN



*Choosing the proper bullet is as important as the caliber you use*



Rifles for elk hunting must be accurate, since many shots, especially at big bulls, are at long ranges.

**A**MONG THE TOP GAME ANIMALS of our country the elk ranks high, perhaps the most desired trophy of all our game animals. Seen in their natural habitat they are truly magnificent and regal looking animals. For a hunter, the sight of a big six point bull elk, on guard over his harem or standing on a high ridge, challenging the other kings of the woods, with that exciting bugling call, is as satisfying and beautiful sight as he can wish for.

Like the buffalo, the elk of North America, came close to being exterminated before good game management stepped in to rescue them. While some of our game species find it too difficult to adjust and live with encroaching civilization, the elk does quite well, if he has enough room and food. Most of our western states can supply this to some degree and the elk is again numerous enough in these states to allow controlled hunting. A few of the states, such as Colorado, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming, now have herds that can permit the killing of around 14,000 elk a year. This killing is planned for carefully selected areas to help control the herds and maintain and protect their feeding grounds.

I believe nearly every active hunter or sportsman in the



Five elk rifles from Bowman's gun rack include two in 7 mm Rem. Mag., one each in .300 Win. Mag., .300 Weatherby Mag. and a 7 mm Weatherby.



east or south plans on an elk hunt out here in the west at some time and many hunters now buy their rifles for use on eastern and southern deer with the possibility of using the same rifle for a long planned elk hunt also. This can only be a compromise at best. The average western elk weighs from 500 to 750 pounds for full grown mature cows and bulls, and some of the big bulls go considerably over this. An animal of this size is quite different from the ordinary eastern or southern deer. Add to this the fact that these animals who spend their lives climbing mountains up to 13,000 foot altitude, covering a large area in their grazing, and enduring the hard cold winters of the west, can take a lot of punishment. From this one can readily see he would need a rifle that uses cartridges of adequate caliber, with bullets of proper weight, driven at speeds that will produce penetration and shocking power, for good kills.

With the exception of hunting done for the Roosevelt elk in the heavily timbered coastal areas of Washington and Oregon, most elk hunting is in open or semi-open country, and in timber and brush country that is not too dense. Many of the best trophies are taken in long ridge to ridge

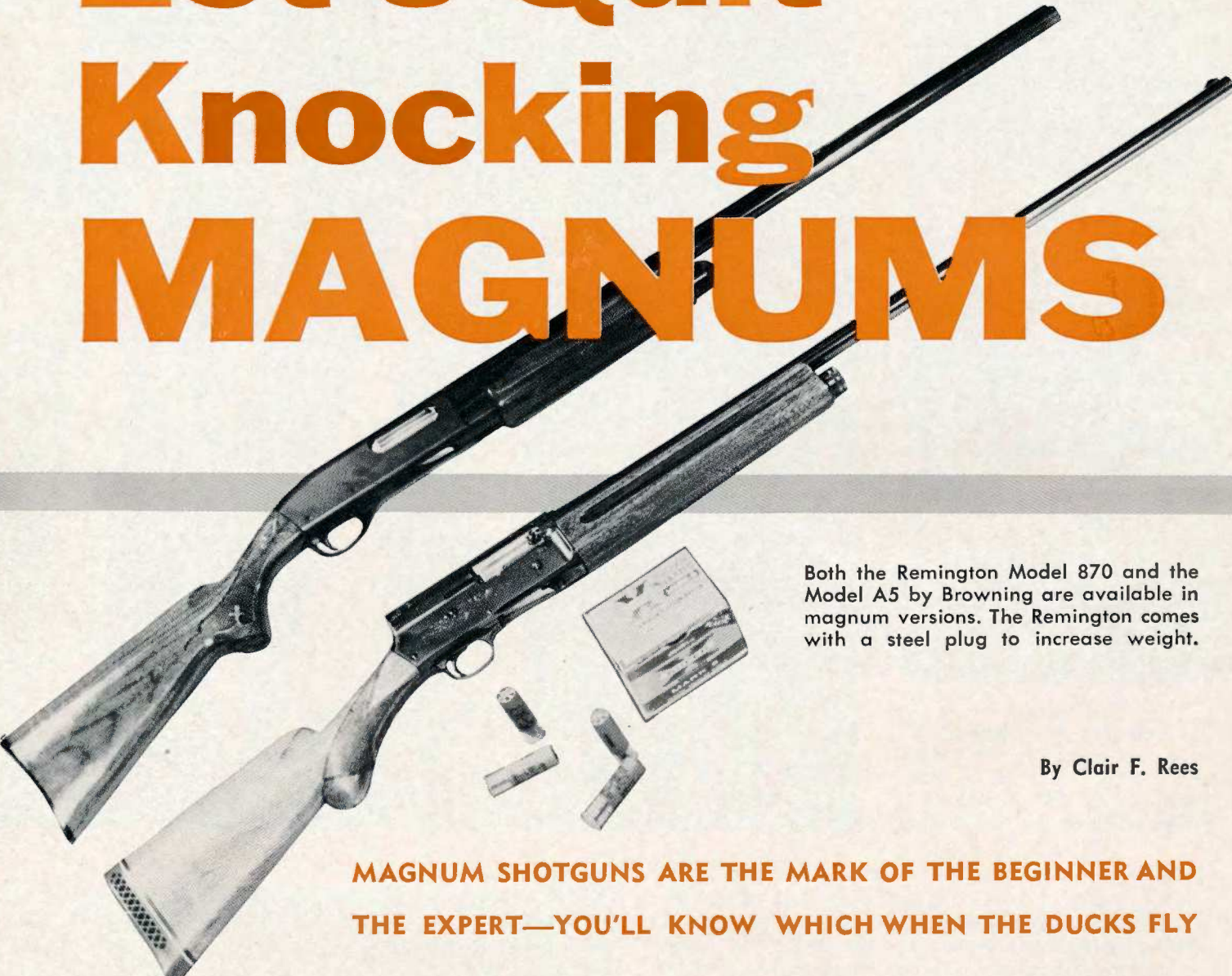
shooting. Although the average shots at elk are from 175 to 250 yards, some can be quite close up and some out to distances of 400 yards or so. The real big trophy bull is usually shot at these longer distances or you just don't get him. Hunting pressure on elk, as well as on all other types of big game, is making them more alert and cautious all the time and also there are fewer real big trophies left, as more and more hunters are taking to the field every year.

So, as the trophy elk get smarter, the hunting harder, and the number of big ones fewer, hunters must have a specialized rifle for elk, if they wish to give themselves the best possible chance to collect one, particularly a real trophy.

As big game outfitters, we never cared too much what caliber or type rifle a hunter brought with him just as long as it was legal. We merely put that hunter in an area best suited to his equipment and hunting ability. However we did realize that the hunter using a good 7 mm Magnum or .300 Magnum had a better chance of getting a real trophy than the hunter who came out wanting to use his .243 or 6 mm, with 100 grain bullets.

About 85 percent of all elk are (Continued on page 52)

# Let's Quit Knocking MAGNUMS



Both the Remington Model 870 and the Model A5 by Browning are available in magnum versions. The Remington comes with a steel plug to increase weight.

By Clair F. Rees

**MAGNUM SHOTGUNS ARE THE MARK OF THE BEGINNER AND THE EXPERT—YOU'LL KNOW WHICH WHEN THE DUCKS FLY**

**T**HE MAGNUM SHOTGUN has been abused in print ever since its inception several years ago. Every alternate duck hunting tale published has made some mention of the skyblasting inepts who persist in using the awe-inspiring 3-inch 12 gauge and the even more awesome and damned 10-gauge Magnum.

Right there we have the primary reason for the magnum's present unpopularity: Many of the people who first bought magnum shotguns were "inepts." They thought that the much-ballyhooped extra pattern density and increased range the magnums offered would compensate for their lack of skill

with a shotgun. These hopefuls were sure that putting 30 to 50 percent more shot in the air would inevitably result in killing more birds.

Many tyros were equally sure that the new "cannons" were the answer to those migrating flights of ducks and geese that were just visible as they passed overhead.

Naturally, these gunners were doomed to disappointment. Poor shots continued to be poor shots, even with the new wonder guns. And migrating waterfowl in the commercial airline lanes still managed to fly untouched over the most murderous barrages the magnums could put up. In short, these

guns failed to provide the cure for the hunter who hoped equipment and firepower could be substituted for skill and judgement.

What made matters even worse was the fact that beginning gunners who *could* hit an occasional bird with their old shotguns couldn't hit *anything* with the new magnums. The heavier recoil and much louder report destroyed what skills or confidence the tyro gunner may have managed to develop with standard loads.

The result was inevitable. The inexperienced gunner was disillusioned by the new shotguns and disappointed in their performance, while the experi-

enced gunner was shocked and angered (or amused) by the 100-plus yard shots he too often saw attempted. Thus the disenchanted tyro abandoned the magnum shotgun as not living up to its advance billing, and many more experienced hunters likewise shunned it because they didn't want to be associated with those "skybusting blankety-blank boobs" who so often ruined the shooting for those around them.

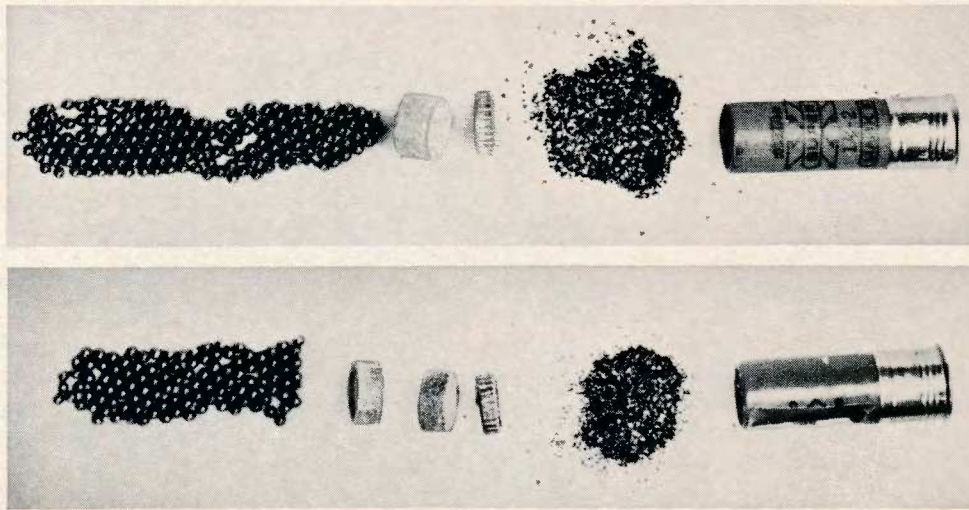
There were, to be sure, those who were experienced and wise enough to recognize the magnum shotgun for what it really was: a highly specialized tool for long-range (but not OUT of range) pass shooting. As with any specialized tool, it required skill and judgement in its use. These men quietly added the magnum to their already large gunning tool chests and happily used it whenever the occasion demanded. Such men utilized the denser patterns and slightly longer range afforded to bring down hard-to-kill species at an extreme range of about 55 yards.

Fortunately for us, it was these experts who kept the magnum alive. Occasionally, a well-informed, cool-headed article written by one of these men found its way into print. These articles, and the fact that some people continued to recognize the true worth of the new loads and kept sales at an acceptable level, nurtured the magnum through its infancy.

Now the magnum has passed through adolescence. It has reached full growth and should no longer be regarded as a juvenile delinquent.

Let's take a look at the cold facts about magnum shotguns. These guns, with the possible exception of the 20-gauge magnum, are meant for one purpose only: pass shooting at ranges of 35 to 55 yards. The heavier, slow-swinging magnums are a handicap at shorter ranges. Too, the dense patterns afforded by  $1\frac{5}{8}$  or  $1\frac{7}{8}$  ounces of shot would make hamburger out of anything shot closer than 30 yards, especially since guns chambered for these loads are customarily supplied with full chokes. In fact, I have never seen a 10- or 12-gauge Maggie with anything *but* a full choke. Even magnum doubles come bored full and full, which negates the one big advantage of the double gun—the instant availability of two different degrees of choke.

If the large magnum has a lower limit to its effective range, it also has an equally rigid upper limit. Even with



Here's what you get when you buy a magnum shotshell: Up to 50 per cent more shot and enough powder to push it at the standard velocity.



A full choked magnum shotgun may be just too much for decoyed birds, even notoriously tough ones such as geese. They're best on long shots.

their ultra-full chokes, magnum shotguns will only take game consistently out to an extreme range of about 55 yards—and *then* only when they are properly pointed. Oh, I'll admit that there might be one gun in 50 that will throw a tight enough pattern with a loading it likes to stretch this potential range to the 60 or 65 yard mark, but even with such a gun, the hunter who can bring down birds cleanly and consistently at this distance is as rare as the pinnated threepwhistle.

While magnums are not the wonder guns some hunters apparently think they are, they *will* give excellent performances *at the ranges they were meant to be used at*.

The Browning Magnum A-5 shotgun that I used last season gave tight, true full-choke patterns. With the right loads, this is one gun that *could* be effective out to, or even a little bit past, the 60-yard mark.

This gun gave 75 per cent patterns at 40 yards with  $1\frac{5}{8}$  ounces of num-

ber 4's in the Winchester-Western loadings. With  $1\frac{7}{8}$  ounces of number 2's, it kept an average of 104 of the 169 pellets in the shot column within a 30-inch circle—at 50 yards. This means that this particular gun is patterning about 62 percent even at this distance.

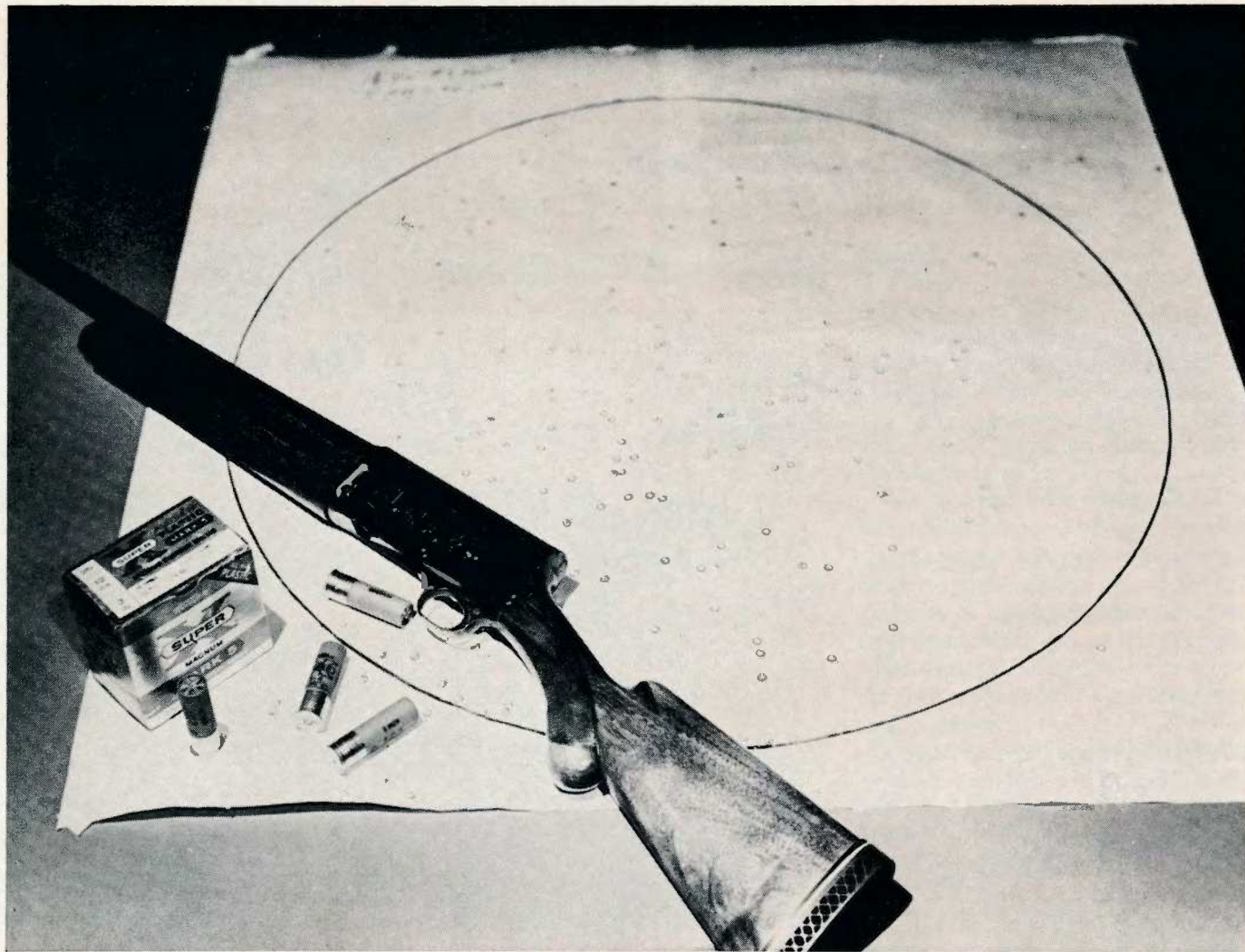
The point is that 62 percent of 169 pellets is considerably more pellets than even 75 percent of the 112 pellets available in standard high-velocity number 2 12-gauge loads. In fact, with the  $1\frac{7}{8}$  ounce load of 2's, this 3-inch magnum delivers 24 percent *more* pellets at 50 yards than a similarly choked nonmagnum does at 40 yards. Theoretically, this means that a skilled gunner could kill as many birds cleanly at 55-60 yards with the magnum as another equally proficient hunter shooting standard loads at the accepted ideal full-choke range of 40 yards could.

Ballistically, this shows that the potential is there for 50-plus-yard shots. Whether or not the gunner is capable of using this potential may be another

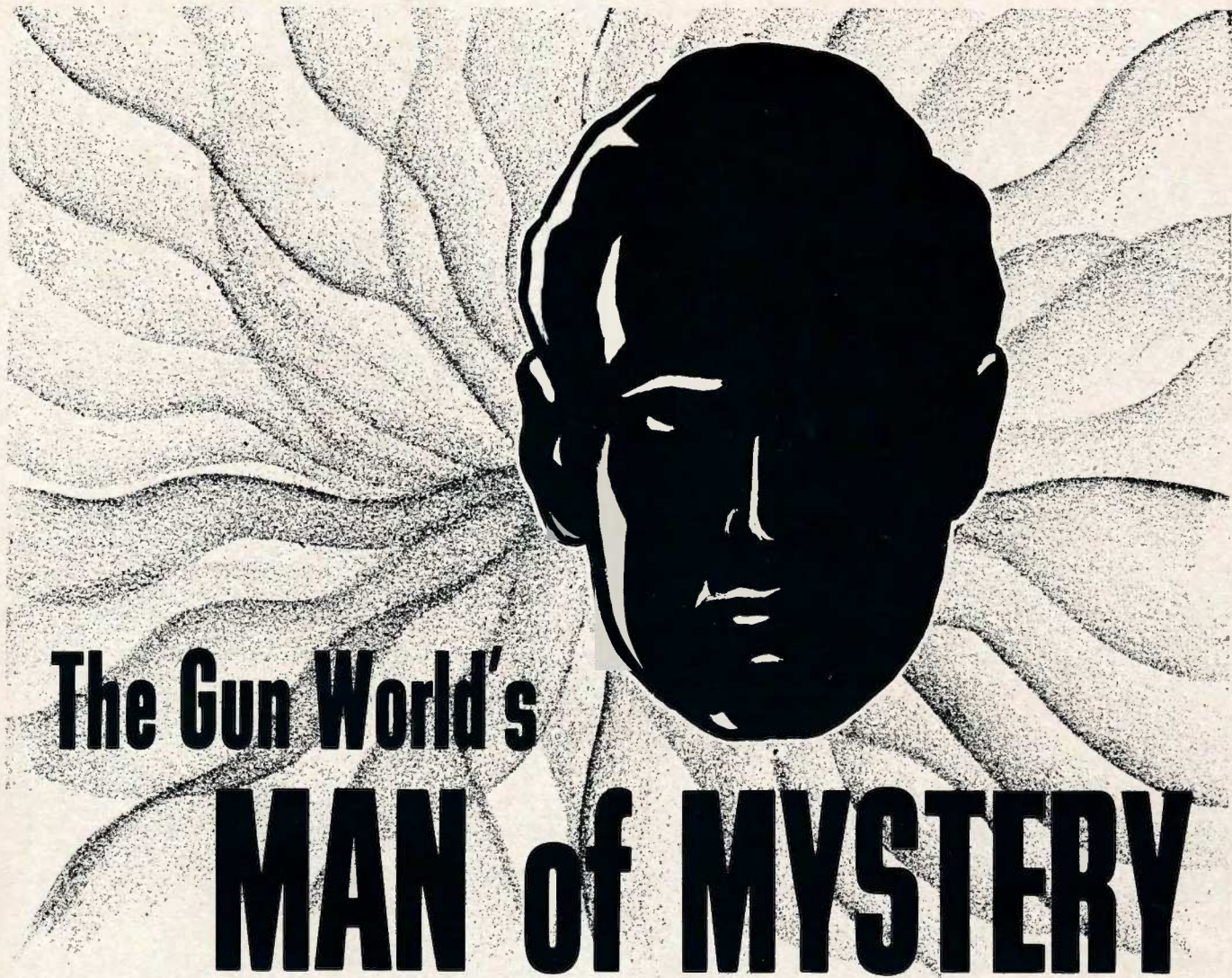
question. Any duck hunter is at least vaguely aware of the basic ballistics problem involved in arranging a mid-air meeting of shot and duck. This problem becomes more complex as angle of the line of flight in relation to the gunner varies, and as the speed of the duck increases. And all of these problems are vastly complicated as the range increases.

Unfortunately, it is hard enough for most of us to hit a crossing duck at 40 yards, let alone 50 or 55 yards. At these extreme ranges, time of flight of the shot, velocity of the duck, and even the distance the shot will drop become critical factors. It is true that most experienced wing shots swing on target and fire without consciously considering any of the above variables, but the variables are there just the same. The computing mechanism in the shooter's brain can't ignore them, or the bird just won't come down.

The facts about magnum shotguns show that (Continued on page 58)



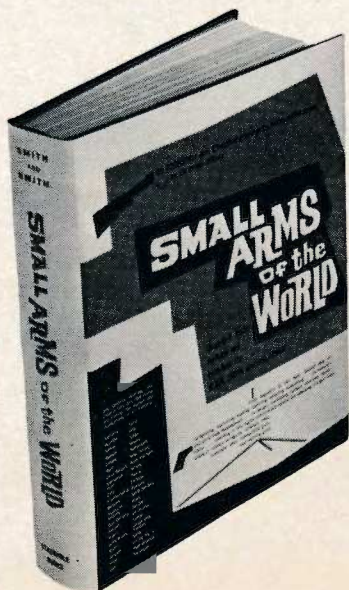
The magnum doesn't send its shot any further than the standard load. It just sends more shot at the target.



# The Gun World's MAN of MYSTERY

WE ARE PROUD TO PRESENT THE FIRST OF A THREE  
PART SERIES ON W.H.B. SMITH—THE MAN AND HIS GUNS

By E. B. MANN



**I**N THE SPRING of 1959, a man passed from the world of guns. His name was Walter Harold Bingham-Black Smith, and the legacy of guns and gun knowledge he left behind has touched, in some way, almost every person interested in firearms, as it will continue to do in the future.

Some of the story of this man—known better to those with an interest in guns as W.H.B. Smith, author of “Small Arms of the World,” military weapons consultant of the “American Rifleman”—has already been told.

In this article, we will bring to light only a small amount of the mystery of the man named Smith, but it will lay the groundwork for those articles which will follow.

In 1943, when Walter Smith first came into my office, he was unknown to me. I was struggling to meet a printer's deadline, and Walter was a talking man. Hours later, deadlines forgotten, Walter talked on and (to paraphrase an old quote) ‘still my wonder grew that one small head could carry all he knew.’ My wonder continued to grow throughout the following years; wonder not only at what he knew but at how he could possibly have gotten the information.

“Walter H. B. Smith is one of my ‘most unforgettable characters.’ I’ve

Jandot  
5-8-45



Above: Walter Smith used the services of A. Jandot many times to put his ideas on firearms designs into understandable drawings. These drawings were made in 1945, and represent an early Smith design for a .22 autoloading pistol. Some will recognize features on this design that are incorporated in commercial guns.

Facing page: During the years as a firearms dealer, W.H.B. Smith had many guns engraved; by an unknown number of engravers. While his favorites were S&W revolvers and pistols, he did have work done on both rifles and shotguns as well. The photographs on the following two color pages were provided by Joel Gross.

heard the same statement made even by people who did not like him. I liked him; am proud to have known him. If there are weapons in Heaven, Walter will be happy—particularly so if there are secrets about those weapons.

More is known now about the man named Smith, partly due to interest aroused by a previously published article (*GUNS* Sept., 1960). Since then, there have been many exchanges of letters and many discussions between the few who knew this man of mystery; discussions culminating finally in the decision by his estate attorney and executors

to publish information about the long-secret W. H. B. Smith guns. Pictures and descriptions of those guns will appear in subsequent issues of this magazine. . . But there will be no picture of the man himself—unless, of course, one of you readers meets the challenge offered in connection with this article. So far as we know, no picture of Walter H. B. Smith exists. But we hope we're wrong.

I have often smiled about the interview I had with Walter in 1943. It was a meeting of nonentities. Nobody at 1600 Rhode Island Avenue knew Walter H. B. Smith, else he

*(Continued on page 42)*





Engraved by Alvin White



The artistic talents of the engravers chosen by W.H.B. Smith to do his work are well illustrated in the photos above, which show the gold inlay work on the slides of three S&W 9 mm auto pistols. The Winchester and Colt shown below, are not only fully engraved, but also completely covered with gold plating.



would not have been sent to the tiny cubicle I then occupied on the third floor of the old mansion which then housed the National Rifle Association of America, in Washington, D. C. My chair as a very johnny-come-lately Associate Editor of "The American Rifleman" was hardly warm as yet, and perhaps this mutual humility—editor with new-job jitters, and aspiring writer—provided a basis for sympathetic understanding between us. I certainly could not have impressed him with my knowledge, for most of the guns he mentioned were ones of which I had never heard; but he impressed me—to the point of wonder if he were some kind of hoax. It was a doubt not easy to quell; because very few people in the world were able (or willing) to say whether what Walter told me was true or not!

Walter's first article resulting from that interview was published in the December 1943 "Rifleman." It was a description and commentary on the Aus-Sten (Australian Sten) Machine Pistol, which, Walter said, combined the best features and omitted the faults of the British Sten and German Schmeisser ("Burp Gun") Machine Pistols. The Aus-Sten was 9 mm, was geared to fire semi-automatic as well as full-auto, had a sensible cyclic rate of about 500 rounds per minute, was light in weight, well balanced, sturdily reliable, with an easy-to-manufacture simplicity of design which delighted the new, not-yet-announced Military Weapons Consultant of "The American Rifleman."

By this time, too, the question, "Who is this W. X. Y. Z. Smith?" was buzzing through the world of guns, from the Pentagon to SHAEF in London, and especially in certain Washington offices commonly referred to as "the cloak-and-dagger agencies." It was a question that went unanswered. Certainly I couldn't answer it, much less tell where Walter got his material (and materiel). But when Walter brought in an article, usually a gun came with it; and when people called (as many did) to say, "There ain't no such gun!," my answer was, "Then I wish you'd come up here and tell me what this weapon is that Walter left with me."

Walter was, so far as anybody knows or has yet admitted, strictly a private citizen. This (Continued on page 54)



*Guns Color*



*Gallery*



**DUELLING PISTOLS**

Saw-handle duelling pistols made by (top to bottom): Jeremiah Patrick of Liverpool; Forbes, also of Liverpool; and McDermot of Dublin. Photo from "Duelling Pistols" by John Atkinson.

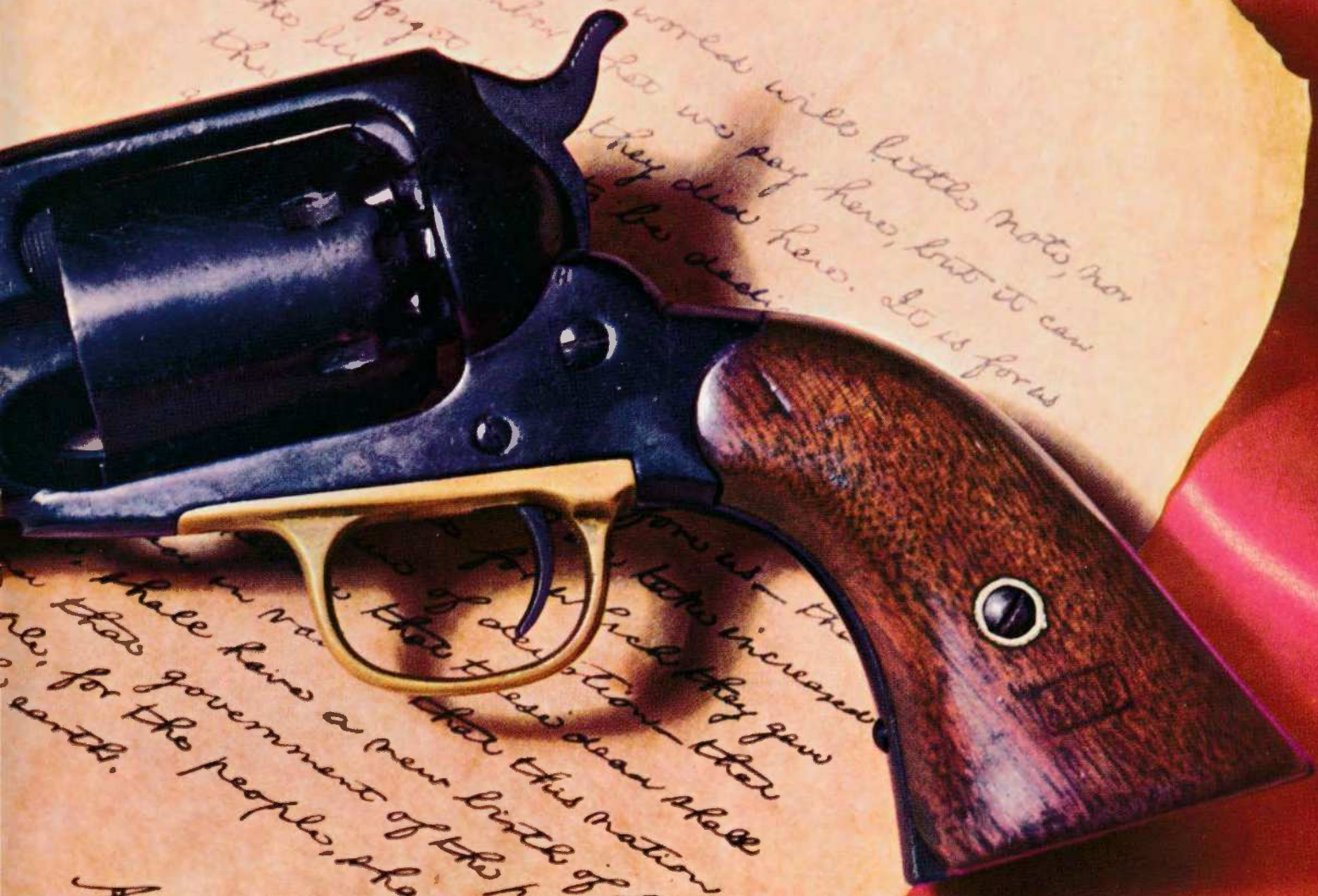


### **REMINGTON NEW MODEL ARMY REVOLVER**

One of the many types of firearms used extensively during the Civil War was the Remington .44 percussion revolver known as the New Model Army. The revolver shown in this photograph may well be a relic of that great conflict. The setting, at least, with the cap of a volunteer and a copy of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address, seems to add a note of authenticity to this premise. Photo from H. Armstrong Roberts, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

...ation of the  
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... or distract. The world will little note, nor  
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... shall not fear  
... shall have a new birth of freedom,  
... government of the people,  
... for the people, shall not fear  
... earth.  
Abraham Lincoln.



## THE COLT SINGLE ACTION

The famous Colt "hogleg" will forever be the gun of the cowboy. This is a .357 Magnum with factory type "C" engraving. The grips carry the brand of the Circle S Ranch. Photo by Dick Friske; from the collection of W. C. Clark.





# FIRST CLASS GUNS

MANY NATIONS COMMEMORATE THEIR SHOOTING SPORTSMEN ON POSTAGE STAMPS—YET A “NATION OF RIFLEMEN” DOES NOT

By ROBERT L. LOEFFELBEIN

IT IS DISTRESSING to note that the one country which excels in most sports and which even advocates at a national level health through sports, the United States, has issued probably fewer sports-depicting postage stamps than any other nation. It is doubly distressing for the shooting sportsman to realize that none of these few stamps have honored such traditionally American sports as hunting and firearms competition.

In fact, all the sports-depicting stamps issued by this country can easily be listed in one paragraph. There was the “Indian hunting buffalo” in 1898, if this food-getting can be construed as “sport.” After a 34-year lapse, this was followed by the Third Olympic Games commemorative of 1932 picturing a skier, the Baseball Centennial commemorative of 1939, the American Turners Society commemora-

tive in 1948 with a small discus thrower, the Naismith Basketball commemorative in 1961, and the Physical Fitness-Sokol commemorative of 1965, showing a statue of a discus thrower. There were also commemoratives of the Pan American Games in 1959 and the Olympic Winter Games in 1960, but neither of these depicted sports.

Shown here are stamps from other countries depicting international competition in the shooting sports, including a pentathlon issue put out by the tiny principality of San Marino. The others from Hungary and Rumania show free pistol, skeet, and various forms of rifle competition.

It seems rather strange that a country so proud of its other accomplishments in international competition would not at least honor its Olympic shooters, let alone such a great tradition as its skill in hunting.



# *Black Powder* **MARKSMEN**





# GUNS MAGAZINE COVERS THE SPRING MATCHES OF THE NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION HELD IN FRIENDSHIP, INDIANA



By JEROME RAKUSAN

**A**IRLINE PILOTS flying over southeastern Indiana during the weekend of May 18 through the 21st, may have been surprised to see volumes of smoke rising from the wooded banks of Laughery Creek. However, if they were shooting enthusiasts, and especially black powder shooters, they would not have been surprised to learn that all the smoke came from the Spring Matches of the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association held that weekend.

The matches were held at the Association's Walter Cline Range, near the town of Friendship, Indiana, a fitting name for a spot which each year hosts a group of the friendliest shooters ever assembled. More than 600 competitors, shooting everything from .36 caliber cap and ball pistols to .60 caliber bench rest rifles, contributed to the pall of smoke which rose from the green hills. Most of these shooters, and some of the more than 3,500 spectators camped right on the grounds of the range, sleeping, eating, and relaxing in tents, camper trucks, trailers and even teepees. When the matches were over, campfires and kerosene lamps set their light to cast upon the many participants who were garbed in colorful costumes. Although the competitors sweated and swore as they felt the tension of heated competition, the atmosphere of the range, campgrounds, and just about all of this corner of the Hoosier State was one of people having a good time.

To those who participate in muzzle loader shooting, the acrid smell of black powder smoke, the perforated rags (patching material) hanging from the hip pockets, and the haggling of buyer and seller at the many booths in commercial row, were nothing out of the ordinary. To the newcomer, however, the matches might have appeared to be a wild mixture of Camp Perry, the battle of Bunker Hill, and a country fair, all rolled into one.

To the competitors, the winning of a patch, trophy, or medal was worthy of a concentrated effort, but it appeared that more important than winning, was the (Continued on page 78)



Harold Wright, of Burt, Michigan, stops by the Dixie Gun Works booth to pick out some ramrods.



The American Sportsman filmed this Seneca Race for a program to be shown during next season.



# PULL!

By DICK MILLER

**W**HAT SHOULD YOU do about shooting tips offered by fellow shooters, and others? The answer is simple, and perhaps just a little tart. You should ignore them, that is, you should ignore shooting tips from others, unless the tips do something good for your own shooting style.

The inspiration for these remarks comes in part from a conversation I had this week with my friend Ernie Koenig, from Newman, California. Gunsmith and gun dealer Ernie is a long-time small-bore shooter who has more recently taken to the trap sport. He breaks a lot of targets, except when he listens too faithfully to advice offered from well-meaning shooting buddies. He normally shoots targets rather quickly, and when he shoots quickly, he breaks his share of them. When he listens to advice to take his time, and let the target get out there, he does not break as many targets.

I submit that it is extremely difficult for any shooter to counsel another shooter regarding the speed with which that shooter should break targets. There are too many variables involved. One shooter may have very fast reaction time, be a fast swinger, be shooting a gun with faster lock time, and get the right target picture more quickly than another shooter for any number of reasons

not enumerated. The shooter who points out the targets, calculates lead, angle, etc., will take longer than a shooter who is a "swinger," for example, and who fires when the picture is right, without all the other shooter's mental gymnastics.

My advice to ignore shooting advice (unless the advice does something good for you) may sound inconsistent to regular readers who have read a lot of shooting advice in these pages. My advice to ignore shooting advice might sound especially inconsistent to a fellow like Dennis Parker, from Fort Wayne, Indiana, who wrote that he had competed in only six registered shoots since 1964, and had done so poorly that he quit shooting, until he read one of my columns giving advice for proper shooting technique from each trap post. He told his wife that he hadn't been shooting correctly, and that he was going to a Deer Creek CC shoot, and shoot correctly; also that he was going to win. Shoot correctly he did, and win he did.

But, in analyzing the kind of shooting advice Dennis Parker and you have read in these pages, you will discover that at no time have I ever suggested changing a basic shooting pattern or characteristic. The advice for shooting each trap post simply gave the basics for taking advantage of hold, foot, and

body position from each post. Regardless of a basic shooting style, it makes sense when shooting from post one to be prepared for an extreme left angle, which is normally the most difficult shot from that post. If the shooter faces the traphouse from post one, he will have to push the gun after a left angle, instead of swinging on the angle, and it is unequivocal that you can't push a gun as fast as you can swing it.

It also follows that if you start your swing from post one by holding the muzzle over the center of the traphouse, and your competitor starts his swing on post one from a point off the left corner of the house, he has at least an eight to ten foot advantage on you. Personally, I don't like to give my competition that much of a break. Advice that gives a shooter knowledge of the basics is not the same as that which might tend to alter his basic shooting pattern, which should be his and his alone.

Dennis Parker's letter also relates that he was disgusted because his scores in registered shoots were about ten targets less than he could post in practice. This, of course, entitles him to membership in a very large, and not so exclusive, club. It further provides me with an opportunity to offer some shooting advice. Good advice, that is.

When a shooter racks up good scores in practice, and poor scores when the chips are down, more often than not he is altering his basic shooting pattern. In practice he will have a tendency to cheek the gun loosely, to hold the gun loosely, and to swing easily, without being too careful on the target alignment. When the tournament starts, this same shooter cheeks the gun tightly, holds it tightly, and becomes extra careful with the targets. In so doing, he is completely changing basic style. He is forgetting that by cheeking the gun more tightly, he can have easily moved  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch on the stock, which can mean as much as three feet, enough to miss, at the point where the target is broken. He also changes his rhythm and timing on the swing, by being extra careful, to a degree which would lose targets which fell to the easier, looser swing.

How can you overcome this failing? There are many ways, but my own was to treat every target as if it was a Grand American type. That's probably why Ed Bootz, at Westhaven Gun Club, in Evansville, Indiana, who had just lost a coke to me, observed that he never saw a man who would bear down so hard for a coke. That's also probably why my scores in the Grand were as good or better than any I fired anywhere, even in practice. If the shooter will treat every target as a championship target, he will not be forced to change a whole pattern of shooting when the match is for real.

Sure, I made and make mistakes. So do doctors. If I didn't make any mistakes, I would be national champion, which I am not. If doctors didn't make mistakes, our projected population explosion might be more nearly on us.

A shooting buddy once observed that I lost a new car in a handicap shoot at Stifal's in Casey, Illinois, because I "peeked." By "peeked," I mean that I lifted my head off the stock to make sure that I broke the last three targets for a hundred straight. Result: I didn't break 100, and didn't get the car. Additional result: I made myself snug that cheek down on the stock for every shot

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thereafter. I didn't lose any more birds by "pecking." But, I did lose them for other reasons. That's why this game is so interesting.

There is another observation that is valid here. That observation is that you should treat as gospel the kind of shooting advice my buddy gave me at Casey. It also dawns on me in retrospect that he must have had confidence that I would take his advice, because a few years later, he bought me in a Calcutta at the annual big Stifal Labor Day event, which I won with a 99, thereby enriching him not inconsiderably. Observation: The one target I missed was not a result of "pecking." Now, after having pontificated rather lengthily on shooting advice, and how to take it, there is another observation I must make, to be consistent with earlier PULL! columns.

There are probably no more gregarious and helpful souls on the face of the earth than trap and skeet shooters. Just about any beginning shooter can count on the old hands to give all the shooting advice that is needed. Most of the shooting advice will be precisely that; what is needed.

Most experienced shooters will not try to impose their own highly individualistic shooting styles on a beginner. They will help the beginner with the basics, and stop there. This column is written to remind the beginner that occasionally the experienced shooter will be carried away by the spirit of the occasion, and try to impose his or her own shooting style on the neophyte. It is at this point that the shooter, new or old, must start sifting the good from the bad. In the final analysis, the test of whether advice is good or bad depends on whether or not it works.

If you can break more targets standing on your head, and shooting them just before they hit the ground, then do it. If you score higher standing erect, and shooting quickly, then by all means stand erect and shoot quickly.

There is little in the rule books that says how or when you shall break a target. The most important factor to be considered is whether the man with the pencil marks "dead" or "lost" on the score pad. And, never, never, never, pick out a successful shooter and try to mimic his or her shooting style, just because it works. That style may be the worst possible choice for you.

How will you learn what style is best for you? By looking at the score pad, my friend. If the "x's" outnumber the "o's," you have arrived. And, when you have arrived, cultivate for all you are worth what brought you there. Shoot each target as if it were the one that would win the Grand American or the skeet Nationals, and shoot them one at a time. Concentrate on breaking that one target, in the way that works best for you, and let the other guy worry about his own score.



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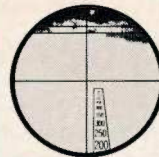
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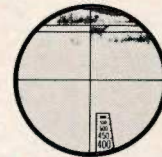
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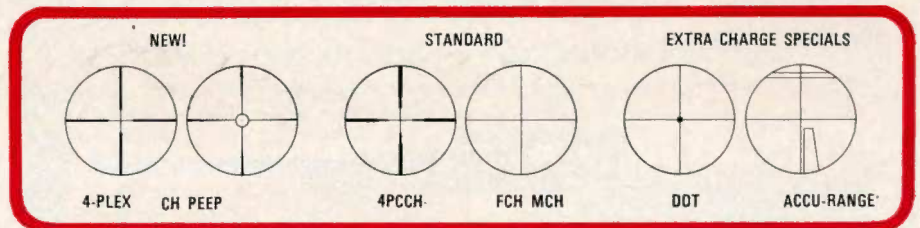


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## RIFLES FOR ELK

(Continued from page 35)

killed at ranges of around 50 yards to 250 yards. Checking back over nearly 20 years of elk guiding I would place the average distance at 175 yards. Many of the elk I saw killed at long ranges could have been stalked to a closer kill, without too much trouble. Of the 15 per cent that are killed at ranges from 300 yards or farther, quite a number of these are real trophy bulls that couldn't have been stalked any closer.

A mature bull elk is a large animal and the best place to put any caliber bullet for a sure kill is the lung area. This is an area approximately 18 inches in diameter. Any of our modern soft point bullets, at contact point speed of 2000 fps or over, will open enough and destroy the lungs so thoroughly that death takes place in a matter of seconds. An animal hit in the lungs does not instantly fall dead unless the bullet has also penetrated another vital spot. It usually stands for a few seconds, perhaps a half minute, until the lungs fill up and if the animal is running, it may go from a few yards to as many as 300 before it goes down. However, no other shot placement is as easy to make, is so sure to be fatal, and can be relied on, from any reasonable caliber, as a lung shot. Also, a lung shot can be made from most any angle, front or rear or broadside and still not spoil much edible meat.

A high lung shot is better for a faster kill than a low one. On a high shot the blood accumulates in the lungs and causes the animal to literally drown in its own blood, but a low shot, especially if it goes on through, lets the blood out and although it will be fatal, the animal can go much farther before he falls. If a lung shot is placed too far back, it is a paunch shot and the animal can, and often does, run a long distance before going down for keeps. I paunch shot a fine Desert ram in lower Baja California, a few years ago, at such a long distance that the bullet went all the way through but did not open up at all. That ram went 7 miles before he stayed down. If the bullet had gone into the lungs, even without opening up well, we would have found him much closer.

A heart shot is a poor one. It is a hard shot to make as the heart of an elk is only

about 5 by 6 inches. It is just at the rear of the forelegs and protected by them and it is far lower down than most hunters think it is. I have seen an elk run half a mile, down a steep timbered slope, before he fell down from a heart shot had taken at least a third of his heart off. Although an animal may not even flinch enough to see it from a lung shot that is fatal in seconds, a heart shot on either elk or deer is easy to tell, as they jump straight up as though the shot went directly under them.

Besides being hard to make and the fact that a heart shot animal often runs a considerable distance, if this type shot is made from a broadside angle, the shoulder on one or both sides will be spoiled, as far as edible meat is concerned. Probably the best angle to make a heart shot from is directly in front. Such a shot usually penetrates the lung area, furnishing double security of a fast kill.

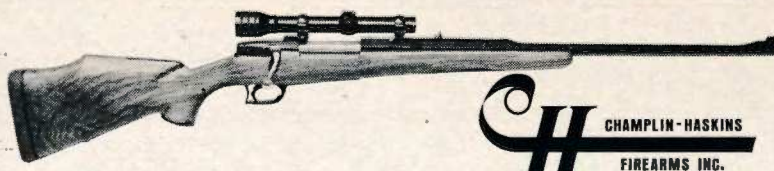
A neck shot is one that lots of hunters talk about but it is a shot that loses a lot of game. There is quite often a blood trail that soon quits and the game is gone. The neck of an elk is about 18 to 20 inches in length and about 14 inches in diameter at the head end to around 20 inches at the shoulder end. His spine is only under the skin, about three inches at the top to around five inches at the shoulders. There is a lot of neck to hit and only make a bloody wound that will most certainly eventually kill the animal but still allows him to go for miles or get away altogether. A shot that hits the spine of an animal kills instantly but to hit the spine in the thick neck of an elk is quite hard to accomplish and when I do try for a neck shot I pick a spot as close in back of the head as possible. If an elk is facing you, at a 45 degree angle, a shot placed quite high, just where the neck joins the body is often instantly fatal. This spot permits one to make a spine or shoulder hit.

Probably the poorest place to try for a killing shot on a mature bull elk is a shoulder shot, especially if the bullet is from a relatively low powdered rifle or from a distance that allows a considerable loss of speed and power. This is one of the toughest parts of an elk to penetrate. I have seen an expert shot place four 150 grain bullets from a .308 in a four-inch group on a big bull's shoulder. The shoulder was so badly shattered that the leg just swung loosely when he ran, and run he did, for nearly two miles and almost as fast as the rest of the herd.

There is one more shot placement I'd like to comment on and this is the so-called "raking shot." This usually means a hip or rump shot, and in my mind is definitely not a sportsman-like shot. However if it is used it takes real power at point of impact and for this shot, especially, the bullet structure is most important. If the spine is hit you have a dead bull but usually elk hit by these "raking shots" get away to die and spoil.

A large bullet is not the answer. Power to penetrate is necessary, plus a well-made bullet that holds together but expands well. A leg cut clear off a big bull will not stop

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him from running. If I had to depend on a "raking shot" to kill game for me, I'd probably choose a .338 Winchester and .250 grain bullets, a .358 Norma, or a .375 H and H, but I sure wouldn't enjoy hunting this way.

Although we never cared too much what kind of rifle a hunter planned to use, we did pay attention to what kind of a bullet he was using, and then we tried to get him within the distance his rifle was good for. We also coached him on the angle and spot for bullet placement. During our years of outfitting we had hunters kill 33 elk with rifles of 6 mm caliber such as the .243 and 6 mm Remington. To my knowledge we never had a single hunter (some were women) that used these calibers have an elk get away. We always saw that 100 grain or heavier bullets were used. The hunters all shot such calibers very accurately and place their shots well. Some lung shots were made at distances to 200 yards. I do not mean to imply that I think these are good calibers for an elk rifle. They are usable under carefully planned conditions and with carefully placed shots only.

The .270 Winchester and the .280 Remington are excellent elk rifles if used at moderate distances and well placed shots. They have low recoil and most people shoot them well. I have actually seen fewer animals get away wounded from hunters using these calibers than from hunters who used the big, hard-kicking magnums.

The .30-06 is an excellent choice for an elk rifle and probably has killed more, or as many elk, as any caliber used. It is superior to the .308 because it has over 100 fps more velocity with the same bullet, so its energy at impact point is greater. If the .308 is used within its limits, it is also good.

All these rifles are good if the hunter attempts only close to moderate distance shots. Anyone using these calibers should never try for any of those occasional long shots that might come up or he will most likely only get a wounded, and sometimes quite badly wounded animal, that will get away to die.

It is for this reason more than any other that I like what I call the "middle-mag's." These are rifles like the .264 Winchester, the 7 mm Remington Magnum and the Weatherby Magnums. The various .30 caliber Magnums are included in this list. Every one of these (always with the proper bullet) will kill elk to distances as far as good sportsmanship dictates shooting. I like these rifles because of the energy they have left at point of impact and because such flat shooting guns eliminate a great deal of the natural error of the average hunter.

Any article on rifles and cartridges should also consider the bullet used. A certain caliber and cartridge, with one kind of bullet, may be a 500-yard elk rifle but the same rifle with a different shaped bullet but identical weight, falls off to being effective at only 300 yards. So for distance shooting the ballistic coefficient of the bullet becomes as important as the cartridge it is used in. An example of this is Remington's 7 mm Magnum with round nose 175 grain core-lokt bullets at 1640 ft./lb. at 300 yards or the same caliber and bullet weight with their new pointed bullet at 1640 ft./lb. at 500 yards.

As a rule the large caliber magnums (.338-.358-.375's) bullets are poorly shaped for

distance shooting and although they have lots of muzzle energy, they drop off very fast at 300, 400, or 500 yards, so the 7 mm Magnums and various .300 Magnums far exceed them in retained energy for good penetration expansion and quick kills at the really long ranges.

When velocity drops much below 2000 fps in high velocity center fire rifles, expansion is poor. Also shocking power falls off rapidly at speeds below that. However, the 7 mm Magnums and .300 Magnums, with their excellent pointed bullets retain good expansion out to 500 yards, but the .338, .358 and the .375 suffer badly at that distance.

Retained energy is another factor that should be given some consideration in selecting an elk rifle, cartridge, and bullet combination. And again, the 7 mm Magnums and the .300 Magnums are much the best. The .264 and its lighter bullet has lost out at about 400 yards, and so has the larger .338 and .375. For me, effective energy at point of impact, is 1500 ft./lb. for elk-size game using bullets of 150 grains or heavier. But 1750 ft./lb. is needed for equal effectiveness with the lighter bullets, as used in the various 7 mm's, .270's, .264's and down further in size. Although many caliber-bullet combinations may retain plenty of energy at 500 yards for deer and antelope they are very ineffective for elk and may only be worthwhile for half that distance.

There are so many variations in loadings, bullet shapes, and rifle velocities, due to barrel lengths, etc., that no definite or fixed figure can be used for the individual cali-

bers. Broadly speaking, the various rifles can be separated about as follows, for general western mountain hunting, as effective elk rifles:

The 6 mm's—used carefully—100 yards.  
The .270, .280, 6.5 Remington Magnum—300 yards.

The .308 Winchester—250 yards.

The .300 Savage—200 yards—marginal.

The .30-06—400 yards—marginal.

The .264—400 yards—marginal.

The 7 mm Remington or Weatherby Magnum—500 yards.

The various .300 Magnums—500 yards.

The .338 Winchester—400 yards: Good expansion with 200 grain bullets—poor expansion with 250 grain bullets.

The .444 Marlin is only a 100-yard elk rifle.

I realize all this is my own opinion and will be subject to a great deal of debate, but these conclusions have been formed from actual experience during the years I have spent guiding elk hunters and seeing the kills made by hundreds of hunters as well as my own. They are also the result of analyzing the actual velocities, energy figures, and expansion tests on various bullets.

If I was asked to select an elk rifle for use in our western mountains, today, my first choice, based on fairly low recoil, high energy output to long ranges and the excellent bullets available, would be one of the fine 7 mm Magnums. Second choice would be one of the excellent .300 Magnums. Perhaps this is why I have several of each.



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**W. H. B. SMITH**

(Continued from page 42)

meant that he was not bound by the complex and sometimes ludicrous security restrictions which silenced the military experts; but it meant, too, that he was not blessed with their sources of information, either. Yet not a few military experts saw for the first time, in Walter's hands, weapons they had never seen before—weapons of our Allies and weapons of our enemies that Walter had obtained from sources still unidentified. Nothing Walter wrote breached U. S. security regarding our weapons in the slightest degree—in fact, Walter never seemed to be much interested in our own military weapons; but weapons made abroad, by friend or foe, fascinated him.

Subsequent articles by W. H. B. Smith pictured, described, and evaluated the German Gewehr rifles (Models of 1941, 1942, and 1943); the Russian Tokarev 7.63 pistol (copied from our Colt .45); the gas operated Russian Tokarev 40 rifle ("the Russian equivalent of our Garand"); the Finnish Suomi 9 mm submachine gun; the Chinese Browning (made in Canada); the Polish Radom 9 mm pistol; the Russian Degtyrov light machine rifle; the Mauser HSc pistol; the Sauer M38 (which Walter called "the best pocket pistol in the world today"). When security barriers regarding the Bazooka were lifted, Walter gave us an article about it—and about its German counterpart, which few Americans had yet seen. He also gave us an article about the British PIAT (Projector, Infantry, Anti-tank), which caused some stir in British ordnance circles.

The earlier article on Smith tells the story of Walter's report on the Walther P-38, the official German sidearm in World War II: "This auto pistol was a prize for Ordnance Technical Intelligence. While a few gun collectors knew that the item was listed in the 1939 and 1940 Stoeger Arms Company catalogs, and was even scheduled for production in .38 Super and .45 automatic as well as the German Service 9 mm caliber, few people in Washington had seen this pistol. (Actually, few had recognized the Pistole 38 as the pre-war commercial Walther, which was adopted for military issue in 1938.) Our Intelligence reports often were classified because they included information on technology and materials shortages which our technical people had deduced from studies of captured enemy equipment. Hence, when Smith's detailed article . . . appeared in public, it was like a junior atom bomb in Intelligence. There were many questions in official Washington as to how the security leak came about. Smith, of course, had gathered the information before the war."

I have no doubt that the author was right concerning Walter's pre-war knowledge of

the Walther; but he also had, and studied, many P-38s of war-time manufacture. Walter found much to admire in this pistol, and, when war-souvenir P-38s were criticized for safety failures, Walter insisted (I think correctly) that these weaknesses were due, not to faulty design, but to war-time deficiencies in materiel and workmanship.

There is one further tale about the Walther P-38 that I do not recall having told before, in print. Walter's enthusiasm about the double-action feature of this pistol stirred my own interest in things Western to wonder how the P-38 would perform in fast, combat-style shooting; and who could test this better than the fabulous Ed McGivern? So Walter furnished the Walther, and I sent it to McGivern. My files are not available to me as this is written, but as I recall McGivern's report, it went pretty much like this:

"Not being accustomed to the pistol, I can't, of course, attain the speed with it that I could get with one of my revolvers. Also, if really high speeds were to be attempted, the Walther (like my revolvers) would need some smoothing and adjustment which I would not do without permission from the gun's owner. But we have proved to our complete satisfaction that both fast draw and fast firing are entirely possible, starting with the double-action pull for the first shot."

I used this testimony of McGivern's to support vigorous efforts (mine, and Walter's) to persuade American makers to produce a double-action pistol for police use; and it is my boast, whether true or not, that the Smith & Wesson M-39 double-action 9 mm pistol came, much later, partly as a result of those efforts. It is also my belief that the S&W M-39, if produced to handle .38 Special police loads, would today be a favorite with law enforcement officers.

But to go back to the 1940's, it was not until later that I learned that Walter's articles for "Rifleman" were "spare time work," squeezed in between the major labors of producing his "Basic Manual of Military Small Arms," now in a greatly revised and enlarged eighth edition under the title "Small Arms of the World" (Stackpole), which may well be the best-selling gun book of all time.

Harsh criticisms have been made about the original "Manual" by later experts who have pin-pointed errors in it. The late Kent Bellah found 28 such errors in the course of his revision of another W. H. B. Smith opus, the "Textbook of Pistols and Revolvers." But Bellah wrote, "That was damn' few for a work of this type." The fact is that the errors in both books were "damn' few," considering the vastness of the areas covered—

(Continued on page 56)

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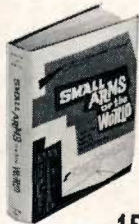
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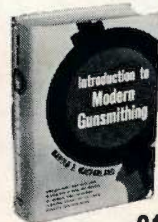
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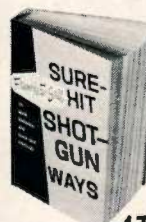
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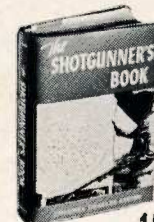
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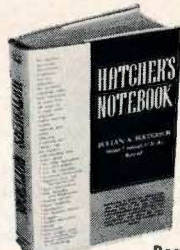
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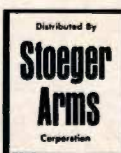
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(Continued from page 54)

and particularly when one knows that most of Walter's data came directly out of his head, with few notes and, generally, with no previously published material for reference. As William C. L. Thompson put it in a somewhat mixed metaphor in his 1960 article in GUNS, "(Smith) was a trail blazer, a pioneer, a pathfinder. His place in history was to put a blaze on the tree. It is for later writers to hew the planks true, from the trail Smith axed out. The pioneer is not expected to lay a macadam highway through the jungle, and no one should condemn him because this was his failing."

But friends of Walter's have enjoyed with wry amusement the success throughout the years of the sly deadfall Walter set in the original "Manual" for those who would, he knew, pick flaws in his work. Two semi-automatic pistols were pictured in that book (beginning in the 5th edition), without captions. None of the revising experts could possibly have captioned them, since they were pictures of hand-made prototypes from Walter's own designs, only now to be made public in this GUNS series on W. H. B. Smith guns. Yet so far as I know, no reviser of Smith's work ever questioned the guns; obviously, none ever dared omit them; and so they have rode along through all the editions as unexplained decorations. This would have pleased Walter. He had scant respect for experts who become so intent on minutiae that they overlook mountains.

Friends of Walter's who have contributed new information about him, his work, and his guns include Colonel Rex Applegate, himself a man of many mysteries in those World War Two years when he was with Special Services, training many very top secret people for many very top secret and pretty hairy missions; Joel Gross, who made most of the W. H. B. Smith-designed guns to be featured in this series; Henry Fox, Walter's attorney then and the attorney for his estate now; John Powers, now Vice President of Daisy-Heddon; and others. But no one yet knows, or has told, where Walter got his information about guns that were then unknown in America, or how he got the guns themselves.

His name was Walter Harold Bingham-Black Smith, born in San Francisco, California, July 10, 1901. He was an investigator and author of official reports on European armaments from 1928 to 1932, and it was doubtless in the course of this work that he built the network of information sources which provided the material he later used. But it is from a friend who still prefers to be anonymous that we get the closest insight into the man, his background, his character, his general history:

"Walter sprang from pre-Revolutionary stock. His father's people founded what is now Haverhill, Massachusetts. His maternal ancestors had a grant from the King for what is now part of Maine. One of these, a General Isaac Black, was an aide to Washington. He built the Black mansion at Ellsworth, Maine. The house and its valuable contents was deeded by his family to the state and is now a state museum. His family had extensive interests in New England textile mills, and Walter had a fantastic knowledge of textiles.



"When Walter was seven years old, his father died, and the youngster was taken in tow by two uncles, army men, who were gun buffs. . . He attended Winchester College, England; Phillips Andover, Massachusetts; and Harvard, where he returned from time to time for graduate study. His doctoral thesis was on brain emanations, a study which led to a strong interest in psychical research with the London Society and with its Boston counterpart. He was much interested in metaphysics and in Oriental philosophies and cultures. He was an expert on gems. His range of studies and interests was wide and extensive and deep.

"During the 20s and 30s, Walter traveled widely. He went on safari in Africa, on shikar in India, shot a Kodiak bear in Alaska. He also did a stint in the Texas oil fields, buying and selling leases at Waco and Wichita Falls. With an uncle, he was associated with Harry Wardman in real estate developments in Washington, D. C. and in London. He was attached to the League of Nations in Geneva, and turned in the first reports on the re-arming of Germany in contravention of the Versailles Treaty. He also spent some time with M-5 in England and abroad."

(Reading the above makes me wonder if this was the man I knew, or a stranger! I never dreamed that was a Doctor of Philosophy; never knew that he attended Harvard or any college, or that he was "attached" in any way to the League of Nations, or that he was with M-5, the British military secret service!)

"A series of unfortunate investments swept away most of his income, so he decided to make his hobby (small arms) his vocation. The idea of a comprehensive book on military small arms had been brewing in his mind for some time; the war made it a prime necessity.

"In 1942, he had published some in-

teresting pamphlets on Japan and other subjects, and was at work on a volume, "A Soldier's Diary," which made him a bit of money. In 1943, he came to New York to live, and worked actively on the small arms book. Its success, and that of his other arms book, is a matter of record, and record sales.

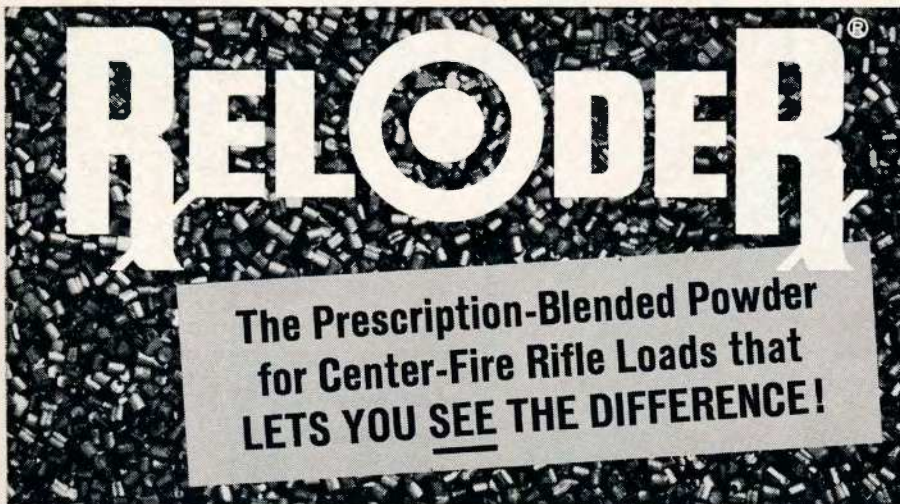
"A true Renaissance man, Walter was as interested in matters scientific as in the arts and humanities. He read intensively on engineering, on metallurgy, on machinery, and new methods of manufacture. Believing that the gun industry was antiquated in its production methods, a condition which meant high labor costs, Walter set about designing a series of firearms geared to modern materials and methods of manufacture. We discovered the various models and prototypes at his death, but have waited until now to make them public. Many patents have been granted; others are pending."

And there ends another chapter of revelation about a man who was a mystery even to his friends, and is now a legend. It has only recently occurred to me that the mysteries about him may have been more of our making than of his. He was an unassuming man; he would have, and did, protect his sources of information, probably for their own sakes rather than for his own; but his silence about himself may have been merely an unassuming man's assumption that his own affairs would be of little interest to others.

Be that as it may, the legacy he left behind him will make it impossible for gun people ever to forget him: a legacy of books, and guns. The books you know. The guns you will see, for the first time, in the article which will follow.

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**LET'S QUIT KNOCKING MAGNUMS**

(Continued from page 38)

they are highly specialized weapons ideally suited only to long-range waterfowling, and perhaps one or two other situations that call for heavy loads (such as deer hunting in the states that outlaw rifles). The bulk and weight of these guns make them unfit for the vast majority of shotgunning situations. A quail hunter would be vastly handicapped with a ponderously heavy, full-choked 12-gauge Magnum sporting the usual 30-inch barrel. He would be lucky to get any kind of a shot off before his birds were out of range, and the tight pattern provided would require almost pinpoint accuracy to score.

Pheasants and some other upland species are slower on the getaway and provide larger targets. It is possible that such birds could be hunted successfully with a 10- or 12-gauge Magnum—but they couldn't be eaten afterwards. The dense patterns would ruin any bird centered at less than 35-40 yards, and if the hunter waited for a pheasant to get out beyond this range, he would greatly reduce his chances of hitting it.

Slide-action shotguns chambered for the 3-inch loads may be used with the shorter shells to give the magnum some versatility (most autoloading guns will not function with both shell lengths), and Remington and others furnish both metal and wood plugs so that their magnums can be weighted to suit the load used. Such an arrangement

makes the large magnum slightly more versatile, but no one will argue (I hope) that a 30-inch full-choked barrel makes for an all-round shotgun.

Another fact that tends to make the magnum less attractive to the casual or one-gun hunter is the extra price he must pay—both in terms of recoil and added expense—for the extra 10 yards or so of range the magnum affords. While the "bone shattering" recoil of the 3-inch 12 gauge has often been exaggerated, the fact remains that it *can* be a disconcerting gun to shoot. It is certainly harder to get off three well-directed shots in a hurry when you are throwing 1 7/8 ounces rather than 1 1/8 or 1 1/4 ounces of shot every time you pull the trigger; both noise and recoil contribute to this slower recovery.

Magnums are expensive to operate. The 1 1/4-ounce shot loading in the standard 2 3/4-inch 12 gauge retails for about \$3.70 per box, while the 3-inch Magnums run anywhere from \$4.20 to \$5.00 per box—and a box of 3 1/2 inch 10 gauge shells will set you back \$7.60!

The one magnum shotgun that *has* become popular with a large number of shooters is the 20-gauge with 3-inch chambers. For this gun, ammunition is reasonably priced, and muzzle blast and recoil needn't be a problem. However, the main reason that the 20 Magnum has been so widely accepted is that, with the 3-inch shell, it is "equal to" the long standard 12 gauge.

This small-bore magnum has been hailed as the final answer to the "all purpose gun." It is lighter and less bulky than its 12- or 16-gauge counterpart, and it can handle a wider variety of loads (with the exception of the more unwieldy 12-gauge Magnum) than any other scattergun. Too, the "little" magnum is usually stronger and heavier than its short-chambered twin, making it a happy choice for the recoil-conscious when used with light standard-length loads.

Some shotshell manufacturers make a 16-gauge Magnum loading available, but this is kind of an odd duck. For the past several years, the 20 gauge and 12 gauge have pushed the once-popular 16 toward near-obscure. This is doubly true of the magnum. To my knowledge, no 16-gauge guns are being made with 3-inch chambers, and I know of no shells available in that size. Since the gun and ammunition makers have large-

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ly ignored this gauge as far as magnums are concerned, I will follow suit.

In summary, the big-bore magnums are really not deserving of much of their reputation. By no stretch of the imagination could they be called all-around guns, but they perform their speciality better than any other type of weapon. For long-range pass shooting, they are unbeatable—in the hands of a skilled gunner.

If you are going to use a 10- or 12-gauge Magnum, you should pattern it with a variety of loads and shot sizes. Every individual gun will perform differently with different ammunition, and if you are going to the trouble of using a big-bore maggie, you might as well get your money's worth. Especially at the longer ranges, you need the best pattern your gun can deliver.

One question that has precipitated a lot of argument over the years is the one of "what is the best shot size for long-range shooting?" Some time ago, Winchester-Western and the Illinois Natural History Society made a study on duck losses caused by crippling. This study indicated that number 4 was the most effective shot size at longer ranges.

The study showed that ducks centered by a pattern of 4's were killed cleanly even slightly beyond the 50-yard mark. Of course, the same weight of smaller, more numerous shot—such as number 6—gave more hits per duck, but gave much poorer penetration. At 40 yards, only 41 per cent of the number 6 shot striking a duck penetrated into the body cavity, while nearly 70 per cent of the number 4's punched through.

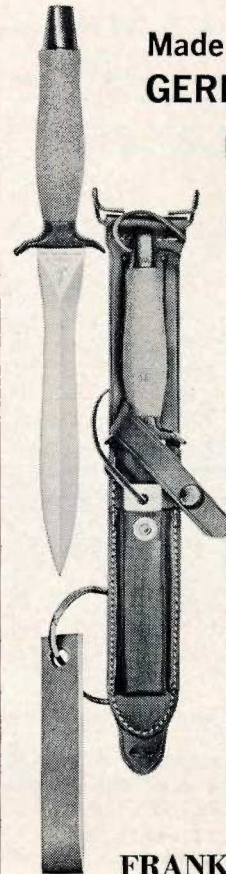
Naturally, number 2's and larger shot gave even better penetration, but the reduced

number of pellets in each shell gave too thin a pattern at the longer ranges. The study showed that, at ranges beyond 35 yards, number 4 shot proved to be the best compromise between penetration and pattern density. The longer the range, the better the 4's compared with other shot sizes.

For the optimum in long-range shooting loads, I would recommend the 3-inch 12-gauge Magnum pushing 1 7/8 ounces of number 4 shot ahead of 4 1/2 dram-equivalents of powder. With this load you come within an eighth of an ounce of the stiffest 10-gauge load commercially available, and at a considerable savings. That extra 1/8 ounce in a 10-gauge shell will cost you an additional \$2.50 per box.

This loading gives you 50 per cent more shot than you can buy in a non-magnum 12-gauge shell and, consequently, gives you a shot pattern that is correspondingly more dense—and this is what you buy a magnum for. The magnum doesn't throw the shot appreciably harder; it just throws more of it. The additional 3/4 dram-equivalents of powder in the magnum shell doesn't push the shot a lot faster; it just launches more of it. It's this extra shot density that gives you a killing pattern 10 yards or so farther out than "standard" loads.

If you do enough of the type of hunting I've talked about to buy a magnum, and if you have the skill (or the time and patience to learn) to make good use of such a gun, you'll be happy with it. It's a wonderful tool, and there's nothing like having the right tool to do the job. The magnum shotgun is the mark of a beginner or an expert—and you'll know which is which when the first duck flies over.



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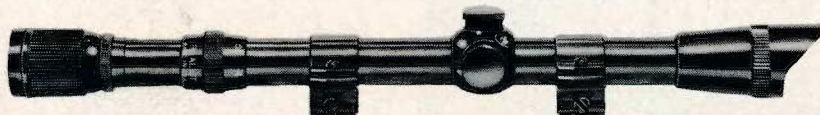
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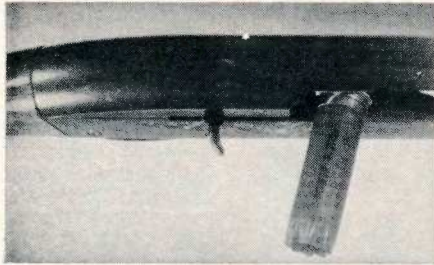
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# SHOPPING

**SHELL GRABBER** is a new and excitingly different device which prevents shells fired in an autoloading shotgun from being completely ejected. Due to the cost of new shotshells today, many trap and skeet shooters save considerable money by reloading their fired shells. But when shooting clays, most gun clubs prohibit picking up spent shells that have fallen to the ground. One reason for this is safety, with which no one can argue. The other reason is that the club can collect these shells, reload them, and sell them as a source of club revenue. But the claybird shooter who uses an autoloader is at a disadvantage when it comes to saving his spent shells. Shell Grabber works with all



autoloaders with both paper and plastic shells of any brand, either new or reloaded, and works flawlessly. After it's trapped, the fired shell is easily removed and dropped into a belt pouch or pocket. Only the barrel need be sent in for installation for the Model 1100 Remington, and only the receiver for all other autoloaders. Shell Grabber is easily removed for field work or doubles. The price is only \$5.95 installed, and one day service is given on all autoloaders. Shell Grabber is manufactured by Village Pharmacy Gunshop, 2010 Clark Avenue, Department G-9, Raleigh, N.C.

**VAGABOND** pack will comfortably hold up to 20 lbs. of equipment—enough for four or five days—yet its weight alone is just two lbs. It will hold a sleeper and a foam pad, a tent, cooking pots, and food. It's available in two sizes: Men's to hold 20 lbs., and Ladies' which will have a packed weight of 10 to 12 lbs. This bright red pack has all-nylon



construction with four zippered compartments, "Dee" ring shoulder strap suspension, and has an aluminum frame. Molded plastic frames are available to fit it. Price is just \$26 plus postage for two lbs. from Gerry, Dept. E-12, Box 910, Boulder, Colorado.

**TRADEWINDS** Deluxe automatic shotguns incorporate the same top-rated features found on the Models H-150 and H-170 with their receivers richly enhanced by tasteful hand engraving. Tradewinds Deluxe autoloaders are engineered for rough and tumble action, and have proven themselves capable of handling every shooting situation—from duck blind to upland fields. These automatic shotguns have an unexcelled sighting plane, fine balance and handling qualities for pleas-



ant shooting even with the heaviest loads. They come in all popular barrel lengths and choke combinations. Their barrels are interchangeable within the same gauge without factory fitting. These five-shot capacity autoloaders weigh about 7 lbs. and will handle all 12 gauge loads from light trap loads to the 2-3/4 inch magnum loads. Retail prices begin at just \$227.50. For further information on these fine shotguns, write Tradewinds, Inc., Dept. G-9, P. O. Box 1191, Tacoma, Washington.



**KING-SIZE** sleeping bags are really long enough and are specially designed for the tall and big sportsman to sleep in comfort even when it goes down to 30°. This bag—the first specially designed for the tall big sportsman—is a full 42" by 90", longer than any other bag made. With top, bottom, and hood of water-repellent green duck, it's filled with a fine blend of Thermon Acrylic fibers, which are fluffy, resilient, and vermin-proof. The lining is a colorful flannel plaid. The full 108" rustproof zipper is made by Talon and extends clear around the bottom of the bag, allowing it to be opened fully for airing or use as an extra quilt. Two air mattress pockets open to zip into another bag to sleep two. The bag rolls up easily and the specially designed handle makes for easy carrying. It's just \$35 postpaid, one of many fine footwear and apparel products for the tall and big sportsman from King-Size, 7557 Forest Street, Brocton, Mass.

**CAMPER JACKET** from Gerry Mountain Sports is just right for those chilly nights around a campfire. Its fine fabrics with prime northern goose down insulation make this jacket thick and warm in camp but let it be packed into a pocket-sized bag for traveling. Other important features of the Gerry Camper Jacket include insulated hand-warmer pockets, snap-on hood (at slight



extra cost), and nylon knit cuffs. The waterproof stuff bag is included. The Camper Jacket comes in small, medium, large, and extra large, in blue, green, and red, for just \$34.50 plus postage for 1 lb., 6 oz. For further information on this and many other fine products in the line, write Gerry Mountain Sports, Dept. G-9, Box 910, Boulder, Colorado.

**DESIGNED** with the American shooter in mind, the Webley & Scott 28 gauge Model 710 double barrel shotgun is now being imported through Service Armament. The 710 is a petite little beauty that has a frame specifically engineered for 28 gauge only. One of the new custom features is an American-styled semibeavertailed forend to facilitate a sure shooting grip on the small barrels. The handsome French walnut stock has a handrubbed oil finish, complimented by a generous amount of hand checkering and a



tasteful traditional pattern. The barrels are finished in a high luster blueblack and have a tapered Churchill rib and Webley roll matting. Priced at \$625, the Webley & Scott 710 is for the shooter who appreciates and can afford the very best. For further information on this and the many other fine guns in the Webley & Scott line, write Service Armament, Dept. G-9, 689 Bergen Blvd., Ridgefield, N. J.

# WITH Guns

LENSATIC COMPASS serves the outdoorsman not only as a direction finder but for map orientation, taking azimuth readings, and for path fixing while walking through rough terrain. It has all the desirable features: floating dial, jewelled needle, luminous points and letters, and automatic stop. The bezel rotates through 360 degrees. Its



fully graduated with a magnifying lens for fast, easy reading and comes in a velveteen pouch to protect the compass while tucked in the pocket. The Lensatic compass retails for only \$3.00 complete with simple instructions, and can be used for 30 days on a free trial basis. All orders are shipped prepaid from United Binocular Company, Dept. G-9, 9043 South Western Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

ADMIRAL by E. C. Bishop is one of a new line of rifle stocks featuring a high comb roll-over cheekpiece. These stocks are manufactured by a new process which involves profiling the comb and then shaping it with a high-speed routing device which moves in circular fashion around the cheekpiece on both sides of the stock. Only the final smoothing is done by hand. Available in three different degrees of finish, the Admiral is inletted to shop rifle and completely finished and checkered and sell for \$39.95; the Buccaneer is completely machine inletted and fitted to the shop rifle and is completely shaped and sanded on the outside and sells for \$31.95; the Cavalier at \$16.95 is completely inletted and is shaped on the outside,



but not sanded. These prices are all quoted for a Superior grade of Ozark black walnut. Fancy grades are available. See your local gunsmith or hardware dealer or write E. C. Bishop & Son, Inc., Dept. G-9, Warsaw, Missouri.

DRI-SLIDE, the famous lubricant and rust preventative, is now available in a handy hypo applicator that has a clip for carrying right in your shirt pocket. Dri-Slide's ability to penetrate into even the smallest crevice has now been extended with a hypo applicator that can reach into the most difficult corner. Only slightly larger than a pencil, the clear plastic applicator with its stainless steel

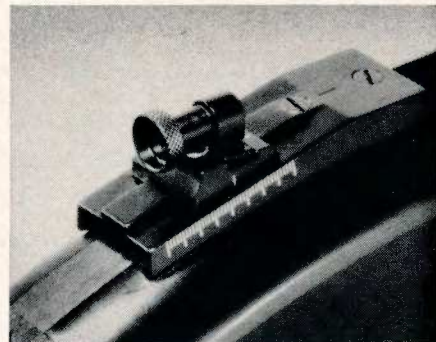


needle will put exactly the amount of Dri-Slide you want exactly where you want it. The plastic vial has a removable top for refills when the supply is low. Ideal for use on guns, the new Dri-Slide hypo applicator will have hundreds of uses for the home handyman. Look for it at your local sporting goods or hardware store, or write Dri-Slide, Inc., Sales Promotion Dept. G-9, Industrial Park, Fremont, Michigan.



SIZED AND LUBED, Benjamin H-C Pellets assure air rifle shooters of the highest standards in accuracy. Pellets are uniform in weight and size for tighter groups. The special design eliminates power loss with a positive seal, and rigid sizing control prevents jamming due to lopsided pellets. Benjamin's special lubricant prevents excessive leading, speeds loading, and permits pellets to zip through the barrel with increased velocity. Benjamin H-C Pellets are made of virgin lead in both .177 and .22 calibers. They come in packages of 250 and 500 for economical and accurate shooting.

WILLIAMS GUN SIGHT CO. has developed a compact, low profile receiver sight for the late Winchester and Remington autoloading and slide action shotguns. Known as the WGRS-WR, the new sight fits low on the back contour of the receiver. It is made of an alloy stronger than many steels and which is very lightweight and completely rustproof.



The precise windage and elevation adjustments have position locks. The new sight is easily installed with just two screws and quickly removed too, when a slug sight is not required. The price is just \$7.00, or with open blade sight \$6.25, from Williams Gun Sight Co., Dept. G-9, 7300 Lapeer Road, Davison, Michigan.

SCOPE Instruments has introduced a new low-cost zoom binocular featuring a 6 to 12 power zoom range, with large 30 mm objectives for greater subject illumination. A single lever varies the zoom power through the full range, and is conveniently located near the right eyepiece. All optics are amber



coated, and prisms are perma-locked for precision true-axis alignment through the life of the binocular. Construction is of lightweight aluminum alloy, with handsome diamond-knurled controls. Focusing is controlled by a single center wheel, with individual eyesight adjustment. Fold-down eyecups are molded of soft rubber, providing full-field viewing with eyeglasses or sunglasses, and preventing skin-to-cold-metal contact in frigid outdoor temperatures. A black easy-access case is supplied with the unit, which swings open for easy removal for the binocular, but securely retains the binocular even with the case left open. The Model 3846 6-12x30 Zoom Binocular retails for the amazing price of \$49.95 and is available at many fine sporting goods stores. For further information write Scope Instrument Corp., 25-20 Brooklyn-Queens Expressway West, Dept. G-9, Woodside, New York.

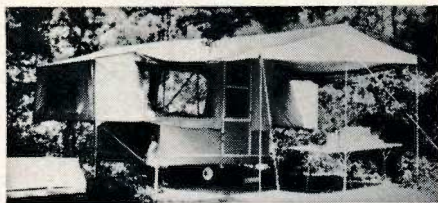
# SHOPPING

NEW VICTOR goose decoys in ABS plastic are built to withstand the rough exposure to the elements and tough treatment that goose hunters regularly hand out to decoys. These decoys come in two styles and are so tough that they can take virtually anything either hunters or the elements can dish out. The D-12 Deluxe Canada Goose is a shell decoy of ABS plastic with three removable heads—sentinel, resting, and feeding. It's a full-bodied goose decoy that's designed for field use and equipped with a steel stake that



makes it adaptable for water sets. To attract even the high flyers, the Deluxe Canada Goose has true-to-life colors, sculptured feathers and molded eyes. Overall body size is 24½ by 11 by 6½ inches. The D-14 silhouette decoy, also in ABS plastic, comes with two heads—sentinel and feeding—which are adjustable to three positions. Both the head and metal stake are removable for compact carrying. Overall body size is 27 by 14½ inches. For a complete catalog of Victor goose, duck, owl, crow decoys, and accessories, write Animal Trap Company of America, Dept. G-9, Lititz, Penna.

NEW STYLING and completely revised construction drawings and instructions for camping trailer kits are now available for "do it yourself-ers" in the Stratford Senior Camper Kit. New drawings show complete simplified details for building and include 15 photos of various steps of construction. Supplied with the kit are the completed tent, all necessary steel work ready welded, and special hardware. The Senior Camper can be completed with common hand tools, and provides accommodation for six to eight persons.



New features of the Senior Camper include newly designed bed area which allows bedding to remain in place when the trailer is closed for traveling, and new exterior coverings in vinyl or aluminum in many colors. The Senior Camper kit is priced at \$327 retail. Complete information on the kit may be obtained by writing Stratford Fabricating Co., Inc., Dept. G-9, 45 Seymour Street, Stratford, Conn.

BEAR SUPER KODIAK is a recent addition to the quality line of Bear Archery products. Touted as the ultimate hunting bow, the Super Kodiak is the product of years of development, field testing, and production experience with Bear's unique high density material. The new bow has faced the subzero cold of an arctic icepack, the rugged terrain of the New Mexico backwoods, and the steaming heat of an African safari. And, it proved practically impervious to damage by weather and rough treatment. The new bow has been used to down an Alaskan Polar bear, a British Columbia grizzly, Cape buffalo, and an African lion. With dangerous game like this, a bow must be dependable. It also proved versatile enough for hunting



New Mexico mule deer and Michigan white-tail. The Super Kodiak has the feel and the looks of a high-grade arm. The black hi-compression riser and black Bearglas-powered limbs are accentuated by the white tips and caps. A full pistol grip with a special hunter's heel makes handling easier and more certain while giving the bow a distinctive, graceful curve. Other features include fabrication from Bear's special high density material, a rock-hard riser and handle, a crowned arrow rest, and the silent arrow plate. The Bear Super Kodiak is priced at \$99.95. For more information, write Bear Archery Company, Dept. G-9, R. R. #1, Grayling, Mich.



OUTDOOR "VACATION CAREER"—Free book reveals a plan to prepare men ages 17 and up for wildlife and forestry dream jobs: healthful, adventurous life as government hunter, game warden, or with private game farms and hunt clubs. Write today for this free book. North American Conservation, Dept. GP, University Plaza, Campus Drive, Newport, California.

TIKKA is a brand new over and under combination gun from Finland. The over barrel is chambered for standard 12 gauge 2¾ inch shotshells, choked full; its length is 26 inches. The under barrel is 24½ inches long and is chambered for .222 Remington. The barrels are joined at the rear by a single, solid block of steel, and at the muzzles by a muzzle brake. The muzzle brake is attached rigidly to the shotgun barrel, leaving the rifle



barrel free to move fore and aft, thus avoiding bending one barrel through firing the other rapidly. The Tikka's action is the simplest and most durable: A single trigger and exposed hammer are utilized to fire both barrels by means of a selector button placed on the left side of the receiver. The hammer is of rebounding design and is fitted with a half cocked safety. Weighing in at 7¼ lbs, the gun is 42¼ inches long, and only 26 inches in length when broken down. For further information, write Sullivan Arms Corp., Dept. G-9, 5204 East 25th Street, Indianapolis, Indiana.

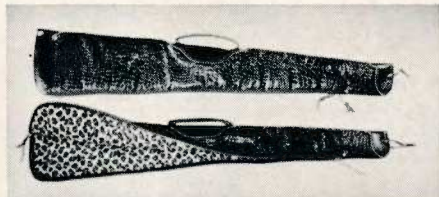
TASCO'S new Zeus binocular is this country's first electrically powered zoom binocular. With constant brightness at every power, the Model 107 Zeus will zoom from 6 to 12 power at the flick of a switch. The Tasco Zeus has a 12 lens optical system with coated Barium crown prisms and maintains constant relative brightness through all powers in contrast to the loss of illumination at higher powers found in manual zoom binoculars. The field of view at 6 power is 315 feet at 1,000 yards, and 165 feet at 12 power. Total



weight including penlight batteries is only 46 ounces. The power zooming action takes place via moving objective lenses rather than the usual movement of the eye lens. The Tasco Zeus has individual eye focusing and comes with a leather case and fully coated optics. You can find the Model 107 Zeus electric zoom binocular at fine sporting goods and department stores everywhere.

# WITH Guns

BOYT'S new alligator-style vinyl gun case is an economy model yet has all the features and handsome good looks of models costing far more. This all-new Boyt case has many outstanding features, including an alligator-style dark brown vinyl outside, with a generous use of leather for handle, butt guard, tip, and hanging thong. A full half inch of Tuflex padding surrounds the entire case to



better protect your gun and give the case more body. Inside there is a sporty leopard skin-style flannel lining. The full length two-way pull brass zipper is reinforced with brass rivets at each end. The metallic sight model is shown; a model for scope sighted rifles is available. For further information on this and the complete line of Boyt quality gun cases, write the Boyt Co., Dept. G-9, East Main & Hamilton, Iowa Falls, Iowa.

TEXAN gunbelt, Model No. 98, is made from top grade heavy weight saddle leather with a contoured drop loop belt and western-style heavy weight leather holster. The holster comes complete with leather tie down and 24 cartridge loops. It's made for all single and double action revolvers with barrel lengths from 5 to 7½ inches. This true western style outfit is completely hand



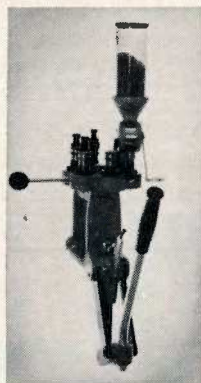
made of the finest materials by the best craftsmen in the business. With plain finish in either black or brown. To order send just \$28.95, along with an accurate waist measurement, make, model, caliber and barrel length of your gun, to Bianchi Holsters, Dept. G-9, 802 South Primrose Avenue, Monrovia, California.

HOPKINS AND ALLEN .45 caliber muzzle loading target rifle is truly designed to satisfy the desires of the most exacting black powder shooter. Hopkins and Allen rifles have been winning matches all over the country and due to the tremendous demand, the .45 target model was designed. Featuring a traditional American walnut stock with a big, hefty 32 inch octagonal steel barrel, the .45 target is built to win. Available in .45



caliber with a one-turn-in-56" barrel, it may also be purchased as a slug gun having a barrel of one turn in 22 inches. Retailing at about \$59.50, this X-ring beauty weighs in at approximately 12 pounds. For further information on this and other muzzle loaders in the Hopkins and Allen line, write Numrich Arms Corporation, Dept. G-9, West Hurley, New York.

MODEL No. 25 turret type metallic reloading press for increased ease and speed in reloading metallic cases is now on the market from Redding-Hunter, Inc. Offering the ultimate in quality high production reloads, this press is available with either a four-station or a six-station turret and accepts any two or three die sets with ⅞-14 thread. No longer is there the need to move a case from station to station—just rotate the turret head to the positive action stop for perfect alignment of ram, shell holder, dies, or powder measure.



(The Redding No. 3 powder measure fits in any station without bushings or adapters.) The toggle-type leverage system gives extra working power for major case reforming and other reloading operations without strain or movement of the turret. Up or down stroke is available at your choice. The No. 25 turret reloading press comes complete for just \$34.95 retail, with extra turrets, either four or six station, at just \$12.50 retail. Ask to see this new press at your Redding-Hunter dealer.

SEATER HEATER has been redesigned to give twice as long a burning time. Completely safe, the Seater Heater is explosion-proof, windproof, waterproof, fireproof and even foolproof. Smokeless, it burns any wood alcohol safely and easily: One pint will last up to 30 hours—less than 2¢ per hour. Lightweight, yet sturdily constructed with a baked enamel finish, Seater Heater weighs only 6½ lbs. Seater Heater puts warmth into outdoor sports, like an easy chair beside a cozy fire-



place. Sit on the Seater Heater and your whole body is warmed safely and comfortably. It works wonders even on the coldest, dampest, and windiest days. Easily attached to the basic unit is the accessory cooking unit, making Seater Heater a welcome friend on difficult back country hunts. For full information write: Seater Heater, Inc., Dept. G-9, P. O. Box 4008, Rockford, Illinois.



LOCKING PISTOL Cabinet from Yield House is simple, safe, and beautiful. It locks and displays up to 10 handguns of any size, either antique or modern. You can arrange and rearrange the pistols at will with red or natural beige burlap (specify) which conceals back-panel hanger holes for the special rubber coated screw-in hangers. The large drawer for ammo, cleaning gear, etc., is locked at the same time and with the same key that locks the unbreakable sliding plexiglass front. Here is a clean, unobstructed display for the finest handguns, which is ideal for many other types of displays. Cabinet size is 30¼ inches width, 24 inches height, and 6 inches depth. Completely assembled in rich grained honey tone pine or maple finish at \$29.95 with express charges collect, or in an easily assembled kit at just \$18.95 complete. (Add \$1.00 west of the Mississippi.) From Yield House, Dept. G-9, North Conway, New Hampshire.

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## GUNS VISITS THE MANUFACTURERS

(Continued from page 26)

nostalgic memories for our veterans who were there!

Along with the .45 auto will be another commemorative series, this one for the old Peacemaker. It will be known as the "Frontier Marshal" series and will honor four of our outstanding early-day lawmen, Wild Bill Hickok, Wyatt Earp, Bat Masterson, and Bill Tilghman. Each .45 will come in a special presentation box and on the lid will be an exact reproduction of a letter written by Bat Masterson to the Colt Co. ordering a specially made .45 for his personal use.

If this were not enough there is still a third series. This one to be known as "The Alamo" commemorative model. It will be made up in both .45 and .22 calibers. The guns are to commemorate Texas' Alamo, one of the greatest of America's shrines. The first gun to be so designated will be given to John Connally, Governor of Texas. The second will be placed in the Alamo Museum.

Colt has about ready a successor to the old Woodsman Target .22 auto. This newcomer looks awfully good, points well and hangs dead on the bull, I found in testing it. Because of the popularity of the .45 auto among top handgunners in the target circuit, the new Colt will be made up on the .45 receiver. This ought to please all the targeteers. Above the receiver things are quite a bit different. There is a big heavy square-sided barrel, firmly anchored to the big receiver. The slide is heavy too but it is only a breechblock and bears no resemblance to the .45 slide. The rear sight is affixed to the receiver and does not move with the breechblock. I did not weigh the new pistol but I'd speculate it will go about 42 ounces. There are no immediate plans to put the new number into production.

At the Remington Company Gene Pollock and I saw Ted McCawley, who is the public relations man, also Dick Dietz, his assistant, and Jack Mitchell who handles all the advertising. "I'll tell you, Charley," Mitchell spoke frankly, "the boys are coming down from Ilion tomorrow to brief us on all that will be new for '68. Until I attend this meet-

ing I'll be hanged if I know myself what we'll have." We'd arrived a day too early it seemed. Remington has as one of its district managers a fellow who is one of the greatest skeet shots in the world today. This is D. Lee Braun. Lee has just written a fine book entitled, "Skeet Shooting with D. Lee Braun." If you are a budding skeet-man, or even if you are an old hand, this great little tome is worthwhile. I have been shooting skeet for 35 years and I found the Braun approach was a help to me.

Some months ago in GUNS Magazine (April, 1967) Harry Dean predicted that a totally new shooting sport would be announced soon. At Remington they have their version which they call 310 Skeet. Taking their Model 572 rimfire rifle, they add a new smoothbore barrel chambered for a .32 caliber rimfire shotshell, and use this, along with a self-operated trap to conduct their miniature version of a favorite shotgun sport. Three experimental 310 Skeet installations have been operating: one outside of Chicago, another near Boston, and a third outside of Hartford, Conn.

The Lyman Reloading Handbook, the 44th edition, was hot off the press when we went to see the folks at the Lyman Gunsight. This text is the best yet. It took 22 months of preparation and among other items there are 5300 tested rifle loads in this 44th revival. Along with this testing went 60,000 rounds of ammo fired from more than 150 rifles. All loads have been chronographed for velocities and fired for pressures—certainly a monumental task! The manual was put together by Jim Sheridan, the advertising manager, but the actual pick-and-shovel work was accomplished by Lysle Kilbourn, Charley Norton, and Ed Matunis. This text is a real must for every dyed-in-the-wool shooting man. There is, of course, a big section on shotshell reloading and a very broad coverage of handgun cartridges.

At Mossberg we saw a new shotgun and also a new rifle but the wraps are still on

*The ultimate in sight, feel and accuracy*

Grade Imperial,  
Plainsmaster stock shown  
**New for 1967—Hi-velocity Winslow Varmint Rifle**  
available in 17/222, 17/222 magnum and 17/223.

Send 50¢ for catalog covering entire line of Winslow Custom Rifles priced from \$305.00 to \$3500.

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*The Rifle with the Lifetime Guarantee*



both of these, unfortunately. The Mossberg place was booming, and why not with an annual production of something over 300,000 shooting irons. Quite a far cry from the days when the whole plant was in the engine room of an abandoned water tower and the only production was a 4-barreled pistol!

The Marlin company, when we dropped around, was up to its hocks in the production of the new L. C. Smith shotgun. This revived side-by-side will be a dead-ringer for the original. The Smith scattergun before WWII was a popular number. It was a side-lock and was probably the most streamlined of any of our earlier American double guns. The Marlin version will be just as handsomely streamlined. It will be made, at least in the beginning, as a straight field grade, with extractors, but no ejectors, and two triggers.

The big news at High Standard was a police gun. This is known as the Model Ten, and is built around the Hi-Standard Supermatic 12 gauge gas-operated shotgun. The design boys chopped off the stock and shortened the barrel to 18 inches. They then encased the abbreviated firearm in a fiberglass nylon-fortified shell. In the front end of the carrying handle is a built-in flashlight. The beam on this torch is regulated to strike squarely in the middle of the shot pattern at 30 yards.

The gun weighs only 7 pounds, kicks like hell, and will handle only express and magnum loadings. It is to be sold only to law enforcement agencies and High Standard requires a certificate from the department before it will sell.

The highly popular .22 cal. Supermatic Military pistol has a most worthwhile modification. The Military model has a rear sight built on a saddle which straddles the breechblock. Because of the location of this sight it is awkward to get hold of the slide and pull it rearward to cock and load. High Standard has neatly gotten around this one by designing a neat little pressed-steel extension for the tag end of the slide. It extends beyond the end of the slide and provides just the surface you need to haul the gun to full cock.

The company has a good-looking .38 revolver. It is a service job and has been designed to sell to the cops. There are no plans to put it on the market. There is also a .38 derringer. It looks a good deal like the High Standard .22 derringer. Again, it is anyone's guess when it will be marketed.

Bill Ruger, the Big Wheel at Sturm Ruger is now building his Number One Single Shot rifle at a brand new plant in New

Hampshire. Bill, for a good many years, has had a six-section hunting preserve in New Hampshire. The new plant—understand, we did not go there—is very close to the hunting grounds. According to Ed Nolan, the genial general manager, "The Number One Single Shot is selling like hot cakes. We simply cannot make enough of these remarkable rifles to fill our back orders." Newest Ruger handguns are on the popular Blackhawk frame. One is chambered for the .30 carbine cartridge; the other is a convertible, with cylinders for either .357 Mag. or 9 mm Luger! There are other Ruger guns in the mill but the wraps are still on these.

At the Charles Daly place in New York, we saw Mr. Daly himself. "Where is Mrs. Daly," I wanted to know. Now, Charles Daly is a going for hell leather gent named Howard Walzer. He is president of the firm. "Mrs. Daly" is an exceedingly glamorous chick—a professional model—who has recently given the Charles Daly series of advertisements a lot of added glamor.

"I'd have had her over," said President Walzer, "just for your visit but you know that babe costs us a hundred bucks an hour and you have to think twice before you get her on the phone." Some 4-5 years ago when the Charles Daly line of over/under and side-by-side doubles were introduced by Howard Walzer and his brother, Jerry, he looked over the stable of pro models in N.Y. and he selected a fellow who looked like Mr. American Sportsman. A series of ads were begun and this fellow soon became the most famous and best recognized face in the shooting books. He has continued to this day and now, as a sort of stroke of genius, the Charles Daly Co. has introduced not only Mrs. Daly but a teen age son.

There is a new Charles Daly scattergun. This is a plain-jane model with the same lockup as the more expensive over-unders but without the ejectors. It does have a smooth working single trigger. It will go for \$250. Besides this one there is a side-by-side double, in 12 gauge, to be called the "Empire Grade" gun. It is a field type and will sell for \$230. It is Italian made whereas the over-unders are from Japan.

There will soon be a Charles Daly rifle. Steps are being taken at this time to assure this. The rifle will be a bolt action high power and you may be sure it will be just as sturdy and just as dependable as the Charles Daly scatterguns.

While little attention has yet been drawn to the fact, the company is now selling the Italian-made Breda auto shotgun, in both 12 and 20 gauges. The Breda is a very well made long-recoil operating shotgun. It is not unknown in this country. A few years ago it was regularly imported and I have shot the gun a good deal and found it was quite sturdy.

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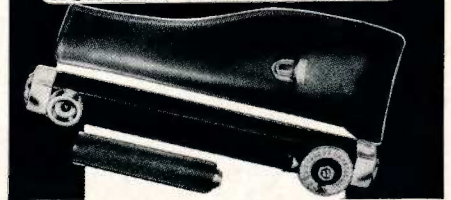
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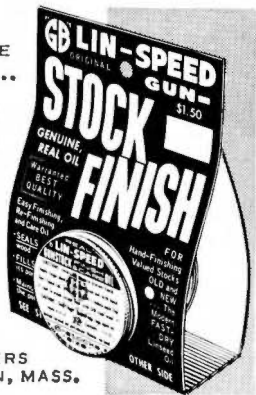
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## GUN RACK

(Continued from page 9)

and more than 100 shots from the .222 under tube showed the gun functions very well.

I'd have put the .222 tube on top, where it is closest to the sights. Instead the 12 gauge tube is on top, further above the axis of support where it seems to kick more. Too, it seems to me, that the muzzle compensator should have been placed on the 12 gauge pipe.—Col. Charles Askins.

### Norma-Precision

The Schultz & Larsen rifle, made by the company by that name at Otterup, Denmark, and first imported by Phil Sharpe, who is now dead, and later taken over by Evan Sheldon of Norma-Precision, South Lansing, N.Y., is now being imported by R. C. Fessler & Co., 1634 Colorado Blvd., Los Angeles.

The owner of several of these muskets, commencing when Little Phil was the mentor and continuing up to the Norma-Precision fling, I have seen them improved from the time when the stock looked like it had been borrowed from the old Vetterli-Gras up to the present when through Sheldon's efforts a stock was added that was handsome and good fitting and in the best modern American styling.

The Schultz & Larsen locks up in the bridge of the receiver. The bolt lugs are inches behind the bolt head. This is okay but the idea persists that it makes for a springy bolt and a lack of gilt-edge accuracy. The only trouble I ever had was with a .358 Magnum, a real walloper believe me, and there is a tendency to set-back with this loading. However with the 7X61, and all the others, the .243, .270, '06, and .264 Magnum, along with the 7 mm Magnum, I never experienced anything but satisfaction from this Danish import.—Col. Charles Askins.

### New Crosman M-1 Carbine

Every boy (and his dad) who has ever wanted a BB gun will become ecstatic over this new Crosman product. Here is a BB repeater that looks just like the famous M-1 Carbine!

Our test gun is a handsome counterpart, weighing in at only 4½ pounds. The walnut

finished stock appears to be elm and is made a bit short to fit anybody's boy or girl. The solid steel barrel is smooth bored and puts the BB's right on aim. The magazine is top loaded and is supposed to hold 22 of the Crosman Super BB's. I prefer to load an even 20.

The clip that protrudes below the gun in the classic M-1 style is actually a clever reserve for the steel shot. It holds about 250 BB's and is easily detachable for use in charging the internal magazine.

The sights include a blade front with protector wings and a rear sight that is adjustable for both elevation and windage. True, the



rear sight does a little hula dance to one side or the other when you turn the adjusting knob. Once set, however, the rifle shoots where it looks. The elevation is controlled by sliding the aperture or "peep sight" up an inclined ramp bar.

Cocking is effected by sliding the barrel straight back and returning it to the forward position. To aid in gripping, the Crosman name and model markings are rolled in large, coarse letters on the barrel just aft of the front sight. Some may prefer to place a double wrap of friction tape at this point to aid younger shooters.

Our test gun shot well and appears to be a clever re-engineering job on the older Model V-350. The 350 indicated the muzzle velocity of the steel shot. The major point of interest in this U.S. M-1 Carbine replica was the way it caught the eye and heart of everyone who saw it. It certainly is an attractive little rifle and so is the price: \$19.95.—Harry O. Dean.

### Freeland-BSA

THE AL FREELAND RIFLE: While Galef imports the BSA (English) hunting rifles, the inimitable Al Freeland, he of the Freeland's Scope Stands Co., is the pappy of the BSA .22 target gun. This is one of our really hotrock numbers and has during the past 20 years gone through three models. These have

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been designated the Mark I, II, and III. I am a keen user of the Mark III. While this shooting iron is maybe essentially for the prone shooter and is on a par with the Winchester M52 and the Remington 40X, it is a versatile sort of musket and with the Freeland accessories not only ideally adapts itself to 4-position shooting but is also a real gee-whiz for the international offhand game.

In '47 Al Freeland, one of our ranking smallbore marksmen for the past 35 years, built what we all referred to as the Freeland Super Rifle. Only 21 of these were made, all tool room jobs, terrifically expensive, but real plus-ultra shooters. Among others an English gunner took one of the Freeland rifles to Bisle and there he cleaned up. The BSA engineers got hold of the rifle and directly thereafter came to Rock Island and sat down for a long pow-wow with Al Freeland. As a result the Mark I was born. It was on the Martini action which the original Super Rifle had been. The stock design and general specifications were a direct takeoff on the original. The Mark I was showed at the NRA convention in 1950 I remember very distinctly and created quite a lot of conversation among the .22 clan. Freeland was disappointed that the English designers had not copied his trigger which was a real duzy. BSA bucked at this, for it ran the cost of the rifle up considerably. However, they had to come around to this and directly there was a Mark II rifle. It was an improvement over its predecessor.

Maybe one reason I have always had a soft spot in my heart for the BSA rifle is that as a southpaw I can shoot it with all the ease of the right-hander.

The Mark I and II had their forends attached to the barrel and if care was taken in proper bedding these rifles shot superbly. Al, who felt like the gun's real pappy, was not satisfied and he developed a bedding system which shrunk groups and was so sensitive it could be tuned to special lots of cartridges. Now there is the Mark III, the present rifle which I like best of all, as I've already admitted, for international offhand.

Old Freeland—I've known the old hard-rock for 35 years—is a rootin' tootin' good smallbore gunner. He got all cranked up at the Nationals last year and when the dust and smoke had settled he had hung up a perfect 400-39X. The rifle was the Mark II with the Freeland barrel bedder and firing Eley Ten-X (Kynoch). As I've commented before on the BSA rifles for game shooting (sold by J. L. Galef), the BSA .22 Mark III needs to be better known. Here is a ringtailed tooter of a shooting iron that takes a back seat to no one.



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# Panel of Experts

Because of the heavy influx of questions, it has become necessary to limit the number of questions submitted in one letter to two. Your questions must be submitted on separate sheets of paper, must carry full name and address, and your Shooters Club of America membership number. If you are not a member of the Shooters Club of America, send a dollar bill with each question. Questions lacking either number or money cannot be answered. If you want a personal answer, enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope for each question.

## Loads for the 7 mm Mag.

Recently I developed a load for my Remington 700BDL in 7 mm Magnum that gives me surprisingly good accuracy, three and five shot groups measuring three-quarters of an inch center to center at one hundred yards from a rest. This, using a Weaver K-6, is as good as the best I have ever received from factory ammunition (¾ inch groups with Peters 175 gr. Core-Lokt loads).

The question I would like to ask you is what kind of velocity I am getting with load from my standard 23½-inch barrel? I can find no loading information on DuPont 4350 with 120 gr. bullets. To play it safe, I used one grain more than that suggested by Lyman and Speer for 130 gr. bullet. This 66 grains seems to be the formula for my particular rifle. I just wish I knew what kind of velocity and energy I am getting at the muzzle and at 300 yards.

I am constantly amazed, as one who has owned several rifles some of which would only shoot one-inch groups with only one bullet weight, at the ability of this Remington to put either 175 gr. or 120 gr. bullets into such tight groups and only 1½ inches between the two groups.

Harrison D. Smith  
Fairfield, Maine

Your load of 66 grains of DuPont 4350 and 120 gr. bullets in the 7 mm Remington Magnum should be giving you approximately 3250 feet per second velocity. Yes, you are fortunate in having a rifle that will place both light and heavy bullets so close together and still give such fine accuracy. Hang on to it!—D.W.

## .44-40 Conversion

I have in my possession a New Service Colt in .38 WCF (.38-40) with a 7½ inch barrel. It is in good condition except for a broken firing pin. I wish to convert this pistol to a .44-40, so I may fire the same cartridge that my 1892 Winchester fires, the .44-40. What would the conversion job cost me, including the price of a new barrel, a cylinder, plus labor. Is there a possibility that Colt Company may have on hand a New Service barrel, 7½ inches in length, in .44-40, and a cylinder, as I would like to keep all parts in the conversion to ones made by Colt. If the above parts are no longer available from Colt, I would appreciate the address of a dealer who may be able to provide the parts and also be able to perform the conversion for me. Any information on this will be greatly appreciated.

John F. Leal  
Phila., Pa.

A new .44-40 barrel and cylinder for your New Service Colt .38 WCF may not be easy to locate. I doubt that the Colt Company can still supply these parts. You could write them however. Probably your best chance would be to write Numrich Arms Corp., 204 Broadway, West Hurley, New York. Also try Christy Gun Works, 875—57th St., Sacramento, Calif. You could also try placing a small ad in the gun magazines, stating your needs. Present cylinder could be rechambered to .44-40, and a custom .44 barrel fitted. If the above firms should have the parts, they could give you an accurate figure on the cost. Your broken firing pin can be made up and replaced by most any competent gunsmith.—W.S.

## Luger Values

I have a Stoeger Luger that I bought from Stoeger about 40 years ago. It is a 7.65 caliber with 3¼ inch barrel and in excellent condition outside and has a very good bore. What is your estimate of the approximate value? I have two other Lugers, both four inch barreled in 9 mm that I picked up in 1917 and 1918. I have no intention of selling but have had several offers to "trade" for my Stoeger Luger. I am in the process of making up a list of "minimum" values for my

guns, 40 odd, to act as a guide for my wife should something happen to me. I think it is a good idea at my age (70) as it might help prevent a "give away." Of course, I realize that you would have to see the arm to be very definite on your price quotation but I only expect an approximate quotation.

James W. Baker  
Huntsville, Tenn.

A Stoeger Luger, properly marked, in excellent condition would be worth about \$250 in the market place. Run-of-the-mill 9 mm Lugers are now worth \$85 to \$100 in good condition. The above are retail prices; if purchased by a dealer, he would have to pay less to allow for his profit.—S.B.

## Barrels for 7 mm Magnums

I have just purchased a left handed Savage 110 action in 7 mm Magnum and would like your opinion on what length barrel I should put on it. I would like a 28 inch barrel but I have talked to different gunsmiths and they say a 24 or 26 inch barrel is plenty. In your opinion would the 28 inch be better than a 24 or 26 inch barrel?

Frank Gorman  
College Point, N.Y.

There would be only slight velocity advantage of perhaps 50 to 100 fps in a 28 inch barrel over a 26, and the 28 inch gets quite clumsy to carry. We fit quite a few 7 mm Magnum barrels in 25 and 26 inch length. Very few are returned for shortening, and I feel this is close to optimum for overall use and performance.—W.S.

## Whitney Revolver

Will you please identify the following described revolver, including the date of manufacture, and possible sale value? This is a six shot percussion gun in fair to good condition. The total length is 13 inches, 7 inch barrel with ⅝" octagon flats. The bore is 5/16" with seven lands. Stamped on top of the barrel is "E WHITNEY N HAVEN," and on the lower part of the barrel is A7216. On the bottom of the frame 7216 appears, along with the small initials E.M. This same number is found on several parts and on the front end of the cylinder. The cylinder is engraved on its outside diameter but is worn very smooth. In this etching are apparently two animals, possibly lions, having long whip-like tails. The handles are cherry wood, and bronze was used for the trigger guard.

Lester P. Blosser  
Springfield, Ohio

The Whitney Navy percussion revolver, caliber .36, six shot, single action, was manufactured at the Whitneyville Armory in New Haven, Connecticut, by Eli Whitney, son of the famous inventor of the cotton gin. Over 11,000 of the Whitney revolvers were purchased by the government during the time of the Civil War. Collectors value would be about \$125.00 in good to better condition.—R.M.

## Luger Values

I noticed in the Sept., '66, Questions and Answers column that a Luger pistol is mentioned. I have what I believe is one similar to the one described. On mine, the serial number is Ku4418 on the left side of the receiver over locking bolt, and number 4418 on front of the frame. Number 18 on all other parts. All numbers matching, including wood grips with 4418 stamped inside each one. It has a four-inch barrel. Manufacturers code 42 on top of forward toggle link, and dated 41 on top of receiver ring. German eagle proof mark on left rear side of barrel, left side of bolt, and right side of frame. All original blued finish; slightly worn on left side of muzzle, bottom corner of trigger plate, and right front corner of frame. Brown colored ejector, safety bar finished bright. Bore, mechanical parts, and exterior all in excellent condition plus.

Reading the reply in the Questions and Answers column, it states that the Luger pistol in question is worth \$125 to \$175 as a collectors item. I have checked somewhat on the Luger I have which I believe is somewhat similar and have found that it is worth only about \$75. I get this estimate from a fairly reliable source. The value is supposedly merely as a shooter and it doesn't have a high collector's value. Will you set me straight on this? What would be the approximate collector's value of my pistol be, if any? I have seen advertisements wanting this type of gun with the Ku before the serial number. Any information you can give me on this is greatly appreciated.

Antonio J. Taglienti  
Beaver Falls, Pa.

*Prices quoted were retail prices current in the market place. In good condition your gun is worth \$125; if in very good condition, and I mean VERY GOOD condition, the price could reach \$175. A dealer would pay the above, minus his commission, which should run about 20 to 25 per cent.—S.B.*

## Belgian Duelling Pistol

I am enclosing a drawing of a muzzle loading pistol on which I would like some information as to the manufacturer and approximate value. The gun is in excellent condition with all exposed metal engraved and hand-carved woodwork. The barrel is octagonal with deep etching that gives the appearance of a twist barrel. Is that possible? It is approximately a .54 caliber. The nipple and about one inch of breech plug are easily removed from the barrel.

Ken Vaughan  
Hickory, N. C.

*Your percussion pistol is a Belgian Target or Duelling Percussion of the 1845 era, and probably one of a cased pair. The etching on the barrel is for beauty and is not twist or damascus. Value to a collector is about \$85 to \$110.—R.M.*

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## Sharps and Hy Hunter S. A.

I have two guns I would like to know the value of. One has the following markings: On the barrel it says "Old Reliable Sharps Rifle Co., Bridgeport, Conn." On the left side of the receiver, "Borchardt Patent Sharps Rifle Co., Bridgeport, Conn., USA;" directly in front of the trigger, "6426," and on top of the receiver "03." This gun is .45-70 caliber and has a round 31-inch barrel. It is in very good condition and has an excellent bore.

The other gun is a .44 Magnum frontier model six-shooter made in Western Germany

(Continued on page 70)



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WEAR Lee Sonic EAR-VALVS (These are not Plugs!)

(Continued from page 69)

for Hy Hunter, Inc., Hollywood, Calif. It is in excellent condition and has a 6½ barrel. I would greatly appreciate any information you can give me on these two guns.

John DeNoma, Jr.  
Sequim, Wash.

A fine condition Sharps rifle today will bring on the collector's market at least \$350 and it's being in .45-70 caliber doesn't hurt its value any. If condition is better than just fine, the value will go up considerably. Though the Hy Hunter S. A. is not a collector's item, retail used value should be about \$60.—R.M.

**S&W M-1917**

In the April, 1967, issue of GUNS, Maj. Nonte says in his article "Are Surplus Handguns Really A Bargain?" that the S&W M-1917 .45 ACP parts are available. Where are they available? Are barrels available? Are frames available? I wish very much to obtain one of these guns in first class condition and will surely appreciate any information you can give me.

Chester H. Johnson  
Anchorage, Alaska

A number of dealers in surplus gun parts advertise various items for the S&W M-1917 revolvers. Also, the Model 22, M-1950 Army revolver in .45 ACP caliber (which is simply the old M-1917 slightly updated) is still produced by Smith & Wesson. Most parts for it can be used in the WW I M-1917 guns. This is particularly true of the barrels. The new parts are available from Stoeger Arms Corp., 55 Ruta Court, South Hackensack, N.J. Surplus parts are usually available from Bob Lovell, Elmhurst, Ill.—D.W.

**Buying Guns Abroad**

This fall I plan to visit the cities of London, Paris, Copenhagen, Amsterdam, Frankfurt, and Hamburg, and possibly Tangiers. I would like to know if there are any places in or near these cities that have selections of handguns that tourists may purchase. If so, what would be the best method of bringing them back to this country—assuming, of course, that no restrictive legislation is passed.

Theodore McGrant  
Louisville, Kentucky

Purchasing handguns abroad for return to the United States can be somewhat difficult. You are permitted to bring back into this country up to three firearms and, I believe, 1,000 rounds of ammunition. However, it is not possible in any of the countries you named to purchase a gun and carry it away with you. While details vary, in most European countries it is possible for a visitor to purchase a handgun with later delivery to customs arranged by the seller. As I said, the details of this arrangement vary widely from country to country, and you will simply have to determine them on your arrival. Each of the areas you mention does have a number of excellent gunshops. Especially in London, Frankfurt, and Paris, time spent wandering through them is well spent even if you do not purchase anything.—D.W.

**Ortgies**

I have recently acquired a center fire .25 caliber automatic. It is polished blue-black, with wooden stocks with inscriptions "Deutsche Werk (D)werk Erfurt" and several proof marks. The serial number is 61,858. I would like to know something about the gun and its approximate value, as I have yet to pay for it.

Robert C. Merritt  
Springdale, Conn.

Your description fits the .25 Ortgies pistol; in good condition its current value is \$45 to \$50. This is a very well made little gun and was the subject of an Inside Look in GUNS Magazine in March, 1967.—S.B.

**Barbar Pistol**

I have read with great interest your column "Panel of Experts" for some time and have enjoyed my subscription to your magazine in general.

My problem is in the form of an English "Turn-Off" pistol. The word "Barbar" appears on the left side of the lock and the word "London" appears on the right side. The barrel is 5⅞" long. The safety is in the trigger guard (move guard forward to lock). The receiver is heavily engraved and the grip is one-piece walnut with a great deal of silver inlay in a flower and vine pattern. The butt piece is solid silver and flat in shape. The lock has the double proof marks of the British Board of Ordnance.

(Continued on page 76)

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## PISTOL POWERHOUSE

(Continued from page 23)

and took off for the range. The wood test consisted of  $\frac{7}{8}$ " pine wood spaced 1" apart with 18 boards making up the baffle, shooting distance was around 15'. For the sake of comparison, included in the wood test was a .44 Mag. carbine which penetrated eleven boards, denting the twelfth. The .38-45 stood neck to neck with the .44 Mag. Carbine and really outdid the .45 cal. auto which penetrated only five boards and dented the sixth. Earlier I mentioned that Herco did not give any degree of accuracy, but one thing it seemed to do better than any other powder was to give magnum performance to the .38-45. This powder and gun combination can certainly fill the bill for a lot of hunting conditions.

When the soap tests were finished, the .38-45 matched and in some cases exceeded the expansion of the .45 auto.

TYPE OF GUN	POWDER LOAD	BULLET	BOARDS PENE-TRATED	BOARDS DENTED
Gov. .45 auto	4½ gr. 5066	200 gr. Cast lead	4	—
Gov. .45 auto	Military Ammo.	230 gr. M.C.	5	6th
.38 Special Colt	5 gr. Bullseye	157 gr. S.W.C. Lead	6	—
Smith & Wesson .357 Magnum	15 gr. 4227	157 gr. S.W.C. Lead	8	9th
7.65 mm Luger	Factory Norma	93 gr. Remington M.C.	8	9th
9 mm Husq-varna M 40	5 gr. 5066	116 gr. Norma M.C.	9	10th
Custom 7.65 mm Luger 7" bar	4 gr. 5066	93 gr. Norma M.C.	9	10th
9 mm Luger 8" bar	5 gr. 5066	116 gr. Norma M.C.	10	—
.44 Magnum Marlin Carbine	Remington Factory	240 gr. Lead	11	12th
.38-45	9 gr. Herco	116 gr. Norma M.C.	11	12th

Generally, telephone books are soaked in water to show up expansion more dramatically, but I felt that it was a tougher test using them dry. For comparison a .264 Mag. 140 gr. Nosler at 100 yards was used against the .38-45 at around 15'. The Keith-type Lyman cast bullet #385429 came through with flying colors. This bullet design really is potent medicine. It came ram-rod-rod-rod through the book like a block buster.

In conclusion, the .38-45 can be loaded up to magnum performance and conversely it can be loaded down to a mild target load where the shells drop at your feet, or you can replace the .45 barrel and have a close range defense weapon. This, then, is an extremely versatile gun combination capable of providing a wide variety of uses. All this and handloading tests that seem to go on and on . . . at least for me.



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## BETTER COMBAT SHOOTING

(Continued from page 33)

or per year. This same problem exists with foreign police departments to a great degree. In some countries a round of .38 Special ammunition may cost from 50-75 cents each. This makes practice prohibitive and hoarding ammunition is a way of life.

Today there are many foreign and domestic police departments which have chosen between untrained police gun-toters and large budgets for ammunition and have elected to go the route for plastic ammunition shooting. So far as certain foreign police organizations are concerned, especially in South America, plastic ammunition is the best thing to come along since the advent of colored jelly beans.

In the Philippines members of some departments choose up sides, don a protective breastplate and a plastic face shield that some U.S. motor scooter users wear, and then try to outdraw each other. Wax bullets are used at about 10-15 feet and these hombres are good, believe me. One officer will concentrate on the head, another on the

Possibly the next largest scale use of plastic ammunition for training police with firearms began in December, 1963, when the first class of foreign police officers began training at the International Police Academy in Washington, D.C. This Academy is a part of the Office of Public Safety, Agency for International Development, Department of State.

Once preliminary instructions in reloading techniques, range safety, positions, range commands, and duties of coaches had been completed these officers began firing in a small room in the Academy building. This room accommodated six firing points for 25 feet. On one wall was hung a double thickness of salvage carpet with an airspace between it and the wall. A taut wire was stretched from wall to wall for target support. Long, narrow tables completed the range facilities.

All training was done with S&W Military & Police or Colt Official Police .38 Special revolvers have 4-inch barrels, a type common

### Plastic Pistol Cartridges

Manufacturer	Name of Item	General Details
Speer, Inc. (Box 641, Lewiston, Idaho)	T-38	Plastic, red case, black bullet, lg. pistol primer.
Winchester-Western (New Haven, Conn.)	Plastic .38s	Plastic, red case, blue bullet, lg. pistol primer.
Cascade Cartridges, Inc. (Box 660, Lewiston, Idaho)	Red-Jets, .38	Wax/plastic bullet. Used w/.38 brass case w/primer flash hole bored to 1/8" dia.
Del-Hart Enterprises, Inc. (2759 W. Broadway, Los Angeles, Calif.)	Tru-Blue	Plastic, light green case, blue bullet, large pistol primer.
Kerroco Inc. (Box 4178, Lincoln, Neb.)	Mar-Don	Plastic, yellow full sized .38 spl. case, black rubber dart-like bullet. Small pistol primer.

heart. Once they draw and shoot, you will find a spot of wax right where they call the shot. I understand a thorough check of the opponent's weapon before firing is closely adhered to.

In this country the Post Office Department is at least the biggest organization to go to wax and wax/plastic ammunition for firearms training of their personnel. In May of 1963 the Department issued a Methods Handbook, Series M-17 (Rev) entitled "Use and Care of Revolvers." Courses of fire, techniques, and narrative were devised and written by Mr. Thompson N. Berdeen, then Research and Information Director, Bureau of the Chief Postal Inspector. Tom is an expert pistol shot and gun buff who fought for better training for Post Office personnel who carried weapons to protect the mails and themselves. When his superiors bought the idea, wax bullet shooting came of age.

in U.S. police departments and very well standardized in foreign police organizations being assisted by the Office of Public Safety. Ammunition used was Speer's T-38 round having a red plastic case and a black cylindrical bullet. Large pistol primers propelled the bullet.

IPA training involves the usual preliminaries but there was, and is, one major difference. Instead of dry shooting and calling "bull" on each shot students now had a bullet hole to conjure with. Since you can't argue with a bullet hole, it did not matter that shooters called a shot a bullseye if it was down in "jerker's corner," (8 o'clock). At this point the instructor could prove the firer jerked the trigger.

Classes were organized into three or four relays, depending upon size. One relay fired, another coached, and the others reloaded plastic ammunition on the ready line. Some-



times officers would spend their breaks re-loading the T-38's, apparently fascinated with the operation.

After a given number of hours of slow fire training with the plastics, classes then graduated to rapid fire on the 50-foot Colt Police silhouette target. Firing was done from prone, crouch, sitting, and kneeling positions.

This reduced course of fire for plastic ammo naturally led into one requiring live ammunition over a 25 yard, indoors, modified combat course. By the time classes were ready for firing live ammunition they were well schooled in procedures, positions, and time limits. Except for the noise and recoil of service load cartridges, there was little for them to become accustomed to in the way of firing.

As student influx increased at the IPA, there arose a need for a bigger range. In order to use a large auditorium for shooting plastics, the onus was placed on the firearms instructors to design equipment that would allow such firing, but which would protect the auditorium walls against stray bullets.

Elmer C. Radmer, now with the Public Safety Advisory group in Thailand, but then a firearms instructor at the IPA, came up with the designs pictured with this article.

The basic problem was not how to stop the plastic bullet, but to prevent high shots from clearing the backstop and doing damage to the hall. The louver shooting stand design shown proved very satisfactory in use. Before firing the shooter would sight over his hand while his coach moved the louver up or down until the shooter could not see over the backstop. With this adjustment it was difficult to fire a shot that cleared the backstop. A few bullets get over but they are fired from sitting or kneeling positions.

The stand will handle two shooters at once with provisions for pistol, ammunition, rod, etc. Openings below the pistol table allow firing in the kneeling, sitting, and prone positions. Both shooting stands and backstops were casted so the auditorium could be cleared for other functions.

Backstops were designed to handle two vertical sheets of rubber which served to stop bullets. The nearest sheet to the firing line was cut in 1-inch strips and separated about 6-8 inches from the rear sheet. Plastic bullets striking the 1-inch strips are slowed down and caused to tumble. The solid rear sheet of rubber brakes the rest of the force and the spent bullet falls into the box-like base of the backstop. They are later recovered by students, returned to the firing



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line, and reloaded.

In order to satisfactorily conduct courses of fire with plastic cases, IPA found it necessary to use only one brand of primers. Misfires are the order of the day with other brands. It is believed they are less sensitive and/or have thicker or harder primer cups and this compounds the misfire problem. A part of this trouble is the springy nature of the plastic cases which do not support the firing pin blow completely. In some instances misfires can be eliminated by beefing up the main spring of the revolver. This can be done in S&W revolvers by placing a thin shim under the mainspring strain screw.

In my experience it is necessary to run a brass brush through the bore and chambers of the revolvers fired with plastic ammo in order to maintain accuracy and to remove the accumulation of fouling that may prevent the insertion of a loaded cartridge. When firing with plastics is completed, a thorough cleaning with brass brush and solvent is a must.

If bore and chambers are not cleaned at least every 10 rounds, keyhole hits will be noticed with increasing frequency. Should a bullet be damaged by hitting a hard object, it too will keyhole. Such bullets should be discarded.

Firing is done slow fire at a target which the Academy developed to accommodate the looping trajectory of the bullet. In our revolvers it was found that the plastic bullet dropped 3 3/4" below the point of aim at 25 feet. Scoring rings on the "IPA" target are identical to those of the 50 foot NRA rapid fire pistol target. The black bull at the top of the card is just an aiming point to allow the groups to build in the center of the scoring rings. By using this target, fixed sighted revolvers may be used for both plastic and live firing. Even with revolvers having adjustable sights such a course of action might be better rather than to chance losing a "zero" when trying to center a group while shooting

plastics. While the student wants to aim at his group, it doesn't help group size.

The use of longer or heavier .38 Special barrels produce slight changes in point of impact and "Kentucky" windage or "Colorado" elevation must be used to center groups for maximum score. In the hands of good shots scores of from 90-96 are common. Many of the police officers at IPA have fired scores of from 95-99, and this ain't bad.

One of the advantages of using plastic ammunition prior to range firing, and in lieu of dry firing, is that instructors can spot low scoring men and give them individual instruction prior to range work. Also, much beneficial practice can be had over most any reduced course of fire. Costs of firing plastics are considerably less than with live ammunition. Such firing can be done with the policeman's own weapon, not a substitute. Elaborate range equipment is not needed, nor is fancy reloading gear.

Speer, Inc., has produced an excellent color film entitled "Ready on the Right" which shows, in capsule form, a typical plastic cartridge firing operation.

Incidental to their firearms training with plastic ammunition, foreign police officers are handling their sidearms with a definite purpose. By so doing they become more adept and familiar with the weapon. They should, and probably do, score better on the range and most importantly, I suspect many more are surviving gun battles with criminals and subversives.

There is no quick and easy way to good marksmanship, but I believe there are now better means to that end. Plastic handgun ammo, properly used, under adequate supervision is one of those means to better shooting for police.

Now don't be afraid of a new idea. Ask yourself, do police officers need a cheap, safe, convenient aid to better use of a handgun? If the answer is affirmative, start poppin' plastics.

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## THE DEADLIEST GUN

(Continued from page 31)

But the submachine gun and automatic carbine were issued for that sort of work. On through the Korean War (as well as quite a few others in which we did not get quite so specifically involved) the shotgun continued to be largely ignored as a combat weapon by the military hierarchy.

During the period of WW II a few people did push for combat use of the shotgun. One was Rex Applegate, whose book "Kill or Get Killed" has become a classic. Another was P. Frank Baughman, of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Both men, then and now acknowledged authorities, insisted that the "sawed-off" shotgun which we today call the "riot gun" was the best weapon for a number of combat situations. Both had also been under fire, and had done more than a little shooting back—so know whereof they spoke. Baughman recommended a 20" to 24", 12-gauge pump gun loaded with 0 buck for an all-purpose combat load, and Applegate agreed, generally, if not in detail.

Perhaps over the years enough people read the works of these two men, and of the shotgun accomplishments of WW I, to become again receptive to the scattergun as a combat weapon. When the British were fighting a nasty, dirty, and little talked-about guerilla war in Malaysia (where they did a remarkable job of eliminating the enemy), they quickly recognized the value of the short, fast-firing shotgun in dense jungle. Ambushes and counter-ambushes on both sides were the order of the day. When a few Browning self-loading scatterguns were placed in operation, it was almost immediately discovered they were superior even to full-automatic rifles and light machine-guns in getting quick hits on the close-in enemy. At jungle ambush ranges, the Brownings' handful of lead pellets killed the enemy just as dead as high velocity .30 or 9 millimeter bullets. At ranges up to 100 yards the then-standard load of 9 pellets of SG (.331" diameter) shot could inflict disabling wounds. Of course, hit probability at that range is rather low, but out to 50 yards an enemy shot at was likely to be an enemy hit.

Eventually the British standardized a load of mixed size shot considerably smaller in diameter than that of the original SG. The idea being to produce a load that would give the most desirable combination of hit probability and lethality. The general concensus was that multiple hits were most desirable, even at the expense of reduced energy per individual hit. Reducing shot size places more pellets in the pattern and increases hit probability—which is fine, until the point of diminishing returns is reached. For example, you can put twenty or thirty No. 9 shot on a man at fifty yards and probably make him angry with you—however, a single 0 or 00 buck pellet will quite likely disable him, and may very well be fatal. And it is axiomatic in war that a dead enemy is far less likely to cause you further trouble than one who has only been nicked a bit.

Following all this the U. S. once again found itself embroiled in a nasty jungle

war in South Vietnam. A cry for shotguns went up from our advisors operating there several years ago. This requirement was met with some degree of alacrity by Savage Arms and Ithaca Gun Company, who supplied close to 100,000 twenty-inch barreled military versions of their standard twelve-bore pump guns. The guns were fitted with short (thirteen-inch) butt stocks, recoil pads, sling swivels, and military finish. The majority were furnished with full-choke barrels, though a small percentage was delivered with improved cylinder boring.

Paired with these guns was the standard 3/4 dram equivalent load propelling nine pellets of 00 (.330" diameter) buck. The scattergun-carrying soldier, with five such rounds in his magazine and fifty more in an ammunition bag, is prepared to cut through a lot of jungle and ventilate man targets that may be seen only briefly or even not at all through dense foliage.

Immediately upon their arrival in Vietnam, the new riot guns received eager acceptance. Since that time the conflict there has grown tremendously, and news releases and films frequently mention or show the sawed-off scattergun being used with telling effect. One well-circulated picture of the "fighting priest" of South Vietnam shows that worthy gentleman riding shotgun on his flock with a twelve-bore, self-loading Browning and a bulging ammunition bag. He is reported to be carrying a pretty fair average on roving Viet Cong that attempt to raid the fortified village where he makes his headquarters.

Numerous reports from Vietnam returnees attest to the effectiveness of shotguns in that kind of war—telling of instances where five or six enemy have been stacked up by a single, short rolling burst from stubby Ithaca or Savage. Incidentally, when I said "burst" above, I meant just that. With a little practice the pump gun can be fired with almost machine gun-like rapidity—so fast that the individual reports can hardly be distinguished. And there's no incentive for practice quite like that of being shot at. People I have talked to say that they have not found the tubular magazine and individual shell reloading process required to be any great handicap. One can easily stuff additional rounds into the magazine after each firing, keeping it continuously charged to the hilt. And this can be done with a round in the chamber, ready to go. A larger capacity magazine would offer some advantages, but would also add weight and bulk.

Prompted by the scattergun's energetic acceptance by the fighting man, several firms have entered into improvement and/or development programs. High Standard, for one, now offers a barrel-length, 8-shot magazine in a stubby 18"-barreled version of its standard pump gun. Another firm has gone the more exotic route to develop an entirely new type of scattergun intended purely for military use. Then, of course, there is a special cannister load for the M-79 Grenade Launcher. Developed at Frankfort Arsenal, this 40 millimeter XM 576 cartridge contains a veritable handful of slugs in a plastic

matrix. It converts the 40 millimeter grenade launcher to a massive 1 1/2"-bore shotgun.

It have been proven twice before, and is now being proven again that the short-barreled shotgun, by whatever exotic name one might choose to call it, is a superb weapon for certain purposes and under certain circumstances. That some might look down their nose at it, or ignore it entirely, simply because it is not a product of the so-called "space age," is probably a natural effect of the times. But now for the third time the sportsman's trusted friend and companion has been "discovered" and placed in action against some of the most vicious enemies our time has known. Let's hope that in the future the lessons of past combats will not have been forgotten.



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## QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

(Continued from page 70)

The pistol is very similar to the one, #449, shown in the book "European and American Arms" by Claude Blair. My pistol differs by having a longer barrel and a flat butt piece.

Please let me know when this gun was made and its approximate value. Also where I might read up on the Barbar pistol.

Jim Hunter  
Prairie Village, Kansas

*I cannot find too much on Barbar of London other than the fact they were making firearms from 1700 to 1780 in London. I would guess that your gun was made in the very early 1700's and is definitely a military-type pistol. Most Barbar-made pistols I have seen over the years seem to be of very fine quality and are a fine collector's item. The value of your Barbar pistol should be around \$250 to \$300.—R.M.*

### Slab-Side Mauser

I wonder if you can help me? I think I have found a "sleeper" in my collection. A couple of years ago I acquired a rather nice Mauser 1898 pistol. Mausers don't particularly interest me, so I never thought too much about it.

Last week I was leafing through some old gun magazines and I came across an article on Mausers, wherein was mentioned one of the rarities, a 1905 "Slab-Sided" Mauser. Something clicked and I dug my Mauser out. Here is the full description:

It's a .30 Caliber Mauser with serial number 26533, complete with walnut holster/stock which is also numbered 26533. It has the tangent sight, graduated from 50 to 1000 meters. All numbers match throughout, and the pistol is in NRA very good condition. The receiver is flat without the machined indentations found on the military Mauser 1898.

Enclosed is a picture from the magazine I was reading. My pistol is identical. Could you please tell me what I have, if it is the 1905, and its present market value.

W. R. Onslow  
Medicine Hat, Alberta

*The 1905 Mauser is characterized by a four-inch barrel, open "Y" rear sight, five-shot capacity, smaller grip, and a magazine catch inside the trigger guard.*

*However, if yours is identical to the furnished illustration, it most certainly is a "slab-sided" Mauser. I assume you know that Astra made similar guns (the 903 series), some of which were also "slab sided."*

*Incidentally, in addition to its slab sides, the illustration appears to be a 1908 or 1912 Mauser with a 1905 hammer.*

*In very good condition, in and out, with matching shoulder stock, also in very good condition, your outfit should be worth \$200 to \$225 to a serious collector.—S.B.*

### Storekeeper's Colt

I have a Sheriff's Model Single Action Colt, No. 145289, in excellent condition except that it has been refinished. It is .44-40 caliber with 4" barrel. I have a letter from Colt showing the pistol was shipped on May 29, 1894. The barrel has "COLT Frontier Six Shooter" on it. I would like your opinion on the value of this pistol.

C. B. Norman  
Watauga, Tenn.

*Your Colt Storekeeper's Model, House Pistol, or Sheriff's Model (depending on what one wishes to call it, sounds like a fine collectors item . . . too bad it was refinished. Since you have a factory letter on it and you know it is at least honest, I would guess that the collectors value for it would be around \$175 to \$200. If it were not reblued and in good condition, it would have brought around \$350 or more.—R.M.*

### M1922 Browning

I have a prewar Browning Model 1922 pistol manufactured by FN. The pistol is in NRA very good to excellent condition. The serial number is 3525, and it is .32 caliber. The gun has a lanyard loop and on top of the slide is an anchor. What is the significance of the anchor? What is the value of this pistol as a collector's item?

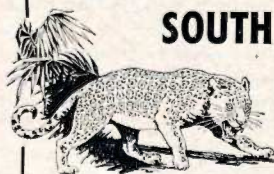
D. A. Schuler  
Manchester, Calif.

*The M1922 Brownings in very good condition go for about \$35.00 in the retail market. An anchor on a firearm usually indicates an issue gun for a governmental naval force, and sometimes increases the collector's value as much as 300 per cent, depending on the gun and country. I'd suggest you have your "anchor" identified; we cannot do so from your description.—S.B.*



Answers to Collector's Quiz.

1. 1814
2. Sharps
3. Ball Butt
4. Colt



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# GUNSMITHING TIPS

By WILLIAM SCHUMAKER

**MOUNTING SLING SWIVELS** on gunstocks is one of the easiest things to do correctly, yet often ends up in a mess. Ordinarily no great damage is done, but a butt swivel screw installed too far to the rear conflicts with the butt plate or recoil pad screw. Then it must either be re-located farther forward and leave an ugly scar on the stock, or for want of preventing such defacing, the owner cuts off about half of one of these screws, with the result that neither is holding properly.

For good appearance and positive clearing of plate or pad screws  $1\frac{3}{4}$ " forward on the stock toe wood is the spot to sink in your pilot hole with about a No. 35 drill. Due to a wide variance of loop base diameters among the many makes of swivels, your set should be purchased in advance of installation work. Measure base of "screw-in" butt swivel, then use a wood-cutting bit of corresponding di-

ameter to make a shallow countersink to which the swivel base will cinch up later.

Before screwing the swivel screw into the wood determine its approximate shank size minus threads, and with a drill of this diameter open the pilot hole. To prevent stripping in soft wood it is sometimes necessary to open the pilot hole with a slightly smaller drill. If stock toe is dense wood a slightly larger drill may be required to forestall cracking or chipping. Best approach is to open the pilot hole with a drill slightly smaller than anticipated need. Then try turning in the swivel screw. If it is too tight, enlarge the hole with a bigger drill.


Screw-in type butt swivels should not be installed on forestocks because of limited wood depth under the barrel channel. For visual balance drill pilot hole about  $2\frac{1}{4}$ " from forestock end if there is no forend tip and 3

inches from end on the plastic forend tip variety. Custom stocks with contrasting wood forend tips, may have steel dowel screws extending up to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches into parent wood. Swivel must be mounted behind this.

Cut shallow countersink on outside of forestock over pilot hole, and inside the barrel channel bore countersink



Opening the pilot hole up to shank size stops chipping and cracking.

deep enough to position the swivel nut just below bottom of barrel channel. Open remainder of the pilot hole to accept the swivel stem. Press the nut into barrel channel counter sink while turning swivel stem into it from outside. If the stem extends beyond the nut after tightening, mark at base of protrusion, remove and cut off excess length. Reassemble and you have a professional sling swivel installation. 

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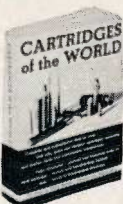
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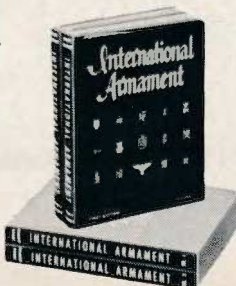


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## BLACK POWDER MARKSMAN

(Continued from page 49)

enjoyment of just being around other people who spoke the language of a cap and ball shooting sportsman. As in any competitive event, there were scenes of humor. One competitor, intent on his target, reached back into his pocket for a handkerchief, and grabbed, instead, his patch cloth—ugh! Another shooter, hurriedly scanned the odds and ends of gun parts offered by the vendors in commercial row, looking for a replacement spring for his Springfield Carbine—and with only 10 minutes left to shoot his round!

One of the major reasons that everyone seems to have a good time at the NMLRA matches is that there are more than 80 individual matches, giving every shooter an opportunity to compete. There are matches for junior shooters, bench resters, black powder pistolmen, and even trap competition for muzzle loading shotguns. In addition to the conventional—for muzzle loaders, that is—matches shot from the many shooting points on the range, there was an match called the "Mountain Man Aggregate." This consisted of four individual events, proficiency at which contributed to the longevity of the frontiersmen of old. One event consisted of shooting at crossed strings, and hopefully cutting them both.

Another had the shooter taking aim at the bit of an axe, attempting to split the ball so as to break two clay birds mounted on either side of the blade. The competitors then put away their "shootin irons" and moved to planks of wood at which they threw tomahawks and knives. This scene is pictured in the color page opening this article. Jim Coon, Lima, Ohio, won this aggregate after a shoot-off with Joe Bennet and Richard Bauer.

One of the toughest matches, the "Rick Gilliland," had flintlock shooters hanging away at special targets 50 yards away—*off-hand*. The flash-pause-boom of flintlocks is enough to unnerve most shooters, and trying to master this in competition really separates the men from the boys. "Mountain Man" Jim Coon walked away with the honors in this match, too.

Bill Carver, who has been winning black powder pistol events regularly, did not disappoint the spectators at this match. He captured the aggregate in the pistol masters class competition with a total score of 557-15X, compiled in caplock pistol matches at 25 and 50 yards, percussion revolver at 25 and 50 yards, and flintlock pistol at 25 and 50 yards.

Richard Castillo, Springfield, Ohio, won

the Founders Match aggregate with a total score of 188-2X; Chuck Belnder of Coreopolis, Pa., was second with a 178-1X, and Tom Pike, Lisbon, Ohio, came in a close third with 176-3X.

In the Buffalo Matches—these shot with rifles wearing only metallic sights; contestant sitting, and using crossed sticks to support the muzzle—Joseph Valentin, Marlette, Mich., won the aggregate with an excellent 100-4X. This means that out of 10 shots—5 at 50 yards and 5 at 100 yards, Valentin shot a possible, and got four of his shots in the X-ring. Second place was taken by Harold Yazel, Mentone, Indiana, and third by Homer Phipps, Plainfield, Indiana.

Popular, both with contestants and spectators, were the various black powder shotgun events. Some 15 different events were run, and after the smoke had cleared, Tom Doster of Albany, Indiana emerged the victor of the Spring Trap Championship with a 43x50, shot at 16 yards. A new feature this year was the "Quail Walk." As the shooters walked a prescribed course, 10 clay birds would fly through the brush. Four shooters broke six birds, but Jerry Hirtle, Bath, Pa., had the longest string of hits, and copped first place.

One of the most important matches, as far as the NMLRA was concerned, was the 204 Match, an aggregate event shot at 25 and 50 yards, offhand. All of the proceeds of this match went toward the purchase of an additional 204 acres of land for the Walter Cline Range. Donald Coleman, Dearborn, Mich., walked off with a Tingle half-stock plains rifle as his prize for winning this event with a score of 97-1X.

There were other winners in the rest of the 70 or more events, but the big winner at the Spring Muzzle Loading Matches, in my opinion, was the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association. They showed once again, that they could come up with events, prizes, and a range which would keep black powder blasters happy, and eager to come back again August 29 through September 4, when the NMLRA hosts their Championship Fall Shoot. Another winner at this Spring Shoot was the American television audience, who will see this shoot on the nationwide ABC program, "The American Sportsman." The segment shot here will be shown next winter.

A tip of the hat to the officers of the NMLRA, and to the hundreds of competitors, who will show the American public that shooting can be fun, and that muzzle loader shooting appears to be the most fun of all.





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## TEAR GAS GUNS

(Continued from page 29)

from either end, but their sales and use have been relatively limited. Most persons on the receiving end of a charge of CN dust at close range, are bound to be effected and temporarily incapacitated. This is especially true, if the charge has been delivered so it covers the upper half of the body, and the wind is not too adverse. Normally, there will be a sufficient time lapse so that the user can leave the area while the assailant is not capable of aggressive acts. Time is also usually available for a more aggressive followthrough by the officer or user, if so indicated. Pen guns are most effective against unarmed attackers such as usually take place in muggings and assaults on women. Effectiveness against a man armed with a gun is almost nil, and success against a knife or club attack is dependent on the individual situation and range.

Police and citizens using tear gas guns must bear in mind that once the gas is discharged it is no respecter of persons. User and attacker can both be effected. This is another basic reason why once a pen gun has been fired it is best to vacate the area of concentration. This is most important when the gun is fired in a room or other enclosed area.

Because use of such weapons are generally emergency in nature, there is little time to test or fire them with due consideration given to a favorable wind condition. However, when used indoors, and in normal conditions outside, the force of the expelling charge is usually great enough to initially project the gas cloud toward the target permitting the user to withdraw. Still, there have been a number of incidents where unfavorable winds blowing toward the user have made the weapon ineffective. It is always advisable after purchasing a gun to go out to the garage and fire a cartridge so that an idea of the range, recoil, noise of explosion, etc., can be gained. At the same time, exposure to the gas itself is recommended. In this manner increased confidence and a better idea as to correct tactical use can be gained.

Most pen gun devices are loaded with conventional CN (chloracetophenone) tear gas in dust form. More recently one has been

mass marketed utilizing a loading of the newer, and more potent, military, riot control agent called CS (Orthochlorobenzalmononitrile). CS causes tearing, discomfort to the eyes, difficulty in breathing and nausea—even in minute quantities. Due to the small amount of gas agent released by the pen type devices this loading is, in the writers opinion, more practical and effective. Neither CN or CS have any lasting or toxic effects when they are released so that the subject is only exposed to the airborne particles of chemical agent.

Recently, a Pennsylvania police chief accidentally dropped his police model pen gun while attending a city council meeting. It discharged when hitting the floor, and caused immediate cessation of activities, and received the obvious, humorous type press coverage, due to persons involved and circumstances. This points up the fact that pen gun devices must always be used and carried with this possibility in mind. All such devices have a recessed notch, of one form or another, in the firing pin travel slot. Usually, the firing pin is carried in the cocked position with the projecting knob engaged in the safety notch. This safety notch and position is declared in advertising to be foolproof and positive. Actually, due to the multiplicity of makes and models the safety factor is equally varied.

The writer was present during one incident that, although the sequence of events resembled a Laurel and Hardy comedy, also shows that the possibility of accidental discharge, as with a firearm, is always present. The scene was a very formal Christmas dinner party, where one of the ladies present, a nurse, had her handbag on the arm of her chair. Inadvertently, a passing guest knocked the bag off the chair arm and the pen gun inside exploded, tearing a hole in the handbag and releasing its tear gas charge into the living room. The writer, realizing what had happened, tried to open the windows with no success. The party ended up with the excited host using a poker to break out all the large plate glass windows in the room.

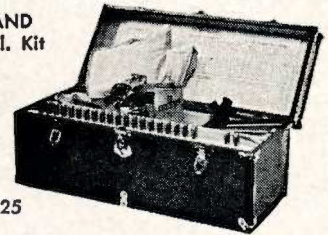
All pen gun devices should be thoroughly examined and tested as to the positive nature of the safety and the ease in which the device can be fired from the carry-safety po-

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sition. Police and users, real or potential, should also be aware of the more serious side effects of discharge of pen guns both accidentally and tactically.

Pen gun devices and firearms firing tear gas shells should always be employed so that the muzzle points no higher than the chest level, at time of discharge. This same stipulation applies to all one-shot, blast type, police billies using tear gas shells and to the police type gas gun, when firing the 37 mm short range blast type shell.

There are on record (some of recent date) cases where persons have been blinded as a result of having blast type tear gas devices fired directly into their faces at point blank range. This was formerly attributed to the fact that the top wadding of the cartridge fragmented and the small pieces were driven into the eyeball.

However, medical findings within the past year have revealed that the CN type of tear gas dust, itself, when injected into tissue through an open wound, caused by the wadding, is responsible for much of the damage. Chronic inflammatory conditions and permanent nerve damage can result. In addition, it was discovered that the foam or neoprene type rubber top wads, being used to minimize fragmentation, are also dangerous when fired at contact range. They are capable of making a penetrating wound, allowing the tear gas dust to enter. The wads, themselves, cannot be located by x-ray so they can be extracted, and a foreign body reaction in the tissue usually takes place.

These recent medical findings were made as a result of a series of incidents where pen gun devices were exploded accidentally in the hands due to unfamiliarity with these weapons or carelessness.

The above facts make it doubly important that police recommendation of pen gun tear gas devices be appropriately qualified. These devices are not harmless toys or foolproof weapons. People using them should be made aware of their limitations, trained in their use, and generally treat them with all the same common sense precautions that are necessary with loaded firearms.

In addition to the more numerous and effective tear gas pen guns, a number of aerosol projectors with varied loadings and questionable effectiveness are being marketed. Practically anything that can be liquified and put under pressure in a container can be sprayed from a can. Thus, it is only natural

that a number of such so called, protective devices are being sold over drug store counters and via the mails. In many cases, not only does their practical value leave a lot to be desired, but their toxicity and side effects on persons effected is largely unknown and certainly not advertised. Prices for these units vary from a dollar to ten times that amount and the initial procurement cost is not any sure indicator of the amount of protection received.

There is no specific federal control over such weapons, or what is loaded in them. Labeling is also vague and many of them could not comply with the Federal Hazardous Substances Labelling Act, applicable to many household and other commercial products that are in everyday use. It is reported that the Federal Food and Drug Administration is undertaking a study of this situation at the present time and may soon issue stricter requirements over loadings, labeling, advertising, and marketing procedures.

Because of the looseness of the controls a number of basement operations have offered all kinds of personal squirt type protective devices over the past years. In most cases, the ordinary hat pin carried by grandmother was a much more effective weapon and the modern miss would be better advised to put more trust in the spiked heel of her shoe. At one time, projectors were offered, and even used by the police, that were loaded with ordinary household ammonia. Examination of the label on a bottle of ammonia will give a good indication of the hazards involved in the use of this type liquid, but the writer would not be surprised to see something similar emerge again.

For centuries, cayenne pepper (capsaicin) had been used in one form or another as a vegetable base, irritant loading for primitive type chemical grenades and for personal protective purposes. Some women, to this day, carry containers of pepper in their handbags to throw into the eyes of attackers. Cayenne pepper can be synthesized and at one time was under study as a basic ingredient for war gases. Many of the present devices are loaded with an oil of pepper solution (oleum capsicum) and some of them are so marked on the label. These loadings will produce lachrimation, coughing and some skin and eye irritation. Similar projectors have been issued to post office mailmen as a protection against dogs. Generally, liquid pepper compounds that are used on a human

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are not considered too dangerous, if their formulation of basic ingredient is no more than 15 percent. These compounds are not immediately effective unless they *directly hit the eyes* while still in liquid solution. Pepper compounds can also be released in the form of a mist or spray. In this case, the range is limited and there is a probability of some very severe, and dangerous, coughing spasms being induced, on inhalation. Persons with respiratory ailments such as asthma would be particularly vulnerable.

A fungicide solution (sodium pentachlorophenate) is also loaded and sold as both a dangerous animal repellent and a protection against the two legged kind. This material is a strong eye irritant to say the least. It is released in the form of a limited range spray, and a determined attacker is not likely to be deterred by these devices, although he may be induced to cough.

Of all the pocket or purse type projectors offered, those that release a tear gas spray or mist are most likely to be effective. Unfortunately, many of them are subject to leakage and valve clogging, failing when needed most. Close limited range use and possibility of a blowback in the users face must also be considered.

The majority of the devices discussed under the aerosol category must be classed as irritants and not incapacitators. Time element being as short as it is in most incidents, they do not act fast enough and many times they only serve to incite the assailant to more violence. If used at all, especially by women, immediate flight should be automatic as there is no certainty as to their protective and deterrent value.

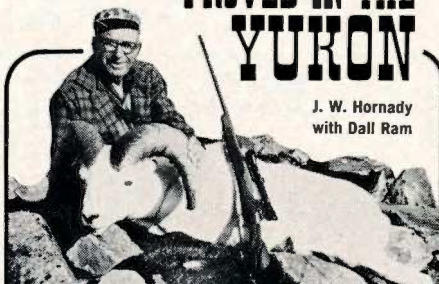
Police now have available, and in use, the extremely effective Chemical Mace family of non-lethal weapons. The current trend indicates that the majority of prison, police, and federal law enforcement agencies will soon be equipped with the Mace devices for use in combat situations where use of firearms is not indicated, or advisable. There have been hundreds of police success stories on use of the Mace and they have received national and government attention during the past year of issue. (See June-1967 issue GUNS.) The repeat capability, non-toxic nature of loading, instant effectiveness, range of 10-20 feet, and reliability make them distinctive from all the other civilian protective devices, described above.

Due to the national publicity received, covering successful police use of the Mace weapons, a considerable amount of pressure and demand for something similar has come from the public. A civilian pocket model, with a modified Mace type loading is now in the process of being released and marketed, in selected areas. Much of the actual sales effort is being done through organizations such as the Fraternal Order of Police. Where permitted, funds raised from the sales are used for police fraternal purposes and charities. In other departments police recommendation for issue to civilians with a need, due to their occupation, is solicited.

Brand names being used on civilian models are Genie, Tagasi, and Checkmate. It is suggested that local police departments be contacted as to sources. It is not probable that they will become available through normal trade channels, mail order, or drug counters.

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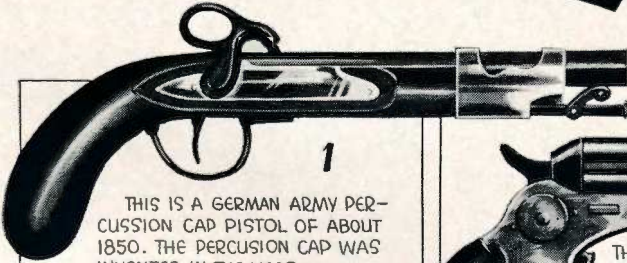
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# COLLECTOR'S QUIZ


by TOM HUNTER



**1**

THIS IS A GERMAN ARMY PERCUSSION CAP PISTOL OF ABOUT 1850. THE PERCUSSION CAP WAS INVENTED IN THE YEAR —

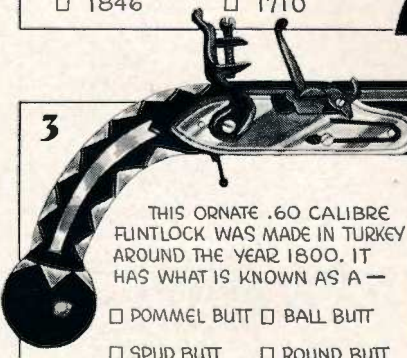
1780       1814  
 1846       1710



**2**

THIS IS THE STARR FOUR-BARREL .32 DERRINGER EXCEPT FOR THE BUTTON TRIGGER IT CLOSELY RESEMBLES THE —


SHARPS       MARLIN  
 REMINGTON       STEVENS



**3**

THIS ORNATE .60 CALIBRE FLINTLOCK WAS MADE IN TURKEY AROUND THE YEAR 1800. IT HAS WHAT IS KNOWN AS A —

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 SPUD BUTT       ROUND BUTT



**4**

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Answers will be found on page 76

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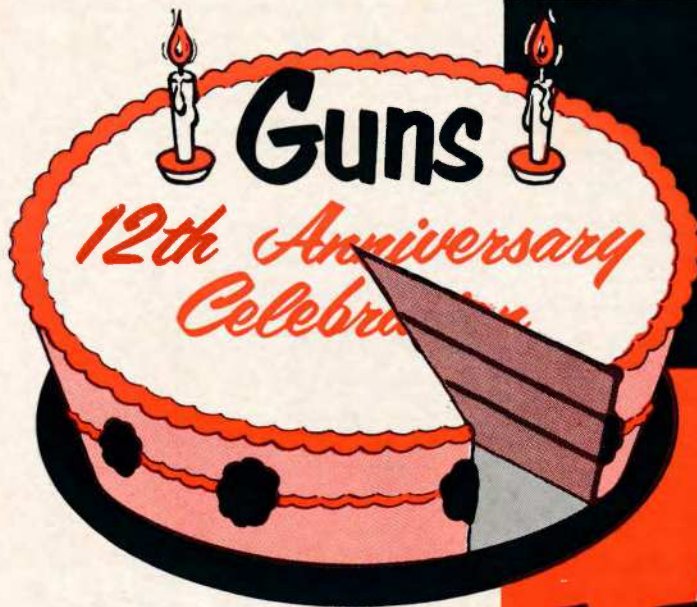


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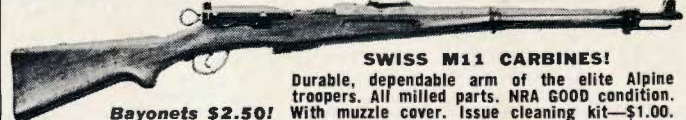


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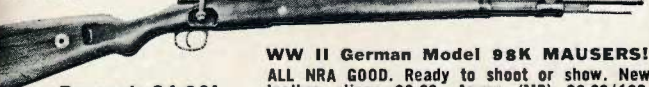


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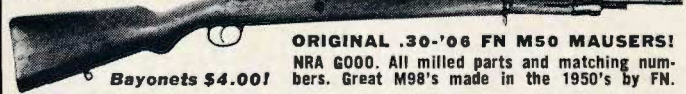
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