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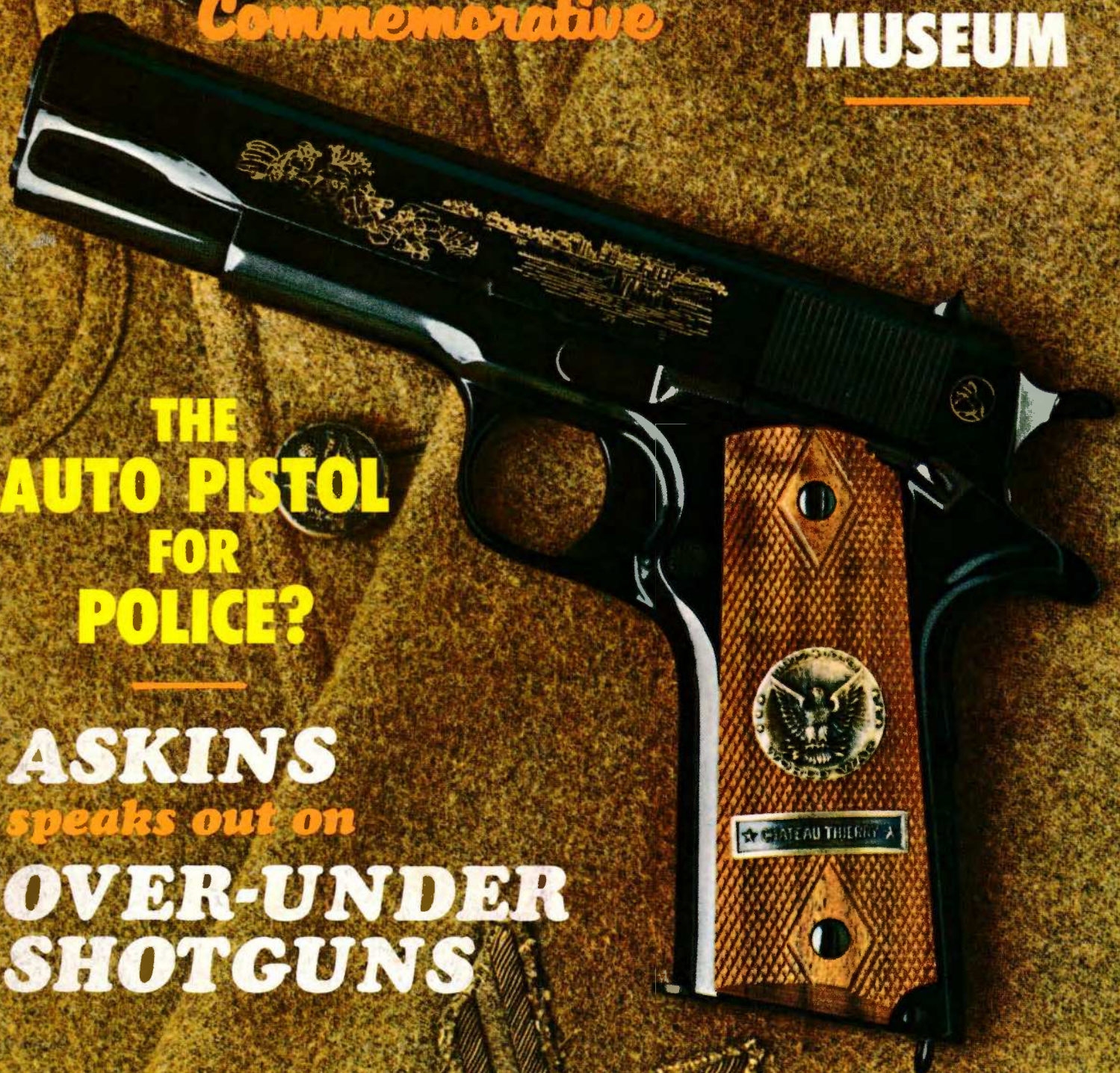
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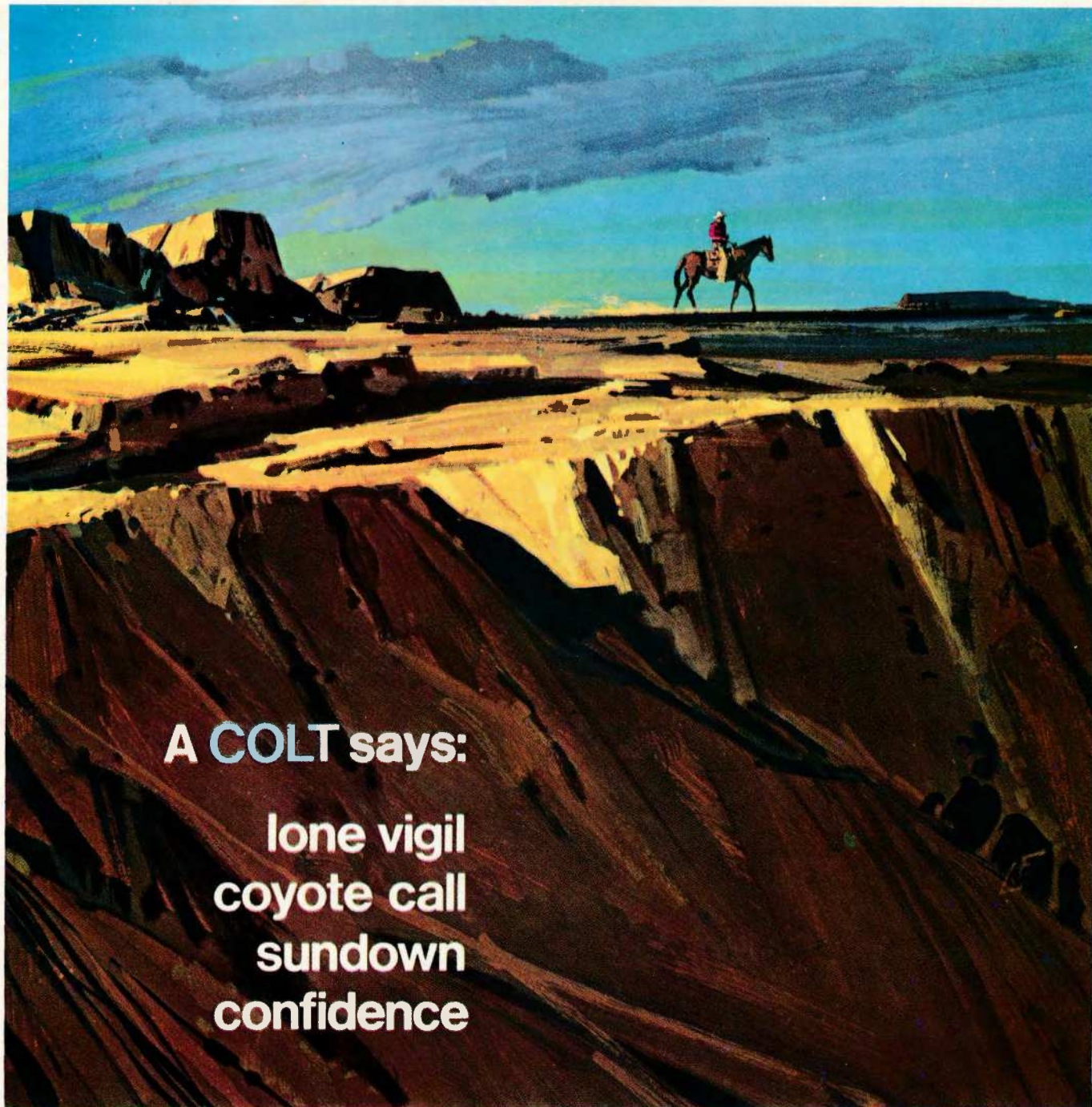
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- NEW LEGAL RESTRICTIONS AND YOUR NEED FOR INCREASED WEAPONS TECHNOLOGY

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TRIGGER TALK

THE WOODS are full of characters who have "the answer" to the so-called "gun problem." When these well-meaning fellows have some sort of title, however, their words get all kinds of publicity, and what they say is sometimes taken as gospel. Recently, in the September issue of "Look" magazine, Mr. Hans Mattick, "criminologist, University of Chicago," proposed that the government should register every gun—and I assume that he means this literally—and make a charge for this "service." We have all heard this many times before, but not Mr. Mattick's punch line. He went on to propose that all of the money collected for this registration should go into a special fund. The government would take this money, and use it to purchase all guns three years old or older, at ten per cent *above* the going market price. Still not clear as to Mr. Mattick's motive? Read on as Mr. Mattick explains; "Hopefully, poor people could not resist such a bargain, and this would siphon off a substantial part of the country's vast arsenal."

No one seems to know exactly how many guns are stolen each year in the U.S., but I would be willing to bet that a good number of the "poor people" certainly could not resist such a deal. Simply steal a dozen guns, walk to the nearest U.S. government pay station, (Mr. Mattick suggests that there would be no penalty for turning in unregistered weapons) and collect the market value plus ten per cent. What a deal, and what an original way to siphon off more of American taxpayer's money. I wonder if Mr. Mattick would also suggest that the government buy up all of the "unregistered" heroin and LSD, and pep pills, etc? How about the government buying up all of the autos three years and older, at 10 per cent above market value?

As this is written (mid-Oct., 1967) the New York City Council is holding hearings on a new, drastic firearms bill. This would include rifles and shotguns under the strict licensing and registration acts of the notorious Sullivan Law.

One of the most interesting aspects of this proposed bill is one section which, if passed, would prohibit the distribution, within the New York city limits, of any magazine, newspaper, or any other periodical which carries any advertisement for firearms which could be ordered, or delivered through "mail order."

I, for one, can't imagine anything like this being passed, but by the time you read this, we will both know if it can happen here in the U.S.

THE COVER

Shown here is the latest commemorative handgun from Colt. This is the first of a series of auto pistols commemorating the U.S. involvement in World War I. The full story of this series will be found on page 25. Photo courtesy Colt's Firearms Division, Colt Industries.

DECEMBER, 1967

Vol. XIII, No. 12-156

George E. von Rosen
Publisher

Arthur S. Arkush
Ass't to the Publisher

Guns

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

C O N T E N T S

FEATURES

special . . .

Cover Story: COLT COMMEMORATIVES	25
Color Feature: RARE GUNS IN THE REMINGTON MUSEUM	40

law enforcement . . .

ARE AUTO PISTOLS FOR POLICE?	James Olt	22
GLASS SHOT FOR RIOTS?	Col. Rex Applegate & Ellis Lea	32

technical . . .

GUN STOCKS—GOOD OR BAD?	Harry O. Dean	26
NEW 25 MM AUTOMATIC	Maj. George C. Nonte	28

collector . . .

WEAPONS AT SEA	Robert Mandel	48
--------------------------	---------------	----

shooting . . .

MAGNUMS FOR MOOSE	Les Bowman	34
OVER-UNDER SHOTGUNS	Col. Charles Askins	36

reloading . . .

THE HANDLOADER'S LIBRARY	David Beatie	31
------------------------------------	--------------	----

D E P A R T M E N T S

Crossfire	6	Collector's Corner	Robert Mandel	20
Gun Rack	8	Pull!	Dick Miller	52
Shooters Club of America	10	Trail & Target		72
Questions & Answers	11	Shopping with Guns		76
Handloading Bench	Dave Wolfe	14	Arms Library	79
Point Blank	Col. Charles Askins	17	The Gun Market	80
Our Man in Washington	Carl Wolff	18	Index of Advertisers	82

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EDITORIAL OFFICES: Jerome Rakusan, 8150 N. Central Park, Skokie, Ill. 60076, ORchard 5-5602.
E. B. Mann, 1020 Parkland Pl., S. E., Albuquerque 87108, N. M.

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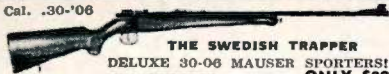
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CROSSFIRE

M-16 Backer

I'm a combat engineer assigned to the 3147 infantry as a demolition man. This makes me more of an infantryman than an engineer because until we come to a bunker or some other object that has to be blown, I serve as a rifleman. I've heard that there's a lot of controversy about the M-16 and how bad it is about jamming. I have just come in from Operation Enterprise and I can say truthfully say that the M-16 is the finest weapon I've ever carried. We were pinned down five different times the first day, three times in rice paddies full of water, once in a rice paddy full of mud, and once in a rice paddy full of water that turned into a canal full of mud when the tide went out. We also spent that night in a rice paddy that was knee deep in mud. During all this time my M-16 fired every time I pulled the trigger and never gave a bit of trouble. I even stopped twice and washed it off in shell holes and the water here in this part of the Delta is all salt water that comes in from the ocean. As far as I am concerned if my weapon can go through all that and keep firing, it can do anything.

Don Hughes

APO San Francisco

leather pouch can be carried on the belt on the left side. Handcuffs can be stuck in the waist belt behind the magazine pouches. Men who carry their guns under two coats in cold weather might find a .38 Special deringer, in an overcoat pocket, an added convenience, and a lifesaver.

A .45 Colt Auto is perfectly safe to carry cocked as long as the side safety is on, or it may be cocked after the draw pretty fast. It is a mite slower than drawing and firing a .38 Special light frame gun if speed on the first shots is paramount. But with practice, a man should be able to break his coat, draw, knock off the safety, and get a couple of shots under way in a half second.

Robert T. Lyons

Seattle, Washington

Likes His BSA Mark III

To the writer of the "Gun Rack" from another southpaw, congratulations on the BSA Mk. III bit. I'm a southpaw, a lifetime master in small-bore prone, and the proud owner of two left hand Mark III's.

The first is UG-158. According to Al Freeland, it is the first left hander in the U.S. It was ordered just prior to my retirement from the Navy in June, 1960, before it had even been announced, but I'd had a letter from Freeland about it. It was finally received in August, 1961. Early this past month, I won the English Match Championship of Baja, California, with it. First group average was 0.65" and it still will do that.

The new one, UG-599, was ordered and received in June of this year. Group average was 0.57". It really shoots too. The night after I received it, I had a 10X at 100 yards, with the lighted targets at our local club, and the X-ring wasn't even broken. Right now I've put it away for study, think-

Commander on the Hip

In response to Dave Wolfe's recommendations on off-duty calibers and loads for practical defense, I would like to offer you some concrete ideas on this subject.

A rig that is concealable even under a sportshirt is the Colt Commander in a Buckheimer 14C-79 inside-the-pants holster. This is carried behind the right hip. An extra magazine can be carried along side the wallet in the left trousers pocket, or a

ing that might be a good ISU position rifle. The old one has a Freeland Olympic Butt Plate, 2 spacers, hook, and Swiss palm rest. For the new one I want more, and have been considering the Anschütz butt assembly and a thumbhole stock.

Again, thanks for the boost of the Mark III; it is certainly the best southpaw smallbore target rifle available today and very possibly as good as any for the right hand man too.

J. J. Egan, Jr.
San Diego, Calif.

Another Varmint Caliber

Your story in the June issue on "Varmint and Predator Rifles," by Les Bowman, was very good, but I think he forgot one of the best calibers ever, the .228. This caliber on the .250 case, the .257 case, and also on the big .284 case, makes one of the best varmint outfits a fellow would want.

The .228 bullet on the .257 case is one of the best long range varmint rounds. With the Sisk 80 grain HP bullet and 45 grains of 4831, it gives a muzzle velocity of 3550 fps, in a rifle with a 26 inch barrel with a one in 10 twist. This is a dandy 500 yard rifle and the bullet does not drift all over the country with a little wind.

If Mr. Bowman wants a really all-around job, he should try the .228 on the .284 case. With the 90 grain Sisk bullet ahead of 53 grains of 4831 and a muzzle velocity of 3636 fps in a 26 inch barrel, this really makes a very good long range varmint outfit. Also, it is very good for a lot of big game. I would much rather have this outfit than any of the .24 or .25 calibers on the market, as it does not have the kick or the noise, and is much more pleasant to shoot all day.

Jonas Rowe
Harrisburg, Penna.

.38-45 Really Needed?

While I am not a regular reader of your magazine, I happened to buy a copy today, and was intrigued by your article on the .38-45 auto cartridge. The article was well-written and informative, and yet I cannot help wondering if there is any point to its basic premise.

I refer to the "need" as you put it, for a medium bore, high velocity handgun cartridge, capable of being fired in an autoloading pistol. I think

that this need has been, and is, filled adequately by several rounds that are now made and sold commercially, and it seems that it is unnecessary to spend so much time and energy in developing something that is already in existence.

As far as velocity goes, the 7.63 Mauser must take top honors, with its 86 grain bullet in excess of 1400 fps. This cartridge may be loaded with almost any standard .32 caliber pistol bullet, providing a wide range of uses. The Speer 100 grain "Plinker" .30 caliber rifle bullet gives excellent results in this cartridge, and it is quite powerful enough as a backup gun for big game. With the lighter cast or swaged bullets available from Markell, Remington and other makers, it will do a violently effective job on varmints at pistol ranges.

If a bigger hole in the front end is desired, the Super .38 comes into its own. This case will handle any .357" bullet, and that is a wide assortment. It develops velocities of upward of 1200 fps with a 130 grain bullet, and is a remarkable round, one which deserves to be more popular that it is. It is a much better cartridge than even the much-vaunted 9 mm Luger and far outclasses any other .38 round, and it gives the .357 Magnum a run for its money in equal barrel lengths.

Before a shooter starts an expensive conversion of his .45 auto, let him consider the possibility that there may be a cheaper way of getting a better standard of performance.

Thomas Caceci, Pres.
Kenyon College Pistol Club
Gambier, Ohio

Piffle???

You have a great magazine! However,

Piffle to Smith & Wesson and their M-76 submachine gun. Apparently they have succeeded only in making a weapon that is cheap. A modern submachine gun should have:

1) A safety to keep the gun from cocking and firing if dropped on its butt end;

2) An easy way to go from semi-auto to full-auto and back without taking the hand away from the trigger; preferably a double trigger as used by the Germans around 1930;

3) A bolt that covers the barrel and shortens the gun, like the Israeli UZI.

For a really modern gun, see the Spanish Z-62, which has the first two of these features.

Jerome Mendel
Plainfield, N. J.

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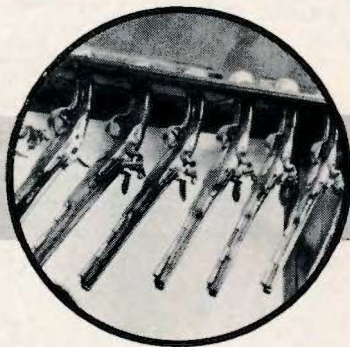
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GUN RACK

Remington 310 Skeet

The new Remington clay target game called "310 Skeet" is pretty good sport for the kids and tyro gunhandlers. The UMC folks have taken the excellent pump action Model 572 .22 rifle and chambered it for a special .32 rimfire cartridge. This pipsqueak is a little longer than the .22 long rifle brass but not so lengthy it won't work through the ejector opening on the M572 rifle. The barrel has been smoothbored and choked .003" at the muzzle. The cartridge holds a trifling charge of #11 shot, all of $\frac{1}{8}$ oz. and shoots an exceedingly sketchy pattern out to 15 yards.

The target is a pint-size claybird, approximately two-thirds the diame-



ter of the regulation bird, and is thrown by a fixed trap to a yardage of about 22 yards. Speed of flight is low and the direction is unvarying. The trap is cocked by foot action and is sprung by a nudge from the gunner's hip.

The game has been originated, it appears, for shooting galleries. It will appeal to novices but for an old hand with the shotgun it will hold scant charm. It is simply too easy, too unvarying, and the flight distance of the target and its speed is too slow to provide anything save a passing interest. —Col. Charles Askins.

Scope Sighter

Bill Collins has shipped me a Japanese-made sight collimator which has a lot going for it. These gadgets either completely eliminate or at least re-

duce the number of shots you have to fire to sight in a rifle. The Collins instrument is called the "Scope Sighter" and consists of an optical scope 6 inches in length with an ocular lens having a diameter of $1\frac{1}{8}$ " and an objective of $\frac{7}{8}$ ". Inside is a reticle that displays a common grid. Lines in this grid are spaced on MOA at every range.

There is a built on bracket which accepts the barrel spud. The spud is held with a set screw and is exactly bore diameter of the rifle. Up until now Collins, who has the Collins Co. Shepherdsville, Ky., supplies spuds for only the .22 and .30 calibers. Later on he will have others. The spud is rammed into the muzzle of the rifle and with the Scope Sighter in place directly over the 12 o'clock point on the barrel the gunner looks through the rifle scope. The gun should be firmly positioned when this is done.

He will find the crosswires in his rifle scope do not coincide with the center point on the grid in the collimator. He moves his elevation and windage adjustments in the rifle scope until he gets both reticles into exact plumb. His rifle is then either perfectly sighted in for 100 yards or very nearly so. I always fire a few shots after sighting in with the Scope Sighter and usually find I am within 2 or 3 inches of a perfect zero.

This gizmo is the real McCoy for the gunsmith who maybe has to motor out 6 miles to sight in a customer's musket. It is fine, too, for the guide-outfitter who has a succession of dudes through his camp in hunting season. Lots of sports are sure they are in zero but a glance through the collimation device proves them wrong. I one time had one of these gadgets in Kotzebue and cabin bound because of the snow blizzards, and I checked out the rifles of practically everybody in camp. It was a revelation to me to find how few hunters really had their rifles properly sighted in! —Col. Charles Askins.

Tiger Revolver

The Brazilian military arsenal, Industria Nacional de Armas, in Sao Paulo, makes an all-steel .38 revolver which is a dead ringer for the S&W Chief's Special. The little .38 is a five shot with either $2\frac{1}{4}$ or $3\frac{1}{4}$ inch barrel. There is also a .32, which is a sixshooter offered in the same barrel lengths. The .32 cartridge is the S&W Long, which is the best of this caliber.

The INA "Tiger" has a ramp-type front sight and an integral back sight, which has been machined out of the top strap of the receiver. The clean fast-breaking trigger is completely friction free. Single action it breaks at four pounds, and the double action pull is eight lbs. The .38 weighs only 18 oz. and like all these featherweights, it kicks, though not unpleas-



antly, but the muzzle does fly up and make the following shots come pretty slowly. The overall length is only $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches which makes this Brazilian Import a good one for the copper who works in plain clothes. The importer is National Gun Traders, 251 S.W. 22nd Avenue, Miami, Florida—Col. Charles Askins.

Raymer Primer Press

For many years I have used a separate primer press for all my hand-loading work. I have never found loading press primer set-ups to be sensitive enough for good feel. Primers should always be seated to the bottom of the pocket, solidly, but not with enough pressure to crush them. A primer press, made especially for this purpose allows for the proper feel



but excess leverage can't be applied, because of the shorter handle and different linkage arrangement.

The last primer press I received for testing has proven to be the best of any I have used. The new Raymar Primer Press, made by Raymar Industries, Inc., 5856 South Logan Court, Littleton, Colorado 80120, is an excellent tool. Made from die castings and showing superior workmanship and design, the new press holds about 100 primers of any type, feeds automatically, works fast and smoothly. It has remarkably good feel, allowing the primer to be bottomed but never crushed. The feed magazine is of a circular spiral type and a spring loaded top revolves, keeping a constant pressure against the chain of primers to assure even feeding.

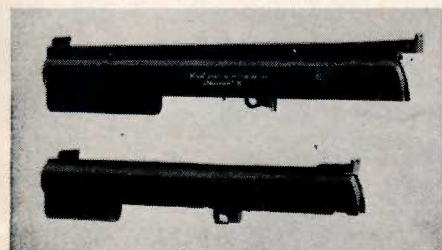
Pressure on the primers is all on the side and any suggestions that the spring loaded rotor might accidentally detonate a primer has no basis. In fact, I have tried to do this very thing and so have the designers. I would think that primer feeds that have primers piled one on top of another would be far more apt to have such an accident happen.

The Raymar tool has speeded up my priming considerably. It only takes a moment to change the case holder to a different size. The plunger can be adjusted for a fixed depth of seating or for feel; I prefer the last method. This tool can be used as a single primer press as well as an automatic one. Price of the Raymar Primer Press is \$23.95, complete.—*Les Bowman.*

Clark .45 Auto

Jim Clark, the Shreveport, La. pistolsmith is now making up a .45 auto with a long slide and a longer barrel. The gun weights 44 oz. whereas the Colt Gold Cup only hits 37 ounces. In the HEG rest and shooting the Rem-

ington 185 gr. Targetmaster wadcut-ter, I ran six 10-shot groups at 50 yards and the average was 2.90 inches. The 10-ring at 50 yards measures 3.37 inches.



Clark installs only Douglas barrels. The tube in this "long-tom" job runs to 6¾ inches. The regular Colt tube is only 5. The slide is 8¾" in length, while the standard slide is 7½ inches

in length. This slide cannot be bought anywhere; Jim has to make them up himself. He is compelled to cut up two slides and to weld the front portion of the one to the other. This is pretty fancy business and you get an appreciation of the quality of the Clark operation when you commence to examine the worked-over slide to see where the bond has been made.

At the back end of the slide Clark attaches the new Bo-Mar rib and adjustable lockup device. This gizmo is screwed to the top of the slide with some hefty Allen screws. At the one end it provides the excellent Bo-Mar adjustable rear sight and at the other it fits into the ejector opening and serves to position the barrel so that the firing pin always strikes the primer precisely in the middle. The Bo-Mar Co., incidentally, has just moved to Texas from Michigan, and the cooperation between gunsmith Clark and Bo-Mar on the make up of the Clark pistols must have had a lot to do with the latter making the switch to the Lone Star State.

I have been shooting the Clark pistol. This gun shoots better and higher scores for me with less effort than any .45 auto I have ever handled. I account for this by the accuracy which Clark builds into his reworked pistols and also to the long slide, long barrel, and the shift in the balance of the pistol 'way forward. A handgun to hold steady must feel muzzle heavy. If it does not it will never settle down and hold dead center. The Clark gun does this. On recoil the rise of the muzzle is slow and lazy. The mildest recoil I have ever experienced from the .45 cartridge. Altogether it spells exceptionally pleasing scores.—*Col. Charles Askins.*

Winchester Shooting Specs

The Winchester-Western division of Olin Inc. announce a pair of shooting spectacles. These are made entirely of plastic and have the excellent high yellow lenses. In any manner of bad light this is by far the best tint for high visibility. The plastic is called "Lexan," and is shatterproof. There is a carrying case and the whole packet peddles for \$1.98. My trial of the specs was limited to the skeet field where I found that the yellow coloration was an assist in seeing the targets, especially in the late dusk. At pistol shooting the rounded lenses—the glasses are the "wrap-around" kind—were not so hot. I got some aberration in picking up a good clear-cut sight picture and had to lay them aside.—*Col. Charles Askins.*



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News from the...

SHOOTERS CLUB OF AMERICA

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Near tragedy for the shooting fraternity was averted in Congress recently when the Senate Commerce Committee held hearings on Senate Joint Resolution No. 33, "To Establish a National Commission on Product Safety." Primary targets for the proposed legislation were radiation from television sets, poisons in paints, and other hidden dangers. But the entire firearms enterprise, from manufacturer to personal possession of guns, was potentially open to misrepresentation.

In the proposed bill, the term "household products" meant "products produced for sale . . . for use by a consumer or any member of his family." Thus, firearms and ammunition might be considered a household product in S.J. 33, to be included in the recommendations for such remedial action as deemed necessary to "protect the public against unreasonable risks of injury."

A National Commission to survey product safety was first proposed by ranking members of the Senate Committee last year. The bill was passed by the Senate without public hearings, but not by the House, and the final version of the bill which became law did not provide for the establishment of such a commission. And then President Johnson sent Congress a message urging the creation of a National Commission on Product Safety. A new bill was drawn up and referred once again to the Senate Commerce Committee.

Manufacturers of electric and gas operated equipment appeared as interested parties before the committee hearings. The senators on the committee seemed convinced that unsafe products were being marketed to the public, and that there was no study of these hazards and how they affected public health. The committee raised questions about the adequacy and existence of present laws to insure safe design and construction of consumer products.

Bear in mind that firearms and many other areas never came into the proceedings, yet the proposed legislation might cover them. Space-age technology has spawned a profusion of new products, according to the committee, and once simple and routine household functions are vanishing. "To occupy the newfound hours of leisure, complex products abound in and around the home" stated the committee, which also mentioned the growth of new categories and dimensions of home injuries.

The Bill reported out of committee called for the creation of a commission to conduct a comprehensive study of the scope and adequacy of measures now employed to protect consumers against the unreasonable risk of injuries which might be caused by hazardous household products. The study and investigation were to include:

(1) the identification of kinds of household products which might be unreasonably hazardous; (2) to review the degree and effectiveness of voluntary self-regulation now provided by private industry; and (3) an assessment of the role of common law product liability, plus a review of existing Federal, State and local laws designed to protect consumers against unreasonable product hazards.

The commission was also authorized to conduct hearings, publish notice of proposed hearings, and afford an opportunity for all interested parties to appear and testify. And that is where matters stood when the bill reached the full Senate for debate.

Rising up for the shooting fraternity was Senator Roman L. Hruska (R.—Neb.) who offered five amendments to the legislation. One amendment excluded from the commission's jurisdiction products now covered by the National and Federal Firearms Acts. There was no objection to removing firearms from the definition of household products after copies of both acts were obtained and it was ascertained that firearms did not include toys.

It was a beautiful maneuver by Senator Hruska, who used his understanding of how the Senate operates to clarify legislation which had no real opposition. Hruska had done his homework. Supporters of the measure had been informed about the Senator's amendment, so they could not claim he was "pulling a fast one." The Senator used a lot of tact to avoid ruffling the feathers of fellow lawmakers. And, he spoke clearly and effectively, pointing out that firearms legislation would come up later as a separate subject for the Senate's consideration.

The battle certainly isn't over yet; some member of the House may still move to remove the firearms exclusion from the final form of the bill. But alertness and accurate knowledge can prevent hanky-panky and protect the shooting sportsman. The information you need is easy to obtain: take advantage of the offer below and join the S. C. A. today!

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Husqvarna Conversion

For years my hunting rifle has been a Husqvarna 7 x 57 Mauser. Recently I was given a complete outfit to reload .280 Remington, including a large amount of components—powder, cases, primers, and bullets. I've been considering a .270 or .280 for the past few years. Now it has to be a .280. The bullets given to me are Norma 110 gr. SP, 150 gr. boat tail, 160 Nosler, and 175 gr. SP.

I would buy a Husqvarna if they came in .280 Remington. Could you recommend a custom rifle maker that can make something of the order of a Husqvarna? I will use these bullets, depending on weight, for everything from antelope to elk. What rifle twist would you recommend?

I have noticed that Norma 7 mm bullets are .283 diameter and almost all other makers of 7 mm bullets have .284 diameter. What effect would this have on my barrel?

Lee M. Kentera
Gallup, New Mexico

If the barrel of your Husqvarna 7 x 57 mm rifle is still good and delivers the accuracy you require, there is no real reason to trade it off for a .280 Remington. At relatively little cost it can be rechambered and otherwise altered to .280 Remington caliber. If you are fond of the gun, this would seem to be the best solution, as well as the most economical.

Even if you prefer a new barrel, there is still no reason to buy a complete new gun—just have the Husqvarna rebarreled to .280 Remington. A one in 10 twist is usually best for the .280. I do not know of any New Mexico gunsmith I would recommend for the job, but I'm certain A & M Rifle Co., Box 1713, Prescott, Arizona, would do an excellent job for you. You will find that .283" diameter bullets perform as well as those measuring .284".—D.W.

Montaigny et Fusnot Rifle

I have a single shot rifle which seems to be a real old gun, as far as I can see. It has the hammer underneath in front of the trigger guard. It seems to be foreign. Following is the only marking on the gun, outside on engravings: "MONTIGNY & FUSNOT." It is about .40 caliber. I would like to know its value. I'm not certain of the spelling.

Elmer Branson
Sweet Home, Oregon

The correct spelling of the maker's name on your gun is *Montaigny et Fusnot*. This firm is recorded as operating in Brussels, Belgium, for a short period about 1849-1851. The value of your gun would depend to a great extent on its condition; if in very good condition, about \$60 to \$75.—S.B.

Schiwy Drilling?

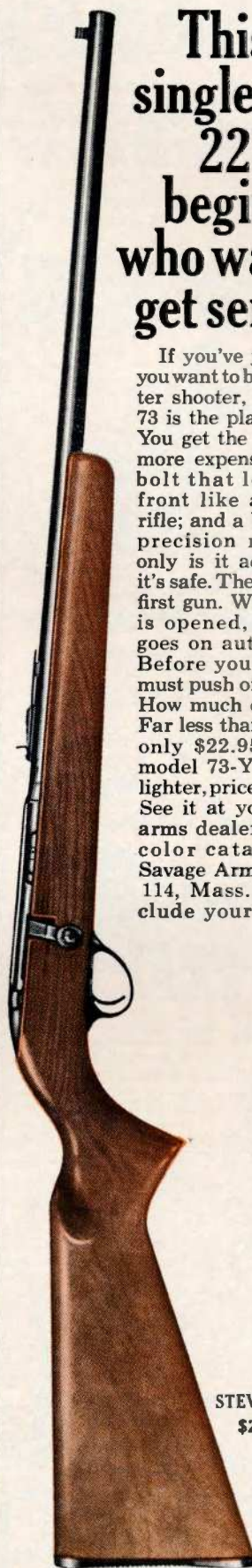
I have a German-made drilling in double 16 gauge and 8 x 57 which I purchased from Abercrombie & Fitch in 1952. The maker was L. Schiwy, of Berlin SW 68. They knew nothing of the maker at the time and about a year ago I wrote them again but they said they had found out nothing, though several of his guns had passed through their hands, and were very fine guns. Do you know this maker and his work?

Robert Scrimgeour
West Pittston, Pa.

I can find no record of L. Schiwy as a manufacturer of drillings or indeed of any other firearms. There are fewer drilling manufacturers than is generally realized; only eleven in the entire world at present. It was, and is, the custom for many distributors and some gunsmiths to buy finished or

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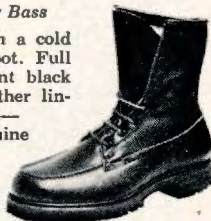
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Garand Tanker

Recently I acquired an M-1 Garand Tanker, which is in very good condition. The serial no. reads "U. S. Rifle, Cal. 30, M1, Springfield Armory, 732245." I have been told that it is a fairly recent rifle. Would you please give me the current value of the rifle.

Gary T. Knight
Thomaston, Ga.

People differ in what they consider "very good condition" but if your Springfield Garand is in actually very good condition, it should be worth \$90 to \$125 in the market place.—S.B.

1873 Springfield

I have a .45-70 Springfield rifle, serial 103153, Model 1873. It has a stocking swivel but no bayonet stud. The sight is a foldup model and there are graduations from one to five of the left side. On the stock between trigger and lock are carved a circle and within the circle are the initials "EJA" and the date 1873. The length of the gun is 52 inches. The gun must have been issued to some man who cut his initials into the stock. What value does it have?

E. H. Barrett
Falmouth, Va.

The U. S. Rifle Model of 1873, caliber .45-70, was selected as the regulation arm of the service with but very minor changes until superseded by the magazine feed arm of 1892. The letters and date stamped in the wood are inspectors stamping at the armory. Collector's value of the Springfield Model of 1873 is about \$60.00 in fine condition; less if poorer.—R.M.

Marlin '81

I have a .40 caliber Marlin rifle I would like some information, especially as to what it would be worth. I talked to one man about it, and he said he had never heard of a .40 caliber Marlin of this age. Here is what is stamped on it: "Serial 13849; Pat. Feb. 7-65; Jan 7-73; Sept 14-75; Nov 19 & 26-78; June 3-79; Dec 3-79; Nov 9-80;

Reissued Nov 9-1880." On the sight is stamped "D. W. King pat. pend." The only information I can get is that Marlin started in business in 1880. Any information you can give would be appreciated very much.

W. A. Frazelle
Newcastle, Calif.

The first repeater made by Marlin was the Model 1881 and was made in three calibers: .40-60, .45-70, and .45-85. This model was superseded by the Model of 1889 with a change from top ejection of the 1881 Model to ejection from the right side of the frame. Your Marlin sounds like the '81 Model, and collector's value for one in good condition would be around \$90.00 and up to \$125.00 and more as the condition gets better.—R.M.

S&W Terrier Loads

I have an S&W Terrier .38 S&W caliber. I want to load this with Speer .38 caliber 146 gr. Hollow Points for better stopping power. What would be a good powder charge considering that the pistol is for use at distances no greater than 10 feet?

E. C. Mertz
Omaha, Nebraska

I suggest you load 3.8 gr. of Hercules Unique powder with the 146 grain Speer HP bullets in .38 S&W for use in your Terrier. This load will produce a bit over 800 fps in the short barrel, and is about as hot as you should go in such a light gun.—D.W.

K-Chuck Loads

Could you tell me the kind of powder used in .22 K-Chuck reloads? Is it 2400? H-110? I know that Sisk pistol bullets were used, but not their weight. Were they 40 gr., 37 gr., or both? Could you also give me "honest" of velocities from a six-inch barrel?

Donovan E. Bartlett
Waukegan, Illinois

Most manuals today do not list any .22 K-Chuck loads. Kent Bellah favored Hercules 2400 powder and used charges varying from 8.5 to 11 grains with bullets up to 40 grains in weight. With the standard Sisk 35 grain bullet, 9.5 grains of 2400 produced, in Bellah's tests, 2,200 fps in a six inch barrel. His favorite load, with Sisk Special 37 gr. bullets made especially for the K-Chuck, was 11 grains of

2400 which delivered approximately 2,400 fps.

Keep in mind that Remington cases usually hold more powder than Winchester-Western, and the above loads were developed in Remington brass. Cut loads at least 10 per cent if they're to be used in W-W brass. Write to R. R. Sisk, Iowa Park, Texas, for bullets. To the best of my knowledge, the special K-Chuck bullets are available in 37 grain weight only.—D.W.

Lefever Repairs

I have a Lefever Nitro Express double barrel shotgun that I want to get repaired. The cocking lugs are worn so much they won't work. I would like that name and address of a reputable firm that can fix this for me. This gun was used for 27 years to kill hundreds of birds of all kinds.

J. H. Weeks
San Andreas, Calif.

If your Lefever double barrel shotgun is repairable I'm reasonably sure the Christy Gun Works, 875 57th Street, Sacramento, Calif. 95819, can repair it for you. It would be best to write them before sending it, but usually the gunsmith must have the arm at hand for examination before definite decisions or quotations can be made. In cases like this there is always the possibility that the sears and sear notches are also worn and will require some work—W.S.

Wants A Thompson

I collect weapons from WW II. I would like to know, if possible, where I could buy a .45 caliber Thompson submachine gun in the state of Texas. If you could give me some information as to where I could buy one or someone who knows where, as it would be much appreciated.

Harold Singley
Fort Hood, Texas

Numrich Arms Corporation of West Hurley, New York, are the owners of the rights to the Thompson submachine gun. If you can comply with the requirements of the Treasury Department in regard to acquiring a Thompson, I am sure that Numrich can furnish the gun you want. However, the Treasury requirements are detailed and also entail a \$200.00 transfer tax, so you might contact your local District Director of Internal Revenue first.—S.R.



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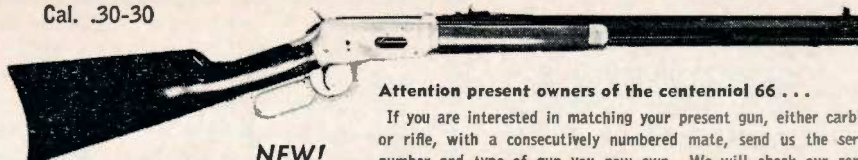
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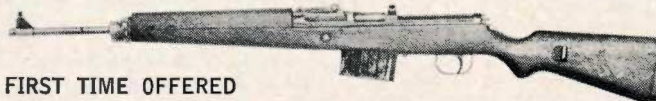
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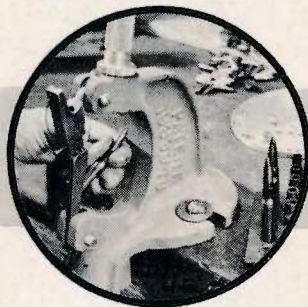
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HANDLOADING BENCH

By DAVE WOLFE

TIME WAS, not so many years ago, that the fellow who wanted to learn about handloading from scratch, or simply to add to whatever knowledge he already had, didn't have much choice of method and source. He could obtain a copy of the Lyman (Ideal) handbook, and maybe thumb through back issues of *The American Rifleman*. If he was really loaded with bread, he could pick up a copy of the late Phil Sharpe's "Complete Guide to Handloading". But that was about it, as far as information sources were concerned. Beyond that it was simply a matter of knowing someone who kept good notes on his own loading work and would be willing to share such valuable information.

Ah, but how things have changed! Today you can take your pick of at least a half-dozen dope-filled, hard cover books on the subject. The old Lyman manual has been supplemented by fine manuals by Speer, Hodgdon, Hornady, Lee—and there are at least a couple more in the mill. The original Lyman has been vastly improved and is more valuable than ever. Add to this the extensive loading data available at no cost from component importers and manufacturers, and it simply doesn't seem possible that a handloader could come up with a question or load need that hasn't already been filled by one of these many publications. But there are more handloaders today than ever before, and I think they are more inquisitive than ever. So much so that there is even a bi-monthly magazine devoted purely to handloading—*The Handloader*.

Handloading isn't just a small-time game with a lot of people. For example, take a look at Lee Jurras, who runs Super-Vel Cartridge Co., over in Shelbyville, Ind. Lee, with an excellent knowledge of handloading and a keen business sense, decided there was a buck or two to be made in supplying loads designed specifically for police work. He developed high velocity loads in popular calibers, using his own ideas of jacketed soft-point bullet construction.

He was right. This year ('67), many

millions of rounds of Super-Vel police loads have been sold all over the world. His files are filled with letters from police officers who feel they owe their lives, or at least their health, to Super-Vel loads.

Lee will soon be offering Super-Vel bullets in .357 (38), 9 mm, .41, and .44 calibers to handloaders who want to brew up their own defense loads. We've been shooting some of the first samples in various .357 Magnum, .38 Special, .38 Super and 9 mm Parabellum guns. Fortunately, no people have been included among the targets, but what those bullets do to gelatin blocks, wet newspapers and a few Texas coyotes and jack rabbits is most impressive. While nothing has yet weaned me entirely away from heavy lead bullets at moderate velocities in handguns, this Super-Vel stuff comes closer to it than anything thus far. A load we've used a lot consists of the S-V .357 hollow, soft-point, 110-gr. bullet driven by 16.0 grains of Hercules 2400 powder. Not chronographed yet, it has great execution from my four-inch .357 Magnum Colt Python. Recoil isn't at all objectionable, though muzzle blast is a bit rough, and muzzle flash at night is quite bright.

A few weeks ago, while wandering about on the west coast, I suddenly found myself the new owner of a couple of Colt New Service revolvers in .45 Colt caliber—and a few bucks poorer as a result. Coincidentally, a few hundred cast bullets in this caliber arrived from Green Bay Bullet Co., 233 North Ashland, Green Bay, Wisconsin, 54303. With its heavy, large-diameter cylinder, I consider the now-discontinued New Service far the best gun for heavy loads in this caliber, so I dug out a few boxes of once-fired, post-war (II) Winchester-Western, solid-head cases and went to work. Cases produced before WW I were of balloon-head construction, therefore held more powder. Because of this, older loading data worked up in pre-war cases may well produce excessive pressures in recent cases. Keep this in mind—espe-

cially when using the S.A. Colt—when using heavy load data published before around 1950.

The Green Bay 250-gr. bullet appears to be Lyman No. 454424, and is sized to .454" diameter, just right for the throats and barrel of my six-inch gun. Having a fondness for Hercules Unique in moderate-to-stiff big bore loads, I started with 9.0 grains and went on up to 10.5, which produced 1060 fps, with no evidence whatever of excess pressures. That's a full 200 fps more than the current factory loading with the same weight bullet. In addition, the semi-wadcutter shape of bullet 454424 is more destructive of tissue than the semi-pointed factory projectile. In this one fixed-sight gun, this load shoots considerably higher than factory fodder, so adjustable sights are advisable.

Backing off to a mild plinking and frog load with the same bullet produced excellent accuracy at 7.0 gr. Unique. Velocity ran in the vicinity of 750 fps and recoil was mild.

The massive powder capacity of the .45 case seems to encourage people to use powders like 2400 and 4227. The latter appears to burn too slow to be efficient in this case. Going as high as 23.0 gr., we were able to just match the performance of the 10.5 Unique load. Hardly worthwhile, considering that powder cost per load is more than doubled. Charges of Hercules 2400 were carried up to 18.0 gr. without producing sufficient increase in performance over the heavy Unique load to be particularly interesting.

For a light, shoot-rats-in-your-basement load, Lyman bullet No. 45468 (HB) was loaded ahead of 7.0 gr. Unique, for a velocity of just a bit over 700 fps. At 50 feet indoors, this load shoots rather well, and certainly doesn't produce enough recoil to ripple a martini.

• • •

Over the past few months we've been hearing and reading quite a bit about the all-plastic "WANDA" shotshell being turned out down in Houston, Texas. It seems the Wanda case has been both praised and condemned in various circles—so, on the way to mañana land for some dove shooting, we stopped off at the plant to talk to John Hall, who ramrods the operation. John tells us that the case separation problem reported with light loads by some scribes has been completely whipped. The solution was simply a matter of selecting a powder whose characteristics suited those of the Wanda case more closely than traditional Red Dot and similar fast-burning numbers. Wanda loaded shells are now coming off the line charged

with this more suitable powder—and I think it highly likely that same will be offered to shotshell handloaders in the near future, either by its maker or by Wanda. It is not currently on the cannister powder list.

Also quite interesting at the Wanda plant was a new green 20-gauge shell identical in characteristics to the red 12. John tells us this one will be available in quantity soon.

Incidentally, we've been getting lots of queries about reloading for those big, powerful Astra and Llama 9 mm Bergmann-Bayard pistols that have been sold in considerable quantity by HUNTER'S LODGE, and are still being offered by several other firms. The surplus military ammunition offered with the guns is corrosive primed, but otherwise of fairly good quality—and best of all, its cheap. But primers are of Berdan type and of a size difficult to obtain, diameter is about .170".

If you are just bound to do everything the hard way, decap fired cases hydraulically or by means of a double-bitted punch that fits both flash holes. Then make up a rod anvil that just fits the inside of the case snugly. Make a shallow cavity in its end to allow brass to flow down into it. Also make or obtain a small-primer size pocket swage. Then drop cases over the anvil and with a judicious hammer, swage the pockets to small pistol primer size—and at the same time ironing out the Berdan anvil that sticks up from the bottom of the original pocket. Make sure the swage enters deep enough to deepen the pocket slightly. Drill a new central flash hole with a 1/16" drill and you'll be able to reload those altered cases with standard small pistol, Boxer-type primers readily available here. No sweat, once you're this far, and .38 Super dies may be used.

But, when that's all said and done, it really isn't worth the trouble. Just get yourself a supply of fresh or once-fired .38 ACP or .38 Super Automatic cases and use them instead. It's so much easier. These cases have a semi-rim, as opposed to the 9 mm B-B's straight rimless construction, but the length and diameter are correct, and 95 per cent of the guns you'll encounter will function properly with them. Those that won't simply need the .38 rims reduced a wee bit in diameter—and that's a lot easier to accomplish than all that primer pocket swaging mentioned above. As for loading data, use any 9 mm bullet of 115-130 gr. weight and the heavier 9 mm Parabellum powder charges. Charge data for the .38 ACP and .38 Super may also be used, so long as top loads are avoided or reduced slightly.



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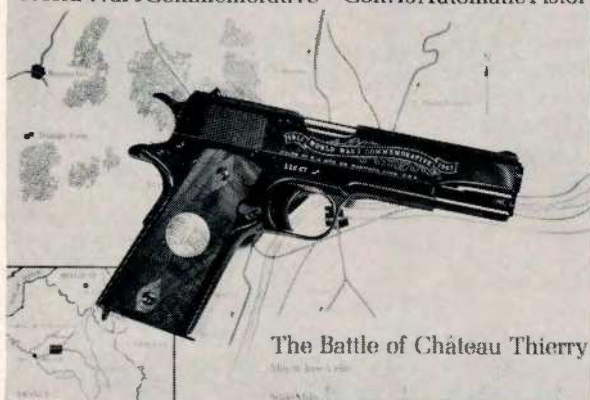
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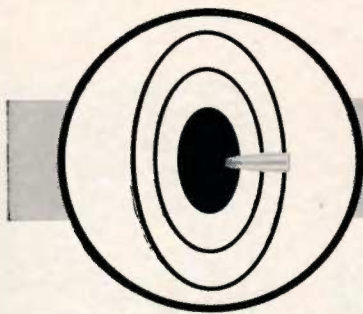


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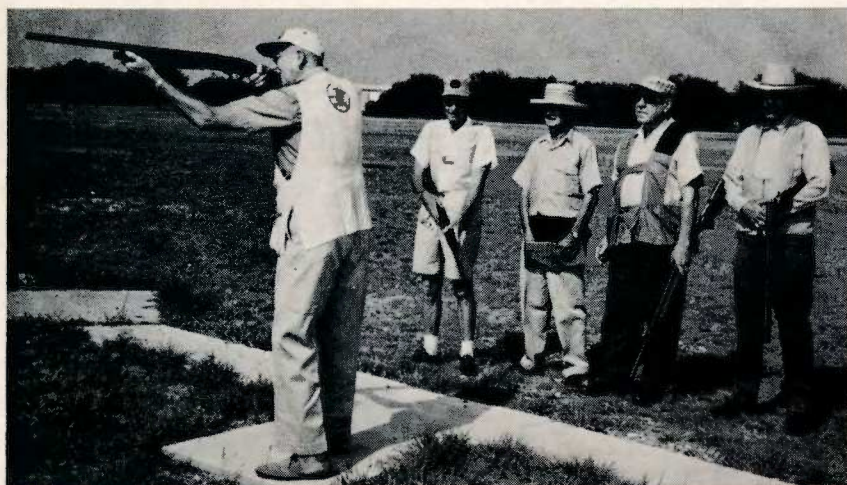


POINT BLANK

By COL. CHARLES ASKINS

MOST SKEET SHOOTERS, particularly the old timers, shoot with some kind of glasses between themselves and the target. A surprisingly large number of shooters over the years have been struck by pellets that ricochet off the outer rim of the claybird. Shooting specs are a best insurance against this kind of in-

For hunting when the light is bad, as when it is heavily overcast or you are in the jungle, also in late evening and very early morning, the yellow lens is by far the best. A yellow lens will change a dark dull light condition to a brilliant and sharp one. The yellow lens isn't necessarily limited just to hunting; this type is excellent for



There is a real hazard from shot pellets which ricochet off of claybirds. Veteran skeet shooters wear shooting glasses.

jury. I never shoot without them and I never do any manner of rifle firing without the protection of the glass. A blown primer will oftentimes spew hot gases into the aiming eye; and may even fetch along a dosage of brass splinters with it.

Quite beyond this protection the shooting spectacles has a lot of well defined value for the hunting fields, that is if the user knows what kind of lenses he should wear. Tinted lenses for hunting are based on the fact that there is quite a lot of chromatic aberration in the eye. A really worthwhile shooting spectacle has got to have the ability to absorb the ultraviolet rays and give a high degree of transmittance in the yellow portion of the spectrum. For hunting and shooting in good light the best lens to use, in my experience, is the blue-green type. The Bausch & Lomb Ray-Ban is a good one. I like their Shade 3 best.

target work and for the skeet and trap fields. I would not be without them. Most people cannot wear the yellow lens when shooting in bright light, though I find I can. Certainly this lens tint does not reduce the glare! A good yellow colored lens transmits about 90 per cent of light while blue-green shades will transmit only 75, 50 or as little as 25 per cent depending on the density of the blue-green tint.

There are a number of makers of shooting glasses and all of them understand very well the extreme desirability of the yellow shading for the shooting man. I wear, by long time choice, those made by Mitchell's Shooting Glasses Co. I have my correction ground into the lenses by the Waynesville, Mo., outfit and with the study frames which are a part of this good product, I wear 'em around the world.

(Continued on page 64)

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OUR MAN IN WASHINGTON

CARL WOLFF



TEST VOTE SHOWS PRO-GUN SUPPORT IN THE SENATE

We had a test vote in the Senate this past year which pretty well separated the anti- from the pro-gun lawmakers. The occasion was consideration of the Department of Defense Appropriations Bill, 1968.

Young Edward Kennedy (D.-Mass.) proposed an amendment to the bill that would limit the National Board for the Promotion of Rifle Practice to \$200,000 in funds and eliminate the provision authorizing the Secretary of Defense to provide free ammunition to the board.

For the better part of an hour Senators debated the Kennedy amendment. Those in favor urged the program had little or no military value and that the National Rifle Association was receiving an unjustified subsidy of up to \$10 million per year. Those opposing the Kennedy amendment urged the ammunition, in the main, is obsolete having corrosive primers, and that NRA spends more money on the program than the actual \$428,000 spent by the government.

Surprisingly, it was not suggested, because of the sale of obsolete firearms (handguns and rifles) which by law must be destroyed otherwise, the program actually makes money for the government above the hard cash outlay of \$428,000. The charge that the program was an NRA subsidy is perhaps best put into perspective by the nature of the Kennedy amendment.

Senator Kennedy did not seek to remove NRA from the program. He only sought to reduce the program.

It was more correctly an anti- vs. pro-gun situation with all the Senators involved having predetermined convictions. From the press gallery it appeared the whole debate was just so much charge and counter-charge.

At last the hee-hawing was over and it came time to vote. There were only 23 senators in favor of the Kennedy amendment and a whopping 67 opposing it. In addition, of the 10 senators absent from the vote, four specifically requested their intention of voting against the amendment be recorded. Not one of those absent requested their intention to vote for the amendment be placed into the record.



Thus, young Edward went down to stunning defeat of a three-to-one majority. Adding humiliation to defeat, the words of the late President John F. Kennedy were used against the amendment. On July 12, 1962, in an address at the U. S. Marine Corps Barracks, Wash., D. C., he pre-answered the charge by young Kennedy that rifles are not important in the atomic age. The late President said: "All of us, I am sure, 10 years ago, thought that the need for the man with the rifle would be passed away from the scene in the 1960's. And it is true that there are a good many Americans tonight who are stationed underground in a hardened silo whose duty is to watch some tables and some dials and a button."

"But the very size and magnitude of these new great weapons have placed a new emphasis upon what we call rather strangely conventional war, and they have made it even more mandatory than ever that we keep the man with the rifle. . . ."

Those voting for the Kennedy amendment were: E. L. Bartlett (D.-Alaska), Daniel Brewster (D.-Md.), Edward Brooke (R.-Mass.), Clifford Case (R.-N. J.), Joseph Clark (D.-Pa.), Thomas Dodd (D.-Conn.), J. W. Fulbright (D.-Ark.), Albert Gore (D.-Tenn.), Robert Griffin (R.-Mich.), Philip Hart (D.-Mich.), Daniel Inouye (D.-Hawaii), Jacob Javits (R.-N.Y.), Edward Kennedy (D.-Mass.), Robert Kennedy (D.-N.Y.), Edward Long (D.-Mo.), Walter Mondale (D.-Minn.), John Pastore (D.-R.I.), Claiborne Pell (D.-R.I.), William Spong (D.-Va.), Joseph Tydings (D.-Md.), Harrison Williams (D.-N.J.), John Williams (R.-Del.), and Stephen Young (D.-Ohio).

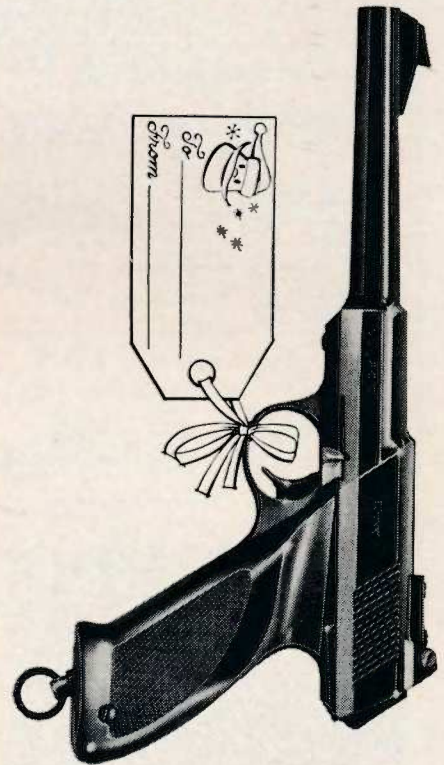
The voting went much as anticipated. But there were a few surprises. Senators Bartlett of Alaska and Robert Griffin and Philip Hart of Michigan did not vote the way most observers thought they would. In voting with Edward Kennedy, they have left doubts as to their position on the so-called "Dodd bills" pending, at this writing, before the Senate Juvenile Delinquency Subcommittee.

On the other hand, the three-to-one victory for pro-gun supporters reflects why the anti-gun bills are still pending before Delinquency. Senators Edward Kennedy and Joseph Tydings, both members of the subcommittee, have openly suggested that once any bill reaches the Senate floor the more harsh "Dodd bill" will be substituted. This is just talk. According to the record, pro-gun lawmakers have the strength to dictate the terms of any firearms bill passage in the Senate.

It is the House side of Congress that should concern firearms ownership. There members do not express the individualism of a Senator. Voting in the House is more dictated by the superstructure of members in power and according to party lines.



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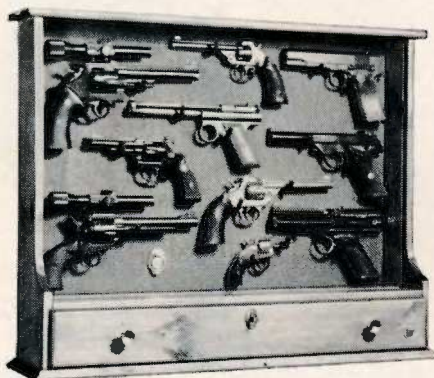
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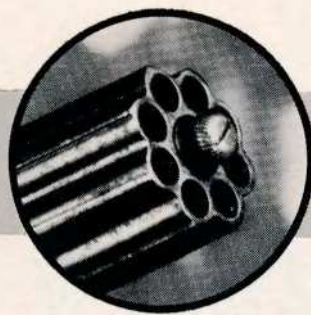
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COLLECTOR'S CORNER

By ROBERT MANDEL

THE GUN SHOPS of England are of great interest to the collector of antique arms. I recently spent about four weeks in England, going there especially to attend the Arms and Armour Exhibition in London. I did have some free time, however, and was able to visit the many gun shops, antique shops, and public and private museums having gun collections.

In many ways the English gun shops differ from our own, and perhaps the most apparent and striking of these to the American visitor is that the inventory seems so small. I found that there is very good reason for this. Modern arms are very difficult to sell due to the strict regulations which govern these sales, and the sale of a cartridge handgun cannot be made at all without a police permit, which is next to impossible to obtain. The shotgun seems to be the only type of modern firearm which enjoys a good market. It does not seem unfair to me to say that the dealers are really only interested in the fine double barrel shotguns of English manufacture. Most of the dealers I talked to said that they have a ready market for any of the high grade models, and from the prices they talked about, it would seem that these shotguns bring considerably more there than they do here.

FOR the collector, there are many shops to visit in London proper, as well as in the surrounding area. Some of the shops I visited had only the sketchiest of lines, a few poor examples of relatively common guns. On the other hand, some shops in London were well stocked with fine collector's items, having many high grade items to view or choose. They were a pleasure to see, though the prices were, in most cases, 25 per cent or more higher than what I thought they should have sold for. The market seems to be good, and the problem seems to be the same one which we have here, obtaining enough high quality arms.

At the top of the price bracket are the English-made arms, as they seem to desire and prize most their domestically made arms.

The American arms, such as Colt, Remington, and Winchester, have a good standing with the English collectors and dealers, though they are generally satisfied if the piece is in workable or good to very good condition. The English collector does not seem to be interested enough in American arms to pay the top price for them. On the other hand, the English dealer will usually be happy to obtain a quality American arm, despite the fact that he will turn about and offer it to an American buyer or put it up for sale in one of the better auction houses, where in most cases it will be bought by an American buyer.

MOST of the English gun shops are small and the lighting is poor. The reason for this small size of the shops in London, I later found out, is that the cost of rental in a prime area is fantastic, in some cases running to as much as \$500 a week or more. It is no wonder then that they are cramped for space, and I will bet that in several different ways the cost of operating is reflected in the high pricing of their antique arms.

Generally gunsmithing is done in each shop, and I must say that most of it is top quality. For though the quarters are cramped, and many times the machines and tools are not of the latest design, the finished product is many times a considerably better product than is turned out over here. It seems that the craftsmanship of old lingers on and has not been replaced by the "rush, rush, get it out" attitude that one finds in all too many cases here.

I found the English dealers and collectors to be the most charming and gentlemanly people I have ever met in the arms business. In many of the shops, and, too, the homes I was in,

even though I did not always find exactly something I was interested in, or though the price seemed to be a little more than I wanted to pay at the time, I kept finding myself wanting to purchase something anyway—for the manner in which you are treated, and the interest which is shown you, so that you feel free to come and look, is something valuable. I think that a good lesson can be learned from this; for even as I find myself at times, I'm sorry to say, getting short with a customer, for time to us seems to be the most important thing, I now understand that we are wrong in these attitudes, and I can see much to be learned from the soft-spoken, interested manner and gentlemanly ways of the English.

Prices, in most cases, seem to drop a little as you leave London to visit the shops in the outlying areas; rentals, I'm sure, having much to do with this. But too the quality of the arms seems to drop off, and I guess that the arms of the finest quality find their way to the bigger London dealers.

There are many auction houses in the London area and sales seem to be going on every other day or so; many are just small operations, but there are a few which always seem to have a good supply of quality arms and armour. But the saying holds true at these auction sales, just as it does here, "Let the buyer beware," for all sales are final. If you feel you must bid at auction, be sure to attend the pre-auction showing and examine the items in which you are interested first, for once you raise your hand at the last bid, the item is yours, you've got it, and you cannot go and ask for your marbles back. This in no way means that auction houses in London are pushing phony or made-up antique arms on an unsuspecting public without a care one way or the other. But many times, and more times than I would like to say, items in an auction sale give me an odd feeling.

But all in all, the country is wonderful, the people are charming, and the girls—well, they're something to try to stop looking at. The collectors and dealers are a pleasure to meet and spend time with, for they are quite knowledgeable and thoroughly honest collectors, and without doubt, we have much to learn from this great country and wonderful people.



4-power Model K4 with Weaver-Detachable Top Mount



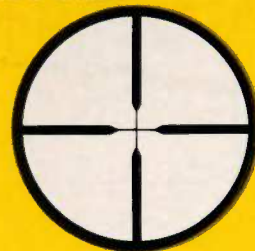
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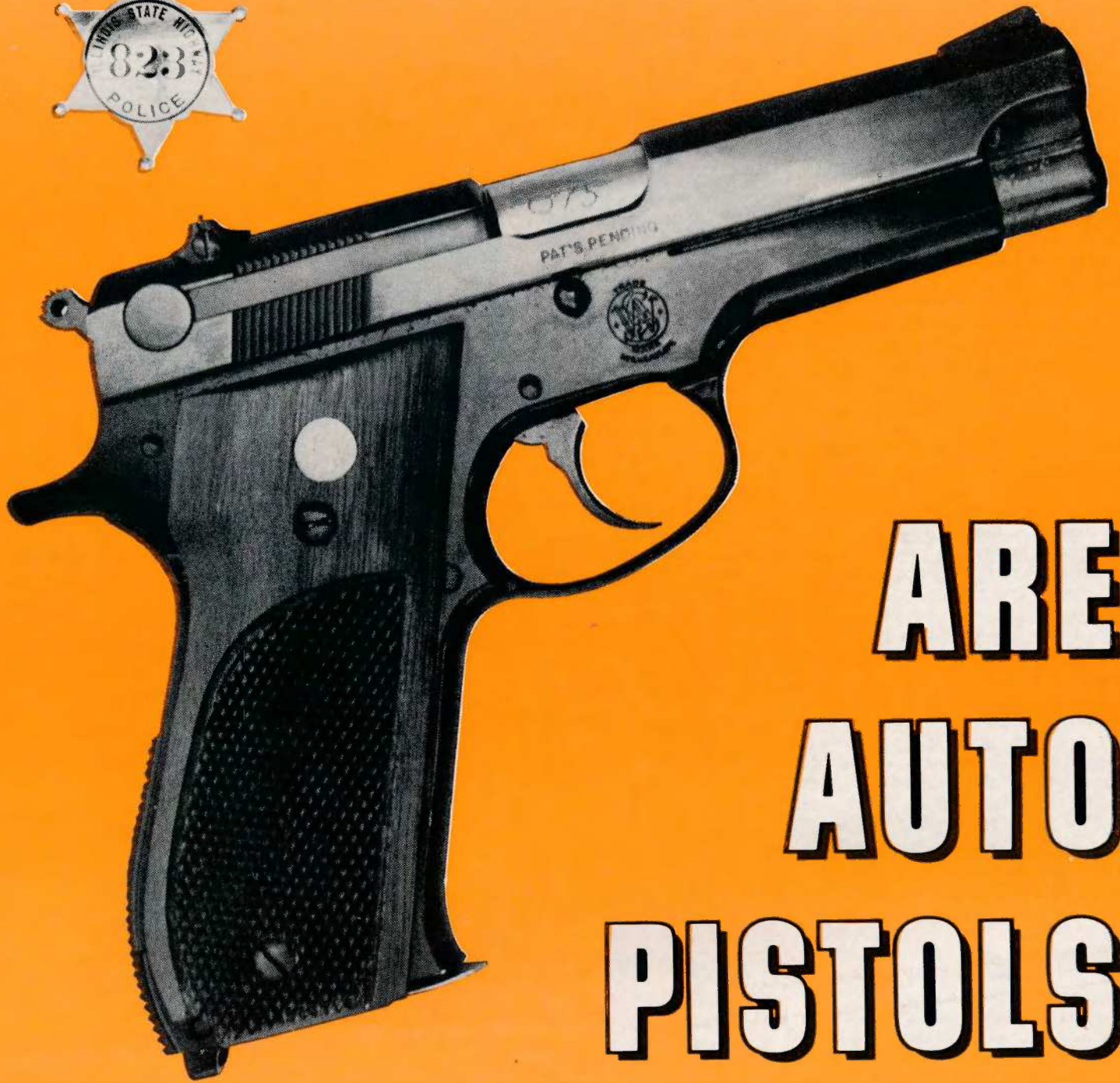
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ARE AUTO PISTOLS FOR POLICE?

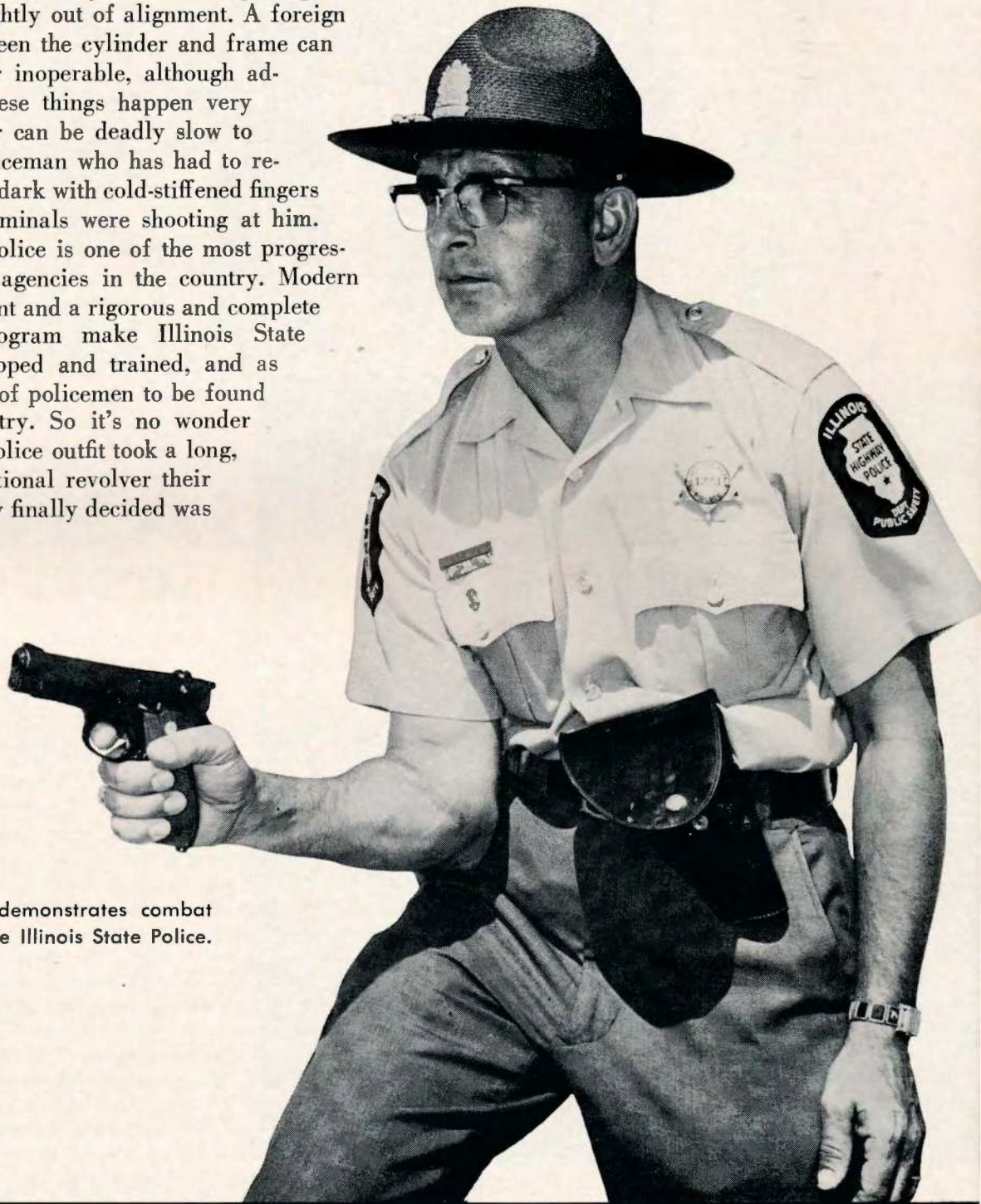
THE ILLINOIS STATE POLICE THINK SO, AND AFTER EXHAUSTIVE TESTS
HAVE ADOPTED THE 9 MM S&W MODEL 39 AS THEIR OFFICIAL SIDEARM

By JAMES R. OLT

FOR MORE YEARS than most of us can remember, the standard sidearm carried by police officers has been a revolver, usually having a 4-inch barrel, and chambered for the now venerable .38 Special cartridge. Granted, plain clothes detectives like the more easily concealed 2" barrel "snub" guns, and a few police and highway patrol outfits have authorized their men to carry .357 Magnums.

But what, if any are the drawbacks of a revolver for combat shooting? The modern double action revolver as built by Colt and Smith & Wesson has always been considered the very epitome of handgun reliability—and they are superbly reliable pistols for the most part. However, a revolver can fail you if it's been dropped on a hard object with enough impact to knock the cylinder slightly out of alignment. A foreign object wedged in between the cylinder and frame can also render a revolver inoperable, although admittedly neither of these things happen very often. But the revolver can be deadly slow to reload; just ask a policeman who has had to reload his weapon in the dark with cold-stiffened fingers while one or more criminals were shooting at him.

The Illinois State Police is one of the most progressive law enforcement agencies in the country. Modern crime fighting equipment and a rigorous and complete academy training program make Illinois State Troopers as well-equipped and trained, and as sharp-looking a group of policemen to be found anywhere in the country. So it's no wonder that the brass of this police outfit took a long, hard look at the traditional revolver their men carried. What they finally decided was



Trooper Junior Brooks demonstrates combat position now used by the Illinois State Police.



To keep their guns accessible while riding in patrol cars, Illinois State Police developed a special holster and two-handed crossdraw.

AUTO PISTOLS FOR POLICE?



Flanked by the .38 Special and .45 Auto, the 9mm looks small, but its striking power is shown by this gallon can of water.

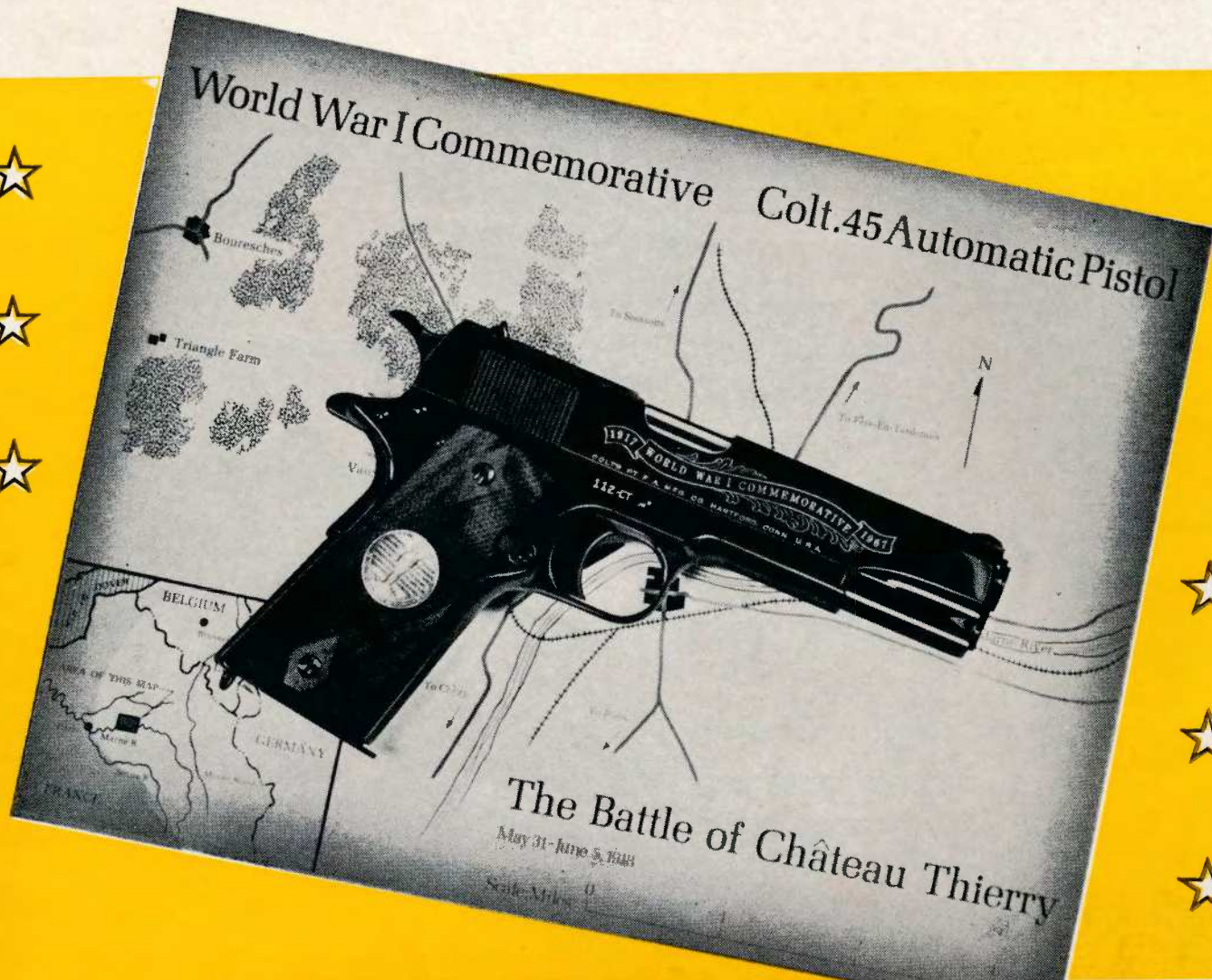
better for their use was a rather abrupt departure from tradition—a 9mm automatic!

It wasn't that the weapons experts of the Illinois State Police thought a .38 or .357 Magnum revolver is a bad police weapon—it isn't at all. They just thought there might be something a bit better for combat shooting. And if there was they wanted it.

After considering and testing several different pistols, including the Colt Commander in .38 Super (a cartridge they liked a great deal), and the time-tested .45 government auto, they finally officially adopted the Smith & Wesson Model 39 9mm Automatic for a number of reasons. It is a double-action automatic, meaning the pistol can be carried safely with a cartridge in the chamber and off safety, yet it can be fired quickly simply by pulling the trigger like a revolver. It is a reasonably light and compact handgun; 26½ ounces without its magazine, and just 7 7/16" in length. The model 39 is also chambered for a potent cartridge; the 9mm Luger, but more on this later. The gun wears adjustable sights; the rear sight adjusts for windage, and elevation is controlled by the height of the front sight blade.

I had a long discussion with Sergeant Louis J. Seman, Head Weapons Instructor for the Ill. State Police, about guns for police work, and particularly this Smith & Wesson 9mm auto. Sgt. Seman has spent the last 10 years of his 26 years on the force in the weapons department, and has a wealth of experience and knowledge at his disposal. "The main advantage of an automatic over a revolver for combat shooting," he told me, "is increased firepower. But most automatics have to be carried on SAFE, or else they have to be manually cocked or have the slide pulled back for the first shot which makes them slow. We always stress accuracy over speed in our training programs, but we feel an automatic like this pistol is superior to a revolver and other autos for combat shooting."

So rapid firepower without a slow start is one of the big advantages of this pistol. And with its 8-round magazine full and a cartridge in the chamber, it has 50 per cent more shots than a revolver—shots which a policeman will probably never need, but which are available anyway. The Model 39 can be quickly drawn and fired like a revolver, but from then on it functions like other semi-automatic pistols, with the advantage of a light, crisp trigger pull without manual cocking. The Illinois Troopers will carry the S&W Model 39 with a cartridge in the chamber and the safety in the OFF position so they don't have to fumble with a catch at a crucial time. *(Continued on page 54)*



CHÂTEAU THIERRY- COLT'S NEW COMMEMORATIVE

COVER STORY

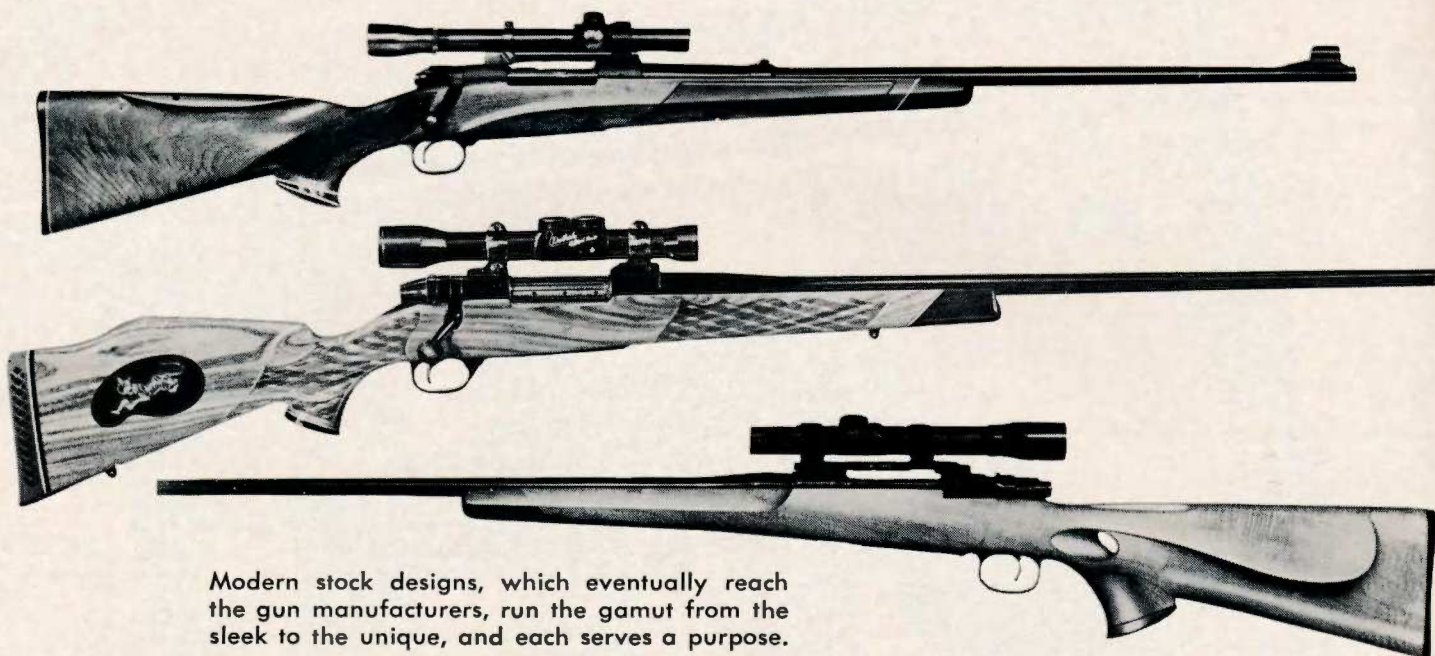
COLT'S IS ISSUING a new commemorative model, and for the first time this special series of collector's guns will not be Single Action revolvers. The new commemorative is the original version of the Colt .45 Automatic, the M1911 with the flat mainspring housing, and it is being issued in recognition of the 50th Anniversary of United States participation in World War I.

Actually this commemorative series includes four models, or you might even say 12, for each model will be issued in four versions, each named for a major Yank A.E.F. engagement during the war, and each of these versions will be offered in three grades of finish. The first of the series is the "Château Thierry," which will be followed by the "Belleau Wood," "2nd Battle of the Marne," and the "Meuse Argonne."

The Château Thierry pistol is being constructed as closely as is practical to the original Model 1911 design. The most obvious design feature is, of course, the flat mainspring housing, which will carry a lanyard loop, as did the original. The trigger finger relief cuts have been eliminated and the configuration of the slide stop, safety lever, trigger, hammer, grip safety, magazine release, and barrel bushing are all just like the original M1911.

Special attention has been paid to the stocks of this .45; they're of select American walnut and have 16-line raised checkering with the original diamond escutcheon around the screw holes. Colt's has designed special stock

(Continued on page 57)



Modern stock designs, which eventually reach the gun manufacturers, run the gamut from the sleek to the unique, and each serves a purpose.

FIREARMS DESIGN: Part 1

FACTORY GUN STOCKS—GOOD OR BAD?

By HARRY O. DEAN

IF YOU WANT TO PADDLE a canoe or club rats, most any old board or stick will do. But when you want to stock a gun—aha! That's a horse of a different hue, isn't it? You want something just a little bit better, don't you? Like, if you are an average Joe, you'll settle for a nice straight grained hunk of walnut, right? And if you are a fussy fella with a few loose bucks, you might go for a lush-grained bit of Circassian burl with a hand-rubbed luster that you can grin into when you brush your teeth!

Well, forget it! From now on you'll take what you get and like it, see! And if you get slivers in your cheek when you shoot, that's too bad because this is the wood *we got* and this is the wood *you'll get*!

The above may sound a bit too far fetched, but there IS a problem getting good wood for gunstocks. It's a twofold problem because not only is the wood difficult to procure, but the price of decent stocking lumber is on a steady upward spiral. It reflects in gun prices despite the manufacturer's efforts to hold costs down.

Walnut has long been the mainstay of the gun factories. It's a stable and tough hardwood which is not excessively heavy. It resists warping, can withstand recoil and has a good outward appearance which takes well to all manner

of finishes. The fancier grades are handsome indeed and add much to the beauty of quality grade guns. Walnut is getting scarce. Several wars have helped to deplete the supply. The steady demand for fine furniture wood and for gunstock blanks for you and I has far out-stripped the supply. Walnut trees grow mighty slow.

For many years now, certain manufacturers have used birch (stained a walnut color) on some of their lower grade guns. There is nothing wrong with birch. Its stocking characteristics are good. Normally, however, it lacks the grain prominence that gives "character" to a gunstock. Now and then, birchwood does show a flashing tortoise shell grain which is quite striking in the light. This wood is very light in color and lends itself better to "blond" finishes.

I was quite surprised recently, to see an order of Garand "replacement" stocks and some M-14 stocks being made up in white maple! This was during a periodic tour of gun plants. Maple is tough and durable but has a tendency to be heavy. Perhaps it is more resistant to "wet style" jungle fighting. Fancy maple is featured on some custom guns.

One company I visited had tried sweet pecan wood for .22's a few years ago. It worked out fine—for the stocks. However, it proved abrasive on the turning machines and

In spite of automated machinery, gun stocks require some hand work. Here a Marlin 336 buttstock is hand-sanded.



once the initial batch was run through, they wanted no more of it. Those machines are expensive! In a turnabout, I spoke to a well-known gunstock supplier who tried pecan and he noticed no excessive machine wear. He didn't say what quantity he had run through.

This same maker showed me some stocks he had turned from persimmon wood. They were quite white with dirty looking splotches like water stains. Hardly handsome, but maybe that particular log was poor. Butternut has been used for stocks and is often very pretty. Some of the more exotic woods like Myrtle and Mesquite have been used on custom style guns but the wood is in scattered supply.

A recent newcomer to the gunstock scene is elm. This wood has appeared on some low cost rim fire rifles and also on certain airgun stocks. Its grain varies from plain to some rather eye catching patterns. It is open pored and these large pores are a standout point in identifying this

wood. Continued use of elm seems to indicate that this wood is finding ready acceptance as a "second line" stocking item in certain gun lines.

All of the gun factories have a surplus of wood chips from turning machines. At one company I visited, this residue was burned to assist kiln drying operations to control moisture content of cut blanks held in supply. Other factories however, find this scrap wood surplus a problem. Compressed and bonded chipboards are common in the lumber industry. Perhaps chipwood gunstocks blanks are in the realm of future possibility.

Another feasible alternative would be the use of impregnated wood. In this new process, any cheap or soft wood can be turned into a hardwood by impregnation. For example, a log is "booted" or capped at one end and a special resin is pumped in at high pressure. The normal tree saps are exuded from the opposite

(Continued on page 57)



HOT NEW 25 mm AUTOMATIC

NOT A POCKET AUTO, THE TRW 6425 IS A
NATURAL SUCCESSOR TO THE .50 BROWNING MACHINE GUN



By Maj. George C. Nonte



Ammunition for the 6425 is belted, as shown, and fed to gun through flexible chutes.

DURING WWII, the U.S. .50 caliber Browning Machine Gun—air, ground, and vehicular configuration—proved to be one of the most effective gun/cartridge combinations in existence. Though a couple of more powerful heavy machine gun cartridges existed, they did not achieve the world-wide usage and acceptance of the .50 Browning. Possessing the capability to destroy general-purpose and light armoured vehicles, and also to penetrate field fortifications, it was greatly feared by the enemy. In the air, multiple installations, firing as high as 1200 rounds per tube, were extremely destructive on enemy aircraft.

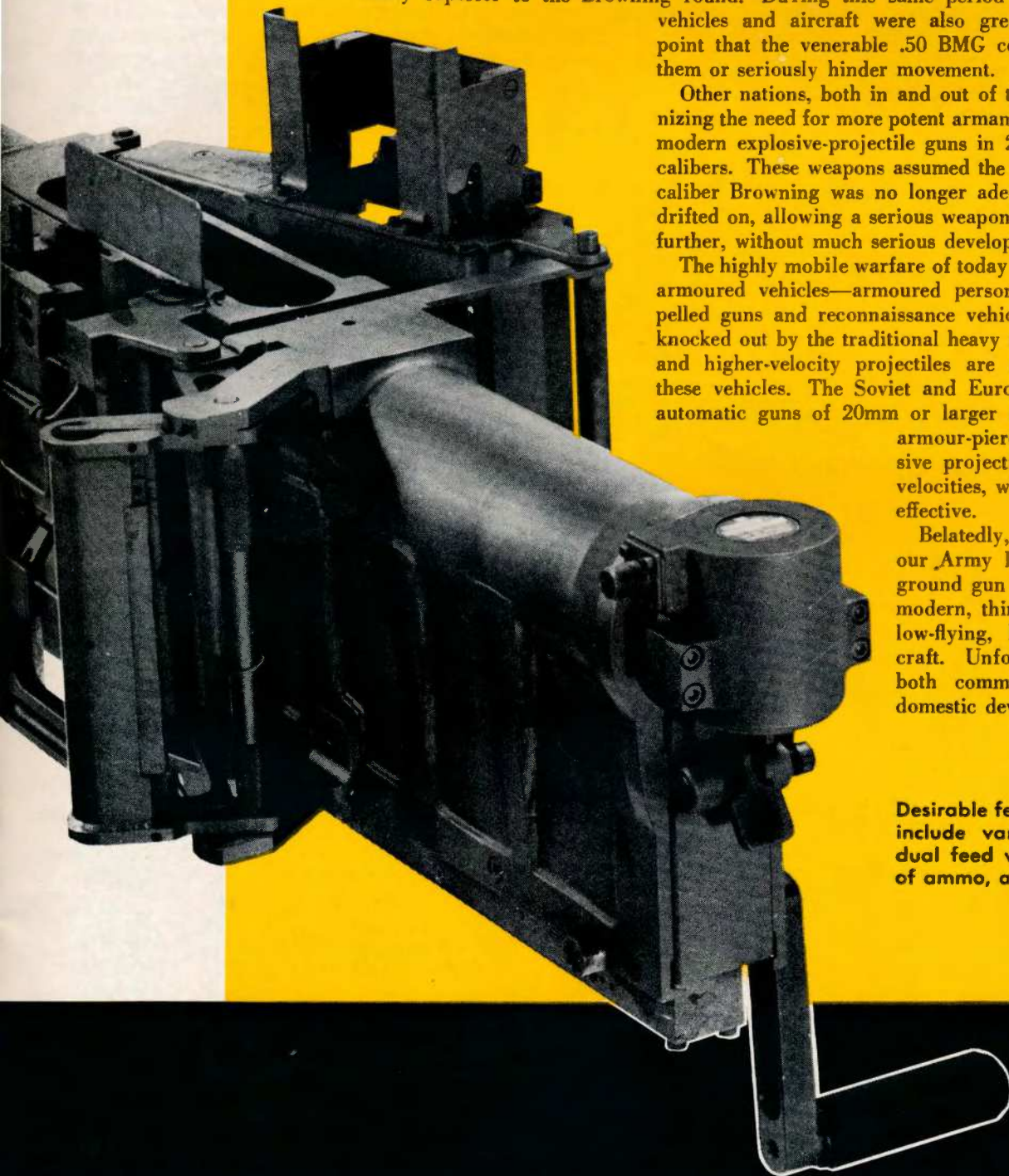
The U. S. Armed Forces became so enamoured of the Fifty that in the years to follow development of a more potent replacement was sadly neglected. Other world powers, though, were much more progressive. For example, the Soviet 12.7mm cartridge—even though *already* superior to the .50—gave way to a high-velocity 14.5mm (.58 cal.), vastly superior to the Browning round. During this same period of time, thin-skinned vehicles and aircraft were also greatly improved to the point that the venerable .50 BMG could no longer defeat them or seriously hinder movement.

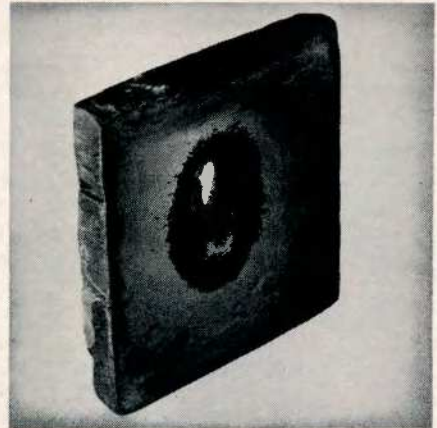
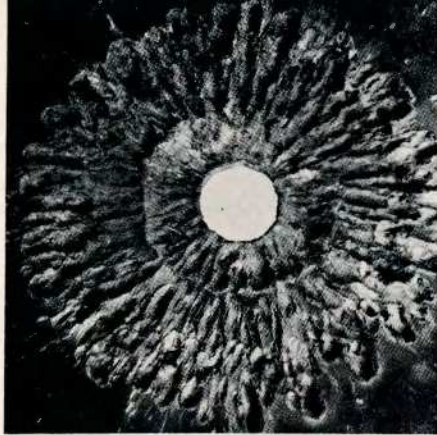
Other nations, both in and out of the Soviet Bloc, recognizing the need for more potent armament, rapidly developed modern explosive-projectile guns in 20, 23, 25, and 30mm calibers. These weapons assumed the role for which the .50 caliber Browning was no longer adequate. Yet, the U. S. drifted on, allowing a serious weaponry gap to widen even further, without much serious development work.

The highly mobile warfare of today employs many lightly-armoured vehicles—armoured personnel carriers, self-propelled guns and reconnaissance vehicles—which cannot be knocked out by the traditional heavy machine gun. Heavier and higher-velocity projectiles are required to penetrate these vehicles. The Soviet and European trend is toward automatic guns of 20mm or larger caliber, utilizing both armour-piercing and high explosive projectiles at extremely high velocities, which have proven very effective.

Belatedly, in the early 1960's, our Army began searching for a ground gun capable of destroying modern, thin-skinned vehicles and low-flying, high-performance aircraft. Unfortunately, by acts of both commission and omission, domestic development in this field

Desirable features of TRW's 6425 include variable rates of fire, dual feed with instant selection of ammo, and toolless stripping.





Penetration of the new round in both aluminum and steel armor is great.

had been discouraged. Consequently, European guns were evaluated, this culminating in the recent highly controversial purchase of the German Rheinmetal HS-820 20mm Automatic machine gun.

This fresh interest in guns of this class prompted, 3½ years ago, initiation of privately funded development work by Thompson-Ramo-Woolridge of Cleveland, Ohio. TRW secured the services of Mr. Gene Stoner—successful designer of the AR-15/M-16, AR-10 Series, and Stoner 63 Weapons System. Working from his basic multiple-lug rotating bolt design, Stoner produced a recoil-operated, heavy caliber automatic gun with a unique selective feed mechanism which enables the gunner to choose instantly the type of ammunition best suited for his immediate target.

This design was formalized as the "TRW 6425 25mm Automatic Cannon." This is the gun that I recently examined at the TRW Ordnance Development Center at Port Clinton, Ohio. The 6425 (as we will call it from this

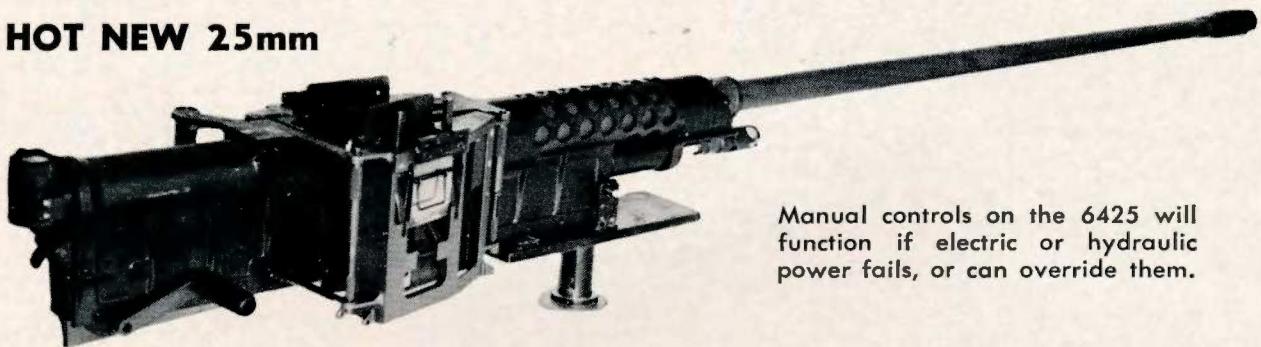
point forward) has been developed concurrently with highly effective HE (high explosive) and AP (armour piercing) ammunition, the latter being a product of Oerlikon of Switzerland.

In its present form, the 6425 weighs 165 lbs., with a length of 112.2", width of 10.6" (dual feed), and height of 8.8". It is designed primarily for ground vehicular installation, but appears well suited to use in both rotary and fixed wing counter-insurgency and ground support aircraft. Ammunition for the 6425 has reached a high state of development, with the discarding-sabot, tungsten-carbide core, APDS round at 4750 fps capable of destroying light armoured vehicles, to at least 1000 meters. The high explosive round, at 3600 fps, can immobilize most armoured vehicles and destroy field fortifications and troops.

Simplicity and productibility are keynotes of the 6425 design. The gun is of short-recoil design, the barrel traveling 1.5". During this movement, the heavy bolt carrier is moved the same distance (Continued on page 61)

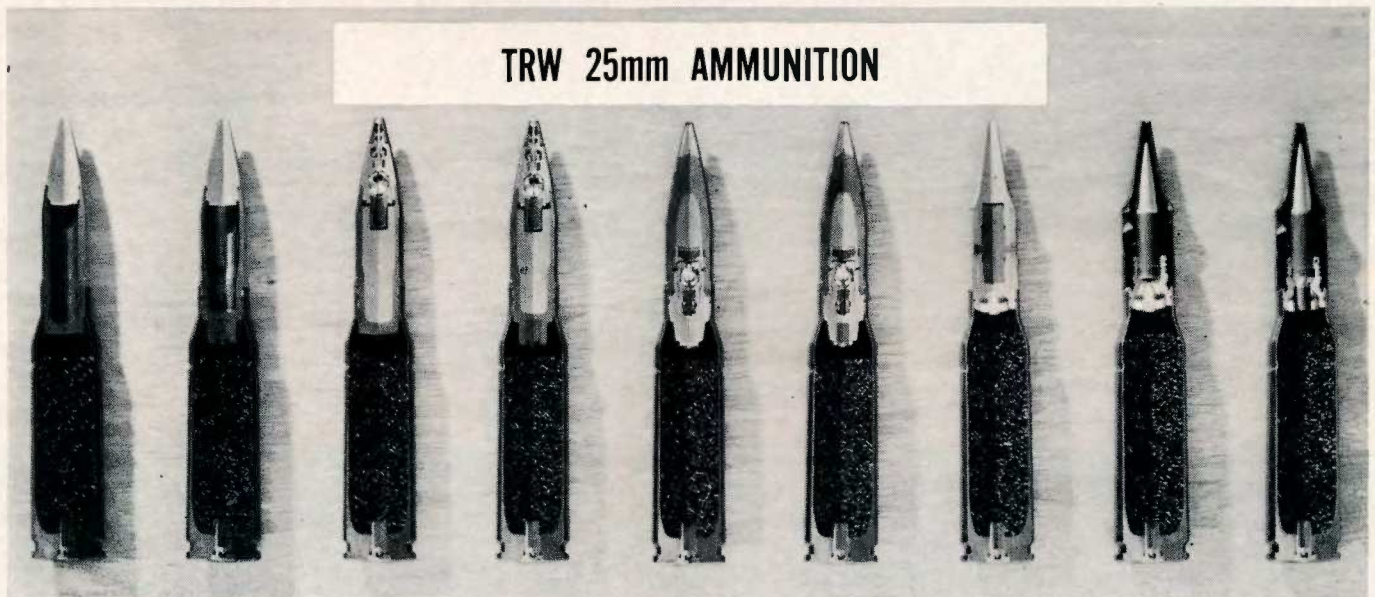
62

HOT NEW 25mm



Manual controls on the 6425 will function if electric or hydraulic power fails, or can override them.

TRW 25mm AMMUNITION



HIGH-EXPLOSIVE

ARMOR PIERCING

Handloader's Library

By DAVID BEATIE

INDISPENSABLE TO THE loading bench are the manuals and books which guide the handloader in the assembly of loads for accuracy, efficiency, and pressure control. The many variables inherent in handloading and shooting necessitate the availability of precise information provided by laboratory test and ballistics authorities.

The average handloader doesn't have a chronograph pressure gun, or unlimited game availability essential to development of loads that are accurate, safe, and effective. Hence he must rely on the information available in the loading bench library.

These books and manuals enable the average handloader to save time and money while staying within those pressure limits adequately safe for his particular rifle. The cost of such a library is negligible compared to his investment in loading tools, components, rifles, and his own well being.

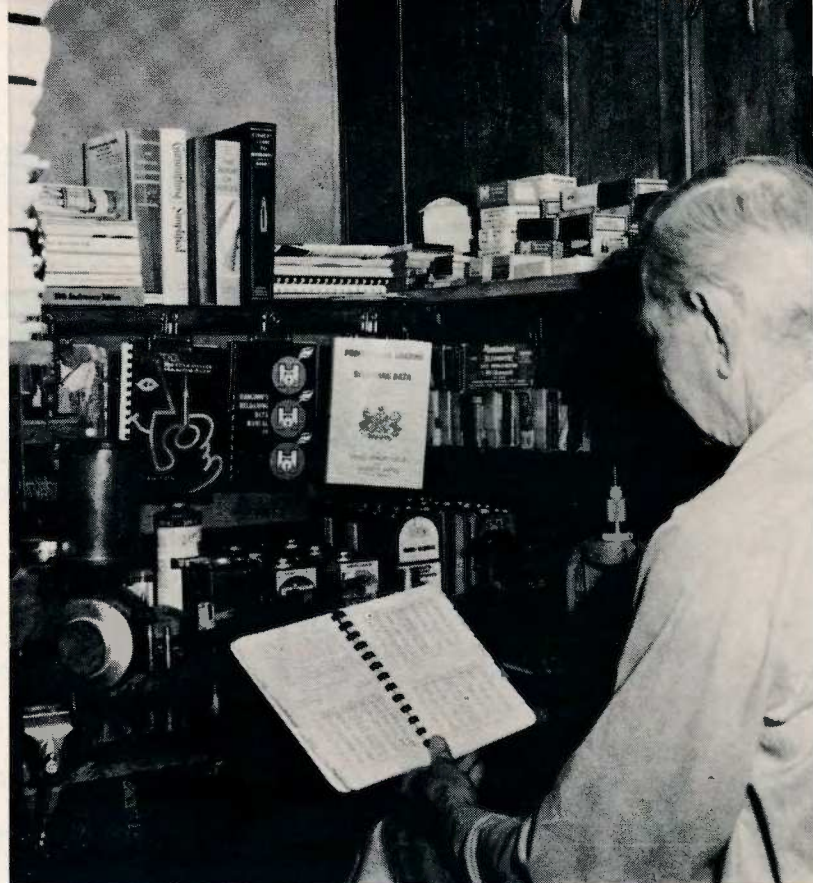
First library requirements are the loading manuals published by the various manufacturers. A complete set of these handbooks is economically priced; and they're worth far more than the moderate listing. All should be in the handloader's library because of the wide range of powders, cases, primers, and bullets available; and no one book includes every product. Too, some of the handbooks don't list pressures; and this is a vital factor in handloading.

The Speer manual lists muzzle and 200-yard velocities for the various loads with powder charges at three levels, two grains apart. Maximum permissible load is printed in red type. This manual lists charges with Du Pont, Hercules, and Hodgdon powders; however bullets (weights) are limited to Speer's own line. The handbook also includes comprehensive reloading instructions and articles by well-known authorities. Pressures, however, are not listed; but all loads were developed and tested for safe pressures.

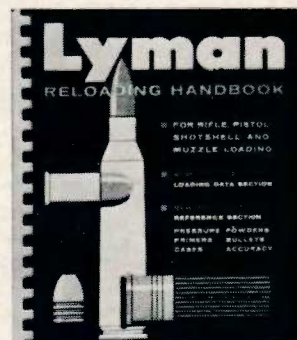
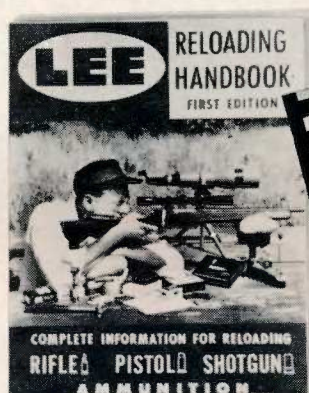
Speer's new manual, #7, now available, includes 300-yard drop figures plus loading data for all the new cartridges. Hercules' new Reloader powders are included in the various listings. The new manual, also has loading data for pistol and shotgun. New informative articles on handloading procedures, powders and ballistics are included. Price, still \$2.95.

Lyman Reloading Handbook covers both jacketed and cast bullets along with complete reloading instructions. Rifle loads cover powders by Du Pont, Hercules, and Hodgdon but lists only two loads for each type of powder and bullet weight. One load is a suggested one; the other, a suggested

(Continued on page 59)



A good library is a big asset to the handloader. It saves time working new loads and prevents dangerous loads.



Introduction to new cartridges, powders, and components make manuals a necessity. Here are several new ones.



GUNS and the LAW

GLASS SHOT FOR

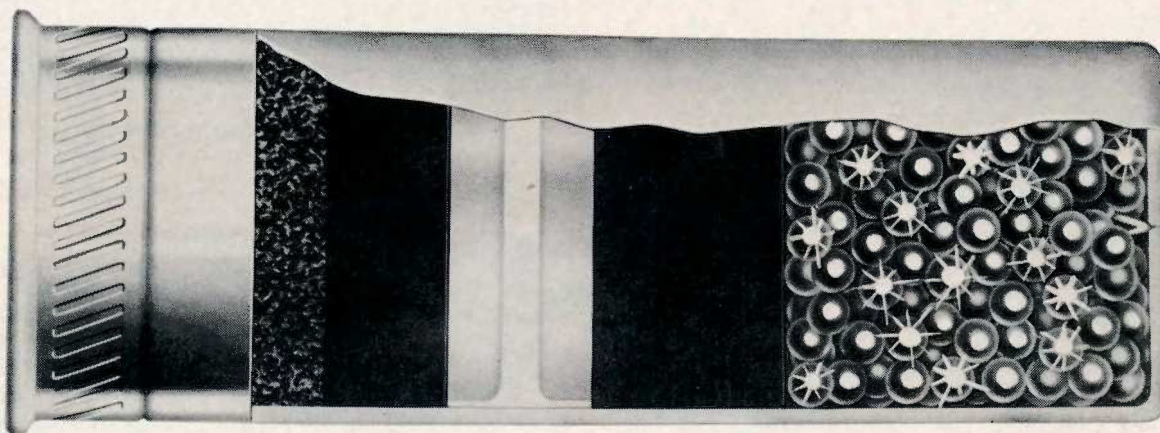


FIGURE 1. TEST RESULTS

	Distance	Barrel Length	Extreme Spread	Number of Hits
1.	25 Yds.	18"	5' 6"	30
2.	25 "	20"	4' 4"	30
3.	25 "	20"	4' 7"	41
4.	50 ft.	20"	3' 9"	36
5.	50 "	18"	3' 7"	35
Above tests used glass shot, #3 Buckshot size (102 grains, 44 pellets)				
6.	25 yds.	18"	4' 3"	12*
7.	25 "	20"	4' 2"	18
8.	25 "	18"	3' 1"	12
9.	25 "	20"	3' 5"	16
10.	50 ft.	20"	4' 2"	18
Above tests used glass shot, #4 Buckshot size (102 grains, 20 pellets)				
11.	25 yds.	20"	6' 7"	**

Above test used glass shot, #9 size (127 grains, 1 1/8 oz. by volume)

Note: Target was 6' square cardboard. Load: 18 gr. DuPont 700X; Rem. Power Piston wad; Fed. 209 primer; Rem. plastic target cases.

*One low hit counted in extreme spread.

**Spread exceeded cardboard target area.



By

COL. REX APPLEGATE

RIOTS?

OF LATE, the 12 gauge riot shotgun has become, more than ever, an essential part of the police arsenal. Rioting in our urban areas, coupled with arson, sniping, and looting has resulted in an almost universal adoption of this time honored weapon of the western sheriff by police departments, large and small, country wide.

Police loads for the riot shotgun are becoming more varied as time and the need goes on. It makes sense to give the police officer some options in loadings for his shoulder weapon, as has the game hunter. In this case, however, the target is two legged and the desire and intent is not lethal but rather to discourage and disperse illegal acts that are a threat to civil peace and stability, as harmlessly as possible.

Sometime ago, Rod Blackhurst, a Dupont executive, hunter, ex-Remington exhibition shooter, and friend, told me about some experiments made with tempered glass shot. Research had been undertaken to see if a satisfactory substitute for game loads could be developed that would eliminate the huge loss to the duck population each year caused by unretreived birds dying from wounds caused by lead shot poisoning. Due to the light weight of the glass pellets and limited range, this idea was rejected, but the search for a solution to the problem is still continuing.

If you have ever watched a riot action on the television screen, you probably have witnessed scenes in which police and guardsmen have been depicted, helplessly standing by, watching looters busily engaged in carrying off TV sets, radios and other portable articles from stores in the riot area. To the policeman this is a frustrating and humiliating experience that many times he can do nothing about, because of orders, lack of manpower, or weaponry.

It occurred to the writer that perhaps the weaponry part of the problem could partially be solved by the use of glass shot. Accordingly, at Rod's suggestion, I wrote Russ Mariner of Corning Glass and he sent me some fine glass pellets in the 7½ shot size range. Just prior to departure from the ranch this summer, when the riot situation was heating up, a few test shots fired at some corrugated boxes at ranges from twenty to forty yards indicated that this

might be a way to go. I asked for samples of some larger size pellets and arranged to have some shipped to Col. Ellis Lea, Office of Public Safety, AID, State Department in Washington. His initial experiments and comments follow. I think that some more will be heard on this project and about other possible light, irritant shotgun loads for the two legged animal before the next "hot summer" rolls around.

Col. Rex Applegate

The idea of using a shotgun in crime control is not new—not since great, great, gran'paw first loaded salty bacon rind or rock salt in his ole black powder smoke pole to repel watermelon patch invaders.

Also "old hat" is the use of bird shot to convince unruly crowds that they should not become mobs. Birdshot is not fired directly at targets, but is bounced off pavement or the ground, striking a vertical target in a fan shaped pattern. Also, the velocity is reduced when the shot strikes the ground, thereby lessening the chance of serious injury. By picking the correct point in front of the target(s) impact on target may be regulated somewhat as to height.

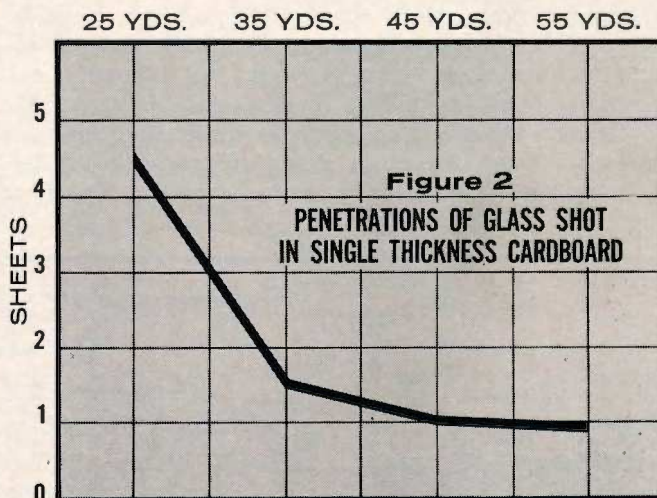
Now, a new idea has come into being which should help police escalate more gradually the amount of force used in an effort to convince mobs they should disperse and "forget it". The thought of how to prevent deep penetration of projectiles lead to the idea of using glass shot (with its lighter weight) loaded in shot shells.

Col. Rex Applegate furnished me a number of lots of various sized glass shot which were so hard one pellet can hardly be crushed with pliers in the hands of a strong man. Sizes of the glass shot in my possession run No. 4 and No. 3 buckshot and No. 6 and 9 bird shot. These glass shot are remarkably uniform in diameter and concentricity.

Having only four sizes of glass shot for test purposes, each in small quantities, no attempt was made to determine optimum load requirements as to powder and wads. The experiments made were fired with Remington-Peters plastic trap cases loaded with a Federal primer, 18.0 grains of DuPont 700-x powder and an R-P Power Piston mono-wad.

Since the specific gravity of glass is considerably less than lead one cannot say he loaded 11⅓ ounces of glass shot. This statement must be qualified to indicate the load was by volume, not weight.

(Continued on page 79)



WHILE YOU DO NEED A GOOD BULLET
THE AUTHOR QUESTIONS THE NEED TO USE

MAGNUMS FOR MOOSE?



Les Bowman

By LES BOWMAN

I LIVE IN WYOMING and we have moose out here. Now the moose is a peculiar animal. It is one of the biggest game animals in North America but it doesn't take any of the really big calibers or a whole lot of shots to kill it. However, moose are dumb; they don't seem to know when they're dead. They are heavy, tough, strongly-built animals and seem to be highly impervious to shock.

Now while you can probably hit a moose with anything including a .22 Long Rifle since they are fairly easy to get close to, getting him to go down and stay down is quite another matter. A moose, shot with any caliber rifle or any weight bullet, very seldom drops in his tracks and stays down for keeps. There are exceptions to this, since head shots are usually immediately fatal as are most spine shots, but the biggest number of moose killed by hunters are shot more than once, and sometimes as many as seven or eight times before the moose has gone down and stayed there.

I watched a hunter, using a .375 H&H with 300 grain bullets, put six shots (two gun loads) into a big bull moose before it went down. As far as effective shots were concerned, this animal was just as dead after the first one as after the sixth. Three years ago I had a hunter put three 500 grain bullets from a .458 Winchester into a moose which walked off better than 300 yards before it fell. Any one of these shots would have brought it down just as quickly and so would any *one* well-placed shot from a .270, or a .280.

Actually it takes only one well-placed shot from any reasonable big game rifle, using a properly constructed bullet of the right weight, to kill any moose. As with all big game

animals, good moose kills are regulated by bullet function and bullet placement. These two things contribute more to good one-shot kills than does caliber size.

When a hunter comes out here on a big game hunt he is usually planning on killing several kinds of game so he will want a rifle that can do a good job on all of them and thus he should give more thought to the bullet to be used than to the caliber. If moose is the only game he is hunting, with maybe a bear thrown in for good measure, he can pick a rifle and cartridge strictly for these two. I believe the best rifle for this would be the Remington 600 Carbine in .350 Remington Magnum caliber. With its 250 grain bullet, this gun was adequate power for such game out to 250 yards.

Although I have used a .270 Winchester or a .280 Remington on moose many times, I prefer a more powerful rifle and cartridge for this large game. Any of the .300 Magnums are okay if you are using bullets from 180 grains to 200 grains. For the .30-06, bullets should be 180 grains or heavier. Probably as fine a rifle for moose as any of them is the .338 Winchester Magnum with its 250 grain factory load or a handload using the excellent 275 grain Speer bullet. However this rifle has more recoil than many hunters can absorb and still shoot accurately. The .358 Norma with the 250 grain bullet is another good moose gun.

I have tried many types of bullets on moose and I'll have to admit some of them have not been as good as they should have been, but the Remington Core-Lokt, Winchester's newer Power Points, and the good Sierra soft points have never failed me. There are others that are equally as good. The important thing is to stay away from the lightly constructed bullets that have a tendency to blow up on contact. For moose killing this feature is particularly bad as so many are killed at close range and bullet velocity is still high.

Rifles and cartridges for moose should be adequate in power but they should also be a gun and cartridge which the hunter can handle well so that he can place his shots accurately. The comparatively short distances at which most moose are shot encourages one to try an off-hand shot, but it is better to make your shot from a rest against a tree or over some solid object or from a sitting position. Unless

MOOSE RIFLES AND BULLET WEIGHTS

Marginal

.270—150 grain
.280—160 grain
.300 Savage—180 grain
.308 Winchester—180 grain

Good

7 MM Magnum—160 or 175 grain
30.06—180 or 200 grain
.308 Norma—180 or 200 grain
.300 Weatherby—180 or 200 grain
.300 Winchester Magnum—180 or 200 grain

Excellent

.338 Winchester—250 or 275
.358 Norma—250
.350 Remington Magnum—250
.375 H & H—300



Les Bowman guided the lucky shooter, Cy Rickel of Fort Worth, on his hunt for this trophy moose. Right: Unusual photo shows gun writer, Warren Page, as he bags his moose, offhand at 125 yards.



there is no other way to make your shot always try to use a rest of some kind. It's sure easy to pull that gun off a bit and make a bad shot. Moose are nearly always easy to stalk, and a hunter can get quite close. Moose can most often be shot at ranges of 100 yards or so and almost certainly at distances not exceeding 200 yards. They also offer a rather large target and sometimes its very size leads a hunter into being careless with the placement of his shot.

A number of years ago Jack O'Connor and I were talking about hunting and the best place to hit game, and he told me that he didn't think he had killed more than one or two moose with one shot, usually taking him two or more shots to keep a moose down for keeps. I told him that he was quite likely shooting a dead moose after the first shot, although the silly thing didn't know it, since he had told me he always made a lung shot whenever it was possible to do so. I have never seen a moose or any other animal not die from a lung shot, though they may run a few yards before going down.

After this talk with O'Connor I made it a point to coach my hunters on where to shoot a moose and for them not to shoot twice unless the first shot was badly placed. It was 14 moose kills later before we had to use more than one shot. With the exception of two instant spine kills, these hunters would have had time to put quite a number of shots into their moose, had they kept on firing.

But even with this lung shot technique, I give more attention to the bullet to be used than I do to the caliber size. Most hunters who've killed moose out here have mostly used the rifle that they brought for elk and deer. We found that even if the bullet was as light as 130 grains in a .270 Winchester, we got a dead moose if we hit it in the lungs, but we had to use a good bullet. I kept tabs on the rifles used to kill those 14 moose after I had that talk with O'Connor. They varied in caliber from the .300 Savage, the .308 Winchester,

and .270, and the standard 7 mm's, such as the 7x57, the .280 Remington, and the .284 Winchester. Then of course there were the various .30 caliber magnums and the old reliable .30-06. Since the bullets were all carefully chosen and the shots well placed, each of these guns did a good job.

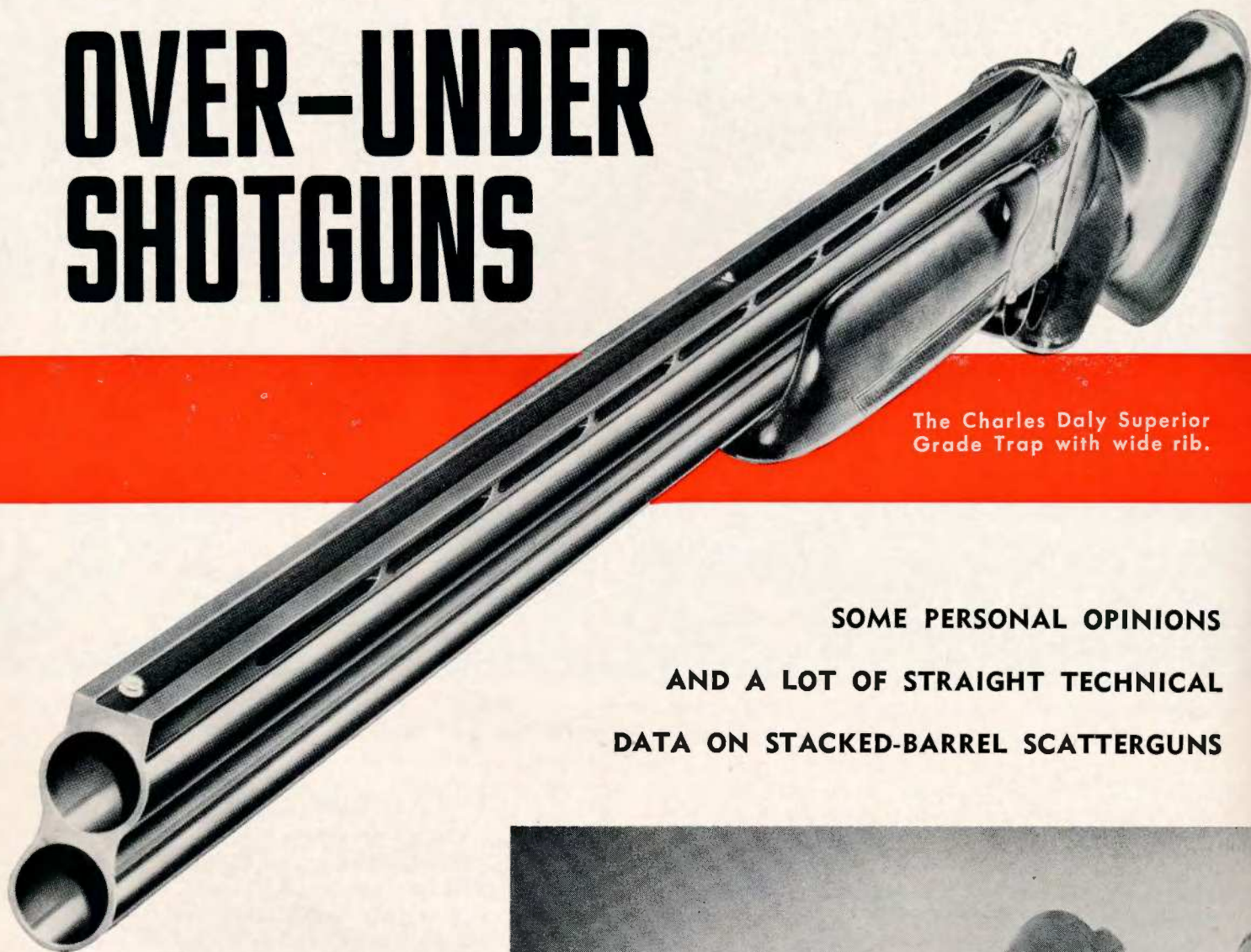
But in spite of the variety of calibers used, and no matter how well the bullet was constructed, I do not think I could be certain of a one-shot kill if the shot were not made into the lungs. A moose's shoulder can really absorb a lot of energy without letting a bullet penetrate all the way through, and if only one shoulder is broken the moose can and will travel for miles before he goes down to die. The same holds true for the hip. Only if the joint itself in the shoulder or hip is hit, does it affect the moose much in traveling. And if a hunter tries the so-called "raking shot," I don't believe any caliber or bullet can be used successfully on moose.

The heart of most game animals is not very large and is protected by the forelegs. About the only way you can make a successful heart shot is from directly in front and then the bullet usually penetrates deeper and does considerable damage to other organs. Neck shots are not good either, except for one right back of the ear into the head or from a direct front angle.

Regardless of the type of rifle and cartridge, a lot of thought should be given to the choice of bullet to be used. It should be a soft point for good expansion, and heavily constructed to penetrate properly and hold its weight together without breaking up. After this the hunter should be sure to put that bullet into the proper area for a kill. Moose here in Wyoming are smaller than the Canadian or Alaskan moose, but they are still a very big animal and if they are not hit correctly will certainly get away, sometimes only crippled but more often to die a slow, painful death.

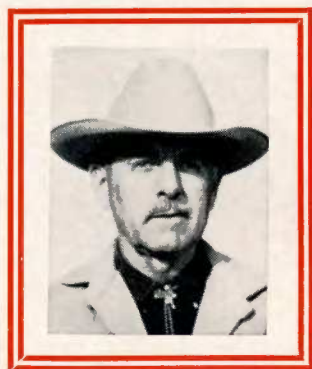


OVER-UNDER SHOTGUNS



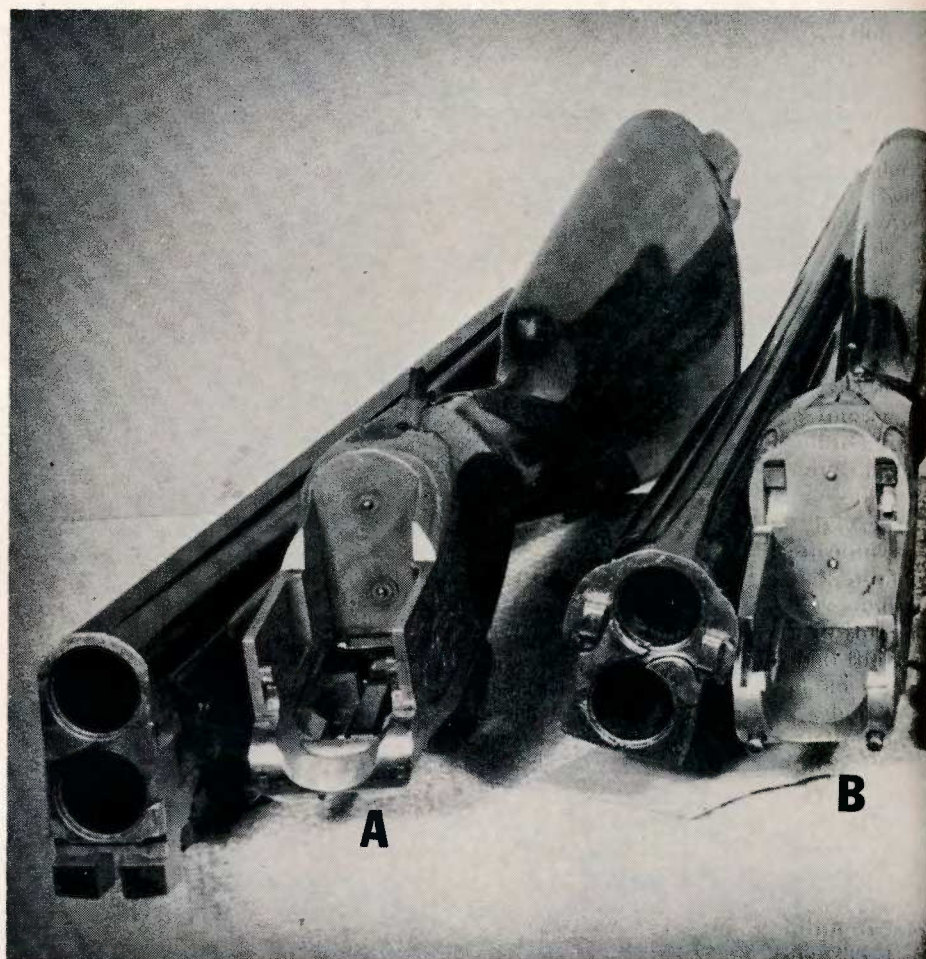
The Charles Daly Superior Grade Trap with wide rib.

SOME PERSONAL OPINIONS
AND A LOT OF STRAIGHT TECHNICAL
DATA ON STACKED-BARREL SCATTERGUNS



Charles Askins

By **CHARLES ASKINS**



THE HOTTEST THING GOING in the shotgun line these days is the slightly pregnant-looking number known as the over-and-under. Just to be different, Browning Arms, which seems to have good fortune with this manner of smoothbore, refer to their offering as the Superposed. Whatever it is called the stacked-barrel model is the Gun of the Year.

This sort of thing has been building up over a period of two decades. Directly after WW-II the over-under was notable by its sparsity. Browning, the only manufacturer then, got started slowly since the Belgian outfit, Fabrique National de Armes de Guerre, had been in the hands of the Wehrmacht for some years and when the Nazi legions pulled back they very thoughtfully took all the belting with them. This took quite a while to replace and in turn the first shotguns were delayed. Remington had produced the excellent over-under Model 32 from 1932 to 1942, but after the Big Shoot never resumed the manufacture.

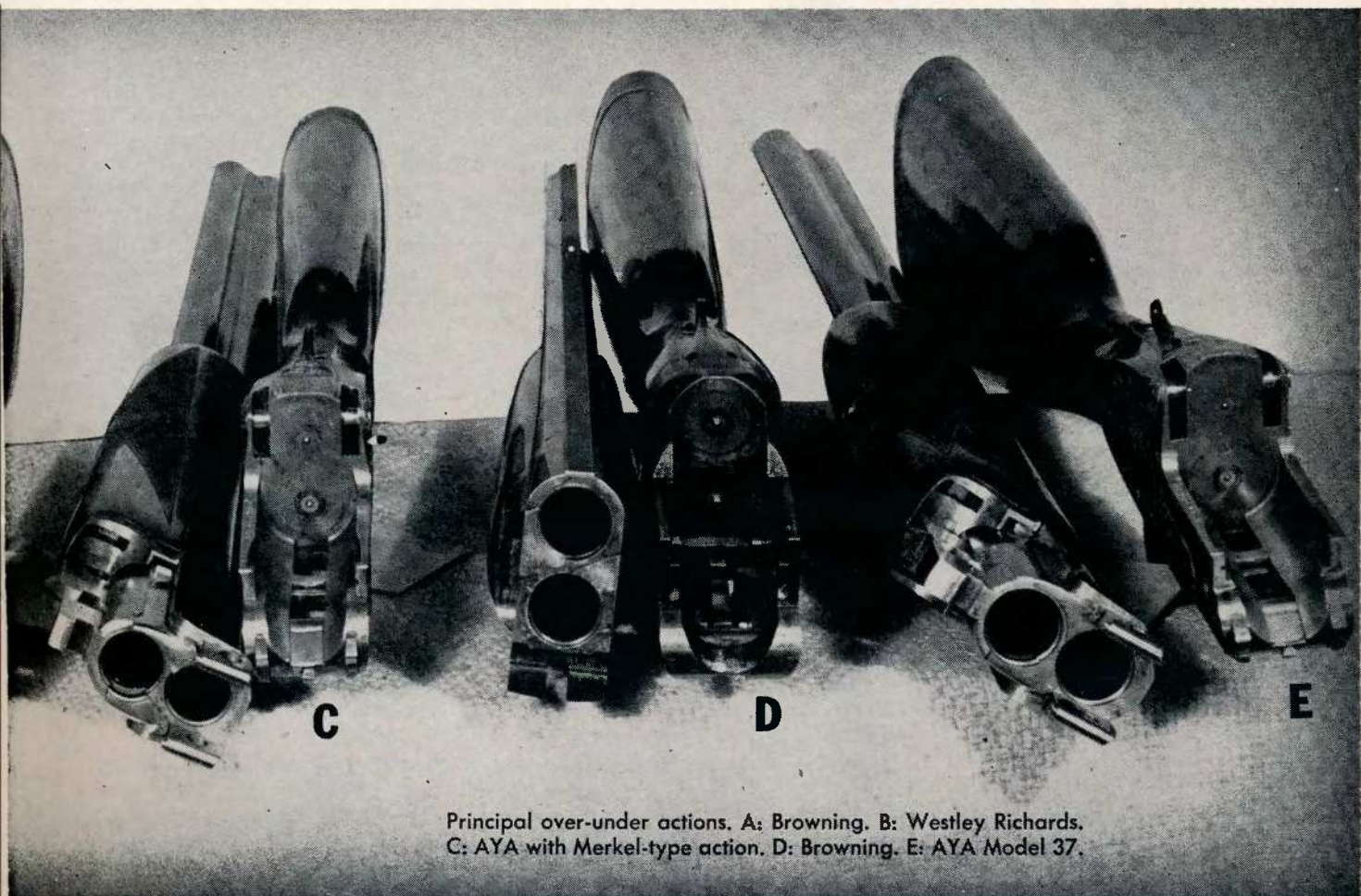
Despite the slow beginning, the barrel-over-barrel scatergun held a vast amount of appeal to the shooting men. Few knew anything about it but all the stories were good ones and the enthusiasm for the smoothbore with the bulbous middle simply would not die. People like Savage and Marlin, with an ear to the ground, took note of this new found passion for the strange new piece and both produced offerings. Both, incidentally, were sturdy fowling pieces. Neither ever caught on, and today, if you look around, you may find a Model 90 Marlin in a used gun stock, but you will be hard put to uncover a Savage.

A lot of people who had probably shot the barrel-atop-barrel kind of a firearm cried in their beer and implored Remington to return the Model 32 O/U but the tycoons up at Bridgeport said to hell with it. "It would cost us six hundred skins to produce that baby," they are reported to have said. These days the Model 32 is like gold—if you can find one.

There were over-unders made in England, like the Purdey, Woodward, Boss, Holland & Holland, and Westley Richards, but only the son of a Texas oil-producing millionaire could afford one. There were, as well, a gaggle of the odd-looking hardware from places like Ferlach, Liege, Suhl, Brescia and Eibar. This influx started as a trickle and over these past 20 years has swelled to a flood. Here of late we must add Japan as a further source.

The rising enthusiasm for the top & bottom gun has not been all beer & skittles. You will find quite a few of the guns-writing hacks who damn the thick-thru-the-middle squaw gun with faint praise. These, for the most part, are the venerable ones who would like to have the Great Society put a pox on all smoothbores except the Gun that Grandpa Liked—the side-by-side double. They see all manner of repugnant features about the newcomer and will tell you confidentially it is a passing fancy, sure to fall from grace, maybe next year, or the year after that.

Even these ancient ones who whip up the monthly opus for their column in the cap-bustin-and-fishing-pole journals have to admit the superposed is the hot stuff in the minds and hearts of the shooting fraternity. But by the same



Principal over-under actions. A: Browning. B: Westley Richards. C: AYA with Merkel-type action. D: Browning. E: AYA Model 37.



Top: Richland Arms Model 808
Center: Ithaca-SKB Model 600
Bottom: Franchi Aristocrat

OVER-UNDER SHOTGUNS

Make & Model	Gauge	Importer	Price*
Grand Prix	12-20	Atlas Arms	\$700
Atlas 700	12-16-20	" "	235
Atlas 65	28-410	" "	185
Atlas 150	12-20	" "	275
Beretta Silver Snipe	12-20	J. L. Galef	215
Beretta SO2	12	J. L. Galef	750
Charles Daly	12-20-28	Charles Daly	330
Perazzi	12	Abercrombie & Fitch	875
Dickson Gray Eagle	12-20	American Import	203
Dickson Golden Eagle	12-20	" "	241
Ferlach	12-16-20-410	Flaig's Lodge	450
Franchi Aristocrat	12	Stoeger Arms	313
Krieghoff	12	Europa Corp.	500
Valmet	12	Firearms International	200
Browning	12-20-28-410	Browning Arms	397
Ithaca SKB	12	Ithaca Gun Co.	230
Winchester 101	12-20-28-410	Winchester	284
Richland 808	12-20	Richland Arms	219

* Price approx., lowest grade

token is this real love or is this just a summer passion? Is the American shotgunner truly sold on this gawky looking double barrel or has he been lead down the primrose path? Will the day dawn like the man says when the over-under will quietly fade?

Just how good is this hardware anyway?

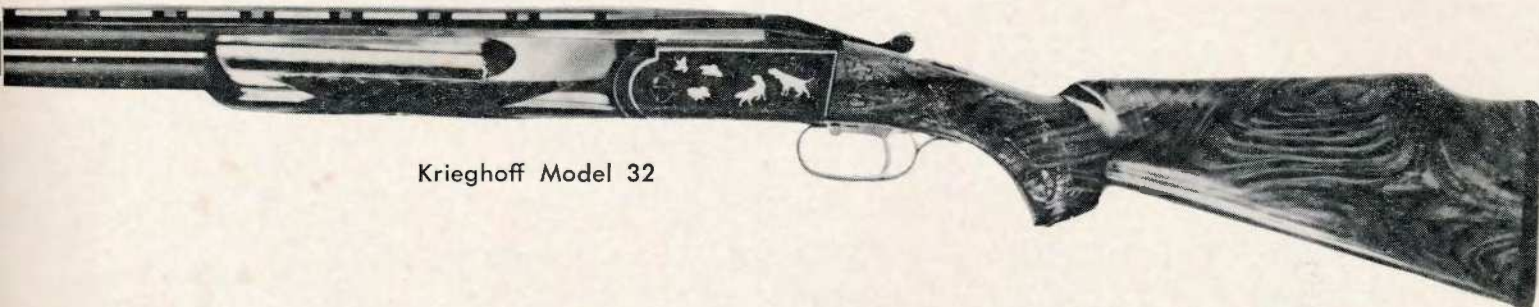
This is one that should be answered with complete objectivity. I can no more be objective about the barrel-on-barrel type than I can admit to utterly no prejudice about things like the Vietnamese war, anarchy in our streets, and what Israel did to the Arabs in the Sinai. I admit to a fondness for the bulbous-bellied smoothbore that makes the affair between Burton and Liz shape up as grade school stuff. This romance of mine is none of their shipboard six-day interlude, either. I fell for the matronly old doll a hell of a long time ago.

John Browning patented the Superposed in 1926, and I had one of the first. Today, I possess seven Brownings. Besides these there are eleven other over-unders in my cabinet.

I have shot the Remington 32, the Savage, the Marlin, and the Morrone. Also those imports, the Valmet, Greifelt, and the Ferlach. I possess a Westley Richards, and have shot the Boss and the Woodward. And, along with these, the Belgian Francotte, and the original Merkel. In Spain I owned a multigun battery of finest AYA Model 37's, and had a Sarasqueta and an Ugartechea. Today the battery includes the Winchester 101 as well as the Charles Daly, both products of Japan, and lastly the Ithaca SKB. I have shot several Berettas, the new Franchi Aristocrat, and the Krieghoff, the West German copy of the famous Model 32. I have the slate of gauges, everything from the



Winchester Model 101



Krieghoff Model 32

.410 to a mighty 10 gauge magnum for the 3½" cartridge. I have over-unders for field shooting, for waterfowling, for live-bird gunning, and for skeet and trap. They come in every boring and all the barrel lengths, in weights from 5¾ pounds to 12½ pounds—from a cost of a hundred bucks to three thousand.

I shoot the new order of autoloading shotgun and have a battery of pump repeaters. I like these shotguns and use them a great deal. I have tried for 35 years to hit something with the side-by-side shotgun. For me it is a complete and total loss. It may be alright for grandpa but he can keep it. I am an over-under aficionado. I hit more, shoot more, and fetch to bag more game with the superposed than any other manner of scattergun. I support the gun and it delivers for me. Why is this so?

It is because this bulge-belly firearm points where I look. And it does this not after a lot of gymnastics but in something measurable in hundredths of a second. It does not point to one side nor does it point high or low; it points dead on the mark. And it does this faster than any other shotgun I have ever handled and without any perceptible effort on my part.

The shotgun is manhandled in this fashion because it happens to fit me. And I don't mean by this that I have some cockeyed sort of stock on the gun with a castoff or a cast-on, a roll-over comb or one of these abortions with a hole through the pistol grip. I shoot a standard dimension stock, and it feels like the handshake of an old friend.

I am a pistol shot and a good one. I hunt a great deal with the rifle and most of this shooting is in far away places and many times on difficult targets. I find that despite the fact that with the handgun you must fire 5 shots in 10 seconds—a blast every 2-second interval—and even on charging game with the rifle there is always a plentitude of time to raise the gun, take aim and squeeze the trigger. This isn't true with the scattergun at all.

The shotgun must be swung from a position of carry near the waist, smashed into the natural hollow of the shoulder, the lead taken, and the trigger mashed all in hundredths of a second. It is an infinitely faster game than any manner of handgunning or rifle practice. Unless that smoothbore fits like an old hat and an easy chair you will miss. The only one of the

(Continued on page 68)



The Spanish AYA has a Merkel-type action which uses two Kersten fasteners positioned alongside the top barrel.



Beretta has developed a system using lugs on the barrel breech which lock into recesses in the standing breech.



THE COLLECTION of more than 300 firearms in this museum includes examples of every type of military and sporting gun made by Remington since the company's founding. The historical scope of this collection spans the development of firearms in America from the earliest flintlock to the latest autoloading rifles and shotguns.

The roster of names of gun designers in the exhibit reads like a "Who's Who" of the American firearms industry. These include: Leonard Geiger and Joseph Rider who developed the famous Remington rolling block rifle; Fordyce Beals and William Jenks, inventors of the Jenks carbine; A. E. Whittmore, who designed the first Remington double barrel shotgun; John Browning, designer of the Model 11 shotgun, the Model 8 autoloading rifle and the Model 24 autoloading rim fire rifle; Crawford Loomis, who improved the Model 11, developed the Model 121 slide action and an entire series of rim rifles, and John Pederson, designer of the Model 10 pump shotgun and the Model 14 rifle.

The guns from the Remington Museum shown in this special color gallery are only a small sample of the interesting models on display, many of which are experimental working models. In addition, there are cutaway guns, such as those shown on pages 44-45, special military arms, and a great many finely engraved commemorative and presentation guns.

The Remington Museum is located at the plant in Ilion, New York. It is open seven days a week, and admission is free.

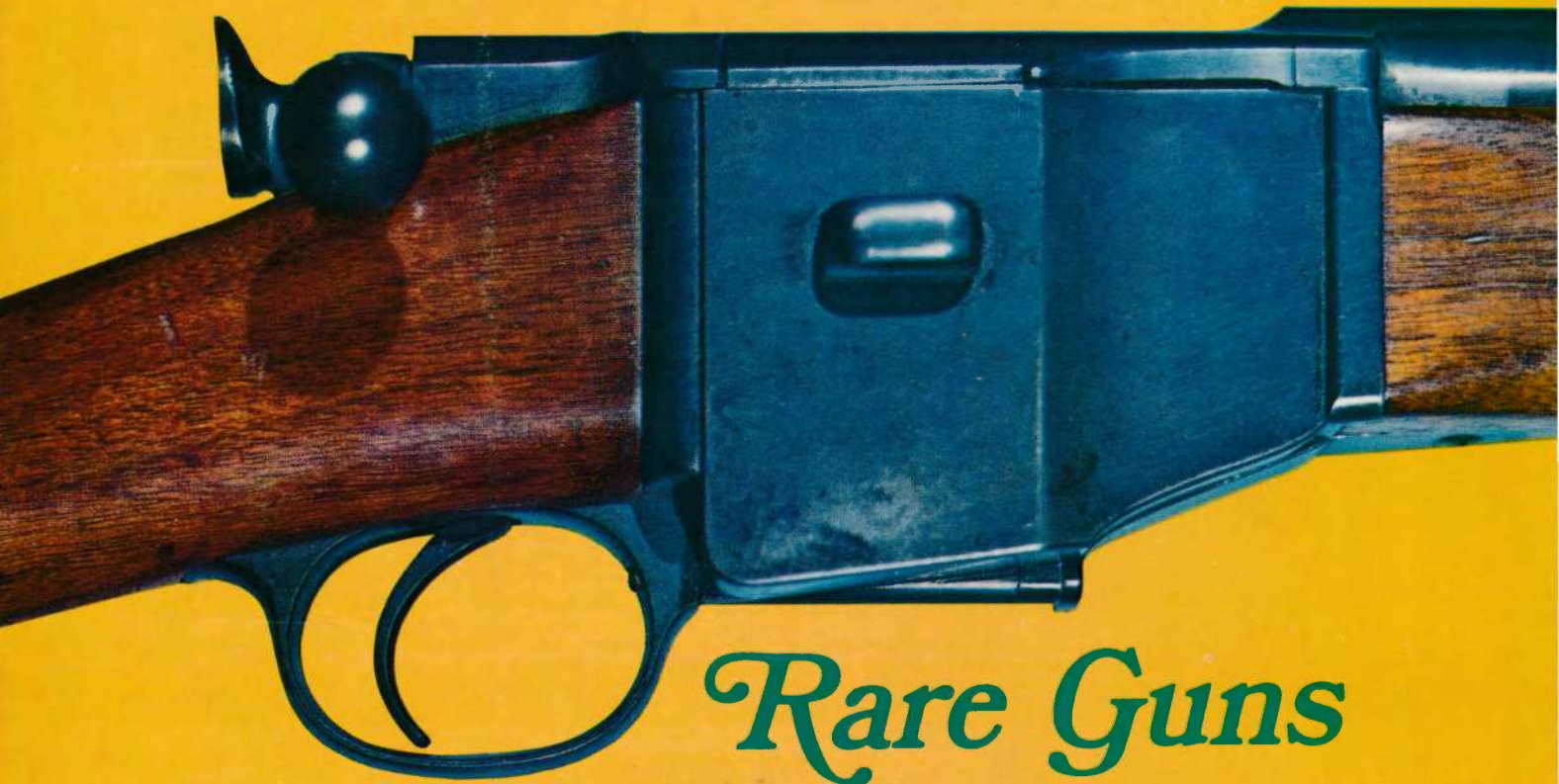
Guns Magazine wishes to thank the following Remington personnel who developed the idea for this presentation, provided the photographs, and worked with the editors as work progressed: Mr. S. M. Alvis and Walter Googin of Remington's Research Division, and Mr. Richard F. Dietz of Remington's Public Relations Department.

Remington Arms Company has offered to make available to interested Guns readers a 24 page brochure showing many of the guns in the Remington collection. To get a copy, write: Remington Gun Museum, Department G-12, Ilion, New York 13357. Supply is limited, and will be offered on a first come, first served basis.

FACING PAGE

Experimental Rifles. Top; design by R. F. Cook in 6 mm, circa 1885. Bottom; design by J. P. Lee in 11 mm, circa 1870.



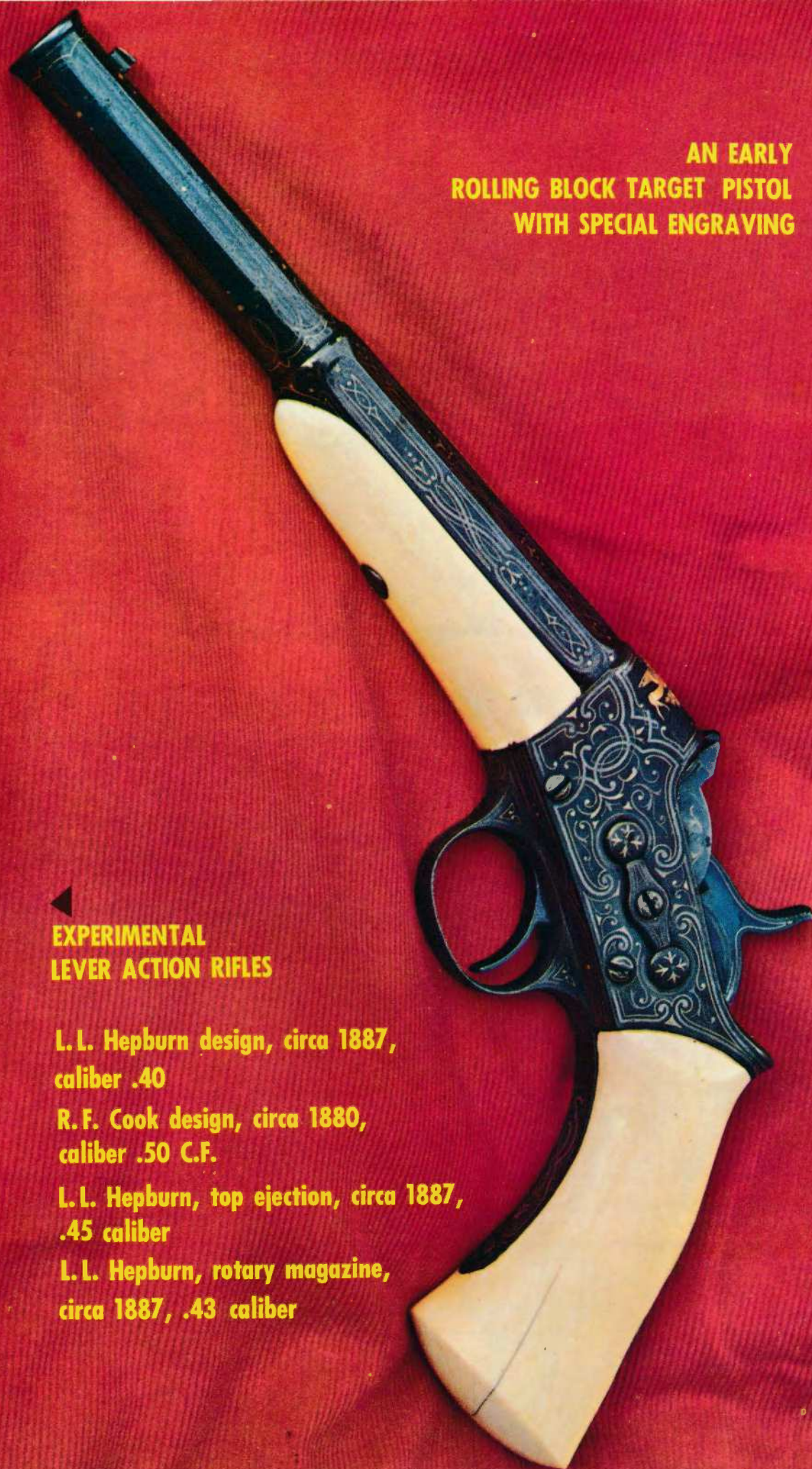


Rare Guns
from the
Remington Museum





**AN EARLY
ROLLING BLOCK TARGET PISTOL
WITH SPECIAL ENGRAVING**



**EXPERIMENTAL
LEVER ACTION RIFLES**

**L.L. Hepburn design, circa 1887,
caliber .40**

**R.F. Cook design, circa 1880,
caliber .50 C.F.**

**L.L. Hepburn, top ejection, circa 1887,
.45 caliber**

**L.L. Hepburn, rotary magazine,
circa 1887, .43 caliber**





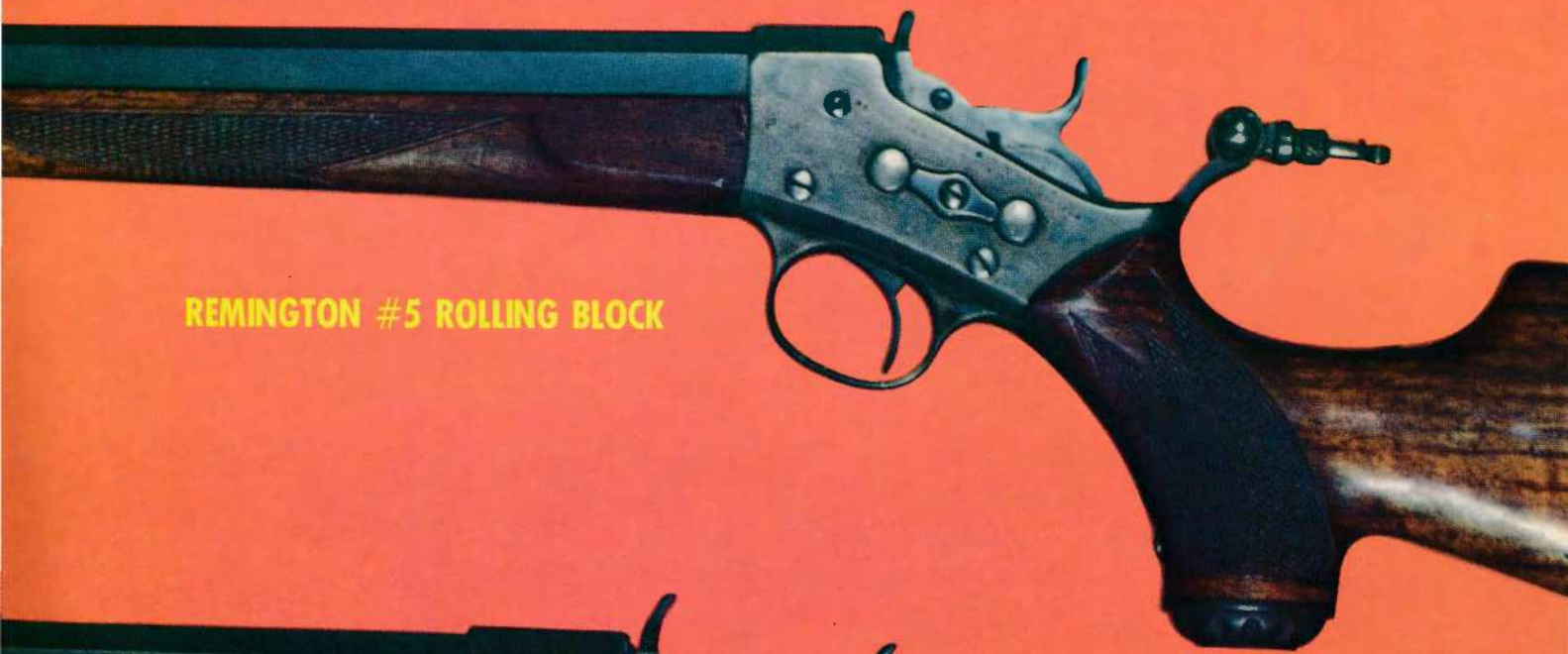
**CUTAWAY MODELS SHOW WORKING MECHANISM OF
MODEL 81 AUTOLOADER - AND THE MODEL 141 PUMP.**





SPECIALY ENGRAVED
1874 ARMY CARTRIDGE REVOLVERS
AND A NEW
MODEL ARMY PERCUSSION REVOLVER





REMINGTON #5 ROLLING BLOCK



REMINGTON MID-RANGE
ROLLING BLOCK



REMINGTON
SCHUETZEN WITH
MODIFIED HEPBURN ACTION

By ROBERT N. MANDEL

THE COLLECTOR SEEKING GUNS
WITH A GLORIOUS PAST SHOULD STUDY...

Weapons at Sea



THE MEN WHO SERVED aboard ship during the late 18th and early 19th centuries depended upon the large naval cannons for armament of the ships themselves. However, the need for personal weapons was not overlooked, and from this need evolved pistols, swords, and dirks with features uniquely adapted to use aboard fighting ships.

The enlisted men, or common seamen, were issued pistols of musket caliber, usually long of barrel, and with attached belt-hook. In most cases, these were not worn while on duty, but were stored in the ship's arms locker or hung in racks beneath the ship's rail—along with cutlasses and belaying pins—ready for combat.

Because of its ease of loading, the blunderbuss pistol was a popular shipboard weapon. With this formidable weapon, the seaman or officer did not have to be too particular about the projectiles he poured down its mouth, and many of these weapons used a steady diet of shot, pebbles, nails, or broken glass. Effective only at short range, the bell-mouth or oval-mouth blunderbuss nonetheless commanded respect on the quarter-deck.

The types of pistols carried by officers of rank were many and varied. Most were of small size, and usually came in pairs, and most often were cased. A favorite type was one with a short bayonet attached which could be released from its folded position—above, below, or along the side of the barrel—to a position in front of the barrel.

Because they were used at sea, many of the weapons of naval men had unusual features. Barrels were, for the most part, made of brass, to resist the corrosive effects of salt water. Belt hooks were common, too, and served as built-in carrying devices. Many of the weapons used at sea, especially those of the percussion era, had swivel mounted ramrods, which could be used in the heat of battle without worry about their being lost.

One of the more famous pistols associated with naval warfare, was the Elgin Cutlass pistol. George Elgin, of Macon, Georgia, obtained a patent for his combination pistol and knife on July 5, 1837. By the time September had rolled around, he had convinced the Navy that his was a worthwhile weapon, and had received a contract for 150 to be delivered to a Navy expedition going to the South Seas. These cutlass pistols were not a product of Elgin's own manufacture, but were made by a number of firms. The original Elgin Cutlass pistols sold to the Navy went for \$17.50 each; today, even the conservative "Gun Collector's Handbook of Values" list their value at upwards of \$1,200.

But firearms were not the only weapons which went to sea. The cutting weapon was found to be more useful than the thrusting sword, for the average seaman was not a skilled swordsman, and in encounters




Facing page: Pair of English flintlock pistols with attached spring bayonets, made by Williams of London, circa 1785. Right: Group of five flintlock pistols, showing various blunderbuss muzzles that were used.

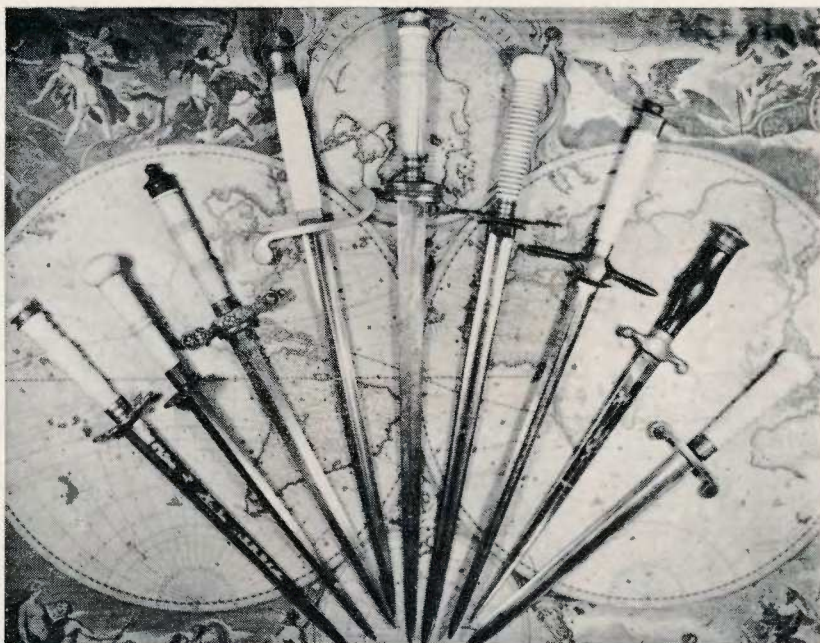
GUNS AT SEA



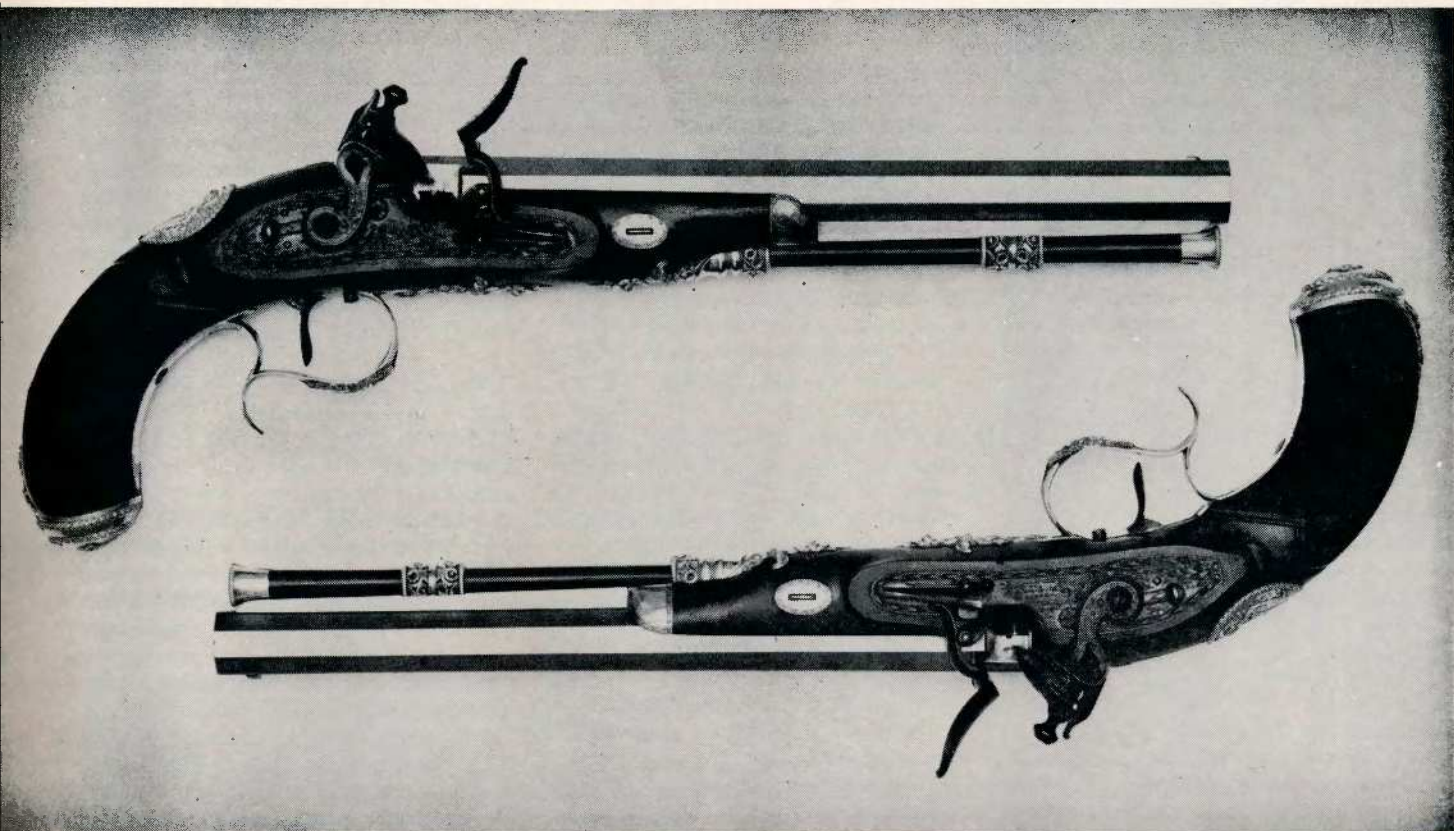
such as boarding another vessel, or repelling boarders with hand-to-hand fighting, the slightly curved blade of the cutlass gave many advantages over the straight thin bladed rapier of the type carried by many of the officers. To be able to date the naval sword or cutlass used afloat before the 18th century is quite difficult, for they went through many changes until they became a pattern set by individual Navys. Many of the arms carried by sub-rank and officers were personal property, and left up to their individual discretion. The cutlass used by the seaman were short, so that it would not hinder the sailor while in the ships rigging, or when swinging from one ship to another. Its blade was made with a slight curve, so slight that it would seem almost straight, so that it could be used for the cut as well as the thrust, in hand-to-hand combat.

One of the poorest forms of the cutlass was the short sword with straight blade made by Ames, in 1841, for the American Navy. Its solid brass hilt made it one of the heaviest and poorest balanced arms of the world's Navys. This model was changed in 1860 for the beautiful Ames cutlass that was copied from the French design. Its large brass guard and curved blade made it one of the finest swords ever produced in the United States.

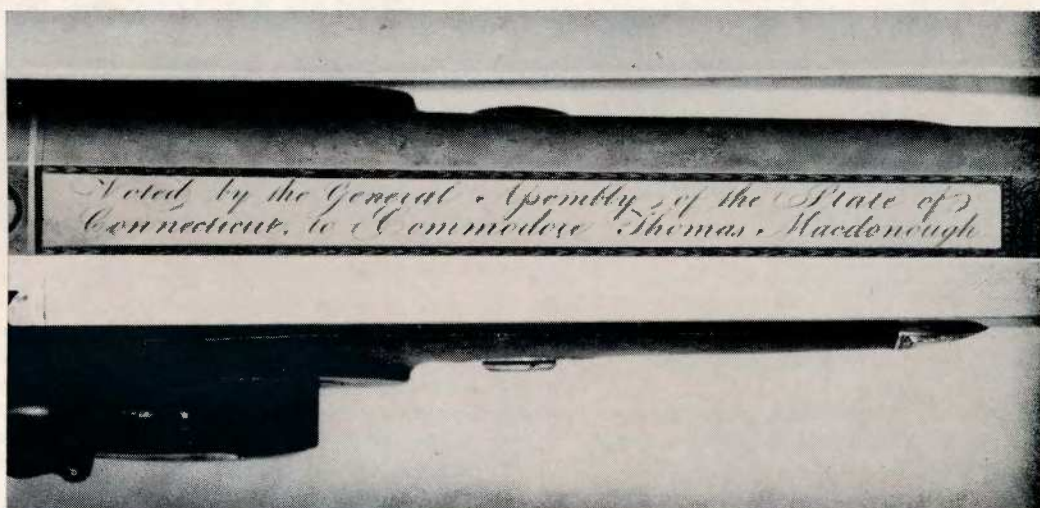
One of the most interesting of sidearms used at sea was the dirk. Carried by officers and midshipmen as a companion to the sword, it was in itself a formidable weapon. Easily carried, without the bumping and clanging of the sword, they were used and carried continuously throughout the many days at sea; whereas the sword was put aside because of its clumsiness. The dirk was made in many types and styles—straight blade or curved, short and stubby or long and pointed, Plain, or heavily engraved, with ivory mounts with eagle or other animal hilts. The dirk was worn suspended from the belt by rings attached to the scabbard, or by stud and belt frog combination. 



Left: Brass barreled flintlock with spring bayonet, made by the firm of Waters & Co., London, about 1790. Above: A group of naval dirks, a favorite weapon at sea. Some are ornate, all are deadly.



A pair of pistols given to Commodore Thomas Macdonough for his naval victories on Lake Champlain during the War of 1812. Manufactured by S. North.



The Elgin cutlass pistol was ordered by the U.S. Navy in small quantity.



PULL!

By DICK MILLER

THE NATIONAL MATCHES at historic Camp Perry, Ohio, seem an unlikely spot for swelling the ranks of clay target shooters, but that is exactly what happened at the 1967 National Matches. For the first time since 1922, the "crump" of shotshells mingled with the "crack" of rifle and pistol cartridges at Camp Perry. NRA Coordinator Cliff Morrow and his crew fought time and the weather to have two International skeet fields and a NRA International Clay Pigeon range ready for the 1967 running of the national rifle and pistol championships at Camp Perry.

Three Approved Clay Target Matches were held during the rifle and pistol National Matches, on August 6, 20, and 27. NRA sterling awards went to winners in International Skeet, NRA Clay Pigeon (trap) and an aggregate event combining scores from the two fields. Practice fields were open during the entire running of the rifle and pistol matches at Camp Perry. Thus, the nation's smallbore, high power rifle, and pistol aficionados had the opportunity to see clay target shooting and to try it.

It has often been said, with feeling, that rifle and pistol shooters are one breed, that shotgunners are another, and never the twain shall meet. This was not true at Camp Perry in 1967. Jim Dee, Jack Hess, Cliff Morrow, and other personnel, both NRA and others, who were involved with running the clay target events at Camp Perry told me that more than fifty per cent of the shotgunners were first-timers, and/or beginners.

Several times during the month-plus of the National Matches, all persons on the grounds were treated to demonstrations of clay target shooting. I had the privilege of seeing one of these, which was interesting and well-done. Cliff Morrow explained the differences in the various clay target games, then members of the Army AMU shotgun team put on a very sharp demonstration. The AMU boys fired a regulation round of skeet,

then the International style, which provided an understanding of the differences between them.

Then members of the team stepped up to the tempo with some classy exhibition shooting, including doubles from station eight, doubles from all stations, and concluded by walking the stations and receiving surprise targets at any time, without call by the shooter.

After the skeet demonstration, the unit fired a round over the NRA International Trap layout, with Morrow also explaining the differences in the games here.

The NRA Clay Pigeon game is an interesting one, and one which seems to have a lot of potential.

Before going on with a description and explanation of NRA Clay Pigeon, I should explain to our readers that the NRA International Skeet layout at Camp Perry is a standard one. This game differs from our domestic version only in that the shooter must hold the gun butt on or below the belt line, or against the hip bone until the target appears. In domestic skeet, the gun butt may be held against the shoulder when the bird is called for.

In domestic skeet, the target is thrown as soon as the shooter calls for it. In International skeet, the target may appear at any interval up to three seconds after the shooter's call. Targets are thrown up to 65 meters in the International game which can be a little farther and faster than the home grown version. This game is new to most of today's skeet competitors, but is not too strange to a codger of my vintage, who shot skeet for most of the time at delayed targets, and during the period when the gun butt had to be visible below the elbow when calling for a target. Only the still lower gun position is new to us.

NRA Clay Pigeon is a modification of the several versions of International style trap, and one which has greater possibilities than some of the other versions. ISU or Olympic Trap, fired in almost all of the rest of the world,

requires a 15-trap layout of a highly specialized nature. Continental Trap, very popular over most of the Pacific Northwest, requires two special traps.

NRA Clay Pigeon uses a single trap, which can be mounted in most trap-houses. And, most existing traps now in use can be modified to throw the NRA targets for less than a hundred dollars, by simply replacing a plate on the front of present Winchester traps (new traps with the plate installed cost only slightly more).

These traps then throw angles up to 45 degrees, as compared with ATA 22 degrees. Targets fly up to 65 yards rather than 50 yards, and the elevation instead of being constant can vary as much as 10 yards. This last variable is the one which bugged me.

My eyes must have popped out when I saw my first NRA target go skimming along just above the ground. This installation can throw some real grass cutters. When the next target is a climber like you get on a windy day over a regulation trap, the effect is startling (and fun).

While the NRA modified trap can be used in a regulation ATA-type traphouse, the Camp Perry installation is a pit-type, flush with the ground surface, which is the recommended installation. The flush mounting calls for a different hold than in the ATA game. My old *compadre* Jim Dee advised me to hold level with the ground surface, which seemed to help. I had started my practice round holding about three feet above the ground as I would do on ATA birds, and this didn't get the job done on the grass cutters.

Incidentally, many trapshooters will love the NRA game, which allows two shots at each target, with no penalty. It is possible to expend fifty shells to break 25 targets, and the score goes on the books just as if the shooter smashed each target with his first shot.

The NRA game provides exercise, too. Instead of shooting five shots at each station, shooters fire one shot at each station, then move. A squad can consist of six men, with the sixth shooter moving on to post one as the squad moves. It's a fun game, and one which I predict will catch on, especially with all the weight of NRA's organization and programming behind it.

It is obvious to me that NRA has no intention of moving in on or competing with the ATA and NSSA (domestic trap and skeet bodies) but that the increased emphasis since 1960 of the NRA on shotgun activities can only result in more total shotgunners,

and that's good. It should also follow that our teams in such events as the Olympics, ISU World Championships, and Pan-American Games, should cover themselves with even more glory, when they have an opportunity for more practice, and there is a possibility for wider contestant selection by means of more tournaments.

Along these lines, for more exposure and more practice in the International games, NRA plans to expand the Camp Perry installation immediately to five fields for each game (skeet and trap) and to keep the facility open the year 'round, also making it open to all shooters. It was noted during the National Matches that the NRA fields were getting a good play from Ohio clay target gunners as well as from the NRA rifle and pistol shooters on the Camp Perry grounds.

Also in the planning stages is a Universal Clay Pigeon program, utilizing a five-field layout instead of the 15-trap version. More about this program as it develops.

While we are talking about Camp Perry, and the surprising wedding of shotgunning with rifle and pistol at that venerable and embattled installation, you will recall that I mentioned earlier the tradition holding that these shooting sports were not compatible. I have known (and still know) some riflemen and pistoleers who look down their noses at shotgun fans, even to the extent of adding a little extra inflection to the word "scattergunners." I would be less than truthful if I did not relate that some of my shotgunning friends have been less than lyrical when referring to "paper punchers." If the NRA shotgun program accomplishes nothing else, it may very well break down these artificial barriers, and let all shooters know that the other fellow's game can be fun too.

In a more serious vein, part of the cleavage between the metallic ammunition games and the shotshell games has been in the techniques used, which are often directly opposed. In shotgunning, you slap the trigger and keep the barrel moving. With rifle or pistol, more often you squeeze the trigger and try to immobilize the barrel. Because I'm aware of this difference in technique, I went directly from the shotgun range at Camp Perry to the new precision air rifle range and shot a string of offhand targets. If the old theory was true, I should have dropped off badly on the air rifle course. (This is not the usual BB gun or pellet rifle, but a precision rifle program with all the accuracy of .22 caliber ammunition rifles at compar-

able distance.) Instead, I fired the best air rifle target of the match (for me) keeping all of the shots in the black, in or near the ten ring.

Of course, the standard comment at Camp Perry this year was that shotgun shooting was excellent practice for the offhand target position, because it prepared the shooter for handling moving targets. (The paper rifle target does not move, but don't try to tell that to the offhand shooter as he tries to steady his rifle barrel.)

Along with all the excitement of trap and skeet events at Camp Perry, and the coming of more and better facilities and tournaments, it should not be overlooked by PULL! readers that these programs, fine as they are, are only the cream on top of an already comprehensive shotgun program being conducted by the National Rifle Association (of all people, some of you will say).

Less well-known are such programs as NRA Introductory Skeet and Trap Series, NRA Hunter Series, Instructors courses, etc. All these programs have rules, awards, badges, tournaments, classifications, and appeal. In addition to the training and sport they afford, they are building contestants for the existing ATA and NSSA trap and skeet games.

My own earlier days with the Sportsmen's Service Bureau program of SAAMI proved beyond a shadow of doubt that if you expose enough people to the peculiar and special pleasure of seeing a flying clay target shatter in the air, some of them will get the bug and will lock in like a sophisticated missile on the ATA and NSSA programs already in existence.

Do you PULL! readers know, for example, that shooters can win classifications, patches, and medals shooting at clay birds thrown with a handtrap or foot trap? (You can get details from National Rifle Association, 1600 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C. 20036). Or that your presently non-shooting friends can satisfy their deep inner longings by winning patches, medals, etc. over a very simple short (12 bird) program using standard trap or skeet fields?

From your own experience, can you predict what will happen when some people you know have gone as far as they can go with the simple programs, and find that there are indeed some advances or post-graduate courses to be had at local gun clubs? You know the answer. More and better gun clubs, more places to shoot, more programs to enter, and wider general support for the whole program of the shooting sports. Need I say more?

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ARE AUTO PISTOLS FOR POLICE?

(Continued from page 24)

The gun is as safe as any revolver this way, and absolutely cannot be discharged unless the trigger is pulled.

Still another point in favor of this automatic over a revolver is rapid reloading. The empty magazine can be popped out and a fully loaded one can be shoved home and a round chambered in just a fraction of the time it takes to reload a revolver. Also, the Troopers can more easily supply each other with ammunition in a shootout. Say one man is pinned down while his partner is in a position to return a criminal's fire. It is considerably easier to toss or slide a full magazine to the man who might run out of ammunition than it is to throw single cartridges.

work as well as anything. They shoot to the same point of impact with different bullet weights, and they handle really hot loads even better than the Luger."

The accuracy potential of the Smith & Wesson 9mm auto is extremely high. The gun delivers superb accuracy from a machine rest as do many modern handguns. However, machine rest accuracy and practical accuracy in the hands of a man are often two different things. A tuned-up .45 auto, for example, will produce excellent groupings from a machine rest, but few men ever master the pistol. The Model 39 appears to be another story altogether. Natural pointing qualities and straight line



Photo catches Trooper Junior Brooks with S&W in full recoil.

But what about reliability? Don't automatics jam often? Not necessarily so, according to the records kept by the Illinois State Police. There have been fewer malfunctions with the first 100 Model 39 autos put into service than with 100 new revolvers used. Which means the Model 39 has been almost perfect, since these revolvers are wonderfully reliable.

"We've found this pistol to be a very dependable weapon," Sgt. Seman emphatically stated. "We've dropped them, kicked them, hammered on them and with them, and abused them in many other ways trying to get them to malfunction. They came through the tests with flying colors. Of course, any automatic should be kept clean—especially the chamber. But when these guns are fairly clean and fed decent ammunition, they

recoil make it an easy pistol for even inexperienced shooters to handle. New recruits to the Illinois State Police Force are shooting considerably better with the 9mm auto than they do with the revolvers. They do receive 4 more hours of instruction with the automatic, but this is mostly in the realm of safety and the taking apart and cleaning of the somewhat more complicated mechanism,

"Actually, men rated with less than Expert shoot better with the 9mm auto," Sgt. Seman pointed out, "while the Expert and Master rated shooters tend to drop a few points on their range scores." "However, I think the high scorers will go right back up when they become more accustomed to the gun, and we get some tuned up for target work."

Another thing that prompted the

Illinois State Police to adopt this 9mm auto was its comparatively small size and light weight. Recently, the entire force shot for qualification with their off duty guns. (Usually .38's—often airweights—with 2" barrels.) "The shooting wasn't up to the standards we believe in," Sgt. Seman told me. "The off duty policeman is becoming more and more of a force in stopping crimes from being committed. So we decided the same pistol should be worn on and off duty. Our 9mm fills the bill here too because it is very compact. As a matter of fact, once this pistol has been issued to the entire force, it will be the *only* pistol we are authorized to carry."

Something else that makes the S&W 9mm very good for off duty policemen at home or in their automobiles with children around is a magazine disconnector. It is impossible to fire the pistol without the magazine in place, even though there is a live round in the chamber and the safety is off! But if the "loaded-but-safe-pistol" is needed in a hurry it can be brought into action simply by shoving home a magazine and pulling the trigger. Again, much faster than loading the chambers of a revolver.

Now what about the 9mm Luger cartridge? Is it really adequate for police work? Advocates of the .41 and .44 Magnum revolvers for policemen are probably bellowing in protest by now, and grimly predicting bodies of State Troopers scattered from Cairo to Chicago, Ill., due to their carrying a "pipsqueak" sidearm. But the 9mm Luger is no pipsqueak; the fact is it outperforms many of the now used police cartridges in several areas.

Currently, there are two factory-loaded 9mm cartridges available in the U. S. The Remington and Winchester-Western loads utilize a 124-gr. bullet at 1120 fps muzzle velocity for 345 ft. lbs. of muzzle energy. Norma loads a slightly lighter 116-gr. bullet to a slightly higher 1140 fps, and 349 ft. lbs. of muzzle energy.

However, the Illinois State Police, after testing both 9mm factory loads, and also an experimental load with a 95-gr. bullet, have decided to use a special loading that will be produced for them by Winchester-Western. It will consist of a 100-gr. bullet loaded to 1400 fps muzzle velocity, and producing 436 ft. lbs. of muzzle energy. (Not far from the .357 Magnum in a 4" barrel.) They feel a lighter bullet at higher velocity is better for their purposes; it will have a good shocking power, but the extreme range of carry will be only $\frac{3}{4}$ mile compared to $1\frac{1}{4}$ and $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles for the .38 and .357 Magnum. Sgt. Seman put it this way: "The ideal police cartridge would

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shoot flat with great shocking power out to about 100 yards, and then it would drop to the ground. We would have good shooting potential, stopping power, and safety for people caught in the area of a gunfight."

But the ordinary 9mm Luger factory load stacks up very well indeed against the other common police cartridges. The 124-gr. load at 1120 fps was used by the State Police to compile these comparative performance charts:

CARTRIDGE:

9mm Luger/
124-gr.
.38 Spec. H. S.
(1090 fps)
.357 Mag. (4" barrel)

PENETRATION IN 3/4" PLYWOOD

8 1/2 sheets
3 and imbedded
in 4th sheet
5 and dented
6th sheet

CARTRIDGE:

9mm Luger
.38 Spec.
.357 Mag.
.45 Auto

PENETRATION IN CAR METAL (.037" Fenders)

(Straight-on Shot)	(45° Angle Shot)
6, broke 7th	3, dented 4th
1, broke 2nd	1, dented 2nd
5, bulbed 6th	4 complete
6, dented 7th	3 complete

"From these and other tests, we feel our 9mm cartridge is an adequate manstopper," Sgt. Seman further explained. "Our 100-gr. load will be even better because of greater shocking power due to higher velocity. A .41 or .44 Magnum might be better against a man gone berserk, but few policeman can shoot these cannons rapidly with any accuracy. And there can be a considerable element of danger to innocent bystanders from wild shots caused by excessive recoil or too much penetration."

To carry their slick, new Smith & Wesson 9mm automatic, the Illinois State Police are going to be equipped with a flap holster instead of the more conventional open-top, cutaway jobs now used by many police forces. There is some logical thinking behind this move also. Of all the policemen shot in the line of duty last year, something like 75 percent were killed

or wounded with their own pistols. It is often too easy for a thug to yank a cop's pistol from a cutaway holster—safety strap or not—and blast him with it. It is considerably more difficult for a thug to get a pistol out of a flap holster when the man wearing the holster does not want him to. The flap also protects the pistol from the elements, and from dust and lint.

The Illinois State Troopers will wear their holsters to the front and in the crossdraw position. They will flip up

the flap of the holster with one hand, and with the other hand, draw the pistol. Sgt. Seman demonstrated the technique to me, and it's fast. He does it in a blur of motion.

At this writing, 100 Smith & Wesson 9mm automatics have been issued to Illinois State Troopers—mostly new recruits, range officers and assistants—with 400 more guns on order. The entire force will have the pistol in about 1 1/2 years. It's certainly a step in a different direction they've taken, but it makes a lot of sense. Rumors are floating around that this gun or one similar to it may become our next military service pistol, replacing the old reliable .45 auto. One thing for sure, however, a lot of law enforcement people will be watching the Illinois State Police to see how their new pistol works out.

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"I would be for abolishing all guns. . . . I never saw any sense to guns anyway, and I do not go backward by saying so. I think maybe it is impractical now, but I hope some day the world comes to the place where they will say just what you suggested—destroy them all."

Senator Thomas J. Dodd

NEW COLT COMMEMORATIVE

(Continued from page 25)

medallions for the series, made of antique bronze and hand relieved. The medallion on the left stock will have an American Eagle design, and just below it will be a battle identification bar. The medallion on the right grip will carry the figure of a doughboy and a listing of the Allies.

Roll-engraving on the left side of the slide will depict a battle scene and the Rampant Colt. The scene, developed from actual combat photos, will picture the action which took place during 1918. Involving the 2nd and 3rd Divisions, Château Thierry was a defensive battle fought by United States machine gun divisions, who stopped a rapid German advance. The right side of the slide carries the World War I banner with the dates 1917—1967. A roll-engraving will be gold filled.

All three grades of this commemorative issue will be furnished with a handsome presentation case; the standard version has a khaki-finished wood case, while the finer versions will have theirs made of hand-rubbed, oiled teak. The case is designed for optional wall mounting, and clips and mounting instructions are included. The top frame of the case slides forward and backward to expose tracks for the two front panels which can be stored in the rear of the case. The outer front panel consists of an official battle map on the facing side with supporting historical data on the reverse. These are laminated to either side of a Masonite cover. The second panel is clear plexiglas. For normal display the front panel is stored in the rear.

The background panel for the gun has an original artist's conception of

the battle scene. A color photo of the World War I Victory Medal Ribbon crosses the upper right-hand corner. Highly polished brass clips are used to mount the gun and were specially chosen to help keep the gun's bluing free of scratches.

The top of the line is the Custom Deluxe, which will be limited to a production of 25, while the Deluxe, the middle grade, will have a run of 75. The Custom Deluxe will have a total engraving coverage of about 75 per cent and the work will be done by hand by Alvin White, whose initials will be inlaid in gold under the stock. The hand engraved battle scene on the left side of the slide will be framed by 24 carat gold inlaid bars, while the outline of the banner on the right side will also be inlaid gold. In addition the serial numbers will be gold inlaid. The Deluxe Model will have approximately 40 per cent total engraving coverage, though only the serial numbers will be gold inlaid. Prices, as might be expected, are not below those of the Government Model: Standard, \$200; Deluxe, \$500, and Custom Deluxe, \$1,000.

During the half dozen years since the first gun in the Colt's commemorative series was issued, prices for these guns have risen dramatically, especially so for the guns whose production run was small. (See *Collecting Commemorative Guns* in GUNS October, 1966, issue.) Whether or not these new World War I commemoratives are considered to be true collector's items or not, they should be valued as a worthy tribute to the American doughboys who fought and died so bravely in the "war to end all wars."



GUN STOCKS—GOOD OR BAD?

(Continued from page 27)

end in a sort of "replacement" trans-fusion. Once impregnated, the resin is hardened by radioactive bombardment. This radiation hardening process bears marked similarity to that which occurs with the mixing of an epoxy base and its hardening agent. The resulting wood is almost rock hard and needs NO external finish. The finish is built right in! You merely polish it as if it were hard plastic, which it closely resembles.

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ment precluded its use on rifle stocks. Much too heavy! But you can be sure that it's coming!

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Author examines stocks for Model 340 at Savage Arms.

the shape of the stock, the more hand-work is required in the finish sanding. Here is where the human touch and the human eye are unmatched in producing a fine finish. This is especially true on the better grades in the gun line. The various belt and wheel sanders do a good job on simple flats and curves but when it comes to the smooth blending of wood surfaces, there is only one answer—handwork! It's that old magic ingredient called "TLC" Tender Loving Care!

Standard gunstock finishing procedure called for a stain, followed by a hand sprayed finish in spray booths. In many factories, this is giving way to a radical new electro-static spray

process. The stocks, suspended from an endless chain track, go into rotation as they pass the spray nozzles. By creating opposite positive-negative electrostatic charges within the spray finish and the stock, an electrically attractive field is produced which causes the finish to impinge on the wood. The spray is drawn to the wood as if by magnetism. Following a bake-dry cycle, the stocks emerge with a beautiful hard gloss finish that is impervious to just about everything.

The well-formed stocks of today's modern guns leave little to be desired in regard to shape or finish. However, many of the standard grades can be embellished a bit by the owner if he so desires. This might include anything from complete hand refinishing, to the addition of a fancy forend tip and contrasting spacers under grip cap and buttplate. Some of the lower cost stocks of birch can have the original walnut stain removed and then be finished in their natural blonde color. On several stocks, there is room to remove small amounts of wood to add an undercut flute to the comb or give more taper to the forestock. The addition of pistol grip caps, spacers, tip caps and the like to standard stocks which lack these touches of elegance can be a pleasant job for the gun hobbyist.

There are few guns in my personal arsenal which have not received some such form of distinctive touch. The only caution I can give is to stay within the bounds of propriety and good taste. Ornamentation is often overdone by zealous amateurs who allow themselves to get "carried away."

All in all, the modern gunstock has shown a considerable overall improvement over the past few years. Finish is better. Shape is better. The companies seem to be getting a supply of all the desirable woods, including walnut. Apparently, the time has not yet come for us to cry in our beer and lament the passing of the "good" gunstock.

Manufacturers all complain that the fancy grades of walnut are hard to come by. Sometimes a piece of wood purchased as "fancy" will turn out rather plain after going through the turning machine. Again, a "plain" blank may reveal some pretty desirable configurations after turning. These are usually laid aside for use on higher grade guns.

Meanwhile, the appearance of the gunstock has much to do with the overall appearance of the gun. In most instances, I will have to say—today's gunstocks are as good as they ever were—and probably better!

THE HANDLOADER'S LIBRARY

(Continued from page 31)

maximum. The Lyman handbook does not list case, primer or bullet make. Velocities are listed but not pressures.

Lyman's new manual, 44th edition, is now available. Latest edition includes more than 7,000 tested loads for rifle, pistol, and shotgun, plus information on all phases of handloading. Text includes information on powders, bullets (jacketed and lead), tools, handloading procedures, and other phases of interest to the reloader. The 268-page updated edition lists at \$3.50.

Hodgdon's Reloading Manual lists charge, powder, bullet make, case, primer, air temperature, barrel, velocity, and, in most instances, pressure. Powders listed, however, are limited to the Hodgdon line. Since nearly all handloaders use one or more Hodgdon powders, this manual is essential.

Hodgdon's data manual #20, now available, includes loads for new calibers, reduced loads for most calibers, enlarged pistol and shotgun sections. Lead bullet section has been incorporated. New powders—H414 rifle and Grey B shotshell—are included in the updated handbook. Price, \$1.50.

Herter's "Condensed Professional Loading and Reloading Data" contains load listings for rifle, pistol, and shotgun. Velocity and pressure are listed for specific loads for all three types of guns. Rifle and shotgun load listings include powders by Du Pont, Hercules, Winchester-Western, Alcan, and Hodgdon—as well as Herter's own line of rifle and shotgun powders. Powder load listings for pistol include Du Pont, Hercules, and Alcan.

In addition to detailed instructions on handloading, Herter's manual contains numerous articles on ballistics, tools, components, firearms, and other topics of interest to the handloader—both hunter and target shooter. This 459-page manual lists for \$1.79 direct from Herter's, Waseca, Minnesota.

Hornady, the bullet maker from Nebraska, has a brand new reloading handbook out, called the Hornady Handbook of Cartridge Reloading. Within the 360 pages are over 7,600 loads for 70 different cartridges. Included in the more than 3,000 ballistic calculations are complete velocity, energy, trajectory and drop tables.



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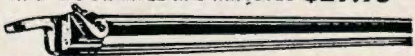


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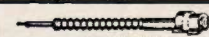


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First edition of the Lee Reloading Handbook is now available at \$0.98. This manual is particularly important to the user of the Lee Loader because of the detailed instructions for loading rifle, pistol, and shotgun. Rifle loads include powders by Du Pont, Hercules (new Reloader series), and Hodgdon. Most rifle loads include five or six powders, representative bullet weights range, and all loads list muzzle velocities.

Pacific Gunsight Company has announced publication of two new manuals: one for shotshell and one for rifle and pistol handloading. However, at this writing I haven't seen the new handbooks. RCBS "ABC's of Reloading" is out of print but another booklet, according to company memo, is being prepared.

Foregoing description of the respective handbooks indicates why the handloader needs all available manuals. One is restricted to one brand of powders; another is restricted to one brand of bullets; a third does not list all available powders; and another lists only two loads for each powder and bullet weight combination, without components designation—and so on. Pressures are listed in only some of the handbooks.

My own recent experiments with a surplus military 7x57 Mauser illustrates why I consider all available manuals essential to my handloading library. I wanted to use the 175-grain Hornady round nose bullet in a moderate load but one that would be effective for close range whitetail hunting. The Speer manual doesn't list the 175-grain bullet. The Hodgdon manual listed three loads with this bullet—but with powders I didn't have on hand at the time; and no pressure listings. Lyman manual, 43rd edition, lists loads for the 175 grain but doesn't list pressures.

The NRA Reloading Handbook listed a load with this bullet and powder #4064 at a pressure of 44,780 psi. Type of case, primer, cartridge length etc were listed.

Finally I obtained good accuracy—for a surplus arm—with a load of #4064 at a level three grains below the load listed in the NRA handbook. Although a moderate load, the weight, shape and lead exposure of this bullet should make it adequate for a specific type of whitetail hunting I planned. And the pressure is well within the rifle's limitations.

Alcan Company, Alton, Ill., offers a free combination catalog and reloading manual which includes laboratory-tested loads for Alcan shotshell powders, Alcan primers, and also some

handgun loads using Alcan powders.

DuPont mails free of charge the new 1966-67 Handloader's Guide to Powders covering loads for rifle, pistol and shotgun. Load listings include the complete Du Pont line of powders with velocity and pressures included. Hercules also mails a similar folder which lists velocities, but not pressures, for loads for rifle, pistol and shotgun using the Hercules powders. Reloader powders, of course, are included in the new folder.

Norma-Precision offers a "Gun Bug's Guide" at \$1.00 covering Norma powder loads along with comparable U. S. powder. Velocities and pressures are listed for the respective loads.

The P. O. Ackley "Pocket Manual for Shooters and Reloaders" covers both standard and wildcat cartridge loads. Price, \$3.00. A comprehensive work by this noted authority is a two volume set entitled "Handbook For Shooters and Reloaders." These books cover hundreds of cartridges, both standard and wildcat, in addition to articles of primary interest to the handloader. These books are of particular interest to the owner of one or more wildcats since the other manuals are restricted to standard cartridges. The two-volume set is listed at \$15.00.

Two annual publications which should be included in the handloader's library are: "The Gun Digest" and "Handloader's Digest" edited and published by John T. Amber, Chicago. These two publications carry articles on the various phases of handloading and ballistics together with tests of new products in the firearms, loading tools, accessories, and components field. Information is precise, up-to-date and comprehensive. No other single annual—in each category—offers so much current information.

Two books, I think, are essential to the handloader's library: Earl Naramore's "Principles and Practices of Loading Ammunition," and Phillip Sharpe's "Complete Guide to Handloading." Naramore's book is available to GUNS Magazine subscribers at a discount from the book department of that magazine. Sharpe's book was published by Funk & Wagnalls Co., New York; and occasionally I see ads listing the book. My copy came from a second-hand book listing.

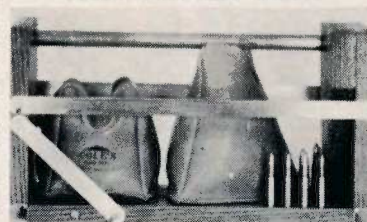
Both these books are comprehensive, covering all phases of handloading ammunition with factual sections on components, tools, pressure, headspace and other facets of vital interest to the handloader. The reader can find the answer to virtually any handloading question in these two books.

Although Sharpe listed quite a few loads with powders no longer avail-

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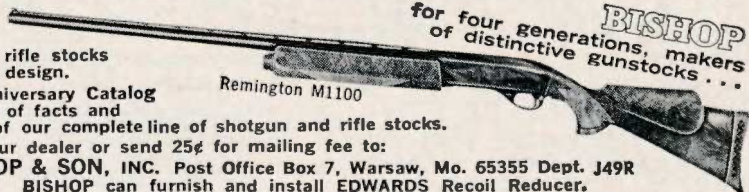
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able, information on components, pressure, headspace, ballistics et cetera still is fundamentally applicable. Naramore's book was published a bit later than Sharpe's; and is not quite as "dated."

Throughout both books the authors repeatedly emphasize safety factors in handloading with detailed accounts of what to do and what not to do. Both writers always call attention to the many variables in handloading; and in the arms in which the ammunition is fired. For these reasons the two books are particularly valuable to the beginning handloader—as well as the semi-pro.

The handloading manuals, plus the two books mentioned, are essential to the handloader's library. However, Guns Magazine Book Dept. lists another book of special interest to reloaders and owners of converted military rifles and those interested in ballistics generally. This is "Hatcher's Notebook," written by the late Julian S. Hatcher, Major General, U. S. Army, retired, and technical editor of The American Rifleman. Chapters of particular interest to handloaders are: "Strength of Military Rifles," "Notes on Gunpowder," "Headspace," "Gun Corrosion and Ammunition Developments," and the sections on ballistics.

Two of the most important factors in handloading are safety and uniformity, objectives which are frequently stressed in the aforesaid manuals and books. The beginning hand-

loader who carefully reads, and follows, guidelines in these publications establishes a sensible routine conducive to rifle safety, accuracy, and game effectiveness. Magazine contributing editors may cite loads at, or slightly above, recommended top loads but the beginner should remember that such loads were approached cautiously and fired in rifles where the safety factor was tested and proven. Furthermore, these professional writers are veteran handloaders.

One of the most-frequently repeated admonitions contained in the books and manuals is that pressure recorded in a pressure gun doesn't mean that the same pressure will be developed in the handloader's rifle even when using similar components. This same warning is emphasized by the powder manufacturers. The handloader who reads, and follows, manual guidelines will not become accident-prone.

The well-equipped handloader's library may cost as much as basic reloading tools but it is just as indispensable. The ammunition and ballistics experts already have determined the various danger zones; and thereby obviate the necessity of the handloader blowing-up his own rifle.

In his book, Earl Naramore ends one chapter with the statement: "When working with powders, changing anything changes everything;" and that's why the handloader needs precise, practical information.



NEW 25mm AUTOMATIC

(Continued from page 30)

to the rear, then speeded up and thrown to the rear by a simple hydraulic accelerator mechanism. Thus, when the barrel is halted, the bolt carrier continues rearward at high velocity—during which movable cam slots act upon a transverse pin to rotate the bolt, disengaging the seven locking lugs from their abutments in the barrel extension. This is accomplished in a very short distance, after which bolt and carrier continue rearward to strike a multiple Belleville-spring buffer. During rearward movement of the carrier, a roller on the feed slide rides in a cam groove in the carrier, forcing the feed slide one cartridge space toward the feedway. The slide thus carries the next round in the ammunition belt into the feeding position. In full automatic fire, the bolt/carrier assembly then starts forward under the influence of the recoil spring (plus the "bounce" imparted by the buffer) and the bolt strikes

the base of the cartridge in the feedway, stripping it from the disintegrating-link belt and driving it into the chamber. As the bolt chambers the round fully, barrel, bolt and carrier continue forward until the barrel is halted in battery. At this point, bolt movement ceases and the carrier continues forward, while the cam slots and pin rotate the bolt into the locked position. As bolt locking is completed, the fixed firing pin assembled to the carrier moves forward to strike the percussion primer and fire the round—at which time the complete cycle will be repeated. During carrier forward movement, the feed slide is also retracted one cartridge space in preparation for the next cycle.

The 6425 fires from an open bolt. This characteristic eliminates the "cook-off" problem common to closed-bolt designs during high rates of sustained fire. In addition, it is essential to the simple selective-feed

system used. The gunner may select one of two types of ammunition by movement of a lever pivoted on the receiver. Two separate feed mechanisms are utilized, one being on either side of the receiver, pivoted at its forward end. The feed selection lever is connected to the rear of both feeders, and has three positions: Neutral, right and left. In its neutral (central) position, the rear end of both feeders is forced outward from the receiver, moving the cartridges out of the path of the bolt. Consequently, as the gun is seared and the bolt drives forward, no cartridge is fed into the chamber. With the lever in its left position, the left feed mechanism is forced against the receiver, while the right mechanism moves even farther away. Thus, as the bolt moves forward, it strikes the base of the cartridge in the left feeder and drives it forward into the chamber. The cartridge in the right feeder is completely clear of the bolt path. Placing the lever in the right position reverses this condition, mov-

appears to be far more practical than some of those proposed in the past, where electrical and/or hydraulic power was essential to operation. Some of the systems proposed would make a production engineer's hair stand on end, while the TRW/Stoner 6425 design is adapted to speedy, conventional production and assembly methods, as well as rapid modular replacement in the field.

Both the basic mechanism and the selective feed system are of extremely simple design. The complete unit is designed with basic manually-operated controls for firing, charging and ammunition selection. Provision is made for accomplishing those functions by means of electric (hydraulic also possible) ancillary equipment; however, when this is done, the manual controls remain functional and will override whatever other system might be in use. In essence, this means that in the event of a power failure in the remote charging, selection or firing controls, the gun may still be



TRW 6425 mounted on armored car during test firing.

ing the right feeder against the receiver and the left away—presenting the cartridge in the right feeder for chambering as the bolt goes forward. This is an unusually simple and trouble-free arrangement.

Consequently, HE ammunition can be placed in one feeder and AP in the other—or any other combination of types. This gives the gunner the ideal option of using one type of ammunition against the target for which it is best suited, then switching instantly to the other type for his next target. Thus, he can destroy troops in the open with HE and immediately switch to AP to engage accompanying vehicles. Of course, if the situation requires it, both feeders can be filled with the same ammunition.

This type of ammunition selection

operated manually. In these days of over-sophistication and over-designing, this is a most valuable feature. This also means that the basic gun need not be limited to a very few specialized powered installations but can even be rigged with a rudimentary ground mount and operated by a one- or two-man crew almost anywhere.

Of course, all this doesn't mean much to the soldier in the field if the weapon doesn't have the needed accuracy, reliability and controllability. Observation of the gun, and test reports I've seen indicate the 6425 has these qualities to a greater degree than other modern guns with which I am familiar. Regarding accuracy and controllability, I examined photos which show the result of a single slow-rate automatic burst on a target

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To provide this degree of accuracy, the gun is equipped with ancillary electrical rate-of-fire control equipment. By turning a knob on the control panel, the gunner can select semi-auto fire or full-auto at rates of 100, 200 or 550-570 rounds per minute. The slower rates, of course, produce the best accuracy. An electrical searing delay produces the 100 and 200 rpm rates, while 550-570 represents a free-running gun.

In addition, an electro-hydraulic stabilization system has been developed to permit firing from a vehicle under way. This system is characterized by unusually quick and smooth response, which keeps the gun precisely on target at normal combat vehicle speeds. Firing from a moving platform over representative terrain with the stabilization system in operation produces accuracy approaching that of stationary firing.

TRW once envisioned this gun in the more-or-less standard 20mm caliber. The 5mm increase in bore size to 25mm may not seem significant, but the gain in target effect is far out of

proportion to the increase in size and weight of the gun/ammunition combination. The 25mm HE projectile contains three times the amount of explosive bursting charge that can be crowded into a 20mm of comparable design. This results in greatly increased blast and fragmentation effect at relatively little cost. Complex systems analyses conducted privately by TRW, and by various interested governments indicate that 25mm represents the optimum caliber for this type of gun when all known factors are considered. It produces the maximum effect on target per pound of weight and dollar of cost.

The TRW 6425 and ammunition is currently being tested by France, Switzerland and Great Britain, and is also under consideration by the U. S. Army. Thus far, it seems to me that it is drawing ahead of competitive designs by a pretty good margin. Of course, nothing less than years of field service and a couple of nasty wars will *really* prove a military weapon design. At the present time, though, the 6425 does look as if it may well be a worthy served us so long and so well.



POINT BLANK

(Continued from page 17)

These yellow lenses are fine but there are others which the shooting man will find usable. Among these is, of course, the blue-green type. This tint will shield from the brilliant rays of the summer sun and certainly increase visual acuity because the lens cuts out all the ultraviolet and infrared rays. Their greatest transmission is in the green and yellow portions of the spectrum and this follows very closely the visual selectivity curve of the eye. Routine use of this type of lens where the shooter is almost constantly confronted with a bright, piercing sun is to be recommended. It is just as easy to have a reputable manufacturer grind this type of lens to your particular correction as it is with the yellow lens.

Besides protecting the eyesight from blown primers, ruptured shell heads, and ricocheting pellets from skeet targets, the shooting spectacle can be very much worthwhile as a protection from too much visible light and from dangerous or potentially dangerous light radiations, namely, infrared and ultraviolet. Excessive ultraviolet radiation is definitely harmful to the eyes. The effects are insidious and the full symptoms may not be

felt for 8 hours or so after exposure. A tinted lens for hunting wear should reduce visible light for comfort. Our better shooting spectacle manufacturers are standardizing shade designations. Some of them use the letters A, B, C and D, while others stick to the numbering system, using 1, 2, 3, and 4. These two systems are essentially identical and ordinarily indicate luminosity transmissions of about 75, 50, 25 and 10 per cent.

The human eye like all single lens optical systems is not achromatic. There is considerable chromatic aberration; that is, the light rays of different colors are not focused on the same single plane in the retina of the eye. The violet and blue waves come to a shorter focus in the retina in front of the green and yellow which in turn are in front of the orange and the red. The central portion of the spectrum, the green and yellow, come to the sharpest focus on the retina. The ultraviolet rays focus in front of the green and yellow and cause 75 per cent of the chromatic aberration of the eye and hence are responsible for blurred vision and halo effect. By eliminating these rays with suitable spectacles visual acuity can be

markedly increased and eye strain is greatly decreased.

• • •

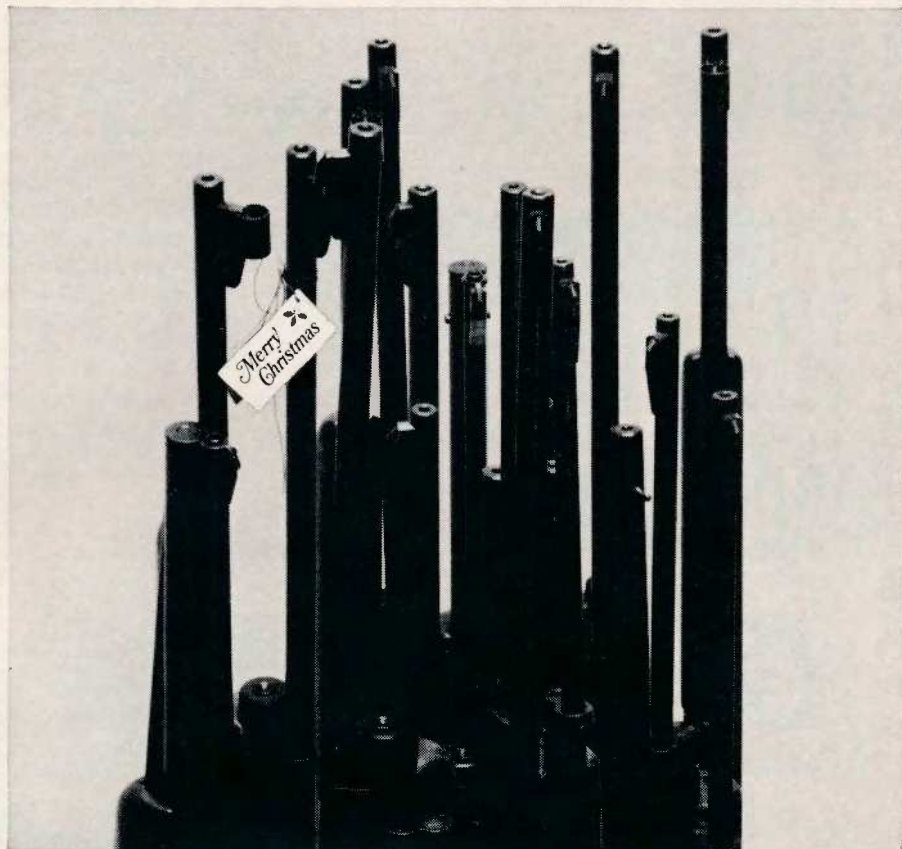
.45 ACP HEADSPACE PROBLEMS: The .45 Auto cartridge is not crimped. The bullet is held in the casing by friction. The reason for this is that the forward end of the chamber has a well-defined shoulder. The casing mouth abuts this shoulder when the cartridge is fully seated in the chamber. This works perfectly satisfactorily and sometimes I marvel at it a bit, for if you take a gander at the mouth of the cartridge you will be struck by the lack of metal there. Scanty though this brass may be, it serves to hold the round in place while the firing pin strikes the primer a hefty wallop!

By this same token the pistol headspaces on this critical rim-and-shoulder abutment. And right here we run into trouble from an unexpected quarter: The overall length of the shell casing governs the headspace. If the casing happens to be a mite on the short side then the cartridge settles very deeply into the chamber; if, on the other hand, it is a long one then it tends to hold the pistol somewhat out of battery.

All factory loaded cartridges are manufactured to minimum and maximum tolerances. It has to be that way. Regardless of the goodness of the effort every casing cannot be drawn to precisely the same specs. The .45 ACP casing is supposed to have an overall length of .898 inch, with a plus or minus tolerance of .004". If you will measure a batch of new brass you will find that tolerances may vary as much as .013". I have found brand new unfired cases as short as .892 and others as long as .905".

When an extra long casing is chambered what happens is that in a closely fitted-up target .45, the lugs in the top of the barrel cannot be forced into the grooves in the slide. As a result the breech end of the barrel is too low and the bullet strike is high on the target. If, on the other hand, the shooter has the poor luck to get a loaded round with an .892" casing, the round is driven forward by the blow of the firing pin. A weak and spongy ignition results, and the powder is sparked with a sickly flame and it then burns poorly. The outcome is a bullet of lowered velocity—and a poor hit on the target. These factors are vital to the target marksman who is striving for every last point he can milk out of the big auto.

A solution is to mike all the cartridges from the lot you intend to fire and cast aside those short ones and the long ones. This is not as laborious



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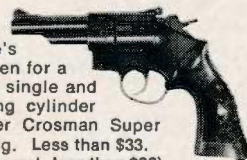
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as it may sound and is well worth the nuisance if you are shooting to win. A hasty way to run a check on the ammo is to pull the barrel out of the pistol and then drop each cartridge, one by one, into the chamber. Use a straight edge or a steel square to visually check the length. It can be done within a couple of thousandths by eye and the use of the steel square. This is sufficiently close to insure that you won't be shooting any of the .905" longies nor yet any of the .892" shorties!

Now that we have some bang-up

ing parts. Now Dri-Slide is a commercial item, made of molybdenum disulfide in a mixture of light lubricating oil and cleaning solvent, and it was found by the leathernecks to help quite a bit in keeping the little .223 rifle perking.

When the sea soldiers couldn't get Dri-Slide many of them wrote home and asked Mom to run down to the corner sporting goods emporium and buy up the whole supply. This got into the papers and pretty quick a Congressman or two heard about it. An investigation was begun. "Why do



Askins uses steel square to check .45 cases.

good .38 automatics to shoot the .38 wadcutter cartridge, we are running into some headspace headaches here, too! The new pistols headspace on the rim of the revolver cartridge which on the face of it sounds perfectly ducky. The only trouble is that up until now the makers have been pretty careless about holding rim thickness on the shell to anything very close. The .38 Special is supposed to run .058" plus or minus a half a thousandth in the rim. If you will mike this rim thickness on three or four of the ammo maker's products you will find variations that go from .055" to as much as .062". Like the .45 target man, the gunner shooting the new S&W Model 52 or the Colt Gold Cup .38 ought to take the time to mike rim thickness on his target loads and cast out those that do not remain within acceptable specs.

• • •

DRI-SLIDE: The Marines, once the M-16 rifle was issued to them, commenced to put Dri-Slide on the mov-

Marines, fighting a hard war, have to write home for a can of grease to keep a rifle going," wanted to know Rep. Charley Chamberlain (R.—Mich.). This set off a quarter-million dollar test of not only Dri-Slide but three other lubricants by the Army. These tests were done at Aberdeen Proving Ground, and make out a poor case for the Dri-Slide.

Aberdeen tested VV-1-800, a light petroleum-base water displacing preservative and lubricating oil, also NRL, a Navy developed tropical country weapons spray, and also MIL-L-46000A. This latter is a lubricating grease previously used on automatic weapons.

Dri-Slide finished last. MIL-L-46000A was first. Army secretary Stanley Resor now refuses to talk any further about the lubrication problems for the M-16 rifle and Secretary McNamara supports the Army position that Dri-Slide is inferior to all the other greases. Meanwhile I suppose the USMC continues to write home for all the available supply out of the local gun shops.

BARREL LIFE: A lot of shooting men seem to be worried about how long a rifle is going to maintain an acceptable degree of accuracy, especially does this concern the laddy-os who do a lot of reloading. With Douglas peddling new tubes for less than 30 bucks this always seems to me to be a business of looking for bugaboos that scarcely exist. "How long will my barrel last," is a question that pops up in my fan mail every day or two. It is on a par with the feller who wants to know how long his new car will last, or how long his new wife is going to remain virtuous.

The other day Frankford Arsenal, the governmental outfit, released some relevant data on the life expectancy of their heavy barrels. These big tubes are used to check out various lots of ammo and get a lot of firing.

The findings were that the barrel steadily improves in accuracy up to 1,000 rounds. After that this accuracy slowly continues to show improvement for another two to three thousands shots. Directly after 4,000 rounds accuracy commences to fall off. This is not an abrupt loss but a comparatively slow failure. At 8,000 rounds, as a sort of rough rule of thumb, the barrel is cast aside. Frankford engineers find, however, that any tubes can be kept in service for as many as 10,000 firings.

An interesting factor in the barrel life is the steady advancement of the chamber throat. After an average of 4,000 cartridges the throat will have been extended a full 1/10 inch. After another 4,000 rounds it will have advanced another 1/10 inch. This seems tremendous and has a marked bearing on the loss of accuracy. These are .308 barrels.

For the magnum calibers, with their exaggerated velocities—the most of them overbore capacity—I'd expect top performance for 1,500 to 2,000 rounds, with, in most of the calibers, game fields accuracy to as high as 3,000 firings. I can remember when the .220 Swift used to go out by not more than 1,000 rounds and sometimes accuracy commenced to slip after only 600 shots. The present trend to chrome-moly barrels will reasonably extend usable barrel life and for this reason the average magnum barrel is going to hold its accuracy for a long time. Only the hotrock reloader who shoots several times weekly and over a year's firing will pile up several thousand rounds, need wonder seriously about the remaining barrel life.

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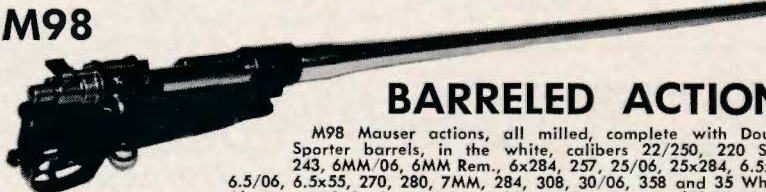
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several thousand variable choke devices on single barrel shotguns every year. For a long time now they have kept some accurate figures on the inside diameters of the various 12 gauge barrels they receive. These figures are of interest.

Manufacturer	Winchester	Remington	Browning
Cylinder	.730"	.730"	.725"
Improved Cylinder	.723	.721	.712
Modified Choke	.714	.712	.701
Full Choke	.699	.694	.687

It will be seen from a brief run-by of this data that Winchester and Remington are comparatively close together on their specs. The Browning dimensions in every case are much tighter. Almost forty years ago, Wallace Coxe, who was the chief ballistician for the DuPont Co., listed what was then considered standard inside barrel dimensions for the 12 gauge shotgun. Coxe, writing in his excellent little tome, "Modern Shotgun Pow-

ders," said that the standard tube runs .729 inch through the cylinder portion, that .715" was improved cylinder; modified choke stood at .705", and full choke was .690 inch.

These times Winchester has no trouble in producing full choke pat-

terns with a constriction of only .031" and Remington does the same with a choke of .036" constriction. Many times, these days, you will see full choke patterns fired by guns that are marked modified choke, a constriction of only .016". And with the new cartridges, these loads with the shot-pouch-and-wadding-all-in-one, you sometimes get 70 per cent patterns out of an improved cylinder barrel!



OVER-UNDER SHOTGUNS

(Continued from page 39)

several types that fits for me, day in and day out from one season's beginning to the end, from year to year and covert to covert is the over-under.

It does this because the weight of the piece is between the hands. And the hands point the gun. Unlike some of our autoloaders which now have enough spare parts in the buttstock to outfit a plumbing shop, nor yet like the pump repeaters with that longish gas pipe under the bore which holds the cartridges and shifts the balance continually rearward as the gun is fired and reloaded, the superposed shotgun is neither butt heavy nor muzzle light. It is perfectly balanced.

We like to say the shooting eye points or aims the shotgun but this isn't true. The gun is pointed by the two hands. A good wingshot, as he slams the gun into his shoulder is taking the proper lead as the piece is coming up. He does not mount the gun and then search out the hurtling target. If he did that there would be precious little killing. He is estimating the forward allowance needed to grass the game as he starts to mount the smoothbore. On the instant the butt stock strikes his shoulder, his cheek comes to rest on the comb and in this fractional period the proper elevation is gained, then the trigger is yanked.

The hands to unerringly guide the shooting iron to this execution must

be in the same alignment. Not only in the same line but in the same plane as well. On many of our automatics and slide repeaters the forward hand, the left, is lower than the trigger hand. This causes a shotgun to point high when it is shouldered hastily. On some old fashioned side-by-side doubles the forward hand is out of plumb with the rear because of a splinter-type fore-end. When this situation occurs the gun shoots low. The two supporting members must be in consonance, neither one nor the other higher or lower but both precisely in the same elevation. The over/under permits this arrangement.

The extreme deadliness of this manner of smoothbore is accounted for by not only the positioning of the hands but also by the preponderance of the weight resting between the two members. The hands as they grasp the shotgun want to be placed as near the axis of the bores as possible. The extremely low position of the under barrel on the stacked-tube model permits the forward hand to literally swallow the tube. This is extremely desirable. I find in shooting a good many thousand shots with the O/U every year that I kill with a good deal more consistency with the lower barrel than with the upper. This is accounted for by the position of the all-important forward hand which engulfs that bottom pipe.

Recoil from the over-under is remarkably mild. This is because, again, of the position of the barrels. These are set low in a shallow action and are in direct line with the axis of support, i.e. the shoulder. Likewise there is little tendency to a turning action which is so painfully apparent in many shotguns that have the barrel set well above the line of the shoulder. Automatics and pump guns are bad offenders in this regard. The old side-by-side models are notable for a low position of the barrels but the habit of firing the right barrel first which tends to kick away from the shoulder to the right due to the barrel not being in direct line with the shoulder; and then the discharge of the left barrel, which rotates the gun to the left and slams the comb into the shooter's jaw, sort of mitigates against the advantages of this venerable type.

The vertical-barrel model comes in a variety of action styles. The most common lockup follows the lead of Browning. He located his single lump below the under barrel. A lot of other later-day laddy-os have done the



Winchester Model 101, cased set.

same. The Winchester 101, the Charles Daly, the Franchi and the Richland fasten the same way.

While the Browning and later types that have made faithful copies of this time-tried lockup utilize only a single lump and a single bite below the lower barrel, the original Merkel has two lumps. And if this were not enough the Merkel further adds a Kersten fastener to latch up the upper barrel. Modern copies of the Merkel, like the AyA, Ferlach and others use just as many fasteners.

Remington, and its modern counterpart, the Krieghoff, employ sliding wedges alongside the top barrel to close and lock the action. The Ithaca SKB uses a Kersten fastener and also

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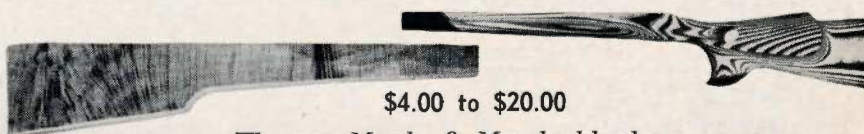
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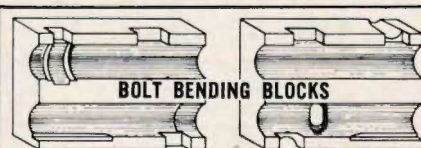


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has a single lug which passes through the bottom of the receiver.

Actually none of the barrel-on-barrel models that lock up below the lower tube are properly designed. The design is poor from the standpoint of the shooting man; not from the point of strength, however, for this is a very sturdy sort of lockup. But in sole regard to pointability, fast handling and a high order of lethality on game, this is not the place for the breech latch. It makes the action unnecessarily deep. This in turn tends to drop the hands lower than they should be placed and should be avoided from this consideration.

The action that possesses locking lugs on the faces of the barrel breech and passes these lugs into recesses milled into the standing breech is most nearly ideal. Beretta does this, so do such super fancy models as the British Boss, Woodward, Westerly Richards, and the Holland & Holland. This design makes for the most shallow over/under action of all.

IT should be pointed out, in all honesty however, that occasionally these extremely shallow receivers misfire. This is because the hammers are so restricted for swinging room that the striker, when it hits the firing pin, must clout this latter at an abrupt angle. And the pin, by the same token, is set into the standing breech at a still more abrupt angle. The result is an occasional misfire. This occurs with the best of shotguns, the high-priced British ordnance included.

The moral of this story is that you can't always have your cake and eat it too. We have to make some concession to sound engineering on the part of such sturdy numbers as the Browning and its copies as against the theoretical improvement to be found in the extremely shallow lock-up types.

The best of all the barrel-over-barrel type ordnance is the 12 gauge. You can get 'em now in a 20 just as easily but the smaller bore despite a dollop of malarkey from some of the guns-writing hacks can't hold a candle to the versatile 12. The gun should have 28 inch barrels and all the better models now have a ventilated rib which is a real aid. For wildfowling the boring should be modified choke in the under tube and full choke upstairs. For upland game I like improved cylinder in the first barrel and modified in the second. On such close rising prizes as the bobwhite, I'll take improved cylinder in both tubes, thank you.

Don't buy any over-and-above

model unless it has a single trigger and automatic selective ejectors. If you can't afford these refinements then, in my opinion, you can't afford the Gun of the Year. Some single-triggers work like the Browning and a host of others, where the jar of the recoil of the first shot sets the sear for the second blast. Others have a simple mechanical single-triggers which simply shifts from one barrel to the other. During 35 years of living cheek-by-jowl with both types I'll be hanged if I can see that one is any better than the other. All the better makes these days have a change button so you can swap off and shoot whichever barrel you'd like to use first. Ejectors are commonplace on all the better vertical types. To pick empties out of a chamber when a hot corner develops is more frustrating than dealing with the Red Chinese.

THE woods are full of good overunders these days. The best of the lot—and the most costly—is the Browning. There are other good ones and I like the Made in Japan jobs like the Winchester 101, the Ithaca SKB and the Charles Daly. All of them had some bugs in the beginning but in every case the gringo importer got real tough with the engineers from the Land of the Rising Sun and now, without exception, the models coming through are top-drawer. I like all of 'em, shoot all of them, and think the buyer will be happy with what ever choice he might make.

Other good numbers include the Berettas from Italy. These scatterguns lock up into the face of the standing breech and, as we have already indicated at some loquacious length, handle with a deadly lethality. There is another bangup good Italian O/U and this is the Franchi as shipped into this country by Stoeger. It is a pretty faithful copy of the Browning and it performs in highly convincing fashion. The Krieghoff, a spitting image copy of the Model 32, is a top choice of our hottest international skeet shooters. Too, it is seen in the hands of many live-bird marksmen. This is a very high quality firearm.

THERE are other superposed models. Many of them. I am not competent to comment for I am not familiar with these others. Of those I've shot let me say that there are simply no poor numbers. All of them shoot well, all perform sturdily and reliably. Some outdo others for me—the others may do better for you—but all are first-water, high quality shooting irons; truly the gun of the tomorrows.



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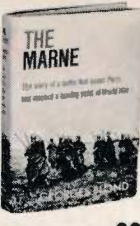


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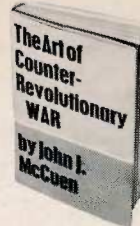


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I certify that the statements made by me above are correct and complete.

ARTHUR S. ARKUSH
Business Manager



TRAIL and TARGET

MY RECENT DISERTATION in this column on the merits of dry-firing for at-home pistol practice may have suggested to some readers that (a) I have some sort of a "down" on the ammunition companies, or (b) that I think you can become a Master pistolman without firing a shot, or (c) both. Not so. Some of my best friends are ammunition-makers, commercially or on a supply yourself basis; and the proof of the pudding of pistol proficiency is indubitably in the holes on the target. My point was, and is, that dry-firing will help you, cheaply and without dependence on outdoor shooting facilities, to place more holes in the target, in tighter groupings—whether the target be a tin can, or a neat pattern of concentric circles on paper, or what have you.

How does dry-firing produce this seeming miracle? It does it by enabling you to practice, as often as you like, as long as you like, within your own home or office, without cost, the major essentials of pistol excellence.

First, it will teach you to perfect your grip and trigger action. It will do this by giving you best evidence there is—visual evidence—of every error. It's all very well for me to tell you, or for a shooting coach to tell you, that the once-accepted theory of "squeezing the shot off with your whole hand, like squeezing a lemon" is *wrong*; you may or may not believe us. But when you see your sights thrown out of alignment by the contraction of your palm muscles, or by the pressures of the thumb and/or the non-trigger fingers, or by sideward movement of the trigger finger—then you will see that the trigger pull must be straight back, without movement of other muscles or digits. Seeing is believing, and once you believe this, you can practice to attain it.

(Remember that we are talking here about single-action, target-type shooting. Double-action, combat-type shooting with a revolver, although involving the same basic performance ingredients, achieves those ingredients by different means. Heavier trigger pull dictates a stronger grip pressure, and still causes greater deflection of sights during the pull. In "point shooting" (shooting from below eye level) the sights are not used. Obviously, the sights must be aligned at the instant of firing if the target is to be hit—and many men can point shoot with great accuracy; but this alignment is reached at that crucial instant, is not necessarily maintained throughout the trigger pull; as we try to do in target-style, single-action shooting.)

Second, dry-firing will teach you to concentrate on the *sights* rather than on the target. Targets on which handguns are commonly used are not tiny; the black bulls-

eye, the aiming point, on the standard 50 yard pistol target (which includes the 8, 9, and 10 rings) is 8 inches in diameter. Far be it from me to say that this target looks big, or that it is easy to hit at 50 yards; but it is certainly not so tiny as to require concentrated visual effort to keep it located as the focal point of your sighting effort. It gives you a leeway for holding error up to 4 inches in any direction, to produce hits within the 8 ring.

This is many times the magnitude of the error you can afford in your sight alignment if you are to keep your shots within that same grouping. The rear sight notch and front sight blade on handguns are rarely more than 1/16th inch wide (very often only 1/10th of an inch)—and an error of the width of the sight blade in sight alignment sends your bullet away along the hypotenuse of a triangle the base of which (i.e., the target error) at 50 yards will be measured not in inches but literally in yards!

It is essential that you know, understand, and believe the two statements made in the two preceding paragraphs—and that you know that no human being can hold a handgun still on a target. The apparent "target movement" of a target seen over the sights of a handgun (movement actually caused by the shooter's own unsteadiness) is a psychological hazard that can only be overcome by constant reference to the *facts* that "the target is big; the sights are all-important; nobody can hold perfectly, and I can sway as much as 8 inches, and still hit the bull!"

Third, dry-fire practice can and will reduce the body sway and muscular tremors that make that target swing and swoop tantalizingly across your sight picture. Holding a fairly heavy object at arms length challenges muscles you don't ordinarily use; and standing motionless is not easy, either. Dry-firing a pistol for even ten minutes a day, holding as nearly as possible "on" the target, concentrating on sight alignment and straight-back trigger operation, will harden those muscles, solidify "stance," reduce the size of the arcs through which the target seems to swing. Reduce your hold error to just under 6 inches and you'll be shooting all 9s—and plenty of pretty-damn-good pistol shooters will gladly settle for 9s at 50 yards! Reduce it to 3.39 inches, and you're shooting 10s, which is fabulous.

You don't need any special equipment for this kind of practice. A black spot pinned or taped to any wall makes your target. The spot can be of any size you choose; but if you want to be scientific, scale it from a standard pistol target down to whatever distance you intend to "shoot." The 8 inch aim-

Next time somebody puts the knock on hunters, tell him this:

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Truth is, hunters care enough about wildlife to willingly pick up the tab.

A voice in the wilderness

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Sportsmen were the first to demand that the market shooting which threatened many species of wildlife be stopped. The first to call for season and bag limits.

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Outdoorsmen were the first to complain of the ravages of soil erosion, forest fires, littering and roadside junkyards.

For decades, the sportsman has been a voice in the wilderness calling for conservation programs. And

putting his own money where his mouth is.

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Much of this money has been used for buying land. The hunter might use it two or three times a year. But the rest of the public can enjoy it all year long.

Lower taxes? While the rest of the population was smiling when excise taxes were lifted from a long list of products in 1965, a new generation of hunters insisted that their tax be kept.

The hunter wants to continue to pay for wildlife conservation.

Give your friend a dose of the birds and bees

Tell him the real facts of wildlife. He probably doesn't know that changing farming and forestry practices have more effect on wildlife population than hunting has.

He probably doesn't realize that doves and quail have a 75% annual mortality whether they're hunted or not. If the hunter did not crop the surplus each year, nature would.

Then stop him cold with a hot statistic: Because of scientific game

management, paid for by hunters, many species such as the white-tailed deer are more numerous today than when the Indians were doing all the hunting!

In fact, hunters have actually added species. The ring-necked pheasant, for example, has been around so long that most people think he's a native. What they don't know is that hunters paid to import and propagate these birds. Now we have more than 60 million ringnecks.

Tell him a few more things

Tell your friend that hunters pour \$1.5 billion into the general economy each year. Spend over \$100 million a year developing wildlife habitat on private lands. Spend countless hours planting feed and cover, attending conservation hearings and clean-water conferences, supporting wildlife groups.

Then take a deep breath and ask him what he's doing this weekend. Conservation can always use another friend.



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ing bull of the 50 yard target would reduce to one-tenth size, or .8 inch, if your practice range is 15 feet.

Of course, if you must have some degree of sound and fury with your practice, these can be added, still without moving outside the confines of your castle. If your basement provides 5 feet or so of linear space, buy yourself a bullet trap, and choose your ammunition. You can probably persuade your family to tolerate .22 caliber shooting in an average basement, but if you want to use center-fire stuff—well, it depends on the family (and possibly the neighbors!) However—

Wax or plastic bullets in powderless cases, using no propellant other than the primer, provide a variety of near-perfect solutions to the problems of home practice with the center-fire calibers. Variations of ammunition of this type are available from several commercial manufacturers, as are simple, inexpensive tools with which the shooter can "roll his own." Fired .38 caliber cases, for example, serve as their own bullet-sizers when forced through a half-inch-thick slab of paraffin. Seat a primer in a case thus loaded, and you have a practice load capable of excellent accuracy at ranges up to at least 20 feet, with no noise beyond the minimal crack of the primer, and no danger of wall or floor penetration or serious wounding.

"Wax" shooting came to prominence when the Quick Draw clubs adopted it to put an end to the bad publicity and damaged limbs produced by the use of ball ammo in their sport, and it has attained wide popularity in other fields as well, as a practice load. Pacific Gunsight Company, Lyman Gunsight Company, among others, met this new demand with improved wax compounds, pre-formed bullets which can be loaded with the fingers and are reusable if not fired against a hard target, and complete wax-loading kits. Other companies (Speer Products, Plastics Training Products, Co., and others) came up with plastic bullets, even plastic cases, for this type of shooting. Given only a simple primer-seating tool, you can load the ammo of your choice—from your own fired cases plugged with grocery-store paraffin, to pre-formed bullets of either wax or plastic loaded in metal or plastic cases—at a fraction of the cost of ball ammo; and you can shoot it without annoying family or neighbors, safely, in any room or basement. (Bill Jordan, certainly one of the best all-around pistolmen of all time, uses these loads in practice, and offers a fairly complete manual of their use and manufacture in his book, "No Second Place Winner," available at \$5.00 through your book dealer or from W. H. Jordan, 3840 Creswell Avenue, Shreveport, La. 71106.)

This is not to say, please understand, that you can become a Master pistolman without ever firing regular ammunition. Dry-firing will enable you to learn, or improve, the basic mechanics of stance, grip, hold, sighting, and trigger operation; "wax shooting" adds to its practice values the visible proof of bullet placement on the target; but you must shoot standard ammo also, now and then, to accustom yourself to the noise and the recoil of the powder-loaded cartridges. The noise won't hurt you, and the recoil won't either—though the novice should certainly avoid the super-duper Magnums until

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he has "grown up" to them by plenty of .22 and .38 caliber practice. With the .38, use the relatively light target loads with wad-cutter bullets. This isn't being sissy; the men who win national and international handgun competitions demand loads of this type, to decrease recoil and improve accuracy—and they're not sissies! They simply want to reduce as much as possible every factor that works against the accuracy they seek; and noise and recoil are deterrent factors. The probably necessary but regrettable procedure in military training (especially in war-time emergencies) of putting recruits who have never fired a gun onto the firing line with .45 caliber pistols and fully loaded ammunition has ruined more potential pistolmen than it has ever made! The .45 ACP is not an easy gun to shoot well, at best; and the novice, shocked by its lusty bark and its twisting recoil, quickly convinces himself (a) that he can't shoot a pistol or (b) that the pistol can't shoot a man—and the hell with it! Start slowly, with light loads. Then, if you feel that you must prove your manhood by conquering the big ones, you'll be prepared to cope with them.

An old trick but a good one for the novice (and something the experts would do well to try every so often) is have a shooting companion or coach prepare the gun for you, loading it one time, not loading it the next, and handling it to you for "firing." You follow your dry-firing procedures, not knowing whether the gun is going to go "click" or "bang." If it goes "click" when you thought it would go "bang," and you see your sight picture dissolve in a blur of movement, you won't need to be told that you yanked the trigger in an attempt to "catch the target as it went by" your sights, or flinched in anticipation of the shot, or otherwise failed to follow your dry-firing technique. On the other hand, if it goes "bang" when you thought it would "click," the placement of the bullet on the target should convince you that those dry-firing techniques are the proper ones.

Dry-firing is excellent practice also with a shotgun. Shotgunning is dependent to a large degree in being able to bring the gun smoothly, quickly, and accurately, every time, to its correct position on the shoulder and against the face. You can learn this bit of muscular mechanics as well with an empty gun and with a loaded one. Swing, lead, and timing are something else again, and I know no quick and easy way to acquire them short of shooting. But dry practice for a few minutes every day can teach you to get the gun into position without thought or fumbling; and when you can do this, you can devote your entire attention, when you shoot "live," to the other essentials.

But whether it's a shotgun or a pistol—make very sure that it's truly "dry," empty beyond any shadow of doubt, before you lift it for what you intend to be "dry practice!" "I didn't know it was loaded" is the world's poorest excuse; and the saddest words of tongue or pen are, "I thought it was empty!"

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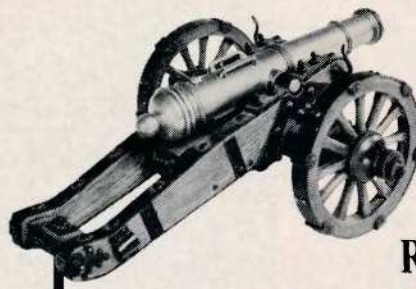
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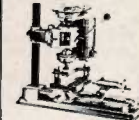
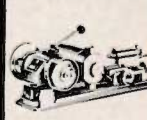
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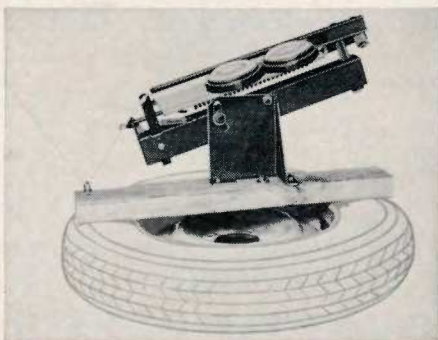
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KIMCO electric socks are miniature electric blankets that keep feet toasty warm. Completely safe, these socks are comfortable and lightweight. The fully insulated wires run underneath clothing from the battery belt-case to the red trimmed grey wool knit, nylon reinforced, washable socks. They come in sizes 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13, for just \$9.87 postpaid, from Gander Mountain, Inc., P. O. Box 248, Dept. J, Wilmont, Wisc. 53192.

SHOPPING WITH Guns

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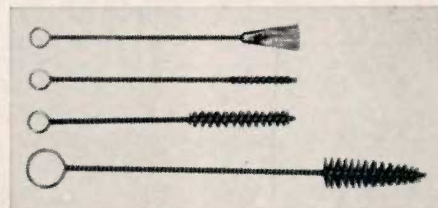


name engraved in the medallion at just 5¢ a letter. Size 9x12 for 1-7 medals, \$12.95; 12x16 for 3-20 medals, \$15.95, or 17x20 for 10-50 medals, \$20.95. From Award Maker, Dept. GU11, Box 6474, Surfside, Florida 33154.



BEAN'S Shooting Glove is made of extra thin, extra strong natural tan Capeskin leather. The fingers and thumb are inseam sewn for a snug, sensitive fit. The welts on fingers and palm are placed for the most sensitive feel. The two-inch gauntlet protects wrists against scratches in brush. For men in sizes, small, medium, large, and extra large, at just \$6.50 postpaid from L. L. Bean, Inc., Dept. G-12, Freeport, Maine 04032.

4 W BRAND brass bristle brushes come in a compact kit and are designed for complete firearms maintenance. Spring tempered, these brushes will clean chambers, receivers, bolts, gasports, virtually any part of a firearm. On rigid shafts, they spring



back to shape after use. Yet they are not abrasive to the most delicate, finely honed metal parts and can therefore be used for all sporting equipment. They're a bargain at just \$3.95 from 4 W Brand, 409 Marion Building, Cleveland, Ohio 44113.



DAVID CLARK Company has announced a significant breakthrough in the design of muff-type hearing protectors. The manufacturers of the famous Straightaway hearing protectors have added ribbing to the inside of the rugged cyclac domes of the models 10A, 19A, and E700, which greatly reduces the minute vibrations caused by sound pressure waves, thereby increasing the overall noise reduction. Tests have shown increased sound deadening qualities from 3 to 12 dB at key frequencies. For further information, write David Clark Co., Inc., Dept. G12, 360 Franklin St., Worchester, Mass. 01604.

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SWIFT'S brand new Mk II Zoomsight is at home on the range, in the brush, or in the mountains. The Model 852 Zoomsight is the latest addition in the Swift line. It offers a highly-accurate 12-element optical system that zooms smoothly from 2½x to 8x, while convenient click stops facilitate power changes while sighting. The 40 mm objective lens provides an extremely wide field of view that ranges from 42 feet at 2½x to 14.5 feet at 8x at a distance of 100 yards. The hard amber



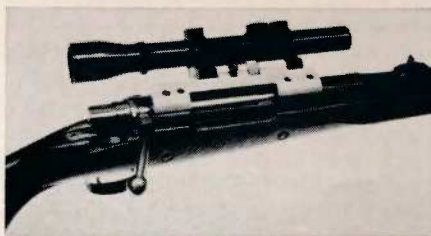
coated lenses help increase relative light efficiency, which is 25 at 8x and 159 at 2½x. Your choice of four reticles all of which are self-centering: cross-hair, dot, tapered post, and range-finder. Overall length is 15 inches, while eye relief is three inches. Weighing just 12.5 ounces, the Swift Zoomsight is just \$67.50 at your local Swift dealer. For further information write, Swift Instruments, Inc., 952 Dorchester Ave., Dept. G-12, Boston, Mass.

CHARCOAL lighter and camp stove ends the messy problem of charcoal lighter fluids, dangerous electrical devices, and provides the camper with a reliable, efficient stove. This new charcoal lighter and camp stove combination produces searing hot charcoal in only six minutes. And not just a chunk here and there, but a whole load—up to three pounds at one time. Simply load the device, stuff one sheet of newspaper under it and light. In six minutes, when you lift the device, it automatically dumps the hot coals into the fire pit, and you're ready to cook. The handle fits on top to support cooking utensils. Sturdily constructed of aluminized steel, this lightweight combination charcoal lighter and camp stove costs just \$3.95 plus 75¢ postage and handling from Terry House, Dept. G-12, Box 235, Lafayette Hill, Penna.

UTICA DUXBAK'S functional new Retriever hunting vest-game bag features the Pakbak game pocket. This bloodproof, expansion compartment rides comfortably and safely out of action's way. Other Retriever game vest features include a food-clothing



pocket closed by a patented snap fastener, eyelets for license and dog whistle, and all-gauge shell loops outside front pockets. The Retriever is available in sizes S—XXL in tan Upland Poplin or olive brown Aero Duck at leading sporting goods dealers across the nation.



PACHMAYR's new Lo-Swing Top Mount is designed especially for large bore, heavy recoil rifles. Available on special order, the base allows the scope to be mounted as much as 1¼ inches farther forward for safe eye relief. The Pachmayr base still provides the same eccentric mounting of spherical bearings, which guarantees absolute scope alignment after initial sighting in and locking. For further information, write Pachmayr Gun Works, Inc., Dept. R, 1220 South Grand Avenue, Los Angeles, Calif. 90015.

EDDIE BAUER, the finest name in outdoor clothing for cold weather, has a new Long Ski Jacket with a comfort range from below Zero to over 65 degrees. This sleek, smooth ski jacket is tailored extra long for extra comfort. Perfect for skiing and just right for all outdoor wear, contemporary styling gives a cool, confident air to the wearer. The 100 per cent new premium quality goose down insulation



gives unequalled comfort and protection. The design is highly functional; zip-in parka hood goes under the windproof collar, and both are fitted with Velcro fasteners. The special two-way zipper gives you exactly the range of movement you want. Men's sizes: S(39), M(42), L(45), XL(48) Women's sizes: XS(8), S(10-12), M(14-16), L(18-20). Colors: Taupe, Winter Blue, Wine, and Scarlet. Just \$47.50 from Eddie Bauer Expedition Outfitter, Dept. G-12, 417 East Pine, Seattle, Washington 98122.



EASTERN FIREARMS takes the pain out of sporter conversions from military rifles with their offer of a fine custom sporter built from a Mauser Model 95 in 7 mm caliber. A fine hunting gun, it has a 21 inch barrel, six shot bolt action, adjustable sights, select oiled walnut stock. Soft point hunting ammo is available at most dealers. With action and barrel guaranteed to be in excellent condition, backed by a money-back guarantee, this fine sporter is just \$39.95. A \$10.00 deposit is required for COD sales. For further details, write Eastern Firearms Corp., Dept. G-12, 790 South Arroyo Parkway, Pasadena, Calif.

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BURNHAM BROS. new E-12 Elk Call is adjustable to imitate elk of any age. This call guarantees close shots or your money back. It's made in three sections, for easier carrying in a hunter's already crowded pockets, but the parts slide together quickly and easily. It comes in two models, both of



durable construction: Nylon at \$4.00 postpaid, or Tenite at \$3.00 postpaid. It also comes as a kit including a 45 rpm instruction record and the Tenite call at just \$4.00 postpaid, from Burnham Brothers, Dept. 15C, Marble Falls, Texas 78654.

SHOPPING WITH Guns

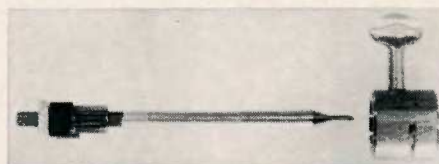
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CASE CUTTERS at a price that the average reloader can afford, and preset too, at just \$3.95, for any rimless case, or \$4.25 for any rimmed, magnum or pistol case. Most every case trimmer on the market costs four or more times what this one does. It has a tungsten carbide cutter which will



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NUTEC'S new Dry Gun Lube is especially formulated to reduce friction and wear on moving parts and improve the accuracy of all firearms. Dry Gun Lube is ideal for the cold weather hunter because it retains its outstanding lubricating properties at temperatures down to -50°F. where oil becomes sluggish. Because Dry Gun Lube is clean and does not accumulate dirt, it's preferred for field use in dry climates where dirt frequently causes jamming. The scientifically designed "Bulls-I" spout delivers just the right amount of lubricant to all the hard to reach places, eliminates overspray and saves lubricant. Replace oil, silicone, and graphite with a superior dry, greaseless, colorless lubricant. In a handy 6 oz. aerosol package at \$1.98 from Nutech, Inc., Dept. G-12, Box 1187, Wilmington, Del. 19899.



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by Robert Abels
(Robert Abels, Inc., 1967)

After his two well-known previously published pamphlets on the Bowie knife, this new hard-cover edition is a great improvement, as it is graced with several of the fine knives which Abels has added to his collection since the publication of the pamphlets. It is well laid out, and makes interesting reading, with its section covering a speech delivered by Miss Lucie Bowie on the origin and history of the Bowie knife. Though primarily for the knife collector, the wealth of information in this book will interest any arms collector.—R.M.

'51 COLT NAVIES

by Nathan L. Swayze
(Gun Hill Publishing Co., 1967. \$15.00)

Over the past seven years I have seen the time and effort which have gone into the

formation of this book—the compilation of notes, of serial number ranges, and of model variations, some found at gun shows and others by long study and correspondence with various collectors. All this was in itself just a beginning for this fine book on the Colt 1851 Navy. Here is a book that will rank high with any of the top books in the arms collecting field. The Colt collector, or for that matter any arms collector, who does not place this fine book in his arms library, will find one day that his library is sadly lacking.—R.M.

FRONTIER TRAILS: The Autobiography of Frank M. Canton

Edited by Edward Everett Dale
(University of Oklahoma Press, 1966. \$2.00)

Frank Canton, in the half century before 1927, an inspector for the Wyoming Stock-growers Association, a U. S. Deputy Marshall in Wyoming, a sheriff in Wyoming during

(Continued on page 81)

GUNS AND THE LAW: GLASS SHOT

(Continued from page 33)

Initial test firing was done indoors on a 20 point, 25 yds range with High Standard 18-inch and 20-inch barreled, pump action shotguns. Testing at this point was limited to determining (1) if loading was adequate and effective, (2) determining pattern sizes, and, (3) penetrations.

Loads of 18.0 grs. of 700-X seemed adequate. There was no muzzle flash, but there were considerable number of unburned powder particles left in the barrels of both 18-inch and 20-inch shotguns. I would think a faster powder (Bullseye?) might be more efficient with glass shot. There is little resistance from the weight of glass shot with which to cause complete combustion in loads of only 102 grs and 127 grs. A normal 12 gauge skeet or trap load has 1 1/8 oz. (492 grs) of lead shot.

Since one of the features sought in the use of glass shot was wide patterns, as well as little or shallow penetrations, a 6'x6' cardboard was used to support pattern paper. In the table, Fig. 1, it will be noted that at

50 feet and 25 yds. the percentage of glass shot hitting the 6'x6' cardboard target ran from 68% to 81%, the latter being the top 50 foot range figure.

Penetrations of the No. 3 and No. 4 buckshot sized glass shot at 25 yards averaged four single thickness, corrugated cardboard sheets, with projectiles stopping in the fifth sheet. With the smallest sizes of glass shot penetrations were less than one sheet of this same cardboard.

In view of the above it would seem that glass shot as a riot control item, used at the early stages of the fracas, may have some application. Recoil was nil with my loadings, patterns were large and penetrations relatively shallow, (Fig. 2). There certainly seems to be value in being able to deter mob members by stinging or burning them with a non-lethal load of glass shot or birdshot which has been bounced off the pavement or hard ground.

Like great, gran'paw's rock salt, glass shot may make 'em remember there are cows to milk.



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ALCAN CO., INC., 3640 Seminary Rd., Alton, Ill. 62002	9
ALVORD GLOVE CO., Dept. G, Mayfield, New York	74
ARMORY C. H., 1600 W. 166th St., Gardena, California 90247	3
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AMERICAN EDELSTAAL, 350 Broadway, New York, New York 10013	75
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ARMS INGENUITY, P.O. Box 1, Weatogue, Connecticut 06089	67
AUSTIN BOOT CO., Box 12368, El Paso, Texas 79912	82
BADGER SHOOTERS SUPPLY, Box 397, Owen, Wisc. 54460	57
BECKELHYMER'S, San Bernardo at Hildalgo, Laredo, Texas	81
BENJAMIN AIR RIFLE CO., 881 Marion St., St. Louis, Mo. 63104	62
BIANCHI HOLSTERS, 802 S. Primrose Ave., Monrovia, Calif. 91016	59
BILL'S MILITARY STORES, 224 W. Forsyth St., Jacksonville, Fla. 32202	69
BIRCHWOOD-CASEY, 3108 W. Lake St., Minn., Minn.	18
E. C. BISHOP & SON, INC., Box 7, Warsaw, Mo.	61
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GEO. BROTHERS, Great Barrington, Mass. 01230	81
CARBIDE DIE & MFG. CO., Box 226, Covina, Calif.	16
CARLTON TIGER HUNTERS, Carlton Hotel, Lucknow, India	13
CENTENNIAL ARMS CORP., 3318 W. Devon, Chicago, Ill. 10022	72 & 56
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WILLIAM H. COLE JR., P.O. Box 25, Kennedy, N.Y.	61
COLONIAL TRADING POSTE, 1839 Mt. Vernon Rd. S.E., Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52403	79
COLORADO SCHOOL OF TRADES, 1535 Hoyt, Denver 15, Colorado	56
COLT INDUSTRIES, 150 Huyshope Ave., Hartford 15, Conn.	Cover 2
CONETROL SCOPE MOUNTS, Hwy. 123 South, Seguin, Texas 78155	81
CORRADO CUTLERY, 26 No. Clark St., Chicago, Ill. 60602	63
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WALTHER H. CRAIG, Box 927, Selma, Ala. 36702	69 & 81
CROSMAN ARMS CO., INC., Fairport, N.Y.	65
DAISY MFG., Daisy/Heddon, Rogers, Ark. 72756	19
DAVIS INSTRUMENTS CORP., Box 1543, Oakland, Calif. 94604	71
DEER ME PRODUCTS, Box 345, Anoka, Minn. 55303	68
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SIGMA ENGINEERING CO., 11320 Burbank Blvd., No. Hollywood, Calif. 91601	63
SILVA, INC. 704 Ridgeway, La Porte, Indiana 46350	74
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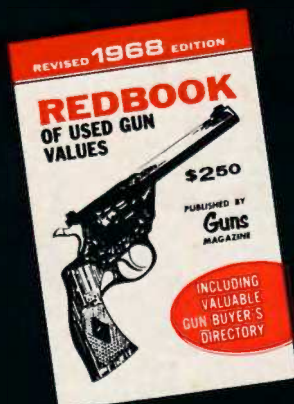
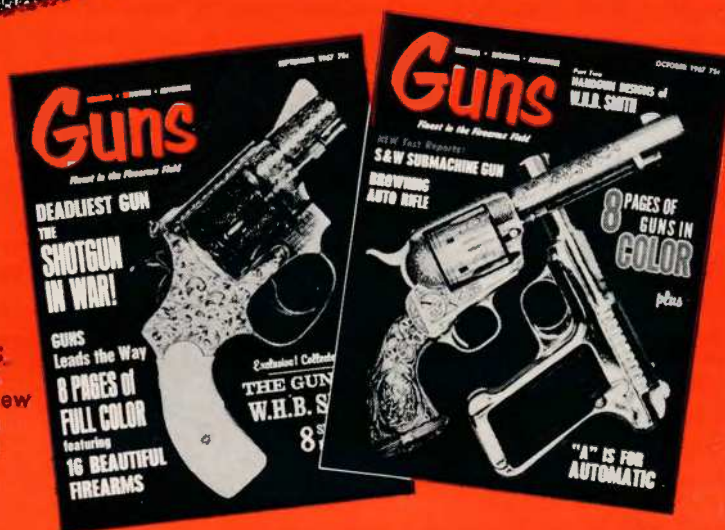


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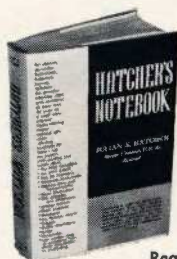
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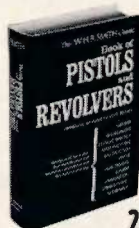
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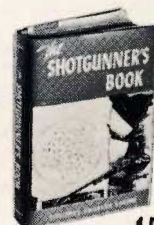
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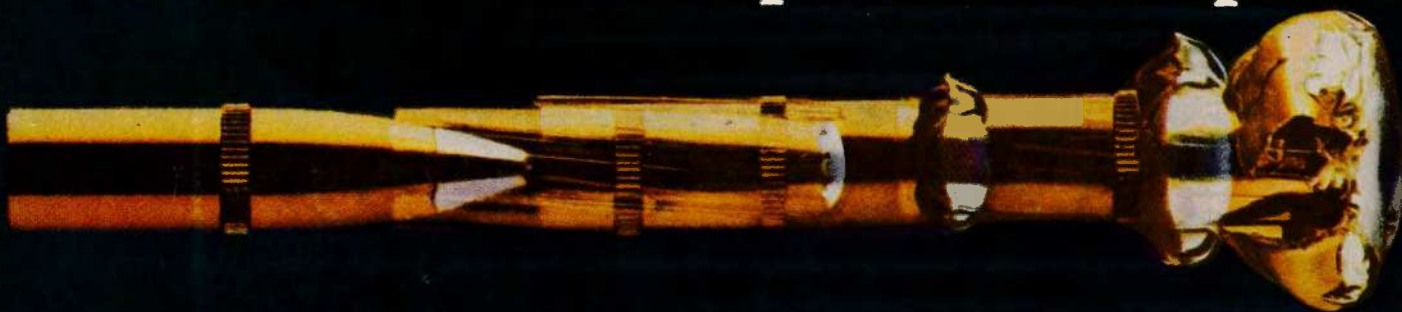
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