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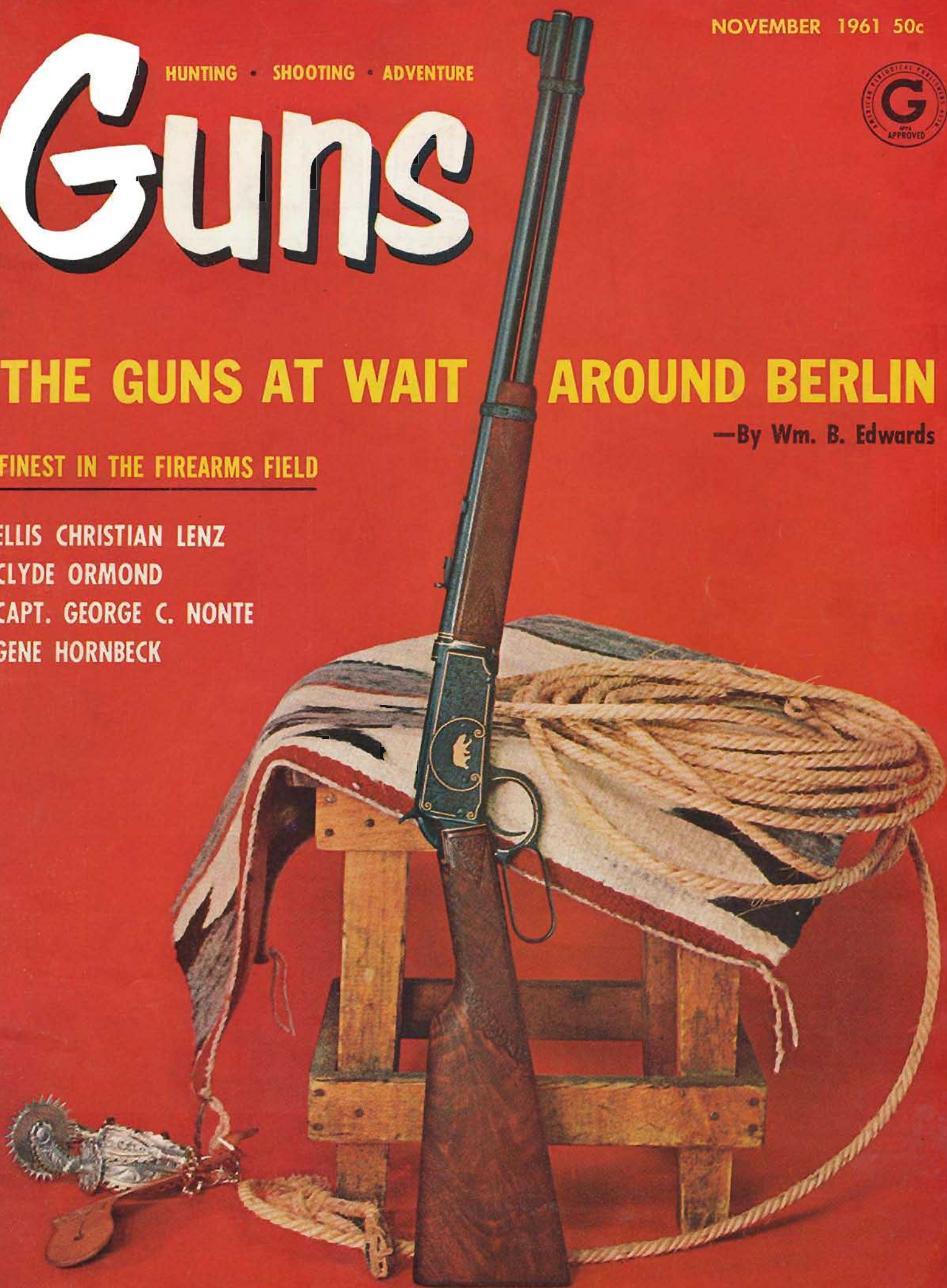


THE GUNS AT WAIT AROUND BERLIN

—By Wm. B. Edwards

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

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Guns

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

NOVEMBER, 1961

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THE COVER

This is the second time we've had to "flop" a negative (thereby reversing a gun) to make it fit our cover, but not many, we think, will fail to recognize an old friend here, even with his left side where his right side should be. A Winchester Model 94 .30-30 is hardly a novelty, but this one has a serial number that is pretty special. Read about it in the article on page twenty-one.

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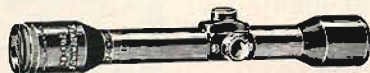
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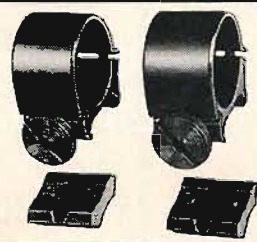
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ARMS LIBRARY

GUN DIGEST 1962

Edited by John Amber
(*Gun Digest Association, Chicago. \$3.95*)

This is the biggest and also the best of the 16-year-long series of books of gun lore and gun reference which have appeared under this title. Its 30 chapters on subjects covering practically every gun interest carry the bylines of many of the very best gun experts and gun writers; and the many additional departments provide an up-to-date catalog of modern arms and accessories, plus ammunition tables, a list of recommended books on assorted shooting subjects, a shooter's glossary, and a Directory of the shooting industry, including gunsmith schools. You can't go wrong with this one; there's something in it for everyone, including many hours of reading enjoyment.—E.B.M.

SAFARI TODAY

Robert M. Lee
(*Stackpole Co., Harrisburg, Pa., 1960. \$6.00*)

If you are planning, or even dreaming of, a safari, this is a textbook essential to your planning. If you are strictly a vicarious adventurer, this book is still your meat. Bob Lee has made 14 safaris in seven African countries, quit a lucrative construction business to head the firm of Lee Expeditions, Ltd., the only company in the U. S. devoted solely to the planning, outfitting, and conducting of big game expeditions. His book is authoritative; it is also fascinating reading—the work of a devoted hunter at his persuasive best.—E.B.M.

THE MULE DEER

By Jim Bond

(*Jim Bond, 5255 N.E. Cleveland Ave., Portland 11, Ore. \$2.50*)

Perhaps the most comprehensive compilation of specific information about muleys so far available, it is too bad that this book has only an impermanent paper cover. Nevertheless, here in one package is a great deal of specific information the reader would have to spend a lot of time and postage to get for himself: where the muleys are (herd population and annual kill, by states), how to hunt them, cost of licenses, and special state regulations as to minimum firearms are only part of the data. If you're planning a hunt, this one is worth the money.—E.B.M.

BRITISH MILITARY FIREARMS 1650-1850

By Howard L. Blackmore
(*Herbert Jenkins Ltd., London*)

This is the first book on British military firearms of that period, and represents the culmination of ten years of research and digging for little known facts. Profusely illustrated with ample documentation, this work bridges a gap that has existed for too long a period. Although a scholarly work, it is highly readable and should prove of great value to those of us whose interest lies in antique guns. I wish that more gun books had such superlative photography.—R.A.S.

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GUN RACK

By R. A. STEINDLER

The Breda Mark II

Recently I had the chance to shoot the Breda Mark II autoloading shotgun. Although not new on the market, it was new to me, and it has several features that I like. Among these, are the ventilated rib, the Breda Quick-Choke, and the adjustable recoil spring that makes it possible to shoot light and heavy loads without malfunctions. The gun is light enough to be carried afield all day, yet it is heavy enough to reduce recoil to less than is normally found in automatic shotguns. I think, however, that a rubber recoil pad adds something to the gun and made shooting it for several hours more comfortable.

It took me several boxes of ammunition before I became used to the safety. The safety lever is on the right side of the receiver and requires a downward stroke of the thumb—a somewhat awkward position if you are set in your ways. It should be remembered, of course, that European hunting conditions are vastly different from ours and that the safety is not as important to European hunters as it is to us. There, most of the game is driven and relatively little walking is done by the hunter. I understand from Simmons, who are the sales agents for the Dakin importers, that they are working on something akin to the top tang safety.

I particularly liked the fact that the gun can be field stripped without tools in somewhat less than 60 seconds. Also noteworthy is the fact that the gun can undergo several stock adjustments without having to return it to the factory. The stock is adjustable for cast and/or drop, and the little inletting that is required to complete the job can be entrusted to any competent gunsmith. In extensive tests, the gun functioned smoothly, the safety was positive, the ejection perfect. It is claimed that the Mark II is the fastest autoloader on the market, and this might well be the case—the gun cracks out the shots so fast that even I was able to hit doubles in trap shooting. The Breda Mark II passed its field tests with flying colors, and if you are in the market for an autoloader, I would suggest that you take a good look at this one. It is available in 12 and 20 gauges.

Yellow 20 Gauge Shells

Being addicted to 12 and 20 gauge guns, I have had a long-standing rule that all pockets of all hunting jackets are emptied and appropriate shells are loaded into the jackets just before going hunting or shooting. Every year there are reports about hunters who inadvertently slipped a 20 gauge hull into a 12 gauge gun, and that sort of accident makes too much newspaper copy.

Comes word from Bill Horn of the Federal

Cartridge Corporation that, from now, this danger is going to be somewhat reduced. Federal is now going to market their 20 gauge shells with a gold-yellow paper and the color sticks out from the usual colors of the 12 gauge shells like the proverbial sore thumb. I consider this a major advance, and although I never slipped a 20 gauge shell into a 12 gauge gun and have no intention of doing so, I say "thanks very much" to Federal.

A Rifle is Restocked

My shooting friends call my B.S.A. Martini, rechambered for .357 Magnum, the "big game rifle for chipmunks." Well, I enjoy shooting the little plinker, and it is a very poor week when I don't fire 200-400 rounds through it. When I bought the gun, it still had the military stock and the whole gun was in need of a face-lifting. I got one of the fine stocks made by Fajen, and started to look around for a good stock maker. I had heard some very good reports about Chicago Gun Center's stock work, so I decided to give them a try. Bill Van Rooy, who does the stocking there, is a product of a Canadian



gunsmithing school, and he learned his trade well indeed. Bill put me and my little B.S.A. through the paces. He measured, grunted, measured, and grunted some more. Then I was told to come back in a month.

Of some 30 guns in my racks, this stock stands out by a country mile, and I have some fairly handsome stocks in my collection. The finish looks like a high-gloss oil job, but John Juda, who does the finishing of the stocks for Bill, tells me that it is a process the two young men cooked up all alone. Having seen the stock work of some of the revered old-timers, I'd say that we have two young men well on the way up in the world of artisan stock-makers.

Patterning Targets

For 10 these many years, whenever I had to pattern a new shotgun or wanted to check the performance of one of my handloads, I had to chase around, looking for paper at

least 30 inches wide. At long last, special targets have become available. The new Hunters-Aid Patterning Targets, sold by the T. H. Fuge Sporting Supplies, 11687 San Vicente Blvd., Los Angeles 49, California, are just the ticket for the job. The extra strong paper on which the targets are printed stands up well in use, and the information that is printed on them should prove valuable to a good many shooters. All in all, the new targets are a worthwhile investment, especially to men who own more than one smoothbore and want to keep track of the various patterns their guns throw with different shot.

New Buehler Mounts

Maynard Buehler has now made available new mounts especially designed for three new guns. One of the mounts is for the long-awaited Ruger Deerstalker, that hot little .44 Magnum carbine that has made so much gun news recently. This mount has been given the code RC 2. The code letters BS have been given to the mounts designed for Browning's .243 and .308 rifles. Maynard tells me that he also has scope mounts for the Smith & Wesson Model 53. I have scoped my Model 53 with a make-shift mount and foresee where a lot of varminters and small game hunters will also mount scopes, making the S&W gun one of the most important handguns to hit the market in the past few years. Unfortunately, the Buehler mounts, as well as other mounts, require the drilling and tapping of the gun and this requires careful work.

Pachmayr Pistol Boxes

I have been enjoying a Pachmayr pistol box for some time. Now Frank Pachmayr has come out with a new one and this is a dilly. The "Match Shooters" box is just what the name implies and guns ride safely, as does the rest of the truck that we usually lug around. I had the new case for some days before I got around to moving guns from one box to the other. I no more closed the cover on the new one, when the whole thing toppled off the bench—guns and all. Fortunately, I was able to catch the box before it hit the floor, but I might have saved myself the trouble. Aside from the fact that my spare set of earplugs popped out of the plastic box and a box of shells was turned upside down, no damage was done and all my treasured guns survived safely. For those who value their match guns I say nothing more. Pachmayr has been building very fine pistol boxes for some time now, but I think that the new "Match Shooters" case will be a hard one to beat.

Clothing for the Hunter

The trend to lighter inner and outer clothing is continuing. Right in step with this trend is some very interesting news from Duofold. Is there a hunter or fisherman who does not own a set of their famed underwear? Wool outside, cotton inside, the Duofold underwear is standard winter equipment for outdoorsmen and I would not think of going on a trip, even in the summer time into the mountains, without taking a set along. Now comes word that a 10 per cent nylon addition to the outer layer has been added. And completely new is the Duofold underwear with the all-Viyella outer layer.

(Continued on page 17)



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Eddie BAUER
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CROSSFIRE

A Shrinking Minority

As President of one of the larger Fast Draw Clubs in the Mid-West, I want to compliment you on the article by Clyde Howell in your August issue. It was interesting reading and I trust that it will serve to help educate that shrinking minority who still believe that Fast Draw is a reckless, irresponsible, unsafe sport.

I am also enclosing my renewal subscription to your magazine. I've found it most illuminating, always interesting, and highly worth while.

Richard A. Girvin
Gunfighters of Horsethief Hollow
Oaklawn, Illinois

Belated, But —

Readers of GUNS who would like to get in lots of deer hunting in a new location might be interested in learning about two special hunts to be held on the Southern Ute Indian reservation in Southwestern Colorado.

For many years our reservation—which has been closed to non-Indian hunters. Last fall, as an experiment, one section was opened to public hunting in a special season. Results were so satisfactory that two special seasons will be held this year, on two reservation areas.

The first special season will be Oct. 7-15, in advance of the regular state season. A maximum of 750 tribal permits will be issued on first come-first served basis, and it is probable that each hunter will be permitted to take two deer.

The second season will be Nov. 9-19, after the regular state season. There will be no limit on the number of permits sold, and a three-deer kill probably will be allowed.

Hunting conditions on the reservation vary from rugged to easy, the terrain includes both mountain country with Ponderosa Pine cover and, at lower elevations, juniper-pinon thickets and sagebrush flats. Good roads lead to the hunting areas from reservation fringe towns, principally Durango and Pagosa Springs, Colo., both of which offer ample accommodations. Good camp sites are available on the reservation itself for those who prefer to rough it.

Since public hunting has been banned for more than 20 years, the reservation deer herds include many trophy heads.

Complete information concerning the special hunts may be obtained by writing the Program Office, Southern Ute Tribe, Ignacio, Colorado.

Anthony Burch, Chairman
Southern Ute Tribal Council
Ignacio, Colorado

Sorry this is so late; our publication schedule is such that we could not get this

into print earlier. Why not write Mr. Burch anyway? Maybe there will be similar opportunities later.—Editor.

Warning From Within

I have been enjoying your magazine for several years, but the situation in Cuba is now intolerable and I have to leave the country. As soon as I have an address in the States I will renew my subscription.

The army made a search of a house in Cuba and found copies of GUNS and "The American Rifleman." Now all connected with that house are suspected of having military information from a capitalistic country. This will show you the extent of red infiltration. If you publish this letter with my name it will cause me trouble, but I pray to you to do all you can to alert your countrymen to the dangers of a red base 90 miles from your coast.

Name Withheld
Habana, Cuba

Pictures, Anyone?

I would like to thank you for the way in which you produced the article about me and my attempt to illustrate antique firearms. As far as personal publicity is concerned, this may well have been the high point of my life.

The thought has occurred to me that possibly some of the readers of GUNS would be interested in purchasing some of the illustrations which appeared in the article. At any rate, most of these drawings, and quite a number of others, are for sale, and if anyone is interested, please have them contact me. Prices vary, depending on the gun or number of guns in the drawing.

Robert M. Reilly
3604 West 84th Street
Chicago 52, Illinois

Headspace Those Barrels

Your August issue is the usual good one, but we would like to make a few comments in regard to the article by Larry S. Street, entitled "Carbine Length for Shotgun Loads."

He has some good points in this article, but has left out the one most important point, the omission of which might cause some good fellow to have an accident if he follows Larry's advice in buying "surplus" barrels, and simply puts them on his gun and starts shooting. If you do this without having the barrel expertly and correctly fitted to insure *exactly* the proper headspace, you could conceivably cause an accident to occur. Insuring correct headspace entails competent gunsmithing and the use of the proper headspace gage.

Larry starts off his article by saying "do

you own an Ithaca Model 37,—with barrel thread so worn that the gun is no longer safe to shoot?" We have been building these guns for 24 years, and our Service Department has yet to see an Ithaca Model 37 with a barrel originally correctly fitted that is in the condition described. We had one of our Model 37 Repeaters come in from a Canadian shooter for a rebluing and refinishing job, and he told us that he had shot 87,000 registered targets with the gun, in addition to other shooting. The barrel threads on this gun were not worn in any way, and the headspace was correct as it was when it left our plant originally after having been properly fitted and gaged.

Since Larry Street is a competent writer, our guess is he simply inadvertently left out the most important point of proper headspacing in his article.

Sheldon M. Smith
Ithaca Gun Company, Inc.
Ithaca, New York

Help Wanted

Quite a few of us interested in fast draw will be in a Commando outfit overseas, and would like to start a club. We will probably have to start with Crosman pellguns and will need some advice on running the club. Could you let me know titles, price, and where to order books on the subject?

If you can help on this, thank you; but if this letter make you groan, blame yourselves. You shouldn't publish such stimulating articles!

Cpl. G. H. Jackson
X Troop, 45 Commando R. M.
B. F. P. O. 69, U. K.

We can't help you by citing books, but we'll bet that some of our Fast Draw Club boys will write you.—Editor.

Mr. Wallace

That letter by the feller in Egomania, Wis., Mr. C. H. Wallace he calls hisself, was shore a rip-snorter. Yer to be cited fer bravery fer printin' it.

Now I'm a ignerant body but I do read most of the shootin publications and I don't reckleack seein Mr. Wallace's name on any featured artikles. If hes so smart, I shore would appreciate his tellin us the facts instead of leavin us at the mercy of them other experts.

Shore like yer book. I aint never writ to you before but if you'll print Mr. C. H. Wallace, you got grit enuff to print anything—maybe even this.

Looking forward to all future issues of GUNS.

Rex Fero
Layton, Utah

It didn't require courage to publish Mr. Wallace's letter; we enjoyed it, thought you would too. From the letters received, of which this is only a sampling, apparently you did.—Editor.

A Timely Bomb

William B. Edwards' article, "Where Are Our Guns For War?" is certainly a timely bomb. If enough readers contact their friends and write their representatives, may be America's fighting men will have the M-14 or, as Edwards suggests, the less expensive conversion which stimulates the M-14. This conversion would save the taxpayers some money and the chance of being ready is greater,

since fewer parts would have to be manufactured.

Would you please give me the cost of ten reprints of this article so that I can distribute them among my friends and get the ball rolling?

James B. Ryan
Scotia, New York

Sorry; we don't have reprints, but anyone is welcome to make copies of the article for this purpose, with credit to GUNS and the author.—Editor.

Empty Saddle

Your fine tribute to Gary Cooper in August GUNS was among the best written (of the many Cooper stories published), and I'm sure the other readers of your fine magazine will agree.

Few of the movie stars could command the respect, as well as the adulation, of millions as did Gary Cooper. Even the most ardent debunkers of Hollywood Westerns would go to see a Cooper West, just because he was in it.

It was Cooper as Wild Bill Hickok in "The Plainsman" that first attracted me to what has since become an intensive study of Hickok, and I still think the film was one of Coop's best (second to "High Noon," of course).

Shooting has indeed lost a friend, and Hollywood has lost a King of Cowboys whose throne and saddle can never be filled.

Joseph G. Rosa
Ruislip, Middlesex, England

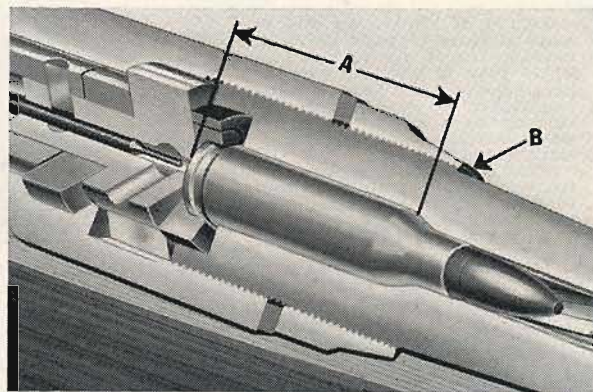
(one of a series of reports to shooters)

Why precision headspacing results in outstanding accuracy

A great deal has been written, and for good reason, about the effects of excessive or insufficient headspace...perhaps not enough about inaccuracy due to improper headspacing. Excessive headspace, for example, permits increased cartridge end-play in the chamber. If cartridge is positioned differently in chamber from shot to shot, ignition of primer and charge will vary. Accuracy will suffer.

One of the many features owners like about the Savage 110 is the inherent accuracy resulting from its precision headspacing (measured at "A" above). The adjusting of the 110's precise headspacing is accomplished by the use of the most modern equipment and methods.

Hallmark of the accuracy of the 110 is the barrel lock nut illustrated above. This nut is your assurance of perfectly adjusted, rigidly inspected headspacing (illustrated above "B"). Every Savage 110 is, of course, targeted before release. According to letters from sportsmen the country over, the 110's accuracy under field



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conditions is outstanding.

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HANDLOADING BENCH

By KENT BELLAH



Plinking Tips and Loads

LESS THAN ONE in one hundred gun owners are interested in formal target shooting. Every one of the other 99 are interested in being a good practical shooter for fun and defense. Volumes have been written, detailing the finer points of competitive shooting. The books are by experts, for experts. If a match shooter gets one good tip that adds a couple of points to his average, he got a bargain. Such books do not bring new shooters into the fold very fast; statements that it requires a couple of years or so to make a decent showing may scare a rank novice into giving up shooting completely. The average guy does better to ignore such books, and learn "practical" shooting in a few weeks.



Exhibition shooter Cooper got big bob at 70 yards with a C-H swaged .357 pill pushed by 17 grs. of 2400.

It isn't impossible. Shooters are made, not born. There is no mystery about a handgun that requires years of intensive practice to use it with efficiency. But you are not a freak if you can not hit the broad side of a barn with a handgun the first session.

Anyone, unless he reads Braille, can have a whale of a lot of low cost fun, and learn to be a good practical shooter in a few weeks. You don't need any voodoo charms, and there is no need to watch for black cats crossing your path, unless you are hunting cats! You don't need to be smart, rich, handsome, or the seventh son of a seventh son. All you need do is digest these tips carefully, and start shooting!

If you are a rifleman, and especially one who claims he "can't hit anything with a handgun," you have it half made. Let's assume you have fired a center-fire rifle some, and don't jump out of your pants from either

noise or recoil. The short tube noise and recoil won't scare you, and the practice will make you a much better rifleman. You'll learn the value of gun handling, something a good many shoulder gun shooters have not learned in a quarter century of shooting. You'll learn how to hold and squeeze for fast precision off-hand work, like you never dreamed possible. After a few weeks or months, when you discover that *even you* can cleanly bag deer-size game, and small game or varmints, at moderate range, with a little ol' six-shooter, you may revise your opinions about some cartridges and calibers.

"Experts" tell you to always start with a .22 handgun. They are right, if you have never done any shooting and do not reload. Otherwise, I think you'll do better to start with a .38 Special cartridge. Remember, I said cartridge. A .357 Magnum is a better gun to start with. It has a larger margin of safety, handles heavy hunting loads, and shoots well with .38 Special cases. Hulls are plentiful at low cost, or free on many ranges. You can reserve the .357 cases for hell-for-leather loads, powerful enough for deer and medium game.

You need a good, target-sighted gun. Service stocks are lousy for sporting use. Get wood target stocks, or the excellent but inexpensive FITZ grips, that are good enough to win matches, and do. I prefer a Flaig's Ace trigger shoe to a target trigger, but either gives a better let-off and more trigger control than service types. No one can learn to shoot with a lousy, creepy trigger. A really fine trigger and perfect trigger control is a "must."

Triggers should not be too light, but they should break clean. It's mighty good practice to master a fairly heavy pull, something over 3 pounds, before going to a lighter one. Experienced shooters may use a very light trigger, but they are dangerous. They are not necessary for practical shooting. The Ace shoe gives a wider bearing surface that makes the pull feel lighter, and allows vital trigger control.

A 6" barrel is about right for most people. A 4" tube is more compact. It's a little more difficult for a beginner to control, but they shoot okay and are suitable. Most people find the rear slide notch is a bit narrow for fast sighting. If you are not skilled with a file, your gunsmith will open it a bit at small cost. A target hammer is a considerable advantage for fast cocking. You should start with one so you'll develop speed as you develop accuracy.

Start with light target loads at close range. It's very important to stay with these until you are a good shooter before going to long

(Continued on page 15)



**"anyone can shoot
HI-STANDARD SUPERMATIC**

**in shirtsleeves
with comfort"**

says **ELMER KEITH**

"... In comparison with some makes having aluminum receivers and stamped parts, these guns seem heavy. They actually are heavier, but they are made of best steel and for a long term of reliable service. They also swing and follow through the swing much better than many lighter guns of the same bore on account of this weight.

"You can get about anything you wish in a 12 bore auto loader or pump in one of the ten different models. They are well stocked guns and will fit most men just as they come from the factory. They feature a rather full and well curved pistol grip. Stock dimensions are 14" length of pull, drop at comb 1½", at heel 2½", and down pitch 1½". This is a very good all-around stock for the average shooter.

"For a couple months we have been testing their best Super-Matic with 26¼" barrel and ventilated rib, compensator and fully adjustable choke. The choke is marked not only in degrees of choke starting with cylinder to extra full, but also in yardage opposite the choke degrees, making adjustments very easy for the novice.

"We found this gun an excellent performer with all loads tried. It shot even better full choke patterns with the full choke setting than with the extra full choke, as that last degree of construction was too much for the heavy loads tried. Patterns were round and very evenly distributed, and we were able to get any desired choke, from a skeet pattern to a full choke dense-centered pattern for 60 yard shooting.

"The new gun automatically handles all loads, from light skeet loads to the heaviest 2¾" 1½ ounce magnum shells, without adjustment of any kind. This is accomplished by

a special valve which bleeds off a certain amount of gas to actuate the gas piston for each shot, and gives perfect uniform shot-to-shot functioning of all loads. We even tried mixing them up in the magazine, with the same perfect results. Magazine capacity is four rounds without the plug which limits it to two rounds.

"This gun is fitted with an especially nice full ventilated rib and a large brass front sight. One can add a midbarrel sight and have the ideal sighting equipment. Anyone can shoot in shirt sleeves with comfort. Butt plate and grip cap are of composition, with a gold colored spacer under each. A good soft solid rubber recoil pad would be an improvement here but would add to the cost, which is \$142.50.

"The gun has excellent lines and a large well checkered forend which helps control the gun and allows the forward hand to absorb a lot of the recoil. Grips are sharply checkered. The action operates very easily and freely, and has a lock to hold it open when the last shell is fired, for easy reloading. Trigger is well shaped and well positioned, and the cross bolt safety is located in the front of the trigger guard. We understand the safety button can be easily converted to either left or right-hand type, which is a very good feature. This fine gun is also made for the 3" Magnum 12 bore shell at a cost of \$147.50, and this Magnum model will also handle standard loads.

"Game shooting with this High Standard Supermatic this fall, as well as some pattern work, has still not shown one single malfunction of any kind. We used several makes of ammo, but mostly the new Remington 2¾" shell. This gun is one of the rare ones that seems to shoot good patterns with most any size shot.

"This gun has everything an autoloading shotgun needs, and is ready to go into the game fields just as it comes from the factory. It shoots where it looks, and the elevated ventilated rib brings the line of sight up level with the enlarged choke and compensator, to give the shooter a level, flat sighting plane. We believe anyone looking for a sound sturdy, well balanced, good shooting autoloading shotgun with all the trimming, will do well to try this new High Standard Super-Matic. It's a darn good gun, and we can honestly give it a clean bill of health."

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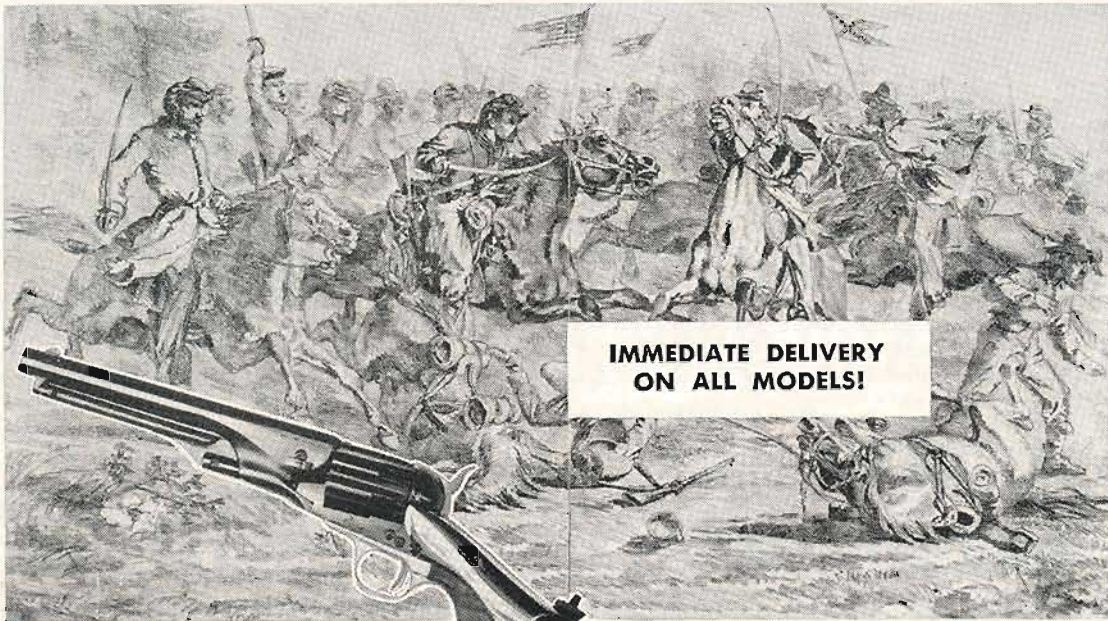
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(Continued from page 12)

range or heavy loads! This is where a great many lads fail. You can buy, or swage suitable short range plinking bullets. If you have casting equipment, start with wadcutters weighing around 147 grains ahead of 2.5 grains Bullseye or 2.8 grains 5066. Some measures do not throw these light charges. Sticky pistol powders require extremely accurate measures. Two good ones are made by SAECO and R.C.B.S., and there are others. If you order the latter, get the "Special" bench rest size that throws up to 50 grains. This is best for all handguns and most popular rifles. Learn to operate your measure with your charge and type of powder so charges are nearly as accurate as weighing.

Fill the hopper with powder, bump the handle about 6 times to settle it, and weigh 100 charges to check for uniformity. Your measuring technique must be uniform. That means to do it the same way as nearly as possible for each and every charge. I bump the handle lightly, twice at the top and once at the bottom. This routine "one-two, one" operation helps reduce the possibility of double charges. The up-stroke helps insure that the charge hole is filled with uniformity. The down-stroke insures that any flakes of powder that stick in the charge hole are expelled. Some measures with a long snout from charge drum may allow the sticky flakes of pistol powders to catch in the snout. You can check your measure for this by throwing a charge, then hold a sheet of white paper under the drop tube. Bump the handle or flip the knocker several times. If too many flakes are expelled your measure is not good for pistols.

Your loads should be safe and "good," but you do not need the finest. A novice is not qualified for precision shooting at long range, where top quality ammo is necessary. The actual bullet type is not important, so long as it isn't too heavy. Very light bullets, as light as 115 grains, work well for short range with cream-puff charges. If you cast pills, scrap lead is good enough for starting, and it costs nearly nothing. Loads cost less than .22 L.R. ammo!

If your first shooting is lousy, that's normal! If there is no one to sight-in your gun with your loads, you can do it yourself. Use a two-hand hold with an arm rest, firing at no more than 15 feet. Save all paper targets, and keep them dated, to compare later. You'll be very surprised at how quickly the groups screw down! Dry fire is nearly as good practice as shooting. It teaches you to hold and squeeze correctly, as well as speedy gun handling.

Quart oil cans make good starting targets at 15 feet. While you are blasting these, always leave one or two empty hulls in the cylinder. The empties tell you if you jerked the trigger or finched. Let your companion load your gun with an unknown number of empties. Learn to hold the gun as nearly on target as possible after firing. After you learn to hold steady after a shot, you'll want to make a habit of cocking as quickly as possible after firing; but don't do this to start. When you can hit cans nearly every shot, move them to 25 feet, and keep this up until you are nearly "dead sure" on cans at 25 yards. This is a practical range for much revolver work. Stay with it a long time. When quart cans are easy to hit, go to smaller targets, such as beer cans at the

(Continued on page 45)

meC shotshell reloaders...

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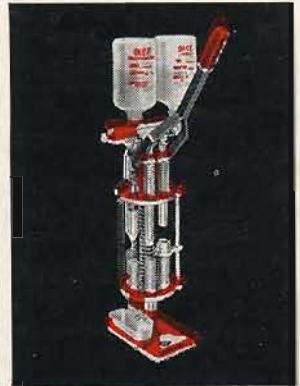
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KNOW YOUR LAWMAKERS

Congressman Ralph R. Harding
2nd Dist., Idaho

I FEEL STRONGLY that the right of the people to keep and bear arms must be protected and guaranteed. However, in today's world, this is also a right that must be regulated. I am in favor of every American that wants a firearm in his home being allowed to have one, provided that he safeguards it in such a way as to maintain the safety of his family and neighbors.

Today, we cannot have a loaded firearm on a peg on the wall nearest the door in the nature of our pioneer ancestors. Today, firearms must be placed beyond the reach of our children and even our teenagers, and care must be exercised to see that the weapon is empty and that the ammunition is stored in a safe place. When these precautions are observed, every law-abiding American may maintain his own firearms without danger to his family and neighbors.

I also feel that every father who maintains a weapon has a responsibility to teach his sons the correct and safe way to use and maintain that weapon. If the son of a non-shooting father shows an interest in firearms I feel that the father also has a responsibility to see that his son receives proper instructions in the safe way to use and maintain firearms when he has reached the right age.

Congressman Garner E. Shriver
4th Dist., Kansas

SINCE I AM JUST beginning to fulfill my responsibilities as a Congressman, I feel that I must decline this opportunity to express my views on the Second Amendment at this time.

Hon. Elbert N. Corvel
Governor of Delaware



THE RIGHT OF a free people to keep and bear arms is as symbolically important today as it was literally necessary in the 18th Century. Delaware statutes, such as those restricting the carrying of concealed deadly weapons, and prohibiting the use of firearms by children unless supervised by an adult, help to curb abuses of this right. By sensibly and reasonably curbing abuses, we help guarantee to future generations that this right to keep and bear arms will not be lost.

Congressman David N. Henderson
3rd Dist., North Carolina

. . . I AM NOT MUCH of a hunter and therefore do not commonly use guns, (but) having served for some time as Judge of the General Court of my county, I am quite familiar with the manner in which firearms are abused by many people. At the same time, I am completely convinced that restrictive legislation in this field would serve only to deprive law-abiding citizens of the pleasures they get from the use of guns and would in no way prevent the use of guns by criminals for unlawful purposes. Of course, the term "militia" as used by the founding fathers in the Constitution does not have the same meaning today as it did for them. However, it is my opinion that during World War II the fact so many of our young men had at least some working knowledge of firearms, and their use, made the task of our military in training the young men much easier.

Hon. Norman A. Erbe
Governor of Iowa

THE STATE OF IOWA has not and should not, in my opinion, infringe upon the right of the people to keep and bear arms. We all realize that this privilege is guaranteed to our citizens by the Federal Constitution and the State Constitution of Iowa. Certainly, no one would contend that individuals with criminal records are deserving of this privilege, but the law abiding citizens should not be deprived of the opportunity of enjoying their avocations of gun collecting, hunting, and target shooting.

Senator J. Caleb Boggs
Delaware

. . . AT THE PRESENT TIME my schedule and activities as a new Senator trying to get acquainted with my responsibilities combine to preclude the possibility of my devoting the time and thought which such a statement for your good publication merits. I would be glad, however, at a later date to cooperate with you and hope that I may have an opportunity to do so.

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

(Continued from page 9)

which should make this underwear extra warm, extra comfortable.

The big news is called "Operation Deep Freeze." Extra warm, extra light, and relatively thin, this four-layer material has been made into a parka that has passed some of the severest weather tests with flying colors. If it is good enough for the Himalayas, it should be good enough for most of our area. I have been waiting for a light-weight jacket or parka for a long time, one that does not weigh too much, is not too bulky, and is reasonably priced.

Out of the same material, Duofold also makes underwear that should be much appreciated. The four-layer cloth does trap the body warmth, yet does not get cold and clammy as some of the earlier insulated underwear did when you became over-heated.

From where I sit, it looks like it will be a comfortable hunting season.

Pardon the Soapbox

Once again, I feel forced to start on that old, old story: Be careful. Fellow at one of the local ranges had a whole trunk full of rifles along the other day. He carried his ammo loose in a GI ammo box. After shooting a .30-40, he switched to a .45-70 and—you guessed it—fired a .30-40 round in the gun. The case split halfway down, bulged until it looked more like a crumpled cigarette than a cartridge case. Fortunately for the shooter, the .45-70 was tight and only some hot gas whizzed past his face.

Of course, there is no excuse for such a mess in your ammo box, but even if you cannot carry your ammo in separate little cardboard boxes, do us other shooters a favor and check the head stamp. Gun accidents make good newspaper copy and there are enough people around trying to take our guns away. They don't need any additional encouragement. Even if you have no serious accident, you can blow a nice gun to pieces.

Hollywood Turret Tool

For some weeks, I have had the pleasure of using the new Hollywood Senior Turret reloading tool. This is an exceptionally strong tool, and I have yet to find any reloading job it cannot perform. Reloading rifle and pistol ammo is an easy matter with this tool, and the progressive operation of loading shotshells can be mastered in less than 15 minutes. Operation is smooth, and making smoothbore ammo is no chore at all. The powder and shot measures are a great improvement.

The tool has a positive indexing head, and the stroke is a comfortable six inches. Perhaps the most outstanding feature is the swaging operation. Core cutting is accomplished easily and accurately with a Hollywood Core Cutter that can be mounted on the tool. A separate, 1/2-inch-thick tie-down rod is used in the swaging operation, thus eliminating all spring when heavy pressure is exerted. The bullets formed compare well with factory bullets, not only in looks but also in performance in various handloads which I tried. With a little experience, it was not at all difficult to make several hundred bullets in the course of an evening. Lyle Corcoran is now working on developing dies for various calibers and hopes to have them on the market shortly.

The first pilot models of his Automatic Shotshell Loader are now being completed. This tool is designed for club use or for those trap and skeet shooters who have the ready cash for the tool—a cool \$575 for the loader, complete for one gauge. But make no mistake about this tool. It produces 1800 shells an hour with the help of a progressive rotating system and the loader needs only to see to it that hulls, primer, powder, and shot are kept handy to keep the machine going. Malfunctions just don't occur, and the machine can be cleared easily and speedily if a bad hull slips into the lot. This tool should prove very popular with clubs.

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Weatherby

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NEW... ADJUSTABLE BULLET SWAGING CORE MOULD...

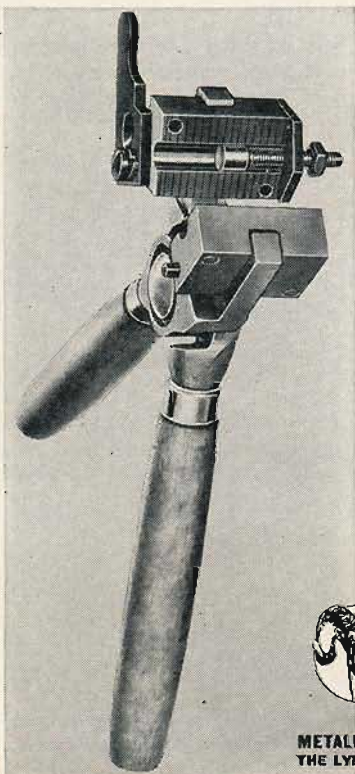
Lyman's latest boon to reloaders lets you cast swaging cores from scrap metal. What's more, now you can pre-determine the exact bullet length and weight. Adjustment screw permits casting cores to your desired size and weight. Available in .22, .30, .38, .44, .45 caliber sizes. \$13.50 complete. Mould Block only... \$10.00.

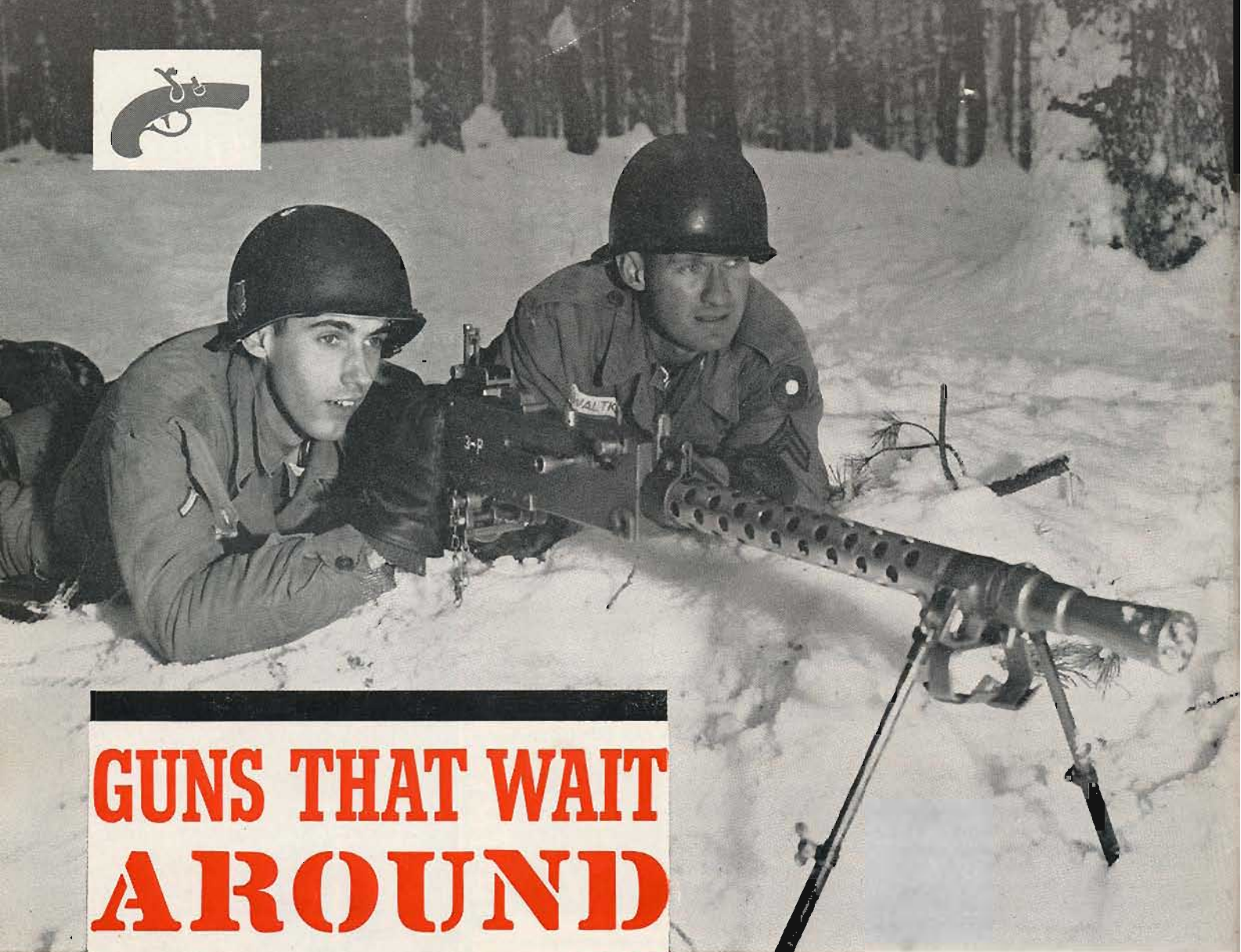
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GUNS THAT WAIT AROUND BERLIN

Members of 9th Infantry Division lay down heavy barrage during maneuvers near Heilbronn, Germany. Constant alert is key-word.

By WILLIAM B. EDWARDS

TODAY, as I write this, the West is at bay in Berlin. Typewriters of the non-Chicago type clatter hysterically; the waiting guns are silent. Will it be so when this is published?

Until late in June of this year, the standard arms of the "token" forces guarding our U. S. share of the security of West Berlin were conventional .30-06 Garand rifles. Recently, an emergency delivery of NATO-calibered M-14 rifles and some of the controversial M-60 Machine Guns, have given American troops equality in caliber and supply with our British (FN-equipped) and French allies.

But surrounding this ancient Prussian capital — the "Open Door To The West" which Russia now seeks to

close — are 19 Soviet garrisons totaling more than 400,000 crack troops. The elaborately staged and publicized troop withdrawals by the Soviets in Germany were not really a reduction of Russian power; they merely signaled a translation of power into a new Communist land force—the Peoples National Army of the East German Democratic Republic.

Supporting the fighters and fighter-bombers at ten Soviet Air Force bases minutes away from Berlin are Soviet armored regiments on the Baltic, in Saxony, and in Thuringia to the south. And in Berlin itself, Red Army tanks keep Walter Ulbricht—red-handed Communist dictator of East Germany—in power. Ulbricht claims to have the

**THESE ARE THE MEN AND THE GUNS THAT WILL FIGHT
FIRST IF ALL OTHER EFFORTS FAIL AND A SPARK IS DROPPED INTO
THE POWDER HOUSE OF TENSION THAT IS TODAY'S BERLIN**

vote of 99.3 per cent of the East German people. He lies. Since 1945, more than 3½ million people have fled from the East Zone to the West. At a rate of 700 a day—during the Berlin riots of 1953 and the Hungarian uprising the flow increased to 2,000 a day;—and recent tensions have swelled the tide even higher—the best of the East German people have fled from Ulbricht's "workers' paradise." By treaty, all Berliners have the right to ride the subway, and the subway trains rattling day and night from East to West and back again were easy outlets. Were—until Ulbricht stopped them.

Facing our forces in Berlin are special military and para-military units recruited from among the East Berliners and East Germans to keep their fellow citizens in subjection. I flew into Berlin not long ago, to get a look at the readiness of our Berlin garrison and to try to understand why it is that our Government has spent millions in money and committed good men to what might be a backs-to-the-wall stand if the Reds ever carried out their threats to make a separate peace with East Germany.

The city, the Western sector, was a mad scramble of troops when I arrived. Tanks and armored personnel carriers rumbled past the big, sprawling Clay Allee, the U. S. Forces headquarters. Not war, but festivities spurred the movement: it was the Queen's Birthday, and Yanks polished up to pay honor to Her Majesty in London—and to



At Grafenwohr, BAR-man of US 4th Div. gets feel of cold weather combat in combined US-German exercise.

the young, sometimes beardless, but confident lads of the British Berlin Independent Brigade and other British troops who mean to help to keep Berlin free.

I visited the firing ranges. In the Grunewald, that personal park of all Berliners where the family likes to stroll of a Sunday, there is a big-bore firing range. (A study in safety, this baffle construction should be seen by those who complain they can't find a range because of area congestion.) While I was there, the firing line resounded to the thud of BARs as men of the Garrison readied them-



Magdeburg stadium 1956 was scene of Russ "withdrawals" because Reds felt East German militia strength could keep people down.



30th and 14th Panzers got training with a few "Karbiner FN's" but now use CETME rifle.

selves for the Allied Shoot, a regular inter-nation marksmanship contest and arms display.

The Allied Shoot consists of regular Leclerc-type combat matches, tailored to the limitations of Berlin's ranges. French, British, Americans join in this festive day. At a recent shoot in the British sector, the Berlin Independent Brigade set out tables, displayed the Stens, new Sterling submachine guns, Brens, and other small arms and light



Friendly military displays in Berlin garrison help allies understand others' arms (Brit. 120mm AT shown).

anti-tank artillery of their command. Suitably impressed were the visiting French and American soldiers. As for the competition, the medallion-encircled polished wood plaque was presented to the winning U. S. 6th Infantry by the commander of the British Brigade. Such competitions, from the local shoots to the big all-NATO Leclerc matches in August, keep the shooting eye sharp and the men from getting "stale."

"The small Army garrison in Berlin constitutes, in my opinion, a more realistic deterrent against immediate aggression than any nuclear capability we possess." So said Lt. General Paul L. Freeman, USA Deputy Commander of the Continental Army Command at a meeting of the Association of the U. S. Army in Chicago in February, 1961. General Freeman, many times decorated, several times wounded, came by his philosophy the hard way. The loser at Inchon, General Freeman retired his command skillfully and with honor before the onslaught of the Chinese Communist Forces. "We learned that vehicles and equipment designed for more developed terrain were not necessarily suitable for the mountainous areas of Korea," he explained in discussing the common catch-phrase, "brush fire" or "limited" war. The atomic capability of Davy Crockett, our portable short-range missile thrower, gives the infantryman considerable power. And now, at last, NATO-calibered weapons have been delivered to give the Garrison that simplified logistics, supply of one basic ammunition, so long desired. Whether



New C3 is original Mauser gun engineered in Spain but now built by Heckler and Koch in Oberndorf and Rheinmetall for Germany.



Bren guns adapted to 7.62mm take same round as Enfield "FNs" in use by British Brigade in the Berlin Garrison.

they will ever be used is a question the answer to which only time, and history, hold.

The Communists think they have that answer: the militarization of East Germany. Out of every 1000 East German inhabitants, 71 undergoes some form of training under arms. Enthusiastic boosters of this program are the FDJ, the Frei Deutsche Jugend; but after all, what kid isn't at some time interested in guns? The ten-year olds hang onto every word as the uniformed National People's Army instructors show them the workings of Soviet-designed, East German made, automatic carbine AK, folding bayonet auto rifle Sks, and light, portable drum-fed RPD light machine gun. Long ago the Soviets achieved their own cartridge standardization, on the 7.62 mm Model 1943 round. Shorter than the NATO cartridge, it is the same bore diameter, but with a lighter bullet and less power. The (Continued on page 70)

"...and still the champion—"

MILLIONS OF USERS SWEAR BY IT. MILLIONS OF TROPHIES DIE
BY IT. EXPERTS SNEER AT IT. I LIKE IT!

By E. B. MANN



.30-30

EVERY NOW AND THEN, you hear somebody make a slurring remark about "the thutty-thutty." (Why is it that the words, "thutty-thutty," are supposed to be so screamingly funny?) Maybe I'm biased, but I can't help thinking that a man who sneers at the all-around, all-time champion game-getting rifle caliber is just not as smart as he thinks he is.

As I said, it could be that I'm biased. I sort of grew up with the .30-30. It is somewhat older than I am, but it was no gun to sneer at in the time and places in which I met it. A man who rode forth with a Winchester (or Marlin, or Savage) .30-30 under his saddle skirt was considered to be sufficiently armed to bring back meat, whether two or

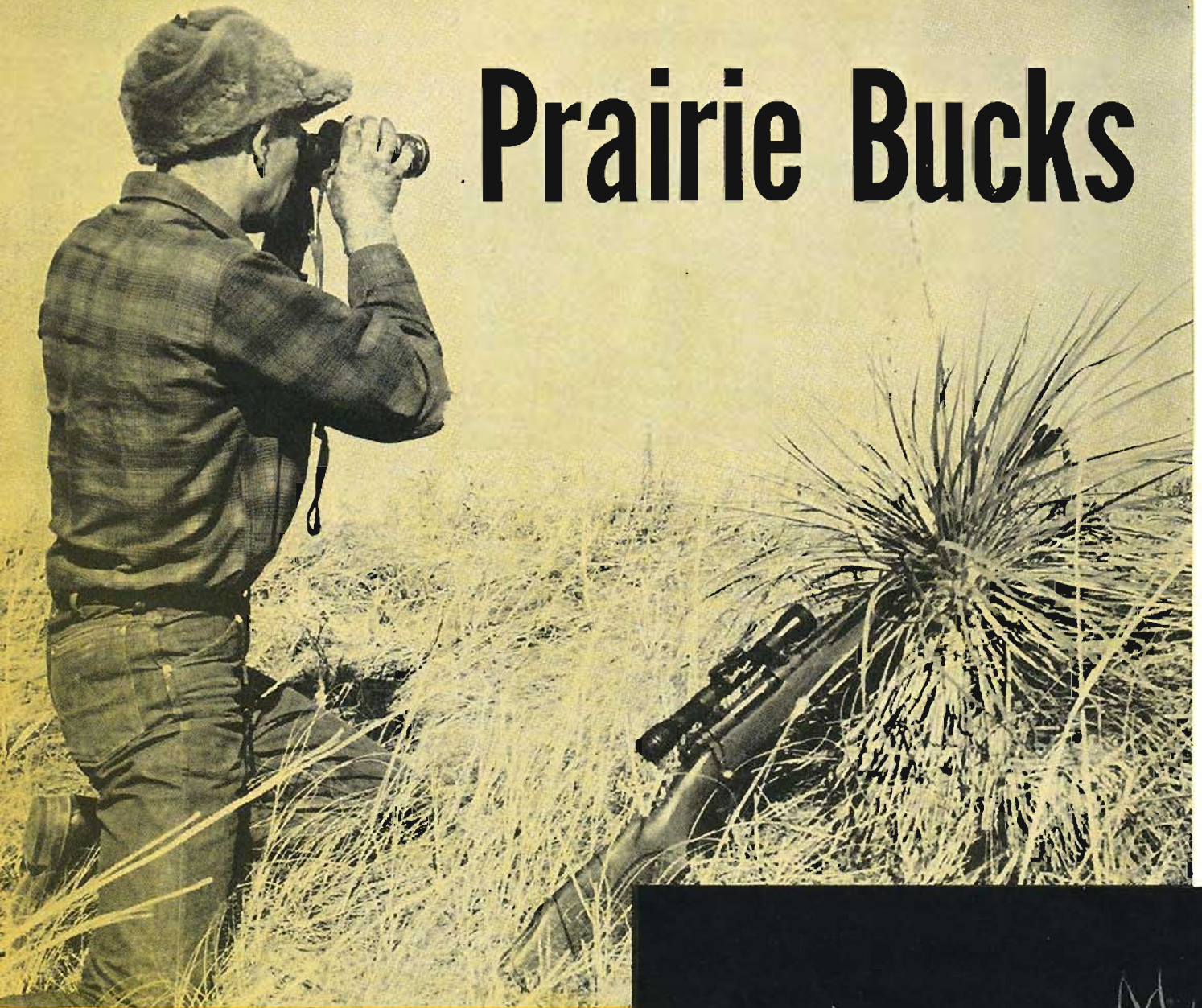
four-legged. He usually did, too; because the men who loved the little rifles knew how to use them.

I can remember hearing men say, more or less seriously, "The gun shoots flat out to about 400 yards; after that, she tends to rise a little." A standing argument was carried on between the advocates of the .30-30 and the .32 Special. (Which side you were on depended on which caliber the dealer had when you bought your rifle.) The next step up, if you felt you had to have more rifle, was the Sharps in caliber .45 or even .50. It was a long step, taken mostly by the specialists, the Long Hunters, spiritual survivors of the Indian-fighting, buffalo killing era.

These feelings have changed very little in certain not entirely savage sections (*Continued on page 62*)

TRY NEBRASKA FOR

Prairie Bucks



Careful glassing produced a nice buck for author, gave him chance to take picture of spooked buck.

**ROADS AND POPULATION GROWTH
ARE RUINING MANY FINE HUNTING
AREAS, BUT HERE'S A NEW ONE
THAT OFFERS HUNTERS A WELCOME**



By GENE HORNBECK



SAY NEBRASKA, and most people think of corn, beef Boys' Town, and wide open spaces. But Nebraska and an increasing number of outsiders are beginning to realize that this is also one of the best hunting states in the nation. Few states, if any, can offer better gunning, longer seasons, or more generous limits on quail, grouse, pheasant, and waterfowl—and in 1959, the Nebraska Game Commission opened the doors to non-resident deer hunters because the local boys weren't taking all of the available permits.

Nebraska's deer herd is small by comparison with those in the older and better known deer areas, but it is large



Author puts Weatherby scope on white patch that he and partner spotted. Is it a buck? Muleys are easily distinguished from white tail deer by white rump patch that can be seen at long range, often giving deer away to hunter.

in comparison with the number of hunters—and this is important. Both mule and whitetail deer are present and legal. The whitetail is in the majority in the eastern third of the state, where many streams cut through the farm lands. The mulie becomes the predominant species in the central and western ranch and wheat country. Deer are found in every county in the state, and all but nine counties are open to hunting.

The 1959 season was typical of the high success enjoyed by hunters in the state. The Game Commission authorized 11,850 permits, of which 11,044 were taken. These hunters killed 6,322 deer. The 1960 kill figures should run higher, because new areas were opened to hunters.

The topography of the state is varied enough to make the selection of the right deer rifle somewhat difficult. The eastern deer habitat is in the close, brushy river bottoms, making such brush-buckers as the .30-30, .35, .300, and .308 calibers excellent choices. In plains shooting for mule

deer, the average range is just a hair over 100 yards. In this open country, the hunter will be better equipped if he chooses the flat shooting, hard hitting numbers such as the .243, .244, .270, .30-06, or the .308. Nebraska gun laws prohibit the use of a rifle that delivers less than 900 f.p.s. at 100 yards.

Practically all deer hunting is done on private land, in the east on farms averaging 250 acres or thereabouts, and in the west on ranches that encompass anywhere from 10 to 100 square miles. Access is seldom a problem, but it's better to make arrangements ahead of time. By hunting with a local man, you have the advantage of his knowledge of the land and where to hunt. The trophy hunter has a better than even chance in the Cornhusker state, since many of the areas are newly opened and have some whopping big bucks. The present state record for whitetail is 287 pounds; for mule it is 310 pounds, both hog-dressed weights. The Burwell check station last year had 209 deer



Flat shooting, scoped .243 Winchester for canyon shots is good choice for muley hunt, made one-shot kill on nice young buck, the author's first muley.

go through, and 110 of these bucks weighed 190 pounds or better.

The Northern Sandhill area, in north central Nebraska is typical of ranchland hunting. The 1959 success in a "bucks only season" was better than 50 per cent. This area was the scene of my first hunt for mules. I had made arrangements at Les Kimes' Snake River Ranch. Les' spread is located about 25 miles southwest of Valentine, in Cherry county. Roads are almost non-existent and you travel into the ranches on sandhill trails. They are rough, rugged two-rut trails that wind over the land, calling for a patient driver, since speed can seldom exceed 15 miles an hour.

Because I like to see some of the country I am hunting,



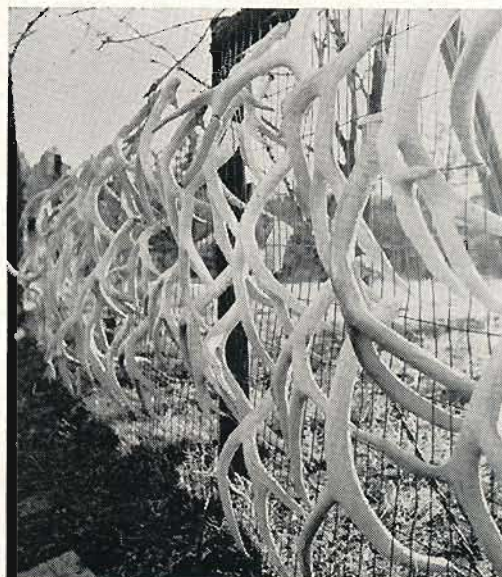
Les and I spent most of the first day sightseeing. We jumped nine deer on our tour, but none of them sported a rack. That evening at the supper table, Les and I talked deer and deer hunting.

"Thirty years ago there were few, if any deer in this country," Les told me. "They had been almost eliminated at the turn of the century, and up until the late 1930's it was a big day when we saw one. This was pretty much true of the entire state. The first big build-up started in the Pine Ridge area and then, through complete protection, both by the Game Commission and the landowners, the herd began to build until it warranted an open season in '45. That year, 500 permits were issued and 361 deer killed. Actually, once the herd got up in numbers it mushroomed almost to the point of getting out of hand by 1957, in areas such as the Pine Ridge. That year, the Commission authorized 16,500 permits. I believe about 12,000 of them were issued to hunters, and they killed 8,450 animals."

Around noon the next day, we picked up deer in the binoculars, made the stalk, and came up on a hilltop about 300 yards from them. There were seven mules, but all that I could see through the scope were the white rump patches of the mule deer as they moved around behind the screen of brush.

Les hunkered beside me with his binoculars trained on the deer. I checked the safety on my .243 Winchester. The 2-7X Weatherby scope was set on full power, and the cross hairs were beginning to waver from the strain of holding the rifle on the target. I was in a sitting position, elbows resting on my knees, ready for the deer to show themselves, hoping one of them was a legal buck. Dropping the muzzle for a few seconds to relax my arms, I looked out across the valley and could barely distinguish the white rumps of the deer from the small splotches of last week's snow that lay on the hillside.

It was then that the deer decided to spook. Two does bounded to the top of the hill, and I followed them with the scope. Another doe broke cover, heading parallel to the hilltop, followed by two more. A pair remained in the brush, and I swung the scope to *(Continued on page 44)*



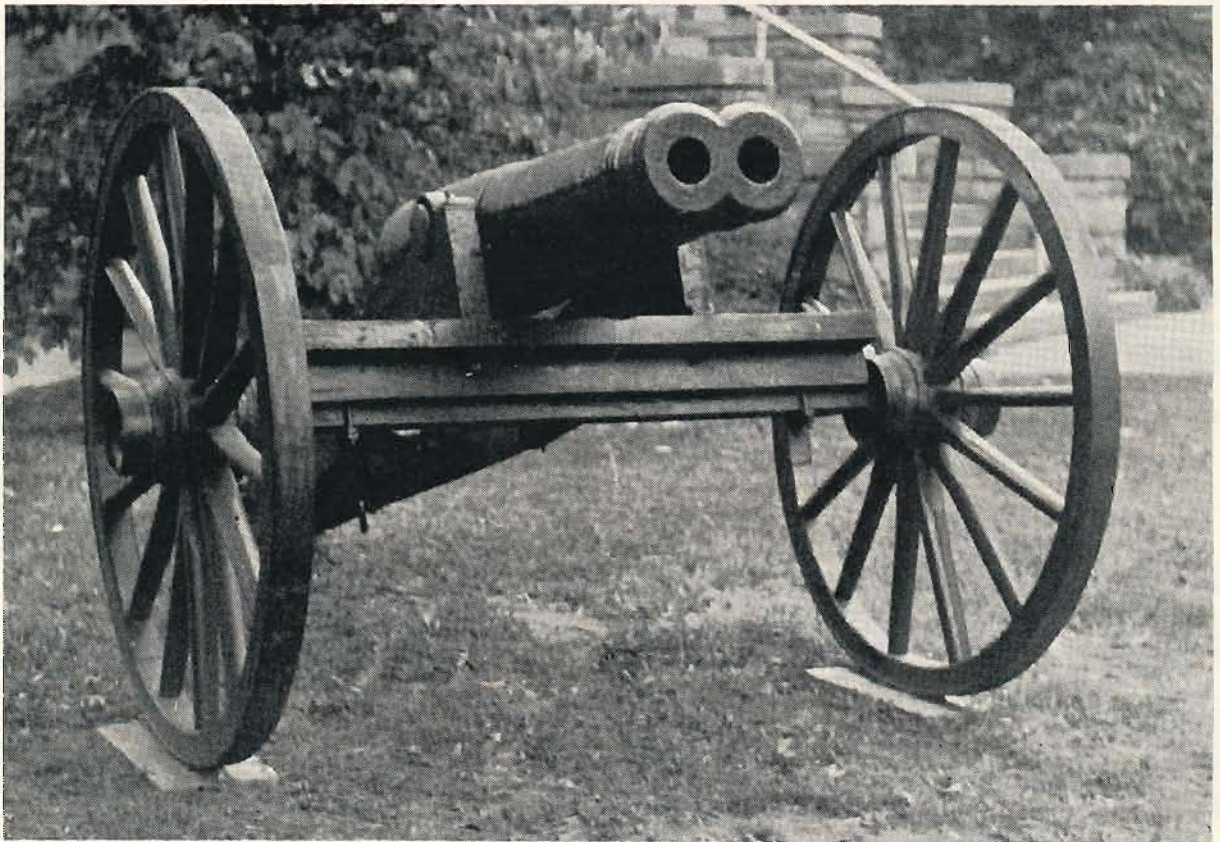
Fence of ranch is laced with antlers shed by deer. Size of racks is worth a second look. Successful hunter poses with buck.

THIS WAS TO BE THE GRIM REAPER, TO MOW
DOWN YANKEES. BUT IT COULDN'T DISTINGUISH BLUE FROM GRAY



THE SOUTH'S SECRET WEAPON

By CLAUDE D. CROWLEY



Built with the hope that the gun would end war between North and South, it was test-fired only once. Failing to perform as expected, it was retired.

IN 1863, the elite, if somewhat ineffective, corps of business and professional men in Athens, Georgia, known as the "Mitchell's Thunderbolts" chafed to get into the fight. The old and disabled men who formed the home guard unit cursed, and drilled, and longed for a way they could help decimate Yankees.

One of the privates, John Gilleland, thought he had the way. He had an idea for a weapon which would mow down the enemy like wheat before the scythe. If the deadly ordnance could be built and tested by the Athenians, and placed in the field with results spectacularly disastrous to the blue-bellies, might not the tide be turned, and the Con-

federacy more quickly win the war for Southern Independence?

Aflame with patriotism, he revealed his brain-child to his fellow-troopers. The idea seemed as practical as a butterchurn, and appealed to them at once. It was simply a double-barreled cannon. It was to fire two balls, connected by a length of chain, simultaneously. Spinning around like a Gaucho's hola, it would bring down Yankee soldiers by platoons.

No doubt with some help from influential Thunderbolts, the hard-pressed Athens foundry was persuaded to give top priority to casting the terrible (Continued on page 62)

The YOUNG GUNS



Seriously intent on serious business, Bubber (at left) and Mickey await coach Kennon's word to "squeeze off!"

By ELLIS CHRISTIAN LENZ

A YOUNG BOY'S active interest in guns often antedates by several years his most rudimentary interest in the birds-and-bees business, and this presents a parental problem. Your four-year-old gun toter is, of course, one of the "good guys," but his snap shots could be disastrous if, one day, they were made with a real gun. You could hardly blame him; if a stick-up victim can't tell a toy gun from a real one (and some can't), you can't expect a toddler to do so. But you can and will blame yourself if it happens. And the absence of children in your family is not a reprieve from responsibility; only a Tibetan monastery is remote enough from the every-day possibility of neighborly juvenile infiltration.

One excellent safeguard against the tiny gunman is to keep your working guns and ammunition under lock and key. Another method is a thing once called "Parental Authority," though this appears to have suffered a sad decline of late, along with the Divine Right of Kings. In my own tender years, in spite of an inclination toward gun research, I was never seriously tempted to touch Dad's nickel plate, hammerless, Smith & Wesson revolver which reposed, fully loaded, under his pillow. Dad showed it to me, told me very firmly never to touch it. I got the message; knew if I disobeyed it I would get something less pleasant. Dad, like Theodore Roosevelt, believed in speaking softly and carrying a big stick. But this doctrine is different today, in families and government.

Most accidents and near-accidents, of any nature, gun or otherwise, represent someone's failure to inform or to be informed. Carelessness is not always the chief cause. Remember the rural guest who, legend hath it, blew out the gaslight as he would an oil lamp. He wasn't careless; he lacked sufficient information.

The same thing can happen with children and guns. Locking up guns and ammunition separately is a reasonable precaution. Parental Authority is fine, if it exists. But either or both of these should be accompanied by instruction, and the earlier the better. Boys, even very little boys, like to know things, like to be "experts." Convince a little boy that the proper way of handling guns is "the way the experts do it," that any other way exposes lack of knowledge, and he's a convert. More, he's a preacher of the gospel, ready and eager to protest vociferously if another lad does it the wrong way.

My own adult interest in boys and their affinity for guns is one of long standing. I can count well over one hundred youngsters who have handled guns under my supervision during the past ten years. In that time, six boys earned the NRA's Distinguished Jr. Rifleman rating; others became Experts; many finished the Sharpshooter course. With others, the immediate desire to shoot diminished after the first stages. Of these latter ones, a number have reappeared later to resume the program; but their earlier instruction had been most valuable in that it had effectively

CATCH HIM YOUNG AND TEACH HIM RIGHT, AND THE JUNIOR MENACE BECOMES A PREACHER OF GUN GOSPEL

channeled their first desire to handle and shoot a gun.

Many instructors look upon the young aspiring shooter largely as a candidate for the instructor's own degree of interest and proficiency. This is a mistake. In the last analysis, match shooters are born, not manufactured. If a gun-loving boy possesses that extra something, nothing will keep him from being a match shooter, and possibly a champion. But the instructor shouldn't count on this to happen. He should rely primarily on his ability to teach safe proficiency in handling guns. This accomplished, the instructor has succeeded.

Our indoor shooting range was opened in 1951. Privately operated, it was not especially set up to accommodate junior gunners; it was intended for the use of two adult clubs, rifle and pistol. Shooting is done at 50 feet, from eight firing points. Conveniences are standard, including means for ventilation and soundproofing. The location is in the basement of a commercial storage building. It is not run for profit; the modest shooting fees charged scarcely cover operating expenses. The main object was to provide a suitable range for clubs and individuals having no indoor facility. We did not, at the time, expect the opening of our range to increase the supply of junior shooters outside our own families.

A group of persistent boys changed that situation.

These boys were the sons and acquaintances of members of a local hunting and fishing club. The boys had started shooting under this club's sponsorship, on a makeshift range. Then, through the loss of their adult leader, they became shooting orphans. They were all sizable high school boys, and they knew what they wanted. They tried in vain to persuade their school authorities to provide a rifle range and an instructor. Failing this, they came to us. I admit frankly that I was not eagerly waiting to become a Junior Instructor; but what can a man do when he has enjoyed shooting for 40 years and is confronted by a half-dozen fine boys who are eager to shoot?

Using the range one night a week, the boys became affiliated with the NRA and for a (Continued on page 54)

Careful coaching in good gun form, as well as in good gun manners, gets quick response from juniors because they all like to be "experts" in grown-up activities.



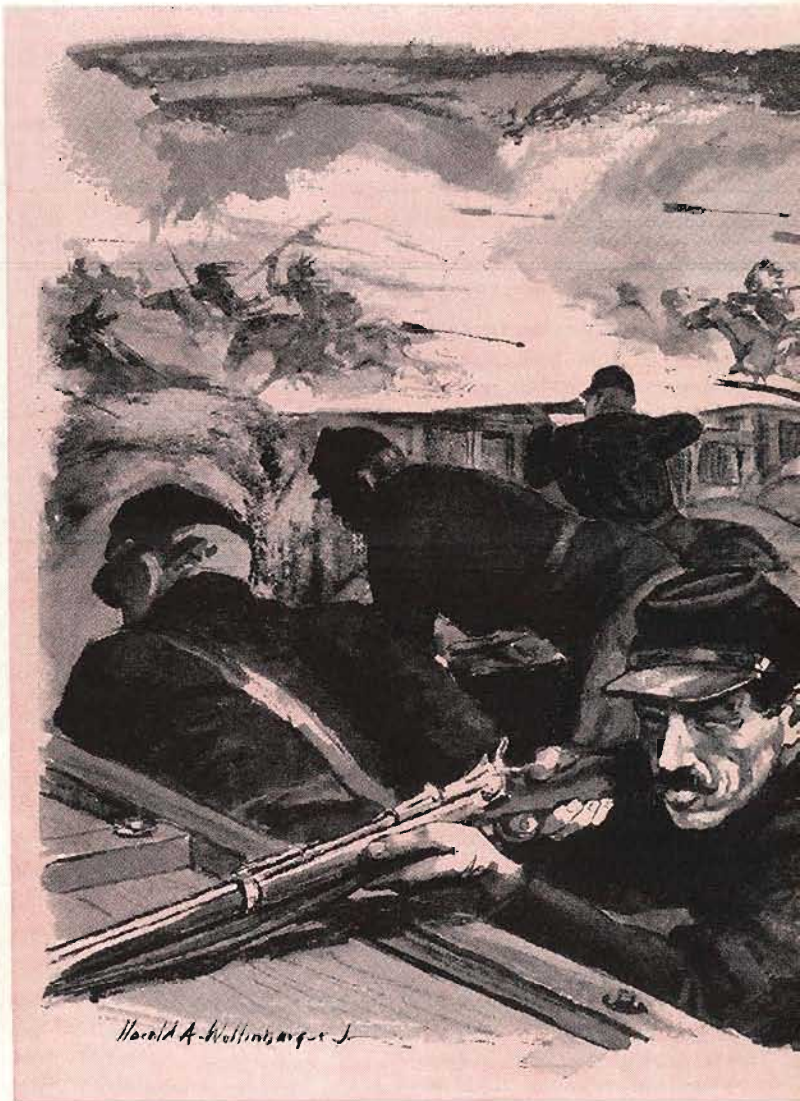
Big day in boy's life is when dad says, "You've earned the right to have a gun of your own." Pay-off day for dad comes when youngster becomes his hunting partner.



THE SPRINGFIELD'S

**SPRINGFIELDS OF
CIVIL WAR VINTAGE WERE
TRANSFORMED INTO
"RAPID FIRERS"
THAT TURNED THE TIDE
IN ONE OF THE BITTEREST
BATTLES OF THE INDIAN
WARS IN THE WEST**

By FRED E. BISSELL



SPRINGFIELD rifles were thrown away by the thousands on the fields of battle during the Civil War. Some of these Springfields were discarded in acts of cowardice by men running for their lives; many were hurled away by troops disgusted with the agonizing procedure of loading and firing the muzzle-loaders. It was only through a conversion system developed by Erskine S. Allins, Master Armorer, of the Springfield Armory, that the Springfield rifle regained respect and a special day of honor on August 2, 1867, in the rolling, pine-covered foothills of the Wyoming Big Horn mountains.

Although the Spencer and Henry repeating rifles had proved their worth in various fights during the war, the Federal War Department refused to order mass production, relying instead on the Springfield muzzle-loader as the standard infantry shoulder arm.

Paper cartridges were used in the Springfield; the powder was in one end of the cartridge, the bullet in the other. A soldier had to tear off the paper end with his teeth, pour the powder into the barrel, and then ram the bullet down on the powder with his ramrod. As proved in battle countless times, this was a highly undesirable technique—the slowness of firepower delivered against mass attacks and the haste

DAY OF GLORY ☆ ☆ ☆



From behind wagon barricade, troopers used converted Springfields in bitter fight against Sioux near present site of Sheridan, Wyo.

of the soldier produced almost unbelievable results. Many muskets were picked up and examined after battles. Some were found to contain from four to as high as 11 loads! Fear, haste, and excitement had caused soldiers to repeat the loading process over and over again!

At the end of the Civil War, hundreds of thousands of Springfield muzzle-loaders were on hand. By 1865, the breech-loading principle was recognized as a necessary modernization in the shoulder arms for issue to the services. Since there was the usual problem of curtailed funds consequent to the end of the war, these weapons had to be utilized. Accordingly, the Ordnance Department issued an initial order for the conversion of 5,000 muskets to the system designed by Master Armorer Allins. The breech-loading mechanism designed by Allins retained the stock, barrel, lock plate, and furniture of the Model 1861-1863

arms, and added a new breech fitted to the milled barrel.

Allins installed a rising breech-block, hinged at the front, which when raised by unlatching a thumb piece, exposed the breech for loading the chamber with a short caliber .58 caliber rimfire, copper case cartridge. The cartridge was fired by a firing pin seated in the breech, struck by the conventional side hammer. Extraction was by a rack-operated extractor, sliding in a slot on the right of the chamber.

In 1866, improvements in the Allins conversion were made. The caliber was reduced from .58 to .50 by boring out the barrel to .64 diameter and brazing in a rifled .50 caliber liner tube. The bolt was lengthened, and a firing pin spring was provided to keep the firing pin away from the face of the bolt. The frail rack extractor was replaced by a sturdier U-shaped spring. More important, the rimfire cartridge was replaced by a (Continued on page 63)

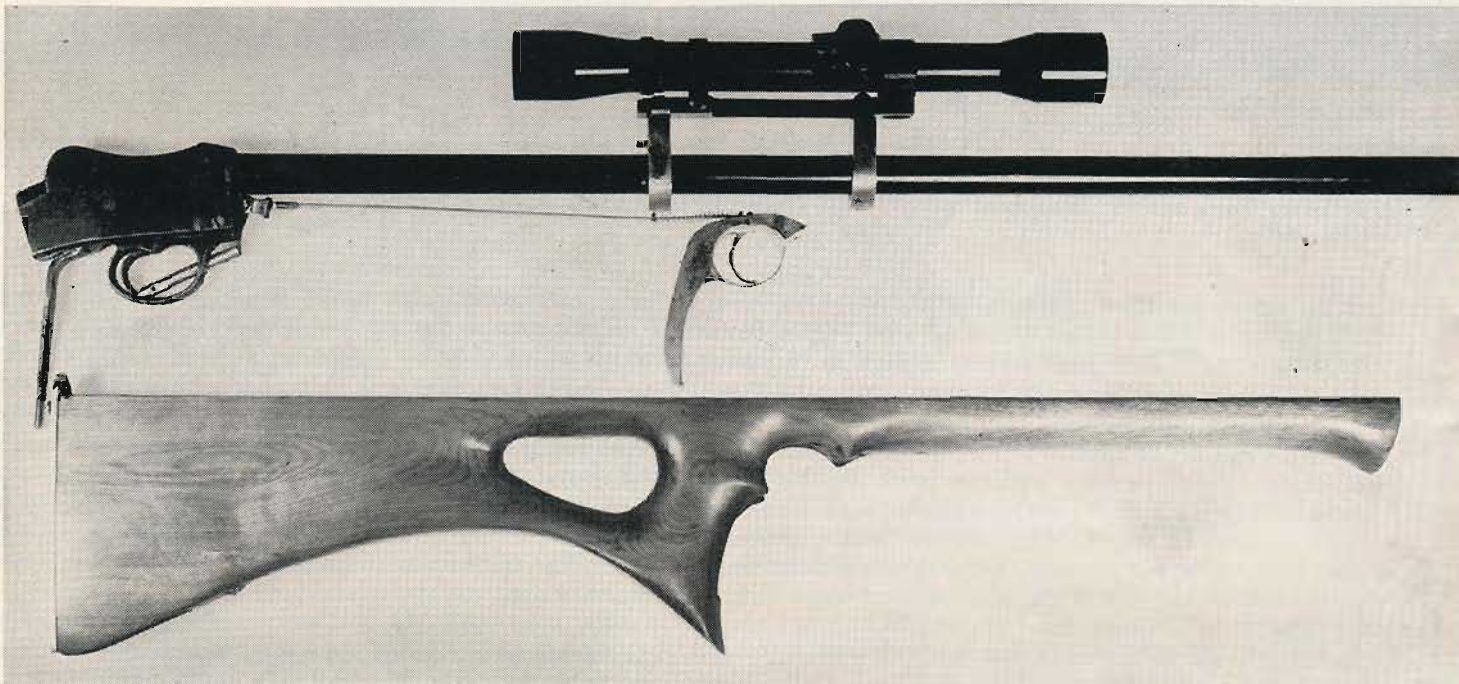
By JOHN S. HARRIS

This view of .32 Special shows folding trigger, front handgrip and sight. Stock is made in 2 clamshell halves.



**SOME SAY YOU DON'T MAKE A
BULLPUP—YOU DREAM IT... BUT HERE'S HOW
TO MAKE ONE, WITH FOLDING WOODWORK**

**SOME
LIKE 'EM
SHORT**



Take-down of .218 Bee shows trigger linkage and altered action lever. Forward trigger guard and mount pedestals are filed from solid aluminum bars. Screws anchor barrel, action to stock.

THERE ARE occasions when the average length sporting rifle seems a bit unhandy. A rifle measuring 44 inches or more in length is awkward in heavy brush or on a rocky mountain slope. The more compact saddle carbines are less clumsy, but they too have their limitations. Most shooters who try to design their own short rifles begin by cutting the barrels down. Short barrels mean increased muzzle blast, and some loss of power and accuracy. Moreover, federal law prohibits cutting a rifle barrel shorter than 16 inches. Another solution to the problem of a compact rifle is to cut length off the other end, placing the action clear back to the buttplate. A rifle so built is called a bullpup.

The prime advantage of the bullpup is its short length, but there are other advantages. A rifle having a long, heavy barrel may have its balance improved by moving the action to the rear, especially if the action and stock are light-weight. With a bullpup it is also possible to have the front end of a telescopic sight even with the muzzle of the rifle, thus eliminating the mirage resulting from heat waves rising from the barrel.

These advantages are not gained without problems. The objection invariably raised is that the rifle is going off right under the shooter's ear. This problem is less serious than it may seem at first glance. Modern rifle barrels and actions rarely blow-up; the gas from a blown primer, although it may burn the neck of the bullpup shooter, will burn face and eyes with a conventional rifle. A sanely loaded bullpup is as safe as any other rifle.

Admittedly, the action of a bullpup is a bit more difficult to manipulate than that of a conventional rifle, but a high rate of fire is less important to a target shooter or a chuck hunter than to a deer hunter. At any rate, the second shot from a rifle is not the one to count on.

In addition to these disadvantages, the bullpup builder

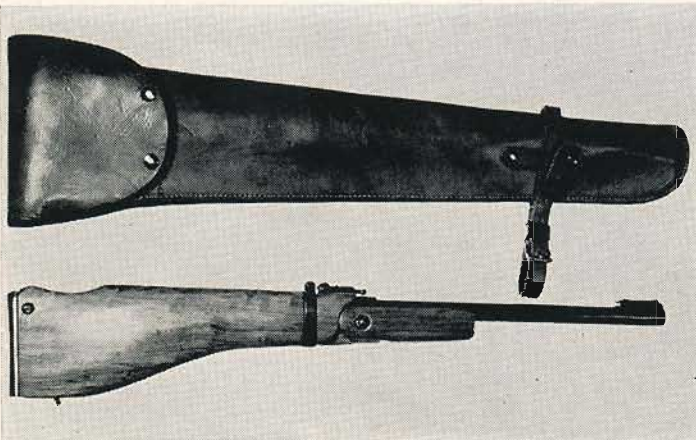
will have problems of arranging trigger linkage and mounting iron or telescopic sights. He will also have some difficulty in designing a rifle that does not look like a club. These latter problems can be solved.

Not all actions are adaptable to bullpup stocking. Those .22s having tubular magazines in the stocks are out, as are semi-automatics that have counter recoil springs in the stock. Almost every other type of action could, however, conceivably be used. More bullpups have been built on bolt actions than on any other actions, but the length of the action and the projecting bolt handle make them a bit clumsy. I know of one Springfield project that was abandoned when someone pointed out that the firer's cheek would be directly over the gas escape port in the left side of the receiver.

Automatics are usable, but obviously only if they have fully enclosed bolts and eject in a safe direction. Pumps and lever actions are conceivable, but I have never seen one.

Single-shot actions are probably the most adaptable to this purpose. Most of them are compact, light-weight, and easily inletted. The readily available Martini is excellent, and several other European falling blocks are just as good. Using the medium length Australian Martini, I found that I could build a rifle with a 20 inch barrel, having an overall length of under 24 inches and a weight of just four pounds. Chambered for .32 Winchester Special, this rifle is as powerful and accurate as the usual saddle carbine. It was intended as a pack rifle for occasional and emergency use, and it is light and compact enough that it can be carried in a hip holster with very little more difficulty than a large pistol. It cost less than twenty-five dollars to build, and its only disadvantage is its rather severe recoil with the 170 grain factory loads. With reduced loads and 114 grain Alcan bullet, it is pleasant to shoot.

(Continued on page 52)



Built on BSA Martini action, this .218 Bee is less than 30 inches long, yet has a 26" barrel. Birch stock is streamlined, makes gun look longer than it measures.

Author's .32 Special with handgrip, sight and trigger folded, ready to go into specially made holster that can be worn on belt. Gun weighs only four pounds.

DEER RIFLES FOR CHUCKS

—or vice versa!



**THIS DOESN'T NECESSARILY ANSWER THE ALL-AROUND RIFLE QUESTION,
BUT IT CAN MAKE YOUR PRESENT PET DO DOUBLE DUTY**

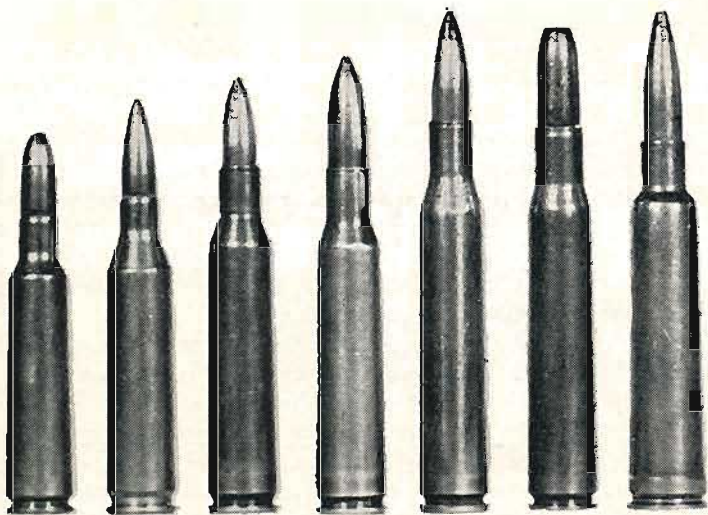
By CLYDE ORMOND

YEARs AGO, when chuck hunting in the West was beginning to graduate from "kids' stuff" to a sport all its own, a friend and I went on a day's hunt in a rocky canyon area. We used one rifle—my pre-war Model 70 Winchester 7 mm, wearing a then-new Weaver 330 scope in Stith mounts. The handloads were maximum, consisting of 46.5 grains of #4320 powder and Speer 130 grain bullets. It was purely a mule deer outfit—and a good one.

The shooting was across a big canyon filled with lava

boulders, a creek in the bottom, and little else. The shooting "positions" were invariably pretzel-like postures, with us either draped over a lava on the canyon brink, or sitting on sharp rocks, and one knee likely almost into an ear. The range to where the chucks worked the opposite rim was maybe 175 yards.

In 17 shots that day, with each of us alternating shots with the lone rifle, we killed nearly a dozen chucks. Kills were not the spectacular explosions of a .220 Swift, but



Almost any deer cartridge can be used on chucks. Line-up above shows, left to right, .250 Savage, .243, .257, 7mm, .270, .30-06, and 7x61 S&H. A good, light spotting scope like Bushnell Sentry author uses at right, locates chucks.



were entirely adequate, stopping the rodents in their tracks.

While headed home, I apologized for not having a more suitable "chuck rifle." My partner was still enthused. "What you growling about? Look at the fine practice you got for this fall's deer season."

On the first chuck hunt this past spring, another hunting partner made a comparable observation, only this time we had our deer rifles along—he a .257 Roberts, and I a .243 Winchester.

Briefly, I missed the first shot. Norman also missed his first try, and neither chuck was over 175 yards. "Why," he asked after the double miss, "does a guy have to learn to shoot all over again each spring?"

Those two widely-spaced incidents contain a valuable bit of hunting wisdom for the deer hunter who is willing to learn. The gist of it is to take the same rifle, loads, sights and sight-settings to chuck country as will be used on deer.

Chuck hunting as a sport has mushroomed so much that

the biggest problem today is where to find more chucks. For hunting chucks exclusively, the choice of fine precision equipment is almost limitless. The ultimate in accurate cartridges, rifles, and perfection in scopes seems to have been reached.

Pest cartridges come and go, but today the .222 Remington, .222 Magnum, and the .22-250 Varminter represent the very finest. Used with accurate rifles and with scopes of from 6X on up, these cartridges will take care of most any chuck hunting situation. The .222, or its magnum version, is good to 225 yards, relatively un-noisy in settled areas, and most pleasant to shoot. The .22-250 will handle chucks out to 300 yards, and that's a lot of yards if you'll measure them with a steel tape. For more spectacular kills at extreme ranges, one can go to a dual-purpose cartridge such as the .243 or the .244.

In addition, the sport of chuck hunting has received a new boost in interest with (Continued on page 58)



Big western rock-chuck, with two fine deer rifles, a .243 and a .264 Magnum, with which he can be taken.

THE INFLUX OF surplus military semi-automatic rifles into this country, as well as the introduction of new sporting automatics, has created a new, but not insoluble problem for shooters who wish to use them. Automatics are more demanding than manually operated repeaters when it comes to ammunition.

Almost any old load containing enough powder to push the bullet out of the barrel will at least function in the hand-operated arms. Not so with the auto-loaders. They demand a cartridge that delivers velocity, pressure, and recoil within the limits for which they were designed, to operate the mechanism. This presents no problem as long as one uses factory or arsenal loaded full-charge ammunition. But what if you want to cut costs, or like to shoot moderate loads with lead bullets for small game or target purposes? Many of the favorite loads in the mid-range class, and most of the lead bullet loads recommended in loading manuals, do not have the zip to make the autos perk.

We have been experimenting with several of the military

automatics available to shooters, with the idea of working up lead bullet loads that will operate these guns reliably and still hit the target.

There are several factors that must be given careful consideration in developing these loads. First is pressure and recoil. The former is the determining factor in the functioning of gas operated arms, while the latter is what makes the recoil operated arms, such as the Johnson, percolate. These factors rule out the use of squib and/or gallery type loads if you want the gun to reload itself.

Merely selecting a load that develops pressures equal to those of factory loaded ammunition will not always insure proper functioning. We must have a load that develops essentially the same pressure-curve to pressure-time relationship. Regardless of what the pressure might be in the chamber, unless the proper level exists at the time the bullet passes over the gas port, the arm will not function. Because of this fact, it is possible to have a load that develops enough chamber pressure to wreck the gun, yet it may drop

How To Feed An AUTO-LOADER

RIGHT FEEDING FORMULAS MAKE SEMI-AUTOS STEADY PERFORMERS, GIVE BETTER ACCURACY



By CAPTAIN GEORGE C. NONTE, Jr.

Test-firing a Johnson auto-loader, V. L. Taylor tries sitting shots at 100 yard target. (Above) .30-06 cases with appropriate bullets. Pressure must be high enough to operate gun's mechanism.



The FN Type 40 8x57 mm (top) requires heavier loads than most, to insure functioning. Opening gas port slightly allows use of lighter charges in 7.62 NATO FN/Browning FAL.



Loadings selected produced very light recoil in Johnson .30-06 (2nd above) German G 41-W (1st above) antedates G 43 tested.

off so rapidly that there will not be enough push on the gas piston to operate the mechanism. (Only very fast burning pistol type powders would react in this way.)

Bullet shape is very important in the functioning of many military autos. Most of them are designed for the characteristically pointed, full-jacket service bullet. The feed ramps, bullet guides, etc., are all shaped to guide this pointed projectile into the chamber at the high velocity given the incoming round by the counter-recoiling bolt. In so doing, these surfaces frequently exert considerable force on the bullet ogive or point. Because of this, a round-nose lead bullet will not always feed correctly. On the other hand, a sharp pointed lead bullet may not withstand the forces exerted against it without deformation. This may cause incorrect feeding or complete tie-up of the gun, as well as inaccuracy due to mutilated bullets.

Thus, we have two basic problems to solve for any given weapon model; and even then we can expect considerable variation from weapon to weapon even if the same model and make. First, we must have a charge and type of powder that develops sufficient pressure or recoil to cycle the action. Second, we must have a bullet of such shape and hardness as to feed correctly. Its weight is also important in developing the proper chamber pressure.

Probably the first step we can take in working up a load

for any given rifle is to check existing loading data for a lead bullet load in the caliber desired that comes reasonably close to the ballistics of the service round. Then we look for a bullet in the proper weight that is of at least semi-pointed shape. Pure linotype metal casts well and will produce a bullet hard enough to stand the strain of being rammed through most auto (Continued on page 47)



On Missouri Bottom Rifle Range, Taylor fires author's 8 mm FN Type 40 to test accuracy of cast bullet loads.

ONCE AVAILABLE ONLY
TO LABORATORIES, THE
CHRONOGRAPH IS NOW A
TOOL FOR HOME LOADERS

HERE'S
HOW YOU
CAN



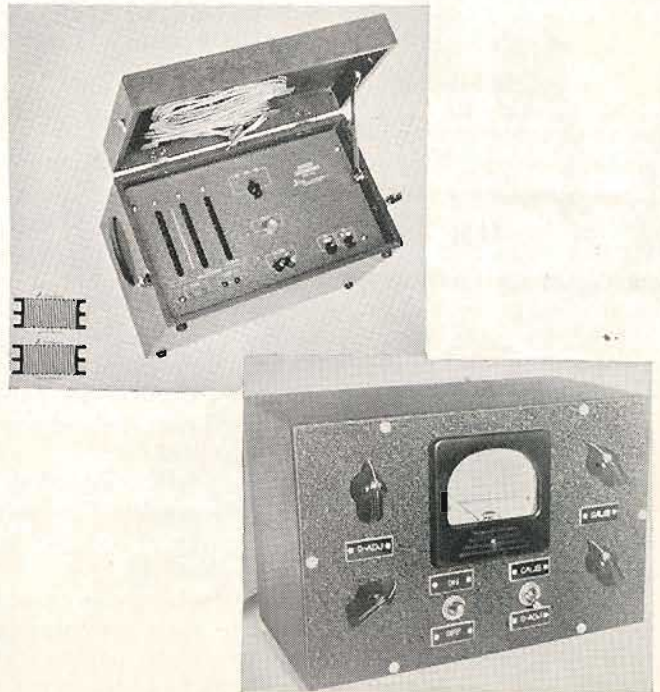
TEST THAT LOAD...

By BOB TREMAINE

WITH THE CONSTANTLY increasing interest in handloading and thousands of new addicts joining the roll 'em yourself cult annually, more and more often the question arises: How fast is that bullet going? If all reloaders were to stick religiously to established loading data, there would be very little call for that mysterious gadget called the chronograph. But what handloader is content with another man's fodder?

We are all familiar with the fps—feet per second—term, and realize that it is nothing more or less than a measure of velocity, the rate of speed with which a bullet travels across a given distance. Factory velocities are a matter of record, and handloading books give approximate velocity values for practically all established calibers. Thus, theoretically at least, we should know the velocity of most loads; and velocities of new loads—thanks to the various companies who manufacture handloading components—are quickly available, often before factory loads show up on the dealer's shelves. Why then a chronograph for the handloader?

First of all, there is the fact that experienced handloaders like to develop their own loads for a pet gun that would suffer undue barrel wear if it were shot extensively with fully jacketed loads. Secondly, more and more shooters are becoming aware of the fact that complete familiarity with their guns pay off, (Continued on page 65)



The Avtron chronograph (above, left) reads directly, is easily carried, and hooks on to battery or electric circuit. Hollywood Gun Shop chronograph, below, does require interpolation, is good yet reasonably priced.



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Ye Old Hunter illustrates all weapons by actual untouched photographs so you can see how they REALLY look.

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Genuine Spanish TOLEDO Saber with all brass fittings and genuine leather scabbard. This sparkling, brass handled saber will surely be the focal point of your favorite room. In extremely nice condition, it must really be seen to be appreciated. Order YOURS this very day!

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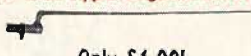
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BRITISH #4 PRONG BAYONET!



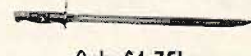
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One of the most remarkable weapons ever developed is this super-power Finnish 20MM Anti-tank rifle. Mounted on special sleds you can drag it ANYWHERE in ANY weather! Power to spare for you "sure kill" hunters (always aim for an eye shot at that charging Rhino) yet something you can drag ANYWHERE! Why encumber yourself with a \$200.00 deluxe sporter? Why be under-gunned? Get that man-eating Jackrabbit with the first shot (or even near miss) with this incredibly accurate semi-auto. Comes in original custom wooden case, complete with accessories, extra magazines, etc., FREE, at no extra charge. AMMO? Naturally, Ye Old Hunter's got all you'll ever want for years on the range or in the field. Imagine, only 99¢ per round for a magnificent 20MM cartridge with super velocity 2130 grain bullet GUARANTEED to stop that charging woodchuck in his tracks.



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IMPORTANT SALES INFORMATION—PLEASE READ CAREFULLY: Add 5% for postage prepaid delivery for any layover anywhere in the U. S. A., and 8% for any Sabers. Also note special Parcel Post charges on magazines and belts. Otherwise Ye Old Hunter will have to ship Railways Express. Anti-tank rifles and ammunition shipped Railway Express or Truck with shipping charges collect. Send check or Money Order. DO NOT SEND CASH. Sorry no C.O.D.'s. Regard we are unable to accept any order at these special SALE prices (good this month only) less than \$5.00. "Money's Worth or Money Back" guarantee when goods are returned prepaid within two days after receipt. SALES ARE LIMITED TO THE CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES.

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	PRICE	Parcel Post Each
German MG 34/42 Metallic Link Belt. (50 Rd.)	\$2.25	\$ 50
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CRYPTOGRAM OF THE MONTH (Area L-2): "THE MOON ICE ARE ON THE MARCH. BORIS."

COLLECTORS CORNER

ULTRA RARE COLLECTORS SPECIAL: Good this month only! A limited quantity of these unbelievably rare items sold on a first come, first served basis. None available for the first time, most for the last! All at a fraction of going collector prices WHEN available. Ultra Rare!

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An incredible Boer War find! German made DWM O.V.S. (Orange Vreite Staat—Orange Free State) M95 Mausers with O.V.S. AND Chilean Crest markings. The rifles that failed to penetrate the British Blockade. A collectors find par excellence in very good or better condition and at a token price.

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M95 ANCHOR CREST MAUSERS!
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Unbelievable but true, true, TRUE. M95 Mauser rifles with the Anchor Crest Receiver Ring. A Mauser SO RARE that ALL the experts (to date) are stumped! A Ye Old Hunter secret—only revealed after his return from a secret mission—see cryptogram above! No Mauser collection EVER complete without this rarest of the rare worth at least QUADRUPLE!

HUNGARIAN 35M MANNLICHERS!
Cal. 8x56R (Ammo in Stock)

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The elusive scarce Mannlicher which has thrown even museums into a state of livid frustration. All in good or better condition. Reserved strictly for the avid collector at a price designed to more than DOUBLE your investment. (until now) 8x56R cartridge available from Ye Old Hunter at \$6.00 per 100. Add \$10.00 for one in special select condition. ALSO a few patently rare Austrian Steyr Carbinas in the modified 91/24 Model with "H" stamped in barrel at only \$29.95! Cal. 8x56R.

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The collector treasure of all time... located in a secret WW II cache just west of the Weser. The Hungarian modification of the famed German 98/40. Ask the man who DOESN'T own one to find out what THIS is worth. In totally good condition \$39.95. In VERY GOOD condition only \$10.00 additional. A "Patterson" among Mannlichers at a "shooting" price! Standard 8MM Caliber.

THE COLLECTORS CORNER SPECIAL SALE DEPICTED IN LAST MONTH'S AD IS STILL GOOD AND EFFECTIVE THIS MONTH. TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS STILL SUPER-BARGAIN! ! ! ! !

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1. German 20MM Rheinmetall. (AP)
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6.5MM JAP (M.C.)	\$6.00
6.5MM ITALIAN IN CLIPS (M.C.)*	\$5.00
7MM MAUSER (M.C.)	\$6.00
7.35 ITALIAN IN CLIPS (M.C.)	\$5.00
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7.65MM (.30) MAUSER (M.C.)	\$6.00
30-06 U.S. M2 (NON-CORROSIVE)	\$6.00
30-06 BLANKS	\$4.00
SOFT POINT CARTRIDGES	
30-40 Krag (M.C.)	\$5.00
303 BRITISH MILITARY	\$7.50
303 BRITISH BLANKS	\$4.00
8MM GERMAN MAUSER ISSUE (M.C.)	\$4.00
8MM LEBEL (M.C.)	\$6.00
8x56 R MANNLICHER	\$6.00
42 COLT BERDAN RIFLE (M.C.)*	\$10.00
43 (11MM) REMINGTON (M.C.)*	\$5.00
SOFT POINT CARTRIDGES	
6.5 SWEDISH SOFT POINT (40 rds.)	\$5.90
7MM MAUSER SOFT POINT (20 rds.)	\$3.45
7.5 SWISS SOFT POINT (20 rds.)	\$4.45
7.62 RUSSIAN SOFT POINT (45 rds.)	\$6.65
7.65 MAUSER SOFT POINT (20 rds.)	\$3.45
303 BRITISH SOFT POINT (45 rds.)	\$6.65
8MM MAUSER SOFT POINT (40 rds.)	\$5.90

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

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Pride of the Wehrmacht from Narvik to Tobruk—from Calais to Stalingrad. This devastating World War II classic available at last at the lowest price ever. If ever in doubt order this time tested battle favorite. Good or better condition while they last. Genuine Mauser 98 Bayonets only \$3.95 complete with scabbard. Both military and soft point. Ammunition in stock at bargain prices listed in box below!

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- Professional Conversion.
- Turned Down Bolt Handle
- Only 8 1/4 Pounds
- Four Groove Rifling
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- Sling Swivels

7.63MM Target Ammo \$6.00 per 100.
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MAUSERS

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ONLY
\$2995!

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(Ammo in Stock)



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G33/50 SWEDISH MAUSER CARBINES!

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Cal. 6.5MM
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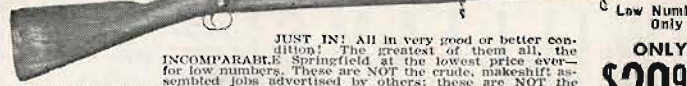
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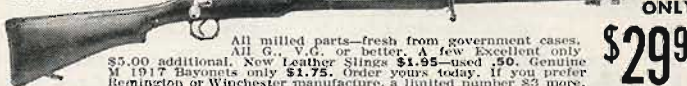
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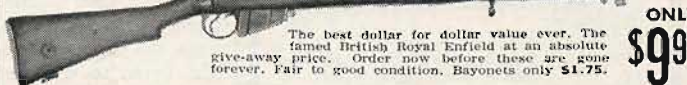
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Pull!

BY DICK MILLER

INTEREST in the clay target sports is world-wide. That this is true has been dramatically demonstrated to me by a letter from far-off Durban, India. GUNS reader Harold C. Drinn of Durban, and members of his gun club, were intrigued by some shooting advice offered in an earlier "Pull" column. Seems also that reader Drinn is a left-hander.

No, I'll be the first to admit that the approach of this column to shooting events is often left-handed, but the writer shoots from his right shoulder, all of the time. After reading fellow shooter Drinn's letter, it is clear to me that some of the traditional lack of communication between the political left and right spills over into the field of communicating shooting advice. I begin to understand that, try as he might, the right-handed or right-shoulder shooter does not really understand the problem of the fellow, who "does everything backwards."

Reader Drinn's letter was inspired by a "Pull" column on the "pointing foot" for clay target shooters. My approach to this form of shooting advice has been to describe the action for a right-hander, then to add the comment, "left-shoulder shooters reverse directions." This offhand dismissal of all the world's population who don't happen to shoot from the right shoulder is what prompted Mr. Drinn to take pen in hand. He plaintively, but politely, avers that is difficult reading "left for right" and "right for left." So, for the edification and instruction of other unconvinced and confused clay target gunners the world over, here is a whole new approach to the "pointing foot" philosophy of clay target shooting.

Your "pointing foot" is the one opposite the shoulder to which you place the gun butt, when shooting clay targets. The pointing foot for the right-shoulder shooter is the left foot. The pointing foot for the left-shoulder shooter is the right foot.

The object of the pointing foot is to permit, or force, the shooter to swing the gun at a difficult angle shot, rather than to shove the gun. The theory behind this pronouncement is that you can swing a gun faster and easier than you can shove it.

Position the pointing foot incorrectly, and you force yourself to shove the gun at angle targets. Position the foot correctly, and you swing at difficult angles, but still have no trouble with the easy opposite angle.

Here is a practical demonstration. You are on post one of a trap field, and you shoot from the right shoulder. If you point your left foot toward the traphouse, and get an extreme left angle, you must shove the gun after the target, because your whole body is leaning to the right, and the target flies to your left.

Now, point the left foot at the place where that left angle bird will go, and swing the gun back to the house. When the extreme angle is thrown, notice how much easier and faster you moved the gun barrel after this target.

Now for the southpaw, or left hander. You are on post one of the trap layout. Your gun is on your left shoulder. Your right foot points toward the traphouse. Out comes the extreme left angle. You have to shove the barrel in a hurry after that target.

Instead, point that right foot far to the left of the traphouse, and see how much easier it is to reach that extreme angle target.

Now, let's take the same philosophy over to the skeet range. For a comparable situation, let's shoot our birds from post two.

Aim your pointing foot, and the gun barrel, at the point beyond post eight, where the targets cross. For reader Drinn's benefit, this advice is true whether for domestic or ISU skeet rules. Only the distances involved are greater. When the high house target emerges, notice how easy it is to swing on and past the bird.

Then aim the pointing foot in the general direction of the high house, as many shooters do. You will discover that you have to shove the gun after this target, and more often than you like, you will be behind the bird. You can't swing easily and smoothly if the pointing foot is incorrectly positioned, no matter which foot it is, nor from which shoulder you shoot.

This whole business boils down to the observation that there is a hard way, and an easy way, to shoot any clay target. More often than not, whether a shot is easy or difficult is tied in with the positioning of the foot opposite your shooting shoulder.

And since we are shooting because it's fun, let's do it the easy way. The clay target sports are fun, shooting wrong or right; but they are more fun when you shoot right.

Reader Drinn also asks for information and hints on how to shoot doubles. He does not specify whether trap or skeet doubles. Because I have detected at gun clubs some apprehension on the part of many beginning shooters with the thought of two targets being in the air at the same time, I will try to allay those fears for both sports.

Skeet doubles are easy, just as easy as single targets. You have plenty of time for shooting both targets. Too many beginners rush the first shot in anticipation of the second shot. Result is that one or both shots will be missed. Advice—take your time, shoot them one at a time, and score two dead birds.

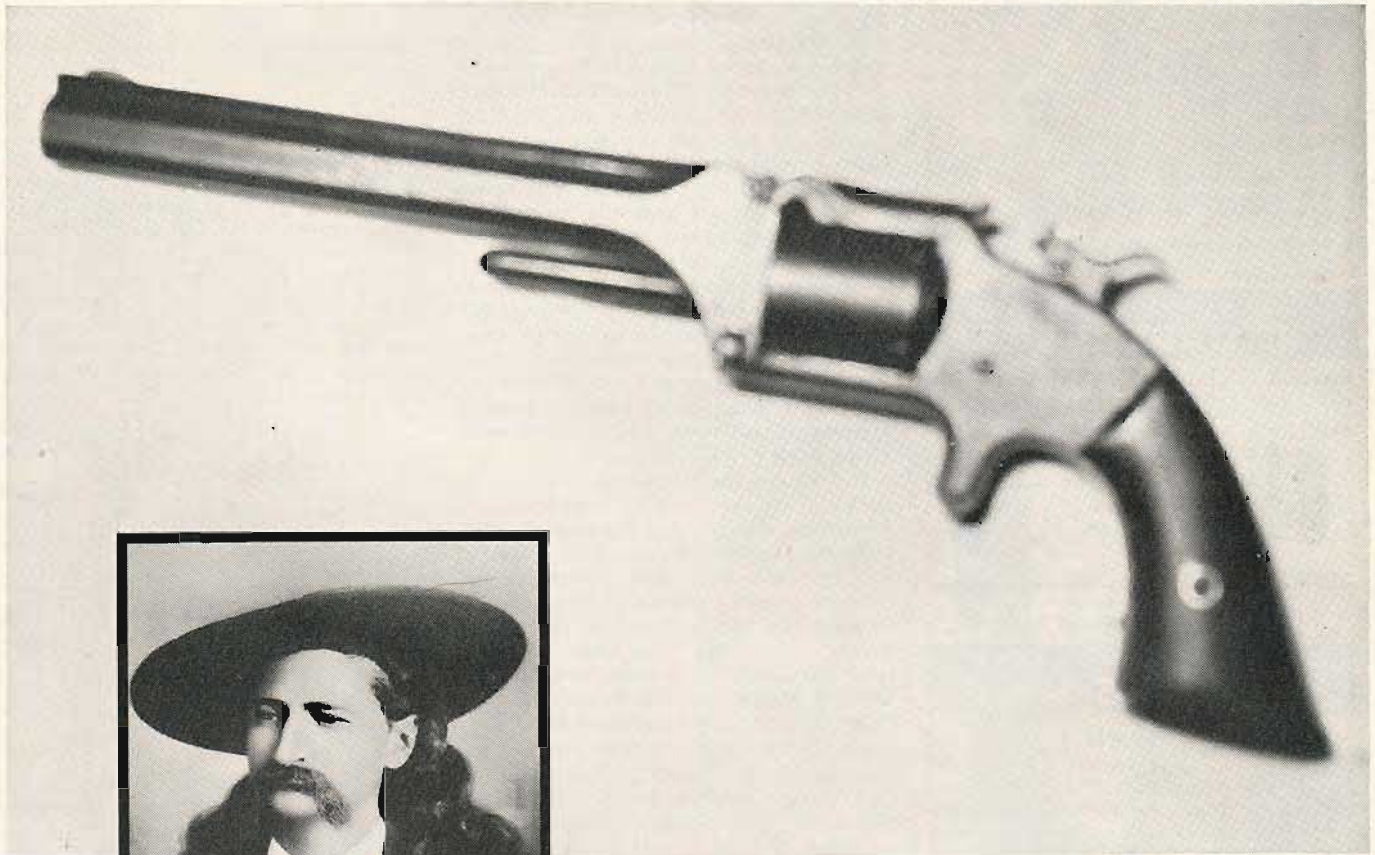
It follows that if you position yourself correctly for the first of a pair of skeet doubles via the "pointing foot" method, you

(Continued on page 70)



HOW MANY TIMES, SINCE THAT DAY IN DEADWOOD,
HAVE EAGER OWNERS ASKED THE QUESTION

IS THIS A HICKOK GUN?



Tracing the movements of gun after Hickok's death seems to substantiate claim that it was the famed lawman's gun.

By LILIAN BROOKS

"ARE THESE The Hickok Guns?" Joseph G. Rosa asked this question in an article in "Guns Quarterly," Volume One. I now ask, "Is *this* a Hickok gun?" I believe the answer is, "Yes." I believe this is the .32 tip-up Smith & Wesson Hickok carried the day he was killed.

After reading Mr. Rosa's article, I got out the old family possession and gathered together all the information I had concerning it. Mr. Rosa offered some information about the people around Wild Bill when he died, and, with some more details, I was able to piece together the story of the pistol.

For an historic weapon, its story is not really remarkable—which is why it was relatively easy to check; but nevertheless it is interesting.

When Wild Bill died, his rifle and at least two pistols

were buried with him; but it seems evident that Colorado Charlie Utter disposed of several others. One such pistol was a .32 Smith & Wesson No. 2 revolver. Legend has it there were two of them, but research to date has not verified this. But it is certain Captain Willoth received such a weapon from Utter, who *told* him it was Hickok's. Willoth in turn kept it until his death, when this together with a number of other pistols went to his wife. When she died, the collection was auctioned off.

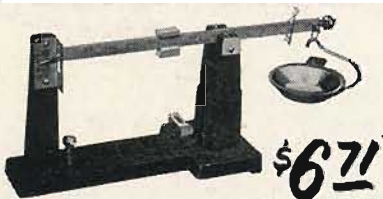
A man named Presswood successfully bid for the lot and returned to Dodge City, Kansas. He, too, prized the Hickok pistol and kept it in good condition. When he died, it was sold again.

Earle Smith, of Gyer Springs, Arkansas, became the next owner; but in his old age he (Continued on page 46)

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HOW MUCH DO YOU LEAD A DUCK?

By COL. GEORGE W. BUSBEY

AN ICONOCLAST, according to Webster, is "one who attacks cherished beliefs; a radical." Herein I shall attack some cherished beliefs—which makes me a radical. So be it. But before you start throwing stones, go back to that dictionary for the various meanings of radical. Two meanings offered are: "thoroughgoing" and "extreme." You're welcome to either.

Shortly after I learned to read, I started learning to shoot a shotgun. I did pretty well with the former but, although I could deserve E for Effort, real excellence with the latter continues to elude me. Perhaps that is because I spend too much time shooting, and not enough with the experts whose unvarying pronouncements are generally accepted as facts. I rked beyond endurance, I shall attack.

My objective is the exposure of the greatest sham in shotgunning: *lead*. My opponents are accepted and undoubted experts: Mr. Fred Kimble, Major Charles Askins (Senior), Elmer Keith, and many other of unimpeachable honesty and unquestioned superiority with the smooth bore. My weapons are—simple arithmetic and the complexity of the human equation.

Mr. Kimble, in my opinion the greatest master of the shotgun of all time, stated unequivocally that his *lead* for crossing Mallards was, respectively, one duck length at 40 yards, three duck lengths at 60 yards, and six duck lengths at 80 yards. That adds up to about two feet, six feet, and twelve feet. Askins, Keith, and most others advocate *leads* not much at variance with the old master's figures. But are they right? Are these leads true—or even possible?

I go out on a limb and state that they are not—not if one expects to hit a crossing duck of any species. And I will go still farther out and add that no shotgun shooter ever took the lead he said (or thought) he took, and hit any crossing duck, goose, snipe, pigeon, pheasant, dove, grouse, woodcock, or mouse. Why? Because it is impossible, and the diagram, tables, and words that follow will prove it.

I have before me a ballistics table which gives the average time of flight of 12 gauge shotgun loads over "standard" ranges. The table tells me that a load of 1 1/4 ounces (170 pellets, No. 4 shot) over 3 3/4 drams of bulk smokeless powder produces 1444 feet per second muzzle velocity, which drives the shot charge 40 yards in .1154 second.

I have another chart giving estimated flight speeds of various game birds in still atmosphere. It says nobody really knows how fast these birds fly, but "these may be fairly close estimates of maximum flight speed." It says also that you can figure the feet-per-second speed by multiplying the miles-per-hour speed by 1 1/2. It says that a Mallard flies 55 miles per hour, whereas a Canvasback wings along at 72 miles per hour.

Now look long and carefully at the lesson in arithmetic below—and look also at diagrams A, B, and C.

Accepting the figures stated above, a Mallard flies approximately 80 feet per second, and a Canvasback flies approximately 115 feet per second. Therefore:

Range in yards	40	60	80
Time of flight of shot	.1154	(est.)	(est.)
Duck speed, f.p.s., Mallard	x 80	(est.)	(est.)
Lead required, feet	9.2320	16	25
Time of flight of shot	.1154		
Duck speed, f.p.s., Canvasback	115		
Lead required, feet	13.2710	22	35

(None of the above considers trigger time, lock time, nor reflex time, yet the duck is traveling during all of those times. Not considered either is the fact that Kimble used black powder, which means lower velocity, which means more time for the duck to travel. . . . And quibbling over my "estimations" for the longer ranges won't help much, since they are sufficiently well borne out by the diagrams (page 43) to prove that leads actually required are much, much longer than the experts claimed. . . . Yet the experts did, and do, hit ducks. Where do they get the extra lead? The answer is—*swing!*)

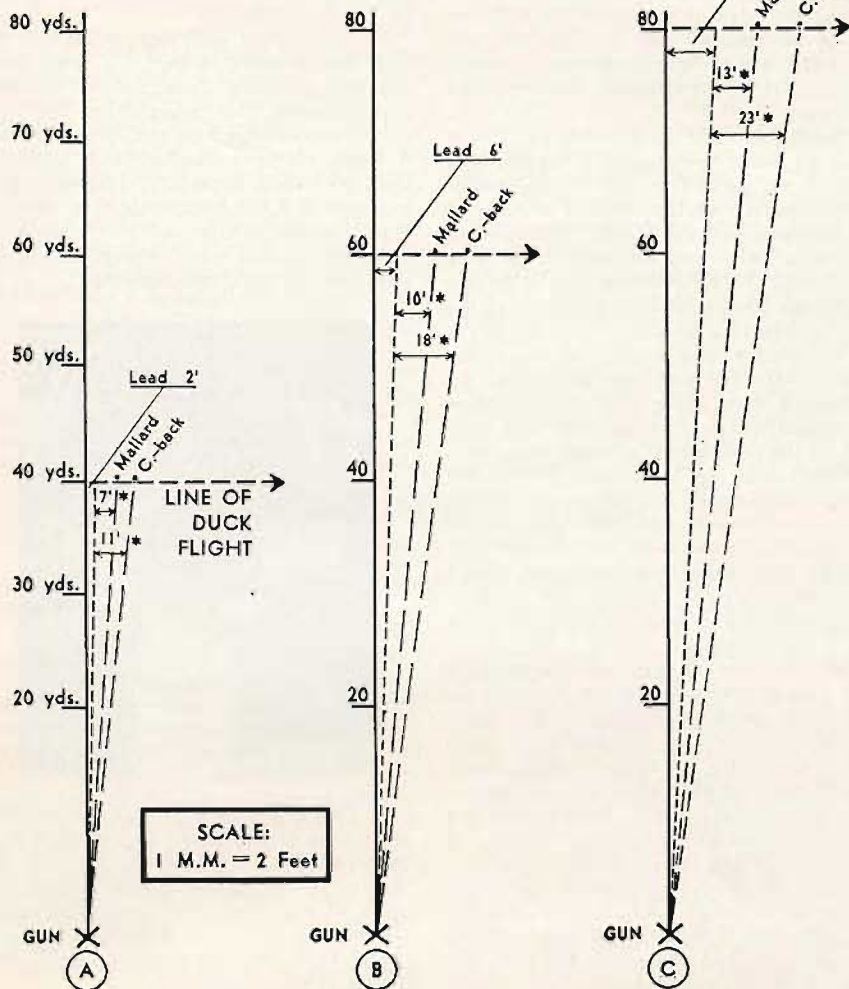
Diagram A shows, to scale, lines representing, at 40 yards range, the line the shot charge would travel with Mr. Kimble's "lead" of one duck length—two feet; a line to the point where a Mallard really would be in the assumed shot flight time; and a line to where a faster flying Canvasback would be with the same time assumption. A quick look will show you that the center of the shot pattern would have been, respectively, seven and eleven feet behind the different ducks.

Diagram B and Diagram C show the idea projected to 60 and 80 yards. Remember. Mr. Kimble claimed a three-duck-length lead at 60 yards, and a six-duck-length lead at 80 yards. If he had used those leads, he would, by arithmetic, have missed his Mallards by about 10 and 13 feet. For the Canvasback, it would have been worse—18 and 23 feet, respectively. No pattern could be expected to compensate for that much error.

We could assume that Mr. Kimble could not hit ducks. But that, in view of the evidence, would be a very foolish assumption. Can we say that Mr. Kimble was a liar? That would be unnecessarily nasty. But if we say that Mr. Kimble decided to pull trigger when he had six duck lengths lead on a crossing Mallard at 80 yards and, to the best of his knowledge and belief, did so, and *killed his duck*, what then? Did he kill the duck by using a twelve foot lead? Arithmetic proves that he didn't. Yet he did kill it! How did he do it?

No sane man can believe that crossing ducks can be killed at any proper duck range by shooting behind it, nor by shooting at it, with a still gun. Everyone knows that gun barrel(s) must be pointing ahead of a crossing target when discharge takes place in order to place a charge of shot on the target. And, by arithmetic, within limits, anyone can figure out *how far* ahead. But, and here I take my stand, no one can take a conscious lead of four, six, and twelve feet and kill

- Shows "leads" attributed to Kimble, Askins, etc.
- * Shows shortage which would have resulted on Mallard or Canvas-back.
- Shows where they really "lead" if they hit the duck.



crossing ducks at 40, 60, and 80 yards unless his gun is swinging on and on while his reflex time, lock time, ignition time, and a couple of imponderables, are functioning. Furthermore, it is improbable that any two men can add those factors and get the same result. What is the answer?

The answer is that each shotgunner is a law unto himself, and that only practice afield can make a successful field shooter. Given normal physical equipment, a proper gun and load, and reasonable basic training, any human can become a satisfactory field shot. His progress will be faster if he forgets,

or ignores, all tabulated length of lead and, above all, any advice from experts as to how much lead any particular shot requires. The gunner, and only the gunner, can solve that problem. A fast swinger may even use what amounts to a *negative lead*—that is, he may think he pulls the trigger before his barrels actually catch up with his target. If he can hit that way, fine! A more deliberate swinger may find it helps to think he pulls trigger at some number of feet ahead of his target. Also fine, if it works. But, after reading this column, don't kid yourself. It's tough in the field, and things ain't always what they seem. (Or the way they're written, either.)

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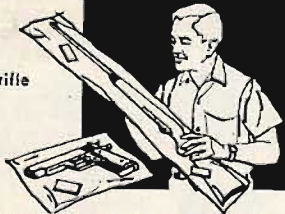
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NEBRASKA FOR PRAIRIE BUCKS

(Continued from page 24)

cover them. A big one broke, heading away from the previous group, and I felt my pulse hammering in anticipation; but when it cleared the edge of the brush patch, I saw that it was another doe. The last one was also a doe, and we were beginning to wonder if the entire deer population was composed of does.

After a long hike back to the car, and a break for lunch, we decided to try the hills north of the river. This area was the southwestern portion of the Niobara division of the Nebraska national "Forest," a misnomer to say the least, since very little of the area is forested. The 110,000 acre tract is 90 percent range land, with only a token planting of cedar and jack pine.

The weather was warm, too warm for walking very far with our jackets, so we abandoned them along with the car when we crossed the river on the sand trail leading into the huge spread of range land. After an hour's hike we halted atop a high hill overlooking a valley that stretched a couple of miles to the east. Les began glassing the hills leading to the north as I leaned back to relax. "I'm not certain," Les said, "but I think there's a mulie laying in that patch of brush about a half mile up along this side-hill. Take a look."

The slope tapered away towards the north with a point swinging eastward. Towards the heel of the point I picked up a small patch of plum brush in the glasses and began working it over inch by inch. A small, heart-shaped, patch of white drew my attention.

"I would bet it's a deer," I answered, "but he doesn't look like he's going to move out of there for a long time." "Well," Les offered, "we have the wind, so let's see if we can get into shooting range." We dropped back behind the crest of the hill, and hiked towards the point of land that held the deer. We came up finally to a point less than 75 yards away from the brush clump that was our target—but now I couldn't see anything that resembled a deer. Was he still there, or had he departed?

Finding out now suited me better than waiting, so I told Les I was going down and jump him. Easing off the hilltop, I pussy-footed towards the brush. I cleared the west edge of the patch. A slight movement drew my attention to a thick cluster of cover and, slowly, I was able to distinguish the animal.

It was a big doe. She was lying flattened out along the ground, even her ears dropped flat in an effort to conceal herself. I unlimbered the camera and began walking in,

snapping a picture at every step, determined to get at least this much out of my disappointment. Finally she bolted and went tearing out of the brush.

The day passed with still no sight of antlers. Deer hunting is like that some times, wherever you hunt them. But we got some encouragement that night from the news that other hunters had met better fortune. A North Platte husband-and-wife team had filled both their licenses. A Fremont hunter had missed a big buck early that morning. Four Lincoln hunters still hadn't seen a buck, and we got some comfort out of that also, since misery loves company.



The third day, the light was quickening in the east as we wound our way over the twisting sandhill trail, and crossed the river into the federal forest lands again. Patch after patch of buckbrush was scanned, meadows glassed, and hilltops scrutinized as the hours ticked away. By 11 o'clock we hadn't seen even a fawn.

As we walked back to the car, I suggested that we give that range of hills to the east of us a going over, and Les nodded. Those mulies had to be somewhere, and our luck was due for improvement.

Pulling the car into a draw, we took to the hills again. This time, we had hiked less than a quarter of a mile when I caught a glimpse of something out of place along the hillside. I pointed, and Les put the glasses on it.

"It is a buck, Gene," Les whispered. "With the light coming right down on top of him, I can't tell for sure if it's more than a spike, but there's horn on him—and that's

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something! Let's get a little closer to him."

We swung back up a valley out of sight, and eased up over another hilltop. The range was close to 300 yards, but with the flat shooting .243 and the Weatherby scope on 7X, it wouldn't be too difficult to hit him—if he was a legal buck. We eased into sitting positions and I swung the scope until the crosshairs laid dead center. I could see the long tapering spikes but not the extra point to make it legal game. Les did better with the big glasses. "It's a forkhorn," he whispered. "Lacks a lot of being a trophy, but with the time deadline on us, we had better take him."

The little buck moved in his bed and stood up. He turned towards the top of the hill to check his exit route, and Les said, softly, "Take him, Gene! He needs only one jump to the top of that hill, so don't miss!"

Moving the crosshairs up over the hilltop, I drew a deep breath, came down until they rested just behind the shoulder of the little buck, then squeezed the trigger. The 80 grain soft point bullet spat out of the .243 and I heard the sound all hunters wait for

as it "whumped" into the buck.

The little mulie humped, bounded about twenty feet, and slowly sunk to the ground. The shot had caught him just aft of the heart, but it had done its job well, rupturing the vitals with lethal power, bringing death almost instantly.

"Well, Gene," Les grinned happily, "you have just killed your first mule buck." Les was right; my first muley—not a big one, but he would make good eating.

"Next year, you'll have to try for one of the whitetails that hang out in the canyon," Les said, as we bounced through the hills. "I know of one real old buster down along Steer Creek canyon that would make a swell trophy. The whitetails are more than holding their own along these canyons, and very few are killed because it's much easier to hunt the mulie out in the open. Besides, there are ten mule deer for every whitetail."

I left Kime's Snake River ranch toward sunset that evening with my little buck and my shirtail. Next year, I promised myself, I'd try that whitetail buck Les had mentioned.

HANDLOADING BENCH

(Continued from page 15)

same range. You can bag small game and varmints at close range.

Your loads are too light for 50 yard work, and as you increase the 25 yard range you'll need to increase the charge to 3 grains Bulls-eye or about 3.3 grains 5066, using bullets of around 147 grains. These heavier loads group well to 50 yards, or a bit more, with more noise and recoil. They are practical for hunting small animals, as well as plinking. If you stay with the lighter fodder until you are a pretty fair 25 yard shooter, the extra noise and recoil won't bother you a bit. You need better bullets for 50 yard work, and if you are making your own, you've probably learned how to make better ones.

Shooting sessions should be as often as possible, and not too long. Most people can spare a half-hour per day, and daily practice isn't too often. Fastest progress will be made by firing no more than a box of ammo per day for a while, and going heavy on dry fire. Even 6 rounds daily will make a real shooter, provided you do your dead level best with every live round.

You'll be a good 50 yard shooter in a short time. Then you'll want to plink and hunt at 75 or 100 yards. With most good 150 to 160 grain semi-wadcutter cast or swaged bullets try 10 grains 2400 or 6.5 grains Unique in .38 cases in your .357 revolver. Charges may need to be worked up or down a bit for your particular gun. These are hotter than stand-

ard factory .38's. It's well to work in a few rounds near the end of each practice session with lighter loads. Hot loads at the start of a session may cause flinching, if you are sensitive.

Half-jacketed bullets swaged with unalloyed lead cores give increased efficiency over hard cast types. The originals were Harvey's Jacketed Jugulars that became justly popular. You can purchase these from Shooters Service, Clinton Corners, N. Y., or the Speer version at most dealers. It's easy to swage them in the excellent C-H Swag-O-Matic tool, or in Bahler, Harvey, Hemp, and other dies.

Stay with these loads a while and you'll want to graduate to real Hi-V stuff in .357 hulls. The deadly, half-jacketed pills strike with the fury of a woman scorned, ripping a huge wound channel for fast, clean kills. Magnum loads have been listed in this column before, so there is no need to repeat them here. I've found the 127 grain Swag-O-Matic hand swaged pill real good with 17 grains 2400, in Super-X cases and CCI standard Small Pistol primers. I've tried to tell you how a rank novice could become a darn good practical handgunner in a short time. The tips have worked for a number of lads I've started in the finest hobby on this green earth. If you try, you'll be pretty good before you burn a pound of Bullseye! You'll never have so much fun at so little cost.

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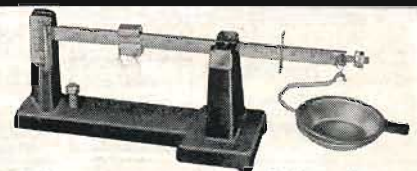
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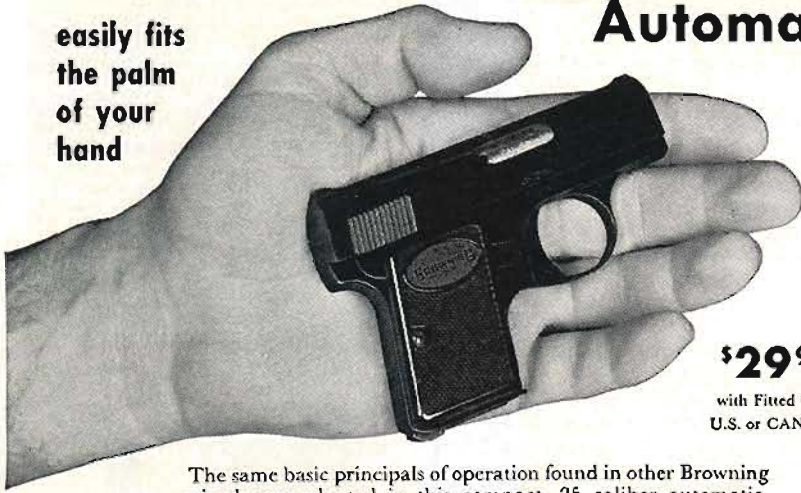
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HICKOK GUN

(Continued from page 41)

became poor and was forced to sell his possessions, and the pistol changed hands again.

A young lady from Texas with a passion for pistols was the next owner. Vera Garbeau Copeland fell in love with the pistol as soon as she saw it. Even when she married an oil king named W. E. Pearce, from Tulsa, Oklahoma, she still wanted her firearms. Fortunately, her husband was amused by her strange hobby and raised no objections. She collected many more pistols—but still preferred the Smith & Wesson.

She and her husband finally decided to retire and live in Canada. Tactfully, Pearce advised his wife to dispose of her pistols, and she agreed. But unknown to him, she kept the Hickok gun and a .38 pearl-handled revolver.

When she died, her husband found them when sorting out her things. He was a little surprised at the deception, but remembering how much his wife had loved pistols, he shrugged his shoulders and smiled sadly. But he had no use for the guns, and set about disposing of them. Unsure of what the law might say, he tactfully approached Provincial Policeman Reginald Reynolds, who put him in touch with a gun collector.

As soon as Gordon E. Brooks saw the Smith & Wesson and heard its history, he jumped at it. He asked many questions, which Pearce answered as best he could. Between them, they traced the pistol right back to Deadwood—and Wild Bill Hickok.

In 1944, Gordon E. Brooks died and his collection came to his son, John, my husband.

We thought little of the story behind the gun until we saw an article in "True" magazine which told the story of the pistol pretty much as we knew it—and gave the serial number. From then on, we took a lot of interest in its history, and sent the following details to the Smith and Wesson company.

"Serial number on butt 30619, and on the cylinder 18-1869. The top of the barrel is illegible but for 'Springfield, Mass. 1869'"

Back came the information that it was the No. 2 revolver, but they could not help us with any further information. But news of our gun got around, and a collector in Florida paid us an unbelievable price for the pistol's holster.

But we still have the pistol, and Rosa's article in "Guns Quarterly" has revived our interest. We are more than ever determined to find an answer to my question. Maybe a reader of GUNS can add to the story of "Wild Bill's pistol." I hope so.

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FEED AN AUTOLOADER

(Continued from page 35)

actions. A gas check is not always required with such hard bullets, but if the bullet selected is designed for one, then it should be affixed before loading.

Taking the 8 x 57 mm Mauser cartridge as a case in point, we worked up a load for use in one of our G/43 rifles. The Lyman handbook recommends a charge of 25 grains of IMR 4895 with the 160 grain bullet, and this bullet comes reasonably close to the 150 grain weight of the service bullet. This load, however, doesn't even come close to working the action, and the bullet is blunt and short—not well suited to feeding from the magazine.

Rather than attempt to speed this bullet up drastically, we look for a heavier bullet using the same powder at about the same velocity. A load for the flat-nosed 180 grain bullet is given, but we know that the chances of this one feeding through the magazine are not too good. Finally, we come to the 210 grain semi-pointed bullet loping along at a modest 2000 feet per second in front of 35 grains of 4895. The bullet shape looks good for feeding, and the heavy bullet should compensate to some degree for the low velocity. This load was tried, and functioning was quite positive when the bullet was seated to an overall length slightly less than that of the issue cartridge.

Now that we have a load that functions the action we can start refining it to suit our needs. Accuracy was very poor in the G/43, and the load had far more power than was needed for 200 yard shooting. The powder charge was cut back an arbitrary 5 grains to see if the weapon would still function. It did, so another 5 grain cutback was made. Functioning was sporadic, so we knew that the minimum charge for reliable functioning lay somewhere between 25 and 30 grains with that bullet. Splitting the bracket at 27.5 grains gave positive functioning and further adjustment was made, finally settling on 26 grains, which gave consistent functioning and, incidentally, excellent accuracy.

Once the minimum charge for positive functioning was reached, slight upward adjustments in charge and other minor refinements such as seating depth, bullet diameter, etc., may be worked out to give maximum accuracy. In the case under discussion, seating to cover the first four lubricating grooves, a bullet diameter of .324" and the 26 grain powder charge gave 1½" of angle accuracy when loads were carefully assembled and the shooter did his share.

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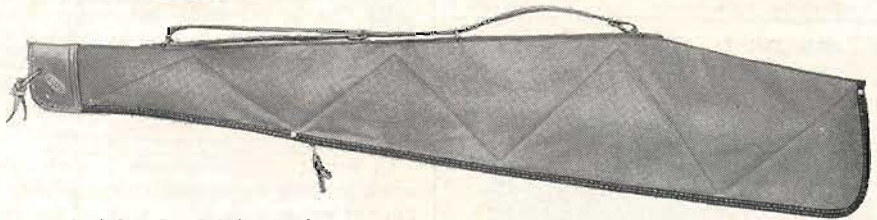


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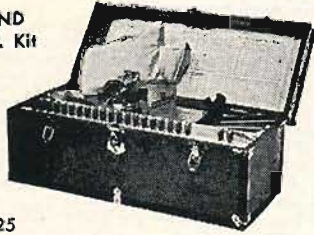
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just remember that many of those so-called "clunkers" have very smooth and uniform barrels in spite of their rough appearance and ungainly licks. Many of these guns will shoot like the proverbial house afire if you only take the time and effort to find out just what they prefer in the way of ammunition. It may be a bit more trouble than for a bolt gun, but the potential is there if you want to uncover it.

Of course, the military sight graduations won't mean a thing with reduced loads of the sort we are talking about. Of all the guns tried, only the M1 rifle has a micrometer-type click-adjustable sight. Once you have settled on a particular load, it is usually possible to file a notch or step in the typical tangent or ramp sight that most of the European semi-autos carry. Such a notch to engage the elevation slide of the rear sight can usually be filed in without destroying the utility of the sight with military ball ammunition. Before doing this though, it is best to try very slight variations in powder charge to see if this will not permit you to use one of the existing graduations. If one of these graduations can be used, the problem is simplified. Just fill that notch with white paint or scribe a mark of some sort so that it can be readily identified. Old manuals printed during the period when reduced loads were issued by the Ordnance Corps for use by our own military forces for training and guard use, specified which graduations of the rear sight were to be used with the squib loads. A little experimentation will enable you to do the same on the modern automatics (or any other military rifle, for that matter), eliminating the need for special sighting equipment or modifications.

While on this project, loads were worked up for six different automatics in the writer's collection, a Tokarev M-38 in 7.62 Russian caliber, a Johnson and an M1 in .30-06 caliber, a G/43 and an FN Type 40 FAIS in 8x57 mm caliber, and one of the latest FN FAL rifles in 7.62 mm NATO (.308 Winchester) caliber. In every case, it was possible to get positive functioning connected with good practical accuracy in a moderate velocity lead bullet load. In most cases it was necessary to go to a bullet much heavier than the service bullet. Of course, it would probably have been possible to speed up the lighter bullet to get good functioning, but we have never been able to get better than mediocre results on the target with fast-stepping lead bullets. It does little good to have a load that functions perfectly through

the weapon unless it can be expected to hit the target with regularity.

Some of the loads developed are given here for those of you who want to get right at the shooting without spending a few hours on the range and loading bench working up your own. A load is given for each of the rifles used, but due to the many variations found from gun to gun in wartime contract and arsenal manufactured weapons, these exact loads may not give completely reliable functioning in your weapon of the same type,



The .30-06 load for Johnson and M1, 7.62 mm NATO for FN Assault gun, and 8 mm for G43 and Type 40 FN.

model, and caliber. Slight variations may be necessary for the sake of accuracy and reliability.

Aside from the ammunition, there are several other things that can be done to improve functioning of these fast-firers. Many of them are pretty rough inside the action and a little judicious stoning and polishing of the various sliding and camming surfaces will allow them to function with a lighter load. Another place where polishing pays off is on the bottom of the bolt or breech block where it drags across the top cartridge in the magazine as it extracts the fired case from the chamber. A rough surface here will slow the bolt down considerably when light loads are being used. Loading only a few rounds in the magazine will also help. A ten-round magazine crammed full will cause the top round to press hard against the bottom of the bolt, tending to retard it in its rearward travel. Lightening the magazine spring and loading only three to five rounds will help. Careful polishing of the feed lips, bullet guide, feed ramps, and so on will also improve functioning. In short, anything that will reduce drag or friction within the action will enable you to use a lighter load and still have positive functioning. If a weapon is to be used exclusively for light lead bullet loads, then the gas port may be increased slightly in size to vent more gas into the gas cylinder. This is a touch and go proposition though, and should not be overdone. Too large a port may result in damage to bullet bases as they pass over it or may even cause damage to the mechanism through too heavy a blow on the piston. Keep in mind that a gun so altered is not safe for use with standard—
(Continued on page 50)

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(Continued from page 48)

ard factory loaded ammunition. Some guns, notably the FN FAL Assault Rifle and the FN type 40 FAIS have a gas port adjustment which can be used to vary the amount of gas entering the cylinder. While the original purpose of this device was to adapt the weapon to severe extremes of temperature, it can also be used to open up the port for positive functioning with lighter loads.

After having completed the firing of cast bullets in various military automatics, a set of Swag-O-Matic .30 caliber rifle bullet dies was received from the CH Die Company. This swaging tool makes up very neat half-jacketed rifle bullets from lead wire and copper cups in the same fashion that hand-gunners make their bullets.

A supply of bullets was made up, using Speer cups and alloy lead wire. The heaviest bullet possible to make with the CH dies weighed 123 grains so that weight was chosen in the semi-wadcutter form. The Johnson .30-06 rifle and the FN-Browning FAL 7.62 mm assault rifle were selected to run some tests with this new bullet. By interpolation, powder charges were selected that could be expected to develop enough pressure and velocity to make the weapons function properly. A load of 47 grains of Hogdon Ball C powder was tried in the Johnson .30-06 and it resulted in marginal functioning. Occasionally the bolt would not recoil far enough to pick up the next round from the magazine. A charge of 49 grains of the same powder produced correct functioning with the bullet seated just to cover the copper jacket. Seated to this depth, the lead bearing surface of the bullet fits tightly into the lead of the barrel and the marks can be clearly seen on the extracted round. Seating the bullet deeper will cause poor feeding from the magazine while shallower seating will result in the bullet sticking in the chamber throat. Velocity of this load is not known, but 55 grains of the same powder gives the 125 grain jacketed bullet 3,186 fps. Therefore, this home-brewed bullet should be zipping along at pretty close to 3,000 fps.

The 7.62 mm cartridge was first loaded with 41.5 grains of Ball C powder behind the same 123 grain bullet. This load would eject the empty cases well enough, but the bolt did not recoil far enough to pick up the next round from the magazine of the FN rifle. Upping the charge by stages to 45 grains produced a smoothly functioning gun and the velocity is estimated at a bit over 2,800 fps. For this load the bullet was seated so that about 1/32" of the copper cup extended past the case mouth. Here again, the cylindrical bearing surface of the bullet fit tightly into the throat of the chamber. Shallower or deeper seating produced the same effects as with the Johnson .30-06.

The round-nose and pointed type bullets of this half jacketed bullet are not satisfactory for use in these two guns. Both are shorter for their weight than the semi-wadcutter and when loaded far enough out to feed through the magazine, they hang up in the throat of the chamber, even to the extent of preventing the bolt from closing and locking properly.

Any of these bullets print nice clean holes in the target at 100 yards (the longest range at which they were fired) but accuracy in the Johnson and FN were not up to what those guns give with cast or regular jacketed bullets. This could probably be corrected by



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developing the loads a bit further as to powder, case and primer. It has already been established that the half jacketed bullet gives excellent accuracy in bolt-action guns, so I suspect the loads or guns in this particular case rather than the bullets.

Should there be a goodly number of these military automatics in the hands of your shooting friends, you can have some very interesting rapid fire matches. Balloons, clay birds, and rolling hoops make good targets for rapid fire novelty matches. Try putting up half a dozen small balloons for each shooter, give him ten rounds, then start them breaking balloons at 200 yards off hand. Credit should be given for rounds not used. Try an improvised running deer target—it's lots of fun with the automatics, but don't think that you will have a perfect score!

LOADING DATA

M-1 Garand 30-06

Bullet: Lyman 169 gr. round nose, gas check. Powder: 4320, 39 gr. Case: R. A. 57. Accuracy: 3.5". Remarks: Use plenty of oil in gas cylinder.

Johnson 30-06

Bullet: same as above. Powder: Ball C, 38 gr. Case: F. A. 57 Match. Accuracy: 3". Remarks: Very mild recoil in this weapon.

FN/Browning FAL 7.62 mm NATO

Bullet: same as above. Powder: Ball C, 35 gr. Case: R. A. 57 reformed. Accuracy: 2.75". Remarks: Opening up gas port will allow use of lighter charges.

Tokarev M-38 7.62 Russian

Bullet: Lyman 169 gr. pointed gas check. Powder: 4895, 37.5 gr. Case: Finnish issue. Accuracy: 4". Remarks: Careful polishing of action will allow some reduction of charges.

Bullet: Lyman 200 gr. pointed gas check. Powder: 4895, 26 gr. Case: F. A. 57 Match, reformed. Accuracy: 1.5". Remarks: Unusually fine accuracy. Heavier loads will dent cases badly.

FN Type 40 8x57 mm

Bullet: Lyman 110 gr. round nose gas check. Powder: Ball C, 57 gr. Case: Persian and French issue. Accuracy: 2.25". Remarks: This gun requires heavier loads than most to insure functioning.

M1 US .30 Carbine

Bullet: Lyman 110 gr. .32-20 gas check HP. Powder: H-240, 13 gr. Case: L. C. 56. Accuracy: 3". Remarks: Feed ramps in this gun require polishing to feed this bullet properly.

M1 US .30 Carbine

Bullet: Lyman 100 gr. pointed. Powder: 2400, 13.5 gr. Case: P. C. 47. Accuracy: 3.5". Remarks: This load feeds and functions nicely without weapon alteration.

All the above bullets were cast from type metal or an alloy closely resembling it in hardness. Softer bullets may be used, providing your particular weapon will feed them correctly.

All accuracy figures are based on several 5-shot groups at 100 yards.

All bullets sized to .001" or less over groove diameter.

Lyman Ideal lubricant used on all bullets. All powder charges thrown in Redding powder measure after using scales to verify charges.

All loads moderately crimped except those for .30 carbine.

Med. Heavy Weight 26"—4 lbs. 4 ozs.

Sporter-weight 24"—3 lbs.

Lightweight 22"—2 lbs. 6 oz.

Made exclusively for Flaig's by a nationally known barrel maker. Each barrel is best quality 6-groove with smooth, hard-swaged "button" patented rifling.

Threaded for '98 Mauser, F.N. Mauser, HVA, Springfield, Enfield, Win. '70, Rem. 721 & 722, Norwegian Krag, Mex. Small Ring Mauser, Jap 6.5 and 7.7.

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Guarantee: Barrels are made to the highest standards of workmanship and after a five day inspection period customer has the privilege to return for full refund if not 100% pleased. Barrel should be head-spaced before use by a competent gunsmith.

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Barrel	Diam. at Breech	Diam. at Muzzle	Lgth. at Muzzle	Weight
Lightweight	1 1/8"	.600	22"	2 lb. 6 oz.
Sporter-Weight	1 1/8"	.615	24"	3 lb.
Med. Hvy. Wgt.	1 1/8"	.700	26"	4 lb. 4 oz.

TWIST: Ace Barrels come in standard twists as follows: Cal. 243, 257, 270, 7MM, .25-06, 280, 338 and 30-06, 1-10, Cal. 244, 250, 300 and 308, 1-12, Cal. 22-250, 220 and 222, 1-14.

F.N. Ace Barreled Action (White), \$72.50—Add \$5.00 for F.N. Supreme (Series 400) Action. Fitting Services: Flaig's will fit any ACE Barrel to your action, stamp caliber, headspace and test fire for \$5.00. Returned f.o.b. Millvale, Pa., unless postage and insurance remittance is enclosed.

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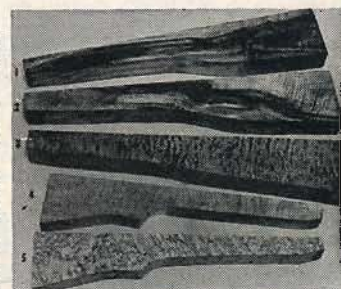
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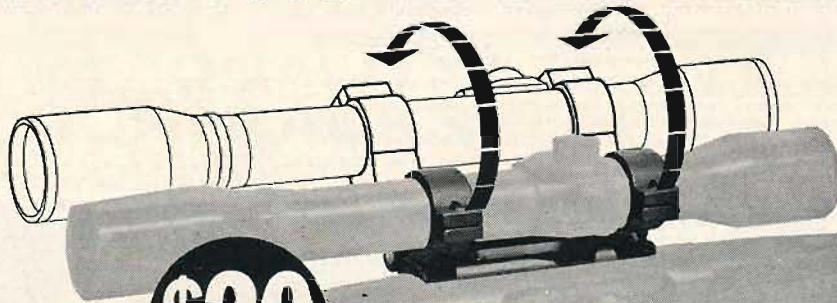
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R.R.B., Ammo: Orig. .43 Spanish ammo (misfires naturally to be expected). \$5.00 per 100. \$37.50 per case of 1,000 rounds.	

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.22 Cal. Auto/Loader—50 rds.	\$2.00
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.30 Cal. Luger—50 rds.	\$2.00
.25/20 Cal.—20 rds.	\$3.00

SOME LIKE 'EM SHORT

(Continued from page 31)

A second bullpup, also on an Australian Martini action, is chambered for the .218 Bee. With a 26 inch heavy barrel and 4X scope, it weighs just over seven pounds and is just under thirty inches in length. Without the scope, this rifle costs less than forty dollars. With handloads it is capable of one inch groups at one hundred yards.

Both rifles perform satisfactorily, but good results were not achieved without difficulties. Other bullpup builders have had many of the same problems, and all of the problems were solved after study.

Since the action trigger on a bullpup is only an inch or two ahead of the buttplate, an extension trigger must be built ten or twelve inches forward. Several kinds of linkage between the two are possible. Each kind presents problems.

The push rod is the easiest to build. A very simple one is used on my .32 Special. A quarter inch rod with a hinged trigger at the forward end extends back through a channel in the stock to the toe of the trigger. A pull on the front trigger releases the rear one. There is, however, one difficulty. A bullpup requires either a separate firing handle or a thumbhole stock. With either, a straight line from the front trigger to the action trigger would pass right through the thumb position. As a result, the trigger rod must be bent upward, or possibly downward with a thumbhole stock. This bend, unless the rod is quite heavy, makes the rod bow when the trigger is pulled, giving a long and creepy trigger pull. If the rod is made heavy enough, to resist bowing, its weight will fire the rifle if it is set down on the butt with any force. Using aluminum (an old cleaning rod) helps some.

A pull rod eliminates the danger of the push rod, and allows almost any stock contour. If the sear moves forward, as in the Mossberg automatics, this is also the easiest to make, but in most rifles it makes necessary an extra lever at the rear end. Every extra part means possible slack and lost motion in the trigger pull, unless much care is taken to build parts that move without friction, but without slack. A bicycle spoke with its nipple makes an excellent rod. Spokes can be bought in any length, and the nipple makes it possible to adjust the length precisely. This is the type linkage used in my .218 Bee. Two other mechanisms were tried and rejected on that rifle, but the pull rod produced a light crisp pull that is reliable.

Automotive choke cable can be used in much the same manner as a push rod. The sheath is firmly anchored and the inside wire is arranged to be pushed back by the front trigger. The other end of the wire is against the front of the action trigger. This cable is very flexible, but the more it is bent, the more friction it gives. At most, with this type of linkage, the trigger pull will be heavy.

The very light, sheathed cable used for the gear shift on European bicycles can be used for trigger linkage, and it works quite well. If one end attaches to the top limb of the front trigger, and the other passes through the rear of the action trigger guard and attaches to the trigger, a reasonably satisfactory trigger pull can be obtained—if the

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sheath is firmly anchored on both ends and is free from sharp bend and kinks.

The most novel system that I have heard of for a bullpup trigger, used an electrical solenoid to push the action trigger, and a contact switch for the extension trigger. Dry cells were fitted in a compartment in the stock. The system sounds good enough in theory, but few shooters would want to contend with the problem of dead batteries.

With a bullpup, the shooter's cheek rests on the barrel or barrel guard, and the sights must be elevated two to three inches above the barrel. With iron sights, the necessarily short sighting radius of a bullpup makes aperture sights a must. Folding sights are less easily damaged. Marble's tang sight works well for a rear sight. The base is easily soft-soldered to the barrel, and the leg can be set to click in a vertical position and can be adjusted for elevation. Lyman used to make a similar sight that was also adjustable for windage. It is no longer available, but if one can be found, it would be ideal. An old folding ladder military sight can also be modified for the purpose.

The front sight should also fold. This is also easily arranged. My .32 Special uses the original Martini military sight reversed, moved forward, and reshaped to make a blade on a cross-bar when in the up position, but I have also seen an old penknife soldered to the barrel so that a partially opened blade made a front sight.

Mounting a scope on a bullpup can be difficult. It must of course be mounted high, and no commercial mount will suit the purpose. An easily built, solid mount is the one shown on the .218 Bee. Two pedestals were filed out of 1/2" aluminum stock. These were drilled to slip over the barrel. A small hole was also drilled in each one from the top down to the barrel hole. This smaller hole was tapped full length, and an Allen-head set screw was put in so that it could be tightened into a countersunk depression in the barrel. A Redfield Jr. Mount base, filed flat on the bottom was then bolted on top of the pedestals, with the screws going into the same vertical holes. With this system I could then shift the scope from another rifle equipped with Redfield mounts, without removing the rings. Such a mount can be made with only the simplest hand tools, yet it is solid, and reliable. An alternative method would be to make the pedestals higher and bore them for a scope too. The bottom of the pedestal can also be extended downward a quarter inch or so, then drilled and tapped for a screw to come in through the bottom of the stock to serve as a barrel hold-down.

The awkward appearance of most bullpups results from a lack of esthetic balance. In a normal rifle, the large mass of the buttstock is balanced by the long, slender barrel. In a bullpup, much less of the barrel is exposed, and the buttstock, since it must enclose the action, and since it has no descending curve at the small of the stock, it is usually rather large.

Since my .32 Special was intended as a utility gun and strictly functional, little was done to try to make it look attractive; but with the .218 Bee several things were done to counter the usual club-like appearance of a bullpup. The buttstock was kept as slim as possible over the action, and the forearm was left full beavertail, with a schnabel tip. As a result, the balance of mass is moved

forward. The trigger guard was placed as high as possible, as was the thumbhole, in an effort to keep the middle lines of the stock slim. All vertical lines were de-emphasized by making them sweep into the lengthwise lines. The thumbhole is teardrop shaped rather than circular, making length seem important and reducing the size of the flat side of the buttstock. The apparent size of the thumbhole is increased by contouring the sides of the stock toward it in all directions. The curved line motif could have been carried still further into a semi-schuetzen buttplate. The use of light-colored birch helps to minimize bulk, and the handmade aluminum scope mount pedestals and trigger guard were left bright to make their vertical lines less prominent.

The .218 Bee began as an Australian cadet rifle chambered for the obscure .310 cartridge. A government surplus Remington 513T .22 long rifle barrel was fitted to the action and chambered to .218 Bee by J. F. Kreuz, an Austin, Texas, gunsmith. Since the .22 rimfire barrel is a trifle tight for factory .218 loads, the .223 diameter bullets are used in handloading for it. A load of 13.7 grains of 4198 behind a Sierra 45 grain bullet gives excellent accuracy, and the barrel, although designed for lead bullets, shows no signs of wear after nearly a thousand rounds.

The lever was bent downward after being heated with a torch, and the excess length was ground off. A 1/8" slot was filed in the front of the trigger group to allow the trigger lever to pivot on the retaining pin. It was also necessary to grind away a small portion of the extractor to provide clearance for the trigger lever.

The stock was made from lumberyard stock, shaped in the usual fashion. The barrel and receiver are held to the stock by two screws from underneath. One is tapped into the underside of the front mount pedestal, the other is tapped into the trigger guard bow, angling backward and upward. Since the barrel is heavy, and the recoil is light, these have been enough. An aluminum plate is screwed to the butt, in several places, but not to the action itself. This is topped by a plastic buttplate. The top handguard is held down at the front by two small pins that project from the rear of the rear mount pedestal, and held down at the rear by a screw through the aluminum buttplate.

The .32 Special is a .310 rechambered to .32 Special and the barrel is cut to twenty inches. The lever has been bent and shortened, and about an inch has been cut off the rear of the action; the aluminum buttplate has been bolted directly to the action. The stock is made of burl pecan in two clamshell halves that bolt into the sides of the action on either side, and are held together by two other wood screws and a band taken from a Springfield when it was remodeled. The clamshell construction made it easy to install the trigger rod but I don't recommend pecan as a wood for stocks. It has magnificent figuring, but it is very hard to work and splits quite easily. If I make any more rifles like this one, I will take a cast from the present stock and make the two stock halves out of fiberglass.

The bullpup makes an interesting project to work on and in the field or on the range it always arouses curiosity. If you want a rifle that is unusual, extremely compact, and still legal—build one.

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(Continued from page 27)

couple of years competed in the annual NRA Sectional Matches. One year, the team managed to place second. Our activity began to attract local attention. Before long, there was an influx of high school boys that taxed the range capacity. It became barely possible for one instructor with only four range rifles and spotting scopes to help as many as 35 boys in three hours time. Some boys had, or soon acquired, their own shooting equipment; but still there were too many boys.

But it was all working out for the best. The necessarily short instruction period per boy caused them to resume their pleas for shooting under the auspices of their schools. Finally a range was set up in one high school. Teams were formed in other schools, and shoulder-to-shoulder matches were held on the senior club's range. A National Guard Armory indoor range was also made available for regular practice of the school teams and, in recent years, the Guard officers have provided trophies for an annual junior tournament fired on their range. All of this started because our first group of boys insisted on becoming riflemen.

I have watched the expansion of shooting activity in the area with pleasurable interest, but I spend my few spare hours in counseling the smaller number of boys who continue to attend our range: gun-struck boys under high school age, older ones who wish to qualify under NRA rules, and Boy Scouts who come to earn their marksmanship badge. I am never surprised to see a boy arriving for the first time with a parent. That is good, for this is a parent who is genuinely concerned about the inclinations and welfare of his child. I try to discover the boy's interest in other activities. This puts us on a conversational footing. I may then become a helpful friend rather than another teacher. And the parents, sometimes apprehensive about the child's gun fixation, see the problem diminishing and begin to relax noticeably.

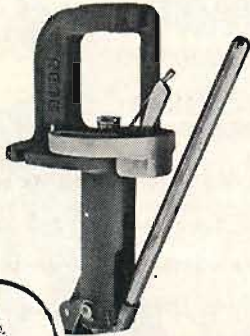
I recall one such robust, ten-year-old whose father, a psychiatrist, brought him to the range for instruction. The psychiatrist's classic couch treatment was not for this boy; his memories of a disturbed childhood were not sufficiently remote to be of scientific value. He learned quickly, and for several months I taught him safe shooting. In that time I could see that his yen for shooting a real gun was the common, childish one. The novelty was wearing off. His wise father then knew that the safety valve had been tripped; a potentially dangerous curiosity had been appeased.

Only a small percentage of gun-struck boys become adult guncranks. But experience shows me that the diligent junior rifleman is the best candidate for adult guncrankdom. Ten years have passed since I worked with that first group of junior shooters; all are now family men. Most of them still retain their interest in guns and shooting. One young man graduated from an accredited gunsmithing school. That experience made him wish to become a college-educated mechanical engineer, which he now is. Each year, he bags his Western deer with a .270 rifle that bespeaks his gunsmithing skill. His young son may become the

(Continued on page 56)

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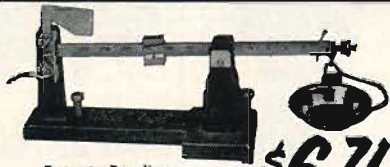
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(Continued from page 54)

family's next Junior Distinguished Rifleman. Another of those boys now resides in Alaska. He has adventured from Anchorage to Point Barrow. In one desperate situation near the Arctic Ocean he was compelled to shoot a caribou each day to insure survival for himself, a geologist companion, and their dogs. His States-born wife has learned to shoot his .30-06, and for practical purposes. A recent letter informs me that her shooting supplied their winter's supply of moosemeat. And in mentioning her I am reminded that heretofore I have written nothing concerning young girls who wish to become markswomen. Let's briefly consider them.

A girl who shoots may owe her interest to a gunner father who lacks a son to carry on in the sport. He's determined to have another shooter in the family. This could possibly be his longshot bid for shooter grandsons, for it isn't likely that a mother who has been, or is, a shooter would discourage her son's yearning in that direction. I recall one father who produced a junior Annie Oakley, with an interesting side effect. At fifteen, the young lady was justifiably proud of her marksmanship badges. Her girl friend was also shooting her way into a collection of medals. One day the father overheard his daughter imparting some serious advice to her friend. The daughter was warning this girl against allowing a new boy acquaintance to know that she was skillful with the rifle. She spoke from experience, for she had just lost a new boy friend through guilelessly showing her shooting medals! It is interesting to note, however, that neither girl gave up shooting!

Girls can become exceptionally good shots. Under match pressure, they appear less disturbed than the average boy competitor. Girl shooters who survive to the college level become valuable team members. A boy who made his Distinguished on our range entered a university this year. There he was delighted to find a thriving rifle program. On a visit home he told me he had made the first team and was the only rifle candidate with a previously-earned NRA Junior Distinguished certificate. He then told me how his scores were improving because of frequent practice. I asked if his scores were at the top. No, he related, they were not; a girl was maintaining the highest average. I then realized I had fallen short as his instructor; I hadn't told him about girls. I had assumed he knew.

I have not stressed the regulations that govern the NRA Junior Program. They are basic, and with them the instructor must coordinate his own methods for dealing with youngsters. This is not difficult. Above all things, avoid trying to make a shooting machine out of the eager young gunbug. In fact, slow him down; keep him from wasting ammunition or becoming too tired in a session of position shooting. He should not be required to shoot with a rifle too heavy for his size and strength, or a sling too tight for young muscles. Such considerations are not subject to rule or blueprint; the instructor must have them in his own bag of experience. Boys are communicators; teach one in proper gun handling, and he is then happy to watch over and help instruct the newcomer. We have maintained an informal atmosphere on our range, yet I do not know of a single unaccountable shot being fired since our pro-

gram commenced. It rests with the instructor to cause the boy to want to be safe, and to take pride in never forgetting to exercise care when a gun is present. I know I am succeeding when one boy prevents another from leaving the firing point with a closed bolt.

I would disabuse those who seek promising young shooters only among youths endowed with excellent eyesight and a sound physique. A boy fairly or even poorly favored in these respects may find in shooting an activity in which he can excel. Rough-and-tumble sports are not for him, yet he has the normal urge to engage in a challenging activity. Shooting holds much for him. In it he can compete as an individual or as a team member. Of course, our ideal subject is the boy who can count expert marksmanship as one of a number of satisfying accomplishments; but in focusing our attention on that boy we might overlook many worthy aspirants. We might miss a boy like Bill.

Bill first came to our range a year ago. He was a high school freshman of average height and weight. His eyes appear normal, but due to a birth defect he sees only with his right eye and then with the aid of a strong corrective lens. He is also naturally left-handed. In short, his physical attributes seemed fiendishly designed to handicap him as a rifleman. Yet he wanted to shoot and had parental encouragement to try it. I accepted him for instruction because I sensed his determination to beat the odds. I certainly had no idea how well he would succeed.

By his own quiet decision, Bill promptly changed himself to become a right-handed shooter, in order to use his right eye and also be able to handle the bolt-action rifle properly. Only he knows the cost of that effort, and it was something I could not have asked him to do. His conversion is complete; he assumes all right-handed shooting positions perfectly and with apparent ease.

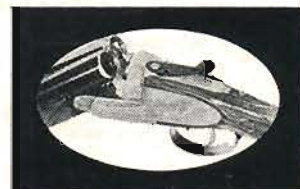
As this is written, Bill has completed firing for the eighth bar of the Sharpshooter stages. This standing stage has been especially difficult for him because his target, once seen, fades more quickly than is usual for a shooter with normal vision. He has had to learn to get his shot off quickly. Most boys will gladly accept the minimum score required for a stage, but not Bill. He will discard a target bearing a comfortable margin of points simply because he is out of the count on a single hullseye. He wants to score 40 points when he needs only 30. This perfectionist attitude also makes him an A student in school.

As could be expected, Bill has been reading everything he can find in the way of gun literature. Increasingly, he asks questions of this nature: Does a .30-caliber rifle kick very much? Would it be too difficult to remodel a military rifle? What is Camp Perry really like? How much does a big, old woodchuck weigh?

I can supply reasonably satisfactory answers to most of Bill's questions. However, I have suggested that the best way to know the weight of a big, old woodchuck is to lift him by the tail—right out there amongst the birds and the bees. When Bill does that, I'll bet that the chuck will have been shot in the head. Bill would consider anything less a failure!



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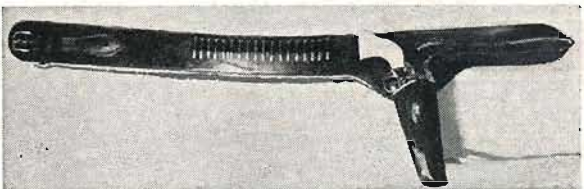


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DEER RIFLES FOR CHUCKS

(Continued from page 33)

several new, "hot" cartridges suitable for handgun use. These, briefly, are the .22 WMR shooting its 40-grain jacketed bullet at 2,000 fps; the newer .256 Winchester Magnum sending a 60 grain slug at 2200 fps out of an 8-inch revolver barrel; and the new Remington "Jet" cartridge, based on the .357 Magnum revolver case necked down, and shooting a 40 grain jacketed bullet at nearly the old .22 Hornet velocity, of 2460 fps.

These developments are certain to produce a whole new crop of handgun-varmint enthusiasts, and five will get you ten that rifles will be chambered for all of them, as rifles have already been chambered for the .22 WMR, making it a fine "poor man's chuck gun" within limitations.

The last thing any hunter would want to do would be to take anything from the sport of pure chuck hunting. However, the overall chuck population is thinning out, and hunters are increasing in number. Moreover, good chuck country gets harder and harder to find. With such factors in mind, I've come to conclude that the serious deer hunter can make his remaining chucks and opportunities to hunt them, "double in brass." In short, he can make chucks the scrub team to give him practice for the autumn "game."

There are numerous advantages in lugging the deer rifle around after chucks—and this

applies to the full range of deer cartridges—rifles, from such varmint-deer combinations as the .243 Winchester and .244 Remington all the way up to the old '06. And, as mentioned, the fullest advantage can be taken only if the rifle is equipped, sighted, and loaded as it will be later for deer.

First, there is a certain "feel" to any rifle. It is comprised of fit, weight, balance, and several intangibles. For the average hunter, who uses his deer rifle only a day or so per year, this magic familiarity is largely lost by opening day, if the arm isn't handled and shot between deer seasons. Practice, dry and live, and gun handling are the keys to good shooting, and even the expert will lose much of the accuracy "touch" if it's too long between shots.

Consider it this way: Between annual bucks there are twelve months. It's 360 days of handling other arms than the deer rifle, or none at all. However, it's only seven or eight months after that last buck till chuck season, when the deer rifle may be handled and fired often ten times as much as for deer! And it's then only three months or less till the same outfit can be used on deer, with much of the familiarity carried over.

This familiarity is made up of such vital factors as rifle weight, length of stock, trigger pull, and the same amount of "bang."

As to loads, my conviction is that the same ammunition as to be used later can be made to serve a further and most useful purpose. By using identical ammunition, the constant shifting of sight settings is eliminated, doing away with that mild but eternal uncertainty ahead as to exactly "where she's sighted in at." Too, by using similar ammunition, the same degree of recoil is both experienced and anticipated; and in direct ratio to the extent of practice, this factor reduces any tendency to flinch.

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Again, by using the same ammunition, the trajectory curve remains constant. And with each successive "practice" shot at a chuck, at the constantly varying distances, an increased mental picture of the rifle's trajectory is gained. Even misses become valuable tools in this learning of the trajectory arc, if it remains constant.

It's true that the bullets suitable for deer won't kill chucks as spectacularly as the lighter bullets made for the same cartridge. Neither will the heavier bullets shoot as "flat" for normal ranges. However, bullets which are well constructed for thin-skinned deer will regularly "anchor" adult chucks. And the "flatness" of the lighter bullet's trajectory is often over-rated. Generally speaking the lighter bullets will shoot "flat" for reasonable ranges, but drop off fast at extended ranges. Over extreme ranges, the heavier bullet, because of better sectional density, will actually shoot flatter.

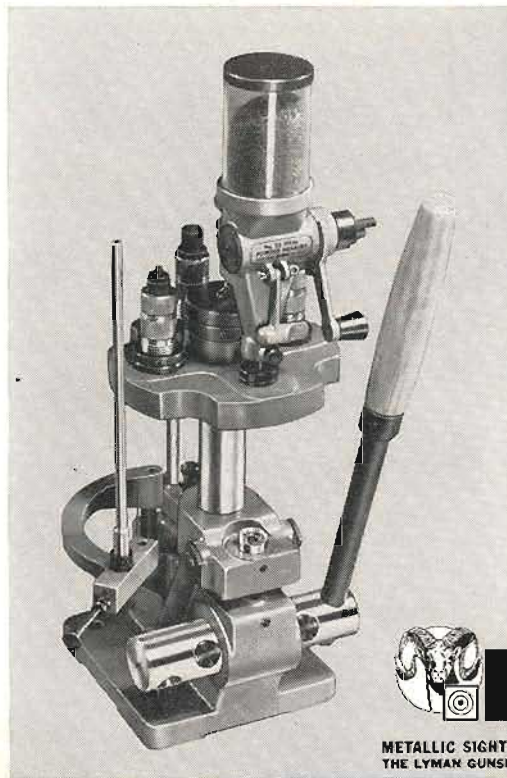
As one example of this, Les Bowman, Wyoming outfitter, once offered to bet me folding money that he could make more hits with his .244 on chucks, at any distance, and using the 100 grain bullets he'd later use on deer and antelope, than I could using my .243 but with light "pest" loads. Each could sight in his rifle at any range he chose, and take any and all Wyoming chucks that showed up, up to 400 yards. Les made his point.

If chucks are to be used in this dual-purpose fashion of making the hunter more deadly on deer, then the rifle should wear the same scope as to be used on deer. Broadly speaking, a 4-power scope is entirely adequate. Yes, I know that a 10- to 20-power sniping scope, on a super-accurate pest rifle, will allow hits on chucks wa-a-y out there. But such a rig defeats its purpose here. More than ninety per cent of the chucks shot and shot at can be hit using a 4X scope, if the hunter can hold and knows his rifle. Average hunters shoot most of their chucks under 250 yards.

The shooting position, too, becomes most important in this form of practice. Wherever feasible, the same position most often used on deer should be practiced on chucks. It's fine to talk of prone, sitting, and offhand positions. But in the hunting field, such orthodox positions are seldom achieved. "Prone" often means with the belly draped over a rock, feet pointing awkwardly off towards Joneses, and one elbow higher than the other. Similarly, "sitting" means contoured with the landscape, one boot a foot lower than the other, and elbows fitting where they hit.

In field use, especially in the more open, broken country, the most usable shooting position is sitting—or the closest to the standard position the hunter can achieve. The sitting position, and offhand, are the two stances to practice on chucks, for later use on deer. Prone is too often impossible because of the presence of foliage between shooter and quarry. This is uniformly true in most western rock-chuck country, due to high sage brush and intervening rocks. Offhand is a mighty fine "deer-conditioner" for those chucks caught running at short range. The hunter who can take chucks running over talus and sidehills towards dens with a deer rifle is going to have no trouble getting his buck.

A good, seldom mentioned shooting position is "squatting," or simply sitting on the



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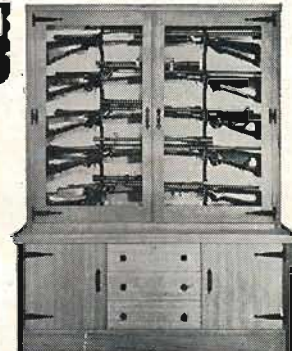
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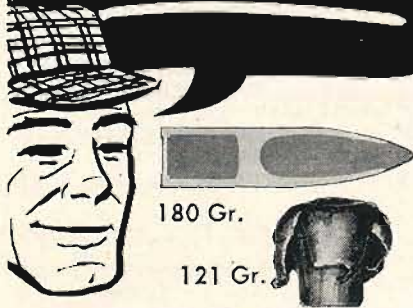
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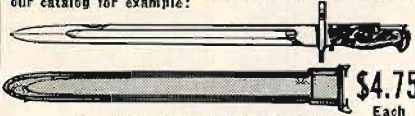
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heels. It is less steady than sitting, but more solid than offhand. Its great virtue is that it allows the shooter to clear brush which is just a bit too high for a sitting position.

Perhaps the biggest value of using the deer rifle on chucks is that it becomes a valuable tool in learning range estimation in combination with the bullet's trajectory. Estimating the range is hard, even for the experienced hunter. It's very difficult for the beginner. If you doubt this, just ask any group of hunters to estimate a relatively long distance, then pace it off. Guesses will range over a hundred per cent difference.

However, by using the same rifle as for deer, completely forgetting measured yardage, and concentrating in terms of where the bullet hit in relation to a chuck, the problem of distance estimation becomes far less confusing. Maybe the hunter can't estimate 100 yards or 200 yards worth a hoot. But while shooting chucks repeatedly, he does get a mental conception of a certain field distance. If he hits regularly at that distance, he knows his aim is on. If he undershoots, and comes to learn with repetition that he has to hold over a chuck's head at what appears to be a "wee long shot," then for all practical purposes it doesn't matter if the range is 200 or 300 yards. He has a "hit-picture."

The best distance to sight in the deer rifle for use on chucks is to leave it where it was sighted for deer. For most modern cartridges, and especially for open country use, the best average distance is 200 yards. A good rule-of-thumb where this is done is to hold on the belly line of a chuck at what appears to be 100 yards; right on at what looks like the same distance you sighted in for at the home range; and as much higher as the dust flies under the chuck on that miss at longer ranges.

Such a basic rule will get the beginner started until a few shots afield begin to give him a conception of distance in terms of the bullet arc of his particular rifle. A cardinal rule, once sighted in, is not to change sight settings even for the longest shots, or between trips. And once the hunter can take chucks with some regularity, shooting them as they show up, his chances on deer are improved in the ratio of at least four-to-one.

Popular deer cartridges which may handily be used in this way for chuck shooting are:

- .243 Winchester, using 100 grain bullets
- .244 Remington, using 90 or 100 grain bullets
- .250 Savage, using 100 grain bullets
- .257 Roberts, using 100 grain bullets
- .270 Winchester, using 130 grain bullets
- 7 mm Mauser, using 130 or 139 grain bullets
- .280 Remington, using 125 or 150 grain bullets
- .300 Savage, using 150 grain bullets
- .308 Winchester, using 150 grain bullets.

In addition, hunters whose chuck hunting is limited, yet who want to "tune up" huskier calibers for later use on trophy mule deer, antelope, sheep, and caribou, and who don't mind the recoil, can well practice with such long-range outfits as the .264 Winchester Magnum, 7x61 Sharpe & Hart, or the .257 Weatherby.

A final advantage is that hanging away at a few chucks with the deer rifle makes those long periods of "nuthin' to shoot" between deer seasons a lot more endurable.

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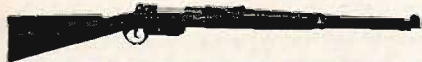
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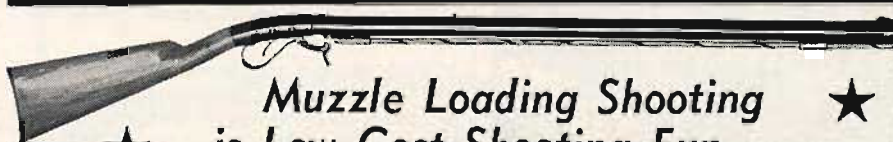


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(Continued from page 25)

piece. Under the supervision of one Thomas Bailey, the job was soon done. It was fitted on a carriage, and with the exception of the bizarre double-barrel, it looked like a conventional fieldpiece.

While the gun was being fitted, Gilleland and his comrades were in a frenzy of anticipation. They picked a level spot in the Georgia pines and cleared a swath for a firing range. They set a row of upright poles to represent the enemy. The three-part projectile was put together.

As soon as the gun was declared ready, it was hitched up and hauled to the test site, trailed by a crowd of curious spectators. Most of them were confident they were seeing a major breakthrough in armament which would mete out terrible justice to the invading Federals.

The piece was set in place and carefully charged. The two balls were rammed home, with the chain draping from the muzzle, or muzzles. A bead was drawn on the corps of upright poles. Not so confident now, the on-lookers wisely backed away, most taking shelter behind trees.

History does not say who fired the test shot, but it would be pretty safe to assume that after the count-down the hand of Private John Gilleland triggered the experimental broadside.

The explosions came unevenly, breaking the chain. One ball, with the chain attached, went whirling into the thicket, tearing up the blackjack oaks and pines with a terrific racket. The other hurtled off on an erratic trajectory, missing the "Yankees" by a wide margin. When the smoke cleared and all the pine needles and chain-links settled to the ground, there was no question as to the gun's lethal ability. But there had been a change of opinion as to which side would be most damaged.

There is no record of how Gilleland and the Thunderbolts felt about the failure. No satisfactory firing device was ever developed, and the Northern army was spared. The gun was given to the City of Athens. Parked on the city hall lawn, it has resisted scrap-metal drives for nearly a century. But it has not been entirely idle. For many years, it performed faithful and sturdy service—celebrating election victories.

" — AND STILL THE CHAMPION — "

(Continued from page 21)

of the country. I know men today who "wear" a .30-30 on their saddles as habitually as they wear a hat on their heads. Those men would look at you askance if you suggested that they needed a bigger, longer reaching, heavier calibered rifle. They'd say, "Why?" And if you knew the men and their records, you'd find it hard to answer.

The men who swear by the "thirties" are not apt to go trigger happy at sight of game; they've seen plenty, will see more. They don't see much need for 600 yard shooting; they can get closer. They don't see much need for 300 grain, heavy caliber bullets; they believe in putting the thirties where they will do the business. And they can do it. They do it, year after year, on antelope and white tails and big muleys, even elk. I've done it myself, and will again, God willing. My little .30 has lost much of its pristine beauty, even some of its snick-snick snugness of action; but it wouldn't let me go hungry in game country. I wouldn't exactly choose it for rhino or Kodiak grizzly, but . . . it's a nice rifle to carry where the game is for eating and not vice versa.

I realize that these opinions can get me barred from the circle of gun experts; but I won't be lonely. A caliber-family in which a single maker can sell 2,500,000 copies of a single model over a period of 67 years is not entirely friendless. And that is the story of the rifle on this month's cover. It is the 2,500,000th Winchester Model 94 produced since 1894 when Winchester first offered "the first sporting repeating action rifle ever built to handle smokeless powder cartridges."

Winchester Model 94 Number 1,000,000 was presented to President Calvin Coolidge in 1927. That adds up to a million rifles in 33 years. The second million went faster. Winchester Model 94 Number 2,000,000 was presented to President Dwight D. Eisenhower on his 63rd birthday in 1953—a million rifles in 26 years. But hold your hats, gentlemen:

Winchester Model 94 Number 2,500,000 came out in 1961, which would seem to indicate production and presumed sale of 500,000 copies in eight years, or a rate of sale better than double that achieved during its first 33 years of existence! Add the untold numbers of other makes made and sold in this caliber (or, more accurately, in this family of calibers) during approximately the same period, and one can hardly assume that the "thirties" are obsolete or waning in popularity. (Incidentally, Winchester Model 94 Number 2,500,000 will not be presented to anybody, ever. It will be retained by Winchester for the Winchester Museum and for display around the country.)

When the Model 94 first appeared, it was offered in .32-40 and .38-55 Winchester calibers only. Two new smokeless loads, the .25-35 and the .30-30 Winchester, were added in the February, 1895, catalog; and the .32 Winchester Special appeared in June of 1902. The rifle version of the Model 94 was dropped in 1936. The Model 94 carbine is currently available in .30-30 and .32 Winchester Special calibers.

Marlin's lever action Model 93 (introduced 1893, discontinued 1937) became available in the thirty-thirty family of calibers in 1897. The Half-Magazine Marlin Model 93, introduced in 1895, was offered in .25-36, .30-30, .32 Winchester Special, .32-40 Ballard, and .38-55 Ballard calibers. The current Marlin center-fire lever action Model 36 is available as a carbine or rifle in .30-30 and .32 Winchester Special calibers.

Savage entered the field of rifle manufacture in 1895 with military rifles, introduced its famous Model 99 lever action sporting rifle in 1899, in .303 Savage caliber only. This cartridge was essentially similar to the .30-30 in performance, but with minor differences in dimensions. By 1902, Savage lever actions were also offered in .30-30 caliber. The rifle action was so perfectly designed

that it remains, with only minor refinements, in current models. The Model 99 shares with the Winchester Model 94 the signal honor of being identified by millions of shooters by model number only. Say "Model 99" and you've said "Savage." Say "Model 94," and Winchester goes without saying. Both companies make many other fine rifles, but these are the ones that wear the halo of legend.

Many guns have claimed the title, "The Gun That Won The West," but the .30-30 (let's not argue the make) deserves your attention. Revolvers played their part, and so did the smoothbores; but the .30-30 was the work horse. It was a combat weapon, and a provider of meat for the family. Cattlemen, sheepmen, and sod-busters had few things in common, but the .30-30 was one thing they all believed in and respected. It would kill a coyote (whether two or four-legged), knock over a rabbit for the pot, provide the leverage needed to tighten a strand of barbed wire or the crane on which to hang your kettle over the fire. Not all of these uses were recommended, but they happened. The little rifles guarded the stages, and helped to rob them; defended the laws, and helped to break them. It fought for the man who fed it—and fed him to keep the score even.

Today, the Winchester Model 94s and the Savage Model 99s and the Marlin Model 36s (to mention only the lever actions) still ride not only on western saddles but in eastern, and northern, and southern scabbards also. The men who know them love them; and the men who love them know how to use them. It's as simple as that. The rifle that serves you well is your friend . . . and friends are never out-dated.

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THE SPRINGFIELD'S DAY OF GLORY

(Continued from page 29)

center fire, concealed primer cartridge using a 450 grain bullet and a 70 grain powder charge. An interesting sidelight on the outside primer seated in the base of the metallic cartridge case, was that Indian fighters credited the Sioux with the idea of the removable center fire primer. The Sioux reloaded empty shells of the concealed primer type cartridges by boring a hole in the base and inserting a musket percussion cap.

This, then, was the modified muzzle-loader, the Springfield breech-loading single shot



Modified Springfield muzzle loader permits the use of metallic ammo.

rifle, that was to play the key role in the Indian month-of-the-moon-when-the-cherries-darken—August 2, 1867.

The scene was a small plateau at the junction of Big and Little Piney Creeks near the present town of Sheridan, Wyoming. Camped on the plateau were Brevet Major James Powell, 27 troopers of Company C of the 27th Infantry, and six civilian woodchoppers.

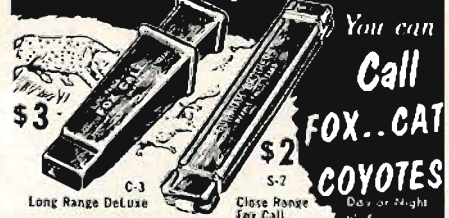
This was a time of terror along the Bozeman Trail, the road to the goldfields of Mon-

tana. Red Cloud, the great war chief of the Sioux, and sub-chiefs, Crazy Horse, Gall, and American Horse led the Sioux against the white men for the breaking of the Laramie Treaty and the building of three military forts in the heart of the Sioux hunting grounds. Aflame with hatred, the Sioux virtually paralyzed the Western military department. A lack of trained soldiers, insufficient numbers of troops, and inadequate equipment, were substantial contributing factors to the desperate situation.

While distraught military commanders pleaded for help from Washington, the Sioux increased the tempo of their attacks. Wagon trains, isolated settlers and army supply trains were struck and overwhelmed. Fort Phil Kearney, established near the junction of Big and Little Piney creeks, became the hated symbol of the white man's doublecross. The Sioux acted bolder and bolder—galloping to within gunshot of the fort, shrilling their war cries and yelping insults to the shaken troopers on the fort's walls. The soldiers were taunted to come out and fight. Only a military guard with occasional wood cutting parties, ventured out now and then for fuel.

Major Powell's wood detail guard was small but no one seemed to worry. They knew their firepower was superior; a supply of the new Springfield breech-loaders had reached the fort several days before. Each soldier of Powell's command had been issued two breech-loaders, two new Colt revolvers and the ammunition was sufficient—7,000 rounds.

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At seven o'clock in the morning of August 2, Powell heard the war whoops of the Sioux from the creek where he was taking a bath. Making a dash in his birthday suit for the wagon box corral, he called to his troopers, "Get your Springfields, boys; you'll have to fight for your lives today!" Before the troopers could get organized, several hundred Sioux warriors swung their ponies behind the mule and horse herd, driving them into the foothills.

The corral defense was constructed of 14 wagon boxes that had been removed from their running gear and placed on their bottoms in an oval, seven boxes on each side. A supply wagon was at one end, and was used as a gate. Powell had his men fill the boxes with anything they could find, blankets, clothes, bales of hay, sacks of grain, anything that would stop a bullet or arrow. Soldiers were assigned to the firing line, others as loaders.

Remembering the mutilated men of Fetterman's command—the massacre in which Brevet Lt. Col. William Fetterman and 80 of his men died within the jaws of a massive trap sprung by Crazy Horse on Dec. 6, 1866—Powell's troopers prepared to commit suicide if necessary. They took off their shoes and unlaced them. Then they tied one lace

end into a loop to place over the right foot, the other end to be tied to the trigger. The rifle muzzle under the chin would result in a more merciful death than they could expect at the hands of the Sioux.

Within minutes after they had completed their defense preparations, a blood-chilling sight met the soldiers' eyes. Hundreds of Sioux horsemen appeared atop the foothills overlooking the corral. They paused, then rode slowly down toward the awe-struck soldiers. The brilliantly arrayed Indians were chanting their death songs. This was the flower of the Sioux nation, 2,000 warriors, their war bonnets and brightly-colored cloth streamers fluttering from lances and coup sticks.

When the range had narrowed to about 300 yards, the Sioux wheeled their horses into a giant, encircling movement that revolved into a smaller circle that closed to within 50 yards of the defenders. Red Cloud, astride his horse and sitting impassively on a small hilltop, lowered his lance and moved it in a circling motion. The Sioux, screaming their war cries, charged.

At Powell's command of "Fire!" an orange and black cloud of flame burst from the corral. An instant later, there was a screaming tangle of dead and dying ponies and Sioux riders. In the corral, loaders passed fresh rifles to the firing line, and the Springfields again belched their orange and black cloud of death.

By their usual battle tactics, the Sioux always sent in a sacrificial charge, expecting the first wave to be cut down. A second wave of mounted Sioux would then swoop in for the kill before the defenders could re-load their muzzle loaders. A third wave, if necessary, would give the coup de grace. This time it didn't work. By the time their third wave had been cut down, the Sioux were completely puzzled at the terrific, concentrated and repeated firepower from the corral defenders. In the meantime they had not neglected to keep up a steady barrage of gunfire and arrows. In a matter of hours, the ground in and around the corral resembled a huge pincushion. Despite the deadly shower, only three men were killed and several wounded among the soldiers—all by gunfire!

The attack with gun and arrow continued unabated. Fire arrows hissing in great arcs fell within the corral, setting fire to scattered hay and dried manure. Choking, acrid smoke all but gagged the defenders. The little oval of defense became an inferno. Smoke, heat, and lack of water were slowly but surely sapping the strength of the exhausted soldiers. It was noon, and the sun, directly overhead, sent scorching rays onto the unprotected heads of the soldiers. Most of the troopers were using their caps for cartridge containers.

By now, the men behind the wagon box corral were believers in what they had heard about the Sioux—that these painted devils on their spotted war ponies were the greatest cavalry the world had ever seen. Numerous attempts, many of them successful, were made by the Sioux in retrieving their dead and wounded. In spectacular fashion, two warriors riding parallel to one another and racing their ponies at full stride, would lean over and grasp the arms of a fallen warrior, carrying him out of gun range.

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ed as though a swarm of bees was gathering; then it rose to a high-pitched hum, and finally the defenders recognized it as a war chant. Suddenly, from a deep ravine west of the corral, appeared hundreds of warriors on foot, running in a gigantic wedge and led by a tall, muscular Indian adorned with a war bonnet.

Firing over open sights with their Springfield, the troopers sent volley after volley into the screaming attackers. As the painted swarm of warriors reached to within a few feet of the corral, the soldiers, some of them near hysteria from the long hours of battle, rose to their feet and hurled empty guns into the faces of the Sioux. Some threw rocks in the attempt to beat off the attack. As quickly as it had begun, the attack stopped. The Indians broke and ran.

The soldiers rubbed their eyes to see if they were not imagining things. The Sioux

were retreating from the crests of the hills overlooking the corral. Long lines of Indians carrying dead and wounded faded away toward the protection of the Big Horn mountains. Minutes later, an artillery shell burst over the plateau. The relief column had arrived.

Major Powell was cited in an official war department report for his gallant and cool-headed action. The report, dated August 7, 1867, cited specifically the superiority of firepower. Battle statistics officially listed three soldiers dead and several wounded. Powell only claimed 60 Indians killed and 120 wounded—others insisted there were 300 or more Indians killed and wounded.

But the final salutation to the Springfield was paid by the Sioux. They insisted that the "white man's medicine gun" fired so rapidly that it sounded like "the tearing of a blanket!"

TEST THAT LOAD

(Continued from page 36)

either on game or on the range. Why shoot full loads at much greater expense and greater punishment to ears and shoulders, if reduced loads with lead bullets can do the trick? Once such a load has been worked up and pressures are within safe limits, the next question is: how fast does that bullet travel?

Third, there is the advanced handloader—and the innumerable handloaders who have made their hobby into a full- or part-time occupation and have become custom loaders. Lastly, there is the group that is the avant-garde in the field of handloading, the men who work "on their own" and are often the creators of new cartridges and calibers. All of them want to know the fps of a given load with specific primers, bullets, brass, and powders.

Although large chronographs, such as those used by the military and the ammunition companies, have been available, few reliable and portable chronographs were on the market for the handloader or the small gunshop. The modern chronograph is basically an electronic instrument, and even the small portable ones are reliable and accurate. Inasmuch as ballistics and the physical forces taking place when the firing pin falls on the primer are not even yet completely understood, it should be clear that certain variables not under the control of the shooter might well produce variations in the fps readings. On numerous occasions, I have loaded accurately weighed charges into accurately measured cases, then seated weighed and miked bullets with the greatest of care—and got different fps readings from each or several of these seemingly identical loads. The very same X factor has occurred when I tested factory loads; yes, even match loads which are assembled with the greatest possible care.

A chronograph, whether it stands on the range, on the back of your station wagon, on in a ballistic lab, gives fairly accurate fps data; but they are not wholly accurate. I have had occasion to chronograph identical loads fired from the same rifle in the same room with three different chronographs. Each of them gave me different readings for five-shot groups. When the average of these readings was taken and that average re-averaged, readings came close enough for anyone interested in practical ballistics. But the fps for a load are, and probably will remain for

some time to come, approximations—but they are darned close ones.

Today, there are only two counter chronographs available to the handloader: the Owen or Hollywood (made by the Hollywood Gun Shop), and the Avtron, made by the company of the same name. They work on the same principle, and can be powered from either house current or from your car battery. They are highly compact and are easily portable.

Before going any further on the matter of chronographs, let me discuss velocity in general. Very much like the automotive industry and its constant race for more horse power, the velocity figures of a given cartridge can often pre-determine the sales potential of guns and ammunition. It is unfortunate that too many shooters today buy a gun by one and only one criterion: how fast will the bullet travel? A few hundred feet per second at the muzzle may be impressive, but who ever shot targets or game at the muzzle? When that high-speed bullet gets out to 200 or 300 yards, the difference in fps between it and the slower and heavier slug is of little importance. Now, I know that a number of men are going to be after my scalp, but let's face it: if the bullet is placed properly, that buck or elk won't give a darn how fast that bullet went that knocked him kicking. And neither will your wife or the camp cook.

Recently I was in a gun shop observing rifle sales. It sounds incredible, but three out of six customers asked for a specific caliber (sales of .22 rimfire guns not considered). I had requested that the salesman ask the prospective buyers just why such-and-such a caliber was wanted. The three hunters asked for that caliber because of published velocity figures, and these figures

(Continued on page 67)

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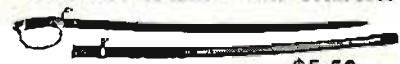
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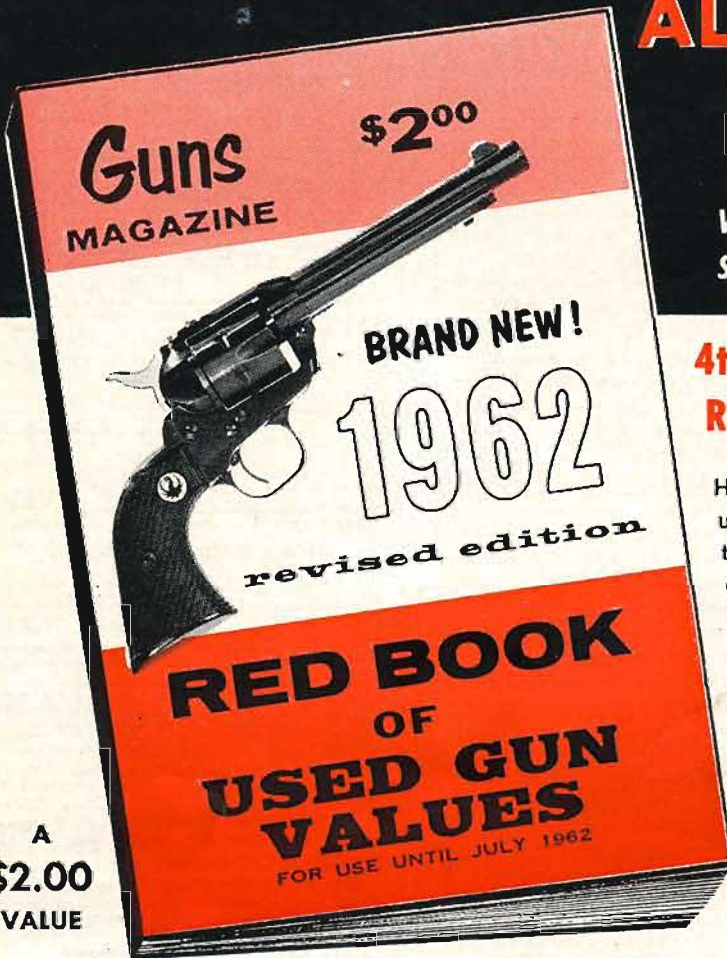
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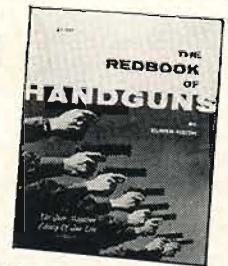
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(Continued from page 65)

were fps at the muzzle! Out of this we can draw but one conclusion: we are velocity-happy, and the faster that slug goes, the better we like it. The fact that our shooting skill does not improve in either direct or indirect ratio to velocity does not seem to bother anyone but conservation men.

And there is another pitfall on the factory fps story. Let's say that the established factory fps at 100 yards is 2,000. Now I want to handload some fodder for my gun to approach that factory velocity. I make up a handful of varied loads, chronograph them, and am not anywhere near the established velocity figures; but I am darned close to max charges. A couple more grains of powder increase pressure to the danger point, and that's where I stop and begin to retrace my step. Where is the mistake?

Actually, there is no mistake. It is a simple question of equipment and test guns. My gun is an over-the-counter model that has been fired better than 5,000 times. The gun used to establish the factory velocity is a specially built, extremely tight gun. A difference of 10 per cent in a chronograph reading is therefore to be expected; but few shooters consider this variation.

What can the handloader do to get fairly accurate velocity data for a new load? Best bet: Use a chronograph. However, it must be kept in mind that a chronograph gives only relative data. Two loads might vary somewhat at the MV figures, but out at 300 yards it will be the heavier bullet that is better stabilized and that will produce a cleaner kill. Being guided by velocity figures only is like marrying a gal for her figure—you might wind up doing the kitchen chores.

Today's chronographs are based on complex, electronic circuits. Here, in proper sequence, is the story of determining that mysterious fps figure.

When the instrument has been set up on the proper range location and has warmed up for a few minutes, it is ascertained that the bullet will pierce the two foil screens that are the crux of the chronograph. When the bullet breaks the first screen, electric impulses start the chronograph, and the breaking of the second screen by the bullet stops these impulses. Since the distance between the screens is known, and time is read on the chronograph, the determining of the fps is child's play. The Avtron chronograph makes it possible to read the fps directly from the instrument.

The screens are set up anywhere from 2½ feet to 20 feet apart, depending on the anticipated velocity and the instrument used. In general, the higher the anticipated velocity, the farther apart the screens are placed. I developed the habit of firing one round of factory ammo to check the operation of my chronograph. Once a set of screens has been broken, they must of course be replaced and the chronograph re-set to zero. In order to avoid errors, I like to chronograph at least 10 rounds at ten minute intervals between shots.

Reading the fps data depends on the chronograph. The Hollywood does not read directly and interpolation is required. However, there is nothing complicated about this mathematics. The Avtron chronograph reads directly, saves some time, and excludes the possibility of mathematical errors. The choice of chronograph, though limited depends en-

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—Jim Dee

GUNS Editorial Advisory Board

tirely on the quantity of testing you will be doing. If much is required, direct reading is essential (a good many people like to photograph their readings directly off the instrument), and a more expensive model such as the Avtron is indicated. If you are not going to be using the instrument extensively and want to avoid spending too much money, then the Hollywood will do just fine.

Since a chronograph presents a fair investment, a good many handloaders have found it advantageous to pool resources, with one of them being responsible for maintenance and care of the instrument. Modern chronographs offer a high degree of accuracy, are convenient, and enable you get more enjoyment and fun from your handloading and your guns. Best of all, because of increased demand, they are no longer out of the financial reach of most of us.



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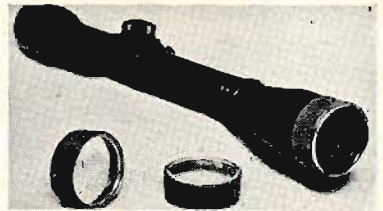
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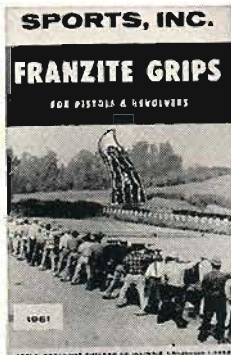
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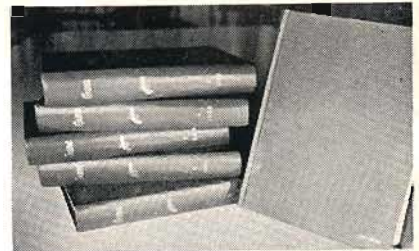
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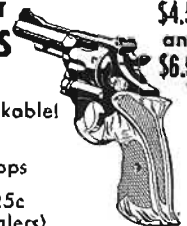
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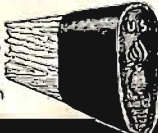
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PULL! By Dick Miller

(Continued from page 40)

should have no trouble with either of the doubles targets. Conversely, assume the wrong position for the first shot, and you are in trouble all the way.

Said simply, the rules for shooting skeet doubles are the same as for shooting the first shot of the pair. It's the important one.

Trap doubles pose almost the exact reverse of skeet rules. Position yourself for the first of a trap double, and you will be in trouble for the second shot. The first of a pair of trap doubles is always a straightaway. Aim your pointing foot at the straightaway, and you have to shove the gun after the angle. So, aim the pointing foot for the angle, and you should swing easily over to the straightaway, after you have broken the angle.

Here's another specific example. You are on post one shooting doubles. You will shoot the right-hand bird as the first of the pair,

then swing left. If your pointing foot is aimed at the traphouse, you will be off balance for the angle target to your left. If your pointing foot is positioned to anticipate the angle target, you should swing easily to break both targets.

As in skeet, shoot the targets one at a time. Don't rush one shot at the expense of the other. If you do, you'll only score 50%, and that won't win many trophies or bring much satisfaction.

You can easily convince yourself of the efficacy of this pointing foot theory in the privacy of your own home, before going out to the gun club, using an empty gun. But, a word of warning. Tell friend wife what you are doing. If you don't, you may have to explain why a grown man, in full command of his faculties (?) is silently swinging and pointing a gun around the house.

(I know!)



GUNS THAT WAIT AROUND BERLIN

(Continued from page 20)

difference is perhaps the difference between a .30-06 and a .30-30: for war in city streets, negligible. But the recoil is less, and these are guns the kids can use, if they have to.

From the F.D.J., a lad, if he is enthusiastic and learns his Karl Marx correctly, can graduate to better things: to the Tank Brigades of the Peoples Army, which has over 1,000 Soviet-built tanks on hand. With 110,000 regulars and nearly 200,000 reserves, the Peoples Army is ready. There is also the Border Police, 45,000 to 50,000 well-trained troops, who guard the three-mile-wide ploughed and mined strip which cuts through the heart of Germany, dotted at intervals, within sight of each other, with watchtowers manned by Vopo (Volkspolizei, Communist peoples police) sharpshooters.

The Border Police now is reliable: the purges which began as early as 1949 correct those who begin to have too many ties or sympathies with the West. A bright lad can find a future among the Vopos. They eat well, have good uniforms, have authority (if not respect), power (if not honor). There are 78,000 of them, 3700 trained as shock troops to break into barricaded buildings, to smash through heavy factory gates in a workers' uprising; and 8500 are transport police. But the elite of all are the 30,000 highly trained men in the Alert Police.

This crack outfit consists of special troops trained for civil war tactics. Ulbricht does not want to risk his shaky government again in such an outburst as the riots of 1953. Under direction of Minister of the Interior General Karl Maron, formerly deputy mayor of East Berlin, the Alert Police are to cooperate with the battle-groups of Communist-loyal workers in the factories to put down domestic unrest. Under commander Col. Mansfeld, there are ten Alert Groups plus

one special Berlin Watch Regiment consisting of four battalions plus one special Berlin Battle Battalion. Armed with machine pistols and carbines, special rocket weapons, armored personnel carriers, and "water throwers," they are tough, battle hard though not battle tested, and watchful. Their Russian T-34 tanks have special turrets mounting twin automatic-firing high-velocity cannon, with space inside for extra passengers.

But the forces which this modern army will be fighting are not the chessboard problems of past wars in which "so many divisions of X-strength against so many divisions of Y-strength equals a victory costing so much." The opposition to this huge military establishment that numbers over 870,000 men (roughly equal to the entire U.S. Army everywhere) is not the tiny Berlin Garrison of 4,000 young men, nor the equally small French battalion, nor the British Berlin Independent Brigade. It is instead, the German people.

The June 1953 uprising began with a government announcement that workers would have to produce 10 per cent more each week, with no increase in pay. By June 16, the building trades, the construction workers, had resolved to strike in protest, justly complaining of the rising costs, not of TV sets and new automobiles, but of the necessities of life. On June 17, 1958, the construction workers left their jobs and began to march to the government buildings to protest. The Vopos got nervous and, backed up by the Russians, shot into the crowds, killing and wounding many people. Men who had worn communist party badges tore them off in scorn and joined the marchers. Some climbed to the top of the Brandenburg Gate, tore down the Communist flag, and hoisted the flag of the West German Federal Republic.

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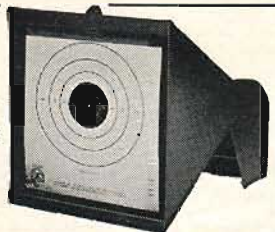
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The cry for unification of Germany arose, and what had been a protest against work norm increases became political in its demands. The workers seized the billy clubs from the Vopos and beat the police with them. There was much fighting, and much killing.

Fighting spread throughout the East Zone, became general in the industrial centers of Dresden. Even the land reform attempts in Silesia and Prussia faltered. Soviet armored forces and the dread State Security Forces, the K.G.B., smashed down upon the rioters. Without help from the West, without organization, the fight that could have brought freedom for the People's Republic was crushed.

With thoroughness, the Soviets then rebuilt their torn Communist economy. Special workers, adequately trained in Marxist-Leninist doctrine, were recruited in the factories. Though their training at first was with only small caliber rifles, TOZ-3 Russian .22 bolt action target rifles, they rapidly graduated to heavier arms. In January 1956, the first public parade of armed factory "battle groups" was held in East Berlin. Carefully staged news photos showed the massed front ranks with War II Sturmgewehr 44s; behind, the files carried folding-bayonet Russian bolt action Nagant carbines, Model 1944. But the system kept at its work, and the weapons of the loyal communists improved. When the Reds pulled out, with attendant newspaper publicity, they left behind their Skis rifles which the "workers militia" and the National Peoples Army were quick to take up. These today are the strength of East Germany—and perhaps its weakness.

For revolution has occurred in the East. The fighting dismissed as "the Berlin Riots" was much more general, much tougher to suppress than the Soviets admit. With the right combination of circumstances, the West can count on support from some of the people in the East; of this I am convinced. I believe too that, if the Communists try to settle the Berlin question by force of arms, they will face a new German army, the Bundeswehr, as tough as the old Wehrmacht ever was and backed by the supply and the strength of the Western forces already on duty in Germany. Our 7th Army is the "sword and shield of NATO," and the Berlin Garrison is the tip of that sword. But the graves and the breastplates of this armor of freedom are the British Berlin Independent Brigade, the Black Watch Regiment stationed east of Essen, the French regiments, reduced somewhat but still standing to their obligations to preserve the new Pax Europa . . . And, there is the Bundeswehr.

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(Continued on page 73)

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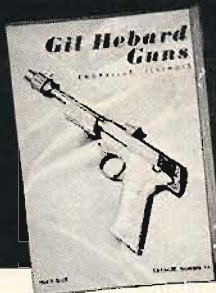
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(Continued from page 71)

training. For their plans, though not officially announced, reveal the creation of a million-man army, pretty large for a divided nation of Germany's size.

I say with all confidence that it is a million-man Army, and more, in spite of the "100,000 man" limitations agreed to. Since 1937, Sportwaffenfabrik Carl Walther at Ulm has, by the spring of 1961, delivered to the Bundeswehr more than 117,000 new P. 38 pistols. Fritz Walther is out to equal his wartime delivery of a million and a half pistols between 1938 and 1945 if the current program continues. And even more convincing is the schedule on the MG-42-59s and the CETME or Gew C-3 rifles now on order.

This CETME has a curious history. Originally the Mauser Sturmgewehr 45 or MP 45, it is a fixed barrel arm with a bolt locked by cammed rollers. During maximum pressure time, the rollers are locked but are yet, as pressure drops, put into motion, rocking inward from frame recesses to withdraw into the bolt body and free the bolt for recoil. Fundamentally, the concept is simple, but hell on cartridge cases!

In the last days of '45, some Mauser engineers took a plane for Madrid and there hooked up with the Centro Estudios Technicos y Materiales Especiales, a government research institute. They perfected the rifle, known as CETME, using a special 7 mm long aluminum bullet and a relatively short cartridge case, somewhat between NATO and 7.9 Kurz in case dimensions. While the Spanish Government looked with approval on it, CETME made an arrangement with De Kruithoorn, officially Nederlandsche Vapen en Munitiefabriek in the Netherlands, to manufacture the gun for commercial military sale. De Kruithoorn's youthful chief, Hank Visser, conceived of a better plan, and returned the CETME rights to Germany in return for certain ammunition rights through Industry Werke Karlsruhe. I.W.K. is the decartelized entity successors to the D.W.M. interests. I.W.K. having an interest in Rheinmetall, it was natural that the CETME should go into production there, but not before perfected models were supplied by the team in Madrid. So the Bundeswehr told the Centro Estudios to prepare a gun for the German trials.

Obligingly, the former Mauser engineers, not reading the papers too much lately about so-called NATO standard ammunition, whipped up a model in 8 mm CETME caliber. The officials in Bonn said very pretty, and can you make it now please in the 7.62 caliber we need? Perplexed, but willing to do anything for a friend, the next model was sent up to Bonn for test. It was a .30 caliber (7.62 mm) all right, but an 8 mm case length for CETME, squeezed down to .30. Just where they supposed Bonn would get cartridges for it nobody seemed to know, and the designation will remain to puzzle future generations of cartridge collectors. Finally, they got the idea that it was to be NATO caliber and back they ran again with a per-



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Jeff. Trader

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CLIP AND MAIL THIS FORM TO: GUNS Magazine, G-11
The Gun Market, 8150 N. Central Park Ave., Skokie, Illinois

Beautiful 90% finished shotgun and rifle stocks by BISHOP for three generations, makers of the world's most famous gunstocks! Ask your dealer for your free copy of the all-new Alaskan 90% finished shotgun and rifle stock catalog . . . or write direct.
E. C. BISHOP & SON, Inc., WARSAW, MO., Dept. J4P

U. S. SNIPER SCOPES



SHOOTERS—COLLECTORS here's a top quality orig. G.I. SNIPER SCOPE for sport or military rifle. 2 1/2" X coated optics, 5 1/2" eye relief post & cross-hairs, hydrogen filled, 3/8" tube. . . . \$22.50 ppd.
SANTA ANA GUNROOM
 P. O. Box 1777 Santa Ana, Calif.

NEW 18 PAGE LIST EVERY 5 WEEKS
ANTIQUE & MODERN GUNS
 PLEASE SEND 10c FOR YOUR COPY.
ALWAYS ON HAND: Win. Lever-Actions, Col's, S&W's, Rem's, Muskets, and Win. Parts, Will Trade.
CHET FULMER, RTE. 3, DETROIT LAKES, MINN.

LIFETIME PISTOL CARTRIDGE DIES
 USERS REPORT OVER 1,000,000 GUARANTEED FOR 200,000
 LONG LIFE • NO SCRATCHING • NO GALLING
 MANUFACTURED BY
Carbide Die & Mfg. Co.
 CEMENTED CARBIDE **CARBOLOY** (TRADE MARK)
 P. O. BOX 226 COVINA, CALIF.

fect model. The arm at last being okayed, not only Rheinmetall but a new firm in Oberndorf, Heckler & Koch, took up the manufacture. Though the neighboring Mauser Werke now made only machine tools, the MP 45 was home at last.


The specifications for this rifle include relatively low grade steel in the barrel. In the interests of light weight, since there is no gas operating group needed, the barrel profile is relatively slim. According to Visser, barrel failures are not unknown after 6,000 to 8,000 rounds with the CETME. But apparently the Bundeswehr is satisfied: there are 700,000 rifles on order at the two factories!

Experience in using 20-shot detachable box magazine *schnell feuer* rifles has been gained by the Bundeswehr in companion maneuvers with units of our Seventh at the big military camp at Grafenwoehr. First held in February 1960, the now-annual combat training called "Exercise Winter Shield" found the German 30th and 14th Panzer Brigades armed with pilot lots of the Belgian-made F.N.-FAL rifle. I saw these rifles, marked "Kar. FN Cal. 7.62 mm," being fabricated in the F.N. plant in October of 1957, along with thousands of NATO-caliber barrels for the MG-42, wartime-designed but currently Rheinmetall-built standard light machine gun of the Bundeswehr. The Panzers, who have also bought

50,000 and possibly twice that many UZI submachine guns from Israel, are the spearhead of German forces that will breach the "green border" and strike for Berlin.

It is true that 14 Soviet Garrisons ring Berlin, with armor on the Baltic and in the south. But if these Soviet land forces attempt to reach Berlin (one hour, two hours distant), they will have at their backs the advancing Bundeswehr. I firmly believe that Berlin and its mercurial mayor Willi Brant, who has the best chance to be the new West German chancellor, will not be surrendered by the Germans of the West without a fight. It will be limited war, and I think the Bundeswehr for the first time since Bismarck will be a German Army bent on liberation.

If Communist General Karl Maron thinks the way to gain his ends is by taking over Berlin, he will blow Germany sky high with civil war. And with the Bundeswehr at its back and a risen Eastern population in front, the cut-off Soviet brigades will lose that aura of invincibility which has permitted them to charm the East.

It might be a "proving ground" for War III, just as Spain is looked upon as the testing field for War II; but from it will emerge a new, united, and peacefully invincible Germany. Perhaps in the breathing space that seems to follow these "proving ground" wars, we can learn the ways of peace. 

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The oldest:
Model 1894

The newest:
Model 100

Which will be your next Winchester?

If there ever was a classic rifle, this is it.

It's the rifle men the world over call "my old thirty-thirty." Winchester made the first one in 1894—and hunters have never stopped wanting one.

They've been bragged about from Hudson Bay to the Rio Grande, outdoorsmen from Presidents to prospectors have considered the 94 as much a part of their dunnage as their axe and matches. Wherever two deer hunters got together it was a good bet one of them would be carrying a cherished 94. And it still is.

Not too long ago the 2,500,000th Model 94 came out of the Winchester factory; and that's a real testimonial to its greatness!

Haven't you always wanted to own one?

The Model 100 is Winchester's brand new pride and joy. If you're a real rifleman, and you want an all-game automatic, this is it! Five shots as fast as you can pull the trigger... lightweight, it has the most beautiful balance you've ever handled. And an absolute minimum of recoil.

The Model 100 is chambered for the fabulous Winchester 308 cartridge, in 5 perfect bullet weights and 7 bullet types for everything from varmint to moose.

This is a right rugged Winchester—a proud descendant of nearly 100 years of great rifles from America's number one gunmaker. Hang it right next to your 94.

Model 94 Specifications:

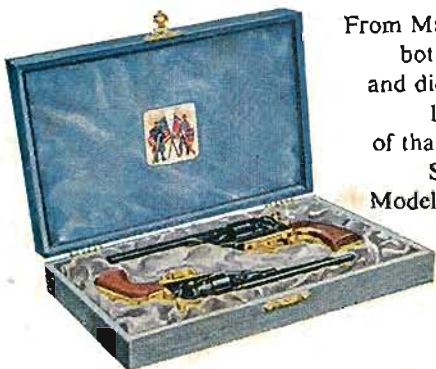
Calibers: 30-30 Winchester and 32 Winchester Special
Capacity: 7 cartridges
Length: 37¾"
Weight: 6½ lbs.
\$83.95

Model 100 Specifications:

Action: Gas operated, self-loading automatic
Stock: One-piece American walnut, checkered pistol grip and fore-end
Capacity: 5 cartridges
Length: 42½"
Sights: Adjustable folding rear sight, receiver drilled and tapped for receiver sights and scope mounts
Weight: 7¼ lbs.
\$155.00



DEDICATED TO
 THE **BLUE** AND THE **GRAY**
 CIVIL WAR CENTENNIAL MODEL



From Manassas to Gettysburg to Appomattox, both Yank and Johnny Reb saw their duty and did it . . . more often than not with the Colt .44 1860 Army. So, a hundred years later it is fitting that a replica of that gun become the Civil War Centennial Model now offered by Colt. Scaled $\frac{7}{8}$ size in single shot, .22 cal. short, the Centennial Model is presented in royal blue with gold-plated strap, and trigger guard . . . the single \$32.50. Consecutive serial numbered matched pair \$59.50. See your Colt Registered Dealer or write . . .

COLT'S PATENT FIRE ARMS MFG. CO., INC.
 HARTFORD 15, CONNECTICUT

