

FEBRUARY 1959 50c

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Guns

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RIFLES FOR THE
SOUTHPAW
MILLION**

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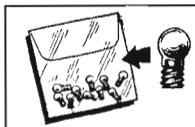
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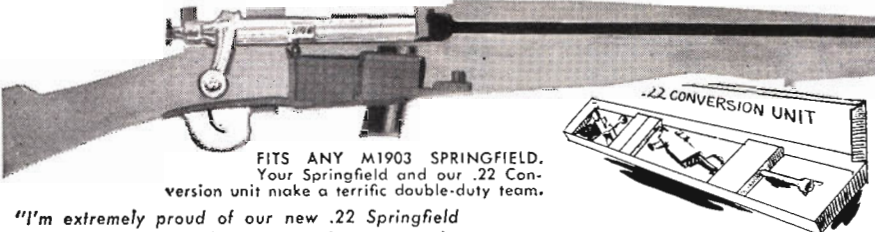
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By HAROLD LUTIGER

Museum Curator

Since I am in close daily contact with the magnificent gun collection at the George F. Harding Museum in Chicago, it is only natural that I should choose my favorite firearm from among its elegantly decorated, historically important pieces. The rifled wheel lock which I am pictured holding was the combined effort of Georg Maucher, stockmaker, and Michael Has, who made the barrel and lock. The rifle was built in 1658 for Leopold I, Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire, and bears his portrait along with those of his electors on the cheek piece. The stock is decorated with intricately carved bas-relief scenes of the hunt. There is a restrained use of ivory inlay and the effect is one of good taste in an age of otherwise flamboyant arms.



MY FAVORITE GUN

By Dr. BRUNO THOMAS

*Director
Vienna Arms Museum*

IT IS DIFFICULT to say which single gun or pistol of 1400 here in the Vienna Arms Museum is really first in my favor, as all of them are imperial, royal, or princely in origin and of high quality. We are not allowed to shoot nor to possess one of this kind. But one special gun has for me a personal significance, as I helped get it back to our national armory, from abroad. It is one of the most elaborate of all ivory inlaid arms in existence, signed by the stockmaker Hans Paumgartners (HP) in Graz, dated 1570, and decorated with the arms of Charles of Styria, Archduke of Austria. I discovered two more such wheellocks in America—one in the Harding museum, and another owned by a private collector, Mr. Renwick, near Boston.



TRIGGER TALK

YES, we ran a story not long ago on Savage guns and Savage history; but when Tech Editor Bill Edwards, a southpaw, got hold of one of the new Savage M110 left-handed bolt actions—well, it was a case of do the story or lose a Tech Editor. So here (page 14) is a report by a southpaw for southpaws on America's first mass-produced southpaw rifle (made for right-handers too, in case you're normal).

Collectors, and particularly those who go for the prizes with "western" flavor, should like Bob McCoy's story (page 18) of the guns in the Buffalo Bill Cody Museum. Next time you're out in the Yellowstone Park country, drop in and see them.

We've had so many letters from readers in search of the truth about game calls (do they do what they say they'll do, or don't they), that we decided to get the low-down. If the pictures starting on page 21 don't convince you, we don't know what could.

No, the double appearance of "Nils Kvale" in our byline column is neither error nor accident. Kvale is test engineer for Norma, in Sweden, which makes him a natural proponent of Swedish guns. "Sweden's Royal Rifle," page 40, is the story of Husqvarna, makers of fine sporters. And Kvale's other story, "World's Biggest Shooting Match," paints a growing picture of the Swiss civilian marksmanship program and the popular approval of it in what is truly "the nation of riflemen." In Switzerland, the man who can't or doesn't shoot a rifle well is not only in trouble with the law (which makes marksmanship one of the requisites of citizenship), he is also a sort of social outcast.

The eagerly awaited report on the winners of GUNS third annual Police Awards will be the first item turned to by many readers of this issue; and well worth reading it is, too. It will be read, in part, in many other publications, for newspapers and other journals all over the country have picked up the stories of these "beyond the call of duty" public servants and the recognition given them. There'll be another award this year. Why not get your nomination in early?

To those readers (and they are legion) who think that Elmer Keith wrote "the Bible" on handguns (and they're right: see "Sixguns, by Keith," Stackpole publishers), the story starting on page 28 will be a welcome new chapter. A contributor to our "Crossfire" column this month calls Keith "A living legend." Legend he may be, living he surely is; and wherever shooters gather, the Keith legend is one of fact, not theory. Keith didn't just read 'em; he shot 'em!

We don't often use reprints, but if you don't like "Should You Own A Gun?" by Karl Hess (page 46), we'll be surprised and disappointed . . . and for the seekers after the rare and unfindable, "Gun Of The Month" this month pictures and describes the Weber-Adolph match pistol, one of the rarest.

And oh, yes; in case you've always wanted a cannon, see "Build a Cannon For Your Home!" by Don Carpenter. This is a home-workshop project to end all home-workshop projects!



THE COVER

Western saddlemen have always liked the flat fit of a lever action rifle in a saddle scabbard. This fine color shot of a modern cowboy-hunter with a Savage M99 was taken for us on a big game hunt in the rugged northern New Mexico mountains by Harvey Caplin of Albuquerque, N. M.

Guns

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

FEBRUARY, 1959

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GUNS in the NEWS

[Special]—

◆ Jonesboro, Ark. Paralyzed, Hosea Gipson went hunting in his wheelchair. And, sitting in the chair, bagged his second deer in as many years . . . a 160-pound 17-point buck. His three companions went home empty-handed.

★ ★ ★

◆ Detroit, Mich. Frank Pattitoni is a hero of the East Side once more. A small, white-haired man, Mr. Pattitoni, 69, shot and killed his second holdup man in four years at his grocery store.

★ ★ ★

◆ Vanceburg, Ky. People are carrying guns in plain sight here, some wearing revolvers in holsters. Old West style. Police Chief Earl Billman says he doesn't know what he can do about it. The law forbids concealed weapons but doesn't say anything about carrying 'em in plain sight.

★ ★ ★

◆ Whitehall, Wis.: A "dead man" has become a champ shot here. Colonel (that's his first name, not a rank) Larson, victim of a severe case of polio, was thought to have died and his "death" was announced over the radio. Determined to make himself useful again "even if I was dead," Larson, who'd never handled a gun before, learned to shoot from a wheelchair. Today, able to be on his feet again, he holds championship titles for indoor trick and fancy shooting.

★ ★ ★

◆ Annapolis, Md.: Although he has had quite fabulous coaching offers elsewhere, one reason Eddie Erdelatz has elected to stay on as the Naval Academy's football coach is that he likes the duck hunting in Maryland. Both he and his son, Eddie Jr., are crack shots.

★ ★ ★

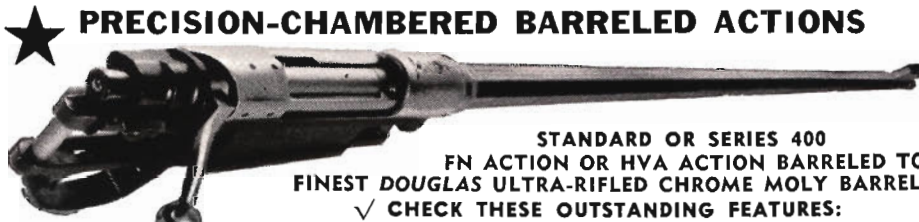
◆ Camp Smith, Hawaii: They don't call Lieut. Col. Cool "Frosty" for nothing. Shooting as if he had ice water in his veins, "Frosty" Cool won the Camp Smith Invitational Open Skeet Shoot by blasting 98 birds in 100 chances.

★ ★ ★

◆ An Oregon forester expressed the thought, in public, that if hunters would send him a dirty sock, it would be easier for bloodhounds to hunt down lost hunters. He received two dozen socks, a pair of nylons, and a pair of women's panties!

★ ★ ★

◆ A La Grande, Oregon, hunter didn't get his intended quarry—a deer, but he did get: (1) five coyotes in a pack of twelve when he wandered into a cave where the predators were hiding; (2) a black bear which he happened across.



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All Calibers Listed

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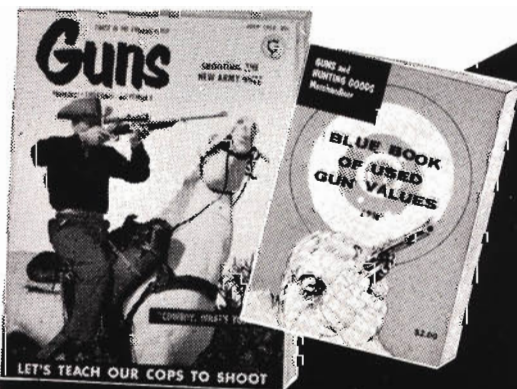
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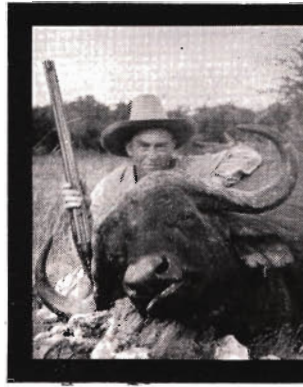
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Elmer Keith says . . .

Ithaca .22 Auto

HAVE JUST FINISHED testing a new Ithaca .22 auto-loading rifle, the X-5. Ithaca Gun Co. has long been known as the maker of very fine shotguns—first, double guns and later, their famous pumps and trap guns. Now, for the first time in their history, they are also making rifles and, if I may judge from the sample tested, very good rifles in tradition with their long established reputation.

This new Ithaca is a clip-fed seven-shot auto loader, but Ithaca also will soon bring out a much larger capacity clip for this rifle. The action rod is farther forward than on any semi-auto rifle I have used and the operating handle is close to the rear sight, on right side of rifle, handy to throw the first round into the chamber. On the left and well to the rear of the receiver is a button which, when pressed with action rod pulled back, locks the breech block to rear for inspection, cleaning, etc. The rifle is man-sized, with a well-shaped pistol grip stock that will fit 90 per cent of the shooters.

Trigger pull is good for an auto loader, and the rifle is a very good-shooting weapon. Front sight is a radical departure. It has a ramp with spring plunger to hold the front sight properly in its lengthwise dovetail. This ramp is very well designed, so that anyone can make and fit a new front sight in a few minutes and insert it in the dovetail from the front and then allow the spring plunger to fly up and lock it in place. Rear sight is a typical flat-top V notch with step-ladder elevation.

Safety is well positioned on right rear of receiver and is positive. The rifle balances well, the weight being mostly right between the hands in the receiver and action. Rifle takes down very easily and just one heavy screw holds action and stock together. All told, a very well designed .22 auto rifle for general hunting and plinking and one I can give a clean bill of health.

Houwer Holsters

M. J. Houwer, maker of some of the world's finest fully lined custom holsters and gun belts to my design, has now quit the business and turned his business and patterns over to Clyde Stone of the Salmon Saddle Shop, Salmon, Idaho. Stone plans to continue the manufacture by hand of these fine holsters and to give prompt service. Holsters come plain or hand carved, for right or left hand or cross draw as desired, for any gun.

Loads for .458 Winchester

Many inquiries come in for loads for the Model 70 caliber .458 Winchester. I have found that a charge of 66 grains of 3031

works very well with either the 510 grain soft point or the 500 grain solid. As Winchester apparently won't sell these bullets except in loaded ammo, one can substitute the British Kynoch .450 caliber 480 grain bullets and use 68 grains 3031, or use the 500 grain Barnes soft and solids with 66 grains 3031. This cartridge was performing very well in Africa when I was there last fall, and was fast making a good reputation. For the man who likes a bolt action, it is very hard to beat for a big African rifle.

.38 Special Wad Cutter Hand Loads

Charles George, a retired officer from the Newark, N. J. Police Dept., is now furnishing target hand loads in .38 Special. These are excellent cartridges, the cases properly resized and bullets properly seated and crimped, and are very accurate in .38 Special revolvers for 15 to 25 yard target shooting. I never could see a wad cutter bullet for any long range, but these are excellent wad cutters and seem to shoot as well or better than factory ammunition. They can be had in your own or his resized empty .38 Special cases. For prices write George Associates, 449 Washington St., Newark 2, N. J.

Short Shells in Long Chambers

Many people ask me about the advisability of using short shells in long chambered shotguns. The same question must also be asked of gun dealers and smiths. After many years experience with both 3" magnum 12-chambered guns and also 3½"-chambered magnum 10's, I have found that the 2¾" shell in the magnum 12 full choke will usually throw a very good 65 to 68 per cent modified choke pattern. This makes the shorter shells about right for upland work on a great deal of game. The one-gun man who has a magnum 12 for ducks and geese can thus get by very nicely on upland game by using the standard 2¾" case load with trap loads for quail, heavy duck loads in 5s or 6s for pheasants and shorter range work, and the big roman candles in 1½ or 1¾ ounce loadings for the long range water-fowl shooting or late-season long range pheasants that will not hold to the dog or lie to the gun but insist on running ahead and then jumping at 50 to 60 yards away.

In the big Magnum 10 I have used a great many 1½ ounce super 10 loads. This load should be increased now to 1¾ ounces. Most all super 10 loads throw a good modified pattern and many throw a good full choke pattern in this gun. I have run 90 per cent strings with Remington Nitro Express 2½" shells with 1½ ounces No. 6 shot in this big gun, and also shot some buckshot super

10 loads that made 100 per cent patterns. So if you own a mag 10, or mag 12 and want to use it for lighter, shorter, range work, go right ahead. You will find it does mighty good work.

Redfield Sharpshooter Receiver Sight

The Redfield Gunsight Co. of Denver, Colo., who have long made a most excellent line of iron sights as well as a very reliable top mount for most hunting scopes, are now out with a new receiver sight. This latest addition to the full line of Redfield receiver sights is designed for the recent models of .22 caliber rifles of various makes. Most modern .22 caliber rifles, in auto loading, pump, or bolt action, have a grooved receiver top to take the roll-off mounts for scopes. This dovetailing of the receiver top forms an most perfect base for most low cost .22 caliber hunting scopes and their clamp-on mounts. The new Redfield Sharp-shooter receiver sight attaches in the same way, with a dovetail to slide on the top of the receiver and a powerful screw and portion of one side of the dovetail to clamp same firmly in place.

For older rifles, dovetail bases are furnished and can be attached by two screws to the top of the receiver. The new sight then attaches firmly to the base. On most rifles, a front sight about one inch higher is needed, and the best front sight is the Redfield Sourdough for hunting use. By the use of the special dovetail block base, this sight can be fitted to many rifles other than the modern grooved-receiver type. It is strong, has both windage and elevation adjustment, with heavy coin locking screws for each. It will sell like hotcakes and maple syrup on a cold morning.

Colts All Blue Frontier Scout

We have just tested the new all blue-black Colt Frontier Scout. Identical in every way with their earlier dual tone model, this also proved a very good and accurate arm; but both main springs seemed heavy and trigger pull too hard for finest shooting. By hard two-hand holding, they proved very accurate, but a lighter trigger pull and less main spring tension would suit me better. I would expect the new model to prove more popular than the dual tone job, but I may just be prejudiced in favor of blueed guns. These two Frontier scouts are very well made little guns, incorporating a grip of about standard S. A. Army size but a smaller frame and cylinder. Excellent understudies for the famous old S. A. Colt, they are very good little grouse and rabbit guns. The all blue model sells for the same price as the dual tone: \$49.50.

Bore-Kleen

We have used this powder solvent for several years, as sold by Protective Coatings Inc., Box 3985, Detroit 27, Mich. It is an excellent powder solvent and, due to the fact that it incorporates a graphite element, it works best of any solvent we have used in shotguns and revolvers and seems to largely eliminate leading in either gun. This graphite seems to impregnate the bore after some useage, until lead will not stick to it. Shooters can use it without fear for cleaning and lead prevention, will find it excellent

for all guns shooting naked lead bullets or shot. It seems to do a very good job also of cleaning cordite rifles and other high power rifles. This company also furnishes a very high grade of gun oil for regular action lubrication and rust prevention. We have a high regard for both products.

Correction

I was mistaken regarding the material used in the grips for the Ruger Bear-Cat revolver. Bill Ruger informs me these stocks are actually wood impregnated with phenolic resin under tremendous pressure. This makes their finish practically ever-lasting, and it is impervious to water and oil as well. This new stock material should be much more wear resistant than regular walnut or plastic stocks.

Parker-Hale Comet Gun Blue

We have given this quick cold blue a fair test and find it does a very good job for touch-up work or small parts, if directions are carefully followed. Repeated applications will produce as dark a blue as desired. Either small parts or complete arms may be blueed by this method and, while not in a class with the much deeper depth of finish afforded by the old rust process or many of our best new hot blue processes, it will nevertheless give a very nice finish to most steels. Sold in handy bottle complete with instructions by Frank Clarke Jr., Box 297, Cheyenne, Wyo.

.303 British S.M.L.E. Jungle Carbine

We have been testing a .303 British Jungle Carbine, as sold by Golden State Arms Corp. of Pasadena. This little gun is made on the regular S.M.L.E. pattern 14 action, with some improvements. It has an excellent battle sight, a very large aperture peep sight and, when the standard is turned up, has another slightly smaller peep sight adjustable by the 100 yards, from 200 to 800 yards. Sight is well protected by wings, and the front sight is a narrow blade protected by wings also. It is a short, handy little weapon and, while no thing of beauty, is a very rugged and practical arm for the Jeep, saddle, or other hard usage. It is quite accurate; we made five-shot groups around 1 1/2" at 60 yards. The muzzle is equipped with bayonet lug and a funnel-shaped flash hider. The latter can be sawed off and the whole muzzle recrowned to make a better looking and shorter weapon. (The flash hider makes an excellent powder funnel.)

The magazine is a detachable clip, and holds ten rounds. While the older Pattern 14 rifles usually handle round-nose 215 grain ammo perfectly, these Jungle Carbines will only handle the sharp pointed Spitzer 174 grain bullet or other Spitzer-shaped bullets with very sharp points. The magazine lips could easily be altered to handle the blunter 215 grain game bullet.

The battle sight is an excellent hunting sight, and the front sight could be exchanged for a Redfield Sourdough of the same height and make a most excellent little gun for the average boy wanting his first deer rifle, or for anyone wanting a light, short, handy, and very rugged weapon. It is not only a hell of a lot better fighting weapon than our own pip-squeak-loaded .30 carbine but is also a game gun if need be, which our little carbine

(Continued on page 62)

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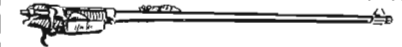
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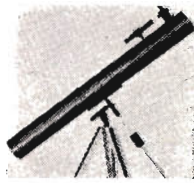
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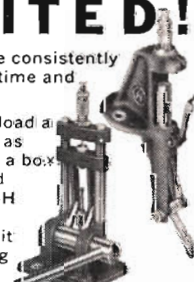


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CROSSFIRE

New Mexico And Gun-Law Sanity

I am a regular reader of your magazine and think that it is one of the finest gun magazines on the newsstand. I read with interest your article on the Sullivan Law in New York. I feel that such laws are a national disgrace, that legislation should be aimed at the crime itself and not at the firearm.

I am glad that I live here in New Mexico where firearms legislation is practically non-existent. We have a State Statute which prohibits carrying firearms in a settlement, and the cities and towns have ordinances to the same effect. There is also a state law which prohibits carrying a sidearm while bow-hunting. We realize that laws are needed prohibiting the carrying of firearms in towns in the interest of maintaining the peace; however, laws like the Sullivan Law are plain stupid. We have a state statute here in New Mexico which authorizes a person to carry a firearm in an automobile for protection. The State Game Commission also authorized the taking of big game with handguns. This pertains to the .44 Magnum and the .44 S&W Special. (The .44 Special must be hand-loaded to deliver 1,000 foot pounds of energy.) We have no other legislation regulating the purchase and carrying of handguns. We also have no registration of handguns. Some cities have facilities where a person can register a firearm with the police in case of loss or theft, however, this is on a voluntary basis only. A person must also be 16 years old to purchase a handgun or ammunition therefore.

So, since I love firearms and own several, I'm glad I live in New Mexico.

Alger L. Thompson
Grants, New Mexico

Praise For The 28 Gaugers

Have just finished my first issue of your magazine and have immediately entered my name for subscription. One article in particular in this issue, November, 1958, was very interesting to me: "28 Gauge For Beginners," by Frank De Hass. I agree with the author completely; but why only for beginners?

I have been shooting a Remington 11-48 in 28 gauge since it came on the market in 1952. During this time, I spent two and a half years in Africa where we had excellent Guinea Fowl (approximately the size of a large pheasant or duck) and I took these birds with ease, holding my own with experienced shotgunners using twelves and sixteens. This was using the commercial loads. I have also used this gun for most all game birds, including ducks, in the States. Being raised in the Mississippi Delta along the river I gave it a good trial with duck and never found it wanting. I estimate that I have run

between 9 to 12 thousand shells through this gun since I have had it, and I still wouldn't swap it for any gun I have ever seen. It's a modified choke, standard grade with a Simmons rib.

I now have a nine year old son who is fast developing into a first rate shotgunner and, with the increase in number of shells my family now shoots, I have been hand loading for the past two years. My pet gripe now is that the makers of handloading equipment won't keep up with the new popularity of the 28. The best tool I have found for the 28 is the Thalsen, and it is entirely too slow for the amount of shooting we do. Could you suggest a faster tool and a source of supply of loading components for this gauge?

An excellent hunting load for the 28 can be worked up using the Alcan 5 powder with 1 ounce of 7 1/2 shot. This will hold its own with any 20.

Jerry Adams, M.D.
Shelbyville, Kentucky

Advice Wanted

Many thanks to your fine magazine. Since my first purchase of the magazine some six months ago, it has stirred my interest in firearms. I'm a devout fan of the fast draw and practice religiously. Until recently I have used only a double action H&R "Sidekick." I have just bought an original 1873 Army Colt. Can you advise me to any books or other information to perfect the art of the single action fast draw?

How about more articles on fast shooting? I truly regard your magazine as "finest in the firearms field."

Nick Sisley
Dravosburg, Penna.

Keith: A Living Legend?

I wish to enter my kudos for GUNS Magazine. It is far superior to anything akin to it.

Elmer Keith must be a real diamond. I do not buy all he writes about "Big Bores," but I still think he is a wonderful, lovable, living legend. Regarding the poem ribbing Elmer Keith, I bet Elmer got a hell of a good belly laugh. I did.

The technical report on the Kimball .30 Carbine automatic saved me money. I have seen a single action .45 Colt reworked for the .30 Carbine cartridge. It kicks like an Army mule. I bet even Elmer would be shaken up. The owner can't shoot it.

R. S. vonLudlow
Los Angeles, California

Solution For GI Problem

I noticed in your column "Crossfire." October, '58, that a PFC J.R.H., USMC, has a problem about where to keep his weapon during off-duty hours.

I ran into the same problem. While I was stationed at Sheppard A.F.B., Texas, I pur-

chased a few weapons and some ammunition. When I came back on base, I registered them with the Provost Marshal. On the way back to my squadron, I noticed that it was too late to store them in squadron supply. Being under the same regulations as J.R.H., I knew I could not keep them in my personal area or in my room, so I simply walked into the squadron operations and checked the weapons and ammo with the C.Q. (Charge of Quarters). Next morning when I picked them up from the 1st Sgt., I explained the situation and stored them in squadron supply. Incidentally, the first Sgt. commended me on my decision. I hope this little experience is of some help to J.R.H. and others having similar problems.

A/3 cl. Joseph Orsini
Bolling A.F.B.
Washington, D. C.

Picture With A Story

We here at Luke Air Force Base would like to offer our congratulations on your fine magazine. The articles are timely and of great interest to the members of our rifle and pistol teams, and others.

However, we have had a heated discussion over the gentleman pictured on the cover of the September, 1958, issue. Some think he is wearing a Marine uniform, but I'm sure that it is a very old picture of an officer of the circa 1940 era.

Capt. William J. Dempsey, USAF
Glendale, Arizona

You're right, Captain. The photo dates about as you state; was used because it so perfectly fitted our artists' specifications for that cover layout. The officer (Major Bob Canfield) was killed in action during World War Two. We are now having our print of the picture retouched and rephotographed in order to supply copies to Major Canfield's family.—Editors.

Mossberg For Squirrels

Your GUNS magazines are tops on the reading market and I enjoy each and every issue. Particularly like the story on page 28-9 of the December issue ("America's No. 2 Game Target," by Carlos Vinson). I have a Mossberg 146B equipped with Lyman peep sights, and one shot is all that is needed for squirrels.

Ken Wilson
Toronto, Ontario

Texans Take Notice!

Mr. Jack E. Hightower, P. O. Box 1720, Vernon, Texas, Secretary-Treasurer of the Texas District and County Attorneys' Association, recently sent me a list of 31 proposals for legislative changes in the coming legislature which Texas District and County Attorneys' Association would consider endorsing at the coming session of the legislature.

Proposal No. 28 was as follows: "Provide for a system of records to be kept by dealers in pistols, and set up requirements of illegality for the purchase of a pistol."

I immediately wrote Mr. Hightower that I opposed such legislation and would like to have the opportunity to appear before any committee considering the passage of this type legislation. However, I feel that your readers should know of this proposal so that subscribers in Texas may get in touch with their respective district attorneys and urge

them to oppose such legislation and, if possible, prevent its being brought before the legislature.

Wiley L. Cheatham
District Attorney, 24th District
Cuero, Texas

Copy for this magazine goes to the printer many weeks before the issue can reach the newsstands and/or subscribers. No date was given for the consideration of this proposal, so we don't know whether this publication is in time to do any good or not. However, letters or calls to your district or county attorney, even if late in this instance, might weigh against future similar legislation by informing the gentlemen in question of the will of their constituents. . . . Anti-gun laws in Texas? Shades of Sam Houston, and "Remember the Alamo!"—Editors.

Arm Us and Make Us Strong!

One of our readers signing himself "Minute Man" from New Boston, writing in to my newspaper recently, advocates that the Army should turn over its obsolete and outmoded rifles to every person in the United States, so that any invader would realize that the entire populace was armed and that the enemy would have to fight for every inch of ground.

"Minute Man" writes: "We could expect no mercy. Why show any? We tried being 'good Joes' and we ended up being saps."

"Minute Man" has the right idea. A populace where everyone could shoot, had a rifle and plenty of ammunition, would make invasion impossible. It is also in the great tradition of the Founding Fathers.

One thing the Communists can't stand is an armed and alert populace. They take over countries first by taking over stupid or corrupt leaders, and then impose their will on a disarmed populace. Every man and woman in this country and every child over 10 should know how to handle a rifle and how to shoot.

William Loeb, President
Manchester (N.H.) Union Leader

Soldier Says "Keep Your Guns"

I just finished reading your November issue of GUNS and also your crossfire about the Sullivan Law. I did not read the article you wrote about it and if possible I would like to get a reprint of it. I am in the army, now stationed in Mainz, Germany. Back in the States, my father is Chief Deputy Sheriff of Monroe County, N. Y. and I can remember a lot of people coming to Dad, wanting him to sign pistol permits for them: all kinds of pictures, finger prints, and papers piled an inch high. Dad and I together have 25 pistols, 8 rifles, and 3 or 4 shotguns. I intend to keep all of them, law or no law! The day they take our weapons away is the day the Nazis and Communists take over!

PFC John Linney
Mainz, Germany

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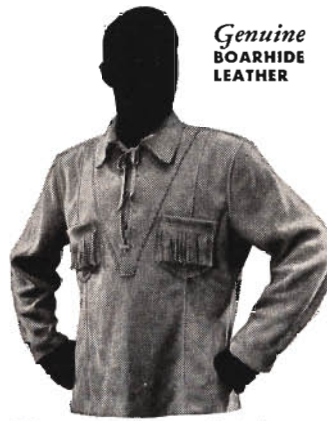
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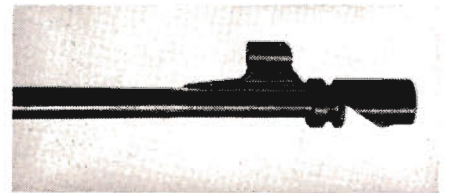


GUN RACK

GUNS Technical Staff

SPENT THE HOTTEST day of autumn at the range, combination gadget day and centerfire plinking. Yes, that's right, plinking with big brass cartridges at metal plates, instead of the sober, serious routine of target shooting because the stuff costs so much who can afford to blaze it away? The centerfire of course was available in a neat selection of 6.5 mm Swedish fired in a long Swedish Mauser rifle and one of the short "33/50" carbines. The gadgets were a simple and effective muzzle brake by H. C. Sorensen, PO Box G 202, Beaverton, Ore., which is self attached and which you see advertised around. And the last "gadget" was the Lee Loader for shotgun shells, a set of four turned steel parts which make first class reloads, easily, and the outfit costs \$9.95. That's right—nine ninety-five. It places shotshell reloading on a mass basis for the experimentally inclined gunner. For myself, I wanted to try out a couple of different wad combinations and didn't want to load 600 an hour of each—just a few by hand. The Lee Loader did the job in a few minutes and I had ten shells to try. This device is distributed in the middle west by Sports, Inc., 5501 N. Broadway, Chicago, and you will be seeing it at your dealer's.

The foreign rifles were picked up from Sig Shore, enterprising entrepreneur of a new major mail-order gun firm, MARS Equipment Corp., 3318-G W. Devon Ave., Chicago 45, Ill. MARS is a new look to a firm that has been in the gun business off and on for fifty years—Shore, Senior is the well-known auctioneer Archie Shore, and has liquidated many fine gun collections, past and present. From MARS came the two Swedes—rifle made by Carl Gustav 1915, and one of the very first issue Mausers made in Oberndorf for the Swedes, dated 1895. These nestled down in the car along with a battery of 725 Remington's (one with the Sorensen brake), a 740 with a BALvar 24 scope that I like to



Sorensen muzzle brake on .30-06 Remington was inverted to study recoil.

use just to restore my confidence in my shooting ability—with the scope, you can't miss!

Rifles came first, and we decided to get Sorensen's muzzle brake out of the way. Instructions show how the collet end is slipped over the barrel and held by a stamped metal wrench, and then the collet collar tightened by a small spanner. I did this and the brake flew off the 725 Remington .30-06 on the second shot, went about ten yards. Since one virtue of this device is its ability to be applied to any rifle, I retrieved the gadget, slugged it back onto the muzzle, and tightened it still further. This time it stayed for at least several shots—I wasn't going to waste those nice Kleanbore Pointed Expanding shells just to prove the brake, and didn't have any cheap GI surplus to fire. However, the recoil phenomena seemed reduced when I shot it. Herb Erfurth (Army's New Rifle, July, 1958, and other stories) tried a couple of shots, and from where I stood, it could be seen that the Sorensen equalizer converted the muzzle rise into a backward push, more easily controlled. We took off the equalizer and turned it 180° upside down, to see if it really altered the kick. In this position, it should increase the kick—it did! Muzzle rise, still held in the same relative position, was about 10" in recoil. Conclusion: Sorensen's equalizer does reduce kick but needs care in attaching—a bigger wrench, maybe.

Next came a look at the MARS Mausers. Examining bolts from the Swede and the Oberndorf job showed almost identical manufacturing finishes—the only difference was the bent bolt handle of the saddle carbine. Actions on both were extremely smooth, safeties worked effortlessly. Cock on close.

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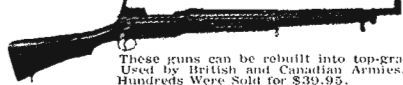
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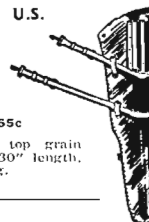
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The 6.5 mm ammo, spitzer and rounded long bullet, was bright, clean stuff, very pretty, and it shot well. The long Swede made a group of four shots into 1½" vertical, about 1" wide, at 100 yards. A bonus with these rifles are the sights for American shooters—not the typical German tapered post foresight and V-notch, but flat-topped blade front with U-notch rear, much like standard U. S. sights. This familiar sight picture contributes to the steady hold of these guns. The carbine was light and fast. Kick was almost non-existent—you could shoot either gun all day with no effect. With a little "Tennessee elevation" (right angles to Kentucky windage) I made consistent hits offhand on the 10" iron plates Johnny Smith has at the Fox Valley Rifle Club for plinkers. Any American sights for Mausers will fit these Swedish rifles, such as Redfield's Model 70 or the 48 Lyman, though if scope mounting is desired, the bolt handles will probably have to be altered. The two we shot were pretty well worn, but bores were mirror bright. Some of the "select" condition rifles are really nice. MARS offers express savings on these guns from mid-west shipping depot. "American hunting ammunition," which is to say, ammunition distributed nationally in the U. S. is available in several bullet weights in the Norma brand. Norma as well as the specialty bullet makers also offer bullets for reloading, while Norma 6.5 Mannlicher-Schonauer brass can be reformed and trimmed to the 6.5 mm x 55 Swedish chamber. Same stuff of course fits Norwegian Krags, too.

We finished off the day with some shotgun shooting. It will be admitted under pressure that I popped the trap with my foot, and caught the bird considerably shorter than if I had been at the 16 yard rise on a proper trap field. But ten out of ten figures 1.000 average, so I'm happy! Seriously, four of the shells, red Winchesters, were reloaded with the appropriate Alcan wads for the charge, trap load of No. 8, but the other six had wads which George Puth of Acme Industries left with me some months ago—wads from cork and fiberboard. The wad column, reading from powder to shot, consists of a hard red fiber over-powder wad perforated in the middle with a ¼" hole. Next is a doughnut of cork, then a pasteboard thin wad of the standard "over-powder" kind, and then a cork filler wad which is solid. The over-powder wad traps gas inside the doughnut, while the heavy fiber wad pushes the doughnut up along with the solid wad. Puth, who has developed the excellent Acme series of quality "quantity" reloaders, claims higher velocity and less kick for this wad development, and certainly shot wads deserve some major research. Basic wad design has not had any innovations since the 1890's though new materials have allowed forming wads from more flexible, better sealing plastics. At the end of the day I unlimbered my favorite Greener ten-gauge muzzle loading double, marked on the Damascus twist rib "Barrels Absolutely Indestructible By Gunpowder." The tubes are dated 1850. I find with this old smoke pole that to hit clays further away, the secret is just stuff in more powder and more shot. The smoke made the sunset red, I figure.

* * * *

Perennial favorite with all hunters, ranging from the Yukon to Jackson's Hole to the Everglades and from the plains of the Pampas to the fur lands of Siberia, is the Winchester

.30-30. Now available in such old favorites as the Model 94 Winchester carbine, the Model 336 Marlin rifles, the .30-30 is also springing up in rechambered "thirty caliber" rifles such as Globe Firearms (Ottawa, Canada) converted Swiss straight pull rifles. Because of the popularity of this caliber, we publish herewith as a "guest Gun Rack review" newly developed .30-30 loading data by Dave Stout, custom gunsmith of 1514 W. Big Bend Rd., Kirkwood 22, Missouri:

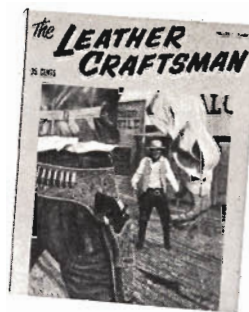
An Express Load for the .30-30

Lever-action enthusiasts have long voiced the desire for a more potent caliber than those which the light .30-30 class of rifle are now chambered for, and now here it is, tried, proven. Here are the facts:

A new model 94 Winchester carbine #1871708 and an old saddle model #316911 were used in the tests. They were fitted with Redfield Sourdough front and Lyman 66A Receiver peep sights, to obtain maximum accuracy. They were then fired at 50 yards, 100 yds., and 200 yds., with 150 and 170 grain bullets. Point of impact was carefully averaged at these ranges. Then penetration tests in ⅞" spruce boards, spaced ¼" apart, were run off, also using the above loads. After this, they were re-chambered to my improved version of the .30-30 cartridge, which we shall hereafter refer to as the .30 Express, being in appearance a reduced scale model of that fine cartridge developed by P.O. Ackley, the .30-40 Improved Krag.

Following are the results of the foregoing tests in comparison:

Trajectory Tests at 100 Yd.:
150 gr. factory..... 4"
(Continued on page 62)



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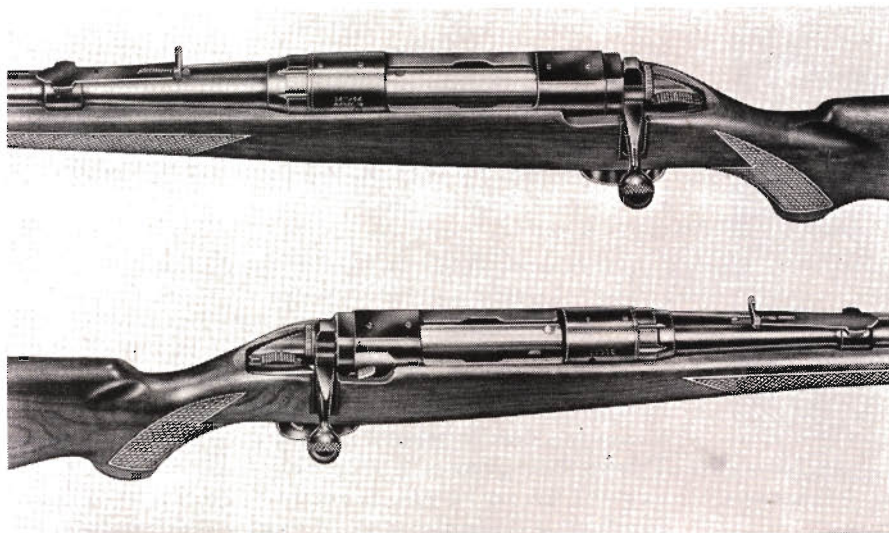
Famous old Savage 99 (above) founded company; may take back seat to deer slaying records of bolt action M110. Lever gun has strong following but new left-handed bolt rifle will please old Savage shooters, draw new fans of other guns.



Author checks first factory-made U.S. bolt rifle built for left-handers. Collar forward of action locks barrel into place. Combination sear and bolt stop (at left) are on right of receiver like regular M110. Running shells through bolt gun without taking it from shoulder was new experience for GUNS' Tech Editor Bill Edwards, who is left handed.

PAW MILLION

FIRST MASS-PRODUCED "LEFTY" IN AMERICAN RIFLE HISTORY, NEW SAVAGE APPEALS TO 1 IN 16 GUNNERS



Popular since days of the '73 are Winchester lever guns for lefties.

Comparison of right and left-handed Model 110 Savages, reveals few major differences in basic actions of the rifles.

By WILLIAM B. EDWARDS

NICK BREWER LOOKED UP from his drawing board and saw that one man in every sixteen shooters was shooting the wrong rifle.

Nicholas L. Brewer, Savage Arms Corp. designer, wasn't thinking in terms of hunting—he was thinking in terms of making guns. Brewer knew that at least a million of the sixteen million hunters is left-handed; knew that among gun people a surprisingly high percentage check out as southpaws. To Brewer's knowledge the only left-handed guns available were imported actions made years ago, or American gunsmith specialties at fabulous prices. Brewer died recently, and never saw his brain child. But the crowning achievement of the career of this remarkable man, unsung outside of the Savage factory (he pioneered the Model 340 bolt action big game rifle, the .22 Savage autoloader—more than a million copies made—and the popular Model 15 and M15 Boys Rifle) is the new Savage Model 110 bolt action rifle. And newest of the M110 line, which includes standard and Monte Carlo stocked guns in .30-06, .270, .243, and .308 calibers all at the same price, is America's first factory-made left-handed bolt action big game rifle, rifle for a million hunters.

Before Brewer dreamed up his rifle action which could be manufactured easily with only slight alterations as either a regular right-hander or a genuine special-for-southpaws, the southpaw shooter was pretty much left with rifles which suited him some but not perfectly. Lever actions had been

the rifles for most left-handed hunters, and the Savage M99 was perhaps the most truly left-handed of the lever guns because the loading port was right on top of the gun, easy for a left-hander to charge. Both Savage and custom gunsmiths made top tang safeties for the M99, since the trigger guard safety could not be worked easily by lefties.

Pump shotguns proved that many left-handed shooters were missing out in the rifle line. Ithaca's M37 scattergun had a strong following among the off-hand breed, and the reversible safeties of Remington and Winchester pumps was a concession to their needs. Both Marlin and Winchester lever action rifles also were much approved by southpaws. But all, even the newest Winchester Model 88, though they could be worked easily and fast from the shoulder shooting either right or left, were a little awkward in having the loading port on just one side. Closest to a symmetrical rifle are those like the newest Model 88 with its detachable box magazine. The detachable magazine, such as is also a feature of the Remington 740-760 series, is easy to load right or left, but always something interfered with the left-hander's enjoyment of shooting: either the cocking lever was on the wrong side or, last but not least, the ejected cases popped across his nose instead of leaving the other side of the gun.

Gunsmiths had bent their talents exclusively to modifying bolt actions. Dale Guise and Ervin Barber worked up excellent, smooth alterations of Remington's M721-722, while



Balanced feel of Savage lever rifle made it popular with shooters of all sizes and shapes, including left-handers.



Western saddle men, like cover cowboy, like the way the Savage Model 99 fits and lies flat in a saddle scabbard.

Roy Weatherby marketed excellent rifles made on the limited production Mathieu action. The Mathieu is a beautifully-made mechanism, much like a streamlined Springfield reversed; but it is expensive.

Shooters are increasingly familiar with the right-handed Model 110 action. It's simple construction, the tubular receiver, bolt baffle or cam shield, and unique combination bolt stop and trigger-sear release, offer design advantages for production and service not found in other designs. The first new bolt action rifle which is not "a Mauser," the M110 LH differs from its right-handed brother by about seven parts. The receiver is set up to have the shell loading and ejection area slanted to the left instead of right, and the ejector is of course relocated. The stock is a true lefty, some of the first rifles coming through being the latest, most refined style of M110 Monte Carlo. The bolt body is altered, though most of its manufacturing is the same, right or left. The bolt handle, similar to the right-hand version, is laid out to cock on opening left-handed. The rear baffle or cam plate is shaped for LH operation, and the extractor is slightly modified. The magazine, with a right-hand follower shape, seems to work excellently with the left-hand receiver cut.

Savage Arms is seriously considering making the Model 110 barreled actions available to gunsmiths and riflemakers. No factory can profitably put the hours of care into a good piece of wood that a fine stock deserves. But any factory can make its usual profit from the metal work and turn the basic guts—the important parts that bear the factory's name—over to a custom riflesmith to stock up as a custom gun. Though the regular grain of mine-run walnut which a factory will use on its guns is good enough for service, and sometimes a really fine piece of wood will be offered on a factory rifle, nothing beats the personalization of "your own chosen stock blank worked up to your requirements by your own stock maker." The Model 110, right- or left-handed, will stand comparison with any when so fitted up, and if Savage turns loose the M110LH in the big receiver length, here's one order! (*Note: A letter received from W. J. O'Connor, Savage Sales Manager, just before we go to press, says, "We will make available in January M110 barreled actions, left-hand and right-hand, completely finished except for sights and sight slots, in .30-06, .270, .308, and .243 calibers." Tech Editor Edwards, there's your rifle—Ed.*)

That barrel attachment, not at all incidentally, will greatly simplify the problems of fitting a new barrel. The principle of the thing is one long used—the grooved collar forward of the receiver ring on the M110, as on the M340, is simply a lock nut. The procedure is to finish-chamber your barrel, with threads for the receiver but no sight cuts. Then screw in the barrel with a "go" headspace gauge, using any bolt, no selection needed. When the barrel is snug, turn down the locking collar against the receiver, solidly securing the barrel. Only rub is, a special wrench must be made to fit the spline grooves on the collar; but that is an easy gadget for a gunsmith to turn up.

We took a few guns out shooting the other day—Madsen 9mm pop-gun, Carl Gustave m/45, a selection of automatic rifles, and a finale with the Savage 110 LH. The high spot of the day was unquestionably the Savage! I've fired many automatics, but this was the first time I had used a rifle which I felt was *really made for me*. That in-line safety of the 110 is as fast as a shotgun safety, stays in the same position right- or left-handed. Like so many naturally south-paw riflemen, I am fairly proficient at reaching over and



Lever action Marlin Model 336 has following among southpaw riflemen but loading and ejection all on one side mark it as right-handed gun.



Box magazine of Model 88 Winchester permits easy loading right or left handed but rifle is not truly symmetrical for lefty sportsman.



As left-hander, I enjoy shooting gas-operated Model 740 Remington with central box magazine but operating handle on right is awkward.

cranking a right-hand bolt, so at first it was actually awkward to work the Savage as she should be worked. But this feeling disappeared after a few minutes, and I felt as if I could equal the firepower of a whole machine gun company with that Savage, so rapidly could I flick the bolt after getting used to its "unnatural" convenience. Right-handed shooters have been accustomed to bolt handles placed for fast manipulation, but it is a revelation to a left-hander to run five shots rapid fire through a bolt action rifle almost before the muzzle rise has subsided from the kick of the first shot. Maybe I'm exaggerating a trifle in my enthusiasm, but did you ever ask a thirsty man how a cup of water tastes?

Test rifle was one of the first made up, in .243, and considerably more accurate than it had any right to be. With iron sights (now that I got my glasses) I could make three-four-five shot groups from rest at 100 yards measuring from 1" to 1¼", maybe a trifle less sometimes. I threw one out to a four-shot 2½" group once, but that was my fault, not the gun's. The gun locks up snug and the minimum chambering design is credited by the factory for contributing to the high accuracy of these "lock nut" barrels. I didn't even bother to check the weight on our shipping scales—it feels "right," and that's the weight it ought to be.

If Savage puts this barreled action, or even the action alone, on the market for gunsmiths, they may not only force a revolution in the domestic gun companies' ways of doing business, but earn a little kale, to boot. For example, a small but intensely enthusiastic coterie of .22

gunners enjoy using the custom-built left-hand bolt action, as made by the late Gunmaker Morgan, Roy Dunlap, and others. But these are not as easy to obtain as factory models. The Savage 110 action could be shortened and the firing pins designed off-center for rimfire, opening up a whole new field for guns for left-handers. Me, I want one of the first ones!

Stock finish and proportion are steadily improving in the M110 line. I've had three of them now, about two-three months apart in production, and the finish and style are "maturing" as they gain experience. Slight differences in finish are noted: believe an earlier model was better finished on the barrel, but actions are well polished, stampings are not burred up, and bolts work very smoothly. Open sights on the MC stock are too low for the high comb, but it took about ten minutes with a block plane and sandpaper to correct that, plus a wipe-off with Herter's Liege Finish to blend to the original Savage stock finish. I now have a rifle with a buttplate high where I want it, and the comb still low enough so I can use the iron sights. With its fast left-handed action, this will be my "totin'" rifle for my deer trip—if editors ever get time to go hunting, which seems doubtful.

Its brother, a .243 right-hander, I shipped to my friend Karnopp, at his ranch in Colorado. It has already "spoken three times in anger, and got three deer." Price on the M110LH is not yet released. It will be somewhat higher than the \$109.95 ticket on the right-hand models. But left handers will not boggle at the tariff on the first big game rifle made in America especially for us.





Former ranch home of William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody, this low log building now houses the Buffalo Bill Museum, one of the West's most famous collections of guns and relics.

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GUNS, CURIOS CONNECTED WITH CODY, CODY'S FRIENDS, AND THE CODY ERA

By ROBERT B. McCOY

THE SHOOTER-TOURIST finds by the U.S. highway leading into Yellowstone Park a rambling log lodge which houses one of the most unusual collections of guns ever displayed. Walking into the Cody Museum is like walking into a moment of the past. The place smells of old history and new varnish. With sanded floors and shiny display cases, completely rebuilt as a modern museum, the log structure was originally Colonel William F. Cody's ranch home. Today it shelters many guns, Wild West Show relics, and photos of "Buffalo Bill" and the many people associated with him. Perhaps most famous of these was Annie Oakley, "Missie," first and foremost of the great women shooters. Her guns are preserved here along with Cody's.

The museum labels in the well-arranged glass show cases are extremely interesting, especially to the gun collector. They present an object lesson in historical documentation. There are rifles obviously made years after the time they are stated to have been used. Yet they are not fakes, for other equally obvious reasons. On the other hand, some of the guns which are allegedly property of,

say, Annie Oakley, are presented with little or no documentation. But reference to factory records discloses definite reason to believe they are exactly as represented, even though no "proof" exists. More than anything else, this array of important Western Americana drives home to the thoughtful gun collector, the man who regards weapons lore as the path to a greater understanding of people and events, the importance of adequate documentation to support the mute testimony of the weapons' alleged historical association.

Most or all of the arms and relics displayed here are gifts or loans from people who professed to own some artifact related to Cody and the Wild West Show. Where guns are concerned, there is a definite inducement to boost values and achieve personal prestige by being owner of a rifle "used by Col. W. F. Cody—Buffalo Bill." Since Cody in his forty years of the limelight personally fired probably hundreds of different guns, and may have shot during one performance a carbine which next time was used by one of his tame Indians, claims to being "Buffalo Bill guns" are met with skeptical looks among gun collectors. Yet inaccurate showcase labels need not deny the main fact that many of the guns and other curios displayed were long and closely associated with Cody. Sometimes the guns themselves speak the case.

Consider the handsome gold plated and engraved Model 1873 .44-40 Winchester rifle which bears the tag "This exceptionally fine Winchester was used by Col. Cody for public performances over a span of 40 years." Coupled with the egregious labelling of fine scroll and animal engraving as "etching," the gun crank may be excused a skeptical chuckle when he notices the serial number: 494,993. Guns numbered in this range were made in 1895. Cody died in 1917—so what price the "used 40 years"



Colt Army, Model 1894 (Top), and the Cody-Siegmund-Wainwright Winchester (below) are among Museum's exhibits.



Featuring buffalo hunting scene, this Winchester Model 1873, with fancy wood stocks, a gold plated receiver, and elaborate engraving, was made for Buffalo Bill Cody about 1895.



Carded as having been "used by Buffalo Bill in 1870-1885," serial numbers place date of manufacture of these fine ivory-gripped Colts about 1883; but Cody owned many guns and these, like other relics, doubtless have Cody associations.

label? But the gun offers its own mute testimony of Cody association. Close physical examination reveals unquestionably original factory engraving. Cody visited Winchester in 1895, and other elaborate Winchester guns associated with Cody are in the same general serial number range, in various calibers. Historically, it would appear

that Cody made a number of purchases in 1895, and this was among them. Quite clearly engraved on the receiver is a portrait of Buffalo Bill, running a bison. Although this gun is not graced with the distinction of a name, like other alleged Cody rifles marked "Billy," the engraving, date of manufacture, and association list it as genuine.

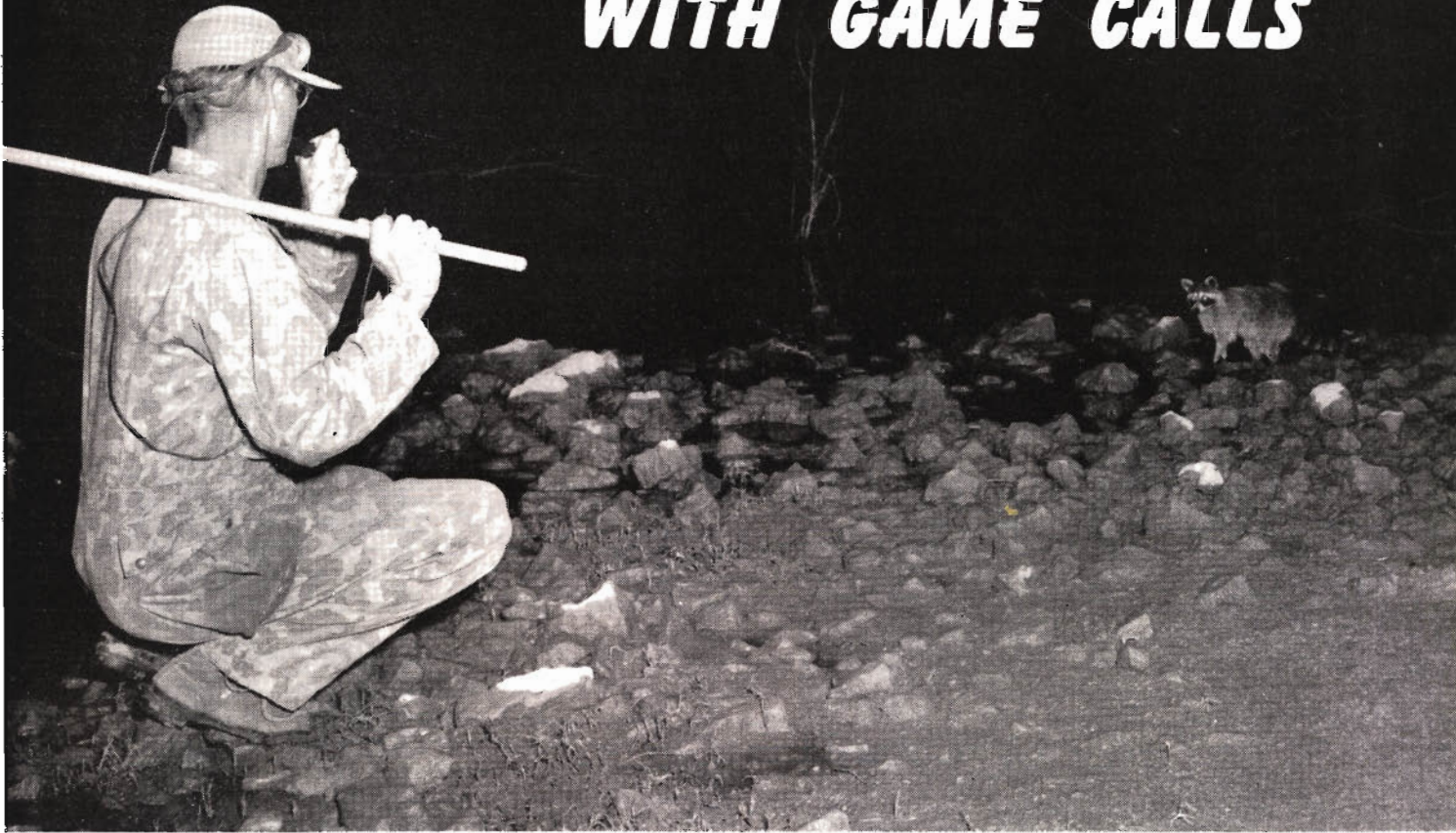
Unusual are two guns preserved in a case devoted to Annie Oakley relics. Neither bears Annie's name. But both have the mere declaration of their connection with this famous lady of shooting backed up by the manufacturer. First is a Winchester Model 92, nicely engraved and of extra quality. Says historian Tom Hall at Winchester, "Model 1892, serial number 301,670, is recorded as a rifle with half octagonal barrel 22 inches long, .44 caliber, plain trigger, engraved \$10.00, fancy checked, shotgun butt with rubber (hard rubber—Ed.) butt plate, rear sight 3½ inches from frame. Shipped October 28, 1905. No mention of Annie Oakley." But Annie must have bought at least one or two guns at retail from stores, and there is no reason why this gun should have been specially itemized for her, even though the request for a rear sight in a particular position strongly suggests a shooter concerned with aiming accuracy. The engraving, to alter or enhance which is so dear a trick to the faker's heart, is exactly of the grade the factory states it to be, and the half-octagon, the buttplate, and other details conform.

The fine Francotte shotgun also has strong circumstantial evidence to support its claim to fame. "We found the manufacturing book containing the gun No. 27,184," replied the firm of Auguste Francotte & Co. in Liege, Belgium, to my enquiry. "This gun was made in March, 1895, for MM Von Lengerke & Detmold who were our agents at that time. MM Abercrombie & Fitch are the successors of Von Lengerke (Continued on page 64)



Ownership of Annie Oakley guns above (Winchester M92 and fine Francotte shotgun) is backed as probable by checking serial numbers with factories.

OUTFOXING FOXES IS EASY WITH GAME CALLS



Calling turkeys, quail, ducks, geese, and certain other game has been accepted hunting practice down through the years. Now game calls draw new kinds of game, like coon above.

EVERYBODY'S ASKING, "DO GAME CALLS WORK?"

HERE'S A FIRSTHAND REPORT THAT MAY ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS

By RUSSELL TINSLEY

WE WALKED QUIETLY through the Texas woods, the Burnham brothers and I, until we came to a grass-carpeted clearing about 200 yards square, rimmed by myrtle brush.

"This is a good spot," Winston Burnham whispered.

He motioned for his brother Murry and me to hide in a clump of weeds off to the right. Then he crouched beside a scrub oak, his camouflage suit blending neatly with the green foliage. Inserting a piece of plastic between his lips, he cupped his hands about it and blew sharply.

"*Kaa-waa-ee! . . . kaa-waa-ee! . . . kaa-waa-ee! . . . kaa-waa-ee!*"

It was a weird, piercing noise that sent shivers racing up and down my spine. The cry started as a low, throaty moan, gained volume rapidly to a high-pitched squall, then diminished to a series of short, terror-stricken squeals again. Winston would sound a long blast, then pause to look and listen.

Beside me, Murry was kneeling silently, a Remington .222 pump-action repeater resting across his leg. I was armed with a pair of cameras. Normally, a long-reaching weapon such as the .222 would have been unnecessary; Winston can entice foxes to within clubbing range. But today a gusty breeze put us at a disadvantage. We couldn't

predict the ever-changing wind, and any fox that whiffed a scent of us wouldn't stick around for long.

But Murry figured that if we could lure a fox into sight to the far side of the clearing for an instant, the .222 would do the rest.

Shortly a red-coated doe came bounding into the open, snorting belligerently. There's something about the rabbit-in-distress cry that appeals even to curious deer. She stopped about a hundred yards away, her ears poised alertly. Then the wind shifted and she got our scent. Spinning as if on a greased swivel, she scampered frantically back into the brush.

Winston continued to call. We waited impatiently. Five minutes passed. We scanned the surrounding countryside intently, pivoting our heads slowly and deliberately, careful that no abrupt movements should betray our whereabouts.

Suddenly Murry elbowed me lightly. There was a hint of movement on the distant fringe of the clearing. Winston dropped the volume of his call, coaxing the critter with a muffled cry that was barely audible. Momentarily it slinked into the open, its bushy red tail twitching.

Murry steadied the rifle across his knee and touched off a shot. The fox leaped high, ran a few feet and paused again. Evidently Murry had shot low.

The fox looked about, not sure what was happening. Murry exhaled, held steady and squeezed the trigger again. Almost simultaneous with the muzzle blast the fox kicked over as if pole-axed. The expanding 50-grain bullet had done its job, cleanly and well.

"That blasted wind threw me off the first time," Murry complained as we walked to retrieve the downed animal.

We returned to the jeep station wagon parked on a nearby road and headed for another location on the Burnham's ranch near Marble Falls, in central Texas. As we bounced along, I questioned the brothers about this relatively new fad of calling wild animals.

"Game calling isn't a so-called fad that will soon lose its appeal," said Murry. "It will continue to gain popularity. Fur prices have decreased to the point where commercial trapping no longer is profitable. Actually, game calling is the only sporting method of controlling predators."

The brothers' father, Martin Burnham, was a pioneer in calling game. When he was only 10 years old, he chased a jackrabbit into a fence. It got trapped by the barb-wire. The rabbit started squealing. Almost instantly three wolves raced out of the brush, ignoring the young boy, to pounce upon the helpless animal.

Later Martin got to thinking about what had happened. Why not, he reasoned, imitate that cry of a rabbit in trouble to lure predators within gunshot range. He started experimenting with various ways of calling. Soon he perfected the imitation by drawing wind through compressed lips, controlling the volume with the palm of his hand. He struck it rich. Foxes and wolves and coyotes went mad.

Today, the brothers call game with fundamentally the same system, but they have developed a plastic call which puts wild-animal calling within the realm of any hunter's ability. Actually, calling predators is much easier than it appears.

The single basic mistake of most novice callers is to attempt to call game in areas where there are few or no predators. A successful caller knows his country, selecting strategic locations where he has the best chance of coaxing game.

"Many hunters who believe their efforts to be unsuccessful are just failing to keep their eyes open," Winston explained. "They call the game okay, but never see it."

Commercial calls are packaged with instruction sheets that explain explicitly how they are to be used effectively. When selecting a spot to do your calling, always remember to note the direction of the wind, no matter how slight it may be. Always hide where the wind is blowing into your



Wary coyote comes "within' spittin' distance" of Winston Burnham, still does not sense danger.



Burnham holds scope-sighted .222 pump ready for action as he calls. Cover is not essential; game seems to ignore the hunter.

face or hits you at a tangent, never to your back. Situate yourself next to a bush or tree where your silhouette is broken.

Parking the jeep on a small knoll, we headed across a brushy cow pasture. This time Winston carried a .22-caliber pump, while Murry lugged the .222.

Winston said, "We usually use the .22 rifle with long-rifle ammunition, since the shots are at close range and we can place the bullet in vital areas with consistency."

Game calling is a perfect companion sport for handgun enthusiasts. Many animals, foxes especially, can be lured close where pistol or revolver shots are deadly and consistent.

Our next hiding spot was on a brushy ridge overlooking a small draw that quartered to the left. We crouched beneath some cedar growth and Winston went to work.

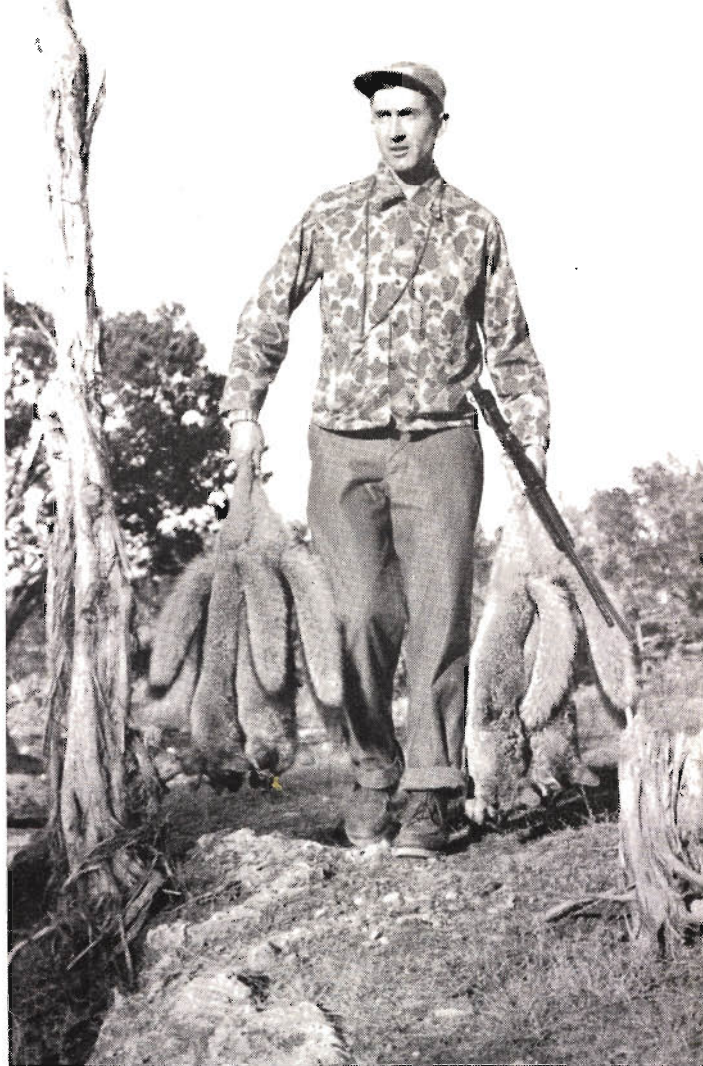
Presently a befuddled jackrabbit hopped up the ridge, its sentinel ears flapping. It stopped a few yards away, curious as to what was causing the squealling. Then Winston suddenly stood up and the rabbit like to have torn itself in half as it scrambled off the ridge.

In a few minutes I spied an animal sidling behind a clump of thorny catsclaw brush. I nudged Murry. He raised the rifle to half mast and tensed. A fox trotted into view, followed by a second. The forerunner circled warily, barking furiously. It was moving in and out of sight among the weeds and brush, and didn't offer much of its target. Its companion showed for only a moment, then disappeared back into the woods. Probably it scented us.

Winston toned down his call, inveigling the fox closer. When a fox starts coming in, you want to bring the volume down low. A harsh call often will scare one off.

A moment passed. Then the critter trotted into the open, loped a few feet and stopped, its head cocked curiously. Winston anchored it with a perfectly placed slug behind the ear.

We called a few more minutes from this identical spot. As often as not, several foxes can be bagged from the same location. But no more came to us here, so (*Continued on page 45*)



Murry Burnham lugs in a kill of foxes, proving effectiveness of call even on wariest of game.



Wearing camouflage suit, hunter (against stump at left) calls fox (circled, right), which keeps coming closer, even though it seems to see hunter. Even deer come to investigate rabbit noises.

WORLD'S BIGGEST SHOOTING



Shooters paraded in historical costumes carrying old Millbank-Amsler muskets. Historical displays were very colorful events.

60,000 SWISS CIVILIANS MEET EVERY FIFTH YEAR TO FIRE MORE THAN 4,000,000 ROUNDS OF MILITARY AMMUNITION IN THREE-WEEKS-LONG COMPETITION

By NILS KVALE



Winners wait turn at cash desk for payoff. Shooters may buy ammo, prizes, or spend money for train fare.

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE to have a couple of thousand bullets from high power rifles come whining a few feet above your head while driving through a beautiful sunny landscape on the main road to a nearby city? A German tourist had this startling experience last July, as he brought his car to a screeching stop before what may be the world's most startling road sign—a red and white triangle with a black shooter in kneeling position,—and the stark words: “Beware of bullets!”

The tourist stepped out of his car, listening to the storm of bullets coming from the firing points 150 meters to his left and landing in the hill behind a line of 300 rifle targets 150 meters to his right. His first thought was, “This is dangerous! It must be illegal!” So he called the police. The police came, tried in vain to explain that this shooting was considered perfectly normal, and finally, with smiling Swiss politeness, called the range officer. When the Swiss army colonel who was in charge of the firing arrived, he told the tourist, “There is no danger on the road, sir; only Swiss are shooting here!”

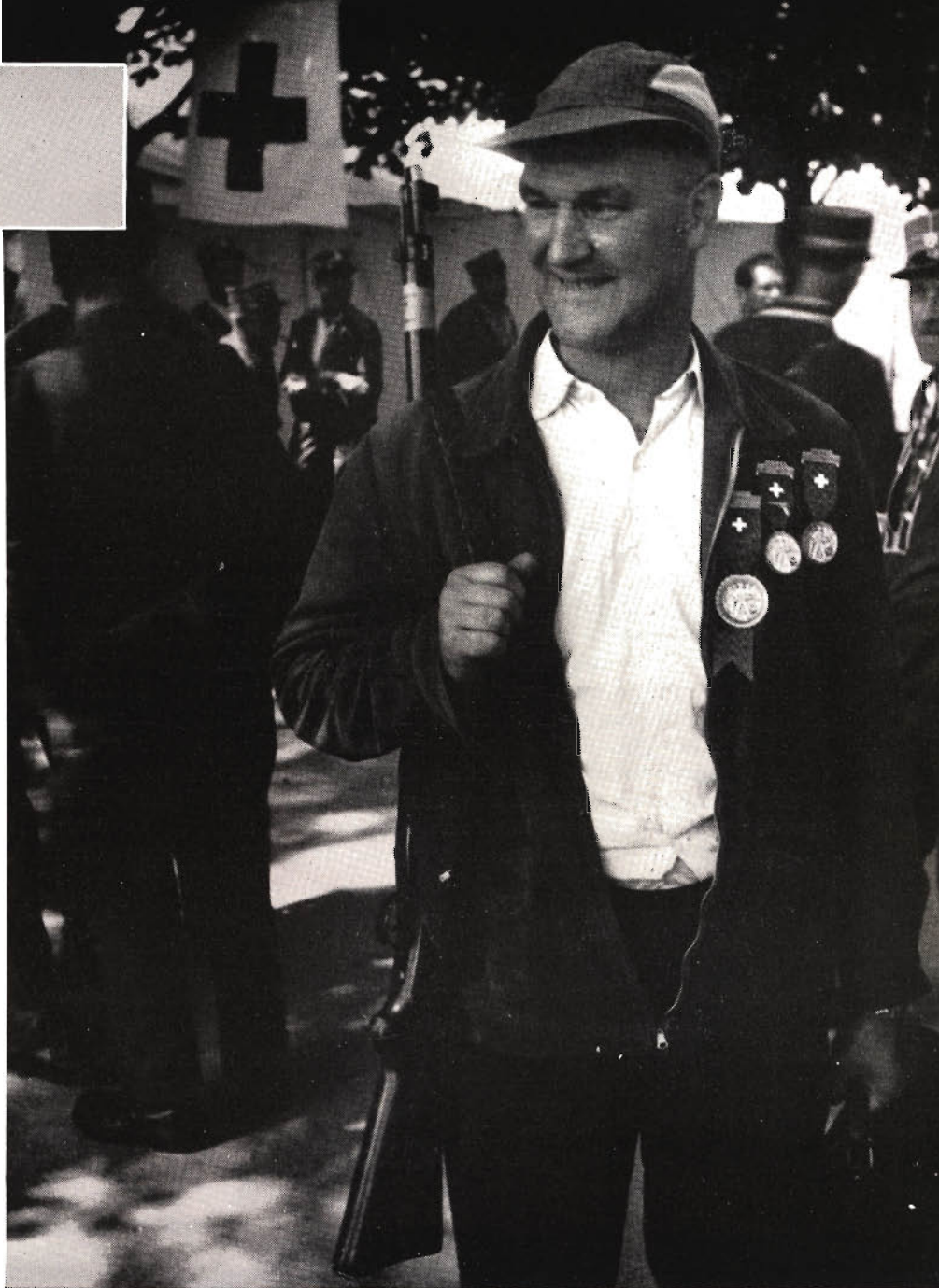
This happened, or so the story goes, on the four lane, concrete road which leads into the picturesque town of Bienne in western Switzerland, home of world-famous Omega watches. What was going on was nothing less than

MATCH

HAVE
FUN
WITH
GUNS



Cars, motorcycles, tires, works of art are among the prizes offered at shooting match which attracts 60,000 civilians from all over Switzerland.



the biggest shoot in the world: the Eidgenössisches Schützenfest which takes place every fifth year, where 60,000 Swiss civilian shooters meet to fire more than four million rounds of high-power military rifle ammunition during a day-in day-out contest which lasts three weeks.

You do not have to stand on your brake pedal upon seeing the road sign with the kneeling shooter. The Bienne range may be the biggest range in Switzerland where they shoot across a main road, but it is far from the only one. Cars and buses, bicyclists, old couples out for a walk, and young Swiss wives pushing baby carriages along under the shower of bullets, prove that these people are sure of their ammo. And if you want to take a closer look at what is going on, turn left and drive up the concrete road for about 200 yards, behind the special trolley bus arranged for the Schützenfest, and be as surprised as I was when

the guard at the parking lot waves your purse away and says with a smile, "Parking is free for people from foreign countries, sir!"

The administration center of the Schützenfest surrounds a large square, with a beautiful lawn and thousands of flowers, and seven flagpoles, at the foot of which stand large signs with the words, "We want to remain free" in several languages. At one end of the square behind another line of flagpoles, stands a giant festival hall, seating 5,000 people for meals. Men from the Bienne fire brigade keep the inside temperature comfortable by pouring tons of water in a glittering spray over its enormous canvas roof. Around the other sides of the square are little restaurants, a beer tent of impressive dimensions, and spacious provisions for reporters, complete with teleprinters. Here too are offices of the special police force, the range officers, and

the management committee. The match, huge though it is, is run with the watchlike precision which has made Switzerland famous the world over.

Here on the square also, and most impressive to the visitor from abroad, is the exhibition of prizes: showcase after showcase, with items ranging all the way from cars and motorcycles down to the tiniest gold watches. The whole scene buzzes with gayety and life. Thousands of men, women, and children from all parts of the country have gathered to compete for the prizes and, first of all, to enjoy these days and evenings of fellowship with fellow shooters. Shooting is more than a hobby to the Swiss; it is a social institution. Schützenfest means "festival of shooters," and a festival it is: a time of reunion and celebration.

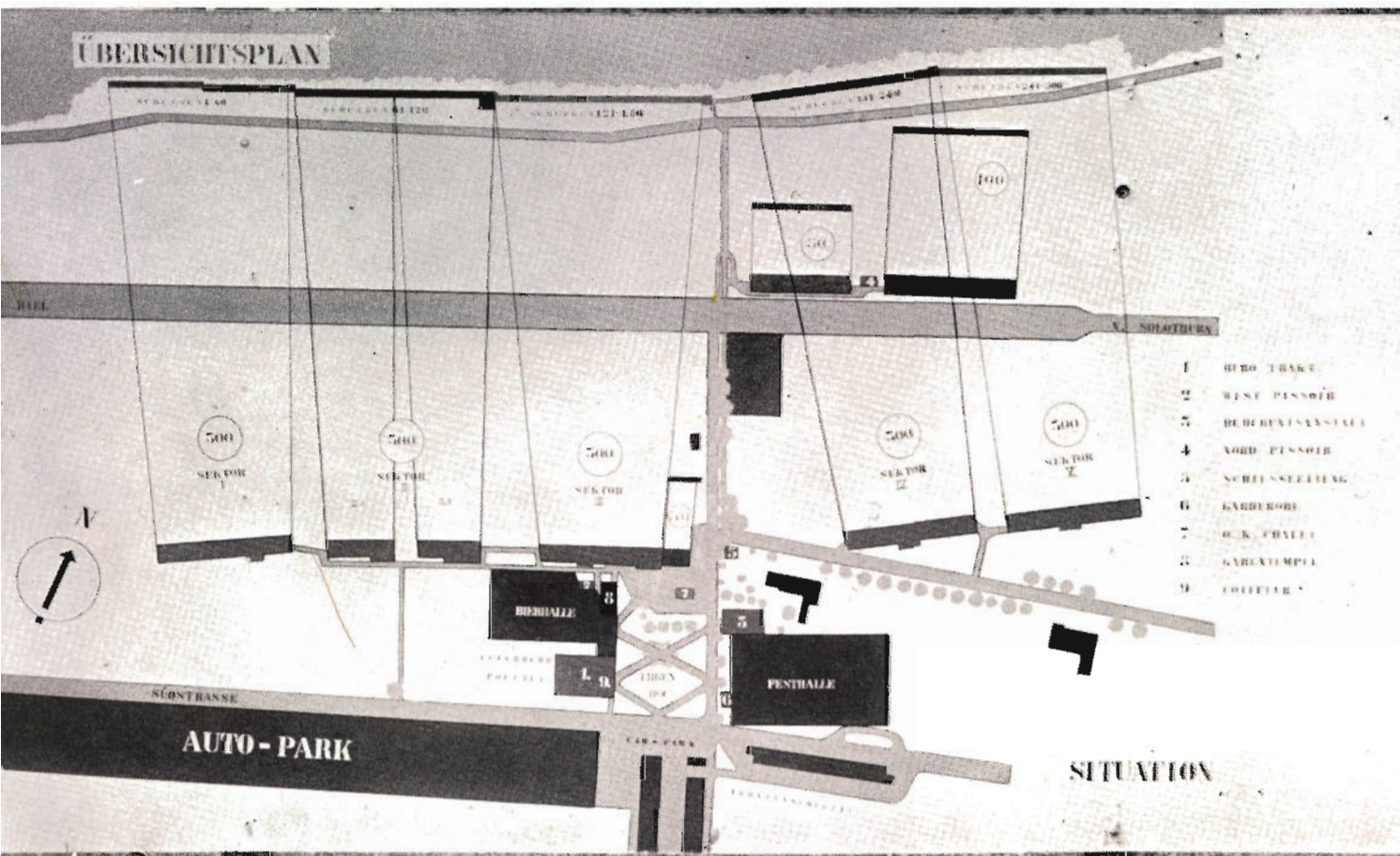
At seven in the morning, a cannon shot is fired, and from that very second until noon, thousands after thousands of shots echo from the sides of the valley, one of which forms the six hundred feet high backstop. At noon, when the hands of the giant clock in the middle of the 300-meter targets show twelve, what appears to be dead silence comes down over the enormous range. The shooting ceases; it is lunch time. It was lunch time when I first came to the Schützenfest. People were walking and sitting around on the big square, discussing their scores, discussing wind and light conditions—but unlike matches elsewhere, nobody is discussing guns, nobody is discussing ammunition. There is no use discussing them. In Switzerland, you shoot the ordnance rifle, the gun you learn to shoot in the army, and the gun they give you to take home when you have served

your duty, along with sixty rounds of ammo and your uniform and the rest of your military gear. It is the gun which you have to bring to the range once a year, and with which you then have to shoot a certain score on the target. If you fail, you may try again. If you still fail, you will have to check in with the army for a special training course in the fall, until you can hit. And this is bad; bad not only because of the wage you will lose by having to stay away from your work, but because of the little smiles on your pals' faces and the expression in the eyes of the girls of your home town when you head for the railway station, your rifle on your back, to go to the lag course. "There goes Jack, the guy who can't shoot."

Yes, you shoot the army rifle; and since you may not change or alter it in any way, there is not much about it to discuss. Everybody knows it is one of the most accurate high power rifles in the world, and nobody ever forgets his duty of keeping it in perfect condition. Ammunition? Government made. There is an ammunition monopoly in Switzerland; nobody but government plants make any. The target round is the military round, the same stuff that goes into machine guns too.

It is all precision stuff. No talking about so and so many grains of this or that, no special seating depth of bullets. The army rifle is the army rifle, ammo is ammo. If you don't hit, it's the ground connection which is wrong, not the equipment.

Of course, there are gunbugs around; those who also shoot the free rifle or free pistol. Once you change the



Fantastic 300-meter range across valley is cut by main highway from Biel to Solothurn, home of cannon. Little Swiss industrial town of 51,800 citizens played host to 60,000 visiting shooters. Range has mess hall, "bierhalle," parking.



Highway caution sign is most unusual in world. There are scoring pits, but some targets run in on fast trolleys.



Officers in full dress and wives in national costume stroll at lunch time. All Swiss men must shoot.

ordnance gun, it jumps into the "free" class, however slight the alteration may be. They will check your gun when you arrive, and test the trigger pull. Found OK, the gun will be marked with a red label around the forestock, and you're ready for the range.

But it's still lunch time. Some four thousand people are finishing their meal in the main hall, and there is still plenty of space. Let's walk over to have a look at the prize exhibition. On the way, you stop, looking into a pair of gay, glittering eyes,—a young girl in her national costume. Two hands want to fasten the Schützenfest emblem on your shirt. You reach for your coin,—can't resist. And why should you? The emblem is a little jewel. Precision made, finished in brass and silver, it is a nice souvenir.

The prizes are most unusual. Many are silver: a twelve inch silver sombrero, donated by the Swiss Club of Mexico; table silver, silver watches, silver cocktail shakers. Some are wood: a carved armchair, with the elaborate inscription "Train your eye and your hand for your country;" from Uruguay, a handcarved artwork in dark wood, nearly three feet long, picturing a team of six bulls pulling a covered wagon, unbelievably rich in detail; garden benches, made from branches formed by nature into fantastic figures; butter churns which will serve for many years to come on the mountain farms, or make nice decorations in a city home. There are prizes made from steel. The biggest one is a car; but there are lathes, drill presses, hand tools, refrigerators, electric kitchen ranges, bicycles, motorcycles, hunting knives. And there are guns: rifles, free rifles, smallbore rifles, hunting rifles, and air rifles, ordnance pistols, and target pistols. There are prizes made from gold: jewelry, and hundreds of watches of all styles and types. There are clocks ranging from the cuckoo type for your hunting cabin to the 400-day wonders placed inside air tight glass containers. The Swiss Rifle Club of Johannesburg, South Africa, donated a native shield and

spears. There are lamps, sewing machines, bed linen, cases of wine, and enormous Swiss cattle bells with embroidered collars. There are paintings, sculptures, and many wonderful examples of art handwork. Miss Emilie Hegi donated a tablecloth which must have taken hundreds of hours to complete. In richly embroidered letters it says, "Respect everybody's country, but love your own."

A cannon shot echoes through the valley, drowning out the sound of clocks striking one—a typical example of Swiss precision. And neither could the echo of the cannon shot be heard, for it was drowned in a couple of hundred rifle shots. The lunch hour was over, and the shoot was on again.

The enormous line of three hundred targets was up, signals in firing position, and little clouds of dust were slowly drifting along behind targets in the hot July sunshine. When they shoot at the Schützenfest, they really shoot. Wherever you are in the area, you have to shout to be heard. After a few hours, you do not pay any attention to the shooting; you only stop to listen when it suddenly ceases in the evening. And all the time, new shooters are coming in—60,000 of them, by car, by bicycle, by the trolley bus from the town, along the road marked with hundreds of Swiss flags,—the red flag with the white cross, which became world famous also in reverse as a red cross on white, as the sign of the international Red Cross organization.

Checking in at the main desk, the shooter receives his shooting book, an ingenious eleven-colour affair which has been prepared for him and which will guide him for shooting times, ranges, and targets, through the entire contest. With it in hand, you walk up to the range at the time the card says, check in at the range desk, buy your ticket for the string you will be firing, and walk over to the ammo booth to buy the necessary cartridges. You buy the cartridges in boxes of ten, at a sub- (Continued on page 59)

WHICH GUN

By ELMER KEITH



Big .45-70 sixgun (right) rolls up and back in recoil, but Keith called kick "not excessive; in fact, less jolting than that of the .44 Magnum."



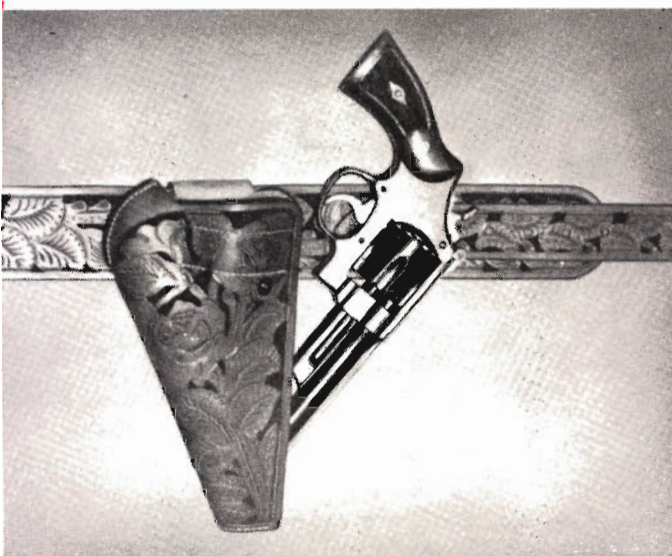
Shown in recoil at left, revolver above was made by R. G. Wilson and Wm. Howe, weighs 6 lbs. 2 ozs., pitches a 405 grain bullet at an estimated velocity of 1600 ft. per sec.



Centering this group of some of Keith's handguns is one of few known cased Colt Dragoons in new condition, complete with accessories. Two guns on lid of case are a later Dragoon and an 1848 Pocket Model.

IS BEST FOR YOU?

PICK YOUR HANDGUN AS YOU WOULD PICK A SUIT—
TO FIT YOU, TO DO WHAT YOU WANT DONE THE WAY
YOU WANT TO DO IT, AND TO PLEASE YOUR TASTE



Berns-Martin "break-front" holster permits even 6½" barrel S&W to be worn high, drawn fast.



Fancy Colt Single Action, left gun of pair by Gun Reblue Co.



Cased High Standard Sentinel .22 comes in colors as well as blued.

SINCE WORLD WAR II, the popularity of handgun shooting in this country has multiplied. Veterans, particularly of the Pacific campaigns of World War II and of the later Korean "police action," learned the hard way that a sixgun or auto pistol is a mighty handy thing to have along, in close combat. Many of those men will not be caught again without a good handgun. And sport shooting with handguns, which once meant only target shooting or plinking, now includes hunting.

People generally are now beginning to realize what some of us have known for many years, that a handgun that is big enough for the job—like the big .44 Magnums and guns handling the Magnum .44 loads by Remington—can be, in the hands of a good shooter, darned effective game-getters.

As a result of this increase of handgun interest, manufacturers are back-ordered on most models—and gun editors are snowed under with inquiries about the various guns, their effectiveness, and how to shoot them.

The question most often asked about handguns is, I suppose, "Which one is best?" The same question is often phrased, "Which gun should I buy?" but the meaning is the same. And the only answer an honest man can give

to either form of the question is. "It depends on what you want."

That may sound like a smart-aleck answer, but it isn't. There are literally scores of different handguns, each built to fit a specific need. There may be two different opinions about whether a particular gun actually does fit that need—one opinion being the manufacturer's, the other being the shooter's—but the intention is there. Shooters' needs (which, freely translated, means shooters' likes and dislikes) are so varied that it is impossible for a maker to suit us all, even for what may seem to be the same kind of usage; which is one of the reasons there are so many makes and models of guns.

The most obvious first decision a man must make in selecting a handgun is—should it be a revolver or an autoloader. I'm a revolver man myself, but there are certainly places where the only choice is an autoloader. The competitive shooter, particularly if he (or she) is to compete in the .22 or .45 caliber matches, must choose the autoloader in order to eliminate cocking time (thereby increasing aiming time) if he is to compete on an equal footing with other shooters. This is a question the shooter, or would-be shooter, must answer for himself; and he can answer it if



Colt SA .45 engraved and stocked by J. R. Rohner. Keith likes grips engraved on outer side, to better fill hand.



Smith & Wesson .22 automatic is fine example of accurate handguns required by today's high-scoring target masters.

he will study his own wants and ask questions based on those wants.

The revolver question breaks down into two parts: "Which is best—the single or double action?" Again, it depends on what you want. For a first shot, draw and hit, the single action (maybe with a somewhat altered hammer spur) is as fast as any gun made. Fitted with proper sights and properly adjusted trigger pull, it can be a very accurate target gun. But for rapid firing, whether on targets or in combat, either a double action revolver or an auto pistol is faster. Modern double action revolvers are my choice for rapid aimed fire or fast hip shooting. They point well, and they are reliable, not subject to misfires or malfunctions. Up to six shots, a double action revolver fires just as fast or faster than any automatic. Of course, if you're expecting to need a greater number of shots than six, as in a battle, the automatic is faster because of its clip loading—provided, of course, that you have a supply of ready-filled clips for it.

The revolver has one advantage which is worth considering by anyone thinking of a handgun as a defense weapon. A revolver is less dependent on perfect ammunition than is the automatic. A cartridge that fails to fire can be instantly by-passed by the shooter of a double action revolver, simply by pulling the trigger again and bringing a second cartridge under the hammer. A similar cartridge failure in an automatic will cause the gun to jam. Cartridge

failure are rare today, but the revolver user has this added insurance in case such a failure does occur.

But there are many choices to make beyond the type of action, in selecting a handgun. In every case, the right choice depends on what you want the gun to do, what you want to do with it, how you want to do it, and what kind of a person you are.

You think the kind of person you are can't affect the kind of handgun you should buy? Keep reading and you'll see that your age, size, the kind of job you do, your method of travel, and the locale in which you live, all these, and other factors as well, can or should affect your handgun choice.

Let's look first at barrel length. For the competitive shooter, long barrels will usually pay dividends. They give longer sight radius, usually resulting in more accurate aim. They give better muzzle weight, usually resulting in a steadier hold. A shorter barrel may be just as accurate, in itself, as a long one, but the longer barrel is easier to aim and hold accurately . . . unless you happen to be getting along in years so that your eyes have lost some of their ability to adapt to different distances (in which case, a shorter barrel may make it easier for you to see both front and rear sights clearly)—or unless your hands are too small to hold the bigger, more muzzle-heavy gun steady. If there's any doubt in your mind on either of these points, better try guns (Continued on page 49)



Elaborate engraving, fine stock sculpture mark this Colt Python with ventilated rib, ramp sight.



Big Ruger Blackhawk .44 Magnum with 6 1/2 inch barrel has big-game-getting power equal to that of many older hunting guns.

A CANADIAN REPORTS ON GUNS AND LOADS
USED TO STOP AND DROP THESE THREE-QUARTER-TON TROPHIES



A Quebec Indian guide sounds mating call of cow moose on birchbark horn as square-sterned freighter canoe, motor idle now, drifts silently near shore.

DROP THAT MOOSE!

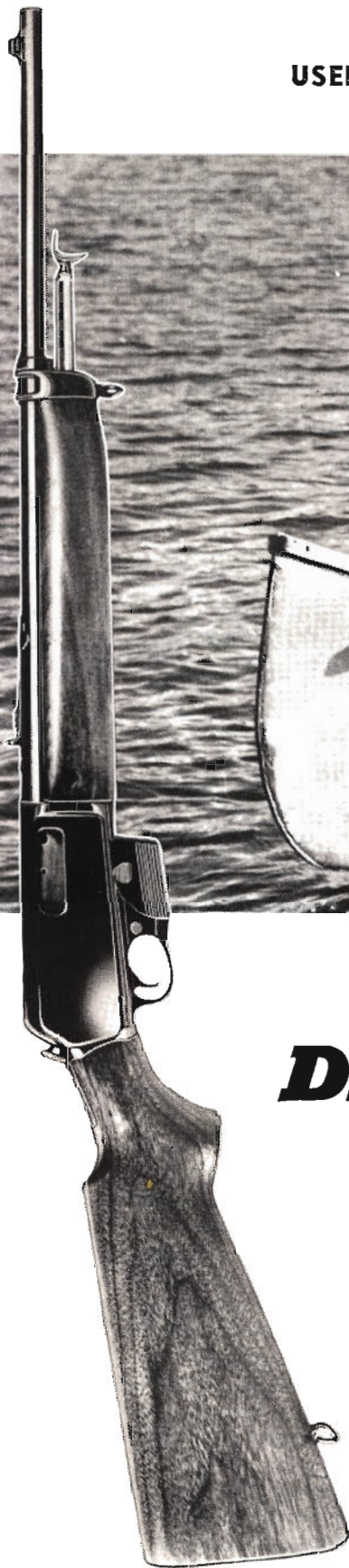
By WALLACE WARD

QUEBEC PROVINCE'S lordly bull moose, monarchs of the northwoods, weigh in for the annual autumn hunting fray at something like three-quarters of a ton, and are therefore not to be taken lightly, ballistically or otherwise. A good bull stands six feet five inches at the shoulder, is something like nine feet in length from his aquiline nose to his broad rump, and swings his seven-foot spread of antlers, weighing about 60 pounds, as high as ten feet off the ground. Most of his 1,500 pounds is carried well forward, around the massive, well-muscled shoulders.

Inflame this primitive male with the plaintive, grunting mating call of the langorous cow moose in season, and you have created a northwoods juggernaut. What the psychologists from their arm chairs call, in a masterpiece of understatement, the sex drive, will propel a bull moose through a stand of young tamarack with the abandon of a pup ploughing through a tulip bed.

At St. Michel des Saints, a quaint Québec village in the wooded Laurentian Mountains some 100 miles north of Montréal, an aspiring moose hunter just in town from Pennsylvania was directed to Jean-Baptiste Tranchemontagne with the recommendation that he was the best guide in the area.

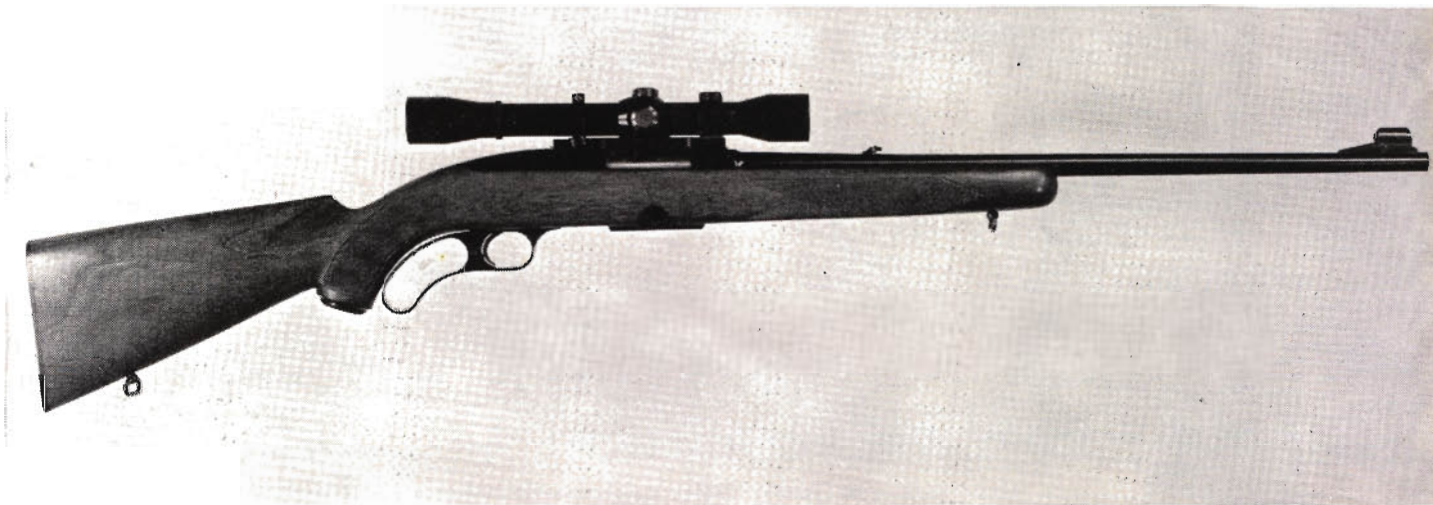
Jean-Baptiste got up from his game of checkers and looked the sport over care-



Still liked in Canada for heavy game are old favorites like the Win. M'07, .351 caliber (above).



Guides call, hope their "sports" can shoot, insist they use guns powerful enough to get job done.



Lever action for fast handling, slim and sleek for easy carry, packing the needed punch, Win. M88 caliber .358 is new entry in class of guns for moose.

fully. He made it quite plain he was doing the choosing, not the sportsman.

"What you shoot?" he asked abruptly.

"I have a .30-06 in the car trunk."

Jean-Baptiste nodded his approval.

"You shoot that *carabin* pretty good?" he asked with earnestness.

The hunter flushed. "Good enough," he snapped, "but if you lead me to a moose and I shoot and miss, well I guess that's *my* funeral." Then, with a slow grin, he added, "If I miss a clear shot, then that means more money to you for another day of guiding, maybe several days."

The guide showed a twinkle in his faded blue eyes. He shook his head. "No, M'sieu, it is not that simple."

He scratched a match on a gallery post of the general store and relit his worn briar with the load of pungent French-Canadian tobacco, then jabbed his pipestem at his chest.

"Jean-Baptiste Tranchemontagne," he said, "is the best damn moose caller in the whole damn mountains. When I make the call of the cow moose hungry for love, and any moose hear that, well, M'sieu, he is going to paw the ground, he is going to break the trees. He is going to come through the woods like a runaway bulldozer."

He paused dramatically, gave his shoulders a Gallic

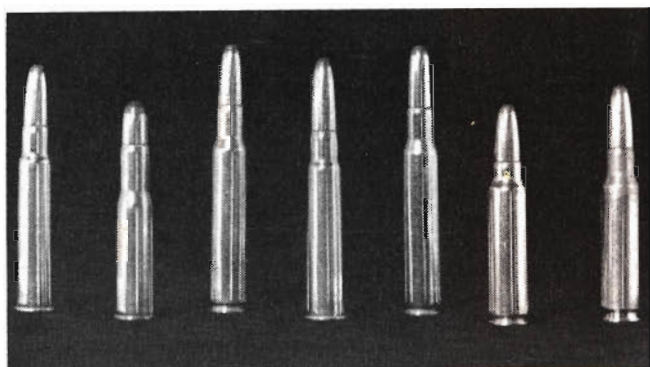
shrug, and finished: ". . . And if you don't shoot and stop him . . . well, Jean-Baptiste is going to get kissed by a moose!"

Québec moose hunters, as well as the French-speaking guides, put a heavy accent on accuracy rather than, within certain broad limitations, on calibre. "Dropping power," actually, is more important than stopping power. A charging moose is a problem that does not often present itself, for the instinct of self preservation is strong enough in a moose to urge him to waste no time in getting away from sight and sound of the hunter and his "fire stick." A bull moose at close quarters, however, is a fearsome sight, with most of the weight concentrated in the forequarters, and a shaggy Van Dyke waving under the long snout which is surmounted with a five or six foot spread of rack or "panache" as the French guides call it.

The prehistoric mein of the Québec bull moose, according to some linguistic authorities, prompted early French colonists of Québec to call him "*l'original*," meaning "the original one." Another school, however, takes a less imaginative stand. Some of Québec's early settlers came from the rugged Basque country of France down in the foothills of the Pyrenees, where the Basque word for deer is "*orignac*," which they applied to this overgrown Québec animal with the general conformation of the deer. In the



Scope in swing-out mount fits gun for occasional shots at long range, makes iron sights available for close-in work.



Favorite loads for Canadian moose hunters include (l. to r.) .303 British, 180 gr.; .303 Savage, 190 grains; .30-06 Springfield, 180 gr.; .303 British, 215 grains; .30-06 Springfield, 220 gr.; .300 Savage, 180 grains; and .308 Winchester, 180 grains. Winchester .351 and new .358 are also recommended for stopping big bulls.

passage of time, "*orignac*" become corrupted to "*original*." The whitetailed Virginia deer came to Québec much later than the Basque pioneers. Deer were imported to Québec from Virginia something more than a century ago, and now rival Québec moose in popularity with the northwoods hunters. But the moose was there first, and so, whether from his looks or his history, the term "*l'original*" is a fitting one.

The practical reasons for the importance of "dropping power" in the moose hunter-firearm combination are less concerned with self defense than what is going to take place after the kill. Moose like swamp country or the borders of lonely northwoods lakes, and there they are shot. If a hunter wounds a moose but doesn't drop him in his tracks or within a few paces, then he is faced with going into a swamp after three-quarters of a ton of hurt and very angry animal. The same proposition holds true for a muffed shot at a moose feeding along the shore of a lake. A wounded animal will bound from the water into the dense cover of the brush, and hunting him down in heavy woods can be an anxious matter.

Armament for moose hunting in Québec can be a perplexing choice. The question of selection hangs largely on where you find your moose target. Encounter him deep in the woods or in the oozy going of a swamp thick with

underbrush, and you will need iron sights to line up without warning and get off a heavy bullet that is not going to be deflected easily by tree branches or the twigs of underbrush. On the other hand, if the signs indicate that you and your guide will find your moose feeding on the underwater plant life along the shallow water at the edge of a northwoods lake, then you may be confronted with a medium to long range shot, where a good scope will line you up easily and you can squeeze off a lighter, high-muzzle-velocity projectile and achieve perfect results. In this edge-of-the-lake type of hunting, you may have to shoot from the bow of a canoe, steadying your elbows on the gunnels while the guide does his best to hold the slender craft motionless; or you may be stationed by the guide amid the trees on a point thrusting out into the lake. In that case, you may get a prone shot, or a kneeling shot using a fallen tree trunk for a bench rest, or a sitting shot, or you may even stand up and steady yourself against a tree.

Sometimes, if the bulls are responding to the mating call of the cow moose as rendered by your guide, you can pretty well set up your shooting location and pick a clear field of fire. But the direction from which your target will break out into the clear for a shot is hard to control unless you can locate yourself so that you have your back to an open lake, where you know that he has to come from the bush on the shore, either from straight ahead or from the left or right.

Dropping a moose calls for a clean heart shot or a well-directed and explosive shot right in the engine room inside the rib cage. A head shot, of course, will stop your moose but completely ruin your rumpus-room conversation piece because of the explosive effect when the bullet hits the heavy bone. The bull moose is heavy in the bone all over, and it will therefore take plenty of foot-pounds energy to break the spinal column with a neck shot or a high shoulder shot.

Québec bush Indians and farmer colonists have killed moose for generations with the .30-30, using 170 grain or lighter bullets, but they hunt meat, not trophies. They also cut loose at practically pointblank range, often after a tour of stalking far beyond the wind and woodcraft of the city-folks type of hunter. Moose have also been killed with the little Savage .25-3000, and there have been reports of kills with as little lead as (Continued on page 53)

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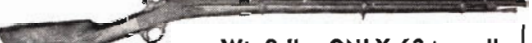
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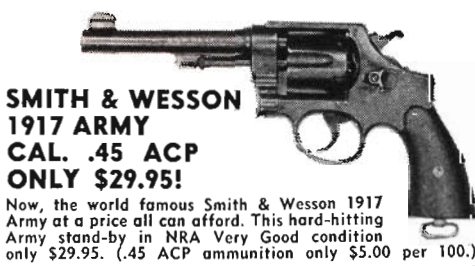
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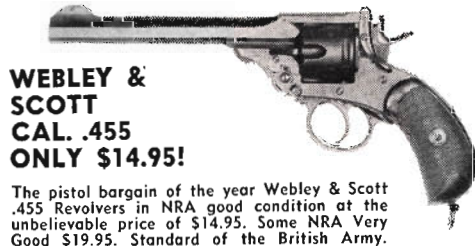
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The Argentine .45 ACP. Rarest of the rare. This masterpiece is absolutely NRA Excellent throughout and only \$29.95. (.45 ACP ammunition only \$5.00 per 100 rounds.)

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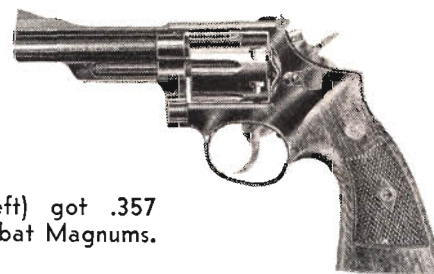
Never NEVER NEVER again will such a pistol opportunity present itself! ! Even Ye Old Hunter's cannily curiously cunning old eyes blinked in squinty disbelief when he learned of his unbelievable exclusive good fortune in obtaining at a single stroke the PICK of the world's greatest pistols at a price which permits YOU to LOAD UP NOW or forever hold your piece. Nobody but nobody undersells Ye Old Hunter! AMERICA'S BIGGEST ARMS HOUSE—AMERICA'S LOWEST PRICES! No connection with no other Hunter nowhere—no how! ALEXANDRIA, VA. GUN CAPITAL OF AMERICA. THE MECCA OF GUNDOM. ORDER TODAY FOR THE "ONCE IN A LIFETIME" BARGAIN.



Bakersfield, Cal., Lieutenant Seaman has trained thousands of young shooters in his classes conducted during spare time. Four thousand young hunters with no accidents got him award.



Courage under fire earned award for McCallion.



Philly detective (left) got .357 regular, others Combat Magnums.



Deerfield Comm. Petesch, flanked by Lt. Hall and Chief Petersen, commended his associates for help in getting shooting program started. Above, runner-up Sgt. Carlile of Evansville, Ind., does tricks to promote gun interest.

THESE are the WINNERS of 1958 GUNS POLICE AWARDS

DISTINGUISHING POLICE OFFICERS

ALL OVER NATION FOR UNUSUAL SERVICES IS THIRD YEAR AWARD BY

GUNS MAGAZINE OF PRESENTATION PISTOLS WHICH WAS SPLIT THREE WAYS.

By WILLIAM B. EDWARDS



AT A MEETING before a hundred of his fellow-citizens, a man was given a gun. The place: Deerfield, Ill., a small town. The man: Commissioner of Police Maurice Petesch; by daytime vocation, a member of the advertising staff of a nearby Chicago newspaper. The gun: a Combat Magnum revolver. The reason: GUNS Magazine's Third Annual Police Award.

Commissioner Petesch, and Lt. Morris G. Seaman of the Bakersfield, Calif., police, and Detective Laurence McCallion of the Philadelphia police, also recipients of GUNS Magazine revolvers, all believed they were being honored by the Award. They were; but GUNS Magazine was itself honored by bringing public attention on the work of these three men. Representative of the highest standards of professional law enforcement, Petesch, Seaman, and McCallion each expressed three aspects of police work with guns. Each performed a different service. Each, by performing a socially useful service with guns, brought respect and credit to his profession.

Commissioner Petesch was nominated by a Chicago shooter who knew of his hopes and accomplishments in raising the standard of police marksmanship proficiency in the Deerfield department. By example, the fact that nearly all of the Deerfield department "qualified" with their service revolvers within a short time after Petesch assumed the commissionership a couple of years ago, has similarly inspired the police of other north Chicago suburbs.

Petes, a reader of GUNS Magazine and sort of a "gun nut" himself, found our Police Issue of August, 1956, useful in presenting his appeal to the village trustees for funds to complete the police range. Built with heavy armor backstop and four firing points, the range represents a combined ideal of Petesch and Deerfield police chief David J. Petersen. The chief, himself a booster of police efficiency whether with weapons or in crime detection, and Petesch work together in improving the character of the department. Petesch, in cooperation with members of the Lake County Sheriff's Department, is developing an outdoor



Runner-up Vekich stressed shooting safety. Below, Carlile and Chief Gash inspect big range preview.



Honorable mention to Sheriff of Caddo Parish, La., Howell Flournoy, for active juvenile shooting club.



police firing range in a near-by clay pit. Junior instruction, hunter safety programs, and adult shooting clubs are all to become a part of the program. In accepting the S & W Magnum from a representative of GUNS Magazine at the monthly village meeting, Petesch spoke warmly of the cooperation between members of his department and other elements of the village government which had helped bring about the range and shooting program.

While Commissioner Petesch represents top police authority in a firearms program, Lt. Morris Seaman of the Bakersfield police department typifies the thousands of active policemen who are engaged in aiding young people to learn to shoot. The juvenile officer has seldom had such an "attractive" recreational tool as these programs place at his disposal to encourage friendly relations between youth and police. (More "typical" than unusual, just for example, is the Evanston, Ill. police young people's rifle program. Fifty teenage boys and girls enrolled, taxing range capacity, and at least an equal number are on the waiting list.)

At Bakersfield, Lt. Seaman, in the words of his chief Horace Grayson, "has always displayed a keen interest in the training of young people in being good citizens. In the past five years, Lt. Seaman has been in charge of a 'Hunter Safety Training Program' for boys and girls. California state law requires that persons under the age of 16 years must first complete a course in firearms safety before they are eligible to purchase a state hunting license and Seaman's junior training course has provided the instruction necessary. During those five years past Seaman kept a check on each of the over 4,000 boys and girls who went through his course. Not one has been involved in an accident with firearms."

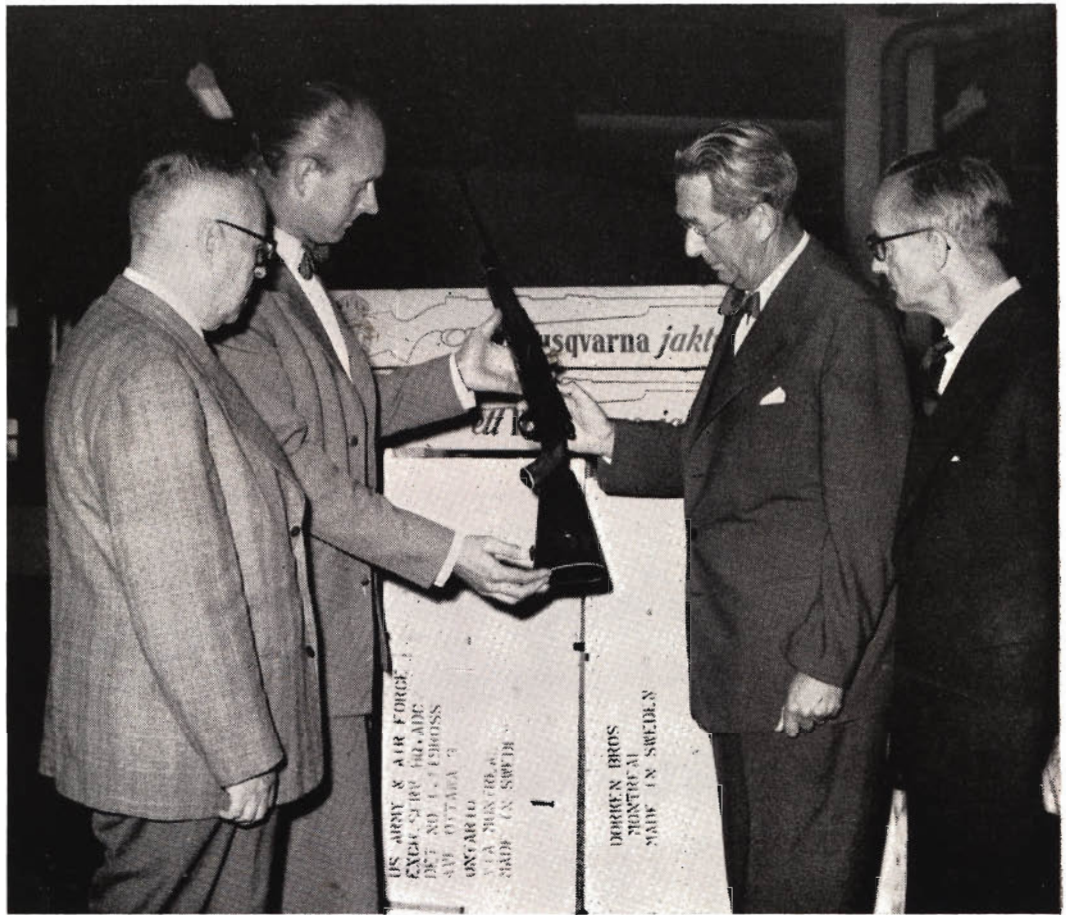
Seaman was nominated for the GUNS distinction by A. R. Thody, a lieutenant in the Bakersfield police reserves. The presentation to Lieutenant Seaman last November 26 of the GUNS award revolver, a Smith & Wesson .357 Combat Magnum with target trigger and hammer, was done by Chief Grayson at the Bakersfield Police Auditorium with all the city officials present at the ceremony. In accepting

the award. Seaman credited his associates, especially in the police reserves. "Although I realize a great many officers in the country are engaged in similar commendable work in this field of junior firearms instruction, I feel my nomination and selection is due chiefly to the efforts expended by Reserve Lieutenants McCracken and Thody. It is true that I have expended many thousands of hours of my own time working with young shooters," Seaman stated, "However, I believe many other officers have qualified in this respect, and I deeply appreciate the efforts put in by our Police Reserve Lieutenants."

Petesch started a training program; Seaman instructed thousands of shooters. In Philadelphia, a man faced death, and lived. Detective Lawrence McCallion, on May 8, 1958, at about 3 PM, was in squad car 521 with detectives James Barretta and Irving Glazer when the police radio crackled, "Hold-up in progress at Marvine and Oregon Avenues." Two men had stolen a Bell Telephone Co. coin-box collection truck. Car 521 gave chase. The hold-up men abandoned the truck and fled on foot, the three detectives in pursuit. The Philadelphia Police official journal *Badge & Key* described the incident:

"Detective McCallion ran east on Daley Street to head off the thugs . . . The number one suspect, John Orsino . . . in an effort to evade his pursuers, turned west on Daley St. This action by Orsino brought him face to face with McCallion. Orsino drew a German P-38 automatic from his waist band and blazed away at McCallion; one of the shots struck the detective in the left hand. By this time, McCallion's service revolver was blasting back as he returned the fire of Orsino. The bandit ran into a house on Daley Street and emerged in an alley. Detective McCallion again outwitted Orsino by entering an alley that led to the alley Orsino was in. At the intersection of these two alleys, the already wounded (Continued on page 54)

269 YEARS OF HISTORY BACK SWEDEN'S ROYAL RIFLE



Examining Ernest Hemingway's HVA rifle before shipment are USA sales head Tunebo, arms designer Claesson (with gun), Husqvarna president Oberg, and chief sales manager Bergenstrahle.

FROM FLINTLOCKS TO MODERN SPORTING

RIFLES, HUSQVARNA KEEPS PACE WITH PROGRESS

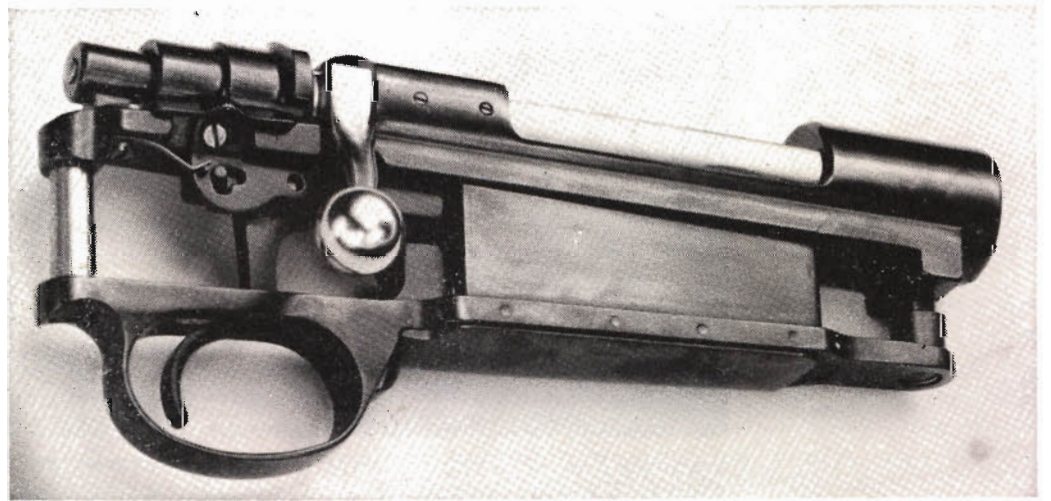
By NILS KVALE

EARLY IN OCTOBER, 1689, a travel-stained courier clattered up the cobbled courtyard of Stockholm Castle and wheeled his weary horse to a stop. In his valise he carried a report to the reigning Swedish King, Charles XI, from Count Erik Dahlberg, Governor of the 215-miles-distant town of Jonkoping. "I have pleasure in informing Your Majesty," it said, "that the arms factory founded with your royal approval at Husqvarna is now in operation. We can produce musket barrels at the rate of 240 a week." So begins the story of Husqvarna Vapenfabriks A.B., one of the world's great gun dynasties. The quote is from one of the company's brochures.

This news was of real importance to King Charles XI of Sweden. With his country struggling for supremacy in Europe, 240 rifle barrels a week could loom large indeed in the nation's future. But what no one then could possibly foresee was that this new company would, itself, loom large in Sweden's economic as well as military future down through the next three centuries. For this company, born 127 long years before Eliphalet Remington produced the first specimen of yet another great line of firearms, has continued in active production to this



Sighting-in rifle over 100 meters, inspector checks HVA rifle for close groups using Norma ammunition before OK.



Streamlined action has low bolt, stronger locking lug, side safety, and hinged floorplate for safest unloading.

day, and gives promise of continuing to do so through still other centuries to come.

"Hus" is the Swedish word for "house." Centuries ago, it also meant "fortress." "Qvarn" (now spelled "kvarn") means "mill" in Swedish; so Husqvarna means "Fortress Mill," in honor of a fortress which stood near the plant's site. The company name today retains the old spelling, and the trademark includes the Swedish royal crown, symbolic of the original works supplying arms to His Majesty the King.

The plant site was carefully chosen, at the foot of picturesque hills where unlimited water power was available from the tumbling falls of the Husqvarna River, and near the lake beds and black ore mountains of Taberg, the sources of high-grade iron. Still another factor in the choice of the site was the skilled labor which was available in this district. Rugged water wheels provided the power for the barrel-drilling machines of 269 years ago, as well as for a powder mill which was already in operation.

Gradually, down through the years, a village grew up around the factory, consisting first of one-story log cabins painted the traditional red of the Swedish farm country, with typical white window frames and corners. In each cabin lived a locksmith's family, with pa's workshop in the back yard where he worked from dawn to dusk producing sidelocks for the military muskets, using the Husqvarna barrels. Sons grew up at the father's anvil and vise, and so was founded the proud tradition of Husqvarna craftsmanship. Just as naturally, the original barrel-drilling works grew into a complete arms factory. Alongside the cabins of the locksmiths, other cabins were built for stockmakers, and within a few years, Husqvarna village began placing finished service arms in the hands of Swedish soldiers.

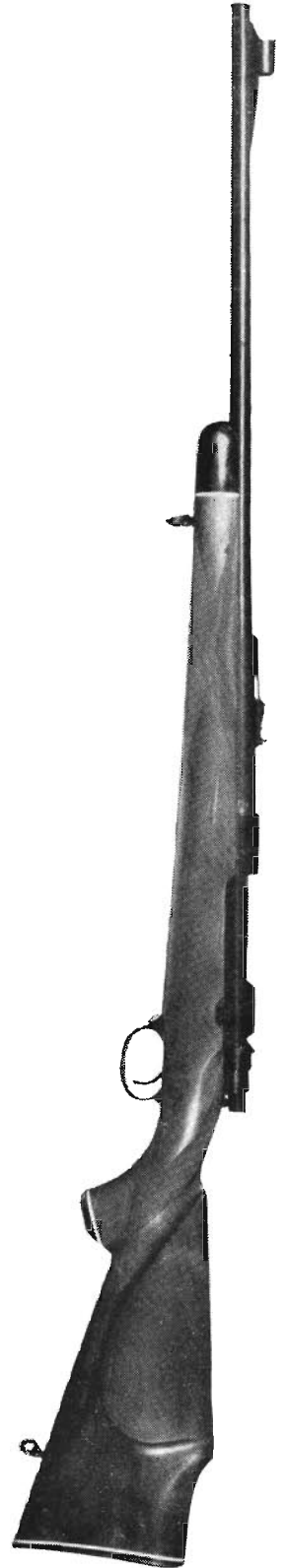
Service arms continued to be produced after the factory passed into private hands in 1757. The service gun of those days was still, of course, the smooth-bore flintlock. It was not until the 1830's the the process of cutting grooves in the barrels was started, justifying the designation of "rifle."

In the early 1840's, conversion of the flintlock muskets to percussion locks was started in the Scandinavian armies, and by the late 40's, the barrels became rifled and conical bullets came into use. These were forced down over a tapered post screwed into the breech plug. Three good raps with the rod made them fill the rifling.

In 1867, Husqvarna became a joint-stock company, and in that same year the Scandinavian armies adopted the famous Remington-Rider rolling block rifle, thereby ending the muzzle-loading era. John Rider's clever breech design introduced the metallic cartridge in Sweden's army, a copper-cased 12.17 mm rimfire type, and Husqvarna soon found itself turning out the new rifles. The first 3000, and up to 1873 a further 2000, of the new rifles were delivered to the army of neighboring Norway. But, development never ends, and as the era of small calibers for military use approached, the big-bore Remingtons were altered to a lighter rifle, known as the Model 89, in a mm caliber, using the cartridge which collectors will remember as the 8 mm Danish Krag. Again, it was Husqvarna who did the job.

Not only military firearms were produced. Shooting clubs had been in existence since the 1890's, and shotguns and rifles played a major part in obtaining food for countless thousands of Swedish families. As their products became known also outside of the Swedish borders, the firm started exporting their civilian firearms around the turn of the century, especially to the countries around the Baltic sea. Poland, at that time, was a big-game hunters' Eldorado, and Husqvarna rifles also went to Denmark and Northern Germany. Northwards, they were found in Norway, and in the hands of hunters on Iceland, Spitzbergen, and all the way up to Greenland.

While the rolling-block action in a wide variety of styles, and also various single-shot bolt actions, had been utilized for hunting rifles, the necessity of a (Continued on page 60)



Craftsmanship of HVA shotguns is due to generations of father-son skills.



HVA master gunmakers are revered by 7000 workers of all trades.

Foreign-made rifle has strong following among U.S. shooters because new-design action is in an American-style stock, pleasing to U.S. shooters.



Cannoneer Carpenter touches off home-made two-pounder in great guns shooting match held just after finish of article telling how he made cannon. Projectile is concrete-filled tin can.



Gun pattern was turned from two planks to separate when placed in two-piece mould. Pouring gun (above) took 400 pounds of metal. Bore was made from steel tube laid in mould.

BUILD A CANNON



Smith in Yankee uniform totes revolving Colt used by 37th Ill. Regiment in 1860. Cannoneers have own club.



Owners of Carpenter-made guns are "Colonel" Smith and Bill McLaughlin who came from Arkansas to shoot.

**NOT JUST THE GUN YOU'D CHOOSE FOR HOME DEFENSE,
A SELF-MADE CIVIL WAR TYPE CANNON DOES MAKE A
NICE FRONT YARD DECORATION—IF YOU HAVE A YARD**

By DORR B. CARPENTER

MOST SHOOTERS ARE CONTENT with rifles, pistols, shotguns. But I must confess, I've always wanted a cannon, a real piece of artillery, to shoot.

The original idea came many years ago when I was in high school. At that time, as a shop project, we made a small cannon on a miniature naval carriage. The gun shot very well, and was used for hours of enjoyment, shooting at small toy boats and sticks on the lake.

More than ten years later my hobby was still guns, and it seemed natural that a cannon should be purchased to round out my collection. This proved to be more of a task than I bargained for.

A number of years passed, and I was still without a cannon. Every time I saw any kind of muzzle-loading cannon for sale, the advertisement was answered by mail, wire, or telephone; and the gun was always sold. This got very discouraging, being unable to purchase a gun in this manner.

Now my Aunt Alice, in Connecticut, has a cannon. The problem was how to get it away from her. Again, I was

foiled. She loves her cannon, and would not think of parting with it. After numerous visits to her home over a period of years, the subject being brought up casually each time, the problem appeared finally to be solved. Aunt Alice, without even being pushed, stated that if I wanted the gun so much, she would give it to me—as a wedding present. Well, there we were again, back where we started with no cannon. With no girl in prospect, the cannon was not mine at any foreseeable time in the future. After thinking about this for a time, another problem arose in my mind; what sweet young thing would want to marry a guy who was getting a cannon for a wedding present?

Time dragged on, without my fondest hope coming into being (the arrival of my cannon, of course!). A fellow collector, Colonel H. Brooks Smith, and I had many ideas on how to get our hands on a gun, but they have always failed. In spite of this, we encouraged each other to the point that we knew some day we would be able to swap, steal, trade, or build our way into the ownership of a cannon.

(Continued on page 51)

FOR YOUR HOME!

Gun OF THE MONTH



THE OLD • THE NEW • THE UNUSUAL



SWISS GUNMAKER, AMERICAN CARTRIDGE DESIGNER, AND GERMAN DEALER TEAMED UP TO PRODUCE LIMITED ISSUE HANDGUN



Cased Weber pistol was fitted up by Fred Adolph. Recessed box (above) has .22 LR shells but gun also came chambered for .22 Newton hi-power (below).

IN THE DAYS when pistol makers were also artists, right before World War I, the famous Fred Adolph of Genoa, New York, the even more famous Charles Newton, rifleman of Buffalo, and the completely unknown Casimir Weber of Switzerland teamed up to produce an American enigma in pistols. Known as the Adolph-Weber pistol, my sample was evidently presented as a prize trophy at the Camp Perry, Ohio matches in 1913. From 1913 to 1915, the Weber match .22 single shot pistol enjoyed brief popularity, but with the U.S. entry into the war even Swiss imports were restricted. Some guns were chambered for a special .22 high velocity cartridge. According to the White & Munhall book, *Centerfire American & British Pistol & Revolver Cartridges*, the cartridge they designate as .22 Adolph Long Range Pistol was designed by Charles Newton about 1913 or 1914. "He took the .28-30-120 Stevens rifle cartridge, cut it off and necked it down to accommodate the then-new .22 Savage High Power bullet . . . 17 grains of DuPont Lightning (powder) . . . muzzle velocity of 2000 feet per second." This gun, listed in the catalog of F. Grasset, Paris, 1914, was known

as the Model V. "pour forte cartouche à haute puissance genre 22 HP," for strong cartridge of high power of the type .22 HP. The gun listed for \$34. francs equivalent, was available with single or double set triggers, and could be had in .22 caliber Long Rifle or the special .22 centerfire. The barrel tips down, is released by pushing the button like a Stevens pistol. The Grasset catalog shows the sight on the standing breech immediately forward of the hammer. The special tear drop hammer on my gun may indicate Adolph obtained Weber pistols in semi-finished state and completed them to the customers' specifications. The gun was boosted by noted pistolman A. L. A. Himmelwright in *Pistol & Revolver Shooting* (Outing Pub. Co., N.Y., 1915) as "conforming to the rules and regulations of the U.S. Revolver Association." It is possible my gun was a U.S. R.A. prize pistol, but unfortunately the records of this venerable American shooting association were lost.

My gun is neatly plush-cased, with cleaning tools and space for four packets of .22s. The 10" barrel with sights, fixed front and adjustable rear, give a 10" overall sight radius. The French model with sight on breech would exceed this, be banned according to the rules for sight radius in some matches. The handsome stocks are checkered ebony and show style similarities to the pistol Himmelwright pictures. Finish is blue with fine scroll engraving and gold inlay. Trigger guard is specially elongated: the Himmelwright and Grasset pictures show a rounded guard and, in Himmelwright's book, a spur for trigger finger when trigger is set. Under the left grip on my pistol is a bow and arrow trade mark and a Swiss cross. In the top and bottom sections of the bow are stamped the initials W and Z, possibly for Weber in Zurich, since he is listed (Himmelwright) as working there. Serial under side of barrel is MM 305. Weber also made single shot match pistols on the Martini system, Model VI.



OUTFOXING FOXES WITH GAME CALLS

(Continued from page 23)

we gave up shortly and returned to the jeep.

When calling it is best not to spend too much time at one spot. If any game is going to come, it comes in a hurry. Ten minutes is ample. One requisite to calling success is to keep moving until you chance upon a productive location.

The best time for calling predators is at night. Meat-hungry animals prowl after dark in search of food. Wear a headlamp, and keep the beam high, so that the ground is barely illuminated by the outer fringe. This is enough to reflect the eyes of approaching game. (It is wise to read up on your state game laws before attempting this nocturnal calling. Night-time hunting is prohibited in some areas.)

Foxes, coyotes, and hawks come most readily to the cry of a rabbit in distress. Bobcats and other cats are more wary. One of the brothers' latest innovations is a call that is death on raccoons. They had little success calling 'coons until they chanced to see a ringtail stalking a crippled sea gull. They worked on the twittering cry of a wounded gull until they imitated it in a plastic call.

"We anchored one night in a boat out in Granite Shoals Lake, near our home, and had 'coons swimming a hundred feet of water to get to the source of the crying," Murry told me. "I don't know why, but that call drives those critters frantic."

Another comparatively new addition to the brothers' line of game calls is one for deer. "It will revolutionize deer hunting," Winston predicted matter-of-factly.

The brothers find their best hunting in remote areas of Mexico where wild game abounds. One movie they made in Mexico last spring shows six lean and hungry coyotes racing in with abandon, oblivious of any danger, to get at the source of the squealing. Also in Mexico, they got a mountain lion to answer their calls, but it didn't stick around long enough for a shot.

Any country, however, that is inhabited by predators is good for game calling. The brothers have called the foxes on their ranch numerous times. Fact is, they practically know each one individually on sight.

"These tales about the slyness and wariness of the fox are exaggerated," said Murry. "A fox is stupid when he is answering a call. All he can think about is that quick, free meal. At times, one will come in fast and he means business."

He told of the time when his father was crouched in a ravine, calling, when a fox came over the top and clamped down on his wrist. On another occasion, when a fox was spooked by Murry's whirring movie camera, it raced up Winston's humped back and leaped off his shoulder. This particular drama was captured on the movie film.

"You never saw a person come unglued as fast in your life as did Winston when that fox scrambled over his back," Murry remembered, laughing.

"That rascal still probably has a ringing in his ears," Winston added "I let out a whoop that would have put an Indian to shame."

We made five or six more stops and added another pair of foxes to our bag. In this particular area of Texas, there is no limit nor closed season on predators.

"We like to stage these hunts periodically on the ranch to keep our fox population in balance," said Winston. "They multiply pretty fast. When not using guns, we call the critters up and do our shooting with cameras."

Upon returning home I took the call the brothers gave me and went out in the backyard to practice. I blew a long, piercing blast. For a first attempt, I had amazing success. Game came running from all directions—the family dog, three cats, and my 22-month-old son.

No doubt about it—the call works!



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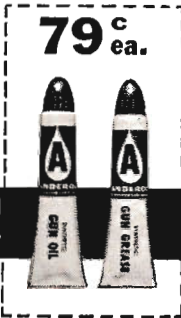
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SHOULD YOU OWN A GUN?

By KARL HESS

So many readers have urged us to print this article, which first appeared in "American Mercury," April, 1957, that we are breaking our rule against reprint material. We think you will like it.

WHEN intellectuals meet to effuse over the "battle for men's minds," they often speak of the great "thinkers" who brought the "idea" of freedom to our own country. The American Revolution becomes, in their reconstruction of it, a solemn procession of lofty-browed men smiting the British and their mercenaries with lightning bolts of philosophy. To be sure, it *was* the "idea" of freedom that inflamed the colonies against a foreign ruler. But it was the long rifle, lovingly bored at Pennsylvania forges, and skillfully carried into the central woodlands, that *brought* freedom to America. It was the same rifle, improved with a percussion lock, that created our southern border, at the Alamo and at San Jacinto. And, if the Emancipation Proclamation was written with a pen, it was sealed with a Spencer carbine.

And so the intellectual effusions are clearly wrong. Freedom is never thought into existence. It is fought into existence. And that is

the way it is kept—by men with the arms to protect their prize.

Today it is the same. When, some time ago, the enslaved East Germans briefly rioted against the Red overlords, they threw a few bricks, made some classic pictures of defiance, and then lapsed back into an unarmed slavery. In Hungary it was different. There were guns there. If there had been more, there might even have been, at the end of the fighting, freedom. There was the *urge* to freedom—there weren't enough guns.

Is it imaginable, for another instance, that the Russian people would forever submit to the central tyranny of the world if there were arms easily and commonly available?

The question of freedom, therefore, when stripped to its steel center, is just this: Who has the guns? There is nothing exclusive about the *idea* of freedom. Presumably it can arise anywhere, anytime. But it runs into the grim question: Who has the guns? If everyone has them, then a ballot becomes not only possible but inevitable. If only a few have them, a dictatorship becomes as tempting and as inexorable.

Latin America presents a familiar and full example. Its political paths have been chosen and are still being chosen solely on the basis of the balance of ordnance. It is only briefly comforting to know that sometimes high-minded men have the guns. It can as easily be otherwise. Put another way, this is the equation that the fiery politics of the southern hemisphere presents: that the freedom of the republics there is directly proportional to the dispersal of the arms in the nation. The more general that dispersal and ownership, the more general the freedom. The more restricted that ownership, the more restricted the freedom.

But what of America, a nation in which laws *have* been substituted for the power of arms? Is there any place in such a nation for the general ownership of arms? Should you, in short, own a gun?

For many different reasons, there is an increasing tendency to answer that question with a legalistic "no" in this country. Each year as many as 300 laws affecting the ownership and use of guns go into legislative hoppers. Each year the number of those laws that would restrict ownership of guns increases. Many of those restrictive laws concern registration of firearms. It is with such laws, that would list the ownership of all firearms, that a consideration of the question of whether *you* should own a gun may begin.

First of all, why is firearms registration sought? The most publicly stated reason is that it permits the police to trace firearms used in crimes. One touch of logic and that



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*Confirming application and details will also be mailed to you.

reason crumbles. Guns used in crimes are, by definition, owned by criminals. The professional criminal, law or no law, would not use a firearm registered to himself. He would use a stolen weapon or one purchased through a non-registered source.

What, then, could be the fundamental reasons for registering firearms. There are two: it tends to give some central authority, usually the police, the power not only to keep tabs on who has a gun but on who may be given permission to have a gun. Secondly, it makes it possible for a central authority to seize those guns.

Wherever a government requires the registration of firearms it has, wittingly or not, set the stage for the easy usurpation of power by a central political force.

You think it can't happen in a free land?

In Czechoslovakia, coincident with the Nazi invasion of that country, all the nation's arms registration lists were seized by the Fifth Column and a program of public disarmament was carried out. When the Communists repeated the rape of the country, the seizure of private arms was again a primary step.

In Hungary, just before the Red puppet government assumed full and final control, public and private shooting clubs were disbanded by police decree. All small arms were taken into police custody.

When the partition of Palestine finally was to be enforced on the Arab population of that strife-torn land, a *gun* law was put into action, disarming the native population and making easily possible the subsequent thrusting of hundreds of thousands of them into refugee camps where they still remain.

It is always so. In an exposition of "Theses and Statutes of the Communist Internation-

al," there are these illuminating looks at gun laws as seen through Red glasses:

"To prepare for an assumption of power, the Party carries on propaganda in favor of increasingly radical transition slogans—for workers' control of industry, for the seizure of big landed properties, for disarming the bourgeoisie, and arming the proletariat . . ."

To take over the farms, the Party must "prepare the necessary force for the disarming of every single man of this class."

In The Los Angeles Examiner for September 16, 1943, there was this practical blueprint regarding arms and men:

"Communist Party inspired demands that all persons in Los Angeles be required to register all firearms they possess was the subject of a public hearing yesterday before the public safety committee of the City Council. Jane Wilson, chairman of the legislative committee of the Communist Party, led a small group favoring adoption of an ordinance to require registration."

Primarily affected by firearms legislation in this country are some 14,000,000 persons who use guns in hunting. But, added to them, are millions of non-hunters who keep guns for home protection, for target shooting, as collectors, or just "to have one around."

The second article of the Bill of Rights gives to each of them the right to "have one around." It says that "a well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed."

In the vagaries of our separate judicial systems that right has been abridged, and

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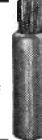
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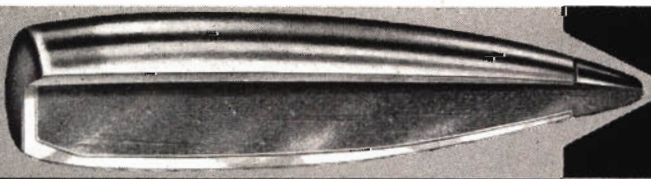


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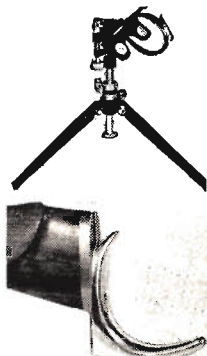


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there has been no successful attempt to generally diminish those abridgements—they continue and increase.

Today, in 31 of our 48 states there are some positive restrictions on the free ownership of firearms, particularly pistols. Seventeen states, rather than restrict ownership, rely on a prohibition against unauthorized "concealment" of weapons. They do not question the right to own, only to illicitly conceal the weapon. In New York state, with the highest crime rate of any state, there is, significantly perhaps, the *most* restrictive gun law. It requires a license to even own, much less carry a pistol and, in recent sessions of the legislature in that state, there has been pressure for a law that would even require a license to buy ammunition. Meantime, of course, the rate of criminal ownership of guns continues unabated in New York and crime flourishes.

The National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws has made this comment on state gun laws:

"... more objectionable is the wrong emphasis in most pistol legislation. It is aimed at regulating pistols in the hands of law-abiding citizens rather than at punishing severely criminals who use pistols. Of course, no legislation can prevent gangsters and other dangerous criminals from securing and using pistols, but legislation can make it to the interest of criminals not to use pistols, and can send to prison for long periods those caught doing so."

Responsible shooting clubs and gun groups such as the venerable and respected National Rifle Association, with its 300,000 members, have never objected to laws that do place an emphasis on punishing criminal use of firearms. But they have fought and continue to fight laws that restrict the honest ownership of firearms.

The National Rifle Association which, incidentally, is the oldest major sporting organization in the land, has put it this way in an official policy statement:

"The NRA has as much interest in protecting our citizenry against armed assault as do the police themselves. The NRA has as great an interest in preventing gun accidents as any parent. On the other hand, the NRA has a primary interest in seeing that our loyal and law-abiding citizens have the right to have and bear arms for their personal protection, for recreation, and for the national defense."

Taking those matters—protection, recreation, national defense—there are these points

to be considered. Doesn't the ownership of guns stimulate crime? New York's sad example, with the toughest gun laws and the most notorious crime rate, is a good answer. Peaceful Vermont, by contrast, has just about the least restrictive gun-law situation of any state. It simply has *no* law concerning guns, except that they not be used in crimes.

Great Britain provides another significant commentary. There has been, since 1921, an almost total restriction on gun ownership there—rifles or pistols or even shotguns. (Britain's international pistol teams often have gone into competition with ordinary service guns and ammunition and one of the nation's top shots, Colonel Oswald Waits, several times winner of the British National Pistol Championship, has recently found it impossible even to get the 50 practice rounds a year allowed him by the government!)

The results of the British restrictions have been striking. For one thing, crimes of violence have soared upward ever since the law was passed. Recently, the London Daily Mirror put it this way: "The shadow of the gunman lies across Britain for the plain reason that any criminal or any fool can easily get a gun." Who can't get a gun? The honest, law-abiding citizen—the *victim* of the crime.

Britain's restrictive policies also have had effects in another area—defense.

At the beginning of the Second World War, Britain was so stripped of small arms that it had to *advertise* in America for stocks of guns with which to protect its homes and shores. Its vaunted Home Guard, a romantic notion to many Americans, has been pronounced by competent authorities as a mere shadow defense because the men of Great Britain simply have not had any firearms training for so long. The Army itself experienced grave difficulties in training men to whom the primary weapons of war—small arms—were alien.

In this country, although the situation is much better it is not perfect. In the Second World War a dangerously small percentage of the men taken into the armed forces showed competent familiarity with firearms—and this in a land that was once called "a nation of riflemen." Today, defense authorities are so mindful of the need to have a civilian population versed in firearms use that a special all-service board for the promotion of civilian marksmanship expends hundreds of thousands of dollars a year in giving free supplies to shooting clubs whose members will qualify with service arms.

Yet, even as that happens, pressure groups continue to grind away at the right to own and bear arms. Mothers' groups, of course, object that junior is unsafe in the presence of firearms. Such mothers, faced with the real statistics of gun usage in this country, might suddenly realize that *they*, the mothers, are preparing the way for tragedies for their children. It is unfamiliarity with firearms that leads to accidental deaths by gunshot. In every single state where there are widespread programs of firearms familiarization, primarily for hunting but also for target sports, the number of firearms accidents *has fallen*. The use of guns for recreation, therefore, can be and is being made safe not by laws but by education!

Thus, on the three points of defense, recreation and protection, there is no evidence at all to support restrictive gun ownership laws—quite the contrary.


(Continued on page 66)

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WHICH GUN IS BEST FOR YOU?

(Continued from page 30)

of various weights, various barrel lengths, to see which one suits you best. (Remember that the extra muzzle weight is an advantage, and that practice will develop your hand and arm muscles so that what seems too heavy now may be just right later. But your eyes are not likely to change for the better; the only thing that will change them is corrective lenses.)

Correct sight alignment is absolutely the most important part of pistol shooting. The two sights must be seen, and held, in proper relation to each other, regardless of how much they swing up and down or left and right on the target. If you can't see the sights clearly even on a short barrel, or if you want to gain the advantage of a longer barrel than your eyes warrant, the only answer is—glasses. Dr. William Mitchell has helped me with his Mitchell Optical Company shooting glasses, corrected to focus on the sights with the gun held at arm's length. With these lenses, I can see both front and rear sights clearly, in sharp outline. The target goes out of focus, but that (whether you believe it or not) is of small importance. Try it and see. If you truly hold the sights in proper alignment, the bullet scores even on a blurred target.

For game shooting in the woods and hills, the guns with the longer barrels give your bullet more velocity and more striking power, in addition to the longer sight radius that helps you place your shots. Speed in getting the gun clear is not often important in this kind of use, so the long barrel is no hindrance on that score. Most game shooting can be done using both hands for steady holding and accurate aim, and very often the shooter can use a rest, bracing his arms against or over a tree or log or rock for added steadiness. That first shot is the one that's important in game shooting, and the long barrel will help you make it. The only fault I can imagine against a long barrel for this use would be in the case of the short man who might find the long gun uncomfortable to carry. (Again, the size of the shooter as well as the size of the gun is a factor.) My personal choice for a handgun for game shooting is one with a 6½ or 7½ inch barrel.

On the other hand, for the peace officer, serviceman, or any man wearing a gun that he may need in the twinkling of an eye to save his life, the short barrel gun comes into its own. Even here, with the single exception of a gun which is to be carried in a pocket, I see no need for a barrel length of less than 4 inches. For double action guns which are worn in a holster on the waist belt, the 4" barrel is just right for small or medium sized men, and, tall men can carry a 5" barrel just as easily and draw it just as quickly. In a single action, the 4¾" barrel is the best close range combat weapon, where quick draw may enter into the picture. For the man wishing a gun for both quick draw defense work and also long range or game killing, the 4¾" to 5" or 5½" is probably the best compromise. The police officer riding around in a car wants a gun that won't poke the car cushion and push his belt up out of place. For him, the 4" to 5" barrel is best, depending on the size of the man and how far above his seat his belt is worn. For the man traveling largely

by saddle horse, any length barrel is O.K. He can pack a 7½" as easily as a shorter gun. (See how size and job affect the choice?)

Let's look next at sights. Many people have their own ideas as to proper sights, and youngsters usually prefer "fine" sights with narrow beads, or blade front sights, on account of their sharp eyes and very fast accommodation. Experience has taught me, however, that nothing is gained by very narrow "fine" sights, and much can be lost in the dim light of early morning or late evening, through their use. For most men, a front sight ¼" in width is best, with a rear sight notch wide enough to allow a strip of light to be seen on each side of the front sight to make certain it is centered. Round beads will not hold elevations as well as flat-topped blades, and the best rear sight also is the form that appears flat on top. This type of sight, known as the Partridge design, will shoot more accurately on a sixgun than any other form I have tried. It also will "shoot away from the light" less than any other form.

I believe that all sixguns should be fitted with accurate, fully adjustable sights that can be set for any given load, if the guns are to be used for aimed fire. Many years ago, we designed a long range front sight for the King Gunsight Co. It was also supplied by Smith & Wesson, to order, for a time. It comprised a standard Partridge-type blade front, on the face of which were fitted three gold cross bars allowing one to hold up to any one of the three levels, for longer or shorter ranges. It worked so well that the Gun Reblue Co. of Biltmore, North Carolina, still furnish it to order for their customers.

Smith & Wesson also furnish the Call gold bead: a round gold bead inset in the face of a square blade front sight. This is a very good sight. King Gunsight, (later Ricky Gunsight Co.) also furnish this sight with gold or red insert. Personally, I like the round insert less than a square insert of gold.

My friend, G. B. McGowan of Smith & Wesson, designed another excellent sight, probably the best ever produced for the peace officer: his red-topped ramp post front sight. This red ramp as now furnished by Smith & Wesson, in conjunction with a white-outlined Partridge rear, makes one of the finest combinations imaginable for the

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hunter or peace officer. It will show up well in any shooting light, or against any type or color of background or game. It comes in the popular one-eighth inch width. The ramp type front sight will not catch on clothes or holster in quick draw work, which is important to the man who wears a gun for protection purposes. The ramp-type front sight can also be made up by Gun Reblue Co. with the Keith-design three gold bars, which is even better for long range work where one wishes to hold up more front sight and have definite aiming points.

When it comes to trigger pulls, I may be sticking my neck out, but I do not believe in ultra-light triggers on any sixgun. There may come a time when the fingers are numb and a too-sensitive trigger could cause you to shoot before you are ready. I believe all six-guns should have at least a 3 pound pull for general use, and long heavy barrel guns like the new Smith & Wesson .44 Magnum can well have 3 to 4 pound pulls. Big strong men with long powerful fingers may well prefer a 4 pound pull, while lads with short fingers like my own may prefer a 3 pound pull. Trigger pulls under 3 pounds, while all right on the target range for some slow-fire work, are apt to get you in trouble in timed or rapid fire work, or in game or defense shooting. I prefer a clean 3 to 3½ pounds on my single action guns, and on double action guns I prefer around 10 pounds of pull.

For straight target work and competitive shooting, thumb-rest finger-fitting grips are fine and may add points to the score so long as they permit fast cocking in rapid and timed fire. They can be had to fit any size or shape hand from Herritt's of Twin Falls, Idaho, or from Gun Reblue Co., Lew Sanderson, or many other custom makers. They can be had with thumb rests, finger grooves, and a filler behind the trigger guard, to bring the weight of the gun on the second finger, like the grip of a Single Action. The target range is the place for these grips; they have no place on a defense, or hunting gun, that may have to be used fast in an emergency.

For all quick draw work or general holster wear, the grips should fit the hand but should have thumb rests or finger grooves, nor should they be too large and bulky. Some men with abnormally large hands will find the big Smith & Wesson and Colt

Target grips just the ticket for their long-fingered hands, but men with smaller hands are better off with a more normal sized set of stocks that perfectly fit their hands without being bulky and unwieldy. Thumb rests are O.K. on guns of light recoil, but on guns of heavy recoil like the .45 Colt and .44 Magnum, one is better off with the thumb curled downward toward the trigger finger.

Double action shooting requires a good hump at the top of the grip for most men, if the gun is to be shot fast, to keep the gun from climbing in the hand during recoil. Single action grips probably absorb recoil with least jar to the hand of any type, as they simply roll or turn up in recoil, thus cushioning the jar. No other sixgun grip so perfectly cushions recoil as that of the old single action pattern, whether it be a Colt, Ruger, Great Western, or what-have-you.

Select a grip that fits your hand. If you have long fingers and a large hand, the chances are the big S & W or Colt target grips on double action guns will fit you best. If your hands are smaller, you may prefer the S & W Magna or the Standard Colt grip. I prefer a slightly thinner grip of the Magna S & W type on my S & W double action guns. For materials I prefer ivory first, with the outer grip carved rough to fill the hollow of the hand. Next to ivory, I prefer checkered rosewood. My hands are still tough and hard, and the checkering does not bother me; but many men prefer uncheckered grips because the checkering hurts their hands. Good, hard, dense, seasoned, figured walnut or rosewood, ebony or Macassar ebony, greasewood, or mesquite all make excellent grips, as does the Goncala Alves wood furnished on the new Wesson .44 Magnum revolvers.

Main spring tension should always be heavy enough to give a good, sure, deep indentation in the primer; but there is no need of excessive hammer blow. Many shooters will back out the tension screw on the main spring in S & W revolvers to lighten the double action pull. This is O.K. if not carried too far, but the main spring tension should never be lightened beyond the point where certain uniform ignition occurs. There is no need for a hammer to fall like a ton of brick, as I have seen on some early Colt Single Actions, but it must have sufficient drive to always indent the primer fully for certain ignition, else accuracy will suffer and there may be hang-fires and misfires. Lock time increases as main spring tension decreases, so do not over do it.

If the main spring tension of double action guns is much reduced, then the trigger return spring must also be reduced a corresponding amount, to keep the gun properly tuned. I have seen some trigger return springs reduced too much, and these we could tie them up in fast double action shooting. For very fast double action shooting, where you must have certain ignition, it is best to leave main spring and trigger return spring at about factory tension, else you may get a misfire and a slug stick in the barrel due to improper ignition of the powder and incomplete combustion. If this happens, your next slug will put a ring bulge in the barrel. Hammer throws should not be heavy enough to jar the sights off the target, but they must be amply heavy for certain uniform ignition. Accuracy always suffers if the

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primer is not properly indented, and indented uniformly from shot to shot. Hard Government .45 auto primers are the hardest to kick off and require the greatest main-spring tension as a rule.

Still another phase of the "what gun should I buy" question is, of course, "What make?" Again, the only answer is, "Which do you like?" There are differences, certainly, between the different standard makes; differences of design, of "feel," finish, and so on. But you can be sure that, in any of the standard American makes, you will get value for the price you pay. If you buy non-standard makes, including foreign imports, then the burden is on you to pick a good one, because some are good and others are not. The same burden rests on the buyer of a second-hand gun. Here too you may get a great bargain, or you may get hooked. It's up to you to know enough to protect yourself as a buyer. But when you buy standard American guns, new, you get full dollar value.

"What caliber" is still another question that has to be answered the same way: "For what use?" For learners, the only choice is the .22, simply because its light recoil makes it easiest to shoot, and because its ammuni-

tion is comparatively cheap; and the learner needs to burn a lot of ammunition. For game shooting, or for self defense, buy only a caliber heavy enough to provide sure stopping power. Don't hire a boy to do a man's job. For my money, nothing less than .38 Special fits into this category—and I much prefer loads considerably heavier than that, such as the .357 and .44 Magnums and the .44 and .45 caliber handloads that give "magnum" power.

As is the case with most American products, there's a gun for every man, for every purse, for every use. Do a little thinking along these lines, and if necessary ask a few questions of experienced shooters, and you can come pretty close to deciding for yourself what handgun is the one for you. Shooting experience may cause you to alter your specification a little (or a lot); but a gun is like a diamond in one respect—it always has value. Even the gun you have "outgrown" will give you a major part of your money back in trade or re-sale; and the shooting fun and shooting experience you will have had from it will more than make up the difference. And if a handgun saves your life sometime, as they've saved mine, you'll love 'em . . . as I do.

BUILD A CANNON FOR YOUR HOME

(Continued from page 43)

Now there was an idea! *Build* a cannon. But how, where, and with what? My brother, Ben, had given me a build-it-yourself cannon model for Christmas, and there was a good set of plans in the kit. (Marine Model Co., Inc., Halesite, N. Y.) This solved part of the problem of the design. I drew up a rough plan of the barrel, and went to talk to the foundryman about cost and materials.

The reception we got was not wholly as expected. These people did not think we were out of our minds, they *knew* it. But in any case, they listened. Also, they were intrigued with the idea, and wanted to cast it on a time-and-materials basis. This was not acceptable to me, and they were finally pinned down to a price of 70c a pound for bronze or 50c a pound for steel.

Now we went to work on a pattern. The model supplied the first barrel design but this proved unsatisfactory: too heavy and too costly. Ft. Sheridan, Illinois, is only one mile from my home, and I paid the fort a visit. They have on the parade ground a Civil War eight pound field piece. This gun is obviously too big and too heavy to copy in full scale, but after scaling it down to a two-pound gun (2½" bore) it was just what was wanted. Scale drawings were made with the help of Francis Bannerman's catalog, in which all the hardware and parts are named and clearly shown.

With the drawings done, I went to a union pattern maker, John Williams, in Waukegan, Ill. He turned out a superb barrel pattern. This pattern was very hard to make, because the lathe had to hold work 40 inches long and was a problem to turn because the wood, after turning, had to come apart in two equal halves, necessary in making the mold.

There are many more things to building a cannon than just the barrel, but the problems are mostly here. The most important and hardest to solve was the bore—how to cast it. If a sand core were cast into the gun, it would not be straight or smooth. After

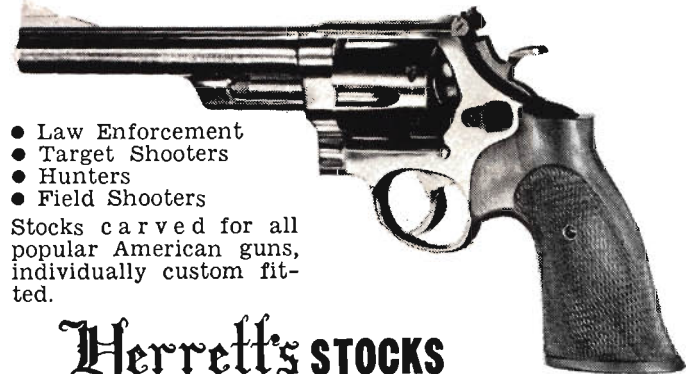
speaking with a machinist, discouragement set in. One after another, they told me it would cost about \$400 to bore the first gun. This was ridiculous. It had to be done some other way. Well, the light came, and this is how it was done: A steel tube was welded shut at one end and cut two inches shorter than the bore was to be made; 33 inches long and 2½-inch inside diameter. This tube was cast into the gun, set back two inches from the muzzle, so that the casual observer saw only bronze. This made the gun better in many ways, stronger, cheaper, fewer operations in manufacture, and the tube insured a perfect bore.

The carriage has two main parts, the trail and wheels. Wheels had to be wood with steel tires. Where to get them was easier than we expected. Montgomery Ward & Company list, in their farm catalogue, wagons with wood wheels. I got the address of the manufacturer: Huntingburg Wagon Works, Huntingburg, Indiana.



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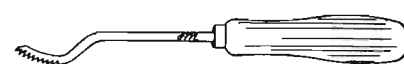


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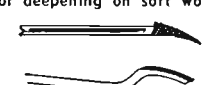
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The kind of materials to be used was discussed quite frequently. Would it be better to use steel for the barrel, and save money, or would the bronze be enough better looking to warrant its extra cost? The wood for the carriage was no problem. Oak was not available, and also too expensive, so a very good quality fir was used. The fir would not be satisfactory for a gun to be actually used in battle, but it was more than strong enough to be used for the firing of the occasional salute. Also, fir will not rot as fast when left in the great outdoors to weather.

The long-looked-forward-to day finally arrived. The pattern was ready and the foundry had time to humor us. Colonel Smith and I arrived in overalls to kibitz and photograph the proceedings.

The casting was much more complex than I had imagined. First, the pattern was separated into two halves, each half identical to the other. Then two boxes 50 inches long, 24 inches wide, and 10 inches deep, were

filled with a special type of sand. Each half of the pattern was pressed into the sand until flush—one half of the pattern in each box of sand. These halves then had to be hardened so that the shape would not be destroyed when the molten bronze was poured in. This was done after the pattern was removed from the sand, leaving a perfect negative print of half the gun. The actual process of hardening the mold was done with a blowtorch. When both halves of the mold were correct, grooves were added for the bronze to be poured into the void. Then the steel-bore tube was laid in place and supported in one half of the mold box. This was done just right and the bore was absolutely straight.

The two halves of the mold were then put one on top of the other. These had to line up perfectly the first time, or the sand would crumble. With the parts together, we were then ready to pour the casting.

My estimate of the weight of the gun was 175 pounds. The foundrymen, just to make sure, melted four hundred pounds of bronze. That was a very good precaution. As it turned out, the rough casting weighed 370 pounds.

Two men controlled each of the two crucibles of molten bronze. These were to be poured simultaneously into the mold at each end. The smoke, flame and color was more than was expected. The gun was poured in about five minutes.

It was almost time to go home, but a picture was taken of the smiling group after the casting was finished. As you will note, Colonel Smith is the only one rolling down his sleeves. He was also the only one who did no work. (I took the pictures.) This is not quite true, as he is officially vice president in charge of encouragement, and vice presidents shouldn't get their hands dirty.

Twenty hours later, the cannon was still

too hot to touch. Two days later, we went to pick it up and bring it home in triumph. The official weight, after the pouring spouts and trunions were cut, was 245 pounds. It was beautiful!

Building the carriage was next. The wheels had been ordered, and everything was in readiness, but I had to go into the Army for two weeks' training. It was hard to leave my darling, but the orders were quite definite. The weeks passed quickly, and in my mind I solved many of the problems that we expected in how to do this or that job. When work was resumed, the wheels had not yet come, but there were other jobs to do first. First things first, so off to the lumber yard I went. It was easy to select the wood, and it was sent over to a local mill shop to be planed. It was a good day for me, as the shop was not busy and could do the job at once. One hour later, and six dollars poorer, I left the mill with the trail cut and planed, the cheek pieces and axle wood shaped.

Now, I am not a blacksmith, but we do have an anvil and an acetylene torch. Without these items, the carriage could not have been built. It was impossible to bend the steel strap around the wood and work it to an exact shape without the heat. The wood parts were bound in steel and bolted in place in the same manner as the original gun, taking a few small liberties in design.

When the carriage was finished, the wheels had not yet arrived. I called the manufacturer, gaining no satisfaction. In the meantime, a firing device had to be made. It was thought best that this should be made to explode a regular musket cap, through the use of a long cord. We machined a pivoting hammer mechanism that threaded into the touchhole. The gun could also be fired using a match, wick or punk, on priming powder or an ordinary claw hammer striking the cap.


The wheels arrived—forty inches in diameter, and weighing 100 pounds with the axle. The word got around fast, and all day people kept dropping in. They were always drafted into helping in one way or another. By the end of the day, the gun was complete.

It was finished first by staining a dark color, and then varnished. It will be a few years weathering before it really looks like an antique. And for those of you who do not like fake "antiques," the gun is marked "D. B. Carpenter Cannon Works, Mfg., August, 1957," stamped deep into the bronze at a point where it cannot be ground out.

She was ready, she was beautiful, but where to fire her? Up until this time we have fired only blanks, or an occasional apple or tennis ball. A big bang, lots of smoke (great sport!), cheers, and incredulous looks are the result. Big things are planned.

One thing that has been irritating at times, and just the opposite at other times, is the attitude of people toward me and my cannon. Let me tell you about this. I find it hard to see why any red-blooded American youth or adult would not find a cannon of this type a most fascinating toy. There are two schools of thought. Some think the gun is a waste of time, money, and effort. Then there are others, like me, who just can't wait to fire it, who think it the most marvelous of marvelous playthings!

Well, that is about it, except that we are planning to have a cannon party way out in the country fairly soon, with all the cannon fans and family invited.



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DROP THAT MOOSE!

(Continued from page 33)

a .22 Hipower in the hands of a woods dweller.

General moose fodder in Québec, however, runs to something far more substantial, such as the .30-06 Springfield, .300 Savage, .35 Remington, a few of the heavy-slug Winchester, and the ubiquitous .303 British.

The .303 British is by circumstance pretty much the ballistical *vin du pays*, at least as far as Canadian hunting is concerned. For about a century after the British won Québec in 1759, units of the British army mixed with Canadian militia constituted Canada's defense forces, and as Canada gradually developed a military force of its own, which fought in the 1914 war as well as the 1939 one, its weapons were geared to the British patterns and calibres. In fact the NATO standardization of arms program has not yet caught up to most Canadian regimental armouries, where the .303 British still rules.

The saturation of Canadian gun racks with converted Lee-Enfield rifles in .303 is likely to continue for some years as the British and Canadian armies unload their issue .303's as surplus goods. The use of the .303 as a sporting calibre was given tremendous impetus shortly after the 1914 war. An arsenal in Québec city had designed and produced the Ross rifle in .303 for use of the Canadian army overseas. Combat troops cursed or praised the Ross rifle in the field. Army material often provided .303 shells in the wrong or long size cases which jammed actions at critical moments; but for deliberate slow fire with the proper cases, the Ross performed miracles of accuracy.

Its latter qualities endeared the rifle to hunters after the war, and Canadian ammunition manufacturers came up with quite an array of bullets and loads in the calibre, and gunsmiths have since produced some Ross wildcats, including a .280.

With Ross and Lee-Enfields so plentiful for Québec woodsmen, British gunmakers nevertheless contributed some handsome sporting arms, such as the BSA, in .303, and they are still selling well to those who want something better than a roughly stocked former Lee-Enfield piece.

Canadian Industries Limited has virtually a monopoly on the manufacture of sporting ammunition in Canada from its Montréal headquarters, and is quite content to produce a fine assortment of .303 ammunition.

The line-up for the .303 calibre includes a Kling-Kor soft-point and a metal-cased hard-point, both in 190 grains, for the .303 Savage, and four bullets for the .303 British. These offer a pointed soft-point lightweight at 150 grains, Kling-Kor soft-points in either 180 or 215 grains, and a copper-point expanding bullet in 180 grains. The heavyweight 215 grains musters 2180 feet per second muzzle velocity and 2270 pounds, well over a ton, of muzzle energy. The 150 grain pointed soft-point produces 2720 fps muzzle velocity and maintains it fairly well at 200 yards, where it is traveling 2170 fps. The 180 grain Kling-Kor soft-point and the copper-point expanding in the same weight share identical initial muzzle velocities at 2540 fps. A hundred yards out, the Kling-Kor slows to 2180 fps and is going 1880 fps at 200 yards. The copper bullet stays well up at 2320 at 100 yards and 2110 at 200 yards.

The Montréal firm makes a wide variety for other calibres suitable for moose, includ-

ing six offerings in .30-06 ranging from a 110 grain bullet to a 220, as well as ammunition in new calibres like .308 Winchester, and the old reliables like .351 Winchester self-loading, .38-40 and .38-55 Winchester, the .44-40 Winchester, and the whopping 385 grain projectile for the .43 Mauser.


All that stuff keeps Québec tables well supplied with moose meat and sends some handsome trophies back over the border in the proud possession of U.S. hunters.

Québec's moose kill this year has yet to be tabulated from the shipping tags that come with the hunting licenses, but in the 11-day season of 1957, there were 1,167 bull moose killed in Québec Province, falling to the guns of 7,466 licensed moose hunters. The 1956 kill was 1,755, and the 1955 total was 1,075.

Food for thought; Québec Government statistics show that from 80 to 90 per cent of moose hunters who planned their trip through licensed outfitters got their moose, while only from 10 to 12 per cent of those who did their own masterminding of their safaris managed to kill a moose.

Best Québec moose hunting is along the

Laurentian Shield which has produced so many mineral riches for the French-speaking Province. In 1957, the biggest moose tallies were provided by Laviolette County with 140 kills, Roberval with 138, and Abitibi with 134. Laviolette and Roberval counties are in the Lac St. Jean region at the headwaters of the Saguenay River and west of it, and Abitibi is the northern mining region some 300 miles north of Montréal and the St. Lawrence River.

There are moose killed, too, south of the St. Lawrence in the Gaspé peninsula and in the Eastern Townships near Lac Megantic on the Maine-New Hampshire border area. Provincial parks such as Laurentide, Gaspé, Vérendrye, Mont Tremblant, Orford, are all game preserves and taboo to hunters, but the remainder of Québec's tremendous territory of 597,000 square miles is open country for moose hunters during the ten-day season at the end of each October. 

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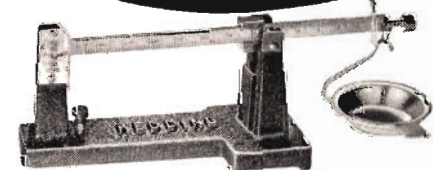
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THESE ARE THE POLICE AWARD WINNERS

(Continued from page 38)

detective and Orsino again came face to face. Both men without a moment's hesitation started blazing away at each other in a brief but deadly duel—and then it was over. Orsino lay as if dead; McCallion limped out of the alley after suffering another wound, this one in the thigh.

"Detective McCallion knew at the very first exchange of shots that this man would not hesitate to kill. Detective McCallion ran into the face of danger with but one thought in mind, fulfillment of duty." Ironically, when Orsino had been investigated, it was found that he was the son of a police officer.

The nomination of Detective McCallion for GUNS' award came from Edward L. Caum of Philadelphia. In nominating Detective McCallion, Caum wrote: "McCallion's unselfish deed speaks for itself . . . In spite of his own injuries, which would have caused most men to give up, he shot his assailant." To Detective McCallion, goes GUNS' award revolver, selected by him: a bright nickle 3½" standard .357 Smith & Wesson Magnum. Said McCallion, "I want a magnum—I guess I need one!"

To the many readers whose nominations did not receive the final award status, let me say, the job of judging was difficult. In one sense, Petesch, Seaman, and McCallion were elected because they were doing so excellently exactly "what they were being paid to do." But to their routine activity, they added that personal sacrifice—some at the cost of time and effort, one almost at cost of his life—which distinguished them as examples of the best in American law enforcement.

Runners-up showed considerable merit. As a result of "sniping" at the formerly inferior pistol ability of the New York police, funds have been made available to instruction boss Capt. Wm. P. McCarthy to put into practice some remarkable training routines. These caused the Captain to be nominated by Ted

Wasielewski of the Bronx. Wasielewski's nomination declared: "McCarthy has succeeded in doing the impossible, getting the department an outdoor range inside the city limits and financial support to train policemen in combat firing . . . Previous administrators failed to take the risks and lacked the foresight to adopt the combat technique, double action firing, for the policemen in New York. Our crowded city, on many occasions, prevents long distance firing and this new form of training at close distances, without sighting, better prepared our men to combat the criminal whenever a gun engagement required a split second to save his life . . ." A German film training aid is also in use. Wasielewski's nomination credited GUNS with aiding Captain McCarthy to improve N.Y. P.D. shooting systems. "[The GUNS Magazine August 1955] nationwide survey of firearms programs conducted by various Police departments indicated that the New York City Police had one of the poorest firearms training programs in the country . . . As a result of Captain McCarthy's work, all men, particularly the recruits nowadays, are better trained, more adequately prepared than in 1955 . . ."

Honorable mention also goes to M/Sgt. John D. Vekich, chief clerk of the post MP's at Presidio, San Francisco, California. Sgt. Vekich has been honored by receiving other distinctions, such as the NRA Instructor Training Award in October, 1957. A leader in youth rifle instruction, Sgt. Vekich has given his time, mostly off-duty, unreservedly to aiding young people in learning how to shoot, with safety. He feels that "if you give young people something to do, they stay out of trouble." Among the physical accomplishments of Sgt. Vekich in terms of the shooting program, is "the best indoor range this side of the Mississippi," the newly remodeled Presidio Gun Club Range dedicated in April, 1958. The 24 pistol-and 13 rifle-point range also has a TV and soft drink

lounge, an armory and loading room, modern rest rooms, and an intercom. The backstop is ⅝" deck armor taken from a battleship and donated to the range by local Navy officers. Vekich's nomination was made by the R & P Club president, Captain John F. Kallam. Recently Sergeant and Mrs. Vekich were cited by Colonel Charles G. Rau, commanding Presidio, for their unselfish work. Their willingness to act as instructors and keep records needed for the Presidio Junior Riflers, according to the official certificate, "contributed substantially to the morale and welfare of the Presidio and San Francisco communities over an extended period of time and reflect great credit on Master Sergeant and Mrs. Vekich and the military service."

From Stratford, Ct., came word of another exponent of firearms instruction for kids. Nominated by Thomas Farrantello of Stratford, city police Sergeant Joseph R. Carten easily was agreed upon by the judges for an honorable mention. Working with the Police Athletic League, Sgt. Carten's work goes as far back as 1951 when, for instance, the Stratford *News* took notice of his rifle shooting coaching with an important editorial column. Commenting on the wild west "trigger happy" effect of television features, the editor noted: "The curiosity of the boy doesn't allow him to neglect his weapon, and it is this which catches his interest and emotions . . . he wants to know how a gun fires . . . he wants to fire it. This desire is a natural one, but it can be a dangerous one. This editorial is being written at the suggestion of a reader who has boys, and who feels that she need worry no longer . . . She told us we ought to 'say something nice' about the rifle club which is now in operation under the direction of Police Sgt. Joseph Carten. She said a lot of parents felt the same way. She said that the club answers a real need, for the curiosity and desires of the boys with regard to guns are surfeited in a safe and intelligent manner. We heartily agree with the lady and hereby crystallize the good words and praise which we have heard." According to Farrantello in nominating Sgt. Carten, "through this man's efforts alone, the P.A.L. Jr. Rifle Club is backed by the entire community. As proof of this, where else do car dealers take new cars off the showroom floor and let you drive them to the National Rifle Matches at Camp Perry, Ohio, or where else do individuals, civic clubs and businessmen chip in and in a matter of a few short weeks raise enough money to take six or seven youngsters to the National Matches?" Carten has also organized junior and adult clubs in other Connecticut communities and actively opposed anti-gun legislation.

Nominated by Robert Dymont of New York, whose searching article on police training across the nation appeared recently in GUNS, is Sheriff J. Howell Flournoy, Caddo Parish, Shreveport, Louisiana. "Teaching respect for law enforcement to our young people is not altogether the responsibility of the parents," says Sheriff Flournoy, "It's a duty and responsibility of the law officer himself." To do this, Sheriff Flournoy has set into operation a junior shooting program which is a model in its area.

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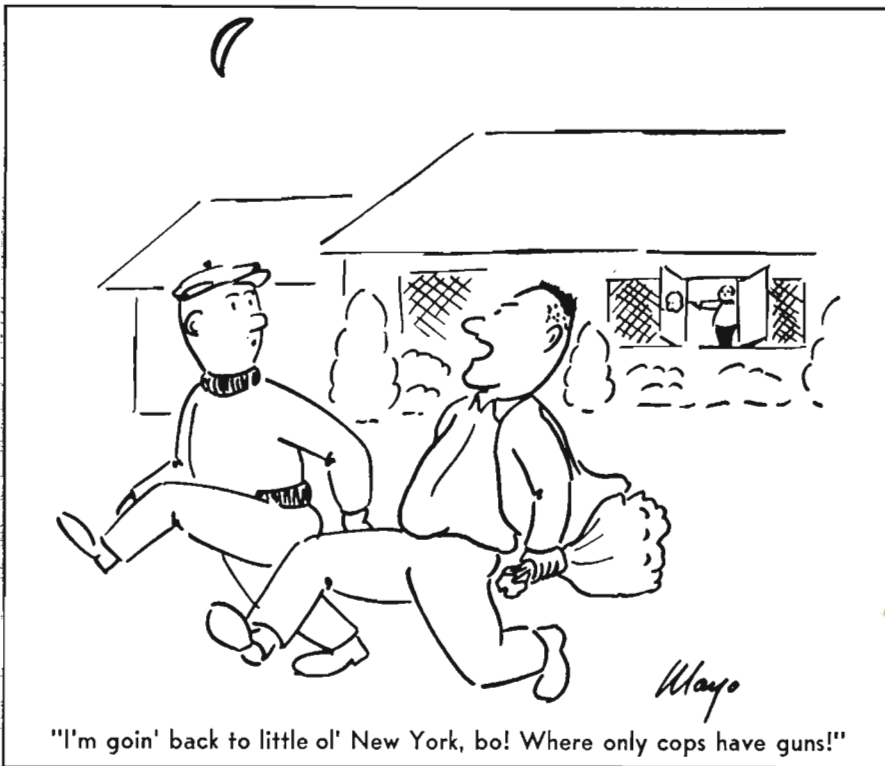
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local farmers as well as people living in Shreveport, concerning boys shooting .22 rifles around their homes and livestock," the Sheriff comments. "Give them a decent place to shoot, and these complaints would stop," was his answer to the problem. More complete details on Sheriff Flournoy's program will appear in a future GUNS issue.

Crediting one of the outstanding officers in his department, Chief Charles M. Gash of Evansville, Indiana, nominated Sgt. Eugene C. Carlile. Although Chief Gash is equally worthy of honor, for making Carlile's activities possible, the Evansville Sergeant has certainly compiled an unusual record for a policeman. Carlile is a "gun nut's gun nut," a real firearms enthusiast who has applied the current quick draw craze to fit himself and his fellow officers to better handle a shooting scrape, and has also gleaned a lot of favorable publicity for the department. His adroit leather slapping and equally adroit handling of the newspaper publicity angle has made Carlile and the Evansville Police Department known favorably all over the state. On open house occasions it is Carlile who speaks with the visitors, tours the police arsenal and explains the Thompson subs and the Department's anti-bandit pride, a fine Colt Monitor automatic rifle. A good speaker and lecturer, Carlile's "appearances" range from instruction talks to other members of the Department, to public appearances before service clubs like the local chapter of Optimists. Carlile puts the Evansville Police into the papers in a friendly, human light. Such activities, Carlile often doffing his police blues in favor of flashy cowboy garb guaranteed to spook a bronc, have made Evansville residents view their Police as a city department worthy of respect and honor. Carlile's promotional activities may make possible the building of a "dream range" which would be the envy of every other Department. Involving an obstacle surprise target course, with a "Hogan's Alley" and ten outdoor covered firing points for regular pistol and rifle practice, Carlile's range would

cost only \$5,000 to build.

Many other nominations were received in this Third Annual GUNS Award program. All deserved commendation. Among the more outstanding examples of professionalism with guns—whether it be shooting to kill or shooting for fun and safety—was the apprehension of a beserk trouble-maker, James A. Alexander of Cleveland, by officer Carl Godfrey outside the Akron, Ohio, "Palace Bar & Grill." Alexander had started shooting, flubbing an attempted holdup, and then walked outside. There he met Godfrey on the run to see what the trouble was. Calmly Alexander said "There's a holdup going on inside," then poked a gun in Officer Godfrey's ribs. By reflex from training, although he was not rated as a very expert pistol

shooter, Godfrey fell down backward, pulling his gun and firing as he did so. His shot hit Alexander, ending the disturbance. Other than a bump on the head, Godfrey was uninjured. His scores at the range have since improved. "By the grace of God, I'm alive," exclaimed Godfrey moments after the shooting. "Hit the ground and make the smallest target possible" Godfrey had been told during training. "I threw myself backward. My head hit the sidewalk. I was dazed. The gun was in my hand. I pulled it from the holster as I fell. There were shots—one, two—could have been more. Then I aimed and fired. It happened fast," Godfrey told Capt. Stephen McGowan who reached him as he fell. Nominated by fellow officer Gary Kruger of the Akron department, Godfrey is to be commended for his quick thinking and correct ending to a shooting scrape—put the criminal in the hospital to face the courts: the right of life or death is not the policeman's to decide.

Other uses of guns by police deserved more than passing notice. Some are reserved for future feature stories—the Bancroft quick draw and speed shooting training course, the sponsorship of an advanced firearms program by Comm. Anna M. Kross of the N.Y. Department of Correction the police pistol shoot in Bergen County, N.J., which has the highest per-capita income in the U.S. and once had the highest house breaking and burglary rate until the local newspaper and the police teamed up to promote better marksmanship. These and others will be featured in GUNS during the coming year. And during that year, GUNS readers—whether in law enforcement or shooter or collector or just plain "likes guns," are all urged to consider which person in law enforcement is their choice for the "Policeman of the Year" award. Sometime during November or December of 1959, the Fourth GUNS Magazine Annual Police Award will be made. Two or three officers distinguishing themselves "in the socially useful use of guns" will be nominated and selected for this, the nation's highest honor in the field: the GUNS Police Award.

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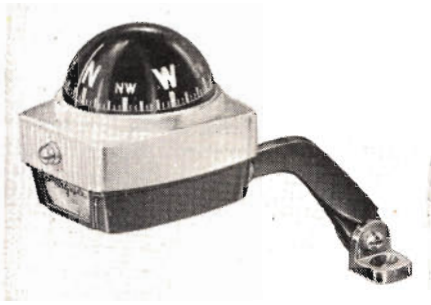
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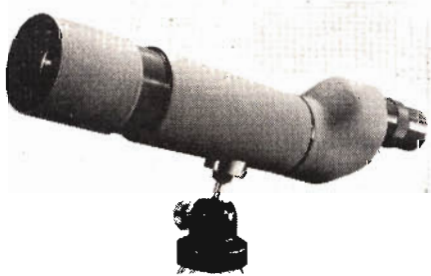
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SHOPPING



AUTO COMPASS. Motorists who are outdoorsmen will appreciate the Nomad, self-illuminated compass that retails at \$7.50. It's smooth, sophisticated, with smart light and dark gray case, and sparkling black dome dial. Self contained flash cell provides illumination for night reading when desired. 2¾" high, bracket length 3½". Easy to read whether mounted above or below windshield. Tops in looks and performance, a real pace-setter for today's automotive market. A product of Airguide Instrument Co., 2210 Wabansia Ave., Chicago 47, Ill.



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RWS 4MM SALOON RIFLE is specially designed for indoor winter season shooting. Both accurate and safe. Type of sport popular in Germany, thus rifle named "Zimmerstutzen" or 'saloon' Rifle. The shooters known as 'Schuetzen' use an altered rifle of the same weight as the Target Rifle in use here on the outdoor range. The indoor range is about 15 yards, the penetration is in a dry pinewood board not more than about 0.5 inch for the separate loaded lead ball, and not more than 0.6 inch for the regular 4 mm saloon cartridge. Permits clean indoor shooting, as famous RWS Sinoxid primer mixture does not produce toxic fumes, are non-erosive, non-corrosive and mercury-free. Ideal ammunition for indoor use. Additional information may be obtained from Stoeger Arms Corp., 45-18 Court Square, Long Island City 1, New York.

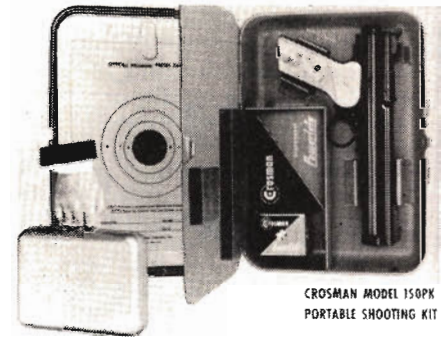


NEW ZIPPER SLIPPER for the sportsman that is both warm and comfortable, is marketed by Brouwer's, 178 W. Wisconsin, Milwaukee 3, Wis. Lined with lamb's wool, of polished brown leather, with rubber heel and leather sole. Ideal for after hunting, skiing, skating, cozy house or cabin slipper. An excellent gift choice. Sizes 6 to 12, priced at \$8.95; 13 to 15, \$9.95.

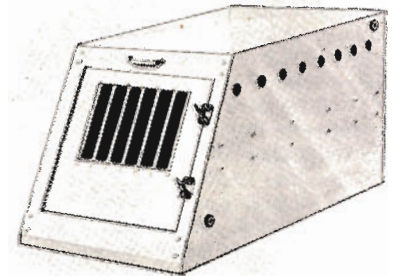
URETHANE DECOY DUCKS are lightweight and durable. Hunters like the way foamed decoys, tradenamed "Chanti," absorb shot like a sponge and float better than cork. Extremely realistic, decoys are finished with rayon flocking and marine paint, providing water-resistant surface which will not glare in the brightest sunlight. Extra large size and high riding features make decoy visible for great distances. Series of decoys include drake and hen mallards, blacks, red hens and broadbills. All are foamed from Rigitane 112 foaming resin of the Thiokol Chemical Corp., Trenton, N. J. Offered by the Plastics Products Division, Metaseal Corp. of Pennsylvania, 3117-23 Boudinot St., Philadelphia.



BUSCADERO CARTRIDGE BELT AND HOLSTER SET. Sets are carefully custom made to order from top quality saddle leather. Patterned after famous fast draw gun slingers of 1870s and 1880s, set is not museum piece but working equipment for the hand gun enthusiast. Completely leather lined, it has rawhide tie down straps for fast draw shooting. Belt is three inches wide through body and five inches wide at holster belt loop. Contour cut for waist line, it has removable buckle. In choice of colors: natural saddle tan, dyed brown or black at no extra cost. Superb saddle leather set available plain or hand carved. Holsters are lined with a soft suede to protect gun finish. Priced plain at \$21.00, hand carved \$25.00, double holster available at \$10.00 extra, prices postpaid. California residents add 4% sales tax. Order from D. J. (Don) Runge, Dept. G-2, P. O. Box 325, San Rafael, Calif.



LIFETIME CROSMAN PORTABLE SHOOTING KIT features built-in target backstop. The complete answer to the Pellgun Shooter's needs. Reinforced target backstop affords top accuracy marksmanship in and around the home. Easy to transport everywhere . . . weekend trips, vacations, business trips, hunting trips, and camping outings. Complete kit includes a Crosman Series 150 Pellgun Pistol, factory-tested to group shots within ¼ inches at 25 feet; 250 rounds of Super Pell powderless ammunition; supply of official marksmanship targets; built-in reinforced target backstop; all conveniently packed in lifetime all-steel carrying case handsomely finished in russet bronze. Available for \$24.95 at sporting goods stores everywhere, or from Crosman Arms Co., Inc., Fairport, N. Y.



KARRIER KENNELS. A new type of portable dog kennel, made of light-weight aircraft aluminum, now available by direct mail to dog owners from Sporting Dog Equipment Co., in Portland, Ore. Karrier Kennels are available in sizes to fit all station wagons. An exclusive tested design by an experienced dog owner who knows the requirements of dog handlers and trainers. Kennels made of superlight special aircraft aluminum alloy, machine riveted over a rigid interlocking structure to provide maximum security and durability. Kennels have double hinged doors with grill windows and twin window-type locks, impossible to jar or shake loose. Rubber guards on both sides protect the interior of station wagons and prevent rattling. Kennels can be cleaned in jiffy. Just hose out and dry. A drainage hole in bottom lets refuse wash away and the all-aluminum construction will not rust or corrode. Karrier Kennels are 39" long by 22½" high, and approximately 19½" wide. Weigh only 20 lbs. and are priced at \$47.50 each, or are available in pairs. Shipped express collect from Sporting Dog Equipment Co., 2115 N.W. Overton, Portland 10, Oregon.

WITH Guns



SHERIDAN KNOCKABOUT tipping barrel single shot pistol made by Sheridan Products, Inc., Racine, Wis. is strong seller at \$17.95. Fills real need among hunters for a rugged, yet reasonably priced .22 handgun. Sleek, stream-lined style with exposed hammer knob for easy cocking. Sheridan also makes a good line of powerful and accurate pneumatic rifles priced at under \$25. and portable indoor bullet traps including one strong enough for .22 shooting, which holds standard 10-bull smallbore targets measuring 12" x 10½".



PANCAKE MIX by Aunt Jemima is cheered by outdoorsmen. Now available in individual packets, handy to pack and use. Each 2 oz. packet makes four golden-brown, light fluffy pancakes by just adding milk or water. Packets are water-proof and take up little space in knapsack. At present, sold only by mail. A 24-pak tray may be purchased by sending \$1.75 to Campers Pak, Box 6166, Dept. AJ-1, Chicago 77, Ill.

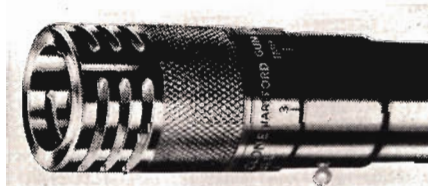


CLOSET CHEST. A delightful, new concept in clothes storage is this low (chest of drawer size) louvered closet. Holds up to 50 garments. Scaled low to match other household furniture. Attractive and prac-

tical. Bulky sports jackets and hunting clothes can fill regular closets, while short, lightweight clothing fits neatly into the closet chest. Aerated. Keeps clothes fresh, free from moths. 33" x 20" x 39" high. Constructed of finely crafted knotty pine. In satin-smooth honeytone or lovely maple finish. Priced at \$39.95. Available in complete kit for easy home assembly; precision cut, drilled, sanded, etc. Simple instructions. Doors all assembled. Kit priced at \$24.95. Shipping charges collect. From Yield House, North Conway, New Hampshire.

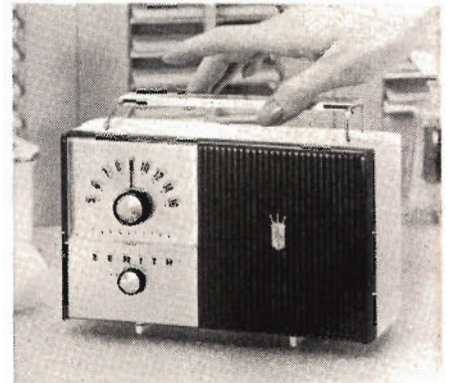


COFFEEQUICK brews taste-tempting, regular coffee anywhere to satisfy outdoorsmen. Makes three full cups of coffee — or hot water for tea and instant drinks. Warms soup and bottles. Operates on 12 volt DC from the generator with no load on battery. Adapter plugs into cigarette lighter on DC unit. Alternate cover and cord available for regular 110 AC operation. Coffeequick is 12" high overall, made of anodized aluminum with double walls to keep drink hot for about an hour. Cover is stainless steel. Complete, ready-to-use, the Coffeequick is priced at just \$14.95. retail, for either DC or AC use; \$4.00 more for both. Dashboard receptacle \$1.00. A product of Coffeequick, Dept. 218, Box 643, Ithaca, New York.

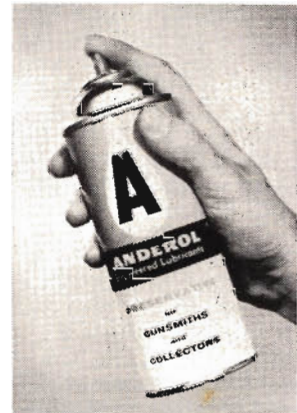


NEW CYCLONE is a light-weight, low-price, deluxe choke for single-barrel shotguns. The Cyclone is precision-built, using only the finest steel, and aluminum alloys. Just a few of its outstanding features are instantaneous selective adjustment, reduced recoil for shooting comfort, improved gun balance, steadier swing, and stream-lined design. A complete range of settings gives perfect adjustment for the proper killing pattern for any shotgun range, any load, or any kind of game. Only one model, incorporating a ventilated sleeve, is available in 12, 16 and 20 gauge sizes. The 12 gauge size weighs only 4½ ounces, and the 16 and 20 gauge proportionately less. All parts are interchangeable.

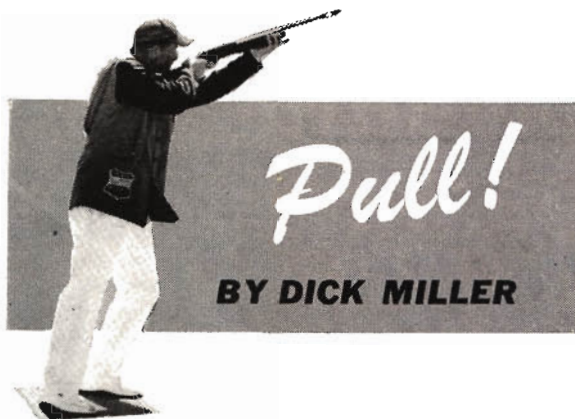
The Cyclone can be custom-fitted to any plain or ribbed-barrel pump or autoloading single barrel shotgun. It will sell for \$16.95 completely installed. A product of Hartford Gun Choke Co., Inc., Box 239, Hartford 1, Conn.



ROYAL 900 is the small, cordless all transistor portable radio model of Zenith Radio Corp. It operates economically and for long hours on self-contained flashlight batteries, is perfect for stationary use in cabins, and as a "move about" receiver for the active hunter and sportsman. A rich, full tone even at high volume levels, and outstanding power make this the sportsman's ideal traveling companion. The one-piece moulded cabinet is smartly styled with a finished back and ribbed grille. A pull-up carry handle adds convenience plus to a demand product. Suggested retail price of the Royal 900 is \$69.95 less batteries. The receiver weighs 3 pounds 3½ ounces, complete with batteries. It is little more than 4 inches high, 7 inches long and 3 inches deep. Manufactured by Zenith Radio Corporation, 6001 W. Dickens, Chicago 39, Ill.



ANDEROL LUBRI-KIT now makes available to sportsmen synthetic lubricants with special properties developed for jet-age military weapons systems. Lubri-Kit is a package containing two polyethylene tubes filled with oil and grease manufactured by the Lehigh Chemical Company of Chestertown, Maryland. The special properties built into these lubricants make them especially valuable to the sportsman who wants the finest protection for his sporting equipment. They will not evaporate or gum, operate successfully over a temperature range from 50° below freezing to 300° above. The synthetic lubricants in the Anderol Lubri-Kit prevent rust and corrosion, and loosen any rust that might already be formed on an exposed area. The Lubri-Kit features two tubes: one, a synthetic gun oil; the other a top quality gun grease.



GUN CLUB OWNERSHIP makes for strange bedfellows. A glance at *Trap & Field's* 1958 Gun Club Directory shows that clay-target clubs are operated by such diverse groups as individuals, sportsmen's associations, retail firms, service and veteran's organizations, municipalities, and airport authorities, to name a few.

Conservation clubs are prominent in the list of gun club operators. Both local conservation clubs and chapters of the national Izaak Walton League are listed as gun club operators. Marshall Field's Fieldale Gun is a prime example of ownership by a retail concern. Two national veteran's associations, the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars, provide recreation for their membership and other shooters with gun clubs. The Elks, Eagles, and Moose, of the fraternal clubs add to member recreation with gun clubs. Local Lions clubs, of the service clubs, render community service by operation of shooting facilities.

Municipalities give community recreation a welcome boost when they provide gun clubs with taxpaying shooter's monies. Airport authorities put flying targets in the air along with flying aircraft. Airports are naturals for gun clubs in many localities. Land required for an airport is often ideal for gun club operations.

It's to the credit of the clay target sports that shooting facilities are provided by such a wide area of interests.

GUNS readers may belong to one or more of the organizations named, who do *not* operate gun clubs in their own cities. As club members, you may point out to your officers or your fellow officers that your club has an opportunity to join with its sister clubs in offering the gun club form of interest and recreation to members.

If more clubs are formed, it will be possible to conduct national championship events. A Lions, Elks, Eagles, Moose, Legion, VFW, or Izaak Walton League national

tournament should attract considerable interest, and strengthen the participating clubs. "Pull" will be pleased to report any such national tournament.

Random Shots

It has been announced that International Trapshooting will be included in the 1959 Pan-American Games, to be held in Chicago August 27 to September 7. International Skeet had been previously scheduled for the Pan-Am Games. Yank scattergunners welcome the inclusion of the clay target games in International sports events such as the Pan-Am Games and parent Olympic Games.

A few more points in the clay target shooting games of the last Olympics would have tipped the scales in favor of the United States for an unofficial victory. Chief handicap to better performance by clay target teams representing the United States has been the lack of practice facilities, especially in trap events.

International trap requires a lay-out with fifteen traps to each field. Targets emerge from pits flush with ground level, rather than from houses above the ground. Regulation international trap targets fly from eighty to ninety yards. A shooter is allowed two shots at the target. (This rule would appeal to a lot of shooters competing under ATA rules. How many of you would like a second shot at those missed targets?)

It is expected that practice facilities will be available well in advance of the Pan-Am Games, at Chicago's Lincoln Park Gun Club, on the Outer Drive along Lake Michigan.

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In Whiting, Indiana, the Whiting Gun Club's annual meeting was held in November at Tiebel's Restaurant, US 41 and US 30. The oil city club threw 135,000 targets in 1958, for a successful shooting season. An addition to clubhouse facilities was authorized at the annual meeting. Club officials are

planning a Calumet area invitational trapshoot for Sunday before Labor Day, along the lines of the Armcov Invitational Industrial shoot held annually at Middletown, Ohio.

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Trap and skeet received a boost on NBC's Monitor Radio coast-to-coast week-end radio feature. John Amber, editor of *The Gun Digest*, described trap and skeet shooting when interviewed by Johnny Erp of NBC's sports staff. Scene of the interview was Fieldale Gun Club, Marshall Field's shotgun extravaganza Northwest of Chicago. Your "Pull" columnist got in on the act with comments regarding junior shooting. Mrs. Bill Johnson, of Waukesha, Wisconsin, represented the ladies in an interview with Erp and Amber.

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Illinois trapshooters mourn the death of Jules Greiner, popular president of the Illinois State Trapshooting Association, and prime mover in the Northbrook Gun Club. Jules was a true friend of the shooting sports. His loss will be felt to the shooting game everywhere. Our sympathy goes to the family.

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Turkey shoots are big business, financially as well as for the promotion of community interest in shooting. The recent annual turkey shoot staged by the Munster, Indiana, Lions Club drew 3,000 shooters, who fired 10,624 shots for 567 turkeys. The Club realized a profit of \$4,100.00—used the money for their Little League, Cancer Research, and Needy Families charities.

Turkey shoots with rifles or pistols are familiar enough, and many types of matches can be set up. But one of the most popular of turkey shoot events is the shotgun match. From a distance of about 30 to 40 yards, each shooter fires one shot at his target. The target is simply a piece of target paper with a cross drawn or stamped in the center. Overall size doesn't matter, since the winning score is the pellet nearest the junction of the cross. The other pellets just go along for the ride. In this event everyone should shoot the same shell load and use shotguns with the same choke. Some sponsors furnish a single gun for everyone on the squad to use.

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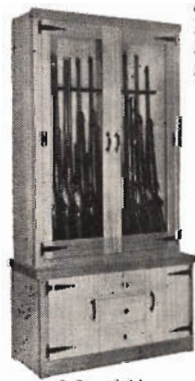
High Overall title at the National Skeet Shoot held at Waterford, Michigan, was won by Ken Sedlecky of Baldwin, Michigan. Score: 540x550.

National all-gauge champion is Air Force M/Sgt. Harold Myers of Westover AFB, Massachusetts. Myers broke a perfect 250x250 to tie John Dalton of Chevy Chase, Maryland; then scored a clean 75x75 to beat Dalton by one bird in the shoot-off.

Top lady is Judy Allen of Oakland, California, scoring 247x250.

And Ed Brown of Birmingham, Alabama, took the Junior crown with 249x250.

◆ Chicago. Six times in two years robbers looted the liquor store owned and operated by Mrs. Gladys Yesh. Mrs. Yesh obtained a gun permit, purchased a .32 revolver, got the police to teach her to shoot it. Late last June, a man entered Mrs. Yesh's store, asked for a bottle of whiskey, then drew a gun. Mrs. Yesh protested and he knocked her down. She drew her revolver from under her working smock, fired six shots, four of which hit. Police report on the hold-up man: "Dead On Arrival."



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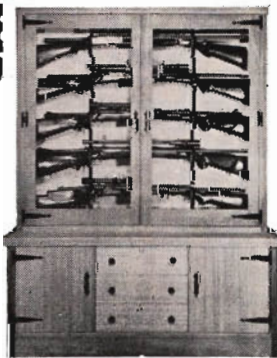
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WORLD'S BIGGEST SHOOTING MATCH

(Continued from page 27)

sized price of 15 "Rappen" per round. An average workshop mechanic will earn 380 to 400 Rappen per hour, so he will be able to buy about 25 rounds of ammunition for one hour's wage. The ordinary price for ammunition, not subsidized, will be about 23 Rappen per round, which still is not expensive.

The cartridge cases are intended for one shot, and are always scrapped after being fired. Reloading is not forbidden, but is very little done. The government factories also turn out the same cartridge with soft-pointed bullets for hunting, and only few rifles in other calibers are used by Swiss hunters. Technically, there is no doubt that this excellent cartridge, made and distributed as the standard of the country both for military, target, and hunting purposes, is an excellent solution to the ammo problem. The cartridge case is 2.18" long, slightly larger in diameter than the .30-06, necked to 7.5 mm caliber. It is loaded with a pointed full-jacketed boattail bullet weighing 174.4 grains, 1.37" in length, miking .302" in diameter, cannellured and seated with a firm crimp. The load is 47.1 grains of a tubular powder which looks like 4320. It has a muzzle velocity of about 2590 feet per second. The primer non-mercuric, non-corrosive. In other words, it is quite a cartridge, up to modern US standards for quality, maybe better.

The Swiss shooter, however, doesn't have to worry about this data: he worries about his performance. As he lies down for the prone shots, the cars on the road disappear behind a low concrete wall, painted in a pleasant dull green, along the top of which the targets are barely visible. The targets are divided in groups, marked off with colored shields at the end of each group, and individually numbered. It's easy to find one's own and to keep the eye on it. Behind him sits one of the hundreds of teenage girls who do the office work on the range. She wears big, artillery type ear protectors, and marks the shooter's score on a card as his shots are marked. The target is the international 300-meter free rifle target, with a four inch 10, and 2-inch ring separation. Not an easy target, but a rifle in standard condition is expected to keep 10 shots within the four inch circle. Barrel life is about 15,000 rounds, due to a special barrel steel. These boys shoot so much that frequent barrel changes by government arsenals would eat up more than the extra costs in making barrels from expensive steels. Besides, the bullets used—soft steel jackets with rolled-on coating, the "trio-metal" jackets frequently used by European factories—are not hard on barrels.

Our shooter takes a rest, a beer, maybe a meal, before it is time for his next string. This is on a different range, a little further down the 500 yard line of targets. Here the concrete wall permits kneeling and standing positions without seeing the cars on the road. The shooting program is enormous. There are strings of two shots, of three of five, of 30. One shooter showed me 460 recorded shots on the slips of his score book, —and he still had not finished. Not all of them shoot that much, of course. It takes money, and time. But, if you have a keen eye and a steady hold, the prizes will more than tip the scale.

Through a tunnel under the road you can reach the 100-meter range. Here the military shoot takes place; rapid fire strings against man targets with the military rifle. Big clouds of dust drift along the back stop, and the noise under the covered firing points is terrific. A push on a button, and the targets tip backwards and come flying in on wires for scoring. As they halt at the firing point, they tip to upright position, all automatic. Another score card goes into the sealed box, and the shooter walks back to the main range. Here is the free rifle shoot. And the free pistol, at fifty meters. There is a peculiar silence at these firing points. Signs tell spectators not to talk or otherwise disturb the shooters. The free pistol cartridge, the .22 long rifle, cannot make its voice heard among the big bores.

There are Lugers at work here too—as ordnance weapons, or in the big bore free pistol match. The modern and excellent Neuhausen pistol is common too, in both 9 mm and .30 Luger caliber. Some of the older shooters shoot the Ordnance revolver, model of 1882, with the characteristic "paff!" and the smoke of the black-powder cartridge. They get a few additional points on their score to offset the bigger groups of the ancient gun.


Shooters of all ages compete. Veterans are those born in 1898 and earlier; Juniors are those born in 1938 or later. They, too, get a few points added to their scores. The interest in shooting is enormous among the youngsters. They work on the range, sell ammunition, help wherever they are needed. They start shooting early on the home ranges, and compete as "Jungschützen" (Youngshooters) 17-18-19 years old, before they are drafted into the military forces for from 11 to 17 weeks of training. Then they return with their own rifle.

The shooting clubs of Switzerland have about 450,000 members, and 360,000 are required to shoot the qualifying score each year. The country has about 3,400 rifle ranges. The ranges themselves are built by the towns or country communities to which they belong, according to military specifications. The *Schweizerischer Schützenverein*, the NRA of Switzerland, dates back to 1905, and enjoys yearly government grants to keep up its activities. This, and the *Schiesspflicht*, the duty to shoot, keeps the giant organization very much alive, and makes the Schützenfest the incredible event it is.

By the time of the next Schützenfest, new guns will have entered the picture: the Sturmgewehr, or storm trooper's rifle. De-

signed by Direktor Amsler of the Government rifle factory and his assistants, this remarkable weapon is now in mass production, and will be given to recruits. By 1962, 200,000 of the new rifles will be in service. The Schmidt-Rubin rifle and carbine is no longer made. Most interesting is the fact that the new gun will shoot the same 7.5 mm cartridge as the present army rifle. The targets will remain the same, and the civilian shooting will continue at 300 meters. In other words, the Sturmgewehr has to be a precision rifle. Having all the advantages of a modern military design, the new rifle will remain unchanged in the hands of the civilian shooters, except for the 20-shot magazine which will be replaced by a short type for six rounds. The barrel is shorter than that of the Schmidt-Rubin carbine, and so is the sight radius; but the Sturmgewehr has a very well-designed, precision-made locking system with steel rollers, somewhat resembling the German MG-42, which will aid in sending the bullets where they are aimed. The Sturmgewehr has made its appearance on the civilian ranges, and is received with keen interest.

At seven in the evening, the shooting ceases and a strange silence descends on the valley, broken only by the humming of a light plane engine, and music from a band inside the festival hall. It's time now for one of the king-size hot dogs, or maybe another beer, before the big show starts at eight o'clock. There will be dancers, artists, singers, and jugglers of international class, lasting till midnight. Outside, flowers and flags will shine in floodlights, and long strings of colored light bulbs, stretching along the roads and ranges, will light trees which have seen this landscape for hundreds of years.

When I had to leave, on the third day, the shooting was still going on. It was not yet decided who would be nominated *Schützenkönige*, King of Shooters; but that, I almost would say, did not matter. Of course, it is the highest honour a shooter can live to see, and a great honour to his home town or community too; but the main thing to everybody seemed to be the Schützenfest itself: to have been there, to have seen it, to have met friends and fired in the competition, and to have done one's own share to make it the biggest shoot of them all, worthy of a country which is not just a nation of riflemen, but THE nation of riflemen. 

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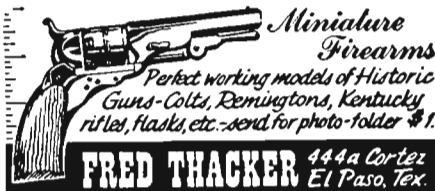
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SWEDEN'S ROYAL RIFLE

(Continued from page 41)

magazine sporter became more and more apparent, and in 1927 the production of high-power hunting rifles on the Swedish army Mauser action of 1896 was started. The classic cartridge both in Sweden and Norway was the 6.5 x 55, used in both countries for military purposes; but, for political reasons, the authorities were not overly enthusiastic about letting every Tom, Dick and Harry own a firearm shooting the official army cartridge. Gunbugs, however, have always been inventive. This time, they took the army cartridge, cut off one millimeter of the neck, and chambered the hunting rifle correspondingly. The army cartridge wouldn't go in, and the authorities were happy. In the 6.5 x 54, as the new cartridge was named, the hunter had the same ballistics, so he was happy, too. The desire for a larger caliber was simply taken care of by necking up the 6.5 to the type known as 8 mm re-bored Mauser. Still alive, this old relic isn't too far from the 7.62 NATO round for looks.

During the thirties, Husqvarna continued making single-shot, bolt action rifles, and a fact known by only very few hunters and collectors outside of Sweden today, some of them were turned out in the American calibers .30-30, .45-70, and even .45-90. There are still some of these old .30-30s in use, although they are now being replaced by more modern repeater types in .30-06 and similar calibers.

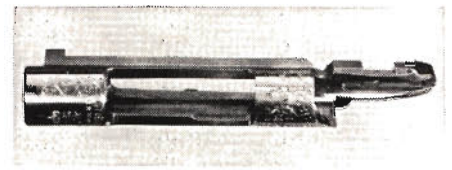
Up to 1936, the Swedish army Mauser action had been used for Husqvarna hunting rifles. In 1937, the well-known FN Mauser action came into use, and Husqvarna rifles were built on this action up to 1941, at which time the pre-war stock of these actions was used up. Belgium, the home country of the FN action, was occupied by the Germans, and the FN plant was no longer available for civilian purchases. Husqvarna, however, had no intention of stopping deliveries to their hunting customers. Food was scarce during the war, even though Sweden remained neutral, and hunting was more important than ever. So they turned out an improved version of the military action, known as the "reinforced army type," and continued production with this up to 1946.

Like so many other large armasmakers, Husqvarna has been called upon every time war clouds gathered over Europe, and it is very likely that their work, in addition to that of Swedish military arsenals, has been of the greatest importance in keeping the country outside the two great wars, especially the last one, when Sweden remained a neutral island amidst occupied countries, and thousands of refugees saved their lives by crossing Sweden's borders.

Between the wars, it had become more and more apparent that the submachine-gun

was a coming weapon in European armies, and the Swedes, not wanting to lag behind in the development, procured a number of Finnish Suomi SMC's and named them Model 37, for the year of adoption. This gun fired the 9 mm Long Browning cartridge, the same as the Swedish army pistol, the Browning Model 03 (in the Swedish army designated 07). Unlike the Finnish drum magazine, the Swedish gun had a unique double-row staggered magazine with a capacity of 50 rounds. With the war already begun, no submachine gun was available in the open market, and Sweden bought what they could get in semi-finished parts and drawings from Finland, intending to start a production of their own. A small shipment of Tommy-Guns barely made a Swedish harbour before the blizzard of war cut the overseas supply lines.

It was soon clear to the Swedish military experts that the 9 mm Long Browning cartridge was too much of a softy for the comparatively heavy and well-shooting SMG, and



Picture above and on facing page show engraving on deluxe Presentation guns.

work was started to convert the existing guns into 9 mm Luger caliber. This model was called the 37/39, and Husqvarna turned out large numbers of this type during the war. In addition, they took over the entire production of the pistol Model 07, and the Model 40, the Finnish Lahti, in 9 mm Luger caliber. These arms can be recognized by the well known crowned H moulded into their hard-rubber grips. In addition, they were cranking out Mauser service rifles Model 96 and the new improved M38 with shortened barrel and bent-down bolt handle.

Even though this important production stretched the factory's capacity to the limit, they managed to keep the making of civilian arms going. The calibers were the European 6.5 x 55, 9.3 x 57, and 9.3 x 62 mm.

In 1947, FN had again been able to take up their civilian production, and Husqvarna again turned to using the FN action to satisfy the great demand for hunting rifles after the scarcity that had been unavoidable in war years. FN actions were bought in the white, then finished up and blued at Husqvarna. This action was in use up to 1953.

For obvious reasons, a big arms factory like Husqvarna is keenly interested in building their guns on actions of their own design and manufacture. No matter how well-designed and reliable the FN action was, customers are always interested in something new, and any manufacturer likes to be able to rely on himself, whatever might happen to import from foreign countries. So, in the early fifties, Husqvarna earnestly began thinking of building something really new in the way of a bolt action, and started out to find the man for the job. They had luck, and within a short while the chief designer of arms was at work. They gave him a staff of the best and most experienced people

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from the old armasmaking division, and together they began lining up what the new design should be like, working from the customer inwards, and from their drawing boards and armasmaking experience outwards.

The chief designer of arms was Mr. Eric Claesson, who was born in Bofors and grew up in this home town of the world famous anti-aircraft cannon. Claesson came to work in the Bofors drawing office and later on the test-firing ranges, which stretch for miles and miles outside the town. With the beginning of the war, he turned into active duty as an ordnance officer, graduating from the military Engineer High School and the High School of the Artillery, and serving as an ordnance teacher at the War Academy. In addition, he spent three years as a Government Inspector at the main army arsenal. With the Bofors background and ten years of active service as an ordnance officer on top of his civilian education, Claesson was still a young fellow when he and his team started the design work on the new action back in 1950. All of them were full of enthusiasm.

"We had long known," Claesson says, "that the different military actions were strong, reliable, made from good materials; but they



were made for the military purpose, and did in several points not correspond to what we considered the ideal action for hunting rifles. One thing was the military type safety, which is too high for a modern low scope mount. And it does some nasty clicking when released. The long firing pin fall was another detail which we wanted to change. The same goes for the magazine bottom, where we wanted a hinge to prevent its being lost in the woods and to ease emptying the magazine without having to chamber every round. The Swedish military action was definitely too old in its design. It does not cock on the opening of the bolt, and the bolt had only two locking lugs, while we wanted a third at the rear for safety reasons. We also thought that the modern craze of streamlining should be made more suitable for hunting purposes. That's why we moved the bolt stop to the inside of the receiver. We streamlined the whole outside of the action as far as was possible, including the bolt sleeve and the bent-down bolt handle. Last but not least, we had a good reason for making a new action in that new materials, and above all, new heat treating methods have been taken into use since we made the military actions, making it possible to vastly increase the strength of the action."

Modestly enough, the chief designer did not mention how strong that action actually is. Not only were the Norma blue pill loads used for testing of the actions (40 per cent pressure over the normal load) serious efforts were made to see just what it would take to blow one of the actions apart. Two bullets lodged in the bore ahead of the cartridge did not do it. Firing into a bore filled with No. 7 shot turned the gun into a combination of rifle and shotgun, but did no other damage. Then a plug of cotton waste was placed

immediately ahead of the cartridge, and the barrel was poured half full of molten lead from the muzzle. Nothing broke.

There was only one more thing to do: pour the barrel full of molten lead clear to the muzzle, then clamp the gun in the machine rest, and pull the remote firing mechanism. We did it. Sure, the lead rod came some 8 inches out of the bore, and the umpteen thousands of psi's leaked out like steam from a locomotive, but—those locking lugs held!

Of course, the good old Swedish steel-makers at Fagersta did their part of the job, and so did modern heat-treating methods. But, in this author's opinion, there is one design feature of the Husqvarna bolt which is hard to beat when it comes to built-in strength. They moved the bolt stop inside the receiver, and at the same time they moved the ejector down to 7 o'clock so that the ejector slot (which, in the military action, runs clear through the left locking lug, the upper one when the bolt is closed) is no longer in the lug, but beneath it. The solid locking lug of the Husqvarna action does away with the crack which runs from the ejector slot into the firing pin hole of the military Mauser action when it is severely enough overloaded.

And so the work goes on at the 269-year-old plant at the Husqvarna falls. Sure, they're cursing about the high prices of the selected French walnut they import for their stocks; but, on the other side, they are lucky in being situated in one of the world's foremost countries for the making of high-grade steels. Tooling up for the new action took three quarters of a million good Swedish bucks in fixtures, jigs, dies, and drawings, and the super-duper barrel-hammering machine wasn't built for nothing either; but, in return, it cranks out barrels at an incredible speed; and the grooves are perfectly cut and polished.

And development never ends. The drawing board team is constantly working on improvements in design and manufacture, news of which will come out when they are proved and ready. What will come next, and when, is hard to say. But the Husqvarna action was made the hard way, with 150 intricate milling operations on the receiver alone, with machined forgings instead of stampings.

There are 7,000 men on the Husqvarna payrolls today—but that includes the guys who turn out one of the world's finest sewing machines, the motorcycles that win on European racing tracks year after year, and hundreds of other products. But it all started with gunmaking, and the gunmaking division, no matter how many trainloads of other products may leave the huge plant each day, is always mentioned with a special pride. If you should ever get yourself a job at Husqvarna, don't forget to hold open the door for the old master gunsmiths; they're worth their weight in gold!

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(Continued from page 13)

170 gr. factory.....	5"
150 gr. handload.....	3"
170 gr. handload.....	4"
150 gr. Express.....	1 3/4"
170 gr. Express.....	2 1/4"
Trajectory Rise at 200 Yd.:	
150 gr. factory.....	11"
170 gr. factory.....	14"
150 gr. handload.....	9"
170 gr. handload.....	11"
150 gr. Express.....	4"
170 gr. Express.....	6"
Penetration Rise: (at 20 ft.) 7/8" Spruce	
150 gr. factory.....	5"
170 gr. factory.....	6 1/2"
150 gr. handload.....	6"
170 gr. handload.....	7"
150 gr. Express.....	9"
170 gr. Express.....	11"

(*Factory bullets pulled and Hornady bullets of comparable weight substituted to give uniformity and a true comparison.)


Other pertinent facts and figures are these: Pressure signs with Express loads were less than with one grain less than the maximum loads in the standard .30-30 as listed in the Speer Handbook. Extraction was easier than with two grains less than maximum load, as is usually the case with the improved type cartridges. Nos. 4320, 4895, 3031, and Hi-Vel powders were used in the tests; Hi-Vel proving to give the highest velocity with less pressure than the other three. Express loads used are as follows, all being maximum loads, five shot groups, fired at 100 yards:

36 gr. 3031, 150 gr. bullet....	3 1/2"
34.5 gr. 3031, 170 gr. bullet....	3 1/2"
39 gr. 4320, 150 gr. bullet....	2"
38 gr. 4320, 170 gr. bullet....	2 1/4"
37 gr. 4895, 150 gr. bullet....	3"
34.5 gr. 4895, 170 gr. bullet....	2 1/2"
38 gr. Hi-Vel, 150 gr. bullet....	2 1/4"
36 gr. Hi-Vel, 170 gr. bullet....	1 3/4"

Best groups above were obtained with the new '94, as the old saddle carbine had a slightly peppery bore which became fouled after a few rounds, spreading the group out.

It should be noted that the above "maximum" loads indicates a load that still extracts easily. Actually, loads tested for maximum pressures ran 1 1/2 to two grains above these, with difficult extraction and primers flattened noticeably. It was also noted that accuracy was somewhat better after re-chambering, due to increased velocity, and less tendency of over-stabilization in one—12" twist barrels. Case capacity by volume is increased by four grains (of 4895). Pressures ran below the maximum limit, Hi-Vel developing around 37,000 pounds per square inch, and it is common knowledge that a straighter case tends to reduce bolt thrust. With loads two grains above those listed, many were loaded two and three times, and still going strong. With loads listed, I have loaded many as much as eight times. I find that about every third firing, the case requires full-length sizing in a full-length die I made up. Otherwise, neck sizing and crimping, with the Herter's Universal die, proved to be sufficient.

To sum up, ballistics are similar to those of the .300 Savage, averaging 2505 fps with 170 gr. bullet, 2580 with 150 gr. bullet, using Hi-Vel loads listed. As will be noted by the above figures, the 170 gr. bullet is the most efficient of the two bullet weights. As there were still some unburned powder grains hitting the first chronograph tape, we may conclude that the rifle-length .30-30s would give some gain in velocities, over the carbine type. Velocities obtained using powders mentioned other than Hi-Vel, ran 100-190 fps slower, and are therefore not as worthy of consideration.

Factory loads may still be fired in the reamed out chamber, in place of the Express loads, if you're out in the brush and lose your ammo. In fact, that is all that is necessary to fire-form, unless you prefer to obtain empty cases to handload first. No special corn meal filler, or hydraulic blowing-out is necessary, as with some wildcats. Of the nearly 200 cases fire-formed, only two were lost in the process.—Dave Stout. 

ELMER KEITH SAYS

(Continued from page 9)

never can be on account of its load. It is also an excellent peace officers gun for carrying in the police car; and when loaded with the regular military 174 grain Spitzer, it is an excellent short rifle for the peace officer.

The old Lee Enfield has long been known as one of the best rapid fire rifles ever made for fighting troops and, with its ten shot magazine capacity, you can load it once and hunt all week. No thing of beauty in any sense of the word, this Jungle Carbine is nevertheless a very reliable sturdy, and accurate weapon, excellent for deer, black bear, and similar sized game.

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For a couple years now, I have recommended 22 grains Hercules 2400 behind the Keith 250 grain Ideal bullet, cast one to 16 tin and lead, and sized .429, as a safe and very accurate reload for the 44 Magnum. Dr. Leonard Nippe of Toledo, Ohio, carefully assembled my recommended load but with bullets cast one to 10 tin and lead and weighing only 241 grains from Lyman Ideal 429421 mould. These, he shipped to the H. P. White Laboratory at Bel Air, Md., together with another batch of loads, with his own version of my bullet design weighing a full 250.4 grains and incorporating a gas check. These were also loaded with 22 grains 2400. Remington cases were used and Remington 2 1/2 primers.

Here are the results as reported by my old friend Burt Munhall to Dr. Nippe: Keith 241 grain bullet sized .429 one to ten tin and lead, loaded with 22 grains 2400, average velocity, 1385 feet; average pressure, 33910 P.S.I. With the Nippe variation of the Keith bullet weighing, with gas check, 250.4 grains

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and loaded with 22 grains 2400 in same Remington cases, bullets cast one to ten tin and lead, average of ten shots with each load, velocity 1410 feet; average pressure 37,220 P.S.I. Bullets also sized .429" and groove diameter of barrel .429 for both loads.

These meticulous laboratory chronograph tests prove conclusively that my load of 22 grains 2400 may be safely increased to 23 grains with hard one-to-ten bullets of my design sized .429". The tests also show that the greater pressure of Dr. Nippe's variation of my bullet weighing 250.4 grains boosted velocities from an average of 1385 feet to 1410 feet. A softer bullet would also increase pressures even further, I believe, with either load. My bullet, cast one to 16 tin and lead, usually weighs 250 grains from most moulds, and bullets from Wisler Western Arms Co. as cast by G. E. Murphy usually run right on the nose at 250 grains weight. As the factories like to hold pressures down to 40,000 pounds for the 44 Magnum, I feel these loads of mine with 22 grains 2400 are



a safe standard for the hand loader and are definitely more accurate than the factory load with a soft 240 grain bullet.

An interesting experiment I carried out was to pull ten Remington loads and resize the cases, then replace the original factory powder charge and seat and crimp my 250 grains Keith bullet on the original Remington factory load. The one to 16 or harder Keith bullets that weighed ten grains more than the factory part-jacket slug actually developed much less pressure. I would estimate pressures at 5,000 pounds less than factory, clearly indicating the effect of soft bullets on pressures. The Remington bullets are soft and would not hold the rifling were it not for their part jacket which covers not only the complete base band but also the lower lubricating groove. This jacket is very thin (as it should be), upsets to fill the chamber mouth nicely, and is quite accurate to extreme ranges; but the fact remains that it develops higher pressures with its soft bullet content and .431" diameter.

I now have many reports of big game killing with the 44 Magnum, both Remington loads and hand loads with my bullet and 22 grains 2400. One bear at 50 yards, both shoulders broken and died instantly. One bear at 123 yards, one shoulder broken and out through lungs on off side. (Bear rolled down the mountain and was dead when

approached.) One moose, a big bull in Alaska, hit behind left shoulder with Keith hand load, through heart and out through flesh of right shoulder. Bull humped up and ran 50 yards, then stood a few seconds before going down to stay.

I have killed three deer with the 44 Magnum cartridge, one at 20 yards head shot through brain from 6 1/2" S & W, one at 25 yards (another brain shot), and one at over 600 yards, hit once in right jaw, then hit again broadside through both lungs and out as the deer turned broadside up the mountain. This deer was hit first by a rifleman using a 300 Magnum, I shot at such crazy long range only to help stop a wounded animal. My first shot was low, my second shot also low at the bucks heels, but the next two shots, fired with a higher hold, stopped him. Even at such extreme range, the big sixgun slug, Remington factory load, cut a 60 caliber hole through the deer.

Bob Moody of Moody's Reloading Service, Helena, Mont., has been killing his buck for several years with a .44 Special Smith & Wesson and my heavy 235 grain hollow point backed by 18.5 grains 2400. The .44 Magnum loads, both factory and hand loads, are far superior in killing power. I believe it best for all hand loaders to stick to my recommended loads for the .44 Magnum and let the factories produce the full maximum power loads, as they have the proper equipment to test for both pressure and velocity and it is best for all hand loaders to stay on the safe side. Incidentally, my 250 grain bullets cast hard (one to 16 to one to ten tin and lead) penetrate deeper than do the factory bullets of much softer metal which upset and expand more than my hard bullets.

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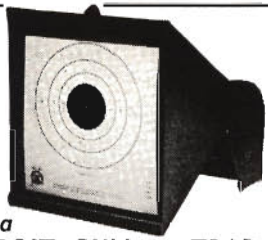
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GUNS OF THE WILD WEST SHOW

(Continued from page 20)

& Detmold, and remain our general representatives in the States. The gun No. 27,184 was an Anson of good quality 12 gauge, with ejector, our number 6, type B, which corresponds to the actual grade 25. At that time, the sale price as per Abercrombie & Fitch's catalog was \$225. The gun must be a 'lady gun' built for little or no recoil, very light but strong, an excellent shooter," concluded the Francotte letter, quoting from their records. VL & D would probably not have bothered to tell Francotte the names of their customers: the specifications were all they needed to pass on. The "lady gun" spec strongly backs this gun's claim to fame today with facts.

"BILLY" is engraved on several Winchester's at the Cody Museum. A little stronger verification of alleged Cody association might be wanted, but at least one gun does have a coincidence of serial numbering which makes it worthy of more than passing notice. A handsome plainly finished Model 1876 octagon rifle in .50-95 caliber, the name appears in slanted block letters on the bottom of the cartridge lifter. The gun, according to the tag, was "used by Buffalo Bill in late stagecoach and early Wild West Show days." Serial Number 16710 places this rifle in 1881. Suggesting one of Cody's earlier grand tours of the gun factories back east is this coincidence of number with the numbers and date of a pair of handsome Colt Frontier revolvers with buffalo bone grips and flashy nickel plating. Stamped 54057 and 54070, the two revolvers, made in 1881, and the Model 1876 rifle may have been obtained on one trip east by the budding showman. According to Wild West Show ringmaster Frank Richardson, in debunking critics' claims that Cody used short cartridges, the worthy Buffalo Bill was alleged to use "a .50-caliber Winchester rifle, shooting .50-caliber solid head cartridges, containing no shot, and furnished by the Union Metallic Cartridge Company." Richardson does not comment on the affect these alleged .50 caliber slugs must have had on overheat tent canvas, ceilings, and surrounding scenery. Nevertheless, the testimony is quoted, for the record.

The claim as to use may have referred to this particular rifle, but an examination of the gun shows it is in very fine condition, not having been used much. As shooters know who have handled case hardened guns, the receivers and levers wear to a silvery bright finish quickly, once the protective casehardening color lacquer is worn off. This big '76 does not have that silver look, has been used very little.

Bombastic though Cody was, he probably had not the courage to fire solid ball .50 caliber slugs around Madison Square Garden. The working guns of the Wild West Show seem pretty uniformly to have been plainer models of '73 in .44-40 caliber. One of these plain '73 carbines was presented to the Cody Museum several years ago by Colonel Walter F. Siegmund of the Winchester company. Currently engraved on the sideplate with the words "Winchester used by Col. W. F. Cody Buffalo Bill Property of Col. W. F. Siegmund." Serial number of 229894P places this carbine as having been manufactured about 1887.

Cody, according to much-told tales of the Wild West Show, was in the habit of send-


ing runners ahead to a town to buy up all the old rifles in the pawn shops so that when a dignitary called on him, he could present the Mayor, City Councilman, etc., with "his rifle." This carbine, presented sometime before World War I, appears to be of that category.

Other relics in a more or less good state of preservation are cherished in the log lodge at Cody. Not all are Buffalo Bill association items. One curious relic is a Hudson's Bay Fusil, or Indian trade gun. All that remains of the piece is a bit of weathered buttstock, rusty half-round barrel, and the characteristic large-bow trigger guard. Found along the Shoshone River between the town of Cody, and DeMaris Springs, it is thought to be a John Colter



This .54 caliber M1836 U.S. pistol bears monograms IH and WAT on side.

association gun. Colter, in 1807, explored the country around what is now Cody, Wyoming, and some people have expressed the view that the gun might "have been lost by Colter or by a member of a very early expedition prior to 1815." Since Colter's narrative of his travels in that section fail to mention loss of such guns, and since the Indian fusil or "fuke" was usually not the equipment of white men (they preferring Kentucky or American sporting rifles, or U.S. muskets if government subsidized), the greater probability is that the gun was dropped by some Indian anywhere in time between 1840 and 1880—possibly later. Distribution of the Indian trade fusils in that country was dependent on the fur trade or, later, possibly by inter-tribal barter between Indians. The gun may have come from farther north, via Canada, or been a relic of the Sioux and Crow flight across the border. Speculation is endless—but this is not history, only romance.

And so it goes at the Cody museum. Though this collection, speaking inanimately, has had the advantage of supervision by relatives of the late Col. Cody, the picture is not complete. Museum professionalism does not end with varnished floors, neatly chinked logs, and cleanly printed display cards. Tedious and often unrewarding research by scholars who combine a little of the "half hoss, half alligator" spirit with the intensity of the bookworm will ultimately reveal the secrets of the mute guns of Colonel Cody. Celebrations this February, 1959, commemorating the birthday of Buffalo Bill, may include dedication of a new Cody Museum. Since much of the display material relates to the area, rather than to Bill Cody and his friends specifically, a new museum building now preparing may be ready in time to house this important collection of frontier Americana. With the "face lifting" of the old relics may come a face lifting of the display cards. Brief research would reveal many interesting things about the guns "once property of Colonel Cody." 

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41 REMINGTON RIFLE SHORTS	\$550	Per Box, 50 Rds.
30-06 Military Cartridges late issue	\$7.50	Per 100
25-20 Repeating Rifle Cartridges	8.00	Per 100
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Ear Defenders MSA for the shooter. Brand New, Gov. Surplus Val. \$3.00 postpaid.	1.00	

RUBBER RECOIL BOOTS
for shotgun \$3 DOZEN
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Hi-Voltage Long Range HI-BRED GOLDEN ROCKET 1959 MODEL

NEW Long Life Sealed Beam BULB



80,000 CANDLEPOWER
Most unusual flashlight ever made! Has world Observatory type reflector 4 1/4" in size. 25 Mile signal range.

MOST POWERFUL IN WORLD
Idea born during war for extreme signal bull's-eye on water. Now adapted for night hunting, fishing, boating & burglar protection.

6 CELL CREATES 25 CELL POWER
More volts plus specially developed reflector with "Atom-Vapor" coating boosts light power over 5 times other big lights. Custom made; not like usual production job. Batteries last twice as long since hi-voltage, not amperes, used for extra power.

USES NEW LONG LIFE SPEC BULB
Sealed beam bull's-eye bulb developed special for this light now gives long service without abnormal wear. Widely used in police duty, on battle fronts, and 54 foreign countries.

Std. Model \$5.95 **Deluxe Model \$6.95**

plus 35c each postage and packing
Extension makes it 7 cells \$1 extra. Ex. Bulbs 5 for \$1. Batteries Super Premium type 6 for \$1.49. Shoulder Sling \$1.50. New Bracket to secure light to steering column or to gun \$1.19.

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Special Combination Offer
RUSSIAN REPEATING RIFLES
7.62 mm (.30) **\$19.95**
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Confiscated from Russian revolutionaries, these late Model 7.62 rim Moisin rifles are mechanically perfect. Makes a fine big game rifle or rare collector's find. Approx. 30" bbl. Outside good, bore fair. Ammo available anywhere in U. S. Russians won the meet in Venezuela ('54) with this model. Scope has lens hard coated to U. S. Army standards. **Mount free!** Indicate whether you want 2 1/2x, 4x or 6x scope. Russian Rifle (7.62 mm). Scope & Mount only \$19.95. Send cash, check or M. O. CODs require \$10 deposit. Calif. res. add 4% state tax. Shipped FOB Los Angeles, express collect. 10-day Money back guarantee.
SEAPORT TRADERS, Inc. Dept. G-2
409 E. 12th St. Los Angeles 57, Calif.

SHOULD YOU OWN A GUN?

(Continued from page 48)

What, then, of the question with which we began? Should you own a gun? At the very least there would seem to be no reason why you shouldn't. And, looked at seriously, there may be emphatic reasons why you *should*. The reasons may sound melodramatic in a land of virtual milk and honey and, more importantly, a land of laws such as ours. But, in a world balanced on an atomic razor's edge, nothing really is melodramatic.

Here are the reasons. First, there is the crime and safety angle. Crime rates do not go down when the citizenry is disarmed. They go up. Firearms safety, too, is not aided by a disarmed citizenry. If there are to be guns anywhere in the land there also is the responsibility of a general familiarity with them.

Next there is the angle of national defense. Nations such as Switzerland and Finland have relied for years on an armed and gun-wise citizenry as their first line of defense. Finnish marksmen, ordinary men trained as civilians to shoot straight, held off hordes of Russians for three months in 1939. (As a result of that resistance, as a matter of fact, the Soviet began training its civilians as marksmen—but not letting them keep their arms.) Swiss citizens traditionally keep rifles in their homes and always are prepared to mobilize into a defense corps. And Swiss citizens have remained free for many years.

Finally, there is the matter of the sort of freedom for which America stands. It is a

freedom of individual men. It is a freedom of individual responsibility and individual rights. It abhors the collective, effete "safeties" of older, tired nations in which the people must be "protected" from themselves. It is a freedom which, if it ever came to it, would be fought for on every single American doorstep. It is the sort of freedom of which Winston Churchill spoke when he referred to fighting on the beaches and by the hedgerows. It is precisely the sort of freedom which, having been abolished so far as guns go in Britain, made a sort of mockery, really, of what Churchill was saying to a disarmed nation.

It is the sort of freedom which, based upon an ideal and an urge, was born in gunfire, preserved in gunfire and which is, even today, maintained by a ready strength of arms. Upon those ready arms, too, rests the freedom of hundreds of millions elsewhere.

So, when the intellectuals speak glibly of the nature of American freedom—which they often transform into a docile, unprotected thing—it might be wise to recall what really happened when that freedom was born. It was not born amid dignified debates and ivory-towered ponderings. Dr. William Gordon has recorded how it began—at Bunker Hill. The colonists, he reported, were poorly armed, "but," he went on in explaining their victory, "they are almost all marksmen."

That's how it began. That's how it can continue—and prevail.

PARTING SHOTS



"Well, first you find an old forked stick . . ."

COLT SINGLE ACTION PARTS

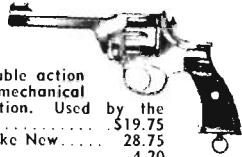
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- 38 special 33
- 5 1/2" 11.33
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U.S. Model Genuine Springfields. All have very H. Numbers, and all milled parts. Original as issued. With new sling and in excellent condition \$45.00. Ammo \$2.50 a box.

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Six shot 5" Bbl. Double action revolver. Excellent mechanical and shooting condition. Used by the British Commandos. \$19.75
Nickel Plated Gun Like New 28.75
Ammo Box 50 Rds. 4.20

Genuine Colt 45 automatics, original finish & grips



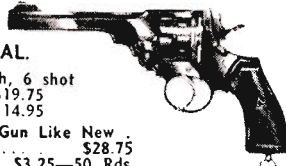
Grade I \$45.95
Grade II 39.95
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Ammo \$4.25—50 rounds
Army holster new \$5.95
Extra clips—\$3.50

MAUSER .32 CALIBER



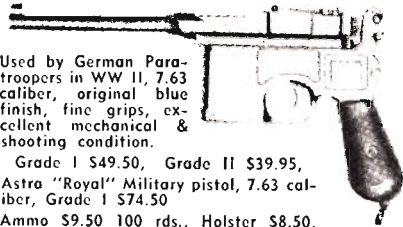
Genuine Hsc D.A. Autos. These Guns are in near mint condition. One of the finest German Autos Mfg. Commercial blue finish. Fine original grips. \$35.00
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Holster 4.50

WEBLEY .45 AUTO CAL.



Beautiful finish, 6 shot
Grade I \$19.75
Grade II 14.95
Nickel Plated Gun Like New \$28.75
Ammo \$3.25—50 Rds.

MAUSER MILITARY PISTOLS



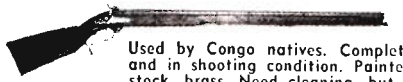
Used by German Paratroopers in WW II, 7.63 caliber, original blue finish, fine grips, excellent mechanical & shooting condition.
Grade I \$49.50, Grade II \$39.95,
Astra "Royal" Military pistol, 7.63 caliber, Grade I \$74.50
Ammo \$9.50 100 rds., Holster \$8.50, extra stripper clips \$1.25 each.

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Original as issued in excellent mechanical and shooting condition \$39.50. Ammo. \$2.50 a box.

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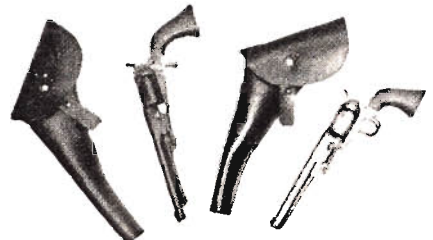
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- Holster \$ 5.00

Excellent authentic reproduction of the famous Remington over & under double barreled Derringer. Blue finish, black checkered grips.



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Genuine German Luger 9mm Autos. Blue finish checkered walnut grips in good mechanical shooting condition \$49.85
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Holster (European) 5.50
Erma .22 Cal. Conversion Unit. 39.95

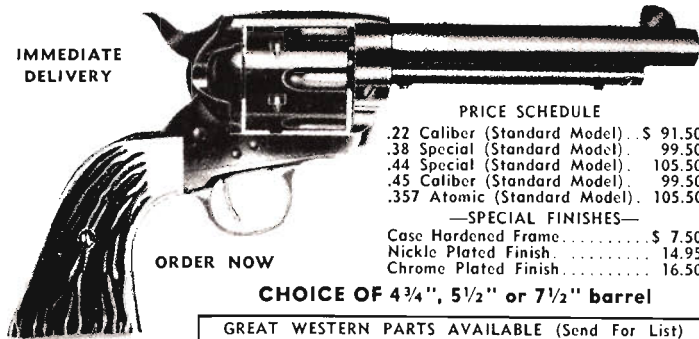
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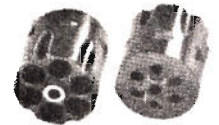


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Custom Blue Finish, Walnut Grips, Full-length Rib, Solid Front Sight, Rear Sight Adjustable for Wind and Elevation.
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A .45 cylinder designed to take .22 blanks. No modification necessary, slips easily into any Great Western .45. Gives lightness of .45 plus utility and money saving features of a .22. Will pay for itself in just 2 1/2 boxes of blanks. \$15.00 extra



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SAVE MONEY . . . All machine operations have been performed and only de-burring, fitting, polishing, and bluing remain to be done. Fit the action to suit your taste, and polish and blue it in the manner you consider most attractive. Choice of 4 3/4, 5 1/2 or 7 1/2-inch barrel at no extra charge.

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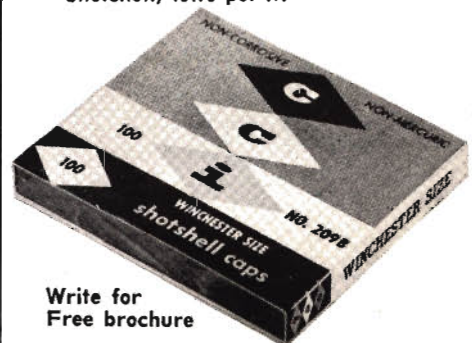
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