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Magnum and .308 Norma
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WASHINGTON 22, D. C.



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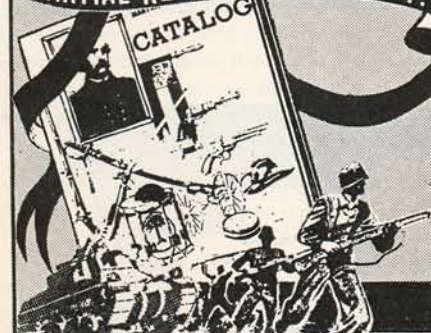
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689-G Bergen Blvd., Ridgefield, N. J.



Target Carrier

Here is a target carrier that you can take apart, carry in the trunk of your car, and set up within a minute or two if you have a place to shoot rifles or handguns. Called the T-100 Targetholder and made by Product Masters Manufacturing Co., Dept. G, 5013 Aldrich Ave. North, Minneapolis 30, Minn., the carrier retails for \$3.95 postpaid. It comes complete with 3 targets, and you can mount targets up to 24"x24" in it. Fully assembled, the carrier is 4' high and when taken down, it fits into a 2"x27" carrying tube that comes with the carrier. We have used the T-100 carrier for over a month and found it very satisfactory.

Navy Arms Derringer

This four-barrel copy of Sharp's derringer is imported by Navy Arms Co., Dept. G, 689 Bergen Blvd., Ridgefield, N.J. Made in Italy by the house of Gregorelli Uberti, the gun has an over-all length of 4 1¼" and a height of 2¾". The gun we tested was a presentation model and featured a neatly engraved brass frame and finely blued and lightly engraved barrel—or, rather, barrels. Unloaded, the gun weighs about 10 ounces, and using Eley CB caps and shooting from a rest at 15 feet, we managed to keep groups within a 5" circle. The plastic grips of the gun are apparently molded and the feel of the gun is, on the whole, very much akin to that of the original. Single guns retail for \$34.95; cased models for \$5 more.

Caliber .22 Tracers

Sometimes it is nice to know where your bullets hit even when conditions are such as to make this difficult. We have tested the imported Gevelot .22 Tracers and find that they do the job very well without danger of fire. Matter of fact, we used the test suggested by George 30-06 Derbes, Dept. G, Pottsville, Pa. George suggests that you fill a cardboard box with excelsior and fire a few rounds into it. Fire danger: Nil. If your local gunshop does not carry it, write to George and he will forward your order to the nearest dealer. Ammo, by the way, is standard .22 Long Rifle fodder and will chamber in all guns designed for .22LR.

Balscope Zoom 60

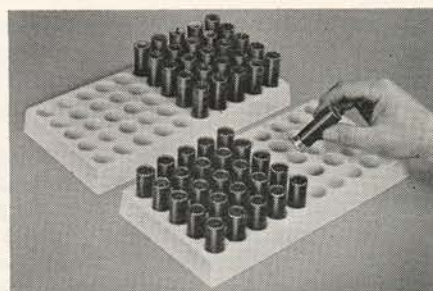
Looking for a high quality spotting scope? Well, here it is, the B&L Balscope Zoom 60. As soon as the test Balscope arrived, we took it out to the range to see if it stacked up with the promises made by B&L. It does that and then some! The scope is available with

a straight eye piece (\$149.50) and with an inclined eyepiece (\$159.50), and either model is well worth the money. Focusing is done by means of a top-mounted plastic ring and an identical ring gives you an instant choice of magnification. Especially noteworthy is the fact that the scope can be mounted on any camera tripod, thus saving the cost of a special scope stand or tripod.

Our test Balscope Zoom was our steady companion on the range for four weeks, and we also used it to watch wildlife, stars, and even attempted some telephotography (lack of experience with it made this a little difficult). It should be mentioned that the tripod used with the Balscope Zoom 60, should be very sturdy since the slightest movement will be transferred to the scope, thus making it difficult to spot shots. Magnification is from 15X to 60X, and the only complaint, if it can be called a complaint, is the lack of a sun shade. For full information, write Bausch & Lomb, Inc., Consumer Goods, Department G, Rochester 2, N.Y.

Shell Caddy

Load your own shotshells? Here is an item that will become one of the most indispensable pieces of equipment, on your bench. The Shell Caddy is a light-weight plastic shell holder that will keep all gauges in order, and will prevent accidental knocking



Jasco's very handy Shell Caddy.

over of the hulls. The loading block measures 1¼"x6⅞"x12⅜", and is made of a translucent plastic that allows visual inspection of flash holes. Retailing for \$1.98, it should be available from your gunshop. If you cannot get it there, write to J. A. Somers Co., Dept. G, 1771 Old Ranch Road, Los Angeles 49, Cal.

Fitz Grips

You can now get Fitz grips for your S&W Model 52, the .38 Master. Selling for \$9.95 in your favorite gunshop, these grips will do
(Continued on page 6)

Guns

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

JUNE, 1963

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THE COVER

How many know that Bob Stack, hero of TV's "Untouchables," was also one of the top competitive skeet gunners in the U.S.? With his imminent return to skeet fields, he coaches wife Rosemarie so that she too can join the shooting fun. Ron Vogel of Hollywood took the pictures for the Stack story at the Golden Valley Skeet Range, where Bob and Rosemarie practice as often as Bob's very busy schedule permits.

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(Continued from page 4)

wonders for you when the chips are down and every point counts heavily and when a point can make the difference between expert and master. Installation of the grips is very simple and takes but a minute or two. The adjustable Accu-Riser helps a great deal in fitting the gun to your hand, and we found a very definite improvement in our scores once we fitted our S&W with these grips.

Shotshell Loading Data

We have reported on the various products of the Sullivan Arms Corp., 5204 East 25th Street, Dept. G, Indianapolis 18, Indiana, a number of times. Since our last report, Charlie Sullivan and the Hercules Powder Co., have combined their shotshell loading know-how and a very useful little booklet is the upshot of this collaboration. A number of ballistics tests performed in our testing shop have confirmed the data in this booklet. Write for your copy to Sullivan Arms Corp.

Keep It Clean

Naturally, we refer to your gun muzzle. We recently got a dandy item, that, although by no means new on the market, has caused quite a stir among the local gun fraternity. "Muzzle-Caps" are short Latex caps that easily slip over the muzzle of your rifle or shotgun. Comes the moment when you have a shot, you just pull the trigger, the Muzzle-Cap goes blooey, and they are guaranteed not to raise pressures. Hunting in snow, rain, or through dense brush, these Muzzle-Caps are just what the doctor ordered to keep the

barrel free from obstructions. They are handy little items to have on your gun barrel when you have to shove your gun under a fence in deep snow. There is a whole handful of these handy caps in a polyethylene bag that sells for 98 cents in your gunshop. If they don't carry it, tell the man that he can order them from Al Siegel Assoc., Dept. G, 3603 Lindholm Road, Cleveland 20, Ohio.

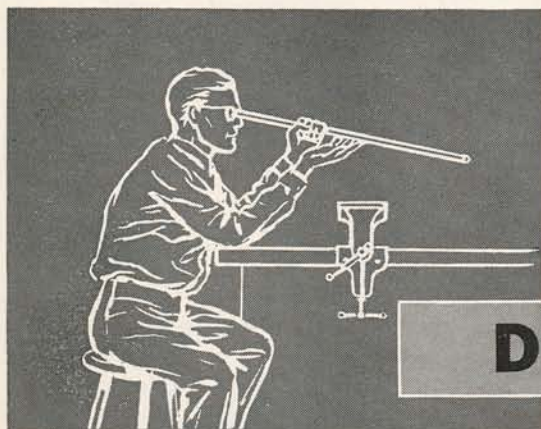
New MEC Shotshell Loader

Ted Bachhuber, genial boss of Mayville Engineering Co., recently gave us a rundown on his latest tool, the MEC 310. This tool, like all the others Ted has brought out, is a dandy, and we liked our test model very well indeed. We were most impressed with the automatic powder and shot programmer, and the fact that it is virtually impossible to louse up shells while loading, even if the operator does not have the slightest notion as to what he is doing.

After we gave our tool a good work-out, we drafted a non-shooter and put him to work loading shells for us. Perfect shells were turned out after he had only two minutes instructions. The MEC 310 has a fully visible wad pressure gauge, and the operation of the tool is simple, fast, smooth, and reloads function perfectly in doubles, autos, and pump guns. If you don't load your own shotshells, take a tip and get a demonstration of the MEC 310 in your gunshop. It's worth it.

A neat little item recently introduced by MEC is their E-Z Pak. Made of a medium gauge metal, the E-Z Pak stacks the shells as

(Continued on page 61)



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ARMS LIBRARY

THE ALASKAN CAMP COOK

Edited by Robert A. Henning
(Alaska Northwest Publishing Co.,
Box 1271, Juneau, Alaska. \$2.00)

This collection of recipes was originally published in the "Alaska Sportsman" magazine. If you hunt and bring home game, or if you enjoy preparing delicious meals over the campfire, do not miss this wonderful little book. The recipes are not fancy, but are the kind that have been used and are still used by the guides and their wives, in camp and at home. The book is spiced with a wonderfully practical sense of humor; more than one recipe says "add such-and-such, if you have it." This is one of the best game cook books I have seen.—R.A.S.

THE LEE-ENFIELD RIFLE

By Major E. G. B. Reynolds

(Arco Publishing Co., Inc., 1963. \$7.50)

Major Reynolds was closely allied with British armament for more than a decade and has an international reputation as marksman. He is a member of the hallowed "400" club in the United States. This is the most complete and up-to-date volume available on the British service rifle. The book is interesting from the historical point of view, especially when the author delves into the problems that arose during WWII. It will be prized also by the mechanically-inclined reader, of whom there are many, as is indicated by the increasing interest in these British guns and the various conversions that have been undertaken. Major Reynolds has done a most creditable job on a subject with which he is intimately familiar.—R.A.S.

RIFLEMAN AND PISTOLMAN

By L. B. Escritt

(Arco Publishing Co., Inc., 1963. \$3.50)

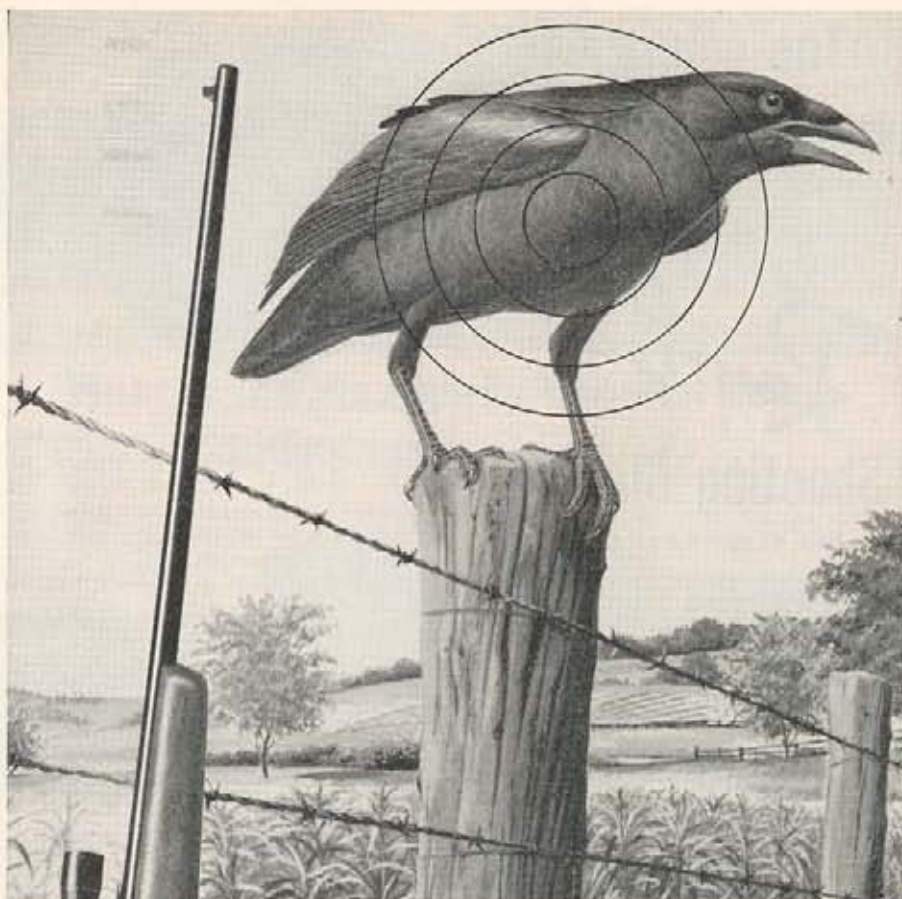
Although this book is a basic primer on shooting and rifled guns, it is also interesting reading for the experienced shooter, if only to note the differences between American and British ideas and the whole approach to the shooting sports. In 170 pages, author Escritt has crammed a great deal of information and shooting advice, along with a revealing glimpse at shooting as a sport in today's England.—R.A.S.

YOU AND YOUR RETRIEVER

By Ralf W. Coykendall, Jr.

(Doubleday & Co., Inc., 1963. \$4.50)

The sub-title of the book states that it is "A complete, illustrated guide to the choosing, care, training, and running of retrievers in the field and in field trial competition." This is a big promise, especially when you consider the 154 pages offered; but the book keeps its promise! There are some omissions, of course, but the book is not intended for the professional. It was written for those of us who enjoy having our own gun dogs and who get a large share of our hunt—
(Continued on page 65)



SOMETHING TO CROW ABOUT

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Want to pick off varmints or small game at long ranges? The Savage 4-M's your gun. This 22 Magnum rifle shoots flat, hits hard and accurately up to 125 paces or more. The 4-M's mighty good-looking too—with gold-plated trigger, Monte Carlo stock, white-line butt plate. Thumb safety's conveniently located at rear of receiver, grooved for scope mounting. 5-shot clip. The price, believe it or not, is only **\$41.50** (Savage 3X-6X zoom scope extra)—a small outlay for the performance, pride and pleasure the Savage 4-M offers you. See it today—at your sporting arms dealer!

FREE! Illustrated 32-page catalog of Savage, Stevens, Fox firearms. Write Savage Arms, Westfield 26, Mass. Prices subject to change. Slightly higher in Canada.

model 4-M



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ON THE RANGE OR IN THE FIELD



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stars as ABC-TV's Elliot Ness
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is also nationally recognized as
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CROSSFIRE

Quotable Quote

In a recent TV interview, when Secretary McNamara was asked if he believed the Cuban people would revolt against the Castro-Communist regime, he replied, "It is impossible for an *unarmed* people to revolt against Communism."

Don't you think this quote should be given wide publicity?

Paul F. Potter
Villas, New Jersey

We do, indeed. We have written to thank Secretary McNamara for his statement (see letter below), and we suggest that our readers quote him in Letters To Editors and others, as widely as possible.—Editor.

Thank You, Mr. Secretary

In a recent TV interview, when asked if you thought the Cuban people would revolt against the Castro-Communist regime, you replied that you considered it impossible, or at least most unlikely, that an *unarmed* people could successfully revolt against Communism.

Thank you, Mr. Secretary, for reminding Americans, high and low, that their Constitutional-right of civilian ownership of arms is important! We sincerely hope that your words will reach the ears of those others in high position in government who seem to think differently.

E. B. Mann, Editor
GUNS Magazine

More Heat . . . and More Light

After several years of avidly devouring GUNS Magazine, John Masters has finally moved me to "Crossfire" at an article: "Too Much Heat, Too Little Light."

First, let me cheer a darned good writer, and agree wholeheartedly with this barrel-wear hogwash. Too many novices fret needlessly on this point. But—

The definition of "erosion" (barrel-wear) is O.K.—*as far as it goes!* If steel "conversion-to-gas" were the *only* kind of erosion, few barrels would "wear out." But the greatest "erosion" is just that; a "washing away" of bore metal by hot, high-pressure gases torching past the bullet to "gas-cut" the steel, exactly like a welder.

As stated, it starts at the chamber. This is because it takes *time* for a bullet to conform to the rifling in the tube. It starts slowly, but is progressive. Here's why: Pressure must build up in a firing process. Comparatively *low* heat pressure in the chamber throat causes little erosion. But, once this area is expanded, so that the bullet "jumps," then higher heat/pressure does more damage, more quickly.

All this, of course, is academic. As Mr. Masters says, pitifully few *hunters* will "shoot-out" a rifle tube.

Another point of agreement: Shoot *three* shots from a cold rifle to sight in. Best novice advice in the world!!

But, alas, another misleading bit. He asks, "Will a 15 per cent increase in load cause a 60 per cent decrease in barrel life?" To this I will reply an explosive, thundering "YES!!!" Bear in mind, now, that the author is speaking of "*hot*" loads, near maximum. *Only* knowledgeable, experienced handloaders should trifle with hot loads to begin with. Secondly, *ANY* change, however, slight, can cause the pressure/heat twins to go into orbit. And right here (high heat/pressure) is where firestick pipes bite the dust.

Okay, I've had my say. So I said before, it's a whale of a good article, J.M. is a darned good writer, and I'm in full agreement that there's "too much heat, too little light" on the subject.

Now I'd like to take up another article. (Once I get started, I go all the way.)

In the "Hideous God," Howard Sarvis says the mobile target can "crouch, dodge, crawl, run, etc.," but can't shoot back. *Why not?* Heat sensitive "thermistors" can detect the warmth of a human body, and the direction from which it comes, for quite a distance. Worked into this "target" device, it could trigger a "gun" which fires harmless "powder" missiles, (flour, chalk, or?) A trainee, under such conditions, would mighty soon develop the proper mental attitude that he better, by gosh, shoot to "kill," or else get "shot."

Beyond that, the officers possibly could determine how many men they'd lose in any given operation. In fact, this "shoot back" idea has *lots* of good possibilities. Can you pass it on?

One more item. On two pages (21 and 41) of Feb. GUNS, your Mr. Steindler is pictured wearing a jacket with a GUNS patch on the pocket. (Confusion here: p. 41 makes you "lefty." Are you southpaw? Negative flipped? or what? (*Negative flipped—Editor*))

Man, would I like to wear one of those patches as a proud reader of GUNS, and one very active booster! Available? (*Available. See page 59—Editor.*)

My best to GUNS, and the whole great staff of same.

Stan Grant
New Lothrop, Mich.

I disagree with John Master's article on barrel wear, in the February issue. His reasoning is all out of whack, in my opinion. His comparison of the 7 mm on the .264

case with the '06 is certainly unfair. Have Mr. Masters study the barrel life of a .257 Roberts and a .257 Weatherby Magnum, or a .280 Remington as compared with a 7 mm Mashburn or Weatherby Magnum. I'm sure he'll see the difference.

I have no illusion that I am a barrel expert, but I could name at least one expert who will disagree with the statement that an '06 or .270 will last about 5,000 rounds and the .264 Magnum has a life of 2 or 3 thousand rounds. However, I'm sure you will agree that barrel life greatly depends on the loads used, and that an improved '06 such as the .250 Curry Magnum certainly will develop more barrel wear than a .257 Roberts. Surely we should compare cartridges of the same bore diameter, rather than one caliber with a different caliber as Masters did with the .30-06 and the 7 mm Magnum.

Rudy Molezzo
Fresno, Calif.

Guns Don't Make Crime

I read your article, "Firearms Control in the United States," in the February issue, and I agreed most wholeheartedly with everything The National Police Officers Association of America said. I am in the armed forces, and I am of voting age, but I find things difficult when I try to purchase a handgun.

I would appreciate it tremendously if you would print my letter in GUNS, in order that it might point out to gun dealers and people of my own age that "guns don't make crime."

Robert W. Broussard
Homestead, Florida

Message to Mr. Sheppard

I've just received the Feb. issue and, in reading "Crossfire," came across Mr. Zeltray's letter about Dick Sheppard (WHN). I have often thought of writing to some of these people but have too often thought, oh well, somebody'll do it. This time, however, I dropped Mr. Sheppard a line and included the article on firearms control (pg. 14) from the February issue of GUNS. I hope it does some good. If Mr. Sheppard is really convinced, he can use the N.R.A. membership application on the other side of the clipping!

David C. Wood
Cornish, N. H.

Suggestion For Humane-Fronters

Could not resist sending you a comment or two concerning the article on the "United Humane Front" headed by a Dr. J. M. Kolisch appearing on page 45 of GUNS Magazine for Feb. 1963. Am enclosing a newspaper article concerning a similar type of organization calling themselves "Defenders of Wildlife," based in Washington, D.C.

What these individuals fail to realize is that wildlife is not being "decimated" by the hunter, trapper, or fisherman, but by civilization itself. Housing projects, super shopping centers, interstate highways, homes, bowling alleys, and industrial "parks" are the major causes of any decrease in wildlife because they absorb many suburban and country areas where wildlife breeds, feeds, and seeks shelter. The hunters and trappers take only a minimum of the available game



What is the Weatherby Imperial Scope hiding under its caps?



Binocular Focusing and Dual-Dial adjustments, the first real scope improvements in years!

It's easy to spot a Weatherby Imperial Scope. Both caps are on top. The rear cap (shown left above) protects Binocular Focusing, an exclusive Weatherby feature that permits you to set the focus for *your* eye. If changed, it can be reset easily. This eliminates old-fashioned awkward ocular lens focusing and also eliminates another joint for possible moisture entry.

The front cap (shown right above) covers a Weatherby patented feature, found on no other scope...DUAL-DIAL adjustments. The outer dial (with knurled ring) controls elevation with 1/4 minute clicks. The inner dial (coin slotted) with 1 minute graduations permits windage adjustments as fine as 1/4 minute. These unique features are to be found on *all* Weatherby Imperial Scopes.

Built to withstand the pounding of the world's most powerful rifles...Weatherby Magnums...Weatherby Imperial Scopes carry the *first lifetime guarantee* against all defects. It's your unconditional assurance of optical excellence and rugged durability. Weatherby Imperial Scopes available in these powers: 2-3/4X \$69.50, 4X \$79.50, 6X \$89.50, 2X to 7X Variable \$99.50, 2-3/4X to 10X Variable \$109.50. See your Weatherby dealer soon...or write direct for free literature.



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**6MM
75 GR.**
Secant Ogive
Spire
Hollow Point
(.243)



5/8" 5-shot group
at 100 yards from
a 243 Rockchucker

The Hornady 6mm hollow point has gained a little weight—5 grains to be exact. Now it looks better than ever because it's developed some new curves in the right places (note the S/O spire shape).

But a bullet—even a 75 grain secant ogive hollow point—can't get by on looks alone; and we really didn't make it to look at. We made it for varmints—and they'll never know what hit them!

If you're out to blast varmints, this is the bullet to do it with. It's ballistically more efficient—exceptionally accurate—very deadly. But don't just look at it or think about it; shoot it! Buy yourself 100 varmints' worth (only \$4.00) and be convinced.

Here are the loads you need; the bullets are at your Hornady dealer's.

TESTED LOADS FOR HORNADY 6MM 75 GR. S/O Hollow Points

IN THE 243 WINCHESTER

Muzzle Velocity	4895 Powder	4320 Powder	4350 Powder
3100 f.p.s.	37.4 gr.	38.9 gr.	43.1 gr.
3200 f.p.s.	38.6 gr.	40.0 gr.	44.2 gr.
3300 f.p.s.	39.8 gr.	41.3 gr.	45.4 gr.
3400 f.p.s.	41.1 gr.	42.6 gr.	46.6 gr.
3500 f.p.s.	42.4 gr.	43.8 gr.	47.6 gr.

IN THE 244 REMINGTON

Muzzle Velocity	4895 Powder	4320 Powder	4350 Powder
3300 f.p.s.	39.9 gr.	40.8 gr.	44.8 gr.
3400 f.p.s.	41.2 gr.	42.2 gr.	46.2 gr.
3500 f.p.s.	42.4 gr.	43.6 gr.	47.7 gr.
3600 f.p.s.	—	45.0 gr.	49.2 gr.

We make 4 other devastating 6mm bullets.
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supply, much of which he, himself, furnished by stocked game programs.

If the organizations mentioned above are genuinely interested in preserving wildlife, they might consider the purchase of certain state lands which could then be put aside for refuges and then a true function of wildlife preservation would be accomplished.

Are these people aware of the fact that here in Connecticut, for example, over 90 per cent of the state is closed to hunting and fishing simply because of the denseness of the population?

Let us not mislead ourselves by doubting that there is a possibility that a stronger motive than "wildlife preservation" exists behind the formation of this type of organization!

H. W. Lewin
Bridgeport, Conn.

Speaking of Questions . . .

ONE OF THE questions most frequently asked by readers has been, "Why doesn't GUNS have a 'Question & Answer' department?" We have wanted a "Question & Answer" department too—one that would cover the widest possible range of gun interests with the highest possible degree of accuracy. But that kind of a "Question & Answer" department requires a pretty special kind of a man.

We think we have found that man now, in Graham Burnside. Graham is best known as a collector specialist, with the special specialty of cartridge collecting. But his interest in and knowledge of guns and shooting is broad, and he is a persevering researcher with a capacity for taking pains. We think you'll like him.

Next month, GUNS will carry its first "Question & Answer" department under the Burnside byline. We are delighted to be able to add this new service to GUNS readers. Questions and answers will be printed in subsequent issues, and those that do not appear in the magazine will be answered by mail.

We Wondered If You'd Notice

That couldn't be good old No-Sling Colonel Askins sitting there on page 30 of the March issue, could it? He wouldn't have a sling dangling from his smoke-pole! However, it does look like his hat. Could it be Askins in his younger days, before he learned the disadvantages of a sling? Or perhaps he borrowed that piece from a friend.

Seriously, the Colonel and your magazine are much enjoyed.

Tom La Londe
Glencoe, Illinois

It's Different "Down Under"

After reading your magazine for about two years now, I'm definitely under the impression that there is little hunting and a lot of shooting done in your country. The things that stick in my mind are—one deer per season, 8 ducks per day, one bear, one moose, etc. I suppose it is conservation all right, but look at the cost! In my state, all one has to pay for on a hunting trip is his transport, ammunition, food, and film for the camera.

I do not use a center-fire rifle now, but I am going to get a '94 Winchester .30-30 in the next few months. This will replace any .22 L.R. self-loading carbine. I also have a Savage .22 WRFM/410 combination gun, from which my first two shots from the rifle barrel stay within an inch of each other at 100 yards with the supplied open sights. Who can ask for more? I also have a single shot 12 gauge, which is used on everything from quail to 'roos.

The one complaint I have about your magazine is the way your March 1962 issue described the professional shooting business here. It seemed to me that the average American would get the impression that we are all a lot of sadistic, money grabbing morons. It isn't true. The few professionals still in operation are not regarded as hunters in the true sense of the word.

But now comes the part of this announcement which we would prefer to omit. Answering questions takes time, and costs money. The only solution is—to charge you a dollar for each question.

Our reluctance to do this is proved by the fact that we immediately started looking for a way by which you could avoid it! A way was found:

Join GUNS Magazine's SHOOTERS CLUB OF AMERICA. Your membership card will carry a number. Quote that number at the top of the letter or card bearing your question, and the question will be answered without charge.

If you are not a member, clip a dollar bill or your check (no stamps, please) to your letter. Address letter to Questions Editor, GUNS Magazine, 8150 N. Central Park Ave., Skokie, Ill. Make checks payable to Publishers Development Corporation.

So there you have it. GUNS now has a "Question & Answer" department. Membership in THE SHOOTERS CLUB OF AMERICA gives you free answers, plus a lot of other benefits. See the announcement on page 59—and mail the coupon!

If any of your younger hunters (I am 19) would like to exchange experiences and personal ideas about weapons and ammunition, I would like to hear from them and let them know what goes on "down under."

J. M. Michell
46 Eighth Avenue
Seven Hills, N.S.W.,
Australia

Correction

Regarding the story, "Bring Your Own Make-up," in your February issue: I wish to make a correction about Moose Creek Ranger Station Ranch. Your story says it is only reached by plane. This is not true. There are two trails from the Kooskia Highway, one from Lowell, and one from Solder Ranger Station about 65 miles from Kooskia, Idaho. I have driven horses and mules over these trails, also to the lookout stations. The trails follow the Selway River.

J. J. Lane
Alameda, Calif.

Yes, there are trails. According to the guides, it is a two-day ride, and rough going. When I said "accessible only by air," I meant "for visiting hunters."—R.A.S.

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Pull!
BY DICK MILLER

THERE ARE TRAP and/or skeet shooting widows, just as there are fishing, hunting, golf, and bowling widows. And, if the truth is told, there are skeet and/or trap shooters who might admit that the biggest handicap to their shooting is not yardage or gun pointing, but is at home.

Odd as it might seem to the dedicated clay target buff, some of the little women are less than ecstatic about the "head of the house" traipsing off to the gun club, leaving them with the kids, TV, or a good book. This is difficult for the clay target gunner to realize, especially when he sees the growing number of distaff target dusters at every gun club across the land.

Many gun clubs have added facilities to attract the weaker (?) sex, and to make shooting the family sport that it is.

The Pull! crocheted bathtub (award of the month) goes to the Golden Valley Gun Club in Pacoima, California. I don't know who dreamed up the stunt, but he (or she) knew women. Give the gals something for free, and you are in business. That's just what the Golden Valley club did. At one regular shoot, the club threw free targets for the girls. Twenty ladies fired, and eleven of them signed on as members of the ATA (Amateur Trapshooting Association).

From experience, I can safely predict that close to twenty husbands will have less difficulty getting away for a day of shooting at the club, and in some cases, may even be encouraged to choose a day at the traps over other possible recreational pursuits.

This assumption, of course, is based on the reasoning that all of the twenty gals were married. But, here's a tip for single girls. I don't propose to compete with the current best seller on the vagaries of life for the bachelor girl, and to suggest prime areas for stalking eligible males, but will mention in a very small voice that most gun clubs are the lair of some mighty handsome, eligible, and solvent males. No more need be said. The preceding comments and advice are from observation, not experience.

From experience, I can report that clay target banging with Mama and the kids can be a very rewarding pastime. All are closer, and can understand and sympathize with

each other the better. Post mortems on one day's shooting can provide pleasant conversation from one session to another.

There is only one real problem connected with the big move to clay target shooting by the ladies. Some men simply cannot tolerate being beaten at any game by their wives or sweethearts. And, if either join in clay target shooting, a good percentage of them will outscore the men, some or all of the time. It takes a good man to put up with that, and a clever gal (most of them are) to get away with it.

Again from experience, I know that some of the greatest thrills and rewards in life for parents are to be had in rooting for the offspring in all sorts of games and contests.

Mothers and Dads, can be the biggest rooters of all at Little League games, football, basketball, track meets, and others, but in none of the events mentioned can Mom really participate. Most Dads, by the time youngsters grow tall enough to be rooted for in recreational games, have grown too wide in spots to share junior's sport.

But some of the most starry-eyed parents I've ever seen have been at gun clubs when one of the kids just shot a better score than either Mom or Dad. This might bother some parents, but if it does, they do a magnificent job of concealing any resentment they might have at being beaten at their own game by their kids.

I don't imply any criticism of the sports mentioned earlier, by comparing them with trap or skeet. By their nature, they tend to make spectators of parents, and grandparents. Today's recreational and mental health authorities agree that we offer an abundance of spectator sports.

I'm simply making the point, which needs to be made again and again, that the clay target sports are participant sports, not limited to any age, sex, or physical condition. If it takes free days of shooting, like the one sponsored by Golden Valley Gun Club, to get the ladies (and families) out to the gun club, I'm for them. The only other method that occurs to me for getting gals to the gun club is to offer trading stamps. Have any clubs tried giving green stamps for shattered targets?



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Not all of the potential for family shooting fun is limited to actual firing. The fantastic growth of shot shell reloading has brought kids into their glory in many households. I know shooters whose youngsters want Pop to shoot all he can, so that they will have the fun of loading another batch of hulls. It's even more fun when the kids can have a hand in popping a few caps themselves, which makes reloading still more a labor of love.

I'll be happy to record in Pull! the methods and experience of gun clubs in bringing the real potential of shooting as a family recreational outlet to the community, if readers will share them with us.

* * *

Since this month seems to be Ladies' Day at the gun club, it's appropriate to report a flash from the Ludlow County Fish & Game Club ranges in Ludlow, Massachusetts.

On a cold and windy day last December, I had the pleasure of telling one of the most charming and gracious ladies ever to walk on a skeet field that one of these days, and perhaps soon, the elusive target or two that didn't break would not get away, and she would have her goal of twenty-five straight skeet targets.

A recent business call from her proud husband brought word that Catherine O'Connor had that thrilling first twenty-five straight, and with her twelve-gauge gun. I took the call across many states, but I could feel the excitement over a thousand miles of telephone wire.

This is but one more bit of evidence to support the claims made for the fun and desirability of sharing a sport. How does it work in your family, dear reader?

* * *

The March issue of "Trap & Field," the trapshooter's magazine, included an item that could be of interest to would-be clay target shooters in areas where there are no near-by gun clubs, and which could generate interest in forming a gun club to use conventional target-throwing equipment.

The T&F story described a game called "Bear-Trap" shooting in the part of Canada where it flourishes.

Bear-Trap shooting has one post, in the position of the conventional trap field's number three post, directly behind the trap-house. Instead of a mechanical target-throwing device inside the traphouse, 16 yards from the shooting post, there are two strong-armed men or boys with hand-traps.

When the shooter calls for his target, he might get a soft lob that looks like one of Stu Miller's tormenting slow pitches, or he could get one of Bob Feller's best fast balls.

The traphouse is bigger, and with a much wider opening than those found at regulation trap clubs, to give the target throwers the opportunity to throw angles that would be called "outlaws" in the ATA version of trap. It is said that from six to fifteen consecutive hits will win the hourly prize, based on long run for a given hour. Shooters can shoot as long as they want, if they are willing to pay 25 cents for each miss. This system usually keeps shooters moving. Broken birds cost nothing. Sounds like fun, and could be interesting if added to a regulation field, and as mentioned, serve as an introduction to clay targets until regulation equipment can be purchased.

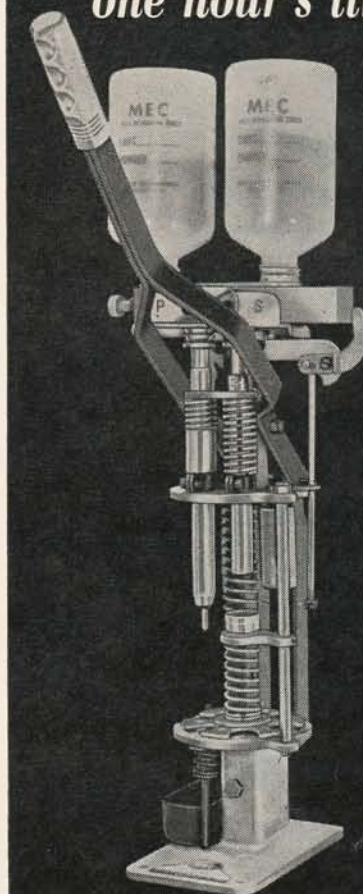


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The finished shell? The MEC "sur-lock" crimping die does a beautiful job. It's completely adjustable for depth and radius of crimp . . . assuring positive feed thru even the problem firearms, such as the autoloaders.

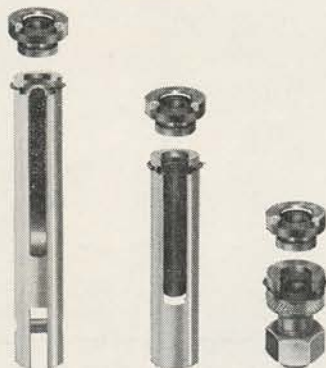
It's available in any gauge except 10, and comes completely assembled, tested and ready-to-use . . . without adjustment. What's more, it's all steel . . . making it strong, light, compact and portable . . . it need not be mounted to a bench, so you can let your friends use it.

Almost forgot . . . the nicest thing about the MEC Super 500 is its price . . . less than \$100.

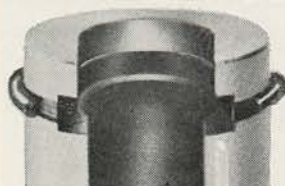


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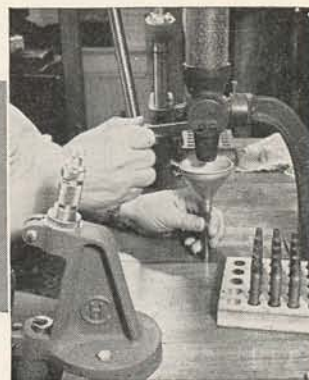
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HANDLOADING BENCH

By KENT BELLAH



Remington's XP-100

Remington's new XP-100 single-shot, bolt-action pistol chambered for the new Remington .221 Fireball cartridge is more than a trifle like a compact rifle. It's a deadly accurate sporting gun for varmints, game or targets to 200 yards or more. A good many shooters will not believe how well it shoots to 250 yards and more until they try it. Riflemen who claim they "can't hit anything with a pistol" can shoot this one with rifle-like range and accuracy.

Remington set another world's record for handgun velocity. The potent and super accurate .221 Fireball cartridge starts a 50 grain jacketed soft point bullet at a listed 2650 fps, with 780 foot pounds muzzle energy. We haven't chronographed any .221 loads at this time, but we will in the future. Factory figures seem to be about right. At 200 yards, from those figures, the bullet is still going hell-for-leather at a very decent 1800 fps, with mid-range trajectory a flat 2.6 inches. At 250 yards it's twisting along at a wicked 1630 fps with a mid-range trajectory of only 4.4 inches.

Ballistics are considerably better than the .22 Hornet rifle, and it bucks wind better. If you sight in at 150 yards dead on, you are only 1.2" high at 75! You must use a glass to take a full advantage of the flat trajectory and Hi-V for extra long handgun range with the inherent pin-point accuracy.

A friend in the Remington factory told me they got a good many groups as small as 0.75" at 100 yards. I believe it. Many people don't know that a short barrel will start a bullet in true flight about as well as a long tube. This is a fact, as long as bullets leave the muzzle in true flight, in perfect alignment, and uniform from shot to shot. Short barrels often give better accuracy because they are stiffer.

My test groups from a production gun (not a prototype) went about 1.3 to 1.9" at 100 yards. Few production rifles right out of the box will beat that. I'm sure we could

have done better if more ammunition had been available. We had only 100 factory cartridges, and therefore rationed them for group shooting to expend a few in field testing. The limited field tests on varmints indicate it's superior to a Hornet rifle. Our lot number Z19N, headstamped R-P 221 REM, were carefully loaded with uniform charges of non-canister powder in the 5 rounds we broke down. Case and bullet dimensions were extremely uniform. Cases are simply necked down and shortened .222 Remington brass.

The action is a benchrest type modification of the new Remington Model 700 action. It will take the same working pressures as rifles that pass proof with blue pills in the 60,000 psi range. A chambered round has the head completely enclosed for an extra margin of safety, a highly desirable feature. I can't find any fault in the Nylon stock. The excellent design has a perfect balance in a pistol that would be clumsy and awkward without it. The trigger is superb. It doesn't need a bit of custom work. The adjustable iron sights are good ones, but like all iron sights they limit your accurate range and visibility. The 10.5" barrel is just right in length and weight.

How many people will want a single-shot pistol that is 16½" long, and weighs 3¾ pounds? A good many, I think. It isn't a handgun as we have known them in the past. Some may say it has a "space gun look," but I doubt they have a space gun for comparison. It isn't competitive with revolvers and auto pistols. It isn't ideal for defense. It lacks the shape of the Old West guns. It isn't a cheap plinker for youngsters to start this fascinating handgun game. No one will want it except accuracy fans, and their tribe increases every day. A single-shot is no handicap to varmint or small game hunters or paper punchers. One well-placed hit is enough, and this gun will accurately place hits at long range.

I've stated many times in print that we needed a superbly accurate single-shot pistol.

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Pictured is Model MTS-6, a handmade over-under. Magnificently stocked and beautifully bas relief engraved. Custom made from

\$660 with three sets of barrels.

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A complete line of imported Olympic-winning target pistols and target rifles, double express rifles, combination guns and shotguns.

The XP-100 is it, and the .221 Fireball is about the ultimate for benchrest pistol shooting. It retains most of the fine inherent accuracy of the .222 Remington (that quickly became a favorite benchrest rifle cartridge) in the shorter tube.

I trust dedicated shooters will take time to start benchrest pistol shooting in their area. It could start a brand new gun sport, perhaps with a National Association. It would be fun to watch current pistol groups, that look like shotgun patterns at 100 and 200 yards, tighten up in the same manner that benchrest rifle groups have tightened up in recent years. It will promote better handguns, better factory ammo, and better reloads, just as rifles did. It should do much to kill some very bad anti-gun and anti-pistol legislation. The handgun is "The Most American Gun," yet foreign competitors generally beat our pants off. The XP-100 might spark a new international game where we could meet and beat the competition!



Remington's new XP-100 bolt-action handgun with the .221 cartridge.

While the XP-100 is certainly a bench rest quality pistol right out of the box, it's just as practical in the field. Let's trust they soon make it available in other popular handgun calibers, such as .38 Special and .357 Magnum. These would be fine "companion" guns for the many owners of automatic pistols and revolvers in those calibers. The XP-100 with a scope would be dandy for the average guy to test factory ammo or his handloads. Very few individuals own a machine rest or test barrel, and this would be a fine substitute.

Bushnell's 1.3x Phantom pistol scope, complete with mount at \$29.50, is an excellent field scope with long (6" to 21") eye relief. You can stand on your hind legs and shoot the XP-100 with two hands, holding the forearm like a rifle. This is steady enough for fairly long range hunting without any rest. You'll be pleasantly surprised at how far you can hit in this position. A rest increases the range, of course, just as it does with a rifle, and you'll find the XP-100 can be accurately fired from a great many positions. You don't flinch, because recoil is practically nil, and the report is quite mild. Bushnell worked closely with Wayne Leek of Remington on the Phantom mount. They found a smaller radius on the base gave better accuracy than the prototype we used. The highly desirable change will be on all mounts supplied to dealers.

I blasted a wild cat at about 125 yards standing upright, the only position I could use. I had picked up a short piece of splintered board that I held against my shoulder and the gun stock. My result was good, and I made contact with the target! However,

chances are I'd have blasted the germy critter without the board. For mostly rest shooting, a rifle scope with more magnification is desirable. A Weaver K-3 in a Buehler mount, for example, is a dandy rig. Use the 1 piece Buehler base, code 22, that also fits the Remington Short Action 700, 722, and 725. Use the standard height 1" Code 6 Buehler rings, and remove the rear sight from the XP-100. Use the high (Code 7) rings if you don't want to remove the factory sight. All Buehler rings fit all Buehler mounts, of course. Just what benchresters would use, I can't say, but I'm sure they would want more power.

RCBS sent us sample .221 loading dies before our test gun arrived! Like all RCBS products, they are very fine ones, and the dimensions are perfect. Our best groups were with a 50 grain Speer bullet backed with 16.0 to 16.5 grains du Pont IMR 4227 ignited by CCI No. 400 and Remington No. 6½ Small Rifle primers. Fired cases were barely

faced off clean in a Forster Precision Case Trimmer. Bullets were seated a hair deeper than factory loads.

There is nothing complicated or temperamental about reloads. As we had only one gun, firing only 400 or so reloads, I suggest starting a bit under listed charges. We may make minor revisions in reloads when we have time to obtain pressures and velocities, and a great many more groups have been fired in several pistols. We made good groups in limited tests with the above charges using 50 grain Hornady S-X and Sierra Blitz bullets. Hornady Jets (.222") are too small in diameter for this pistol.

We found du Pont 4198 was a good powder, giving very high loading density with 17.5 grains. Speer's 50 grain .224" bullets grouped and expanded well with CCI No. 450 Magnum primers, and also with 17.0 grains of the same powder.

CCI primers show a bit of crater thrown up around the firing pin indentation as loads approach full charges. Some primers give nearly no indications of pressure until primers expand pockets, or the bolt is hard to lift, or cases are slightly sticky. All of these factors indicate dangerous pressures. We did not work up to these factors, and I urge you to use the same caution, just as you would with any rifle.

We worked up to 13.0 grains of 2400 ignited by CCI No. 400 primers with the Speer 50 grain bullet. Excessive pressure was not indicated, but the muzzle flash was much larger than with the other powders, and velocity was a little less. These loads did not penetrate some 5/16" bridge iron

(Continued on page 62)

14 SPEER VARMINT BULLETS

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Speer's line-up of deadly VARMINT BULLETS for 8 popular rifle calibers.

.22 CALIBER
For long range, flat trajectory and wicked destruction choose either the 45gr. spitzer, 52gr. Hollow point or 55gr. spitzer.

6 MM
75gr. Hollow point and 80 gr. spitzer designed especially for all high velocity 6MM's.

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BOB STACK PLANS

HE WON THE BIG ONES IN HIS TEENS, AND
HIS STYLE MAKES HIM A HOT PROSPECT FOR INTERNATIONAL TEAM



As grim-faced Eliot Ness, Bob Stack holds Thompson sub-machinegun. He is one of the few who can fire the gun.

A SKEET COMEBACK

By JOHN LACHUK

WHEN "THE UNTOUCHABLES" was in its first TV season, a workman came to the Robert Stack house to repair a TV set. The repairman stared at the shelves of Stack's shooting trophies. "Gee, Mister Ness," he said, "I watch that show of yours, but I always thought that stuff you do on the screen was just a lot of baloney. I told my wife, 'I'll bet he can't hit nothin' with that gun.' But gosh! All those medals and things—I guess you're pretty good!"

Robert Stack is indeed "pretty good" with a gun. From 1935, when he hit his stride as a skeet shooter, until a burgeoning acting career slowed his shooting in 1940, young Bobby Stack was "the man to beat" on the skeet fields of the nation. While still a 15-year-old Junior competitor, he was chosen by Jimmy Robinson for the expert's own All American Team in 1935, and became official National Skeet Shooting Association All American in 1936 and '37. During those two years, Bobby Stack won in nearly every major skeet tournament held in the country.

Today, Stack is a crack shot with everything from a .22 pistol up. He is one of the few actors who can trigger a burst from a Tommy gun without wincing, because he poured thousands of rounds of live ammo through the barrels of countless machine guns in his job as aerial machinegun instructor during World War II.

Bob's skeet shooting talent stood him in good stead when he joined the Navy in 1942. The choice of service



Stack compares a pre-war .38-40 Single Action Colt with his favorite handgun, a Colt Python.



Collection of trophies, coffee table with brassards attest to Bob's skill.



Billy Clayton, left, started Bobby Stack, on skeet path.



Bob's favorite shotgun is a 28 gauge Model 12 engraved and with gold overlay by Orville Kuhl.



One of Bob's frequent hunting companions, Clark Gable, was a fine shot and experienced hunter.

BOB STACK

was an easy one; there had always been a member of the pioneering Stack family in the Navy, and Bob knew where he belonged. "I wanted flight duty on a carrier," he says, "but they needed flexible aerial gunnery instructors more than pilots and, with my skeet training, I qualified."

Ensign Robert Stack graduated from Pensacola at the top of his class. While there, he broke the academy range record for machine guns on moving targets. His former skeet team mate, Alex Kerr, then Lieutenant J.G., preceded Bob into duty as a gunnery instructor at the Alameda Air Station, in California. Kerr requested that Ensign Stack be assigned to him as an instructor. Their job was to take youths who, in most cases, had never handled anything bigger than a BB gun, and turn them into competent air-to-air gunners for two-place attack aircraft and two-or four-engined bombers.

The training program called for 25 hours shooting trap and skeet to learn the rudiments of leading a moving target. Then the students fired shotguns attached to flexible mounts and power turrets, like machine guns using moving clay targets. They progressed to .30 caliber machine guns in flexible mounts and turrets, followed by the big .50s. They fired on fixed targets for 9 hours to become accustomed to the noise and buck of the guns, then used moving targets. Early shooting was done on the ground with the guns and targets mounted on railroad flatcars, moving in opposite directions. Final training was done in the air, firing at towed targets.

"Our most difficult job," Bob remembers, "was teaching a world's-record Marine rifle team to shoot skeet. They couldn't get used to merely pointing the gun and slapping the trigger. They wanted to aim and squeeze. By the time they fired, the clay birds were long gone."

Bob was eventually transferred to Barber's Point Naval Air Station, in Honolulu. There, he gave refresher courses to keep combat veterans sharp. While at Barber's Point, Stack won the All Navy Skeet Championships, shot with a winning skeet team that included such men as Art Durando, Jake Harrison, and Arnold Oehlers,—and personally set a Navy record of 999x1000.

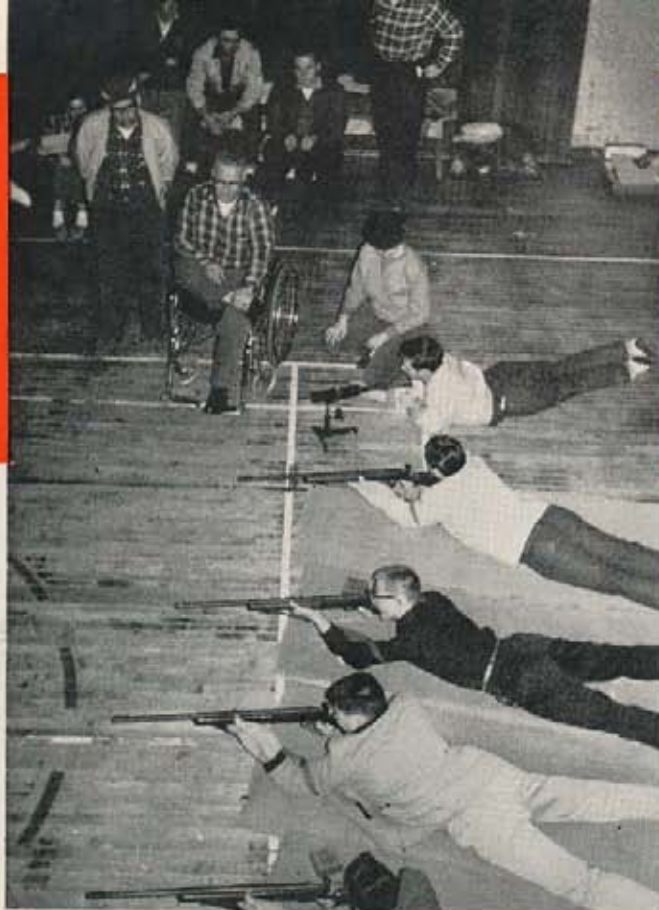
Later, Bob saw duty aboard the carriers Sitka Bay and the Hancock, as a special liaison for the Chief of Naval Operations. He finally returned to Alameda to give rocket training to pilots, instructing on trajectory and angle of attack with planes carrying rockets under their wings.

Robert Stack, Lieutenant Senior Grade, left the Navy in 1957 to resume his acting career with such pictures as "Fighter Squadron" and "Mr. Music." That year, he won the Santa Monica Gun Club Individual Skeet Championship, and the two-man championship with his old sidekick Alex Kerr. They also won the two-man 28 gauge Championship at the Nationals in 1948. Their five man team, the "Muskeeters," were CLAA runner ups in small-gauge and all-bore. In '49, they were West Coast Champions.

Bob continued to shoot skeet competition sporadically through 1952, but his career became more and more demanding and, too, the heart had gone out of Bob for skeet shooting. His friend and mentor, Harry Fleischmann, had died of a heart attack during the War, and, without him, the game didn't seem the same.

Bobby Stack first became interested in skeet at 13, when he read a newspaper account of (Continued on page 52)

The Wheel Chair Doesn't Stop Him!



From his wheel chair, Ted Church keeps a sharp watch on members of junior club during a weekly rifle meeting.

HE'S READY ON THE FIRING LINE, AS A SHOOTER OR AS AN INSTRUCTOR

By JAMES E. BIE

WHEN FOLKS AROUND Baraboo, Wisconsin, talk about hunting or guns, they talk about Ted Church. The younger generations know him as expert rifleman and as high school rifle team coach, the county traffic police know him as a very helpful pistol coach, and others know that he is a top-ranking competitive shooter. All this gun activity and his hunting, plus Ted's deep interest in gun education, assumes even greater importance when you realize that Ted Church carries on from a wheel chair.

Until 1954, Ted led a busy and well-rounded life, and enjoyed the use of his guns the same way a good many men do. By trade he was a master mechanic, owning a repair shop in partnership. He had served during the war, had opened the shop, and things went along wonderfully. Then sickness struck and Ted spent the next five and a half months in a hospital bed. At the end of the siege, Ted Church had lost the use of his legs.

While in the hospital, Ted thought about his bustling shop, his future, his shooting and hunting. Condemned to temporary inactivity, he began reading on his favorite subject—guns. He read everything he could find about guns and shooting, and gradually a plan began to take form. Ted Church would devote his time and efforts to teaching youngsters the thrill that comes from the proper use of guns.

Ted Church is still in the repair (Continued on page 54)



The targets tell a story and Ted Church analyses the shots with care, pointing out errors for Phil Niles.



Excellent group was fired by Church with Hi-Standard Supermatic Trophy during prolonged handgun practice.

SOME OF THE EXPERTS ARE SAYING THAT, TO WIN ABROAD, WE MUST CHANGE U. S. COMPETITION TO



Spectators at Ent AF Base watch biggest military skeet shoot that incorporated events held under international rules.



SKEET... *International Style!*

By COLONEL DAVE HARBOUR



Shooting under U. S. rules, Lieut. James Clark calls for bird with gun already at shoulder, then powders it as seen above.

IN THE SHADOW of spectacular Pikes Peak, the largest and perhaps most significant military skeet shoot in history, sponsored by USAF's Air Defense Command, reached its sizzling climax in June of last year. This week-long shoot, with nearly 300 of the top shotgunners from all the Armed Services participating, was significant not only because of its size, not only because of the many perfect scores shot—but also because it marked the beginning of a major effort by the Armed Services to put the United States back in the running for skeet shooting honors in the international arena.

The big significance of the Colorado shoot lay in the fact that it was the first *major* skeet shoot in the United States to include an International Style Championship event... 100 targets shot under the same tough international rules that our shooters must observe when they defend United States' shotgunning prestige abroad. A big chunk of the nation's shooting fraternity believes that this precedent will sweep across the nation, triggering the explosion that is needed to blast the United States back to the top in international skeet.

In the all-important International Style Championship event,

Under international rules, a time lapse up to 3 seconds is permitted between shooter's call for bird and actual release. Gun's position, foot placement are tougher, slow many gunners.



Colonel Bill Marriot of the U.S. Air Force shot well enough to scare the Russians at the 1962 World's Championships! Bill ground out 100 straight black targets under the most difficult shooting style in skeet, to become the 1962 Armed Forces International Style Skeet Champion. Master Sergeant Henry Shaw, of the U.S. Army at Fort Benning, took runner-up honors with a 99, after winning a hot shoot-off with Lieutenant Jim Clark, also of the U.S. Army. These three gunmen didn't quite make the U.S. team for the Olympic Championships at Cairo in October, but they will certainly be top contenders for slots on the team that represents the United States in this year's World Championships at Caracas, Venezuela. Their scores, and the overall scores recorded are all the more impressive when one remembers that they were shot in thin mountain air where targets fly fastest and are hardest to hit.

The big international skeet shoots include the annual World Championships and the Olympic Championships held every four years. It is during these shoots that the eyes of the world are on United States shotgunners! There was a time when this was a welcome fact. The United States gave birth to skeet and, up through the mid-1950's United States shooters took a back seat to no other country in the world shoots! The United States took both World Championship and runner-up honors as late as 1954.

As the 60's approached, however, the United States began to wish that no one was looking when its once-unbeatable gunners went on world display at the international shoots. Other countries had started to take skeet seriously, too! By 1958, the United States could place its top gunner in only 4th place. In the 1961 World Championships at Oslo, the United States could do no better than 6th place in the individual (Continued on page 41)



Automatic traps threw over 140,000 pigeons from 20 trap houses during Colorado shoot. Sgt. Frank Owen is new Armed Forces 20 Gauge Champion.





LEGAL... or *ILLEGAL?*

THE NATIONAL FIREARMS ACT DID NOT KEEP GANGSTERS FROM
GETTING GUNS, BUT DID PUT MANY
INNOCENT GUNS IN JEOPARDY

Replica Colt with shoulder stock does not fire fixed ammunition and is legal by definition. Lug for shoulder stock on Luger is legal, providing you don't own shoulder stock that fits the gun.

By JIM CORBETT

LAWS, at any level, which limit or make impractical the individual's right to own and use firearms, are contrary to what we believe to be our national birth-right and one of the basic rights guaranteed to us by the Constitution of the United States.

The first uniform federal law that encroached upon our constitutional right regarding firearms was the National Firearms Act (Public Law No. 474), passed by the 73rd Congress in June, 1934. This is a tax law, providing a maximum transfer tax of \$200 on firearms of certain types commonly thought of (by some) as "gangster weapons." This law requires that such weapons be registered with the

Treasury Department. It does not apply now, as amended to pistols and revolvers, ordinary sporting or target rifles and shotguns, or to flintlock or percussion weapons of any type, or to ammunition.

The time, 1934, was ripe for the passage of this Act. The Prohibition era was passed, but its ugly aftermath of lawlessness remained. Criminals hardened in the liquor wars were seeking and finding other sources of loot with which to maintain the style of living to which the Volstead Act had enabled them to become accustomed, and the sub-machine gun and sawed-off shotgun were the tools of their trade. The original purpose of the National Firearms Act

was to prevent such weapons from getting into the hands of hoodlums and thugs.

Obviously, the National Firearms Act did not accomplish its purpose. How those lawmakers, keenly aware as they were of the recent tragic failure of the Volstead Act, could have expected another prohibitory law to be effective, is a

mystery. But that mistake in judgment was capped by another blunder — their failure to consult firearms experts who might at least have helped them word the Act intelligibly and in such a way that it would be applicable to (and only to) the weapons at which it was aimed. Instead, and in spite of constant effort by legal eagles, jurists, the courts, and other lawmakers to "interpret" the Act, it is still subject to controversial interpretations, still damns innocent guns and innocent owners.

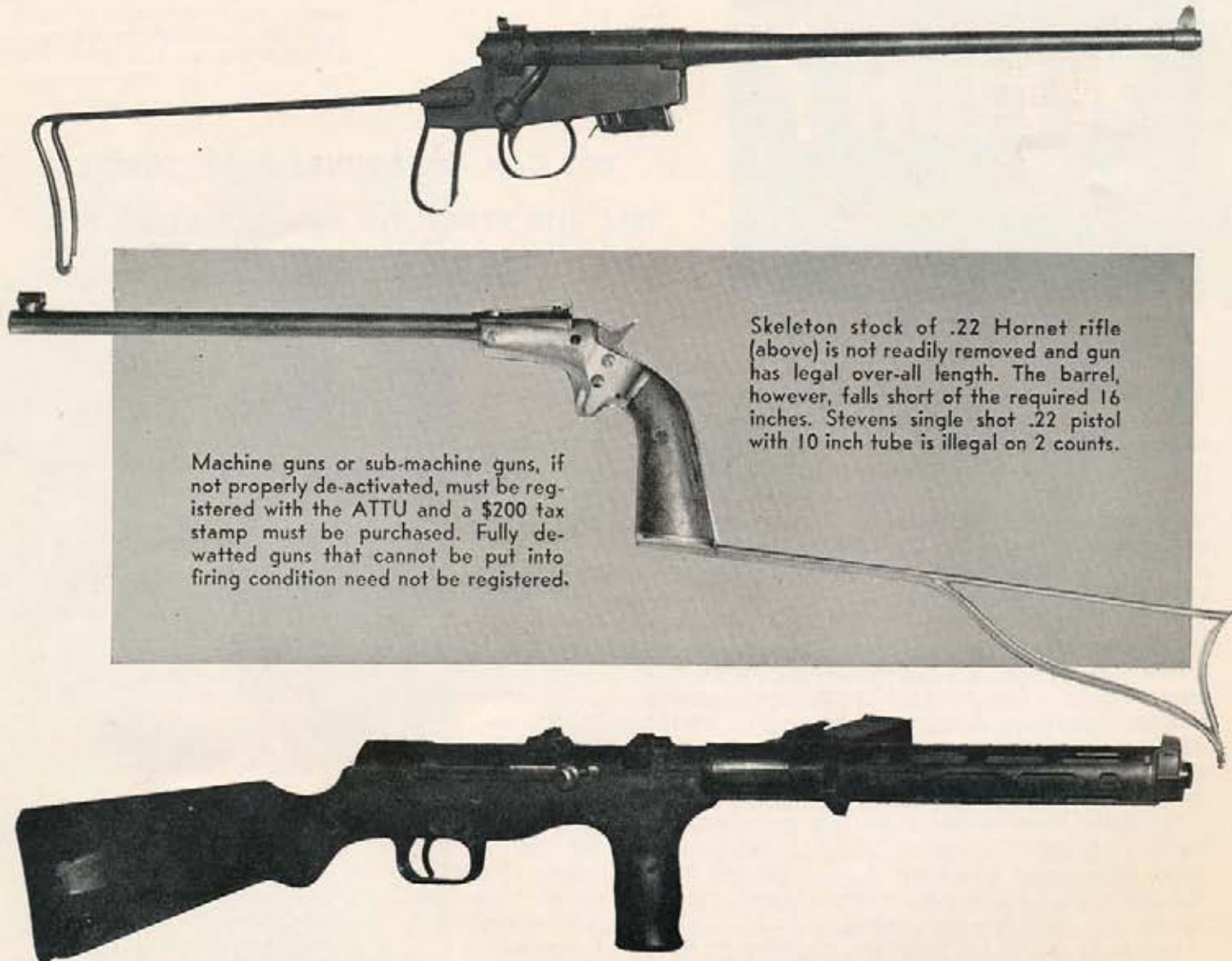
Only a few would object strenuously to restriction (within reason) of private ownership of machine guns, but the whole shooting fraternity screamed murder when the Act condemned such ludicrously un-gangster-like guns as the Stevens Bicycle Rifle and the Marble Game Getter. Col-

lectors screamed even louder when the Act was interpreted to condemn, for example, a rare Luger pistol just because it had a stock-lug on the butt and a holster or other stock that would convert the piece for shoulder firing.

(There is confusion even in the name of the Act. The references above are to the National Firearms Act. Another federal law, the Federal Firearms Act, passed by the 75th Congress in June, 1938, regulates interstate and foreign commerce in firearms and pistol or revolver ammunition. But the names are frequently, and incorrectly, used interchangeably.)


Under the original National Firearms Act, both the Stevens Bicycle Rifle and the Marble Game Getter were condemned on several counts. They had detachable stocks, which classed them as shoulder weapons; their barrels were too short for shoulder weapons, and they were less than 26" long with stocks attached. The Act has since been amended, cutting the tax on certain obviously non-gangster guns from \$200 to \$5, but the Act is still pretty confusing.

For example: As now written, you can own a Luger that has a stock-lug on the butt, providing you don't own a stock that will fit it. Or you can own a Luger stock providing you don't own a Luger to which it can be attached. But if you own both, you are liable under the Act, whether the stock and the gun have ever actually been put together or not... On the other hand, (Continued on page 45)



Machine guns or sub-machine guns, if not properly de-activated, must be registered with the ATTU and a \$200 tax stamp must be purchased. Fully de-watted guns that cannot be put into firing condition need not be registered.

Skeleton stock of .22 Hornet rifle (above) is not readily removed and gun has legal over-all length. The barrel, however, falls short of the required 16 inches. Stevens single shot .22 pistol with 10 inch tube is illegal on 2 counts.



*How Much
Does Your*

BUCK WEIGH?

By BERT POPOWSKI

**YOU CAN ADD POUNDS EACH TIME YOU
TELL THE STORY, BUT YOU REALLY SHOULD
KNOW WHERE TO START LYING!**

WHEN THE HASSLE over the perfect deer rifle is finally resolved, the grand American sport of deer hunting will have lost much of its robust flavor. But don't fret. There's another, never-ending argument that frequently rattles the rafters of hunting camps. I call it: "My buck is a dandy, but you should have let yours grow up!" Lay two bucks, as alike as peas out of the same pod, side by side and the proud owner will employ ever plausible and implausible argument to prove that only his animal is worthy of being classed as a deer. The other critter is a mere runt!

Even when it comes to deer antlers, the arguments often erupt explosively. Last autumn I saw a friendly hunting twosome, each of them confident that he was right and the other wrong, go at it hammer-and-tongs over two very average muley bucks. By the time the eruptions subsided, the 12-man hunting camp was laying odds.

The uproar began because of the very dissimilar racks the two bucks wore. One had an "elk type" head, with the antlers grown in a V spread, not too wide, but quite high. The other owned antlers much wider in spread, but the squarer "box type" that some hunters prefer.

Both bucks carried five points per side, what we West-

erners call five-pointers, the sign of full vigorous muley maturity. Both had husky bodies, though I have taken better ones, and have seen still better ones bagged. In fact, having hunted muleys for a lot of years, I've seen some downed bucks so big that I won't strain your credulity by offering my descriptions of them.

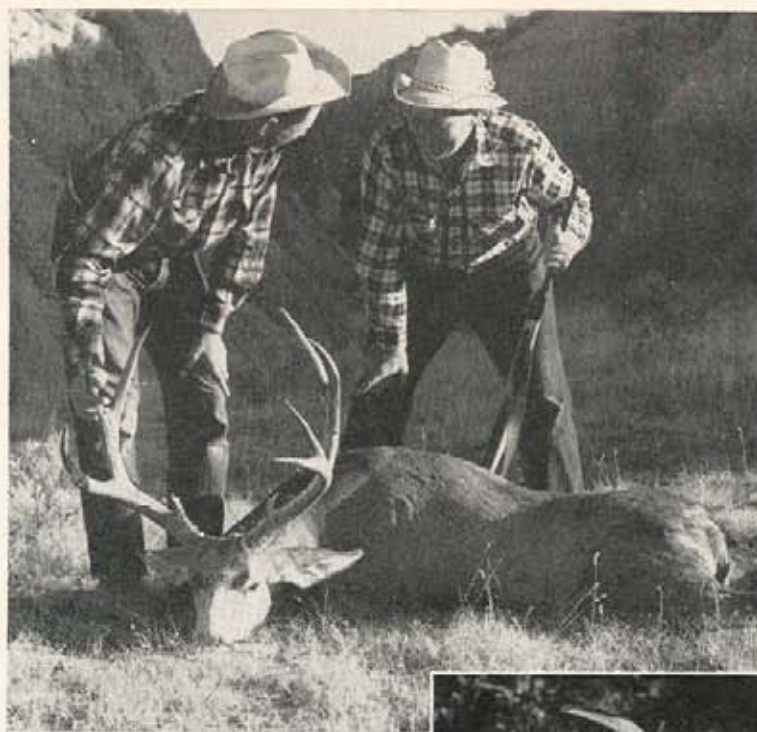
The two Chicagoans had nice bucks in which they could take full pride. Yet, the way they battled over who had the superior head would lead you to think they were competing as to which rack would rank higher in the all-time Boone and Crockett records. Actually, neither of those heads came within 40 scoring points of B&CC ratings.

That argument took me back to the season when Don Baldwin and I hunted Wyoming muleys along the Cheyenne river. We got them some ten days apart, with Don clobbering his first and immediately putting it into the locker plant. By the time I shot my buck, Don's animal had been skinned and was being reduced to packages of prime eating meat. But Don, out of natural curiosity, had had the nude meat carcass weighted, without hide, head, neck, and the legs cut off at knees and hocks.

When I collected a muley of very similar size, Don and I were curious as to how the critters compared. I skinned



Lugging a big buck to camp over a couple of mountains will make you think that he weighs close to a ton. With Hornaday formula you can calculate live weight.



First comes the point counting, then the boasting over the shot and the size of the critter. Don Baldwin and Bert figured buck's weight (top) to over 300 pounds.



out my animal and reduced it to a similar neckless meat carcass. I forget the exact figures, but there wasn't more than six pounds difference between them. In that reduced form, one weighed about 168 and the other 172 pounds, or thereabouts, which proves that these were adult bucks.

In talking over the hunt, and the weight similarity of the two carcasses, Don and I became interested in what they might have weighed on-the-hoof. I checked with some game technician friends and was rewarded with some very interesting information.

California, Oregon, and South Dakota wildlife experts proffered the estimate that 60 per cent of the live weights of deer are in the fully skinned carcasses I have previously described—if the necks remain with the carcasses. Their estimates were derived by weighing crippled deer which they had finished off and weighed, then gutted and weighed, then skinned and reduced to the full meat carcasses and weighed a third and final time.

From scores of deer so handled, they found that the formula first devised by the late William T. Hornaday, friend and hunting partner of Teddy Roosevelt, was very accurate for determining live-weight from field-dressed weight. The Hornaday formula (Continued on page 48)



Albert J. Fountain's



Presentation Rifle



**HIS MURDER WAS A 55-
YEAR-LONG SOUTHWESTERN MYSTERY.
FEW EVER KNEW OF HIS RIFLE**

By JAMES E. SERVEN

OLD MESILLA, New Mexico, is a sun-washed little town located about 40 miles north of El Paso. It lies several miles off the main highway, and the fast-flowing streams of tourist traffic pass it by without knowing of its existence. Yet Mesilla was once the scene of history in the making. It was also the home of men who made the history.

About 25 years ago, chance—and the endless search for antique guns—took me to Mesilla, the site of the formal

ceremonies which gave the United States that large slice of Mexico known as the Gadsden Purchase. Clustered around a small plaza were the weathered adobe buildings which formed Mesilla's center of activity, and there, in the combination post office and general store, I found a delightful gentleman named Albert Fountain. When I spoke to him of my interest in guns, he reached into a corner behind a counter and proudly brought forth an engraved Model 1866 Winchester rifle which bore an inscription

that made my eyes pop open. On one side was inscribed, "The Frontiersmen of Texas, to their Friend and Defender." And, on the other side, "Hon. A. J. Fountain, El Paso, Texas."

The rifle, I was told, had been a prized possession of Albert J. Fountain, the present Mr. Fountain's grandfather—and it was not for sale. The finality of that statement was apparent; but the edge was taken off my disappointment by the clear evidence, in this man's voice and manner, that Albert J. Fountain's grandson and namesake sincerely treasured this gun. I didn't blame him; in his place, I wouldn't have parted with it, either. So I admired the gun, and went my way.

But, through the years, my curiosity grew. Why had "The Frontiersmen of Texas" given that rifle to Albert J. Fountain? Who was Albert J. Fountain, and what manner of man had he been? And finally, how had he died, and why, and by whose hand? This last, I was very soon to learn, was one of the Southwest's greatest, best guarded, and perhaps (for many years at least) most dangerous mysteries.

Gradually, I had the good fortune to learn many things



Albert J. Fountain of Mesilla, N.M., with his grandfather's Winchester.



about Colonel Albert J. Fountain and his colorful career—also, eventually, about his death. Here, then, in brief, is the story as I learned it; in my opinion, one of the great sagas of the Southwest, and doubly interesting to me because it is one of the few times I have been able to get a precise picture of the man behind a presentation gun.

The saga of Albert J. Fountain possesses all of the ingredients of adventure, heroism, high tragedy, and deepest mystery. It begins in New York City, where Albert J. Fountain was born, October 23, 1838. After attending Columbia College (now a university), Fountain started on a quest for adventure which took him to China, to Nicaragua at the time of the William Walker expedition, and then to California, where he was admitted to the bar.

But his first career at law was short-lived. In August, 1861, Fountain enlisted in the 1st California Volunteer Infantry. He served throughout the Civil War in the California Column, mostly in New Mexico. In 1865, he became a Captain and was severely wounded in a battle with Apaches. He was sent to El Paso to recuperate. (Continued on page 43)

Model 1866 Winchester was presented by "The Frontiersmen of Texas to their Friend and Defender," Colonel A. J. Fountain for his activities in their behalf. Gun is now displayed in the Gadsen Museum, Mesilla, N.M.

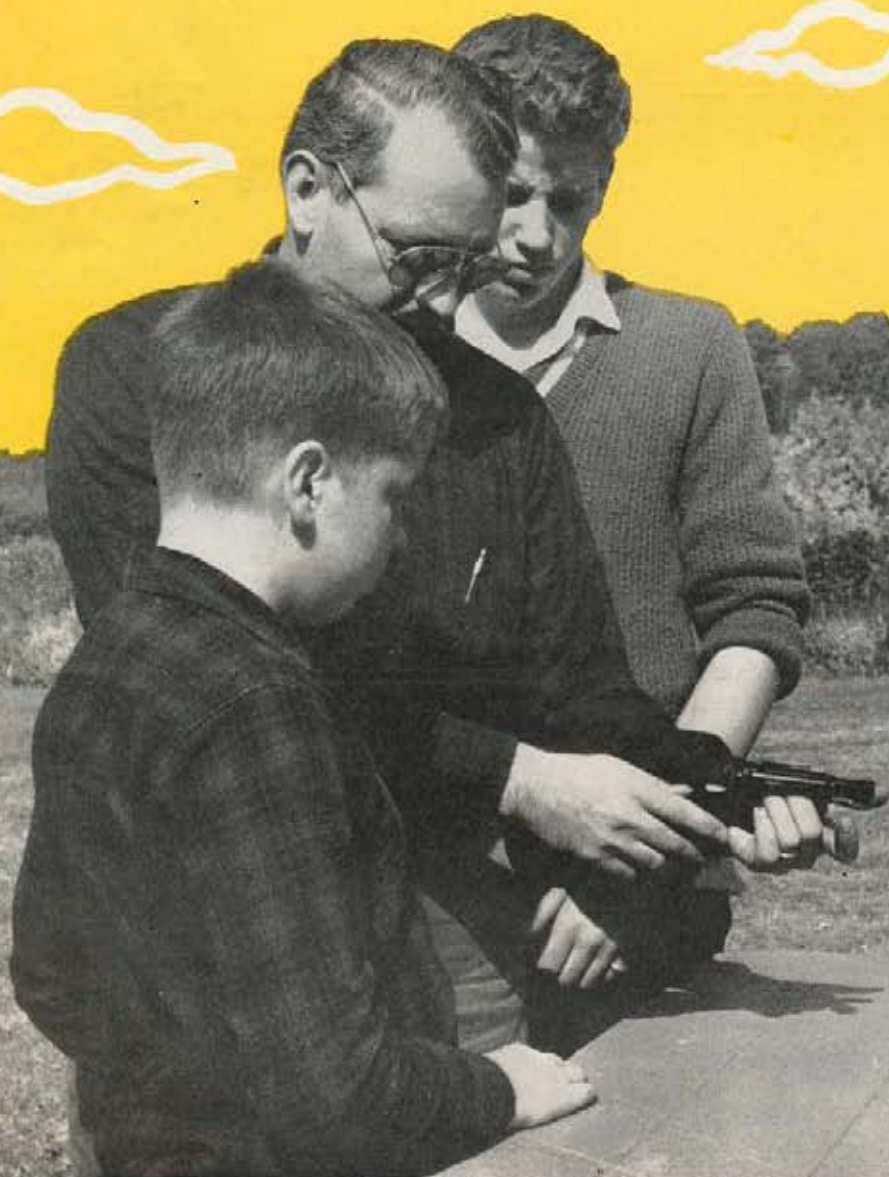
A GUN IN YOUR HOME
MAY SAVE YOUR LIFE, AND EVEN THE
MUCH MALIGNED "BUREAU DRAWER"
GUN IS SAFE IF THE FAMILY
UNDERSTANDS AND RESPECTS IT



Gun Safety Begins At

By BILL CLEDE

Good scores are a matter of practice and training. Kids should be taught how to handle your home gun safely.



Home...

WE HEAR SO MUCH these days about crimes committed with guns; why is it that we hear so little about crimes *prevented* by guns? There are almost as many of the latter as of the former, but the former gets the headlines. Usually, you have to look among the smaller items on page three to find the mention of the armed citizen who foiled a criminal.

In Elmont, New York, a man saw a burglar enter his neighbor's house. Knowing that his neighbor was absent, the man got his target pistol, called the police, stepped outside just in time to see the burglar leaving the house. He fired a warning shot, cornered the burglar, and waited for the police to come and get him.

In San Mateo, Florida, a woman alone in her home heard a burglar trying to force entry. She met him with her husband's rifle as he came through the broken door, fired three quick shots. Wounded, the man was quickly captured.

A burglar broke into a home in Washington, D. C. The home owner, a policeman, met the intruder with his service revolver. When the paddy-wagon arrived to take him away, the man was bemoaning his luck in happening to choose the home of a policeman. He wouldn't have picked it if he had known that the man inside was armed; crooks want better odds than that. And some of our lawmakers seem intent on



There is a wide choice of handguns for you. Author tested these, and your selection will depend on personal preference, what other uses gun will see, and whether you like a revolver or an automatic.

seeing to it that the crooks get those better odds.

I asked a delegate to the Swiss Legation how they dealt with armed crime in Switzerland. "Armed crime?" he said. "We don't have any . . . Well, I shouldn't say that. Once a car-load of Frenchmen crossed the border and robbed a bank in a small town. They had guns. But so did the citizens of the small town. The luckiest one of those bandits got less than 500 feet after leaving the bank."

But we needn't go to Switzerland to prove the power of an armed citizenry in the prevention of crime. Two of the great criminal groups in American history, the James Gang and the Daltons, were shot to pieces by citizens using their own guns. No wonder the criminal is for anti-gun legislation! The home without a gun, the store without a gun is easy pickings.

"But," we are told, "it is the job of the police to stop crime!" True, the policeman is trained to cope with criminals, will do so when he can. But he can't be everywhere at once. How many times does a policeman just happen to be present when a crime is being committed? The man who burglarizes your home, the man who stages a store robbery, plans his work to avoid police interference.

Time was when many policemen joined with their enemies, the crooks, in favoring anti-gun legislation, on the theory that if only the police had guns, policemen wouldn't get shot. But police thinking has changed, as witness the statement recently published by the National Police Officers Association (GUNS, February, 1963). Straight-thinking law enforcement groups realize now that the armed citizen can and does assist the policeman in his fight

against crime, that the armed citizen does not shoot cops, that the man who shoots cops is the criminal, and that no anti-gun law has or will prevent the criminal from getting guns.

A gun in the home or store can save your property, may save your life. But the gun, like every other tool, like every other facility of modern living, requires understanding and proper treatment. Just as you must learn and teach your children how to use but not misuse the electricity, the hot water, the heating appliances, the medicines,

the knives and saws and scissors and matches in your home, so you must learn and teach the rules applying to the gun. Jim Dee of Sportsmens Service Bureau puts it succinctly: "Guns don't kill people; people kill people. The gun will stand in its rack until it rusts away, and never do any harm; it's only when an ignorant or careless person picks it up that the dangerous ingredient is added."

See to it that there are no ignorant or careless persons in your home. See to it that everyone in your home under-

stands the gun, understands and respects its potential, is ready and able not only to obey but to enforce the rules regarding it. Or, if there are persons in your home too young to teach, or too irresponsible to be trusted, then you must safeguard the gun—just as you safeguard dangerous medicines or tools. Neither the teaching nor the safeguarding is difficult; and the children who are your first concern are often the easiest to teach.

Youngsters, boys and girls alike, are curious about guns. Satisfy that curiosity. Show them how the gun works, how it must and must not be handled. Take them out to a range or a safe place and let them shoot. Fill a tin can with water and show the child how the bullet, when it strikes that target, explodes it, spewing water in all directions. The child who sees that demonstration quickly gets the message that the gun contains *power*, that unleashing that power produces drastic results, that this is no toy but a force to be respected. You can teach them that shooting is fun, too—but that, like all games, it must be played according to the rules.

Safeguarding the gun is easy, too. Of course you can lock it up, or hide it in an inaccessible place—but that defeats its purpose. It won't be handy if you need it. Separating the gun and the ammunition is better, even though it means some delay in readying the gun for use. In most cases, the few seconds delay involved won't matter.

An auto-loading pistol can be left empty, with a loaded magazine handy but apart from the gun. When needed, it takes only a few seconds to snap the magazine in place, work the slide, and be ready. A revolver takes a little longer, since each cartridge has to be dropped into its place in the cylinder; but with a little practice, this can be done in the dark and very quickly.

Or, if you like, your defense gun can be a rifle or a shotgun. Either will get the job done; and you need only to read western history to know that the shotgun is one of the world's best and most respected protectors! The man who looks into the muzzle of a smooth-bore at close range is not likely to argue!

But the usual concept of the gun for defense is the handgun, and the inevitable question arises—which handgun? Which type, and what caliber?

A lot depends on you. How well can you shoot, (Continued on page 38)



The .22 can double as plinker for the whole family. Taught right, youngster learns easily.



Rifles and shotguns are locked in their rack, target pistols are kept in pistol box. Cans show potential power of guns.





1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8



9

Identification Chart For .450 Cartridges

By GRAHAM BURNSIDE

I ONCE WROTE an article on cartridge headstamps and in it mentioned that I had twenty-some different variations of the .450 revolver cartridge. Shortly after the article was published, I was asked by a collector how it was possible to have so many variations of a round that is considered uncommon in this country today.

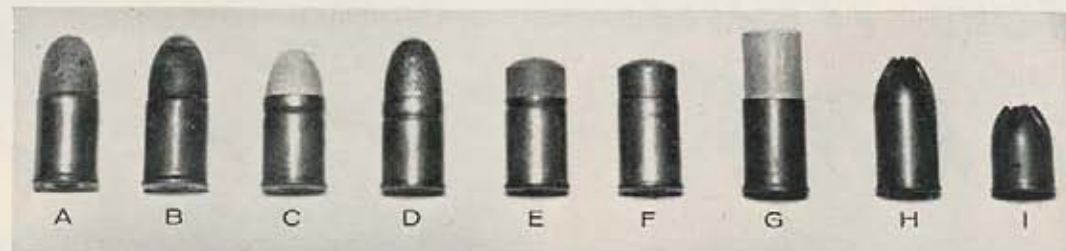
Generally speaking, the old .450 English cartridge is uncommon—in shooting quantities; but for a collector it is not hard to find. I think that most American collectors are prone to overlook specimens that seem to be something they already have, and are perplexed and confused by the various European revolver cartridges that are not easily recognized for what they are. It is quite understandable that the various .440's, .430, .442, .450's, and .455's are not unraveled without a certain amount of study. Sadly enough, there are not many collectors in America who are willing to undertake such a study.

The problem can be resolved partly by obtaining a copy of "Centerfire American and British Pistol and Revolver Cartridges" by H. P. White and B. D. Munhall. This book is accurate and comprehensive and will help greatly.

I'm not able to give the collecting world a rapid and sure-fire system for identifying the various cartridges mentioned above. I will say, however, that one must be cautious to exclude specimens of the European 12 mm center-fire revolver cartridge from the .450's. I am guilty of this error and had a 12 mm round with my .450's. for about six years.

It will always be a problem that many makers, at one time or another, used no headstamps. So many obviously different issues are found that are unmarked that the resulting complication is enough to discourage even an ardent student. Another disturbing point is that the chosen specifications of any given cartridge may, and usually does, vary from one manufacturer to the next.

(Continued on page 55)



Ball loads were manufactured by European concerns. 1. Munitionswerk Schoenbeck on the Elbe, Germany. 2. Braun & Bloem of Dusseldorf, Germany. 3. Georg Egestroff, Linden, Hanover, Germany. 4. Hirtenberg Patronenfabrik, Vienna, Austria. 5. G. Roth, Vienna, Austria. 6. Societe Francaise des Munitions, Paris, France. 7. Weeks & Co., Dublin, Ireland. 8. A.W.A. unknown, and 9. Pirlot Freres, details also unknown.

A. Mark I service, no headstamp. 2. Mark II service, marked "Eley Bros." C. Service round, drawn brass case, "Eley .450" with 2 broad arrows. D. Commercial, "Kynoch 450." E. Commercial, 220 gr. "Manstopper" lead bullet, "Eley 450." F. Ditto, marked "Kynoch .450" G. Commercial shot load, "Eley London .450." H. Commercial long blank, "Kynoch .450." I. Short blank is also marked with a "Kynoch .450" stamp.

HUNTERS WHO WANT SHORT-RIFLE HANDINESS PLUS

SUPER-MAGNUM SPEED AND POWER MUST PAY FOR THEM IN BLAST AND KICK

TOWARD THE END of the 20s, I shot elk and deer along the upper reaches of the Flatland in Montana with a Model '95 lever action .30-40. I thought it was quite a rifle and cartridge. The barrel was 28 inches in length. Later on, I took this long musket down into New Mexico. I was a forest ranger in those days, and I packed it on the saddle every day. Nobody told me it was too long for saddle carry.

Later on, I signed on as a border patrol man out of El Paso. Right there, I found out the old '95 with its 28" barrel was too long. We patrolled the border throughout the town of El Paso in cars. Sometimes a car would get ambushed, and during these lively moments, it was always thought best to bail out as pronto as you could. This wasn't too easy with that 28" guntube. I gave the gun to an Indian.

These days, you can't find a sporting rifle with a barrel as long as 28 inches. The rifle barrel is growing shorter and shorter. The term carbine used to be slapped on any rifle with a tube as stubby as 24 inches. Now, this dimension is regarded as standard rifle length, and the term "carbine" is passing from the picture. The 22-inch barrel is coming on fast and lengths of 18 and 20 inches are offered.

At least one big company now pushes its bread-and-butter gun, the old .35 lever action, with a Ned Buntline barrel measurement of 16¼ inches.

Where are we headed? When is this trend to shorter and shorter barrels to end? What are the right-now implications?

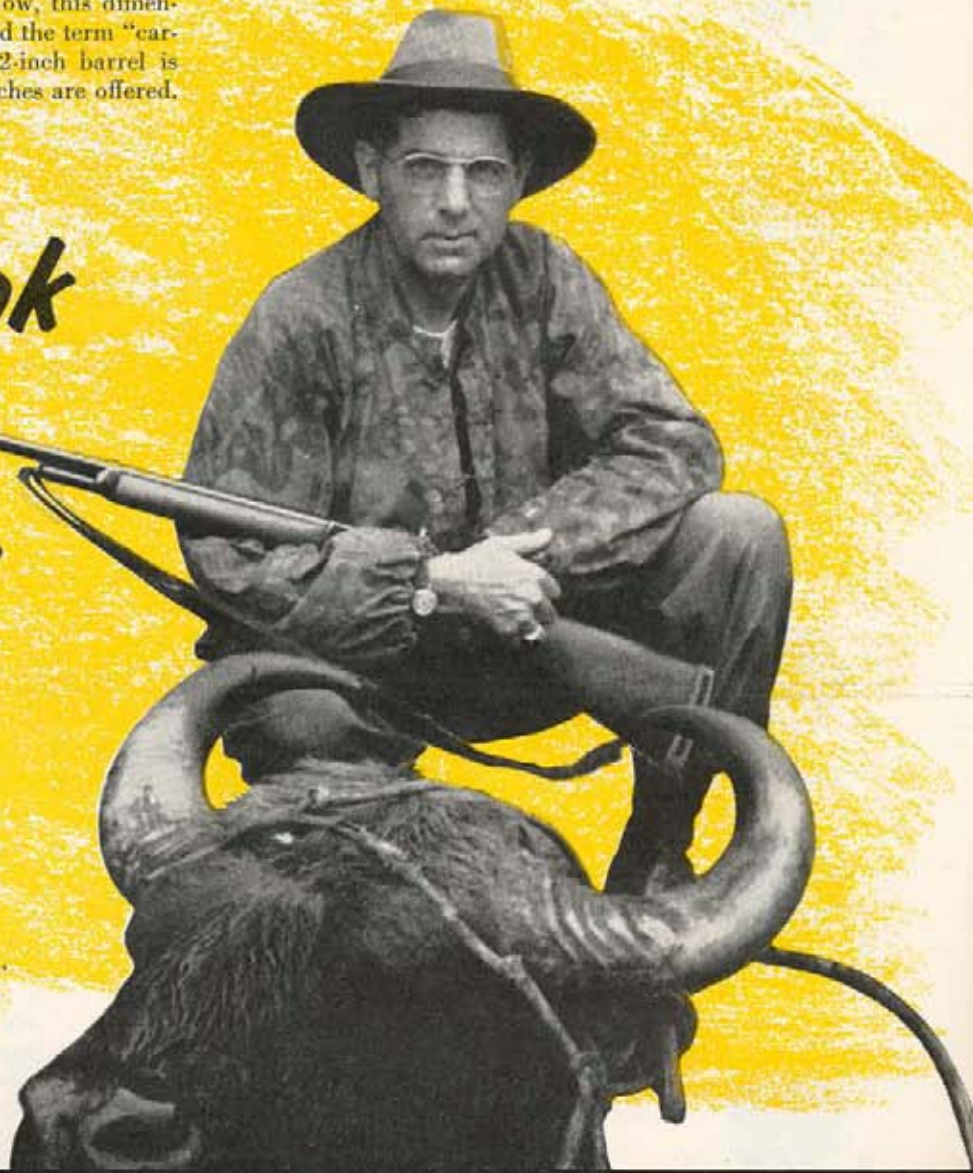
These be good questions, but it is easier to answer them by going at them backward. The present implications are fairly obvious; but as for how far we are going down the road of chopped-off gun barrels is the 64-thousand-buck question, no pun intended. As for today's implications, let's have a look.

A sporting rifle with a short tube is sure handy. Everybody packs a rifle in his light truck in my country. The shooting iron hangs on a rack behind the driver's head. All he needs do is to make an overhand swipe for it, and he

A Hard Look at the New Trend in Rifles

By COLONEL CHARLES ASKINS

Model 71 Winchester with a short tube in wildcat .450 caliber did down this gour, but was inadequate for big and dangerous game in Indo-China jungles.



is ready to shoot. He pokes the short muzzle over the door, and fires. (Generally, he is in the confines of his own rancho, and this then is only partially illegal. Other times, he is on a country road, and then it is altogether against the law. Neither circumstance long holds up the shot.)

Car shooting lays a high premium on the abbreviated barrel. The shorter it is, the handier. A wacked-off number bellers like a King-ranch bull, but when you hang the muzzle outside the car, as when shooting over the door, the sound wave does not hit the shooter's ear too hard.

But the popularity of the new style of musket is by no means confined to west Texas gun rannies; it sells like pinto ponies to a lot of fellers. Everyone, it seems, wants a lighter, shorter, and more handy gun.

If you haven't tried it, don't knock it. There's a lot to be said for the compact number. It works fine in and out

of a car, in and out of a saddle scabbard, in and out of a plane or boat, or out of a clump of alders. I like these snub-nosed shooters—up to a point.

Going over to the Vietnamese war a few years ago, I picked up a .348 Winchester lever action which had been rebarreled to a .450 caliber. The .348 case had been sized up to take a 400-grain Barnes bullet, and the action altered to handle the wildcat. It looked pretty good—until I glanced down at the barrel. This was a skinny 20½ inches. The work-over job was the specialty of a gent up in Alaska who was used to prowling around in the alder clumps prying out the world's largest carnivore. My Indochinese jungles were just as dense, but I never could stomach that belly-gun length of rifle tube. Maybe I'll come to like 20-inch barrels some day, but up to now, that is just too short.

As these lines see the light, I (Continued on page 50)



Remington offers a number of rifles with the short barrels, especially the Model 742. Cat hunting Askins, right, used an Improved '06 with 20½ inch barrel. In brush and mountain hunting, the shorter guns offer an advantage.



Reducing barrel length does reduce velocity, and in the case of the .264 Winchester Mag., short barrels bring velocities to .270 level.



WORLD'S LARGEST COLLECTION OF AMERICA'S GREATEST SHOOTERS' BARGAINS

ENFIELD NO. 1 MK III!

Col. .303



The incredible No. 1 MK III Enfield—pride of the British army—now in the well protected Irish version right down to the spark-lime regimental brass disc. Used as late as 1950 in Korea and still in Empire use—BUT NOT THESE! NOT THE IRISH SHAMROCK MODEL! While the OTHERS have fought their way to glory through mire and mud, THESE have been carefully stored for the glory which is YOURS today. All in good or much better condition. MOST very good or much better only \$3.00 more. You'll never find THIS superb model in THIS condition again at THIS price, so throw your other rifles away TODAY and back in the glow of a certified certificate included. SHAMROCK Enfield. Bayonets with scabbards only \$1.75 w/rifle!

ONLY \$14.95!

ROYAL ENFIELD NO. 4 SERVICE RIFLE!

Col. .303



NEW SHIPMENT of unlimited quantities of the superb Royal Enfield No. 4 Service Rifle—pride of the British Empire—still in use. Strictly a NEW lot, all carefully inspected and cleaned prior to shipment—not the over-worn grease-covered pre-used in front line service as late as Korea—many still in use. Perhaps your last chance to own a genuine Royal Enfield "the finest rifle in the world." All in good or better condition and a few VERY GOOD only \$3.00 more. Prone Bayonets only \$1.00 when ordered with rifle. The very finest of the very finest! Don't delay!

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CUSTOM ROYAL ENFIELD M60 SPORTER!

Col. .303



The final solution to all your shooting desires. A REAL professional conversion of the light-weight No. 1 Mk III performed by the world-famous Cogswell & Harrison gun-makers of London. The rifle that has all gunshots taking a real eye-stopper at any gun show. Completely refinished and polished with sporter ramp front sight, sporter swivels and sporter type black forearm tip. A symbol of status devoid of rakish snobbery. The best dollar for dollar buy ANYWHERE. Insist only on a Cogswell & Harrison conversion—the marvel of our age! Why pay more? Place your order now!

ONLY \$24.95!

RUSSIAN MODEL 91/30!

Col. 7.62 Russian



Stupendous! The 1900 Olympic Biathlon Champion—the rifle that won five out of the first six places during the Winter Olympics at Squaw Valley. Be your local range champ—watch your associates throw away their over-priced, over-scoped "masterpieces." Enjoy the true laugh of your life. Fair to good condition—some absolutely select only \$3.00 more! A prize Western purchase of Eastern exotic!

ONLY \$9.95!

M1938 RUSSIAN CARBINES!

Col. 7.62 Russian



Still another exciting Western purchase of Eastern exotic—the one and only M1938 Russian Carbine. One of the very last models of the stalwart Mosin bolt action series. A true Carbine with 20" barrel. Worth double on the collector market in any condition, but yours complete and in good shooting condition. Nikita still trembles with rage at the thought of Stalin losing these—the very issue that triggered the anti-Stalinist line. All in GOOD condition with few very good!

ONLY \$19.95!

IMPROVED M40 TOKAREV!

Col. 7.62 Russian



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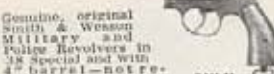


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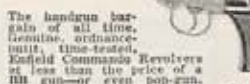


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(Those few with asterisk (*) above are partially shootable but fully componentable.)

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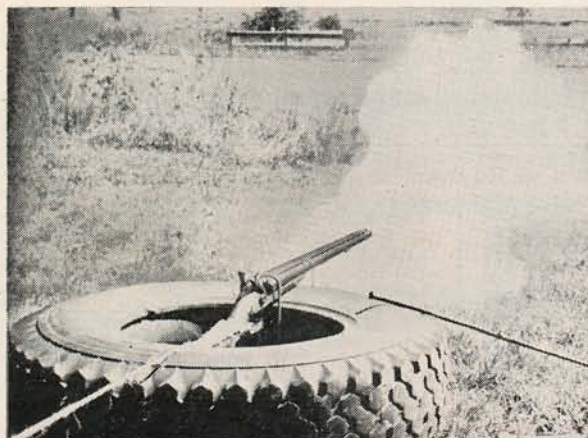


Use plastic bottles to carry measured shot and powder charges afield. Gun is 12 ga. Richards.



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To proof test your refurbished gun, use heavy tire and two U-shaped metal rods that will hold gun in place. Use lanyard to pull the trigger.



Comparison of lengths is made by placing a 12 gauge Parker with 28 inch barrels on top. Next is a Stevens Model 124 C bolt-action, below a 12 gauge Richards with 29 inch barrels.

By DONALD B. WEBSTER, JR.

HUNTING WITH a muzzle loading shotgun is fun, it's different, and it's a lot less expensive than feeding your smoothbore factory fodder. There is no use denying that there is a certain amount of romance in dragging grandpa's muzzle loading percussion double through the field, and by choice I have been doing just that for several hunting seasons. For every hunter I met who laughed at me, there have been at least three others who wanted to know where I got the gun, what I feed it, and if it is really safe to shoot one of these old-timers.

Telling you where to find a good muzzle loader is like telling a hunter where to find a pheasant. Maybe everywhere, maybe nowhere. The more alert gun dealers are likely to have one or more on hand or know where you can buy one. Gun collectors often have one that was picked up in a trade. Sometimes muzzle loaders show up at country auctions, and even antique shops have them. There's no end to the possibilities, but there are pitfalls. For every good, shootable shotgun that I've found, I've looked at twenty that were either in poor or worse condition or were

originally cheap guns of poor quality. These guns are not shootable and are a waste of money.

Look for guns with stocks that have no cracks or chips, barrels without dents, serious rust pits, or scale rust, and locks that are complete and operate, preferably smoothly. Don't buy a scattergun on which metal parts, especially the locks, are poorly fitted to the wood—it's likely to be a cheap gun. The better grade muzzle loaders have twist barrels, but the very lowest quality guns may have barrels of wrought iron sheet lapped and welded. These guns should be avoided.

Once you have your shotgun, check to see if it's loaded—many are! Measure the barrel length outside with the ramrod and check for the same length inside. If there's a two inch difference, you have to pull the load with a ramrod worm.

With the ramrod removed from the barrel, half-cock the hammers and pull out the key that holds the barrels to the forestock. The barrels can then be lifted off. The percussion nipples, after soaking in kerosene (Continued on page 47)



With hammers resting on nipples, charge each tube with 2.5 drams of Fg powder from powder flask.



Seat base wad with ramrod over the powder, but be certain that it is seated properly. Then pour shot on top of base wad. Here 1 1/8 ounce of #6 shot is poured from plastic pill container in field.



Top wad must sit squarely on shot and must fit bore tightly. If it fits too snugly, it can be notched to let air escape. Put hammer on half cock, seat cap firmly with hammer, fire.



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GUN SAFETY BEGINS AT HOME

(Continued from page 30)

and do you want to use this gun for other purposes? If so, what purposes?

If you will own only one handgun, and if you want to use it for fun-shooting, you'll look longingly at the guns chambered for .22 Long Rifle. But are they "defense weapons?"

Don't let anybody kid you, the lowly .22 L.R. can lay a burglar low, all right. (There is also the argument, and it is true, that the sight of the gun in your hand will often serve the defense purpose, without recourse to the bullet.) The better you can shoot, the more effective the small gun becomes. I can't recommend the .22 as a fighting weapon—it lacks the necessary stopping power; but if your primary reason for buying the gun is to have fun with it, and if you can afford only the one handgun, the .22 is not to be sneezed at. Many he-men (on both sides of the law) will sneer at it as a pip-squeak, but not many will relish going against it!

If you decide on the .22 revolver or pistol, you have scores to choose from, at as many prices. The snub-nose models won't give you top target accuracy because of their short sight radius, but they will stay inside the 9-ring on the Slow Fire target at 25 yards, and that's plenty good enough for "defense" shooting.

Next come the tiny .25 automatics. Both the Junior Colt and the Browning .25 were represented in our shooting tests, and their convenient size makes them attractive. Accuracy-wise, they are difficult to evaluate on the target range because of the extremely

short sight radius and lack of a man-size grip. But at short range, you can keep all of your shots on the target; and, after all, these are intended as short range guns to be fired more by pointing than by aiming.

In this category, I'd also list High Standard's new Derringer. It is a two-barrelled over-and-under with an enclosed hammer. It can be fired double action only, and I found that it worked best using the second finger on the trigger. It does point naturally and lends itself well to "combat-style" shooting. Grab it with your whole hand and close your fist. So handled, its shots went into a man-size target.

Another category of automatics that offer convenient size yet more punch from the muzzle are the .380s. In this list you'll find guns by Browning, Star, Beretta, Walther, and others, including second-hand Colts. These, too, are intended for short range work. They have short barrels, and sight radius. Yet with both the Browning and Star Starfire, I had not trouble keeping the shots on the little NRA Ranger target at 25 yards.

Next, let's look at the bigger automatics—the 9 mms, .38s, and .45s. Our GI .45, is probably the most widely used defense handgun, if only because it has been around so long. Every veteran is familiar with it; it's big, bulky, and heavy, but a burglar hit by it doesn't run far.

But the .45 is not exactly a "fun gun," and many people (including ex-GIs) object to its blast, its recoil, its pretty rugged shooting characteristics. There are more convenient models in 9 mm and .38 Super Auto that are quite adequate for the job under discussion, and a lot easier to use. The three used in our tests were the Colt Commander in .38 Super Auto, the Browning 9 mm, and the S&W Model 39 9 mm. (Please don't ask me to make a choice among the three; I couldn't. That's why I own so many guns! Each has features that make it desirable, and only you know what features you like best.)

The S&W, with its double action, can be carried or kept with a round in the chamber and the hammer on half cock. All it takes is a pull of the trigger. The Colt Commander seems less bulky, but they are virtually the same size and they both retail for about \$85. The S&W has no grip safety, but it has a magazine safety, and the thumb safety drops the hammer as it is put on. The Colt has a grip safety but no magazine safety. Basically, the Commander is a shortened and lightened version of the Government Model .45. . . The Browning, which retails for about \$75, holds 13 cartridges while the S&W and Colt hold eight and nine respectively.

On the range, all three guns were comparable. They were comfortable to shoot, and they put their slugs right where my wavering hand was aiming them.

In big bore revolvers, there is also a wide choice of models that can serve you well as home defense guns. Because of their compact size, the guns tested in this group were the snub-nose .38 Special revolvers, popular with men who carry concealed weapons in their work. These include the Colt Agent, Cobra, and Detective Special; the Smith &

(Continued on page 40)

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DEALER INQUIRIES INVITED

(Continued from page 38)

Wesson Chief's Special, Centennial, and Bodyguard; and the Astra Cadix.

None of these 2-inch barrel revolvers are target guns. The front and rear sights are only about 3½ inches apart. They, too, are intended for close range use, and you'll probably shoot better with them by pointing rather than trying to aim at a bullseye.

Keep your eyes focused on the target, poke the gun out at about shoulder height, and pull the trigger. A little practice with this technique and you'll soon be putting all your shots on a silhouette target. Your peripheral vision picks up the image of the gun and helps to point it wherever your eyes are looking.

When you're learning to shoot these little powerhouses, it's a good idea to start out close to the target. Fifteen yards is plenty; if you're a beginner, stand even closer. You can work back to greater distances as your scores improve.

These short-barrel jobs are very much alike in the features they offer. All have the safety bar that falls in front of the hammer except when the trigger is full back. The Colts have six shot cylinders; the S&Ws have five. Sacrificing the one cartridge permits a smaller cylinder.

Both Colt and S&W offer a protected hammer, partially enclosed, so the hammer spur will not catch on clothing or pull out a stack of handkerchiefs as you take it from the bedside table. Colt offers an accessory shroud. The S&W Bodyguard frame extends out to the arc of the hammer fall. With

either of these, the hammer is protected but you can still get your thumb on the knurling to cock it for single action firing.

One revolver that provides the greatest safety potential of all as a home defense gun is the S&W Centennial. Its hammer is completely inside the frame, and it has a grip safety. About ten pounds pressure is required to pull a revolver double action but, with the Centennial, the heel of your hand has to depress the grip safety at the same time. Tiny fingers would have a difficult time with this handgun.

Then there are the miniature cannons—the Colt's Python, Ruger Blackhawk, and S&W Magnum, in .357 Magnum, (not to mention the still bigger .44 Magnums) which give you a power potential equalling that of a small rifle. These are the real men-stoppers, but it is doubtful that the average citizen needs this much power in a house gun. For that purpose, I'd say look to .38 Special revolvers or 9 mm automatics. The .22s and .25s are better than nothing, but they don't offer much in stopping power. The .380s are a good compromise. And, of course, your decision will be influenced by what other uses you may want to make of the gun. Consider all angles before you decide.

But however you decide, remember that the ownership of a gun brings responsibility with it. Only you can be sure that everyone in your house respects the gun. Only you can provide it with a safe storage place. Only you will determine whether the gun is an asset (as it definitely can be) or a liability.

LUGER

SHIPMENT FROM PORTUGAL!

Rare offering of Model 1900/06 Portuguese Luger. Made by Deutsche Waffen und Munitionsfabriken.

Specifications: 7.65 Luger caliber (ammunition made in the U.S. by Remington, Winchester, Western & Peters). Slim 4¼" barrel. Original deep blueing. Matching numbers. Original magazine. Original checkered hardwood grips.

Probably the last of the great Luger finds since this famous German sidearm went out of production in 1942. The last of the Portuguese kings, Manuel II, ordered this small lot in 1910, the last year of his reign. He was succeeded by the present republic. This famous Luger model has never been seen in the United States and single specimens of the Portuguese 7.65MM model have regularly sold for \$300-\$350 in recent years. We have been negotiating for the release of this lot at intervals over the past ten years and we are proud to announce that this once-in-a-lifetime shipment has finally reached our harbor.

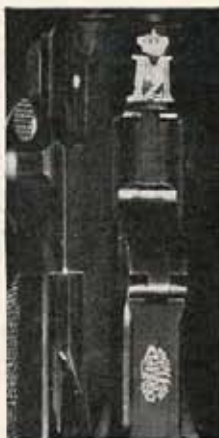
This is a prime collector's piece. The slim 4¼" barrel is beautifully proportioned to the frame making this one of the classics of the Luger family. The coat of arms of Manuel II appears over the chamber in clean precise engraving, consisting of the initial "M" with the numeral "2" intertwined, surmounted by the Portuguese crown. All parts bear matched serial numbers. The Portuguese proof mark, consisting of an encircled triangle appears on many of the exterior parts. The word "Carregada" meaning "Loaded" appears on the extractor instead of the usual German "Geladen."

Blueing is original, deep and rich. All markings are clear and precise indicating that the weapons have never been reblued. In short, this is a collector's purchase of a lifetime. A fantastically rare piece, a pleasure to own, shoot and display and a sound investment for the future. Commercial ammunition is available at all gun stores or you may order a supply from us along with your Luger.

TO ORDER: Send check or money order, \$10 deposit for C.O.D. 10-day money back guarantee. **ENCLOSE SIGNED STATEMENT:** "I am not an alien, have never been convicted of crime of violence, am not under indictment or fugitive, am 21 or over." Mass., Mo., Mich., N.Y., N.J., N.C., R.I., Omaha, N. Orleans require permits. Enclose with order.



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SKEET—INTERNATIONAL STYLE

(Continued from page 21)

skeet competition, and its team was trounced by those of the USSR, Canada, and Venezuela!

The reason for this loss of leadership in international skeet shooting competition is obvious. The United States has always had far more skeet shooters firing at far more clay pigeons each year than any other country, including the new giant in international skeet competition, Russia. Last year, the United States had over 6,000 registered skeet shooters and about 1000 registered skeet shoots! And our gunners are as good as any in the world. The main reason for our poor showing, from 1955 until 1962, in the international shoots was that United States shooters had to do practically all their shooting under U.S. National Skeet Shooting Association rules, with little opportunity to practice under the very different International Shooting Union rules that govern the big world shoots!

United States skeet rules allow a style of shooting that makes it easier to hit the fast flying clay birds than does the style required at world and Olympic shoots by international rules. Under the unilateral U.S. rules, the shooter may have his gun at his shoulder, ready to fire when the bird leaves the trap house. Under international rules the butt of the shooter's gun must be touching his body below the waist when the bird emerges! Under U.S. rules, the shooter knows his bird will emerge instantly when he calls for it. Under international rules, the bird may streak from the house at any time within a long three seconds after the call! Under U.S. rules, the shooter need only have a part of his feet in the shooting box at each station when he shoots. Under international rules, both the shooter's feet must be planted squarely within the boundaries when he fires. After one warning by the referee of an infraction of this rule, any bird shot from a "foot fault" stance is counted lost.

Of course, a second reason countries like the USSR have an advantage in international skeet is that, although they have fewer shooters, those shooters do almost nothing but shoot skeet! They are subsidized and don't have to worry about the cost of practice or competition. Our shooters are all amateurs, and they individually or voluntarily sponsoring organizations must bear the cost of their practice and of their travel to and from the shoots. But it's safe to say that in skeet this cost factor would not be decisive if our shooters were used to busting birds under international rules.

Colonel Marriot put it this way after his 100-straight triumph in Colorado. "I shot over my head. So did Clark and Shaw with their 99's. We just don't have enough international-style shooting in the United States today to develop the caliber of shooters we must have to win consistently in the world shoots. I'm convinced that the only real solution is for us to go over to international rules in all our shoots if we want to win abroad."

Lieutenant Clark has represented the United States on three international trap teams, and has watched our international skeet teams in action. He has developed into one of the top international-style skeet shooters in the United States today. In addition

to breaking 99 targets in the Colorado shoot, Clark has better than a 97.5 average, shooting international-style targets, and he was the 1961 U.S. International Style Skeet Champion. I interviewed Clark and he agreed with Marriot. Clark stated: "I'm sure that the United States has the world's best shot-gunners. If we would go over to international rules, we would probably take most, if not all, of the future world and Olympic titles. But no one can shoot nine out of ten of his targets U.S. style most of each year, and then win world events shooting international style. USSR shooters *always* shoot international style. So do shooters in most other countries. That's the real reason we're licked before we start in the pay-off matches."

There is a lot of evidence to support these views... and a lot of shooters who share this belief, and who would like to see the United States go over to international rules. There were ten shooters I never saw before sitting around a table with me at the Colorado shoot. I asked them, "How many of you would vote for going completely over to international rules?" Nine of them voted "Yes!"

George White, Secretary of the National Skeet Shooting Association, summarizes the Association's position as follows: "We tried the old low-gun and delayed-bird rules, and found them tough to enforce. Our members demanded more enforceable rules, and we gave them just that. Thousands of our shooters have been shooting all their lives under our

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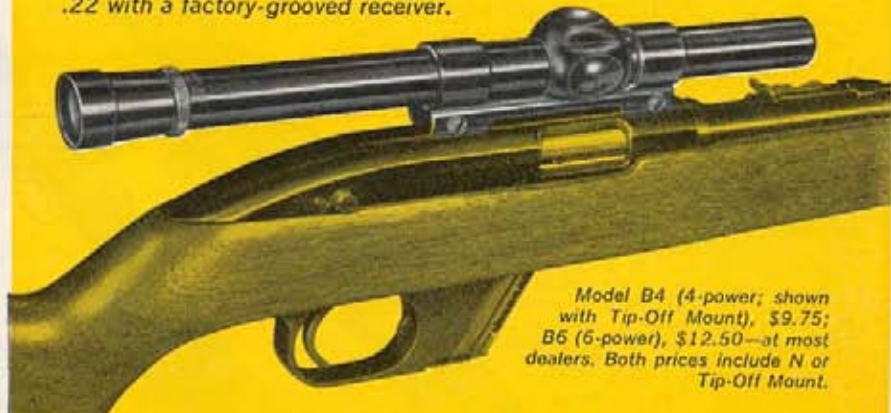
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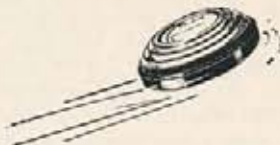
rules. If we changed over to international style, we would probably lose a lot of them. In our shoots, we shoot four guns: the .410, 28, 20, and 12 gauge. There's not even a Russian who could shoot the small guns well international style. For these reasons, we believe that the majority of our shooters don't want a change."

The position of the NSSA certainly has merit. But many shooters believe that the NSSA membership would vote for international rules with all guns, if they were polled. However, since the Colorado shoot, the NSSA has formed a new International Division within NSSA, and this should do a lot to encourage more clubs to hold international-style events in connection with their regular U.S.-style shoots. Shooters wishing to participate in these international style events are charged an extra dollar membership fee. The International Division of NSSA uses these proceeds to maintain separate official records and averages for all shooters who register for international style shooting.

At the Colorado shoot, some 150,000 targets were thrown over a five day period at the ten tough Air Defense Command ranges, and nearly 90 per cent of them were hit! This made a lot of black smoke, and most of it seemed to settle on the perspiring faces of the shooters. One of the blackest but happiest faces was that of Ken Sedlecky, of the U.S. Navy's Air Facility at Andrews Air Force Base, Maryland, who captured the coveted 1962 Armed Forces All-Gauge title. Sedlecky fired at 200 singles and doubles with his trusty 12 gauge, and broke 199 of them. But so did four other shooters! Sedlecky then broke 275 more straight tar-

gets to win the shoot-off! Lieutenant Jim Clark broke 274 straight shoot-off pigeons to place 2nd, while Sergeant Ross Helm broke 150 to place 3rd. Sedlecky also became the new 1962 Armed Forces High-Over-All Champion by breaking 490 out of 500 targets with all four guns!

In addition, Ken Sedlecky paired with teammate Allen Buntrock to capture both the 12 and 28 gauge Two-Man Team Title. Ken will be another top contender for a



slot on the team that represents the United States in next October's World Championships at Caracas. Ken was the one man I interviewed at the Colorado shoot who, like George White, does not feel the United States should go completely over to international style shooting.

The biggest surprise at the Colorado shoot was provided by an unheard-of team from Ent Air Force Base. This five-man group beat every other Service, Unit, and Base team by breaking 987 out of a 1000 targets!

Again, the biggest significance of the Colorado shoot was not in the size or in the high scores posted. The real story of the Colorado shoot was that it set the precedent of holding international-style events in connection with our big skeet shoots. The Air Defense Command will hold four big international-style matches in 1963. Other clubs across the country will do the same. Even our U.S.

National Championships now include international-style events.

Another big story springing from the Colorado shoot was that of Ken Pendergras. Ken did well in Colorado, but he captured no top honors. But at the Olympic Championships in Cairo last October, this modest little guy teamed with Ed Calhoun, Tom Heffron, and Bob Rodale to stun the world by nosing out the USSR team for the World Team Championship! They posted a new Olympic team record by breaking 394 out of 400 targets, *shooting international style!* This was the first time the United States had taken a World Championship since 1954! But complacency in U.S. skeet shooting circles is still not in order. The USSR made a clean sweep of both first and second places in the individual competition at Cairo!

In spite of the inspiring U.S. team victory at Cairo, many top-ranked skeet shooters still feel that the only way of assuring future U.S. international victories in both team and individual competition is to throw out unilateral U.S. rules and go over completely to shooting international style. George White and Ken Sedlecky and others believe that holding international-style events, along with our U.S.-style shoots, as was done at Colorado last year, will do the job. They point out that the new International Division of NSSA, working with the NRA, should stimulate enough international-style shooting and practice for U.S. shooters. Our prestige abroad is the stake. Has the United States done enough to stretch its comeback in international skeet shooting to a victory at the next World Championships in Caracas in October? We hope so!

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COLONEL FOUNTAIN'S PRESENTATION RIFLE

(Continued from page 27)

Albert Fountain found life pleasant in El Paso, and married a handsome young woman of a prominent Spanish-American family. Soon he was a leading figure in the organization which then controlled El Paso politics. He acted as public surveyor and later became deputy collector of customs.

About 110 miles east of El Paso was a great lake of salt known variously as the Salt Lakes of El Paso, or Guadalupe Lakes. It was a long-established custom that Mexicans from both sides of the line should have free access to this salt. After the Civil War, however, some greedy persons cast speculative eyes on the salt beds and sought to obtain title to the land and charge \$1 per *janega* (2½ bushels) for the salt. There followed a long period of bloodshed which was known as the El Paso Salt War. Involved were the Texas Rangers, politicians, an Italian priest, and many others.

Albert Fountain led the faction which favored free salt, and he became very popular with the majority of El Paso citizens. In 1869, he was elected to the state Senate, where he served for four years. In this period, he served as president of the Senate and received an appointment as brigadier general of State Police. It was at about this time that the oldtimers and solid citizens of the west Texas area adjacent to El Paso presented to Albert Fountain that fine Winchester Model 1866 rifle pictured here. His record as a soldier and as a champion of the people, regardless of race origins, had won him the status of a local hero.

Politics in El Paso took a turn for the worse, and Fountain's Salt War enemies sought to have him indicted for alleged illegal acts. When this ruse was unsuccessful, an attempt was made on his life. He was attacked and wounded by A. H. French, who then killed Judge Gaylord Clarke and was in turn fatally shot himself.

Later, Fountain, fully recovered from his wound and with the rank of Colonel, assisted General Benito Juarez in the taking of Chihuahua. Then, conditions in El Paso being increasingly bad, Col. Fountain moved, in 1875, with his family to the more tranquil atmosphere of Mesilla, New Mexico.

But Col. Fountain was not one who was destined to enjoy a life of tranquillity. Before long, he became editor of a newspaper and a member of the New Mexico House of Representatives. He organized the first company of militia in southwest New Mexico in 1878, and then a battalion of cavalry.

Col. Fountain was highly respected by the Mescalero Apaches. In 1879, he interceded in behalf of members of that tribe who had been unfairly treated by a new and undiplomatic agent. He helped convert some of the Indians to the Christian faith.

But the most fateful field of endeavor for this adventurer-senator-soldier-editor-lawyer

was that of assistant United States attorney. In January of 1896, Col. Fountain and his son, Henry, climbed aboard their democrat wagon at Lincoln, New Mexico, for the long drive to their home at Mesilla, about 150 miles to the southwest. Col. Fountain had taken his son with him to Lincoln for an outing while he pursued his legal tasks. Appearing before the Lincoln County grand jury, Col. Fountain had secured 32 indictments against notorious cattle rustlers involved in the then current "Rustler's War" which followed the bloody Lincoln County War.

As Col. Fountain and his son departed, someone handed the Colonel a note. It warned him that, if he did not agree to drop one of the cases he had prosecuted, he would never reach home alive.

Although now 57 years old, Col. Fountain still had his tough fighting spirit. His answer to this threat was to place his Winchester rifle where he could reach it easily, and start his team down the road to Mesilla. On this day, he carried with him a newer model Winchester; the Model 1866 given to him by his Texas friends, having seen good service, was now retired to the gun rack in his home at Mesilla.

Col. Fountain and young Henry, not yet in his teens, spent the night with a friend near Mescalero. Next morning, they met an Apache who presented Col. Fountain with a pinto pony, insisting it was in payment of a debt of gratitude. The pony was tied to the back of the wagon, and Col. Fountain continued on into Tularosa and thence south to La Luz, where the night was spent with a merchant friend, Dave Sutherland.

On the third day, the road stretched south and west through sparsely inhabited country, past the edge of the "White Sands" and up through San Augustin Pass before dropping down toward the Mesilla Valley. During this day, Col. Fountain noticed three horsemen riding parallel to the road. When an occasional traveler approached, they would veer off to escape notice, but would appear again when the road was clear.

Near White Chalk Hill, about 50 miles northwest of Las Cruces, mail-carrier Saturnino Barela met Col. Fountain, noticing that a Winchester was resting across the Colonel's knees. Fountain told Barela of the three riders who seemed to be trailing them, and Barela said that he too had seen them but not at close enough range to identify them. After a brief chat, Barela continued on up the road, and Col. Fountain proceeded southward.

The next day, Varela, returning southward, noticed that the tracks of Col. Fountain's wagon had swung from the road about three miles south of where he and Col. Fountain had met the previous day. Following a short distance, Varela found the tracks of three

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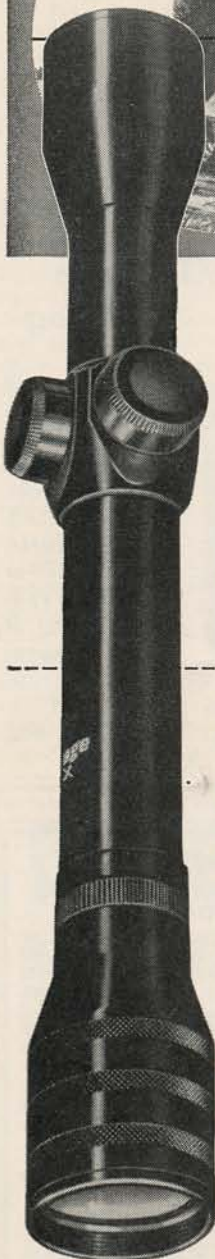


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horses. Sensing foul play, Varela hurried to Las Cruces to report what he had seen.

A posse was quickly formed. They hastened up the road to White Chalk Hill. Picking up the wagon tracks, the posse followed them for a dozen miles, finally coming upon the abandoned wagon and Col. Fountain's rifled traveling bags. There was no sign whatever of Col. Fountain, his son Henry, or the horses. A little farther on, a herd of cattle had obliterated the tracks of the three horsemen and of Col. Fountain's horses. There the trail ended, and there was drawn the dark curtain of obscurity over the fate of the Fountains that hid the truth for more than 50 years. Substantial sums were offered for information leading to the abductors. In 1899, three men were tried for the alleged murder, but the evidence was weak and they were acquitted. Thus the Fountain case became the most mysterious and most talked-of disappearance in the Texas-New Mexico border region. Charges and counter-charges were made, reputations were damaged, solutions to the crime were whispered in private, hastily denied when made public. But nothing was proved. Men who had, or might have had, secret knowledge walked in justifiable fear.

The fate of Col. Fountain and his son Henry remained a mystery until about eight years ago. Then the surviving member of Col. Fountain's three attackers was on his deathbed at Hot Springs, New Mexico. Here, this man confessed to a friend the details of the murders; but he made the friend promise that he would not reveal the facts until three years after the dying man had cashed in his chips. In 1953, 55 years after Col. Fountain and his son Henry had vanished from sight, their fate became known to his grandchildren, Albert J. Fountain and Mrs. Elizabeth Fountain Armendariz. The bush-whacking happened like this:

At White Chalk Hill, some big bushes lined the road, affording cover for the three rustlers. From this concealment, they shot and killed Col. Fountain without warning.

Henry was taken alive and driven in the wagon with his dead father to where the three rustlers decided to make camp. The boy was a big problem. As bad as these men were, none relished the idea of killing an innocent boy. Finally they drew straws, and the loser promptly drew his knife and slit the boy's throat.

The two bodies were wrapped in some Navajo blankets found in the wagon and were packed on Colonel Fountain's horses to a mountain ranch. Somewhere in this remote spot, the earthly remains of a brave man and his son lie together to this day. Attempts to locate the graves have been unsuccessful.

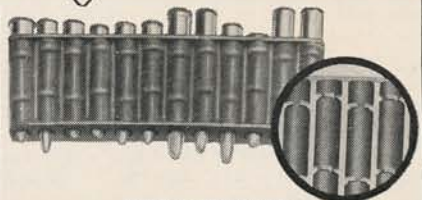
Col. Fountain's Model 1866 presentation rifle, a mute testimony to the high regard in which he was held, now rests in a showcase at the Gadsden museum in Mesilla. In this friendly little village a few miles south of Las Cruces, New Mexico, you may also visit the "Billy the Kid" museum.

Mesilla's long history has been painted with shades of good and bad. Few men in the Southwest, however, could match the lustre which surrounds the name of Mesilla's most famous resident, Col. Albert J. Fountain. And his was one gun which, in a sense, did talk.

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LINE

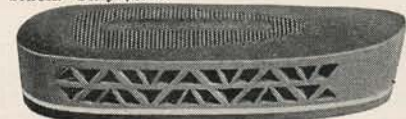
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LEGAL... OR ILLEGAL?

(Continued from page 23)

you can own a cap-and-ball Colt with a shoulder stock, because this gun is not "capable of being fired with fixed ammunition." The logic there is something you will have to figure out for yourself.

The law, like most laws, is wordy and space-consuming, but here are the sections of the National Firearms Act that apply most often to individual cases.

SEC. 5811. TAX. (a) *Rate.*—There shall be levied, collected, and paid on firearms transferred in the United States a tax at the rate of \$200 for each firearm: *Provided*, That the transfer tax on any gun with combination shotgun and rifle barrels, 12 inches or more but less than 18 inches in length, from which only a single discharge can be made from either barrel without manual reloading, and on any gun classified as "any other weapon" under section 5848 (5), shall be at the rate of \$5. The tax imposed by this section shall be in addition to any import duty imposed on such firearm.

(b) *By whom paid.*—Such tax shall be paid by the transferor: *Provided*, That if a firearm is transferred without payment of such tax the transferor and transferee shall become jointly and severally liable for such tax.

SEC. 5841. REGISTRATION OF PERSONS IN GENERAL. Every person possessing a firearm shall register, with the Secretary or his delegate, the number or other mark identifying such firearm, together with his name, address, place where such firearm is usually kept, and place of business or employment, and, if such person is other than a natural person, the name and home address of an executive officer thereof. No person shall be required to register under this section with respect to a firearm which such person acquired by transfer or importation or which such person made, if provisions of this chapter applied to such transfer, importation, or making, as the case may be, and if the provisions which applied thereto were complied with.

SEC. 5845. IMPORTATION. No firearm shall be imported or brought into the United States or any territory under its control or jurisdiction, except that, under regulations prescribed by the Secretary or his delegate, any firearm may be so imported or brought in when—

(1) the purpose thereof is shown to be lawful and

(2) such firearm is unique or of a type which cannot be obtained within the United States or such territory.

Sounds pretty grim, doesn't it? It really isn't that grim, because lawmakers have their own meanings for words. "Firearm," as used above, doesn't mean what you would have every right to think it means. You must read the "Definitions."

But it is "Section 5848. Definitions" that keeps the controversial fires blazing. Here is prose that could serve as a pattern for the writers of the "fine print" clauses in insurance policies. Read it carefully; they may or may not be talking about the gun you love.

SEC. 5848. DEFINITIONS. For purposes of this chapter—

(1) *Firearm.*—The term "firearm" means a shotgun having a barrel or barrels of less than 18 inches in length, or a rifle having a barrel or barrels of less than 16 inches in length, or any weapon made from a rifle or shotgun (whether by alteration, modification, or otherwise) if such weapon as modified has an overall length of less than 26 inches, or any other weapon, except a pistol or revolver, from which a shot is discharged by an explosive if such weapon is capable of being concealed on the person, or a machine gun, and includes a muffler or silencer for any firearm whether or not such firearm is included within the foregoing definition.

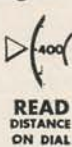
(2) *Machine gun.*—The term "machine gun" means any weapon which shoots, or is designed to shoot, automatically or semiautomatically, more than one shot, without manual reloading, by a single function of the trigger.

(3) *Rifle.*—The term "rifle" means a weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and designed or redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of the explosive in a fixed metallic cartridge to fire only a single projectile through a rifled bore for each single pull of the trigger.

(4) *Shotgun.*—The term "shotgun" means a weapon designed or redesigned, made or remade, and intended to be fired from the shoulder and de-



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signed or redesigned and made or remade to use the energy of the explosive in a fixed shotgun shell to fire through a smooth bore either a number of ball shot or a single projectile for each single pull of the trigger.

(5) *Any other weapon.*—The term "any other weapon" means any weapon or device capable of being concealed on the person from which a shot can be discharged through the energy of an explosive, but such term shall not include pistols or revolvers or weapons designed, made or intended to be fired from the shoulder and not capable of being fired with fixed ammunition.



Stevens M 311 double-barrel shotgun has 18 1/8 inch tubes, is just legal.

(6) *Importer.*—The term "importer" means any person who imports or brings firearms into the United States for sale.

(7) *Manufacturer.*—The term "manufacturer" means any person who is engaged within the United States in the business of manufacturing firearms, or who otherwise produces therein any firearm for sale or disposition.

(8) *Dealer.*—The term "dealer" means any person not a manufacturer or importer, engaged within the United States in the business of selling firearms. The term "dealer" shall include wholesalers, pawnbrokers, and dealers in used firearms.

(9) *Interstate commerce.*—The term "interstate commerce" means transportation from any State or Territory or District, or any insular possession of the United States, to any other State or to the District of Columbia.

(10) *To transfer or transferred.*—The term "to transfer" or "transferred" shall include to sell, assign, pledge, lease, loan, give away, or otherwise dispose of.

(11) *Person.*—The term "person" includes a partnership, company, association, or corporation, as well as a natural person.

If you are certain that you understand all of the above, the following will be equally intelligible:

SEC. 5852. REMOVING OR CHANGING IDENTIFICATION MARKS.

It shall be unlawful for anyone to obliterate, remove, change, or alter the number or other identification mark required by section 5843. Whenever on trial for a violation of this section the defendant is shown to have or to have had possession of any firearm upon which such number or mark shall have been obliterated, removed, changed, or altered, such possession shall be deemed sufficient evidence to authorize conviction, unless the de-

fendant explains such possession to the satisfaction of the jury.

SEC. 5861. PENALTIES. Any person who violates or fails to comply with any of the requirements of this chapter shall, upon conviction, be fined not more than \$2,000, or be imprisoned for not more than 5 years, or both, in the discretion of the court.

SEC. 5862. FORFEITURES. (a) *Laws Applicable.*—Any firearm involved in any violation of the provisions of this chapter or any regulation promulgated thereunder shall be subject to seizure and forfeiture...

(b) *Disposal.*—In the case of the forfeiture of any firearm by reason of a violation of this chapter: No notice of public sale shall be required; no such firearm shall be sold at public sale; if such firearm is forfeited for a violation of this chapter and there is no remission or mitigation of forfeiture thereof, it shall be delivered by the Secretary or his delegate to the Administrator of General Services, General Services Administration, who may order such firearm destroyed or may sell it to any State... or may authorize its retention for official use of [departments of Government].

And finally, under "United States Code, Title 18:"

In addition to the controls set forth above, the Federal Government prohibits the shipment of concealable firearms, such as pistols and revolvers, through the mails, except to certain classes of persons and under certain circumstances.

SEC. 1715. FIREARMS AS NONMAILABLE; REGULATIONS. Pistols, revolvers, and other firearms, capable of being concealed on the person are nonmailable and shall not be deposited in or carried by the mails or delivered by any postmaster, letter carrier, or other person in the Postal Service [except] under such regulations as the Postmaster General shall prescribe, for use in connection with their official duty, to officers of the [Armed Forces], National Guard or Militia of a State, Territory, or District; [and various other official or law-enforcement persons]. Such articles also may

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be conveyed in the mails to manufacturers of firearms or bona fide dealers therein in customary trade shipments, including such articles for repairs or replacement of parts, from one to the other, under such regulations as the Postmaster General shall prescribe.

Whoever knowingly deposits for mailing or delivery, or knowingly causes to be delivered by mail according to the direction thereon, or at any place to which it is directed to be delivered by the person to whom it is addressed, any pistol, revolver, or firearm declared non-mailable by this section, shall be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned not more than two years, or both.

Most states have laws of their own which further limit gun ownership of the guns specified under the National Firearms Act, or of other guns, or both. Municipalities have still other laws of their own conception and subject to their own interpretations. It is quite possible for a gun to be legal under the national law but horribly illegal under laws at lower levels. It is quite possible also

for enforcing agencies or individuals to place their own interpretations on any of these laws, at whatever level, regardless of the interpretations placed on them by the courts or other authorities. This has happened. The victim of such interpretations has recourse to the courts, of course, and may win. But will he spend the money? If he doesn't, the people who want firearms confiscated and destroyed will have won another skirmish.

A booklet called "Machine Guns and Certain Other Firearms," Publication No. 232 (Rev. 5-61) is available for 15c from the Superintendent of Documents, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. This booklet covers the entire National Firearms Act. Also available, same source: Publication No. 417 (1-58) covering the Federal Firearms Act, and Publication No. 399 (Rev. 9-62) containing condensed versions of both Acts. And The National Rifle Association, 1600 Rhode Island Ave., Washington 6, D. C., has a pamphlet, published as a service to members, titled "Federal Firearms Laws," which covers both Acts.

BLACK POWDER NOSTALGIA

(Continued from page 37)

or with penetrating oil, will usually unscrew quite easily. If they're in good shape and not battered, keep them. If they are damaged, buy some new nipples from one of the many dealers who handle such parts.

With the nipples removed, clean the barrels. They are probably full of light, dry rust. You may even find a little pitting around the nipples, and possibly a few light pits in the barrel. Fine steel wool on a cleaning rod, kerosene, and lots of elbow grease work wonders. Locks should be dismounted and, if necessary, disassembled. The edge of the sear and the full-cock notch on the tumbler may need careful stoning to get good, positive cocking and a crisp trigger pull. Make sure that the half-cock notch is really a notch and not just a rounded edge. A proper notch will give you a crisp let-off, and when you're hunting with both hammers cocked, the recoil from one barrel won't drop the hammer on the other cap. Both barrels touching off at once can be upsetting and, at times, dangerous.

Once the gun is in tip-top shape, possibly with the stock refinished or at least rubbed with all the linseed oil it will take, you're ready to start shooting. Up to this point you've been gambling, not only with the money you paid for the gun but also with the hours spent putting it in shape, for the gun needs proof testing before you can assume that it's safe.

For proofing, a shotgun can be mounted in any one of a number of ways. Probably the simplest method, which also provides for absorbing recoil, is to tie it down to a tire and use a cord at least 30 feet long for pulling the trigger. The proof test that I always run on any muzzle loader calls for four shots from each barrel. Only one barrel should be loaded at a time, but for all proof shots, keep both hammers cocked. Besides testing the tubes, the recoil of your proof shots will also test the full-cock engagement of tumbler and sear.

There is no definite proof load for shotguns and my test is a tough one. If the gun survives it, I have more confidence in it, and

I've never had a gun come apart that was worthwhile testing.

Most muzzle loaders are 12 gauge guns, but there are considerable variations. All my loads are for 12 gauge guns and must be scaled down for smaller bores.

For your first shot from each barrel, start with a medium field load. With hammers down, raise gun and tire and feed 2½ drams of Fg black powder into one barrel. Follow this with a ¾" or ½" basewad, lightly greased around the edge, and ram it down slowly, firmly, and all the way to the powder. Watch for air pressure resistance in loading tight wads; it can be deceptive. After the basewad is seated pour down 1½ ounces of shot. Anything from number 4 to number 9 will do, but 6 is a good standard. Last comes the thin topwad, rammed so that it seats squarely on top of

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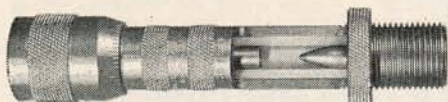
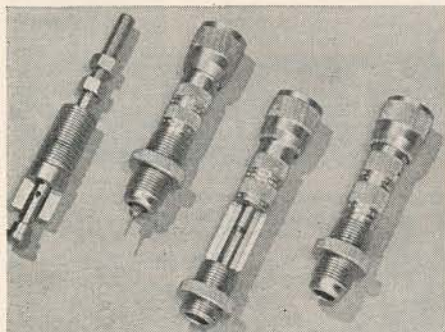
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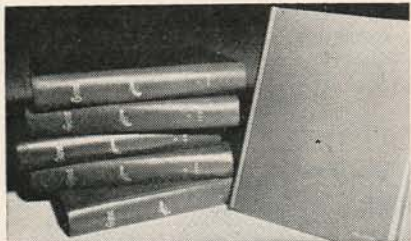


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the shot. This wad may have to be notched to let air pressure escape, particularly if the bore is undersized.

Put a cap on the nipple of the barrel to be fired, cock both hammers, and pull your string from 30 feet away. Then go on and fire the other barrel the same way. It held together through the first two shots? Good! Now just double the powder charge for the next three shots from each barrel. Use 5 drams of Fg powder this time, but stick to the $1\frac{1}{8}$ ounce shot load. To increase this might open up the barrel of any gun, even a good one.

If your gun holds up through the proving—and if it's a good one it certainly should—then you're ready for the field. First, clean the gun. With any black powder gun, cleaning is best done the same day it is fired. Simply dismount the barrels, put the breech in a pail of hot water, and with a tight fitting patch, pump water up and down the barrel through the nipples until fresh water comes out clean. Follow with an oiled patch, and then with a dry one.

Good field loads will have to be worked out for the type of shooting you'll do and for the pattern your gun delivers. Practically all muzzle loading shotguns have straight tubes with no choke boring, and this limits its useful range to 30 or 40 yards. Beyond this, patterns open up too much to be dependable. Get a few pieces of large heavy paper, draw on 30 inch circles with a point of aim marked in the centers, and try different loads with different shot sizes, shooting at a range of 30 or 40 yards. You'll find that the pattern is usually pretty thin, and rarely more than 50 per cent of the shot stay within

the circle. You should easily find the best shot size, and keep in mind that careful loading will go a long way toward good patterns.

I have nearly standardized my field load to $1\frac{1}{8}$ ounces of number 6 shot backed by $2\frac{1}{2}$ drams of Fg powder. With a lighter gun drop down to 1 ounce of shot. Recoil increases very rapidly as the barrel gets fouled, and tight-fitting wads will add to the kick. Increasing either shot or powder loads generally adds little but recoil, but for pheasant hunting a load of $2\frac{3}{4}$ drams of Fg under as much as $1\frac{1}{4}$ ounces of shot provides that essential bit of extra zip and range that is needed, as well as recoil.

You can cut your own wads from cardboard or fiberboard. It's important that the wad or wads fit tightly, and that it loads and comes out of the barrel squarely. Don't use materials that will come out of the muzzle smoldering or on fire.

Practice shooting skeet or trap before your first hunting trip. You'll have to get used to close range shooting with the straight cylinder bore, and the cloud of white smoke that blots out your target is likely to be disturbing at first. For either skeet or trap, or for heavy field shooting, you'll find that it helps to swab out the barrels after every three or four shots. Unless your ramrod is also a cleaning rod, carry a jointed rod, and some soaking-wet patches in a plastic freezer bag.

Shooting muzzle loading scatterguns is a completely different experience and the gun requires infinitely more patience and care. But they are lots more fun to use, and you may even find your shooting improves as you think of the work involved



HOW MUCH DOES YOUR DEER WEIGH?

(Continued from page 25)

says that 20 per cent of the live weight of a deer is lost through the removal of all its internal organs.

The only trouble was that we didn't have the field-dressed weights of our bucks, nor their weights when reduced to meat carcasses—with necks attached. But we were getting close, needing only the weight of the nude neck. Then I remembered that, although I'd given away a good share of my buck, I'd cut the neck into roasts and stored them in my locker. Since my buck had been shot through the lungs, its neck was intact. I had cut that into six pieces of approximately equal size and marked them "neck roasts." Thus, it took only minutes to dig them out of the locker and have them on the scales. Their

total weight was just 18 pounds.

From then on simple mathematics sufficed. The total meat-carass weights of our bucks rose to 186 (168 + 18) and 190 (172 + 18) pounds, which represented 60 per cent of their live weights. Therefore, they weighed approximately 310 and 316.5 pounds on-the-hoof.

Deducting 20 per cent from these figures (310 - 62, and 316.5 - 63.3) gave us the field-dressed weights of 248 and 253.2 pounds, according to the Hornaday formula. These weights are fairly close approximations and were within a few pounds of the actual weights.

Another phase of the Hornaday formula says that adding on 25 per cent of the field-dressed weight of deer will provide their original live weights. Mathematically, this worked out very accurately, bringing those two bucks to 310 (248 + 62) and 316.5 (253.2 + 63.3) pounds, which provided some check of the accuracy of the formula.

Since then I've used a combination of the Hornaday formula plus, occasionally, the data furnished by the California, Oregon, and South Dakota technicians. For the sake of simplicity when illustrating these data, I use a hypothetical 200 pound live-weight buck.

Deducting 20 per cent of his live weight yields a 160 pound field-dressed carcass provided all internal organs are removed and provided the rest of the animal is left intact. If you're interested in ascertaining the meat of the potential nude meat carcass, simply

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reduce the live weight of the carcass by 40 per cent, and you have 120 remaining pounds to be processed for the locker.

In the field it's impossible to estimate the live weight of a game animal. It is best to work from the field-dressed weight when the critter is delivered to the locker. From that weight, by using the Hornaday formula, you can ascertain the original live weight, determine the difference between the two, deduct a similar weight from the field-dressed carcass, and the remainder is what you may expect in the actual meat carcass. Occasionally, when hunting far from home, determining the poundage of meat that must be hauled home can become very important.

With those two Chicagoans deadlocked as to who had downed the better buck by antler standards, I thought to divert their attention to the amount of actual eating meat each had bagged. I told them about the Hornaday formula. Did that bring peace to the camp? Heck, no. It just triggered a brand-new argument. I finally prevailed on them to let the locker scales settle the matter when we hauled those two bucks to town.

When those scales showed the thin difference of three miserable pounds, the argument flared anew. The guy who had busted his buck through the lungs claimed that his animal had lost a lot more blood out of its carcass than his partner's deer, shot through the neck for an instant kill.

I arbitrated the argument by the very simple device of flipping a coin to decide the issue, and the guy with the lighter, lung-shot buck won the toss.

Actually, he probably *did* have the heavier buck. There's an old household expression that says: "A pint's a pound the world around." It probably originated from the use of water and milk as the commonest cooking liquids. Since the weight of blood, largely water, is very comparable and, since his lung-shot buck bled out very well before being field-dressed, the winner very probably had a carcass that, in live weight, had been heavier.

The other buck, neck-shot, was killed so instantly that there was insignificant bleeding from the wound. Thus, much of the short-circuited blood remained in the meat carcass and wasn't discarded in field dressing.

Experienced hunters, particularly those who prefer to do their own butchering and packaging of the meat, know of the strings of coagulated blood found in the meat of instantly-killed animals. That's a messy problem and there's no cure for it. Spine and brain shots, though instantly fatal, just don't provide the finest eating meat.

That's why I'm a strong advocate of lung, liver and heart shots—in that order of preference. All of them bleed out the carcass very thoroughly and avoid the coagulated blood within the meat. The brain, spine, and shoulder shots are not the best shots for delicious venison. The trophy hunter certainly doesn't want to damage the cape of head and neck skin by trying for hits in those areas. In fact the confirmed trophy hunter considers the meat carcass of secondary importance. If he tries and makes a head shot, he may very easily bullet-smash the frontal skull plate and have his trophy

rejected from consideration in Boone and Crockett Club trophy records.

The 60 per cent meat carcass I mentioned was arrived at by weighing bucks only. A doe carcass, since it doesn't lose the weight of antlers, probably runs slightly higher in meat percentage, depending on the size and weight of the hatrack of any buck with which she may be compared. However, hunters usually squabble about the comparative sizes of bucks' racks and/or body sizes. Does are seldom so compared.

Most hoofed big-game can be handled similarly to get live-weight estimates that are infinitely more accurate than mere guessing. Even when such big species as elk and moose are considered, the interested sportsman can arrive at a weight estimate that is better than an educated guess. These large animals are generally skinned in the field and the meat protected by enclosing it in game sacks. A very close estimate of their live weight can be made by a careful weighing of all parts of the meat carcass.

During such a reduction of bulk, the lower legs are cut off and discarded. These can be figured on the basis of four pounds for prong-horns, four to six pounds for deer from whitetails to big muleys, five to seven pounds for caribou, six to nine pounds for elk, and from 12 to 15 pounds for moose. These may vary a pound or two on individual specimens, but the minimum-maximum range is accurate to within a few ounces.

The hunter who packs out such a dismembered carcass—or even a part of it—can get an excellent idea of either total field-dressed weight or nude meat carcass weight. From then on it's a breeze to arrive at the on-the-hoof weight.

I know of several perfectionist hunters who leave nothing to chance. When they kill exceptionally large specimens of big game and bring out half-carasses, they also have the full hide, cape and head, plus one each of the usually discarded front and hind lower legs. By careful weighing they are able to arrive at field-dressed weight, and by using the Hornaday formula, they can calculate live-weight.

Now that I have cleared up the weight question—on the premise that the perfect deer rifle hassle has been resolved—let me just say one thing: I live happily and am not about to get involved in that unresolved battle of the deer gun. You take your favorite, and I take mine, and we'll argue the size of the buck, but not the gun that downed him.

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THE NEW TREND IN RIFLES

(Continued from Page 33)

shall be "in darkest Africa" with a Remington Model 725 in the walloping .458 Magnum caliber. I will turn the big gun loose on Cape bull—pound for pound, the toughest critter on the continent. I aim to take my full quota,—with the big Remington, but not with the original 26" muzzle-braked barrel. When I shipped this big buster up to E. P. Barber for a quick shift-over of the bolt from right side to left—I am a southpaw—I asked him to cut off a full 3½" of barrel while he was at it. This not only eliminated the built-in muzzle compensator but shortened the rifle to a handiness necessary for negotiating the African bush.

When you wound an old Cape bull and have to follow him up, he will lay his ambush in the heaviest cover to be found. There isn't any way to pry him out save to go in on his track. He knows this very well, and will swing around and watch his spoor, waiting. When he judges you are so close he cannot miss, he launches his charge, generally from about a dozen feet. A 26-inch barrel is too damn long then!

Firearms International, in Washington, D.C., import one of the handsomest rifles in the world today, the Sako Finnbear. I have a Finnbear in .264 Magnum caliber, also converted by Barber to put the bolt handle port-side, and with the 25½-inch barrel reduced to an even 23 inches. Old .270 aficionados say this reduces the hot .264 to the proportions of the old 1925 model .270.

It is a fact that a certain measure of the "heat" of this new magnum is lost when the

owner lops off a few inches of the tube; the story is that the loss is about 65 feet per second. This is pretty serious. If true, two inches off the barrel would cut the speed of the 140-grain slug to only 3070 fps. The old .270 130-grain does 3140.

But the 23" barrel on my Sako .264 now shows an average velocity for 10 shots (standard Remington 140-grain Corelokt ammo, instrumental readings adjusted to muzzle



During ranger days, Askins and George Parker Sr. used the Model '95 a lot.

velocities) of 3065 fps.—a loss per inch of tube of 45 fps. In this connection, Charley Cummings, ballistics engineer at Remington, has some pertinent comments:

"We recently fired velocity checks on a number of rifles, mostly custom jobs, and the interesting but not unexpected results indicated that the differences in velocities due to barrel length was, in many instances, less than the differences due to internal dimensions. In one case, a gun with a shortened barrel actually gave higher velocities than another gun with a barrel 2" longer.

"When we speak of the effect of barrel length, we must be very careful to understand that we mean the effect of barrel length alone, with other factors kept absolutely constant. No measure of the effect of barrel length on velocity can be obtained by firing different guns with different barrel lengths unless the experimenter has been very careful to ascertain that the two guns are identical in all other dimensions. And by identical we mean that the dimensions do not differ by more than half-a-thousandth of an inch. The only strictly correct procedure for determining the effect of barrel length is to take a standard barrel and, using very carefully assembled loads, measure the velocity, then cut the barrel off by about 2 inches, then measure the velocity again. Continue to shorten the barrel in this manner until the minimum length is reached."

What Charley is saying is that, when you cut off the barrel of your .264 by 2 inches and find velocity loss of 65 fps per inch, and I whack off my tube and find I've suffered a loss of only 45 fps per inch, it does not necessarily follow that either set of figures is valid. A third .264 may show a loss of only 35 fps per inch. Actually, Remington's own carefully controlled experiments indicate that there is only a 30 fps velocity loss when a



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In several years of reloading I have never discovered a faulty CCI PRIMER. P. D. Malone, Boston, Mass.

I have been using CCI PRIMERS and as far as I am concerned they are the BEST. Leo V. Winkes, Grangeville, Idaho.

I have found, since I have been handloading my own cartridges, that there is no substitute for the BEST. That's why I use CCI PRIMERS. John E. Delpha III, Providence, Rhode Island.

There isn't a BETTER PRIMER than CCI and I would settle for nothing else. Richard M. Hilbert, Colorado Springs, Colorado.

I am **SATISFIED** with CCI PRIMERS and they are the only ones I use. Louis P. Raymond, Trenton, New Jersey.

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.270 barrel is cut back from 24" to 23", a similar loss from 23" to 22", and from 22" down to 20" inches, the reduction averages 35 fps per inch.

With the old .30-06 cartridge, the loss with a 180 grain bullet was only 10 fps when the 24" standard barrel was cut to 23", 15 fps from 23" down to 22, and from 22" down to 20, the reduction was found to be 35 fps.

The Marlin lever action .35 caliber, made in rifle length barrel of 24 inches and now offered in a special ultra-carbine with 16 1/4" tube, loses, by the Cummings figures, a total of 140 feet per second. So, with short barrels, we do take a licking on the score of velocities, though not as much of licking as some claim. You can't have your cake and eat it, too.

But what are some of the other implications of these hobbled-off shooting irons?

The real bugaboo is recoil. The lighter the gun, the more it kicks. These are magnum days, with every man-jack insisting on nothing short of a magnum rifle—big cartridge cases, jam-packed with powder; big, heavy bullets, driven at supersonic speeds. This, especially in a short, handy rifle, spells magnum recoil and magnum muzzle blast. Too often, the hombre who shoots only a few shots between seasons is just not conditioned for this mayhem, and his game-field scoring suffers.

Recoil is divided into three phases of elements. These trip over each other in the rapidity of their happening, but there are three distinct stages. The first of these is the punch needed to goose the slug from its state of rest to full muzzle speed. The second is the action of the gases. The gas, at the instant the slug passes the muzzle, is working all the way from the chamber to the end of the barrel. It has, we believe, something like half the velocity of the bullet. (That portion of the gas directly behind the ball has the same velocity as the bullets, but there is gas remaining in the chamber and along the full length of the bore, so we accept the probability that the total velocity of the gas is about one-half that of the bullet.) But muzzle pressures from that gas is something else again!

The third element in recoil, is what happens at the muzzle. This one may be the worst of the three! Certainly it is a big factor, especially with magnum calibers and Buntline barrels.

The gases, when they are free to expand at the muzzle, having pushed the bullet out of the way, give the rifle a push backward, just as do the engines of the jet airplane or the military rocket. It naturally follows that this rocket-like thrust is accentuated when muzzle pressures are high. Chop the barrel back, and you heighten these pressures—and increase the jet, or recoil, effect. In some of our super-super mag guns, the muzzle reaction of the gases accounts for fully one-fourth of the total recoil. To go for shorter and shorter barrels just exaggerates this percentage.

Obviously, what is needed is a muzzle brake. These we have in numbers. Some of the best of the muzzle gadgets will remove as much as 40 per cent of the sting at the muzzle. It would appear from this that the brake is the full answer. But you don't get something for nothing. You decrease recoil, but you increase blast. And by blast, I mean the noise factor. In all the muzzle braking devices I have seen, if the angle of the flanges, fins, holes, or other baffle is acute enough to really pull the teeth of a hard-kicking musket, then this deflection serves to raise decibel output to levels that fairly fan the shooter's ears. He can shoot with ear plugs on the target range, but this is definitely out in the game fields. What is needed is a brake which would be inconspicuous, capable of dampening up to, say, 30 per cent of the recoil, without blasting the shooters' ears. Maybe some smart cookie can come up with this, but I doubt it.

What, then, is the solution to our penchant for magnum rifles with pocket-length barrels? The answer, I think, is the one previously stated: we can't have our cake and eat it, too. If we're bound to go to barrels of 16 to 20 inches, with a steady increase in super-magnum power and velocity, then we're going to have to live with plenty of recoil and an ear-fanning muzzle blast. You can't have everything. You pay your money and you take your choice.

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THE BOB STACK STORY

(Continued from page 18)

14-year-old Billy Clayton winning the Great Eastern Championship. Bobby was already familiar with guns. He had hunted with his father before the elder Stack's death, and his father's gun collection fascinated him. His easy grin and earnest desire to learn won him many friends on the skeet field. Here he found the adult male companionship he had known with his father. Harry Fleischmann, one of the top shooters in the country at the time, took young Stack under his wing. The boy responded to instruction like modeling clay to the fingers of a skilled sculptor. In less than two years, he was winning the big ones.

In the National Matches in 1935, Bobby came face to face with the legendary Billy

Clayton in a shoot-off for second place in the Junior Championship. They had tied with 96x100 each. In the shoot-off, Billy missed a bird, and Bobby won.

Billy had a shooting jacket covered with brassards—"scare jackets" and "glory ribbons" they were called then. "I was so awed by him," says Stack, "I couldn't believe I had really beaten him."

Bobby was also runner up in the 20 gauge event at the Nationals. He won an engraved 28 gauge double barreled Parker shotgun with a silver plate in the stock mistakenly declaring that Robert Stack was runner up in 1936. Bobby made a liar out of that plate by going back to the Nationals in '36 and winning the 20 gauge Championship. In 1936, Bobby won every major skeet shoot held on the West Coast. He went to the '36 Nationals

fresh from winning the Western Open Championship. He was National runner up in the all-bore competition.

Bob's greatest thrill came in being a part of the California team that won the National Championships that year. "Our team was relatively unknown," says Bob. "The center of skeet shooting was New England, and they rather looked down their noses at us." The nearest team score was down 30 birds below the California score of 1217x1250. Bobby was high man on the team with 247x250.

In 1937, Robert Stack entered the University of Southern California and became one of the stars of their Varsity polo team. He helped to win the Pacific Coast Intercollegiate Championship that year, and became rated a 3-goal player.

Somehow, Bob managed to maintain an A average in college and still devote himself to two sports, skeet and polo. But the day finally came when the two sports conflicted directly. The Western States Intercircuit 12 Goal Polo Championships were held the same day as a major skeet championship shoot. It looked like Bob would have to make a choice, but he engineered it so he could do both. Arriving early on the skeet field, he fired with the second squad of the first field of shooters, scoring a perfect 50x50 in his first relay. He then hustled over to the Riviera Country Club to spark his polo team to a victory in the Intercircuit Tournament; then hurried back to the Santa Monica Gun Club in time to fire his second relay. He posted another straight 50x50, to win the skeet championship with a "grand slam."

In 1937, Bob won the small bore and all-bore Southern California Championships, and



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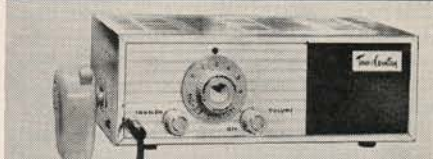


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the Western Open all-bore Championship. He was runner up in the all-bore Nationals. His California team fell behind by 4 birds to take runner-up position.

Bob has an unorthodox style in skeet. He holds the gun tensely, well down from the shoulder. When the bird appears, he snaps the gun up, fires quickly, and instantly drops the gun from his shoulder, with the ejected shell still in the air beside it. To the casual observer, he appears not to use any follow through on his swing at all. Alex Kerr says, "He does follow through. No one can hit without it. He just has lightning fast reflexes that make it hard to observe what he's doing. He always was a fast shooter, which gave him a terrific edge when there was a strong wind. He never gave the birds a chance to veer off course."

In 1939, encouraged by such celebrities as Clark Gable, Gary Cooper, Spencer Tracy, Andy Devine, and Robert Montgomery, all of whom shot with him at the Santa Monica Gun Club, Stack left USC to take up a career in acting. His early pictures like "First Love" and "Nice Girl" cast him as the young romantic lead, a role he detested.

High speed action interested Bob in those days. He raced his own home-made roadster to a then record of 115.68 mph on Mono Dry Lake. He won the Hearst Regatta with his 225-cubic-inch racing hydroplane "Thunderbird," and won the West Coast Conference three years running to take permanent possession of the Perpetual Trophy. But he continued to shoot skeet.

The Santa Monica skeet team set a record in 1936 of 492x500 that still stands under the old rules of skeet. Bob's long run record of 364 in 1937 topped the previous 350. These don't look too imposing in the light of today's records, but the rules were very different then—more like the present rules of International Skeet, with the low gun position and a delay timer on the trap. Bob still prefers the low-gun position. He feels that skeet was originated to simulate field shooting, and "It's a little hard to imagine a hunter walking around with the shotgun held to his shoulder in firing position."

"Bob is a phenomenal hunting shot," says Alex Kerr. "Which puts the lie to the claim that a champion skeet shot can't hit his hat in the field."

A busy acting career, topped by the hectic pace of filming an hour-long TV segment each week, hasn't allowed Robert Stack enough time to shoot competition in recent years, but he keeps his hand in with occasional trips to Ben diOrto's Golden Valley Skeet Range, and with frequent duck hunting forays on his own private duck club, near Colusa, in the Sacramento Valley of California. Ducks, pheasants, and other game birds abound on the property. Shooting is subject to normal seasons and game codes. Bob's father bought the property in 1925 and bequeathed it to his sons. Robert and his industrialist brother, Jim Stack, who still own it. "We intend to hang onto it," says Bob, "so our own boys can grow up to enjoy it as we did. I started hunting there myself when I was only 7." A few more years, and Bob can introduce his own son, Charley, now 5, and his daughter, Elizabeth, age 6, to the thrills of hunting.

With the expected end of filming new "Untouchables" segments this year, Bob is looking forward to resuming the less grueling

routine of feature pictures. With some time to spare, he hopes to enter skeet competition again, and also introduce his beautiful wife, Rosemarie, to the game.

Bob's arsenal of guns is pretty impressive. It includes a matched set of Parker side-by-side doubles in 20, 28, and 410 borings; a 12 gauge Purdy made with heavy barrels to handle the American heavy duck loads; an engraved and gold inlaid 28 gauge Model 12 Winchester (inlays and engraving by Orville Kuhl) with which he won the Western Open; a 410 Winchester Model 42 with two sets of barrels; two Remington Sportsman guns in 20 and 12 gauges; a 16 gauge L. C. Smith double which belonged to Bob's grandfather; a Greener double 10 gauge which has been in the family for several generations; a 20 gauge Remington Model 48 with special vent-ribbed 30" barrel; a Browning over-under Grade V with Hydro-coil stock.

Bob is not a big game hunter, though he intends to try it when time permits. Meanwhile, his rifles include a 9 mm Mannlicher-Schoenauer with a high-mounted European 4X scope, and two Model 70 Winchesters in .22 Hornet and .257 Roberts calibers.

He has about a dozen handguns, including a .45 Harrington and Richardson which is said to have belonged to John Dillinger. Others are: a Smith & Wesson K.22, Colt Officers Model .38, Colt Agent .38, Colt Python .357 Magnum, a fine 9 mm Mauser, and a Colt Single Action .38-40 presented by Fred Roff of Colt's.

Robert Stack finds shooting blanks on the set, in his role of Eliot Ness, something less than exciting, whether from the .38 Colt Agent that Ness carries holstered under his left shoulder, or the ever present Thompson sub-machinegun. He admits that it becomes rather hectic at times, and the noise level is high, but it is nothing to a guy who has weathered 20 .50 caliber squads firing at the same time.

Robert Stack's newest picture is "The Caretakers," scheduled for early release.

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THE WHEEL CHAIR DOESN'T STOP HIM

(Continued from page 19)

business, but more and more guns are being brought to his shop for service and repairs, he builds a few rifles, and he loads ammo for some of the local law enforcement agencies. But you won't find him in his shop on Thursday evenings. That time is set aside for coaching the Baraboo High School Junior Rifle Club. With his wheel chair stationed at one end of the firing line, Ted supervises the activities before him. "Most of these kids love to hunt," Ted says. "This is good land, with deer, rabbits, pheasants, geese, and ducks. The hours we spend on the range help prepare them for good, safe gun fun."

Ted, assisted by Ray Wallace and Bob Figi, tells students that there may be as many as 300 fatal hunting accidents next season, and that nearly half of them will involve teenagers. While 70 per cent of the injuries are caused by trigger-happy hunters shooting deliberately at what they "thought" was game, teenagers are more prone to be involved in accidents caused by stumbling and falling, dropping guns or catching them in underbrush, horseplay, or other, avoidable accidents.

Intensive safety instruction pays off. "To

the best of my knowledge," Ted says, "there has never been a hunting or shooting accident involving one of our junior club members." The long waiting list for membership in the club is an endorsement of Ted's teaching methods. Faculty advisors John L. Cole and Richard Martin explain that physical facilities and instructional policies necessarily limit the size of the rifle club to 50 boys and girls, mostly seniors and juniors. Upperclassmen are given preference when graduations create new openings on the roster.

Working with teenagers can be discouraging at times, but Ted feels that any amount of effort is worthwhile if it prevents one accident. The faculty advisors attribute Ted's success to the fact that he "has confidence in the young people and is very patient with them."

"Teaching a person to shoot is often like teaching someone to drive," Ted explains. "You may be an expert, but don't have the ability to pass on your skill to your pupil."

With more than 150 medals and trophies gleaming from the shelves and the showcases at his shop, Ted appreciates the value of prizes in encouraging excellence in any sport. He and Wallace annually offer four trophies to the top shooters in the junior club—two for boys and two for girls. Competing for these prizes is often the first taste of competitive target shooting for many students.

Ted's interest in guns carries him to many parts of the state and the nation for shooting matches. In addition to being secretary of the Baraboo Senior Club, he is also a member of the Vermont Rifle Club which shoots monthly with iron sights, the Mount Horeb Rifle Club for indoor .22 competition, and the Blue River Rifle Club for small bore, outdoor shooting. He is a deputy sheriff of Sauk County, and loads between 20,000 and 25,000 .38 caliber cartridges for the county police annually and is coach for the police pistol team. Ted answers calls from schools, 4-H clubs, and scout troops to lecture on his favorite subject of gun safety.

Sergeant Virgil Steinhorst of the Sauk County Police, admits to a faulty trigger squeeze that hampered his shooting. "With Ted's help I overcame it. He would sit behind me and remind me to be sure of my thumb pressure and sight picture, and trigger squeeze. In one year," Steinhorst says, "Ted's coaching boosted my average 90.4 points per shoot."

Albert Amble, sergeant in the Dane County traffic department, is another staunch supporter of Ted Church. "Ted did a lot of trick shooting," Amble explains. "Not only is he an excellent shot, but he has that rare ability to analyze style and spot flaws in other marksmen, and can tell them how to correct their errors. He's at his best explaining the finer points of grip and breath control. He showed me how proper amount of exhale can change a faulty stance just enough to drop a high shot into the bull's-eye."

Five years ago, before he met Church, Amble's pistol scores averaged about 400x600. He used a standard police revolver with a six inch barrel. After conferring with Ted several times on form and guns, Amble sold his revolver and bought a Colt Python. Under

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Ted's guidance, his scores improved and last year his average hit 569x600.

"High scores come from a keen eye, a steady hand, and lots of practice," Ted says. But Amble, a shooting instructor himself, knows the value of someone like Church on the firing line.

Ted is an NRA approved pistol and rifle instructor. He is a Lifetime Master for small-bore indoors and Expert outdoors. Last fall he won the Wisconsin title in the unclassified, aggregate pistol competition.

With a dispensation from NRA to compete from a sitting position and with a special permit from the State Conservation Commission to hunt from his car which he drives himself, Ted Church manages to maintain a steady hand and a sharp eye in competitions

and on his numerous hunting trips.

"Shooting and hunting can be lots of fun," Ted emphasizes. "But they call for a combination of a good gun and a good man. This is especially true of hunting where sudden noises or movements might trigger the wrong response from a tense and eager youngster."

He advises all parents that "even if you have confidence in your ability to teach your boy or girl the fundamentals of shooting and gun safety, it will be well worthwhile to check with your local gun club, game warden, or police department for additional instructions. Remember, guns may be safe, but people sometimes aren't."

"There's only one way to be sure. Get 'em young and teach 'em right!"

THOSE .450 CARTRIDGES

(Continued from page 31)

At this moment, my collection contains 34 specimen variations of the .450 revolver cartridge. Naturally, the bulk of the items are of English origin as this round was first manufactured in England. The British adopted the .450 during the middle 1860's. It was their first center-fire handgun cartridge. Eighteen of my 34 specimens are of English manufacture. Next in line are four French specimens, three German, three of U.S. manufacture, two Austrian, one Belgian, one Irish, and two are unknown.

I believe that this is a rather generous display, and I have watched for such variations over my years of collecting. It should be remembered that among the fairly historic center-fire revolver cartridges, the .450 was one of the first.

The original English .450 (Mark I) was of the Boxer type—a brass tube with attached iron base. The case type was rugged enough and even reloadable, but the iron bases oxidized quite readily even though they were coated with a black protective paint or lacquer. The British found that, in damp climates, Mark I ammunition did not lend itself to long storage. The improved cartridge, the Mark II did away with the iron base. The construction of the round was the same, but this time the attached base is easily noticed.

The Mark I cartridge is easily identified because of the blackened iron base, but the Mark II is often skipped over because one does not notice the separate, but attached, brass base piece. Later, when brass drawing presses were the rule of the day, the Boxer-type case construction was abandoned altogether; but, strange as it may seem, the nomenclature was retained, and drawn brass

.450 rounds were still Mark II as far as the British military was concerned.

I have never seen a specimen of the Mark I cartridge that was headstamped, but the Boxer type Mark II are headstamped more often than not. I have samples that are stamped "Eley Bros." in at least three minor variations.

The .450 continued as the British Military round into the 1880's, and even after it was officially replaced with the more effective .455 Enfield, it was still used by some troops. Actually the .450 was a poor martial round from the outset. How it remained in service until about 1884 can only be explained by the fact that military equipment, military minds, and government adaptations—at least on official planes—are rather slow moving when it comes to changes.

When the .450 was dying as a British martial cartridge, it was being exploited in an area that more suited its power and effectiveness. There appeared in England, and in other European countries, pocket revolvers chambered for the .450. From a collector's point of view, this is where the cartridge flowered into its most interesting phase. The round was made commercially by all major manufacturers and undoubtedly by a few small companies. It was made in ball, blank, and shot; it was externally primed and internally primed. This period of commercial manufacture is still with us. Although the round was discontinued in the U.S. during the 1930's, it is still available in Europe.

Description and even classification of any widely circulated cartridge could be made. It would take a book to cover all of the variations of the U.S. .30-06 cartridge, or of

(Continued on page 58)



1. U.S. commercial, marked "U.M.C. .450." 2. Ditto, stamped with "Rem-U.M.C. .450." 3. Ditto, marked "W.R.A. Co. 450 C.F." 4. A French commercial inside primed ball load, marked "450 C.F." of unknown manufacture. 5. Ditto, marked "OG450" made by Gevelot & Gaupillat, Paris. 6. Inside primed blank made by same company. 7. Belgian commercial, large Berdan primer, made by V.F.M. & Co., Liege, Belgium, and lacking headstamp. Positively identified by certain brass characteristics.

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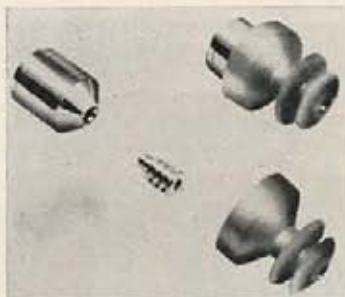


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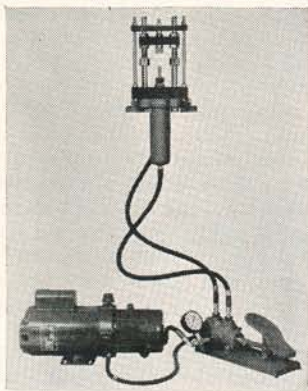


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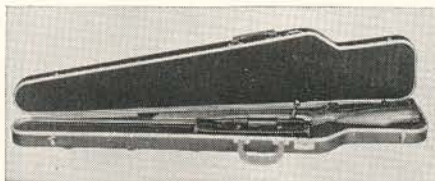
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MADE TO MEASURE

(Continued from page 55)

the known and available 9 mm Luger rounds. The .450 was chosen for this work because its history is generally unrecognized in the United States and because of the varied and interesting headstamps to be found.

A few points should be explained about the pictured specimens.

The original Mark I British service cartridge will be found with the roll crimp as shown, and also with a stab crimp much the same as many of the U.S. .45 A.C.P. rounds as made during the World War I era. There is a minor variation in the black protective cover of the iron base cartridges. Some have a rather thick covering material, like paint, while others are covered with a thinner substance, like a black shellac. These and other differences would not show in a photograph.

It will be noted that the Union Metallic Cartridge Co., and later Remington-U.M.C., styled the ball of their .450 cartridge quite like the foreign products; but the Winchester .450 has a ball style that is blunter and

seemingly fatter. This Winchester .450 ball type has not been observed in any other cartridges of the same (.450) case, except specimens manufactured by Winchester.

In the photograph on page 55, the last item (#7) is listed as being of Belgian manufacture, yet bears no headstamp. This item came from a box of .450 cartridges that had a label of the V.F.M. & Co. of Liege, Belgium, and I recognize the head of the case as being typical of other V.F.M. & Co. specimens.

The inside primed .450 (#4) is listed as of unknown manufacture. The headstamp is simply "450 C.F." and the "C.F." undoubtedly stands for "center-fire." This is a practical marking since the normal French inside primed specimens appear quite like a rim-fire cartridge. Although I cannot state who made this round, it is my opinion that it was a product of Gevelot & Gaupillat of Paris.

When talking about the various makers of ammunition, one is very liable to come to a conclusion that is incorrect. There are a number of reasons for this. The most frequent reason is that one company may have evolved into another one, or one company was a branch of a larger one. A good example of this is a Hirtenberg cartridge, compared with a G. Roth cartridge.

One might assume that both specimens were made by the same company—and indeed it is true that the old G. Roth firm was superseded by the Hirtenberg Patronenfabrik. Generally we would assume that the Roth specimen was the older; but this in itself is a dangerous assumption, since the Hirtenberg organization might well have used the old Roth headstamp at a much later date for some odd reason of their own.

The second cartridge from the top, left, page 31, is listed as made in Dusseldorf, Germany, and it probably was. But Braun and Bloem also had a plant in Prague, Czechoslovakia, so nationality here is debatable.

Another problem is when a manufacturer produces cases or loaded rounds for someone else. Quite naturally the maker would put any headstamp on the cartridges that the customer wanted. The seventh item in the same photographic line-up may have been made by "Weeks & Co.," or the round might have been made by Eley Brothers in London for the Weeks Company.

The final figure in that photograph, "Pirlot Freres," is listed as unknown, but I suspect that it is Belgian. Not only does the case head and headstamp appear to be Belgian, but I have a listing of "Pirlot Freres" as having made pinfire cartridges in Belgium.

An opinion, or educated guess, as to what the case, case head, bullet style, or primer type, seem to be, to a collector who has handled many thousands of rounds, is not to be scoffed at. After one has pawed over collection after collection, and inspected items from labeled boxes, the subtle marks of manufacture become obvious points of reference and identification. One either must be born with an accurate and boundless memory, or must acquire such skill through rigorous mental exercise. The true collector, who loves his work, will almost unconsciously amass bits of detail that will eventually weave themselves into a workable fabric. This enjoyable facet of collecting makes the difference between "an advanced collector" and one who has simply gathered many specimens.

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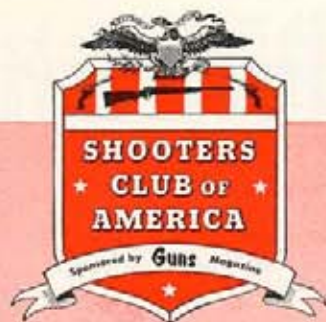
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NUGGETS from the morning mail

The Shooting Drivers

Remember "The Shootin'est Family"—Marvin Driver, pistolman, and his wife, Marianne, and their daughters, Lenore and Candy, riflemen to whom the breaking of records is routine? We told you about them in our May, 1962, issue.

Here is another report about the shooting activities of that pretty remarkable (and, on the feminine side, remarkably pretty) family. It happens to be a pretty proud-making report also of the distaff side of the 1962 World Shooting Championships in Cairo.

What an eventful year 1962 has been for us! Here is a summary of the most recent trip—Cairo, Egypt and the 33rd World Shooting Championships.

It all began the day after our return from the National Matches at Camp Perry, when Lenore, Candy, and I received telegrams inviting us to the final try-outs for the U. S. Team, to be held at Fort Benning, Ga., under the sponsorship of the National Rifle Association. This was exciting news and plans had to be formulated quickly.

Lenore decided not to go because she felt she could not take that much time off from her new job. I decided not to compete because of my age (I hate to admit it) and, of course,

because I planned on driving Candy to Ft. Benning. Covering 940 miles in 1½ days would leave me in no condition to see, hold steady, and shoot. So everything rested on Candy. "She came, she saw, and she conquered," as the saying goes. She not only won the tryouts, but fired a fantastic score of 598x600, one point over the present world record held by a Russian man. (She did establish two national records).

Things happened fast after that. I was asked to accompany the team as coach, alternate shooter and chaperone for the women. Candy and I rushed around to get our passports started, pictures taken, vaccinations, shots, measured for uniforms, etc., and on Sept. 22nd I drove back to Detroit to get my passport rushed through to Washington, and to pack additional clothes for both of us. A pretty wild week, but fun.

On Sept. 30, I flew to New York to meet the rest of the team coming from Ft. Benning where they had been training. I was sporting a lovely orchid, (my birthday gift from Marv), and that evening we were treated to a fine dinner by the team captain. We left Idlewild, N.Y., via TWA the next morning and had a very gay seven hour flight to Paris. Arriving at the beautiful Paris airport at 10:00 p.m., we were met by an Army bus that transported us to the U.S. Air Force Hotel. You never saw a group check in and clean up any faster than we did and 11:15 p.m. found most of us in the lobby, raring to see the sights. Some of our people never did get to bed!

Our stops in Rome and Athens were short but interesting. Needless to say, we had a

pretty sleepy group all the way to Cairo.

Once the work began, we spent all day at the range. Forty-three countries were represented in the championships, and eleven countries had entered women. One of the most memorable experiences was the thrill of marching in the Opening Ceremony. The feeling of pride that overcame us as we marched behind our flag, and the applause the audience gave us as we appeared, were moments that brought tears to our eyes. Throughout the days of competition we had opportunities every day to feel great pride in the performance of our team members.

Contrary to what "Sports Illustrated" said in its article in October about the disappointment of the U. S. team, we did win 30 medals to Russia's 37. We took six firsts in the individuals, and two firsts in team matches. We took second in team competition in almost every event. Gary Anderson was the "wonderboy" of the world championships. He won both the smallbore and the free rifle crowns, received four gold medals and set three new world records.

We were also proud of Candy's showing. She placed 5th, with a score of 579, in the women's prone match, among 16 competitors representing 11 countries. Russia was first with 586; S. Africa second—583; Germany third—582; and Hungary fourth—580.

We received numerous souvenirs from other shooters that we will always treasure. And the story of our trip would not be complete if I did not tell you that Candy has a new nickname at school. They now call her "Queen of the Nile."

Marianne (Mrs. Marvin) Driver

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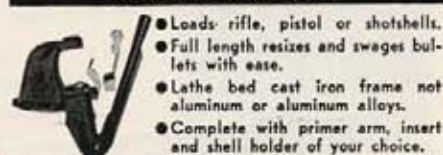
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GUN RACK

(Continued from page 6)

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The Musketeer

The Musketeer II, submitted for tests by Firearms International Corp., Dept. G, 4837 Kerby Hill Road, Washington 22, D.C., was a very pleasant surprise.

Let's look at the exterior of the gun first. Hooded ramp front sight that is fully adjustable, and a Williams rear sight that is also easily and speedily adjustable. Sling swivels and hinged floor plate, a nicely shaped and checkered stock with Monte Carlo check piece. The action is the F.N. Supreme action with a perfectly silent thumb safety, the trigger is fully adjustable, the streamlined receiver is tapped and drilled for scope mounting, the bolt handle is serrated for non-slip handling. The gun is available in .243, .264, .270, .30-06, .308, .308 Norma Magnum, and the new 7mm Rem. Magnum.



Our test gun was a .243 and we mounted the new Browning 3X-9X variable, collimated it, and grabbed two boxes of factory ammo and had the surprise of a lifetime. Without tuning or fooling around, the Remington factory ammo fired consistently, in three, five, and ten shot strings 1½ inch groups. Trigger pull was very smooth, and a later check showed that the trigger broke at 2½ lbs. Feeding of the first 20 or 30 rounds was a little stiff, but after the third or fourth box of ammo, the function was glass-smooth. We had a fox hunt lined up, and loaded some hunting ammo, but since time was limited, we just grabbed a load out of the hat and came up with the 80 grain Speer bullet, and 47 grains of 4831, set off by CCI's #200 primer. Seven five shot groups later, our very worst group measured a fraction under one inch! The Musketeer is priced so that it won't take a second mortgage to get one, and we liked our test gun so well we bought it!

C-H Powder Measure

The #501 C-H Powder Measure that reached us for tests came complete with a special adapter tube that can be screwed into any standard thread loading tool. Also available for the measure is a bench stand. The powder measure has a micrometer setting that enables the reloader to set the measure in jig time once the various settings have been checked on a powder scale.

This is a large measure with good capacity, and repeated checks with various powders proved it is as accurate as any measure can be. We checked the accuracy of powder delivery with several powders, primarily with 4831, 4350, 4198, 4227, Ball C Lot #2, and H 380. Room temperature during the tests was 65 degrees, and all powders were taken

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from freshly opened canisters. Maximum deviation was 0.2 grains with one charge of 4350, while two charges of 4831 showed a difference of 0.1 grains. Tests were made by first setting the approximate weight of the charge, then adjusting the measure to deliver a definite amount of powder. Once three accurate charges were thrown, ten charges were metered, and each of the charges was weighted on the Ohaus 314 scale. The measure performed in a very satisfactory manner in all tests.

Colt Autoloading Shotgun

In the shipment that brought us the latest Colt rifle, we also got one of the fine, Italian-made shotguns that carry the honored Colt name. Our test gun was a 12 gauge gun with ventilated rib, and hefting it, we had to

look twice to be certain that it was a 12 ga. gun. The alloy receiver, and a selected piece of fine Walnut with good checkering and finish, might explain the fact that the gun tipped the scales at just a fraction over 6½ lbs.

After 300 rounds of factory and handloads, we can report that there was not a single malfunction of any kind, and the gun performed most satisfactorily in our extensive tests. Two steps in loading or unloading should be kept in mind, although the manual that comes with the gun is exceptionally detailed. When unloading the magazine, we found it easiest to depress the shell release lever with the side of the left thumb, letting the shell pop out of the magazine and cushioning the push of the shell with the

fleshy part of the thumb. In loading the gun, we found it best to load the chamber first, then push the safety on, and with the shell slipped into the magazine, it is essential to be certain that the shell actually locks in the magazine. If the shell does not lock fully, it will pop out again, thus blocking the feeder mechanism. If this should happen, the jam is easily removed by stripping the gun, an operation that takes 57 seconds and can be accomplished even in a duck blind.

The pattern of the test gun was excellent and was more than adequate to handle Blue Rocks in strong cross winds, even when we were shooting at 55 yards and barely nicking the edges of the birds. This is a fine auto-loader, and should be of interest to those who want a lightweight gun.



HANDLOADING BENCH

(Continued from page 15)

we had on hand, while the top 4227 loads did. The top 4198 load barely penetrated.

The Sisk-Bellah 37 and 50 grain H.P. "Revolver" bullets won't take top velocity in the .221 Fireball. I designed these to make the wildcat Harvey Kay-Chuk practical and efficient for varmints. The pure lead core and short, thin jackets give maximum efficiency at top Kay-Chuk revolver velocity. They are a little too "tender" for the Hi-V Fireball, so that accuracy suffers at longer ranges. Pressure also runs higher than good rifle type pills of the same weights. As they were my own creation I wanted to try them.

For moderate range varmints the 37 grain H.P. is quite explosive with 11.7 grains 2400 and CCI No. 400 primers. The 50 grain H.P. is deadly with 10.3 grains 2400.

The Lyman-Bellah cast gas check bullet No. 225107, that I designed for minimum cost shooting in the Kay-Chuk, was tried with one load in the Fireball. These little hollow point pills are hard to cast with uniformity. They work best with a hard alloy, such as DIVCO's Illinois Bullet Alloy No. 7. Accuracy is inferior to any jacketed bullet. Backed with 9.3 grains 2400 and a Small Rifle standard primers, they are pretty fair short range plinkers. Short range with the XP-100 means short rifle range. After all, the R-P (Remington-Peters) firm created a R-P (Rifle-Pistol) handgun!

R-P has a sensational new .357 Magnum cartridge, using a 158 grain jacketed soft point bullet. It's the most efficient factory cartridge we ever tested in this caliber! The long bullet jacket covers the entire bearing surface to eliminate bore leading, that is notorious in .357 revolvers shooting naked lead alloy bullets. The strong gilding metal

jacket can't contact the bore, even if fired in chambers that are not in perfect alignment with the bore. This eliminates lead spitting that is rather common in some .357's. But this isn't half the story!

Some brands have a nasty habit in some few lot numbers of tying up a gun when primers flow in the firing pin hole. R-P uses a Small Rifle primer, and have since 1958, that eliminates this trouble completely. The primer also gives good ignition with the rather hard-to-ignite powder they use.

The ammo functioned beautifully in a Smith & Wesson heavy (N) frame Magnum, a Smith & Wesson Combat (K frame) Magnum, a Colt Python, and a Ruger Blackhawk. Very little powder burned ahead of the muzzles of the 4" barrels on the Python and the Combat Magnum.

The best feature is the new bullet. Perhaps it was sparked by the Harvey Jacketed Jugulars, "The Most Deadly Bullets" I told the world about in the May 1956 issue of this magazine. They soon became the most widely copied bullets. The R-P version is not a copy. It has a much longer and harder jacket. The semi-wadcutter lead shoulder, that caused leading in some guns, has been eliminated. The nose has a most desirable taper to aid accuracy by helping start it in alignment with the bore without deformation, like the best rifle bullets. It retains the highly efficient flat nose.

Depending on the gun, groups run as small as 2.0" at 50 yards. That's target accuracy! You can feel confident of blasting varmints such as chucks, or game such as deer, at beyond 100 yards, if you do your part. With this fine accuracy you get the most potent

(Continued on page 65)

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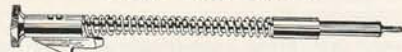


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(Continued from page 62)

bullet that was ever factory-loaded in this caliber. It has fully 50 percent more actual shocking power (not meaningless foot pounds of energy) than any R-P cartridge I've tested over the years. At 50 yards in fine, moist sand it expands to about 1.0 inch. The old standard R-P lead alloy bullet at the same listed velocity expands to only 0.6 inch.

When I first looked at the new pill I thought the jacket was too long and hard for fast expansion. It isn't. And penetration is excellent for deer size game. It should make the R-P Metal Point and lead bullets obsolete. Cartridges cost only 2¢ more each than their lead bullet loads, and they are worth it.

In trying to break down a round with an inertia-type bullet puller, the core swaged down to nose diameter, and drove out, leaving the undeformed jacket in the case. It takes a pretty stiff jacket nose to extrude a lead core. The best way to break the lacquer seal is to place the case on a lead block and tap the forward half with a hammer until the bullet loosens. The nickel plated cases are good. I'd like them better for reloading if they were not cannellured. However, the cannellure is not a sharp, deep cut as on some brass.

I've shot a number of varmints with the new Remington .357 Magnum fodder, and all were clean kills. A dedicated handloader paid the cartridge the greatest compliment of all. He said, "If I was rich, I'd buy this R-P stuff and not even handload my .357 ammo." I won't go quite that far, but it's fine ammo. Pressure and velocity will be in this column when we have complete details. 

ARMS LIBRARY

(Continued on page 7)

ing pleasure from them. Author Coykendall is an amateur trainer and field trial judge, and his love for his Labs is quite apparent, and so it should be.—R.A.S.

JIM BRIDGER

By J. Cecil Alter

(The University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, Okla., 1962. \$5.95)

Mr. Alter has been studying the story of Jim Bridger since he first published the fabled Mountain Man's biography in 1925. This book unveils western Americana as it developed, and it does much to throw some light on Old Gabe and some of his tales and the tales that have been spun around that colorful figure of a colorful time. This story of Jim Bridger is perhaps the most complete that has been written to date. The scholarly work that has gone into the book is apparent, but the book reads like a first-rate novel—no mean accomplishment when one considers the source material!—R.A.S.

THE KIWAS

By Mildred P. Mayhall

(The University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, Okla., 1962. \$5.95)

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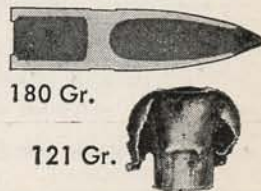
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moving, and with the coming of the white man, they lost what might today be called their perspective. Thus, they became fighters of red men as well as white. This is their sad but interesting story.—R.A.S.

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For the six gunner who uses a scope for long range shots, the new .357 Magnum will give just the kind of a wallop that's needed for game that's way out past the point of iron sight effectiveness.

Booklets

JOHN BLANCHI, Dept. G, 509 Hacienda Dr., Monrovia, Cal. offers a new catalog that features the Protector Brand holsters. Send 25 cents for catalog and ordering information.

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION, Dept. G, 1600 Rhode Island Ave. N. W., Washington 6, D. C. New: A handbook, "Basic Shotgun Instruction," contains the ABCs of smoothbore shooting, illustrated; also a short history of the shotgun. Postpaid, 25c. Also from National Rifle Association, the following. (Where two prices are given, the first is to members, second to non-members.) "Sighting-In Rifles & Shotguns", 50c; "The .45 Reprint", 50c; "Remodeling the 03A3", 50c; "Remodeling the .303 Lee-Enfield", 50c; "The M1 Rifle", 50c; "The M1903 Springfield Rifle", 50c; "Military Rifles", 50c; "Civil War Small Arms", 50c; "Telescope Sights", 50c; "Remodeling the U.S. M1917 Rifle", 50c; "Metallic Sights", 50c; "U.S. Cal. .30 Carbine", 50c; "Basic Pistol Marksmanship" Student's Manual, 25c; Instructor's Guide, 25c; "Basic Rifle Marksmanship", Student's Manual, 25c; Instructor's Guide, 25c; "Basic Shotgun Marksmanship", Student's Manual, 25c; "NRA Illustrated Shooters Guide", \$2.00, \$3.00; "NRA Gun Collectors Handbook", \$1.50, \$2.50; "NRA Hunters Handbook", \$2.00, \$3.00; "NRA Firearms Assembly Handbook", \$2.50, \$3.50; "NRA Questions & Answers Handbook", \$1.50, \$2.50; "NRA Illustrated Reloading Handbook", \$3.50, \$4.50; "NRA Illustrated Shooting Handbook", \$3.50, \$4.50; "NRA Hunter Safety Handbook", 10c; "NRA Hunter Safety Handbook (Bow Hunting)", 10c; "NRA .22 Shotgun Instruction", 10c; "Hunter Safety Instructors Guide", 25c.

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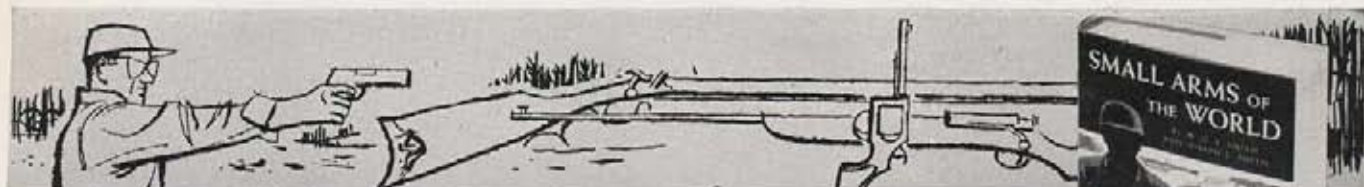
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