

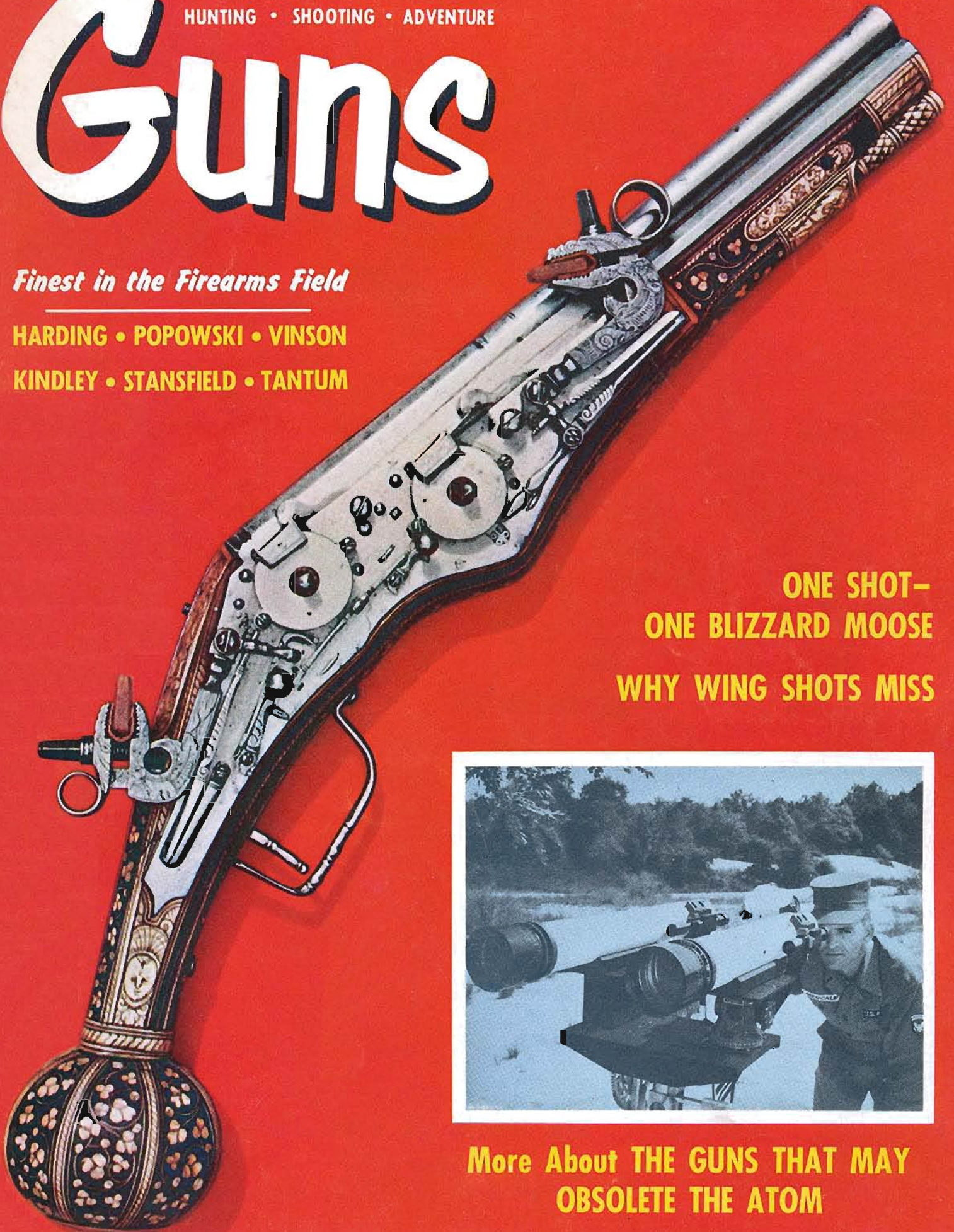
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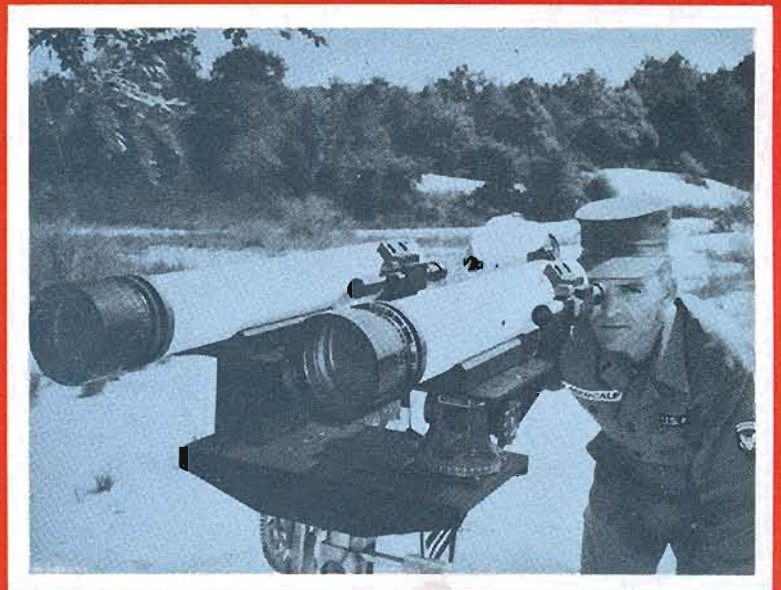
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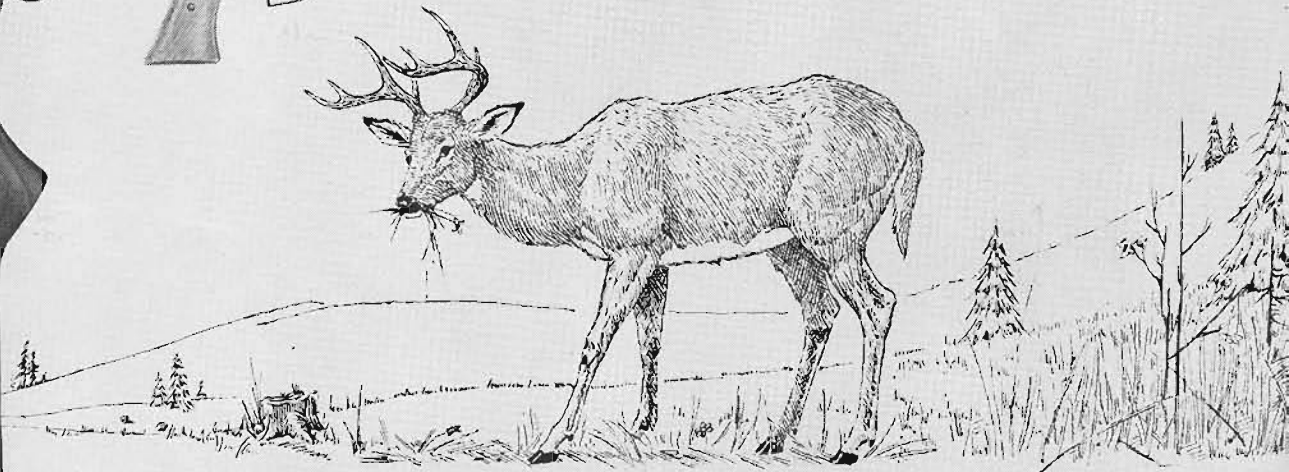
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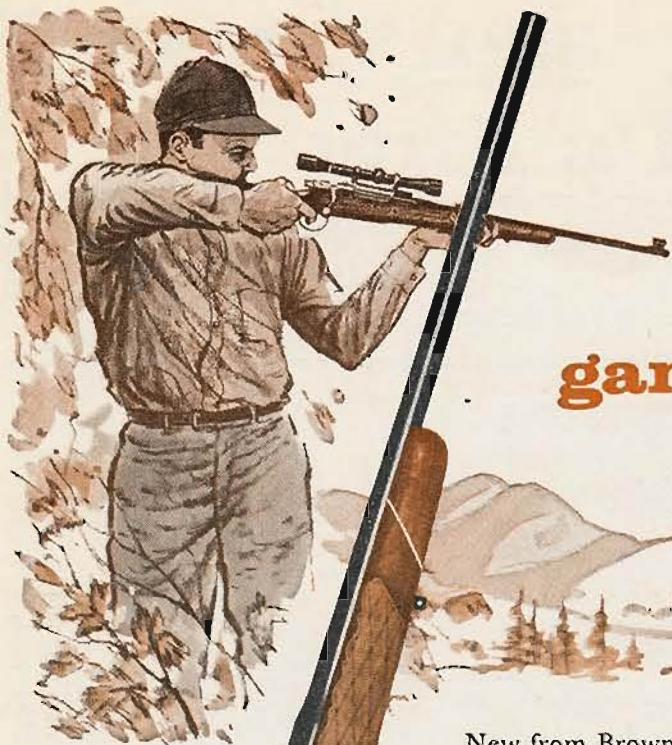
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# Guns

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

NOVEMBER, 1962

Vol. VIII, No. 11-95

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## THE COVER

This beautiful Saxon double wheellock, formerly in the William Randolph Hearst collection, is now the property of Frank Hubbard, Decatur, Illinois. The design, scroll work, and proof marks lead us to believe that it was made by Peter Danner about 1562. The Ektachrome transparency was made by Sid Rotz, Decatur, Illinois, using an automatic Rolleiflex with 3.5 lens, exposure 1/25 at f. 12.7. It was taken outdoors, using a skylight filter.

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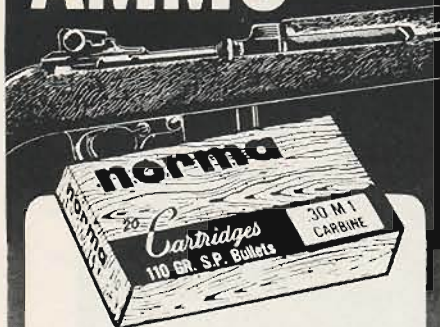
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## GUN RACK



### Hi-Standard Carbine

The new Hi-Standard Sport-King carbine is a neat little carbine for plinking and small game hunting. Because of the 18 $\frac{1}{4}$ " barrel, the western-style stock, and the 5 $\frac{1}{2}$  pound weight, the gun has a fine heft, comes up easily, and stays on target very well. Noteworthy is the side feeding of the tubular magazine, and ejection of the fired brass is to the right.

The gun is dressed up with brass butt plate, gold-finished trigger and trigger guard. The bead-posted front and patridge rear sight made our test gun shoot on target without any adjustment. With a scope, the gun shot well at all ranges, with groups averaging a bit over 2 inches at 25 yards. The gun functioned with all sizes of .22 rimfire ammo, and shot equally as well when held upside down as right side up. Although semi-auto's are sometimes prone to malfunctions, this Hi-Standard carbine did not malfunction in the course of testing it with over 250 rounds of ammo, even when action and barrel were badly fouled. Summary: A fine little gun by one of our leading firearms companies.

### Handgun Scope

D. P. Bushnell of Pasadena, California, now has the Phantom handgun scope in stock. This was first shown at the N.R.A. meeting in Washington and we promptly placed an order for it. Like other optical items with the Bushnell label, the optics of this scope are excellent. Magnification is 1.3X, and windage and elevation adjustments are made externally.



Mounting the scope is accomplished by means of a thin metal clip that is pushed on the top strap from the bottom up. Once in place, two small grooves extend up the sides of the strap, and thus iron sights can be used when the scope is removed. Each scope and scope clip comes with full instructions, and it is imperative that they be followed carefully and completely. Application of Sta-Lok powder should not be neglected, and if properly mounted, the clip should not interfere with the cylinder of the gun.

We mounted our Phantom scope on our Colt Python, checked the sight alignment with a Sweany Sight-A-Line, and started shooting. Optical properties were good, the gun was right on target, and everything went along fine with .38 Spl. wadcutter. For .357 Magnum and heavy hunting loads, a special base is available and should be used to prevent slippage from recoil. The major advantage of the clip is that it can be left in place and the scope can be switched back and forth from gun to gun. Special Recoil Anchors for the .44 Magnum will be released shortly.

### Walther Distributors

We apologize to Interarmco and GUNS readers for an error contained in the "Gun Rack" section of the September issue relating to Walther distribution. Dick Winter, Vice President of Interarmco, reminds us that "Interarmco has been distributing all Walther products since the beginning of post war production at Manurhin, France and now all models of German production at Ulm. It is conservatively estimated that Interarmco imports approximately 98 percent of all Walther products destined for U.S. consumption. For current descriptive literature and prices on the complete Walther line write to Interarmco, 10 Prince Street, Alexandria, Virginia."

### Noble Pump Shotgun

We recently completed our tests on Noble's new Model 602 20 gauge pump shotgun. This gun is chambered for the 3 inch 20 gauge hulls that have become so popular, and the gun comes with an adjustable choke. It took a bit of shooting to get used to the 28 inch barrel, but the swing and heft of the gun were good, though our own preference would have been for a stock just a little more on the straight side.

This is a non-take-down gun, holds five rounds in the magazine and one in the chamber, and the little 20 gauge handles all loads with equal ease. Overall length of the gun is 48 inches, weight is 6 $\frac{1}{2}$  pounds, drop at comb 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ ", at heel 2 $\frac{5}{8}$ ", and length of pull is about 13 $\frac{3}{4}$ ". The Model 652, without rubber recoil pad, plain barrel with either full or modified choke retails for \$69.45; the Model 602 goes for \$77.85.

The most outstanding feature on this little pump gun is the safety that functions well and is located where a safety should be—right on top and convenient even for gloved and frost-bitten fingers. Summary: A well-functioning, work-a-day gun, reasonably priced, that should fill your game bag if you do your share.

(Continued on page 10)

# WHAT!!! A B·B GUN?

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## Norm Thompson

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# CROSSFIRE

### Omission

In my article, "Loads For Your English Handguns," I neglected to mention two bullets for which the Lyman Gunsight Corporation can provide molds. Their #457195 is a hollow-base bullet of 225 grains weight intended for the .450 Revolver cartridge. The #457196 is a similar number of 290 grains for the .455 Webley. Also, either of these may be used for the .476 Revolver, since the hollow base will expand to fill the grooves. An added advantage is that you can full-length resize your cases and then expand them to hold the bullet friction tight. The .475" round ball recommended in the article can only be crimped in with the seating die.

John W. Rockefeller  
Grand Island, Neb.

### Mystery Solved?

I noticed your article, "This One Puzzles The Experts," June issue. The rifle pictured was made by John Blissett, 522 High Holburn, London. I have the mate to it, in a revolver (see picture).



Note the shape of the sideplate, trigger guard, hammer, barrel lug, and other features. The engraving is the same style, too: English scroll. My gun is .46 caliber, six shot, cap compartment in butt, 20 lands and 20 grooves, and had a presentation on the back of the grip marked "D. B. to W. W. P." The revolver weighs 38½ ounces—and its serial number is 1, same as the rifle. I'd bet they were a matched pair, made for some Englishman whose initials were W. W. P.

I should add that the revolver's cylinder moves forward to form a tight fit between barrel and cylinder, to seal in the gas, just before the hammer reaches the nipple—a feature you mentioned in describing the rifle.

Ben Cook  
Littleton, Colorado

Mr. Cook is not the only enthusiastic and knowledgeable collector who has offered solutions to our puzzle. But the high points of his revolver, which in some detail are similar to those on the rifle, are points which only make the puzzle more puzzling. Whether John Blissett of London put his name on Cook's pistol as a maker or as a dealer is hard to say. At least six small and/or long arms that agree in details with the rifle have been offered by various dealers. The high points which he mentions, such as the hammer, the engraving style, the gas-tight fit

between the barrel and cylinder—all are to be found on many arms of various national sources. The puzzle is, who made the "New Patent Revolving Rifle—London?" This question is one that the top authorities in England and America have not been able to answer.

In F. Theodore Dexter's "Gats," Vol. 1, No. 1, of May, 1948, there is, on page 13, almost a duplicate of the mystery gun. This one is marked "Moore & Woodward—64 St. James St., London."—Editor.

### We Usually Charge For Ads, But—

I have a Winchester "One of one Thousand" Model 1873, that I am willing to sell to the highest bidder.

The rifle has been in my family ever since it was new, and it is in firing condition. It has the silver inlay on both ends of the barrel, the original stock, and the set trigger also.

Reuben M. Welsh, Jr.  
Rt. 2, Box 355-B  
Brownsville, Texas

### Cover Copies

My husband and I were very interested in your GUNS cover by Paul Ellis for July, 1962.

Would it be possible to secure a copy of this picture minus the titles and captions? Please advise me if there is any way I could have this picture for framing and hanging with a small gun collection.

Eva D. Davis  
Friendship, Ohio

We have many requests like this; can only answer, "Sorry; no." By the time a cover picture emerges from its color transparency as a printed picture, the title and other type are part of the plates. We do, however, still have fine prints suitable for framing of the James Triggs gate-fold paintings which appeared in "Guns Quarterly," available at \$1.00 each.—Editor.

On the cover of your July issue was a picture of a Civil War flag, pistol, hat, and canteen. I collect such things; have an old bayonet which I believe to be from the Civil War era. I would like to obtain pictures of a real Civil War bayonet and canteen, would appreciate hearing from anyone of similar interests.

Wayne Pace  
3522 W. Wabansia  
Chicago 47, Ill.

### Comments

I have a couple of comments concerning the August issue.

1. The cover supposedly depicts a rifle of the Revolution. But it is a percussion model.



There were no percussion guns used during the American Revolution.

2. Re your article on Fast Draw, I think you would be interested to read the book, "Wyatt Earp, Frontier Marshall," by Stuart N. Lake. Wyatt is recorded as saying that anyone who started fanning in a gunfight committed suicide.

James H. Boatwright  
Winston-Salem, N. C.

1. Who ever said the gun pictured was used in the American Revolution? We said that it served "the Tennessee Long Rifles, a group dedicated to the preservation of memories of America's youth."

2. Jim, I did read that book—when it was first published, more years ago than I care to remember. It is questionable whether the book is a final authority either on Wyatt Earp or gunfighting, but you and Wyatt and Stuart Lake are quite right in denying that fanning was ever a successful western combat method. However, the article was not about gunfighting, western or otherwise; it was about a sport called Fast Draw—which has no connection whatever with combat.

—Editor.

### An Inside Look

This "Inside Look" department by Shelley Braverman is the first thing I look for in every issue of GUNS. Is there any place where I can get more prints of the working parts of guns? I live in a small mining town, and it is very hard for me to get material of this kind.

Ronald Milford  
Kirkland Lake, Ontario

Mr. Braverman's own book, "The Firearms Encyclopedia," contains scores of such drawings. Write him, Athens, New York. Most of the gun manufacturers have similar exploded drawings, might furnish copies on request.

—Editors.

### Kind Offers—Number 1

My wife and I enjoyed the story of the .228 Atomic Magnum Improved. Sounds like this fellow is really going places. We both wondered what powder he's using.

To help with the recoil, may I suggest a two-handed hold and a muzzle brake. I do believe, however, that he's losing a bit of velocity by using a revolver. The gap between the barrel and cylinder lets out a large amount of gas.

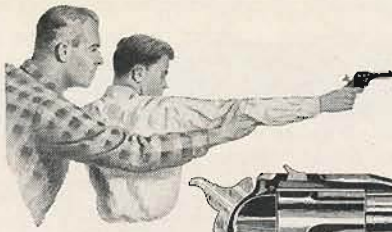
I should like to get together with this gentleman to discuss an idea of mine using 20 mm cases. I want to neck it down to the .17 Javelina, fill it with half a can of Bulls-eye, and use a dynamite cap for a primer. To shoot this "pop-gun" cartridge, I should like to re-design the Luger to take the extra power. Would you care to be the "guinea pig" to test fire this beast?

W. E. Hensel, Jr.  
West Covina, Calif.

We'd like to oblige, but editorial duties will make it impossible for us to accept your offer. But we have a few good enemies we could recommend to you—names on request.

### Number 2

I note in your latest issue that someone has come forth with a pistol cartridge



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# Savage

which is a real pistol. However, he has nothing new. Back in 1951, Roger Marsh mentioned a new caliber in his "Cleveland Plain Dealer" column on guns. It was the V&G Cal. 5 mm, super-hyper-duper-velocity round for the Von Krankheit-Guvnavitch Utility Rifle (recoilless), which was a 5 mm slug driven by a quadruplex charge of layered gun, rifle, and pistol powders ignited by black powder. This fantastic weapon had various ultra-advanced features not even found in the AR 15 or any other musket. Perchance I can write you up something on it. I could even give you a crude illustration. The combo could either brighten your dull days at the office, or drive you to vodka—or into orbit!

Recently I acquired a copy of "The Muzzle Loading Cap Lock Rifle" at a gun show. Ned Roberts mentioned in it the story of Capt. John Metcalfe III and his shot at a mile plus which killed a general and brought the Confederate forces to defeat. I thought that tale was as tall as the two above mentioned. The elevation used has only been used in the weapons at Cape Canaveral. Maybe I could draw you one of that sort also, if my imagination holds out.

Or, for a small consideration, I will go away and bother you no more.

John P. Conlon  
Newark, Ohio

### Decision

As you are no doubt aware, Mr. Edward A. McDermott, Director of the Office of Emergency Planning, announced on June 5, 1962, his conclusion that imports of surplus military rifles are *not* threatening to impair the national security. This decision rejects the petition filed with the Director, Office of Civil Defense Mobilization (now OEP) on June 29, 1959 by a group of New England manufacturers requesting protection under Section 8 of the 1958 Trade Agreements Extension Act.

Due to the exceptionally large number of persons and companies involved in the importation, distribution, and retail sale of surplus military weapons, as well as the manufacturers of accessories and the end purchasers of surplus rifles, we feel that this decision is of the utmost importance.

Richard Breed, Executive Secretary  
American Council for Technical  
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Washington, D. C.

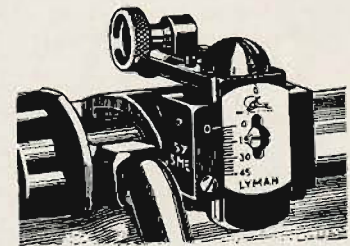


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(Continued from page 6)

### Sako Ammo

Accuracy depends on three things: the man behind the gun, the gun, and the ammo. If you take a man with known shooting ability and a gun that performs fairly well but not outstandingly, and then feed that gun some unknown ammo—all sorts of interesting things can develop. We know what we can do with one of our own .222's, but when we fed it a box of 50 rounds of that new Sako fodder, we had a shock. Despite handloading and pampering, our own .222 never did much better than 1½" at 100 yards. With the Sako ammo we shrunk those groups to just a fraction under one inch—and consistently so, to such a point that, if we held the gun at the same point of impact, we could overlay two targets and get identical results.

Next, we put some Sako .22 rimfire fodder through its paces, both through our Remington Model 37 heavy barrel target rifle, and with the Hi-Standard Supermatic Citation—and we only wish that our groups looked like that when the chips were down in a match! Best of all, that Sako brass in .222 can be reloaded and reworked without showing any signs of stress or fatigue. Sako ammo should be on your dealer's shelves by now, or you can ask him to get it for you from Firearms International.

### Texan Scope

Sovereign Instruments Company mailed us a 4X scope which they call the Flight-Weight. With its aluminum body, this is about the lightest scope that ever has come to us for

testing. Our test scope went through the fogging test—that is, from the deep freeze into the hot gunroom—with flying colors, passed the drop test perfectly, and held up very well under the pounding of the Dumoulin .338 Winchester Magnum carbine and the .308 Norma Magnum Kodiak rifle.

All Texas scopes are factory adjusted for parallax at 100 yards, and the optical system of our test scope gave clear and sharp definitions, even under adverse range conditions. The Center-Set reticle is spring mounted to resist shock, and the company guarantees that the reticle won't get knocked out of alignment. Judging from our range and routine tests, it appears that there is little likelihood of anyone collecting on that guarantee. The Texan scopes are available in 2½X, 4X, and 6X, and we were completely satisfied with the performance of our test scope.

### Case Neck Brushes

How much dirt accumulates in an '06 case, and how do you get it out? There are various schools of thought on this, and we are not about to start a small war. But we would like to report on the case neck brushes that our friend Fred Huntington, boss of RCBS, has on the market.

These little brushes fit into a universal handle, and Fred has the brushes in all standard calibers. Merely run the brush in and out of the case, then turn the case upside down and tap it on a soft surface and you'll be surprised how much powder residue will come tumbling out. Shoot a couple of rounds without cleaning the cases; then take the same brass, run the brush through it,

reload it, and shoot for group again. Compare the two groups, and you'll see what we mean. RCBS case neck brushes are carried by most gunshops, and they should be in stock now; for a while these brushes were almost impossible to get.

### Marlin Goose Gun

Marlin has come up with an answer for those high flying ducks and geese. Their new Goose Gun is basically the old Model 55 bolt-action, 12 gauge shotgun that has been around for some time and has found favor with many shooters. The new goose downer is chambered for the 3 inch Magnum shell and when the shot leaves that 36 inch—yes, 36 inch—barrel it forms one of the tightest patterns we have ever seen or counted. Just to verify the Marlin claim, we first patterned the gun at 40 yards, and then checked the pattern on clay pigeons at 60 yards.

Even with 2¾ inch shells loaded with number 9 Illinois lead shot, performance of the new Marlin gun was most satisfactory. The real clincher came when we loaded the gun with 3 inch shells, one batch again loaded with number 9's, the other with 2's. At 60 yards, the regularity of busting the birds became almost boring, and just for the record, the busting average was maintained when the Trius trap was backed off another five yards.

The Goose gun comes with two clips, one for the standard 2¾ inch shells, the other for the 3 inch whoppers. The gun carries a reasonable price tag (\$49), and we only regret that we will have to wait a few months before taking the gun out into the goose pits.

(Continued on page 61)

# SAKO

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This superbly accurate ammunition is now available to the American shooter. Each component is meticulously inspected at each stage of manufacture. No "custom" cartridges are more carefully made. Easily reloadable using American primers, these cartridges will insure maximum accuracy in any firearm. Write department G-9 for information.

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.243
.222 Mag.
.222
.22 Hornet
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# HANDLOADING BENCH

By KENT BELLAH



## .380 Auto Loads

THE .380 AUTOMATIC cartridge, often called .380 ACP, has been popular since Colt started making pistols for it under Browning patents in 1908. Close to one million Model M guns were made until discontinued in 1941, many in .380 caliber. Fabrique Nationale d'Arms de Guerre, Liege, Belgium, known as FN, duplicated the round in Europe as the 9mm Browning Short. Browning started production of the Model 1910 in 1912, making over one million guns by 1935, many for the 9mm B.S. Current models are called Browning Automatic Pistol .380 Caliber, perhaps the finest .380's made today. Browning type pistols are produced by scores of makers today, with total production running into untold millions.

Pistols for the American designed cartridge have been popular with the military in Italy, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, and other countries. Ammo is made by most ammo makers around the world. The .380's are popular home and pocket guns of moderate

power. They are compact, easy to shoot, easy to carry, and ammo isn't bulky. Some European military brass favors the lower powered equivalent of our .32 ACP and .25 ACP. Some Americans recoil in horror at the very thought of these low recoiling cartridges. But the .380's have helped to sell more tombstones around the world than the entire line of Magnum revolver cartridges that are so popular in this country.

The .380's are not my type of gun. Bullets lack weight for smashing power and Hi-V for deadly shock. But I have no crow to pick with the .380 fans, who generally don't shoot crows. Some people like spinach. I'm a beef-steak and Magnum man, happy with a steady diet of both.

Some writers unjustly claim a .380 is impractical for reloading. Some Browning imitations are pretty sorry, but if you have a good gun you'll enjoy shooting your own good fodder. You need the know-how, quality dies and components, as for any cartridge.

The .380 has been treated like an unwanted step child. Perhaps all the rim case needed was as much development as a .38 Special, and a match pistol to shoot it. The rimless hull permits high loading density with bullets seated so that they nearly touch the rifling. Little work has been done on it.



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## CCI PRIMERS"

"At the critical instant when sensitive ignition and consistent uniformity are most important, I rely on CCI Primers," says Frank J. Verano of Plainville, Conn. "I've used over 17,000 of them and recommend CCI to everyone who asks me. The buck? . . . Got him last December on special permit. Dressed out at 325 lbs.!"



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RED-JET BULLETS FOR INDOOR SHOOTING FUN

Cascade Cartridge, Inc., Lewiston, Idaho

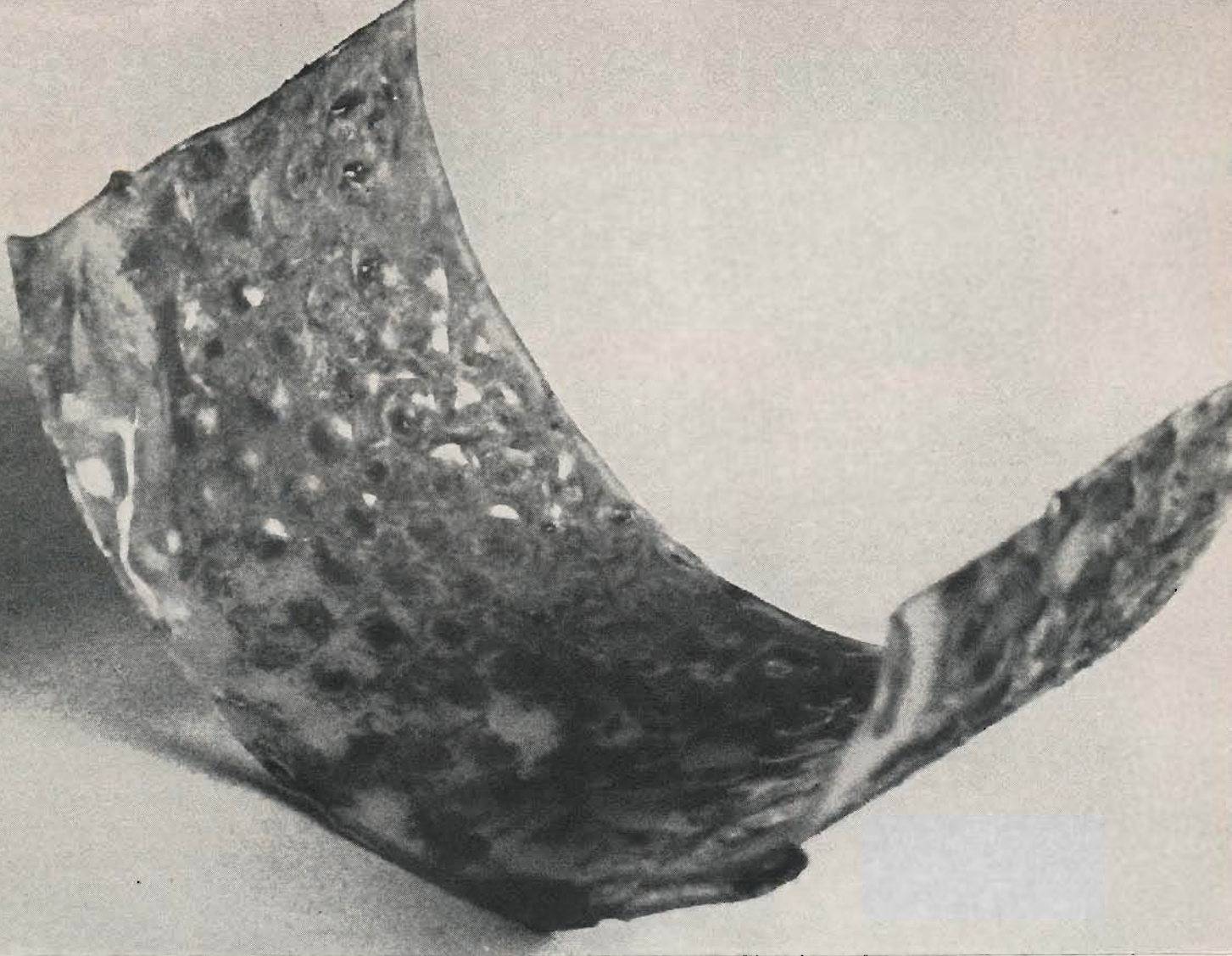


Upsize zinc alloy bullet bulges .380 case, compresses the charge.

John H. Murphy, 207 S. Andre St., Saginaw, Mich., did creative thinking on a target .380 when .38 Colt Autos were first being converted. He made a scaled down mould of the Hensley & Gibbs No. 78 bullet, dropping one lube groove. His miniature .45 ACP 104 grain pills look OK for 25 yard work, and possibly for 50. We didn't test these, as no target gun was available. Murphy doesn't sell moulds, but might supply details. If you get a custom target pistol, H & G can make specification moulds at extra cost.

Some .380's won't function below 8,000 psi, and 15,000 is about tops. There is no advantage in loading flat out for bullets that expand little or not at all.

One lot of U.S. ammo started at 925 fps, which is close enough to the listed 995 fps for a 95 grain jacketed pill, for 180 foot pounds muzzle energy. You duplicate factory  
(Continued on page 16)



## This is the plastic brain of new Super-X and Super-Speed Mark 5.

*A protective polyethylene collar wrapped around the shot inside the shell to create the hardest hitting, best patterning, longest range high-brass shotshells ever made.*



This plastic brain so controls the new Super-X and Super-Speed Mark 5 that they work like magnums, without the recoil and without the extra cost. In fact, because of their better, denser patterns, you get the effect of a 1/4 ounce more shot on target! And Mark 5 magnums in 12, 16 and 20 gauge are really super magnums in performance.

This almost unbelievably effective power comes from the Mark 5 collar channeling the tons of force that in ordi-

nary high-brass shotshells actually work against you. We call this collar the plastic brain because on firing, it solves the problems of shot abrasion and heat friction, right through the choke. Even after the shot column leaves the muzzle, our plastic brain is preventing wasted lateral dispersion of shot and pattern-destroying gas and wad interference. At about 36 inches from the muzzle, the slit collar, knowing when its job is done, just falls away. It's taken the beating — not the shot, as this fired Mark 5 collar photo proves.



For the long-range upland gunner and the trapshooter there are Xpert and Ranger Mark 5 Super Trap Loads. 40 yards and beyond, these new loads add the effect of an 1/8 ounce more shot on target with their heavier, denser patterns. Like Super-X and Super-Speed Mark 5s, they eliminate barrel leading and tube-wash.

If you're a close-cover-hunter or a skeet shooting fan who wants the finest short-range shell, stick to your old favorites: regular Ranger and Xpert. We haven't changed those a bit.

**WINCHESTER** *Western*  
WINCHESTER-WESTERN DIVISION **Olin**



*Pull!*

**BY DICK MILLER**

**I**T'S NOT exactly news to report that Miner Cliett won another skeet championship. Miner, who will be a Howard College freshman at Birmingham this Fall, made a shambles of the Alabama state championships, held at the Burleson Mountain range of the Morgan County Gun Club, Decatur-Hartselle, Alabama. He dropped two targets in the 300-bird program; one in the sub-small 410 race, and one in the all-bore.

For a while on a scorching hot Sunday afternoon, it looked as if news might be made, because the one all-bore target Cliett lost put him in a shoot-off with another fine skeet ace, Col. Robert Richardson from Maxwell Air Force Base at Montgomery, Alabama. Both Cliett and Col. Richardson went straight in the first extra inning of 25 targets, and it took a round of doubles from all stations to settle the issue.

Tom Jones and Raymond Strickland from Birmingham tied for the all-around runner-up spot with 289x300, and the decision in this encounter went to Tom Jones.

Strickland teamed with another Dixie hot-shot to win the no-handicap two-man team race, besting the handicap due of Cliett and Tom Jones after both pairs recorded 195x200.

The Southern Gun Club quintet from Birmingham bested the host club team for five-man team laurels. The winning team included Miner Cliett, Louis Cole, Bill Ireland, Ray Strickland, and Tom Jones. The runner-up team was made up of Fred Emens, Joe Wright, Gordon Blanton, Doyle Miller, and Bo Agee.

Little Janie Strickland, who had just made the switch from trap to skeet, and who was shooting a gun that appeared to be bigger than she was, won the Ladies all-bore trophy.

Gordon Blanton, of whom we will be reading more in skeet news, took the Junior all-bore trophy, just one day before his birthday. One day following the state shoot, Gordon left the ranks of juniors, and will tangle with the men in future events.

Randy Emens, who still has some prime years as a junior, was runner-up in Sunday's

12 gauge program. Little John Brown III, from down Birmingham way took the sub-junior laurels, and in so doing gave notice that more young blood must be reckoned with in Dixie doings on the skeet field.

On the other side of the age bracket, sub-senior Alabama champ of 1962 is Fred Simmons.

Col. Richardson, formerly of Decatur, was re-elected president of the Alabama State Skeet Shooting Association, with Dr. Harold Blanton of Hartselle, vice-president, and Fred Emens of Decatur, secretary-treasurer. Much credit is due these men for the hard work and untiring efforts in promoting the skeet game in Alabama and the whole South.

Orchids are due Morgan County president Jim Barnes and his crew for their tremendous effort in hosting the state championships at a club barely two years old.

◎ ◎ ◎

A look at the state trapshooting results in Alabama indicates that several shooters in the Heart of Dixie state go for both clay target sports. Janie Strickland holds both the state all-gauge skeet title and the ladies handicap title. Her dad, Raymond Strickland, took an open 16-yard award in trap along with his skeet awards. Miner Cliett was a class winner in the 16-yard game, and Mrs. Louise Taylor is a double winner in both skeet and 16-yard programs. Raymond Strickland won the trap-all-around championship which salvaged somewhat his loss of the all-around runner-up title by a shoot-off in the skeet game.

◎ ◎ ◎

Random shots from here and there on the shooting circuit:

*(Continued on page 54)*

## LA SALLE PUMP ACTION SHOTGUN

CUSTOM MODEL \$125.00

STANDARD MODEL \$89.00



Shown is the Custom Grade La Salle, available in 12 gauge only, with interchangeable chrome lined barrels and superb handchecked French walnut stock and forearm—\$125.00. The Standard La Salle, with an unchecked walnut stock and grooved forearm, is available in 12, 16 and 20 gauges for \$89.00.

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| 3. Constriction of a shotgun barrel at the muzzle is called the choke?  | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. A barrel etched or eaten away by rust or chemical action is said to be eroded?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. The crosshairs in a telescope sight is called the reticle?   | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
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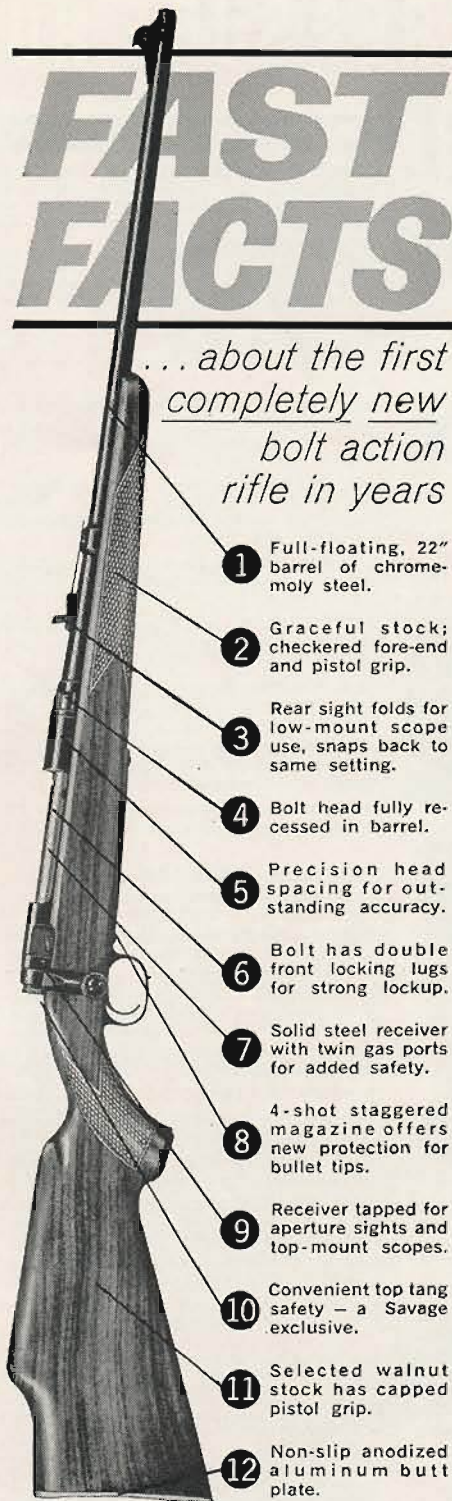
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The Savage 110 comes in .30-06, .270, .243, .308 calibers. Price \$112.50. Model 110-MC (illustrated), \$116.75. 110-MCL, world's only production left-hand hunting rifle, \$121.75. Actions and barreled actions available through gunsmiths. Prices subject to change. For free 28-page catalog, write

**SAVAGE ARMS,**  
WESTFIELD 108, MASS.



# model 110 Savage

(Continued from page 12)

loads with 3.0 grains Bullseye and CCI No. 500 primers, or 4.5 grains Unique. You can use 4.0 grains Unique for a slightly reduced load, or 5.0 grains to exceed factory ammo in a good gun.

Alean's 95 grain hollow base .355" is a good bullet. It takes 4.8 grains Unique, as listed by Hercules in 1935 for a M.C. pill at 15,000 psi for 1010 fps. A load with 2.7 grains Bullseye shoots better, and nearly equals factory loads. Lyman's 2.0 grains shoots well, but doesn't function some guns.

I don't recommend Berdan primed shells, unless U.S. type brass is not available. Seat bullets friction tight without crimping. One writer said they should "resist 80 pounds pressure on the nose." Don't ask me where he got that figure! Sizers should be correct size to cause bullets to resist 25 pounds or more pressure. Assorted hulls vary in thickness, which complicates reloading. If your dies are sloppy for .355 pills, try a .356.

Maximum case length is .680. You can trim to about .674. Chamfer mouths lightly. The seater should remove the bell. Hulls can be pressed completely through a hand sizer, then belled by tapping a bearing ball on the mouth. You can weld a shank on the ball, or make a ball end on a hardened rod a bit larger than your largest caliber. This works well to clobber up a few rounds, but a good 3-die set is a bargain at \$13.50.

Soft bullets cause feeding trouble. Lyman's cast 95 grain No. 358242 is good with 2.7 grains Bullseye or 4.5 grains Unique. Cast hard, or use IBA No. 7 mix. Lyman lists the diameter at .358. This may bulge cases, and may not chamber in some pistols. Factory pills run .354 to .356.

Zinc alloy 95 grain bullets are very long for their weight. If seated to the proper .984 overall length the powder may be compressed, resulting in a damaged gun. One of these ".358" bullets actually miked .3594 and compressed the charge. Fortunately, they bulged cases so badly a chap couldn't chamber them in his gun. These are not made for a .380, and you should never attempt to use them. Killing power is poor, despite the Hi-V that can be obtained in a .357 Magnum, even on jackrabbits. The same is true with zinc alloy castings at extremely Hi-V in a .220 Swift. They are wind sensitive, and penetrate without expansion.

• • •

Let me kick our hard-kicking Army Mule. Orientation lectures gave it a sales pitch that would make an old medicine show "doctor" green with envy. Should rookies bow three times per day toward Hartford? Is it advanced? Nope. Ballistics, range and shocking power are inferior to a .45 Colt black powder load, vintage of 1873. A 9mm Parabellum has more range, and energy.

Rookies, scared of a .45 can't hit the paper. They can do better with an easier-to-shoot 9mm. Our Mule needs a tune-up to thump slugs at near sling-shot velocity to match targets. The much hallyhoosed "knock-down" power is false as falsies. In technical language, it ain't got none. It won't knock-down a cat, unless you throw the gun!

My friend Shack set up a 25 pound sack of pelleted dog food to prove the lack of knockdown. A puff of wind knocked it over. He set it up again, and gave it the whole darn clip at 5 feet. As Shack triggered the gun, dead center hits blasted dog food

through exit holes. Shack tossed his hat at the target. The knock-down power of a Stetson hat did what the .45 couldn't—the tottery sack was knocked down!

Army brass has praised our .45 from the housetops, and damned it to the depths of hell. I've heard all sides for both guns. Experts may favor a .45. But a 9mm would serve them nearly as well, or better, and serve mediocre shooters much better. Non-expanding big slugs have little advantage. A general was about right in saying that for sure stopping with caliber alone you'd need a 3" ball. It would have "knock-down" power, but who could shoot it?

• • •

A heavy pipe through the floor is handy for working up loads and test firing indoors. One chap has a five foot length of 8" pipe set nearly flush with the floor, covered with a piece of inner tube. He pokes the muzzle through a hole in the cover and drops the hammer. It reduces noise and concussion. The pipe is safe and permanent, even if bullets hit the sides.


The excellent Illinois Bullet Alloys No. 4 and 7 are sold in 5 linked ingots weighing one pound each, just right to break off and add to a furnace. You can link similar ingots in a SAECO mould by grinding notches in the dividers. Always identify alloys. Stamp the "pigs," or mark with nail polish. A chap took some unidentified squib loads deer hunting by mistake. It cost him a deer.

A lad got lousy 50 yard accuracy with a Colt .38 Special Mid-Range Gold Cup. Cases bugged and jammed as they ejected. Breaking down his reloads solved the mystery. Powder charges were erratic, a major cause of crummy reloads. You must master your measure and operate it with a uniform technique, especially with sticky pistol powders.

There is no better measure for light pistol charges than a SAECO with the old style drums. They are still available. The charge hole is adjusted and locked, so it's equivalent to a fixed charge drum. I keep several drums adjusted for different charges, with handles attached. I can hold Bullseye to 0.1 grain or less.

With the hopper nearly full, I bump the handle several times to settle the powder. In charging, the handle is bumped once at the top, a pause, then bumped twice at the bottom. Don't bang it! Operate with a steady Click-pause-Click, Click. Keep the measure perfectly oil-free. Never leave powder in a measure longer than necessary to load a batch of cases. Fill the hopper often.

SAECO's measure with a Micro-Setting Drum is dandy for rifle powders, and it takes old style drums. The clever adapter made by Guns Adamson, Troy, New Hampshire, at \$2.95, is a bargain. It permits instant removal of the measure to empty the unused powder. SAECO's stand contributes to accuracy. You lose uniformity when your measure in on a springy shelf. Master your measure and you are a step closer to making Master!

My friend D. L. Cooper uses a spare SAECO stand to hold scales on a bench at eye level for accurate reading. He has an angle iron bracket screwed to the stand. A 3/4" plywood shelf holds the scales, and an Electric Dripper. You can tilt the Dripper for a faster flow. It's real neat. 





## **STARTS WITH VARMINTS, STOPS AT NOTHING!**

*(The Weatherby .300...most versatile rifle for all North American big game)*

When you carry a Weatherby .300, you are indeed a versatile hunter. The wide range of cartridges available makes this your ideal rifle for all North American shooting. (Not just for the African Safari or Asiatic Shikar.) We load this super cartridge with five different weight bullets: 110 grain, 150 grain, 180 grain, 200 grain and 220 grain. You may also select thin jacketed bullets for open country shooting, partition type bullets for brush hunting and deep pene-

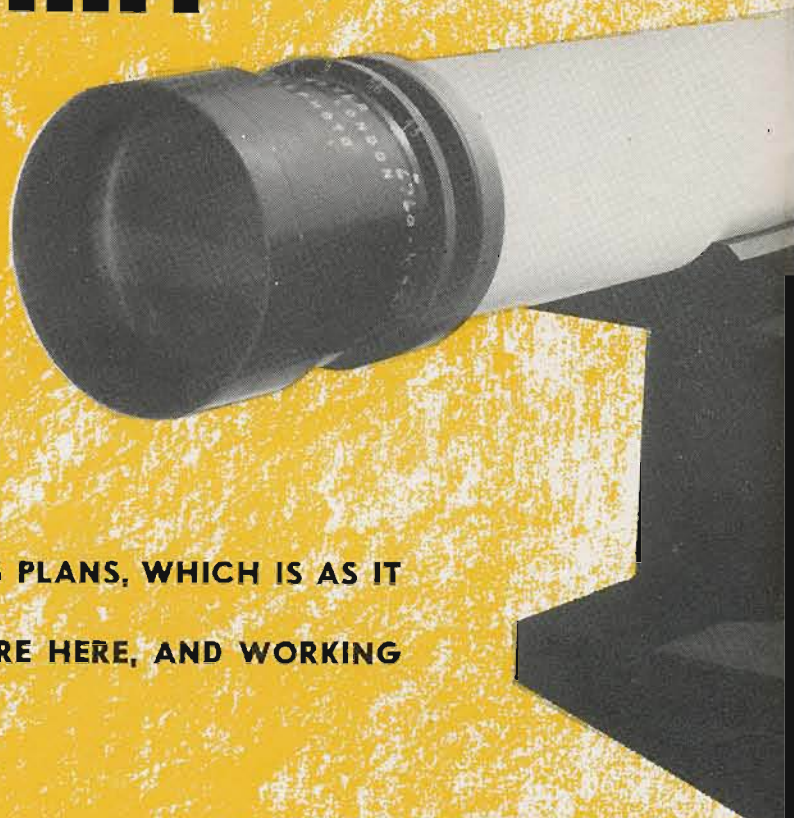
tration, or the heavy full patches for the world's largest game. Versatility? You can start with varmints and stop at nothing! The cost? Much less than the disappointment of using a rifle that is not equal to the hunt. Prices start at \$285. Ask your dealer for free literature and the new 12th edition of our 140-page book "Tomorrow's Rifles Today," \$2 per copy. Or write to Weatherby, Incorporated, 2781 E. Firestone Boulevard, South Gate, California.

See your *Weatherby* dealer

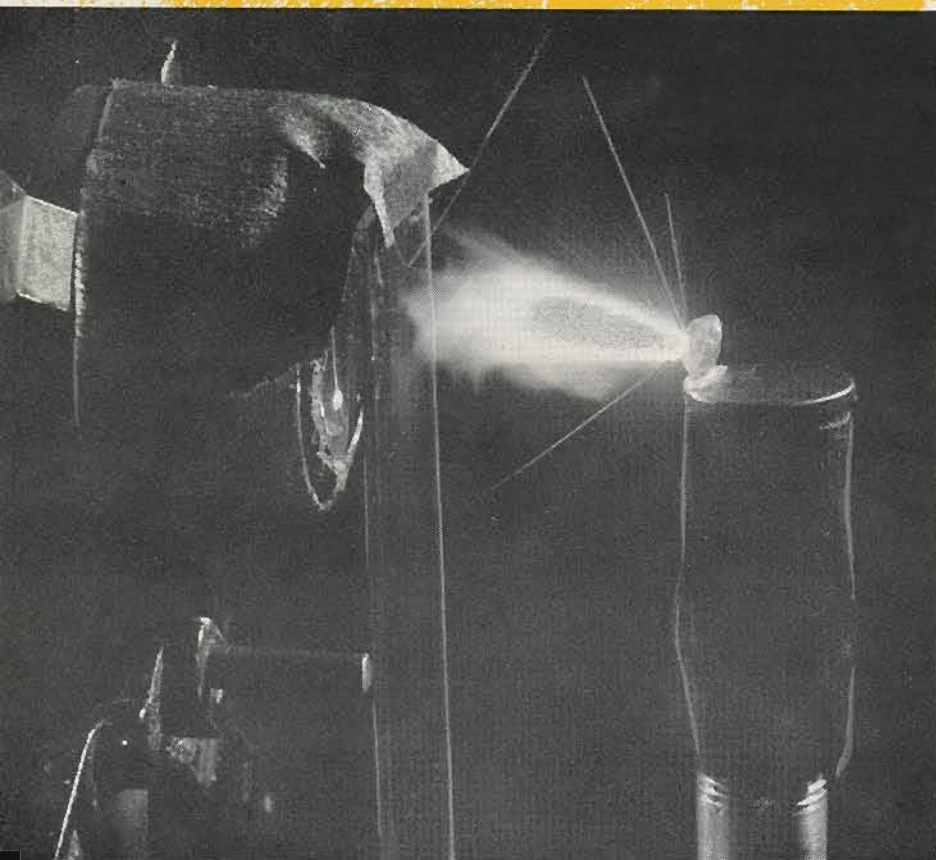
A Guns  
EXCLUSIVE

More About

# GUNS THAT MAY OBSOLETE THE ATOM



NOBODY IS TALKING ABOUT WEAPONS PLANS, WHICH IS AS IT SHOULD BE. BUT LIGHT-RAY "GUNS" ARE HERE, AND WORKING



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Light beam fired through one tube strikes target; reflection is caught by the other tube. Time interval for round trip gives exact distance to target. But—other rays don't bounce, cut through hardest objects.

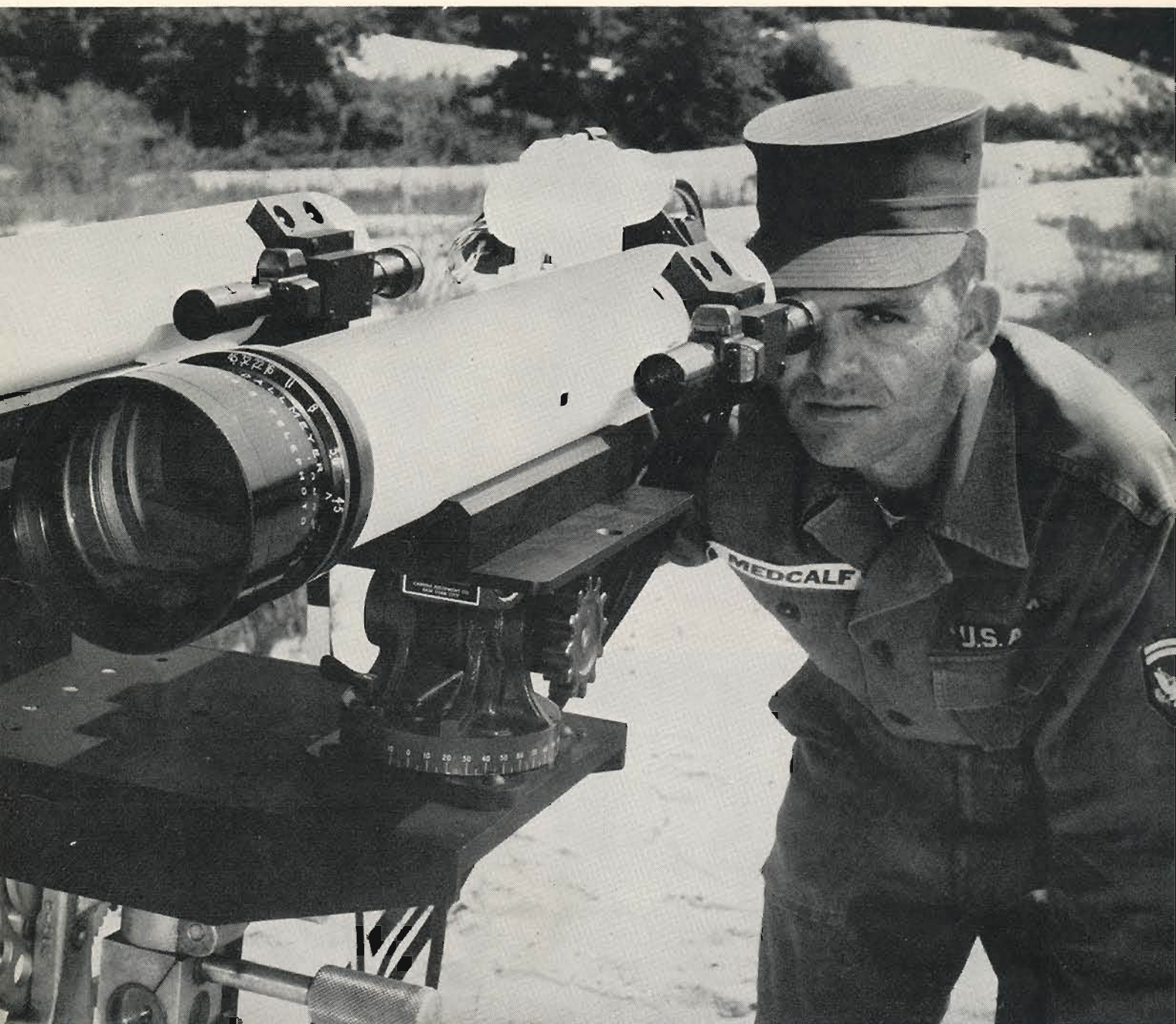
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By LAIRD HARDING

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Not even diamond can resist hot tongue of Laser light which drilled hole through it in 200 millionths of a second. Experiment was performed in GE laboratory. Laser ray is not visible; flare of light in picture is a cloud of vaporized diamond particles. —General Electric Co. photo.

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—U. S. Army Signal Corps photo.

**I**N CASE YOU came in late, we were discussing the amazing optical maser, or ruby laser, which, squeezing light waves into terrifically intense “death ray” beams, has put U.S. physicists miles ahead of even the most fantastic gadgets of Buck Rogers science fiction.

Early this spring, Gen. Curtis Le May, Air Force Chief of Staff referring to “beam-directed energy weapons” and “death rays,” stated: “Our national security in the future may depend on armaments far different from any we know today . . . perhaps they will be weapons that strike with the speed of light.”

“Light bullets” shot by the light-squeezer ray guns are heralded as the long sought missile-killer that will mothball enemy nuclear-warheaded rockets. Unlike the Nike-Zeus, the “kill-mechanism” (“power density”) of the “optional maser lethal radiation weapons” is “clean” (no fallout). The military is also reported to be studying the hot lead versus hot light question at the foot soldier level.

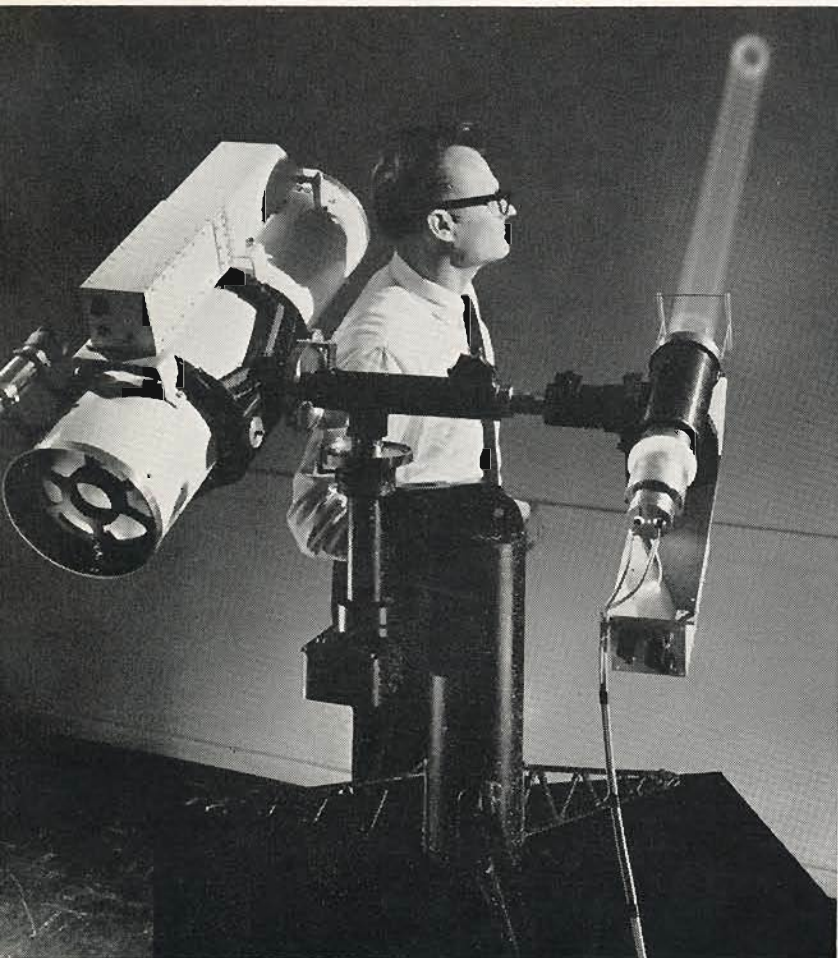
As a gun 'n ink slinger, I've just burned holes in a paper target with a ruby laser for the first time in history. Chalk me up as saying that light waves are the wave of the future in weaponry.



Ray gun fits in suitcase, yet one pulse of Laser light of 1/2000th second duration cut through steel plate to burst balloon 10' beyond. It may also burst balloons of bombast and threats frequently launched from behind Iron Curtain.

—Raytheon Company photo.

## WHOSE BALLOON?



Laser spacecraft radar pinpoints small targets with great accuracy. Is resemblance to antiaircraft gun coincidental?

—Hughes Aircraft Co. photo.

Like ancient steel, the new electronic marvels can be hammered into both swords or plowshares, so to speak. A Hughes Aircraft executive said recently: "Lasers now make possible sweeping advances in the entire electronics industry, and in 10 or 15 years they will play an important role in everyone's life and standards of living." At the same time, a Washington news-weekly noted, "Big companies are now reporting break-throughs on the way to controlling light waves for weaponry."

True, as regards restricted military applications, "The U.S. effort is like an iceberg, in that only a small fraction of the total appears above the surface of military security," as one industry journal put it. Let's hope that iceberg does *not* start rearing up out of the deep blue; what Nikita doesn't know won't hurt us. But let's hope the berg is a big one!

Meantime, commercial lasers are booming like a gold-rush town. Over 400 companies have rushed into the fast-breaking field and are busily advertising and pushing sales of the varied maser-laser wares.

Amid all the technological fireworks, these stand out. Bell Tel Labs (A.T.&T.) predicts that one maser beam can handle over a hundred million telephone conversations. General Electric is using their lasers to machine diamonds, tungsten. Said G.E. exec Dr. J. H. Holloman: "If we can use a light beam to cut diamonds, we can use it to cut anything."

American Optical Co., a leader in laser scalpels for eye surgery, is also pushing ahead in laser welding. Raytheon, active in the chemical-medical field, declares the laser beam already focused to a "10-micron spot" can "pick off a single protein molecule in a chain." Hughes Aircraft has the ruby laser beam harnessed to radar, as has the Signal Corps.

Maser is a coined word standing for the first letters in "Microwave Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation." The inventors, Townes & Shawlow, received a public basic patent on it in 1960. When Maiman, then at Hughes Aircraft, got his people working on light waves, he called it the laser, substituting "L" for light. Light and radio waves are identical except for frequency.

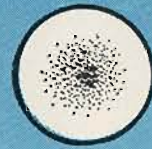
Light is defined as radiated electromagnetic energy capable of producing a visual sensation. You can't scoop up a handful and mike it for dimension. It has no mass, weight, volume. The ghostly stuff is measured in ergs and watts per second.

When you drop a boulder into a mill pond, the work done in lifting it up corresponds to the power of the waves created. That's also true when the chromium atoms in the ruby laser "drop," producing or emitting light waves. So, to "make" light rays, we first convey light energy quanta to these atoms, exciting them to jump up, and then collect the light waves emitted when they fall back.

The rules of this game are postulated by the quantum theory, originated by Planck & Einstein, 1900-1905. Hitting its stride in the 1920's, quantum mechanics developed into complex mathematics. But, the basic concepts are simple.

All "radio" waves—light, X-rays, infrared, etc.—do not tool along "continuously" without interruption, like water spurting out of a garden hose; they move "discontinuously," the (Continued on page 40)

# This Is Where You Miss 'em



**IT ISN'T MOTHER NATURE THAT MAKES YOU SHOOT BEHIND A BIRD—IT'S YOU**

By CAPT. T. L. CLEAVE

Royal Navy

**Y**OU MAY HAVE HEARD of the English statesman who said that, from the shooting point of view, rabbits were created six inches too short. There was also the sportsman who, according to his friends, was within six inches of being the best wing shot in Europe.

In both cases, the six inches in question were those directly behind the running or flying target. Why is it that shotgun misses are almost invariably behind the target, and what can be done to correct the error?

Believing that the first step toward a solution to the problem would be to determine whether Nature herself influences us to miss a moving object more often behind than in front, we set up an experiment in which no explosion was involved to complicate the problem. Two helpers stationed 10 yards apart rolled a ball back and forth at the foot of a wall. Twenty other helpers aimed 50 shots each at the moving object with tennis balls thrown from a distance of 10 yards. The wall merely facilitated the recovery of the tennis balls.

This is a true test, since there is no physiological difference between the brain signal to throw the ball and the brain signal to pull a trigger. The stimulus in each instance is a moving target, and the result in each case is a

thrown projectile—in one case, a tennis ball; in the other, a charge of shot.

The results surprised us. Whereas we had expected more misses behind the target than in front of it, only two of our 20 test performers missed behind more often than in front; 16 missed more often in front of the target than behind it; and two throwers scored an equal number of misses in front and behind.

Of the total 1,000 throws by 20 throwers, the score was: 498 misses in front, 268 misses behind; 234 hits (or misses directly over the target, which indicated correct aim so far as lateral movement was concerned).

The explanation for these results may lie in the expectation in the minds of most people that the opposite result will occur—and subconscious determination of the brain to correct for the expected error. Doubtless the brain would eventually accept the evidence and straddle the target equally, as it does with stationary targets; but it would take many more than 50 shots to bring this about. Actually, a second run of tests by 7 of the original performers did show a tendency in each instance to equalize the direction of misses.

However, such points at this are non-essential. The experiment does reveal that the brain does *not* cause us to miss more often behind than in front—as long as there is no explosion. Therefore, since misses in the shooting field *are* more often behind than in front, the answer must lie in the explosion.

The explosion of the shot combines a loud report with a considerable jolt to the shoulder of the shooter. That this does affect the shooter can be verified by looking at a shooter's face as he fires. The effect will be seen in anything from a blink to a very considerable flinch, the magnitude of the effect depending upon the experience of the shooter, or the lack of it. But the key fact is that the effect occurs just *before* the explosion—in anticipation of it.

These effects can be and often are accompanied by a definite check in the swing of the gun. How fatal this check can be becomes obvious when it is remembered that, if a bird is crossing at 40 miles per hour (60 feet per second), a check in the swing of one-tenth of a second must result in a miss 6 feet behind the bird.

Before proceeding to the question (*Continued on page 39*)





Varminters use rest for maximum accuracy on small targets. Same procedure helps hit the equally small vital spot on bigger game.

## For Clean Kills, Take a REST!

By BOB KINDLEY

ONE MARK of an experienced hunter is his willingness to use and his ability to improvise a rest whenever possible. He wants to place his *first* shot accurately in a vital area to insure a quick clean kill. And the best way to do this is to use anything handy to steady the rifle. Nothing marks a hunter's *inexperience* more than standing on his "hind laigs" and spraying the countryside with slugs.

Several years ago, my compadre and I set up camp in the foothills of the Black Range on the edge of the Gila

Wilderness. We started climbing at daybreak, following a cattle trail along a narrow ridge, intending to top out and hunt the high mountain meadows. The canyon floor below had little cover, only a few scattered clumps of scrub oak. A jackrabbit would have had trouble hiding down there, let alone a buck deer.

About halfway up, I accidentally kicked a rock off the trail. As it clattered down the slope a big buck bounced out of a patch of shin-oak. He was a beauty, and that, coupled



Never rest rifle on a solid object. To avoid this, shooter above uses hand to pad rifle, gets solid support from fencepost.

with his unexpected appearance, got me rattled. I flipped the .30-06 to my shoulder and started throwing slugs. I really put on a demonstration of how *not* to hit a mule deer. I shot over him, under him, and dusted rocks on both sides. Then I stood there with an empty rifle as he headed up the opposite slope.

While I sprayed 150 grain Silvertips over the hillside, my companion played it cool. He calmly parked his fanny behind a convenient boulder and rested his left hand on top. When the buck paused at the very crest of the opposite ridge in typical muley fashion, his rifle was as steady as the rock. He estimated the range perfectly, and squeezed off a shot with the crosshairs just level with the buck's back. At the crack of the .270 the deer took a couple of startled, stiff-legged jumps and collapsed.

My hunting partner that day was an old-timer with quite a few hunting seasons under his belt. His action quite effectively pointed out the advantage of using an *improvised* rest. He promptly gave me some advice I've always remembered.

"Son," he said as we rolled the big four-pointer over, "That was quite a barrage you laid down back there."

He paused, gave his hunting knife a few licks on a pocket stone, and continued: "A good hunter always shoots from the *steadiest* position he can find. And that isn't offhand. He never shoots standing if he can kneel. He never kneels when he can sit. He'll shoot prone if possible, and he'll use *anything* handy as a rest to steady his rifle."

The old man really meant that the human frame wasn't designed to be a steady rest for rifle shooting. Take a look at yourself. When shooting offhand, there's several feet of wobbly muscles, four or five ball-socket joints, a lot of jittery nerves, and yards of pumping blood vessels between the ground and the rifle. Holding your rifle steady offhand is practically impossible. Furthermore, with the muzzle wobbling around, no shooter can concentrate on trigger squeeze. He's more concerned with trying to control the wobbles and usually jerks the trigger when the sights go past the target.

Since that day with the old man, I've practiced using a rest for every shot if possible. Fence posts have helped me bust jackrabbits at long range. The top edge of the car window is used to clobber crows. I've padded the top of a boulder with my folded jacket to kill a mule deer across a canyon. My old sombrero on top of a sage helped me clobber an antelope buck at 300 yards. Tree trunks, drainage ditch banks, logs, and forked sticks have provided steady rifle rests to place shots accurately on game and varmints. Pint-sized prairie dogs have been killed at 300 yards and over by using sand bags on the hood of the station wagon.

Using an improvised rest is a great advantage to any shooter. When the rifle is steady, the problem of trying to hold the sights on the target is eliminated. And with the crosshairs or gold bead glued to a big buck's rib cage, the shooter gets real confident. The effort of controlling muzzle wobble is eliminated, so all he has to do is concentrate on trigger squeeze. He forgets about trying to hold the sights on the target, and is a lot less likely to jerk the trigger or flinch. And, believe me, one of the best remedies for a case of "buck fever" is to have the sights glued on the target, whether it's a prairie dog or a deer.

The serious big-game hunter should practice a lot during the off-season, especially at improvised rest shooting. He should try to tailor his shooting (*Continued on page 48*)

## "STAND UP ON YOUR HIND LEGS AND SHOOT LIKE A MAN" HAS A BRAVE, BOLD RING, BUT THE SURE SHOT IS BETTER



Try using folded shirt or jacket as pad over handy rock or log. This gives near-perfect shooting rest.



Where legal, a sandbag on hood of car helps steady gun. Use fender or cranked-down window as gun rest.



If no other rest is available, grip handy tree trunk, rest the fore-arm of rifle across wrist for shot.

# THE GERMAN SNIPER



## Master of his trade...



By Lt. WILLIAM H. TANTUM IV, USAR

**T**HE GERMAN snipers of World War II were stout-hearted and well-trained riflemen. These men were real marksmen, and they inflicted many casualties on the attacking troops by their skillful and selective fire. They stuck to their positions and kept up their brilliant shooting even when subjected to heavy enemy fire.

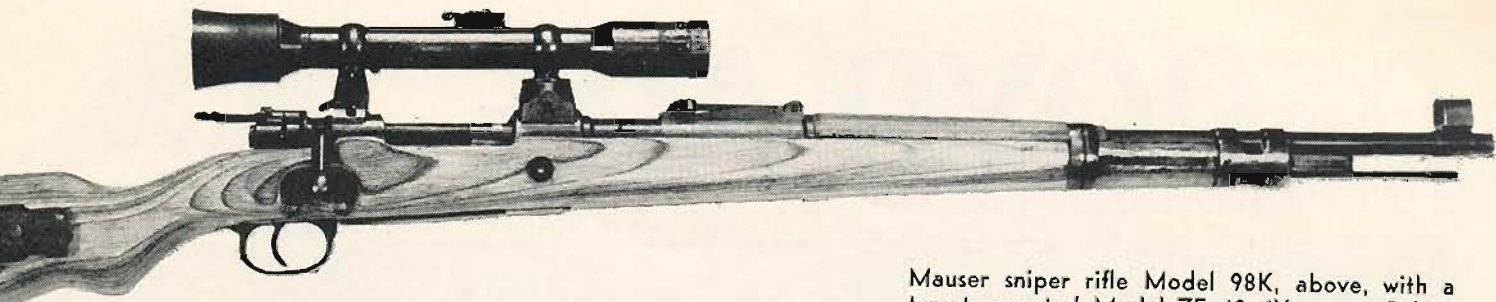
The German snipers were always well camouflaged in well-dug-in, previously prepared, concealed positions. When the German snipers were eventually driven out by attacking troops, the majority of them got away by the use of excellent fieldcraft and concealment. Their effective range was anything up to 300 yards, and they were known to do remarkable shooting at ranges up to 600 yards. German snipers were masters in the art of camouflage, movement, and stalking—master shots, full of confidence in their ability as military hunters.

The sniper training in the German Army was excellent. The sniper was put on the combat field-firing ranges as quickly as possible. The training policy was to merge weapon training and field craft into its tactical application at the earliest time.

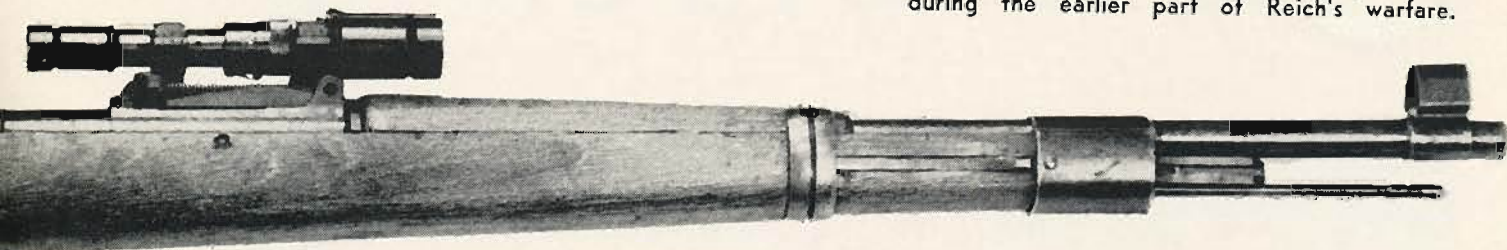
More training was given in the kneeling, sitting, and standing positions than was practiced in any other sniper school in the world. Heavily stressed in German rifle training was the idea that it was the right hand pulling the rifle back into the shoulder which produced the main gripping force. There was also extensive training in the art of good trigger pressure.

Imagine a sniper rifle fastened to a table. On the rifle is a gadget with a mirror and a dial





Mauser sniper rifle Model 98K, above, with a turret mounted Model ZF 42 4X scope. Below, Model 98K with a ZF 41 scope and mount; gun was used extensively by German sharpshooters during the earlier part of Reich's warfare.



that reveals the pressure of the finger on the trigger, magnifying the pressure of the squeeze. The sniper sits at the table and aims the rifle, while the instructor sits at his right, facing the dial and mirror. Through the mirror, the instructor checks sight alignment. On the dial he can see how smoothly the sniper squeezes the trigger.

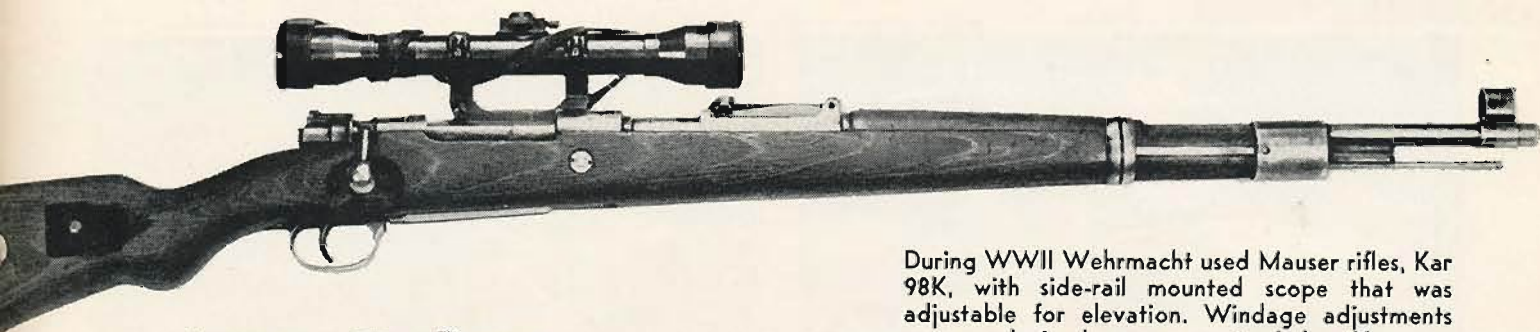
On the range, mostly head and shoulder silhouette targets were used. Much practice was devoted to getting the sniper accustomed to shooting at various ranges. In addition to target practice on the single target range, the German sniper trained for the attack. This is a very practical training that includes target recognition and distance estimation. The sniper was taught hard to be a fanatic about the cleaning and the care of his sniper rifle. The German Army was very strict about the care of weapons

generally, but the sniper got extra indoctrination.

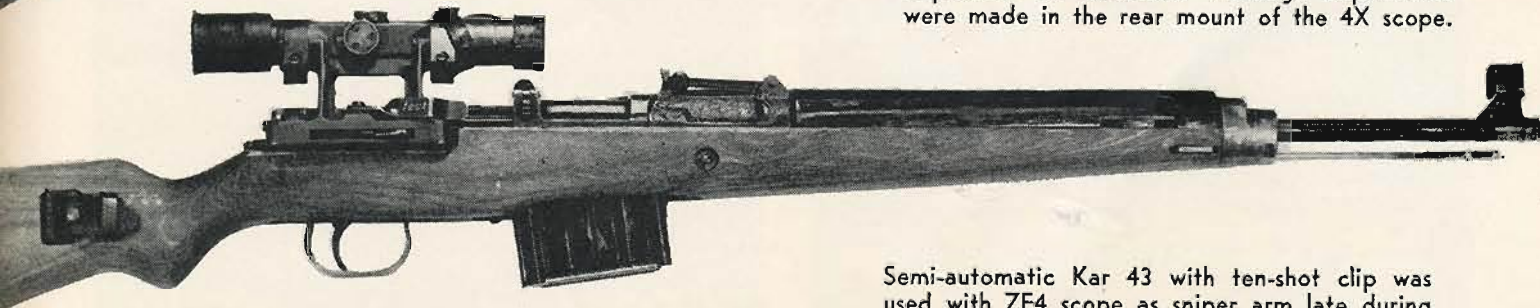
German snipers usually worked in pairs—a sniper and observer. They moved frequently, seldom firing more than a few shots from one position, picking targets such as officers, runners, observers, and artillery service crew members. Many times they would pass up scouts and patrols in favor of chance at the personnel to follow.

Training in concealment and camouflage was excellent. The sniper had the camouflage jacket, in a blotched pattern of brown and green. The same jacket, worn reversed to expose its white lining, was for use in snow. The jacket had a hood and face veil. The steel helmet was painted in camouflage colors, or a camouflaged helmet cover was worn. He also carried a set of binoculars for spotting.

For sniper service and killing (*Continued on page 52*)



During WWII Wehrmacht used Mauser rifles, Kar 98K, with side-rail mounted scope that was adjustable for elevation. Windage adjustments were made in the rear mount of the 4X scope.

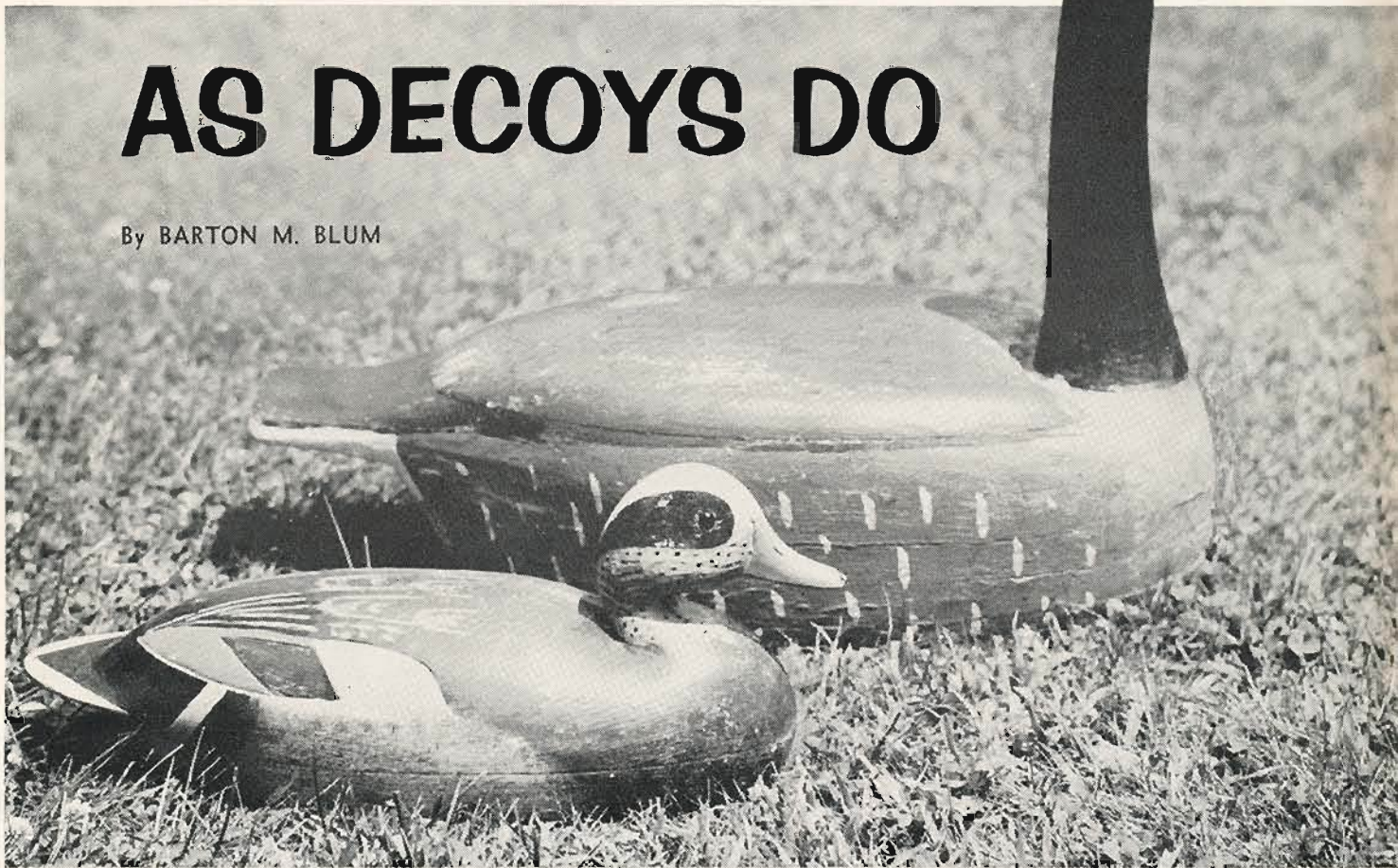


Semi-automatic Kar 43 with ten-shot clip was used with ZF4 scope as sniper arm late during war. Base of mount was part of receiver, and sight adjustments were made as in above 98K.

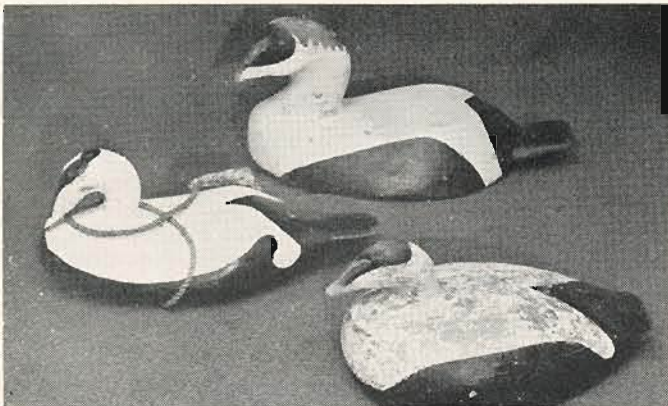
# DECOYS ARE

# AS DECOYS DO

By BARTON M. BLUM



From Delaware bay, these alert gander and Baldpate decoys are used to instill confidence in approaching Canvasbacks.



Extra large and very seaworthy, the Eider duck drake carved wooden decoys above were made for hunting over the off-shore ledges of northern New England seacoast.



Canvas-on-frame decoys like those at right are easily constructed, float high for better visibility. Gander is used as a "confidence" decoy in a Black Duck "set."

## THEY COME ALL SHAPES AND SIZES, BUT THE DIFFERENCES MAKE SENSE IF YOU KNOW THE REASONS FOR THEM

**WHAT MAKES** a good decoy? Men have been trying to answer that question since the first Canvasback wheeled into an Indian decoy made of straw. And I'll bet my bottom buck that, even today, you won't find two avid waterfowlers who will agree on what qualities a good decoy should have.

The answer, in fact, is as easy to see as a novice nimrods' blind on opening day. There just isn't a decoy made, by hand or by machine, that will satisfy the hunting conditions of every waterfowl region in the United States.

The old-time gunners made their own decoys by hand, and developed a block to fit the peculiarities of their own region. It is paradoxical that more time and energy was spent on waterfowl lures in the days when ducks and geese were plentiful than today when they are scarce. The old timers' labor was one of love; the modern duck hunter has fallen prey to automation and the machine made compromise.

But even though few gunners today make their own decoys, it will pay them to take a look at the old timers' products. In doing so, they can gain an insight as to what has been tried in the past, an insight which may help them to hunt today's wary waterfowl more successfully.

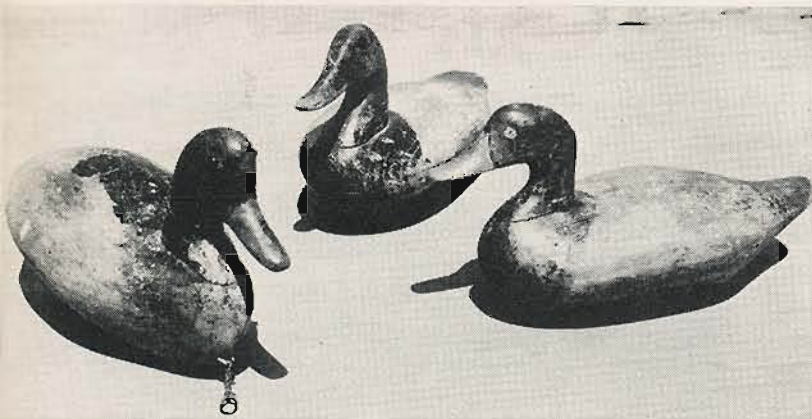
Suppose we start with the decoys of Chesapeake Bay. Here the Canvasback has long been king, and from the early market gunning days to present time, he has been hunted with large rigs of decoys. The man who likes decoys

that can be handled roughly will appreciate the old Chesapeake Bay decoy. Designed to stand the gaff of rugged handling, these decoys were invariably made with solid bodies, slim in profile to save weight and space, and with fairly parallel sides that helped keep anchor lines in place. The heads were simple and easily replaced, and plumage patterns were bold and effective. Detailed painting and delicate carving would not last two minutes in a Chesapeake gunning skiff!

Along the Jersey coast, the old-time Barnegat bay gunners had to cope with two problems. Here, the shallow waters of the bay necessitated the use of small, shallow-draft boats called sneak boxes; and since they too used fairly large numbers of decoys, the size and weight of each decoy had to be reduced. The old-time Barnegat decoys were therefore hollowed, or "dug-out" to lick the weight problem, and they were made with long, round bodies that took up little space when stood on end in the decoy rack of a sneak box. A great deal of care was taken with the heads of these decoys; they were high and showy to make up for the small bodies. But you seldom see a new rig of decoys made in this manner along Barnegat; the modern gunner has turned to the machine-made product.

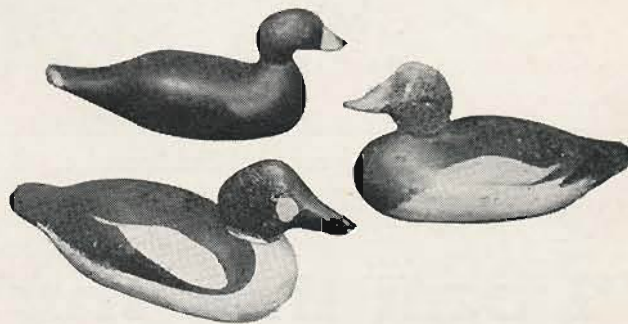
And so it was all along the Eastern coast, each area producing decoys with their own characteristics. Long Island gunners were the first to utilize cork as a light-weight decoy material for use in shoal water. Connecticut gunners were famous for their expert carving and for the use of unusual decoys like turned-head sleepers. Massachusetts gunners were perhaps the first advocates of the over-sized decoy used for coastal hunting.

Of special interest are the decoys of the Maine coast (called tollers locally), a true expression of local gunning conditions. The old-time decoys of (*Continued on page 47*)

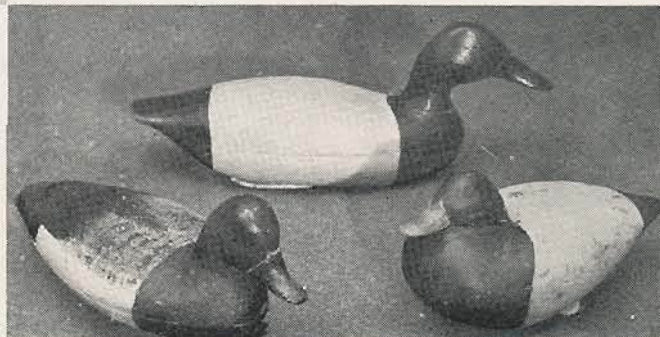


The group above includes a Redhead, a Canvasback, and a Broadbill decoy, all from Chesapeake Bay. Heads are simply carved, plug into bodies for easy replacement.

The Broadbill and Canvasback decoys at right are from Barnegat Bay. The "sleeper" at right is shaped to add variety to head positions; another "confidence" trick.



Three old factory-made decoys above will still do the job for which they were designed. Mud hen at top left was often used as "Confidence" decoy in mid-west.





Shiras moose dropped by one shot had spread of 46 inches and 19 points. It was culmination of author's long hunt.

**"I call this my  
BLIZZARD  
MOOSE"**

By RICHARD H. STANSFIELD



Knowing where the gun shoots, careful handloading helped author when chips were down for trophy head.

**LADY LUCK HELPED, BUT  
CAREFUL PREPARATION PLAYED THE  
MAJOR ROLE IN THIS VICTORY,  
AS IT DOES SO OFTEN**

**T**WO MILES HIGH in the rare air atop a mountain in Montana's Absaroka Primitive Area, with a blizzard stinging our faces and cutting visibility to a dozen short paces, my last chance for moose looked like a slim one. And if it looked slim to me, it must have looked non-existent to my companions, because I was the only one who had drawn a moose permit in Montana's raffle.

There were four of us: Claude Knudsen, our guide; Steve Salisbury and Linne Carlson, my partners—and me, the guy with the moose ticket. This day's hunt was solely for my benefit, and every man there took pains to let me know it. The kidding was good natured but not gentle!

And maybe they were right, I thought, wistfully remembering the snug warmth of our tent with its sheep-herder stove, while snow drove up my sleeves and into my parka and piled up on my glasses. The trouble was that time was something I just couldn't spare. We'd packed into the scenic splendor of the Absaroka more than a week ago, and in another couple of days the hunt would be a memory. Of course, we'd already taken elk and mule deer; we'd seen bighorn sheep and coyotes, and we'd cut the tracks of black and grizzly bear. But my moose was lacking, and time was running out.

Game is plentiful in this remote, wild area. The Absaroka is as raw and savagely beautiful as it was before history began. In some 64,000 acres, peaks more than two miles high caress the sky. Rushing mountain streams, teeth-chill-

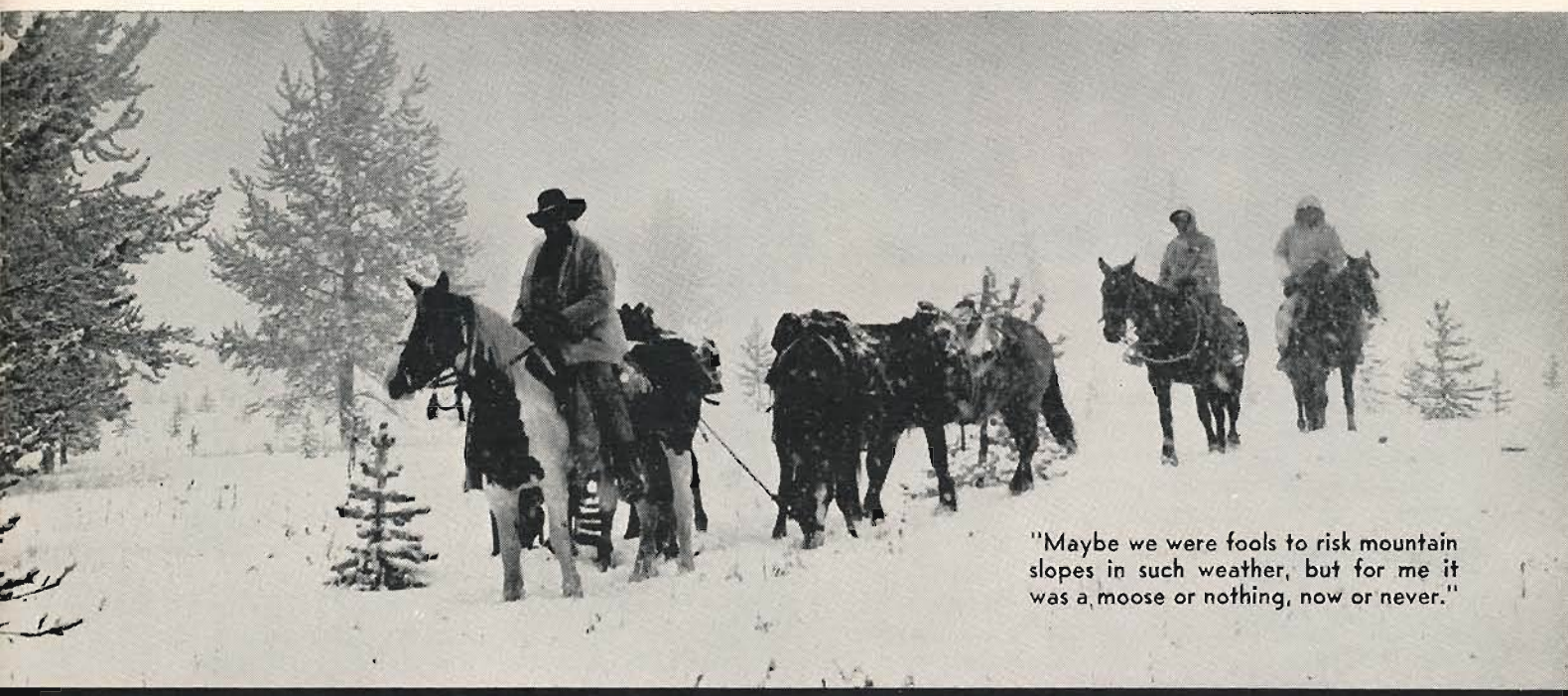
ing cold and crystal clear, teem with trout. There are no roads, airstrips, or permanent buildings in this vast wilderness along the Yellowstone, and there will be none. This hunter's paradise has been permanently set aside for the recreational use of the American people.

Some men are sheep-happy; others dream of record-size antelope; still others yearn to have their pictures taken with their favorite sporter cradled on a set of 12-point deer antlers. With me, it was moose. There was a blank, empty spot on the south wall of my trophy room which was *made* for a moose trophy; not just any moose, but a *Shiras* moose, scarcest of the three distinct species of these giant deer which roam the wilderness areas of this continent.

Shooting the moose was not the major hurdle. In Montana, as in the other two Western states which boast herds of shootable numbers, a special permit is required in addition to the general big game license. Permits are issued not on a first-come, first-served basis, but to a fortunate few following a drawing. Lady Luck had gotten me over that hurdle; the rest was up to me, the weather—and Lady Luck again, because we would need luck to find moose (or anything else) in this blizzard.

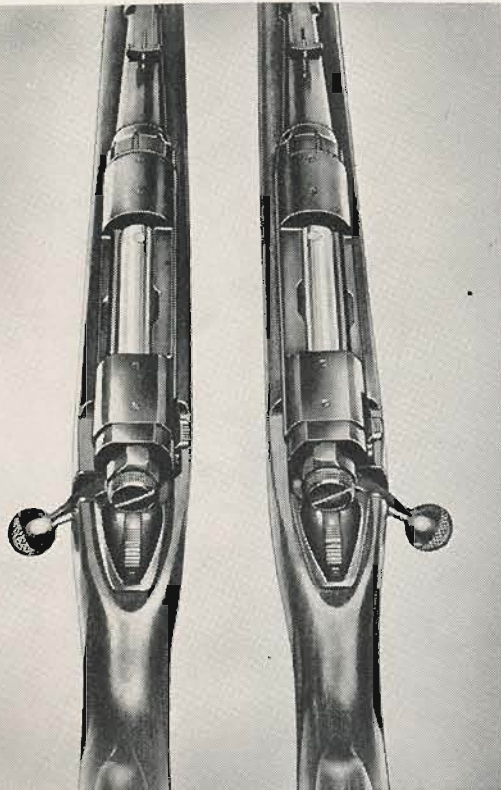
Ahead, Claude and the pair of pack horses slowly assumed color and shape as my pinto, Pat, plodded patiently ahead, to where they had halted. As Steve and Linne joined us, Claude said, "Let's get off this ridge, eat, and then drop down into the timber. No self-respecting moose is going to buck this wind if he can help it. They'll be below us—if we can find them."

After wolfing half-frozen sandwiches washed down with handfuls of fresh fallen snow, we slipped, slithered, and slid down a 2000-foot descent that was much too nearly vertical for my peace of mind. Snow covered rock as slick as greased glass added considerable interest to the problem. But, much to my surprise, we reached bottom safely and paused to let the horses blow. That gave me the opportunity to unzip the leather gun case I'd strapped to the saddle that morning (on the theory that it *(Continued on page 44)*



"Maybe we were fools to risk mountain slopes in such weather, but for me it was a moose or nothing, now or never."

Hot brass flies forward and to the left when fired in left-handed gun as shown by shooter at far right.



Savage Model 110MC-L southpaw gun is perfect mirror version of their standard, bolt-action big bore gun.



**IF YOU HAVEN'T  
HEARD ABOUT THE NEW  
DAY FOR LEFTIES,  
HERE IS THE LOW DOWN**

By TED WILCOX

**W**HEN I walked into the store, the customer was rapidly nearing the boiling point. I knew the guy. He was normally a mild-mannered sort; he was also an experienced (which almost invariably means an opinionated) rifleman. That's where the trouble lay. He was trying to buy a left-handed rifle. And the salesman was trying to make things easy for himself by selling him a pump, or a lever action, or an

automatic. It just happened that my friend didn't want a pump, or a lever action, or an automatic. He wanted a bolt gun . . . and he wanted it left-handed!

A lot of us lefties have been through that experience. For more years than anybody can remember, the southpaw shooter has been a pariah, an outcast from the fold so far as gunmakers were concerned. If he couldn't shoot the guns made for regular people, he had just better shape up or ship out! Why would a man want to shoot left-handed anyway? Why couldn't he do it the *right* way?

Or, if he refused to shape up and do it the right way, he should be content with one of the actions that can be shot from either shoulder.

That was the status quo in the gun business until about two years ago—when at least two major rifle makers took a long, calculated look at a national survey that suggested that about one out of every seven persons was left-

handed. Figure that on the basis of the 14 to 20 million shooters in this country, and it adds up to a lot of lefties. Both figures—the one in seven, and the number of shooters—are open to controversial opinions and interpretations, but no matter how you slice it, it's a market. And with population figures on the boom, the only way that market can go is upward.

Two (at least) gunmakers did something about it. Yet that scene in the gun store is still repeated daily all over the nation . . . apparently because many lefties (and is it heresy to add, "as well as many dealers?") haven't learned that rifles are now made for left-handers. And I *do* mean bolt actions.

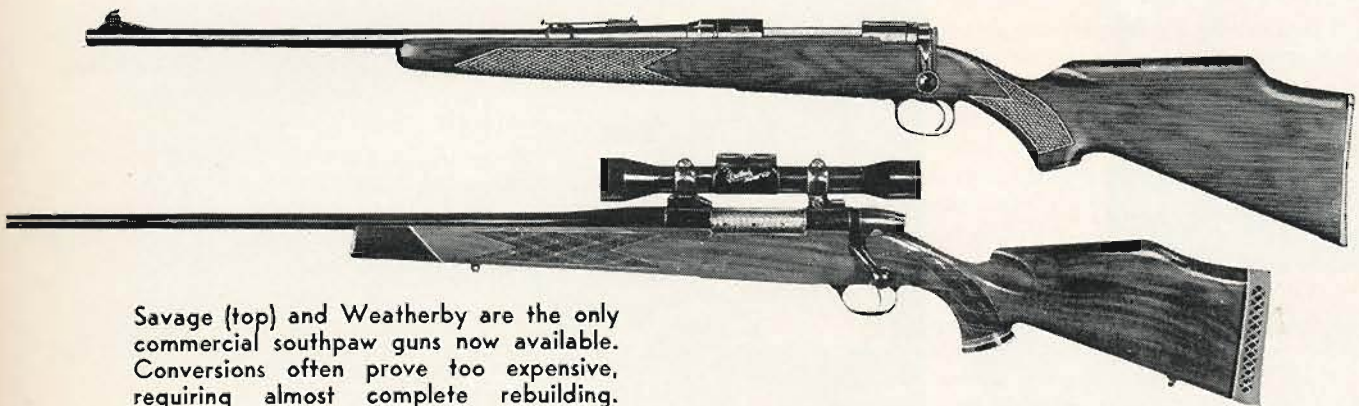
For many years, the only choice the lefty had, if he wanted easy operation, was the lever action. Lever actions are fine—except that they weren't available in a lot of highly desirable calibers—and except for the fact that their righthanded ejection ports tossed empty brass right past the southpaw's eyes.



# A New Deal For the SOUTHPAW



Southpaw can keep Savage rifle at shoulder and handle bolt rapidly.



Savage (top) and Weatherby are the only commercial southpaw guns now available. Conversions often prove too expensive, requiring almost complete rebuilding.

Yes, a man could get used to the flying brass; but that didn't solve the problem of calibers.

Finally, Remington came out with their fine little pump action, the Model 760, chambered for several of the popular big bores. A few years later, they hit the market with their autoloader, the Model 742, also in big-game calibers. Both could be operated with equal ease from either shoulder. How-

ever, both retained the ejection characteristic of spraying hot brass to the right side—which is the *wrong* side for the southpaw.

The nasty fly in the chowder was still the bolt action rifle—which was still made for right-handed men. This didn't sit too well with a number of left-handed diehards who hankered for the dependability and pin-point accuracy of the reliable old bolt gun.

Being a left-handed gunner since I was old enough to reach the trigger with a string, I know. I cussed with all the rest of them. There wasn't much we could do about it, however. Except to do as I eventually did after I had tried and discarded all the other actions: buy a right-handed bolt gun and get along as best we could—which usually wasn't very well at all.

Most south- (Continued on page 50)

## CONTROVERSIAL THOUGH IT IS, PRESERVE SHOOTING HELPS OFFSET CROWDED HUNTING CONDITIONS, AIDS CONSERVATION

By CARLOS VINSON

**O**UT IN THE MIDDLE of a patch of German millet, Joe threw on his brakes and slid into a thrilling point. Dick Stubblefield, our guide, flushed the gaudy, cackling rooster, and Freeman Brown let the bird get out about 35 yards before pulling the trigger on his 12 gauge auto-loader. There was a puff of feathers, and a plump-bodied ring-necked pheasant went crashing into a small brier patch. The big, broad-chested pointer retrieved beautifully.

Here is the thing that may surprise you: we were hunting pheasants in the Cumberland Mountains of Central Tennessee. "You mean ruffed grouse," some will no doubt grumble. But the bird Brown shot was a genuine ring-necked pheasant.

We were hunting near Altamont, Tennessee, on the Skymont Hunting Preserve. With dozens and dozens of pay-as-you-shoot preserves in operation in 37 states, there is nothing unusual about that—except that the Skymont Preserve project itself has some unusual angles.

Not long ago, a trio of Chattanooga, Tennessee, business men, Charles Falk, W. W. Levan, and Fred Gill, got a chance to buy 4,600 acres of cut-over timberland in Grundy and Coffee Counties in Central Tennessee. This sizeable chunk of Cumberland Mountain land had been sadly neglected by its owners since the timber of marketable size had been removed, and it was little more than a bush, vine, and brier jungle. There was only a thin scattering of

## TENNESSEE GETS A NEW SHOTGUN TARGET



Shrill cackling of cock pheasant is now heard in areas of Tennessee and hunters have a new upland game bird.



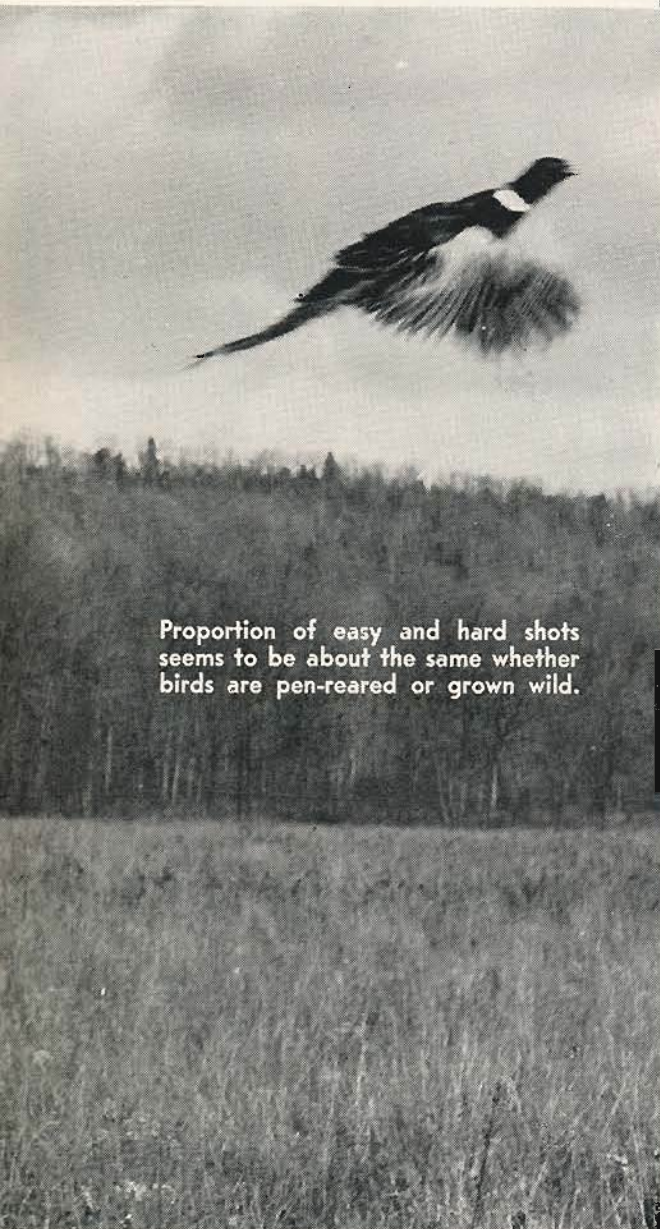




Having collected his share of the new birds, Vinson awaits his friends.



A well-trained pointer, now used to the scent of the new birds, does beautiful retrieve for Vinson's hunting party.



Proportion of easy and hard shots seems to be about the same whether birds are pen-reared or grown wild.

native ruffed grouse, squirrels, coon, bobwhites, cottontails, foxes, and opossums in the area. And what game there was left was seldom hunted because of the denseness of the undergrowth that soon took over.

Despite many discouragements, big bulldozers and other heavy equipment went to work. Stretches of timber not too badly clogged with undergrowth were left alone to produce acorns, beech mast, and other natural wildlife foods. The bush and brier jungles were bulldozed, bogged, and finally disked and worked into good seed beds. Soil tests were made, and much of the reclaimed land was limed and fertilized according to the recommendations of the specialists. Much of it was sown in millet, lespedeza, Sudan, winter oats, bicolor, and various other food plants. Numerous ponds and small lakes were dug and shaped by the bulldozers.

While all this was going on, modern game bird hatching and rearing facilities were constructed and put into operation. A modern dog kennel was built, plus a lodge and overnight facilities for visiting sportsmen. Even mallard ducks were among the game birds offered, in addition to bobwhite quail, chukar partridges, and the game already present.

But the developers decided that ringnecked pheasants would be a big attraction for sportsmen in an area where pheasants are practically unknown—and they were so right!

Sound game management will prevail at Skymont. The owners do not plan to let this be a 100 per cent put-and-take deal; they will see to it that not all of the pen-reared birds released will be killed by hunters; some will be permitted to reproduce. Native wild bobwhites will help a lot, and more native wild birds will drift into the preserve from the surrounding territory because of better feeding conditions.

It will be pretty much a put-and-take deal on ringnecks, chukars, and mallards, for the time being at least. However, Tennessee Game Biologists are constantly experimenting and searching for a pheasant that will stick and reproduce successfully in the wild in Tennessee, and plans are to continue this research until they find the pheasant (*Continued on page 42*)



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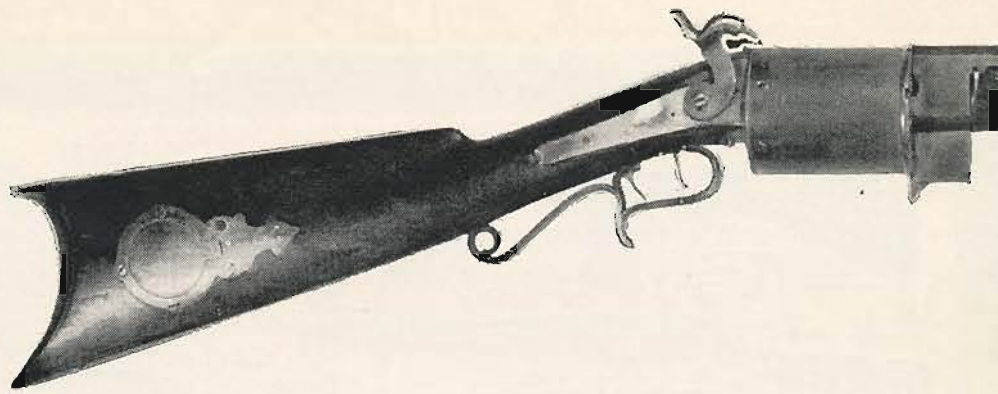
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# GUNS OF DEATH VALLEY

PART 2

## GHOST TOWNS NOW STAND

### WHERE THESE GUNS MADE HISTORY

By JAMES E. SERVEN

**I**N THE FIRST chapter of this opus, we had a brief look at some of the events in mining camps like Panamint City and Skidoo on the western side of the valley in the Panamint range of mountains. Across the valley, on the eastern perimeter, were the Grapevine, Funeral, and Black mountains. In the northeast corner of all that land now included in the Death Valley National Monument, the town of Rhyolite mushroomed into a population of 5000 a little after the turn of the century. It took 57 saloons to serve this thirsty town, and among the best known of the saloon-keepers was John Cyte. Why was he so well known? The answer is quite simple. John was not much on talk—he just settled arguments abruptly and decisively with a six-shooter. He became known and feared as “Johnny-behind-the-gun.”

Rhyolite was the favorite town of Frank Harris, better known as Shorty Harris, a self-styled “one-blanket jackass prospector.” Shorty had prowled the Death Valley country when there was little there but the mountain sheep and a few Shoshone Indians. He made more strikes than any other prospector, but Shorty’s trouble was that after selling a claim he would wake up next morning with a dark brown taste and no money in his pants. He used to say that he had survived the lead-and-liquor fare of the mining camps by being one of the world’s fastest runners and best dodgers when the lead began to fly. There must have been some truth in this claim, for he lived to the age of 78.

If Rhyolite did little more, it created one of our most



Colt Peacemaker of 1873 was favorite gun of era.



Colt Navy, Model of 1851, in its day was revolver of many western bad men.



Winchester, Model of 1873, is one of the most famous rifles ever made and played a vital role in the west and in the opening of Death Valley area to settlers.

The pill-lock seven shot rifle was one of the earlier designs of American revolving cylinder shoulder arms.



Colt's Dragoon .44 caliber holster pistol can easily be converted into carbine by attaching shoulder stock. Lewis Manly, Death Valley hero, used a Patterson Colt in dramatic rescue of 49ers during westward gold trek.

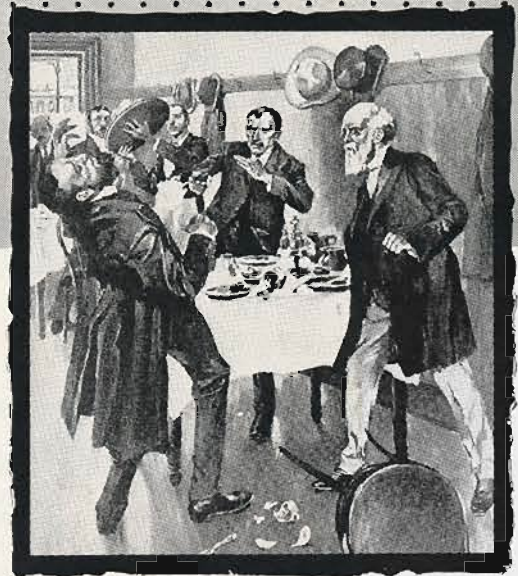
impressive ghost-towns. It has a pretentious railroad station without a railroad, a house whose walls are made of glass bottles, a scattering of masonry skeletons, many relics of a brief but colorful past.

South of Rhyolite was Greenwater, one of the last of the Death Valley boom towns. Copper was the commodity here—along with a generous amount of commercialized sin.

One of the best-known madams of the desert camps, a statuesque charmer known as Tiger Lil, did a prosperous business at Greenwater. One day, Lil ran a competitor out of town with a pair of six-shooters because that purveyor of pleasure had cut prices below the established rate. And it was this same Lil who, at the burial of an unwise gambler, placed five aces in the corpse's hand to give things a proper touch!

A fire-eater known as Death Valley Slim came into Greenwater one day. Slim admitted to being the fightingest man on either side of the California-Nevada line, and decided to establish this claim without question by shooting up the Greenwater saloons.

A short time before Slim's trip to town, Greenwater had pinned a badge on a tall soft-spoken fellow named Charlie



Judge Terry was shot to death by Dave Neagle, killer and sometime bodyguard of Justice Field, when Terry slapped Field's face to settle an old grudge.

Brown, and instructed him to keep the town reasonably quiet. Officer Brown was easy-going, but it turned out he was stubborn—and he was quick. Before Slim knew what had happened, he was soundly slapped into a state of repentance. Charlie Brown is Senator Charles Brown now, as much respected in California's seat of government as on his own desert. Possibly if we might have more senators who know the facts about guns as does Charlie Brown we would have fewer foolish gun law proposals.

There were other men who wore their guns to keep the peace around Death Valley, too. (Continued on page 55)

HOW MUCH care and attention to minute details is required in assembling handloads, and is there a point of no return? Painstaking experiments by handloaders have, over the years, produced the axiomatic Rule No. 1 of handloading: "Have everything exactly the same in every round assembled." Is this essential for practical shooting?

Perfect exactness in all components is virtually impossible, yet fantastically small groups have been achieved by bench-rest shooters who took infinite pains, thus proving the rule. But many of us load ammunition for hunting and plinking only. We too are interested in getting maximum (practical) accuracy, but how much labor and care must we put into each load to get it?

If the brass gets too long, we trim it; we check the cases for cracks, and anneal them; and once in a while we even clean primer pockets. The ammunition we work up has, of course, passed its developmental stages, and we have arrived at the most accurate load for a given rifle and use. With this combination, we are able to bowl over ground-hogs out to 200 yards and, once in a great while, at even greater distances. Beyond that, we also realize that ammunition and gun performance is limited—limited by the ability of the shooter.

After making up a batch of loads on a homemade loading tool, we noticed one day that some rounds, when rolled on a level surface, would wobble, while the bullets in others performed concentric circles when being rolled on the same surface. How much would this variation affect accuracy?

Building lots of handloads and separating the wobblers from the concentric ones was the first step. When these two lots were fired for the record, certain differences became apparent. Loading and firing was continued until an adequate amount of statistically significant data was collected.

Figures 1 to 4 show the results of these tests. The large, the small, and the dotted circles show the actual sizes of the largest,

smallest, and average of all groups fired.

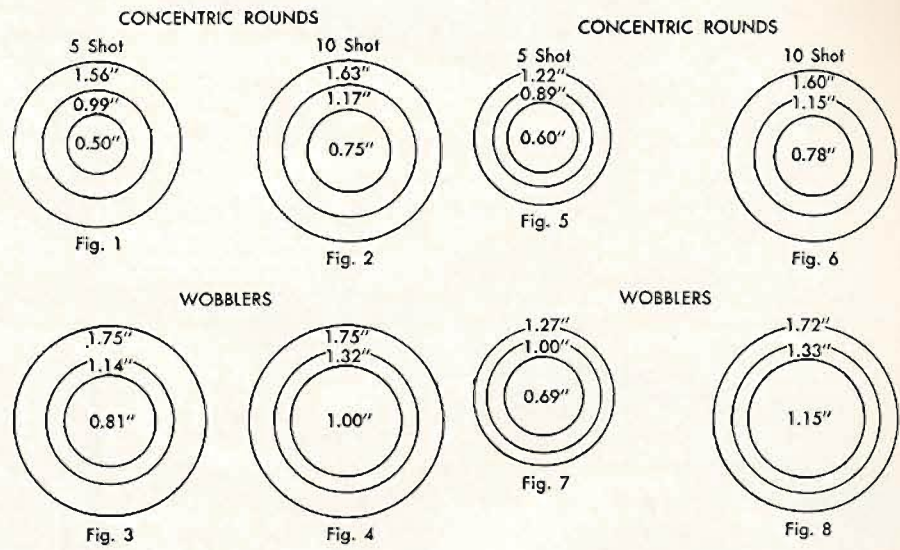
The concentric rounds shot better maximums, minimums, and average groups than the wobblers. Moreover, the maximum and minimum groups of 10 shot concentrics were better than the 5 shot groups of wobblers, and their average was nearly as good.

Aside from these groups, others and quite significant information became apparent.

- (1) Of all 5-shot groups made with concentric rounds, 33 per cent were better than any 5-shot group made with wobblers.
- (2) Of all 5-shot groups made with wobblers, 14 per cent were larger than any 5-shot group made with concentric rounds.
- (3) Comparisons similar to the above were made for the 10-shot groups. This

in a 1½" circle. At 150 yards, most of the wobblers, but not all of the concentrics, would even kill crows. Any of the concentrics or wobblers would do for woodchucks out to 200 yards, providing the shooter can hold, estimate distances, and dope wind. Thus, for most close range varmint shooting, segregating the concentric rounds for crows and other small pests, and for the larger varmints at extreme ranges, should assure as many kills as the shooter's ability permits.

A wobbly bullet point can be seen—they occur even in factory loads—but a fouled primer pocket can not be seen in a loaded round. Is primer pocket cleaning important? The experiment performed was sim-



showed a 12 per cent and 9 per cent superiority for the concentric rounds.

These results clearly indicate the importance of concentric rounds to benchrest and other target shooters. But look again at those circles. A bullet in a ½" circle will kill a varmint no more humanely than one

ply a repeat of the previous one, except that primer pockets were cleaned. Figures 5 to 8 show the results of these tests.

If, at first glance at the 5-shot groups, the cleaning seems worthwhile, look at the 10-shot groups. Now compare them with those in Figures 1 to 4, where primer pockets were not cleaned. Such comparison indicates that cleaning the pockets does improve accuracy, but only so slightly that, for the average shooter, the point of diminishing returns is reached. It is conceivable that the groups in Figures 1 to 4 may have been larger, with more improvement in Figures 5 to 8, had the conventional primer seating post been used. The amount of fouling present can result in non-uniform seating depth—another cause for inaccuracy. The tool used to seat primers necessitates the use of a ram inside the case, seating the primers against a flat surface. This insures uniform flush seating.

Does cleaning improve accuracy, or is accuracy improved because clean pockets result in more uniform seating depth? There are a number of variables in the mechanical processes of reloading, all of them affecting the performance of the load to a certain extent. To the precision shooter, all of them are important. The average shooter need only employ reasonable care to assemble safe and sane loads. And in the long run it depends only on you on how fussy you want to be. Properly put together, they all shoot better than most of us can hold, all alibis to the contrary notwithstanding.

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# THIS IS WHERE YOU MISS 'EM

(Continued from page 21)

of the best remedy for preventing this check, it is necessary to point out two facts of considerable significance. One is that misses behind are much more likely to take place in slow, easy shots, and in long ones. On slow, easy shots, so great is the danger of missing behind that, in pheasant-shooting in England, where the birds can often be seen a long time approaching, many sportsmen keep their eyes on the ground till the last allowable moment, so as to turn slow shots into quick ones. And as regards long shots, the tendency to miss behind is almost as great. The reason for the tendency to miss behind in these two classes of shot is most instructive and must be carefully examined.

In the case of slow, easy shots, every dynamic consideration makes missing behind less likely to occur; yet in practice, it is more likely to occur. The reason is that in these shots the field of consciousness is not much filled with the task of executing so simple a shot, and is therefore vulnerable to encroachment by anticipation of the explosion, which results in the fatal check. On quick, difficult shots, the mind is absorbed with the task and is therefore more resistant to such encroachment.

In the case of long shots, the tendency to miss behind can partly be explained by the falling speed of the pellets. Thus, if a bird is travelling at 40 miles per hour across the shooter, at a range of 40 yards instead of 20, an extra forward allowance of 16 in. is necessary to compensate for the falling speed of the pellets. But, unfortunately, misses behind at 40 yards are, in practice, more likely to be measured in feet or yards than in inches, and so a different explanation is called for.

At first sight, this explanation might appear to lie in a greater forward movement of the gun being required for long shots than for close ones. However, except for the minute movement required for the 16" extra allowance just mentioned, no more forward movement of the gun is, in fact, required for a long shot than for a close one. Consider the fact that in these crossing straight ahead shots, the gun is pointing in exactly the same direction for both forward allowances. This will be true for all speeds and distances being considered.

No, the main reason for the great tendency to miss behind in long shots is undoubtedly the same as in slow, easy shots. In a long shot, the bird is travelling at the same speed as in a close shot, but the gun is not! If the bird is at 40 yards, the gun is moving at half the speed it would be if the bird were at 20 yards. On reflection, this is obvious. And with the gun moving at a lesser speed, the field of consciousness is less filled with the task of executing the shot, and its vulnerability to encroachment by the explosion is correspondingly greater.

The next step is—how can this tendency to shoot behind be corrected?

The essential step in the cure is the realization that no amount of "remembering" to shoot ahead will have any effect. The brain knows, and will certainly remember, how far it wants to aim the gun ahead. The trouble is that the explosion interferes with its getting the gun to this point. What is required,

unless the shooter is experienced, is a *great effort of the will*, in order to force the gun ahead at this moment. What is necessary, in short, is not remembering but *striving*. *Shooting ahead is something to be fought for.*

The rule that is considered best connotes this sense of effort: "*Shoot as far ahead as possible.*" There is no danger that this rule will ever lead to shooting too far ahead. The brain will automatically expend its effort in forcing the gun forward to the desired point during the explosion, and never in making the gun pass this point. The danger, in fact, is always the other way round—that the effort will not be sufficient to force the gun forward far enough, so that misses behind will still occur too often. Anyone can prove this for himself by actually using the rule in the field.

It follows that the most important shots on which to apply the rules are the slow easy shots and the long ones. *Fortunately, the rule is self-regulating in its use.* Thus, where the shot is a very quick one, there is no time to apply the rule—and no need to apply it, either, since the field of consciousness is so full that no check from the explosion is likely to occur. Per contra, where the shot is a slow one, there is definitely time to apply the rule, and the more time there is available, the more essential the application becomes, since the field of consciousness is so empty that a check from the explosion becomes only too probable.

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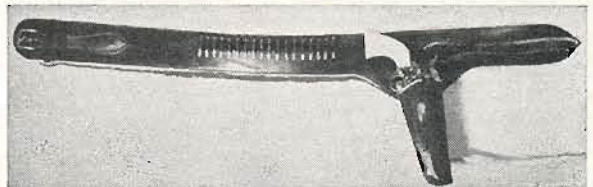
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## GUNS TO OBSOLETE THE ATOM

(Continued from page 20)

way bullets shoot out of a machine gun. The smallest, indivisible unit of radiated energy is called the quantum and quanta vary in "caliber" according to frequency. Photons (as light quanta are called) belonging to the color red have only half the energy of those in the color violet, which has half the wavelength of red.

Atoms do not indiscriminately accept all quanta coming their way. They absorb only the quanta which they can emit. The coin has to fit exactly into the slot. The energy transfer, both ways, occurs only at certain, characteristic levels. Einstein said that trains were "quantized," stopping only at definite places, in contrast to autos, which park anywhere. The ruby is a "three level maser," its chrome atoms occupying any one of three possible "stops." They favor green photons.

When the ruby laser lases, it's doing what comes naturally. Rubies, as found throughout the world, have been gifted by Nature with the phenomenon of fluorescence. Place one in the sun and, spontaneously, it emits a glow of red light. Mystified, scientists discovered years ago that transparent ruby was corundum, mined for emery wheels, which had a slight trace of chromium, and that the scattered chrome was electrically and optically active absorbing green (mostly) out of the rainbow colors in daylight to emit red fluorescence.

Further investigation recently with sophisticated instrumentation revealed the details. The chrome atom usually enjoys a siesta at the ground state, E-1, the zero energy level but leaps directly to its highest level, E-3, when excited by a green photon. The energy-rich atom, apparently uncomfortable, relaxes within a hundred-millionth of a second to the intermediate or E-2 level in a light-less drop which only heats up the ruby. Tarrying there several milliseconds—a good time interval to measure lock time of a shooting iron, but real long in this business—the atom then does its stuff as it tumbles to the E-1 zero level, radiating one quantum of reddish light at 6,943 A. Red has a lower frequency than green.

Cold frames to start seedlings in the spring operate on somewhat the same idea. Sunlight passes through the glass and warms the seedbed, creating infrared heat waves of lower frequency which are held in, being too long to escape thru the windowpanes.

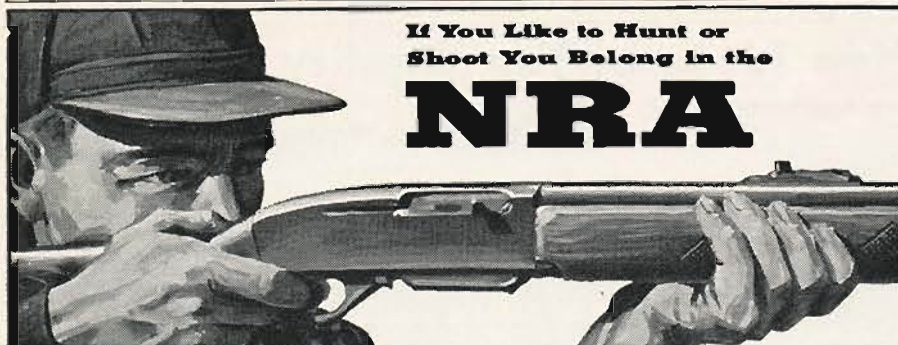
It was also noted that when most of the atoms are forced by the powerful light "pumping" onto the E-2 level, as soon as some fluoresce, their "resonance" stimulates many others to follow suit in a cascade, quicker than otherwise. This stimulated emission occurs when the atoms are swamped with exactly the light quanta they want to shed. It resembles a passing flock of pigeons being heavily "amplified" by drawing in strays off the many window sills in the downtown district.

Ordinary fluorescence is limited to spontaneous emission. The major factor in ruby lasing is stimulated emission, vastly accelerated by boxing in the photons with end

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reflectors thus making them bounce back and forth to shill chrome atoms into radiating photons, on each and every trip.

This was the flash of genius. The physicists machined their ruby into a cylinder 1.6" long and .2" across, silvered the ends into mirrors, leaving the sides bare to "pump" in light from a spiral flash lamp, and removed a spot of silver at the center point of one end. They switched on the electricity powering the flood lamp, and the little hunk of rock belted out the light bullets 412,000,000,000,000 per second in an enormously intense beam, brighter than the sun!

It's all done with the mirrors, polished flat and parallel well beyond standards of Grade "A" gage blocks. They trap the first fluorescently emitted photons into reflecting along the axis of the rod, and they then trigger off stimulated emission.

Each photon in the increasing billions of photons galloping the 1.6 inches at the speed of light—186,000 miles per second—"gains" as it pulls in swarms of quanta with each bounce. The stimulating beam, multiplying astronomically with increasing effectiveness, packs in and synchronizes the stimulated photons at the proper time and space phase intervals. (Coherence) It activates only the chrome atoms having precisely its own frequency. (Monochromatic) Off-gage quanta are rejected, as they ricochet completely off the axis. Only the light perpendicular to the mirrors and parallel to the axis is strongly amplified and then dished out. (Collimation & 1/100 degree cone angle) Beam width, theoretic limit one wavelength, is controlled by the muzzle bore center hole.

Nothing is expended or consumed. There

are no moving parts. The atomic movements harnessed are infinitesimal, but their dimensions were accurately measured decades ago. When the violently pulsed ruby overheats, lasing stops because the excited chrome atoms can no longer radiate heat as a preliminary to falling to the E-2 level. Chilling with liquid helium or nitrogen doubles power output, assures steady operation.

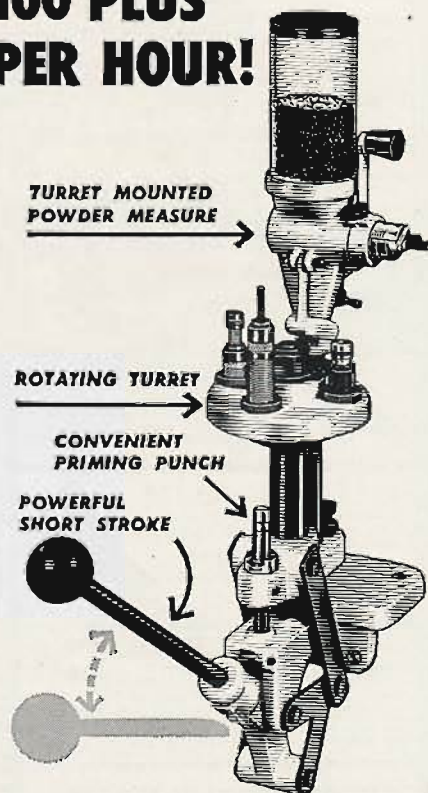
The inventors in their patent cite one of Planck's famous equations, indicating that the whole thing was worked out mathematically, predicted theoretically. With this formula, we can calculate the amount of flea power required to boost a chrome atom up to the E-3 level. But—it takes a beer mug full of zero's. Some other time!

Present efficiency of the uncanny device is about 1 per cent. One of the second generation lasers (i.e. using a larger ruby, 3/8" dia. and 6" long) has 2,000 joules (watt-seconds) delivered to the Xenon, 50 per cent lost in the lamp, the ruby absorbing 20 per cent of the pumped light to radiate about 20 joules output.

Effective range of the hot spot in commercial lasers is about as far as you can pick up and toss your mother-in-law. No industrial applications requiring a distant hot spot have been discussed in the tech mags yet. But—it's a case of that iceberg again: a lot concealed under the water.

At least, let's hope so. A "weapon" whose muzzle velocity is the speed of light—whose "accuracy" is 1/100 of one minute of angle—and whose "projectile" will cut through a diamond—that's better than the Long Rifle . . . and look what we did with the Long Rifle!

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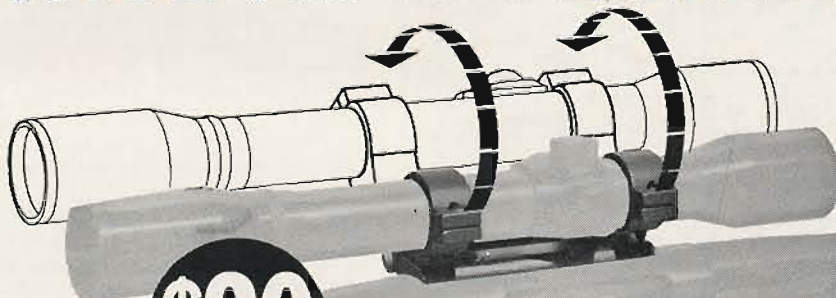


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**"Fustest With The Mostest"**  
It isn't often that a magazine working on printing deadlines several months ahead of release dates can claim a news "beat," so pardon us if we crow a little. First with the most is what we were on the story of light-ray guns, in our September issue. But the story is gaining attention. Since we went to press with it, lasers have been mentioned twice (to our knowledge) on television (once in connection with Telstar); and a two-paragraph item appeared in "Popular Mechanics" in the department titled "Pentagon Sidelights," by William R. Kreh, stating that, although the Army won't admit it's working on such a weapon, Army spokesmen admit a laser weapon is entirely possible. In one experiment, Kreh says, "a scientist focused a "medium power" laser beam to a spot two millimeters in diameter and burned a hole through 10 tempered steel razor blades with one extremely short pulse of light."

## NEW SHOTGUN TARGET

(Continued from page 33)

they want. Right now, Tennessee biologists are experimenting with Iranian pheasants. When and if a pheasant is found (or developed) that will take hold in the state satisfactorily, the Skymont owners will obtain brood stock and start producing them on their own preserve. If and when this takes place, the Skymont Preserve will act as a managed stocking center for the surrounding territory.

The owners figure that about 85 per cent of the pheasants released on their preserve are bagged by hunters. This leaves 15 per cent to just plain vanish at the present time (1959), because the birds cannot survive long enough here to reproduce to any successful extent; but if that 15 per cent consisted of pheasants that could survive and reproduce in the wild, the surviving birds would not only help populate Skymont, but many other sections also. Eventually, even a strain of Chukars might be developed that could make a go of it in the wild in Tennessee. Pheasants, however, will remain the big item on the Skymont list until further notice. Most southern sportsmen had rather bag one ringneck than two chukars.

Projects like Skymont can be set up anywhere where there's as much as 500 acres of land available. Properly managed, they can do much to help relieve hunting pressures in crowded areas. Southern sportsmen are delighted to be able to hunt pheasants on commercial preserves within easy driving distances of their homes. The price of a full day's hunt at Skymont, which assures the hunter of 8 pheasants, is \$45.00. This includes an appetizing hot lunch in the comfortable lodge. Counting ammunition, gasoline, everything, the 8 pheasant day at Skymont would not run more than \$50.00, which would figure out to \$6.25 per bird. Any desired number of Skymont pheasants can be shot at a price of \$5.00 per bird. In other words, should a hunter shoot 12 pheas-

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ants in a day, he would owe Skymont \$65.00 at the end of the day.

I have shot pheasants in the wild, and I detect very little if any difference in the preserve ringnecks and those produced the natural way, as far as sporting qualities were concerned. The preserve ringnecks stuck better for dogs than the 100 per cent wild pheasants in Michigan's Thumb Section, and the preserve birds were also plumper and heavier bodied. If one didn't know that the Skymont pheasants were pen-reared it would certainly never be suspected from their hunting field behavior.

The preserves are helping to relieve crowded hunting situations in many parts of the country and to provide hunting where none exists. Maybe some of the criticism aimed at preserve shooting is justified, but it is *not* like "shooting ducks in a rain barrel," as some would have you believe. Parties are limited; shooting is strictly controlled for safety. Prices vary from state to state and preserve to preserve, and there are preserves to fit practically every shooting taste and pocketbook. A few preserves in widely scattered sections of the country feature big game hunting, but for the most part they are small game shooting projects.

Commercial preserve seasons are normally much longer than regular seasons. In some states, hunters are required to have only a special low-fee license for preserve shooting. In a few states, no license at all is required. In others, a regular resident or non-resident license is required. Check all such details with the manager of the preserve to be hunted prior to the trip. In all cases, the preserve hunter will be required to abide by the state's game laws.

Take the manager's advice on the best guns and ammunition to take along, and be sure to make all the necessary reservations well in advance. The more popular commercial preserves are usually booked solid for the first six or eight weeks of the season eight to ten weeks in advance of the season's opening.

Freeman Brown and I, with "Dick" Stubblefield as our guide and a trained dog to point and retrieve the birds, completed our morning's bag of ringnecks well before noon. You can be sure that we will be going back. We have some back-country nooks spotted where we can hunt bobwhites, squirrels, cottontails, ruffed grouse, and other small game practically undisturbed, and we fully intend to be repeat customers at Skymont.

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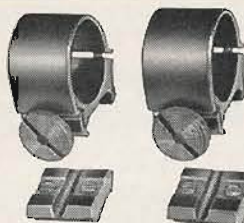


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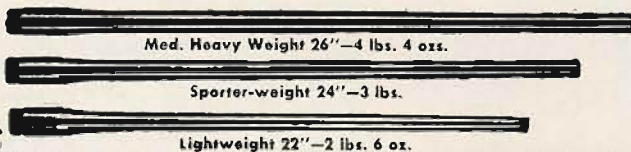
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**BLIZZARD MOOSE**  
 (Continued from page 29)

afforded more protection from snow than did a scabbard), and take a look-see to make certain that there were five cartridges in the magazine of the Winchester .30-06 Model 70. The rifle checked out, and I slipped it back in the case, mentally patting myself on the back for having had the foresight to install snug-fitting scope caps on the Balvar 8 before leaving Illinois. In weather like this, they were essential.

During the summer, I'd touched off more than 1000 rounds, through that rifle, proving its accuracy and its ability to hold zero. Long before that, too, I had done my share or more of experimenting to work up the load best for this specific rifle. Speer's 165-grain soft point spitzer ahead of 59 grains of 4350, with Winchester-built brass and primers, is absolutely it. Given this load, the Model 70 is a real tack-holer. At 100 yards, it punches shot after shot into one ragged hole, with many of the groups right at the half-inch mark. And at 200, 5-shot groups consistently run well under 1½ inches. This is from a standard sporter, not a heavy-barreled bull gun built for target work.

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but this respectable velocity isn't the whole story by any means. A bit of calculation with the ballistics tables near and dear to the handloader's heart, helped by simple arithmetic and that handy little slipstick, the Speer Ballistics Calculator, discloses that the 165-grain bullet delivers more energy out to 400 yards or so than does any other weight .30 caliber bullet. And it's energy that puts meat on the table and heads on the wall—provided that it's placed properly, of course. That part of it was up to me—and I'd taken some precautions along that line, also I'd practiced.

With the Winchester sighted in to put the point of impact three inches high at 100 yards, the rifle is targeted to hit on the nose at 235 yards. This lets me hold dead on out to 275 yards, with the bullet neither rising nor falling more than three inches between muzzle and target. And if I should ever feel that I absolutely had to reach "way out to 400 yards, a hold-over of a hair over one foot would do it. If forced to take such a

shot, I could lay the horizontal crosshair along the top of the withers of a big game animal and drop the slug right into the heart-lung area. For my money, that's performance with a capital "P."

"Let's go moose hunting, fellows," I said with considerably more confidence than I actually felt as I zipped the gun case closed and swung up on Pat.

Our plan was logical and it should work—I hoped. Claude, the pack horses and I were to work around the eastern edge of the thick stand of timber in the two-mile-long valley, while Steve and Linne skirted the other side. We'd meet when we ran out of flat ground, where two sheer, jagged mountains slanted sharply down to form a giant "V." If Steve and Linne happened to stumble onto a trophy-size moose, one would stay and keep it under observation while the other high-tailed it to get me.

The snow fall had eased somewhat, or else the towering peaks above shielded us from the full brunt of the wind. Visibility was much better; we could see the better part of a couple of hundred yards.

But by five-thirty or so, both the light and

my spirits were waning. After almost 12 hours in the saddle, after battling the blizzard all day, after risking a broken leg or worse on slick, steep slopes anybody except an ardent hunter would shy away from, it looked as if I was to be shut out, after all—left mooseless in spite of our efforts. So ran my thoughts when Claude held up a cautioning hand.

"There," he said softly, pointing into the dark depths of a blow-down. "There's your moose!"

Hastily, I kicked my pacs free of the stirrups and slid to the ground, reaching for the zipper on the gun case. Following his point, I peered into a crazy-quilt of fallen trees. And there, through a haze of spitting snow, I spotted a huge, humpbacked figure.

Flipping the scope caps up, I raised the rifle, regretting that I couldn't plant my back-side solidly on the ground. Given my druthers, I strongly prefer *not* to shoot off-hand. In this case, however, I had no choice. I had to stand up on my hind legs because the moose I'd come so far to find was partially obscured by several down trees which lay at right angles to me; and there was nothing

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**DECOYS ARE AS DECOYS DO**  
(Continued from page 27)

Down East were probably the most rugged made anywhere, in the "rock bound" tradition. A great variety of species were hunted along the Maine coast, from the Black duck of the bays and inlets to the Coot, Eider, and Old Squaw of the offshore ledges. Hand hewn of cedar, these decoys had large, solid bodies that not only made them rugged, but also made them extremely visible over a wide expanse of water. The heads varied in detail, some makers following the lines of the real bird without fail, others taking a little artistic license that added variety to their rigs. These heads were usually morticed into the bodies for added strength, especially on the off-shore sea duck decoys.

There were two variations in decoy making along the New England coast that are of interest to the modern gunner. In wide use here at one time, particularly for luring Coot, or Scoters, was the shadow or profile decoy. These were nothing more than silhouettes sawn out of one inch boards and painted black. They were usually mounted in pairs on the ends of a flat board which supported them in the water, and were almost always used along with solid decoys to give the impression of a large number of birds. The second variation was the canvas-frame decoy, made much in the manner of a lobster pot and covered with a skin of canvas. They were very light and could be seen for long distances, but were quite fragile. The enterprising modern gunner could use both types to advantage where weight is a problem, as they are simple to make.

But the old-time gunner's greatest legacy to the modern duck hunter is probably the "confidence" decoy. Confidence decoys are nothing more than decoys designed to give the entire decoy rig a look of contentment and serenity. They took many forms: Blue Heron decoys and Geese decoys in Black duck rigs, sea gull decoys used with Brant, stake-out decoys with their wings actually spread, and the more common confidence decoys of all species in feeding and resting positions. Even full-bodied stake-out ducks have been made to use along with floating decoys on muddy shorelines; and at least one decoy collection contains an Eider duck with a mussel carved in his bill. The confidence decoy is probably the soundest idea the old timer had, and they are relatively easy to make, but for some reason little used today.

The modern "store bought" decoy is a creditable attempt at combining the best features in decoys from all regions. There is no doubt that, in the right place, they will work. But if the modern gunner will heed the lessons taught by the old-timer, and improve on his modern decoys with some of the old ideas, he will double both his hunting pleasure and his shooting success.

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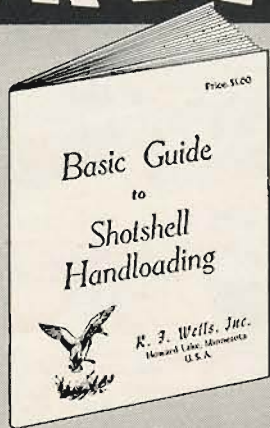
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## FOR CLEAN KILLS TAKE A REST

(Continued from page 23)

toward the time when he lines up on a trophy. Varmint shooting provides some of the best practice the big-game hunter can find. Most varmints are relatively small, and shots are usually taken at long range. To connect calls for shooting from a rest. The big-game hunter who can clobber a woodchuck or prairie dog at 300 yards finds no problem in a shot across a canyon at a big buck, or busting an antelope at 300. His varmint shooting will help him estimate the ranges, too.

Early last spring, a buddy and I shot prairie dogs in one of our favorite areas. Since this little varmint is only about the size of a big Coke bottle and his neutral color blends well into the background, he affords one of the toughest long range targets. To clobber this pint-sized "sod-poodle" consistently at ranges over 200 yards calls for shooting from a rest.

Our arsenal included a heavy-barrelled .25-06 Mauser with a Weaver K-8, a Winchester High Wall chambered for Ackley's 6 mm-.30-30 with a K-10, a Remington .222 Magnum with a 6X scope, and a custom .244 Sako topped with a 12X glass. None of our shooting was done at less than 200 yards. Many shots were taken across the hood of the station wagon, using a sand bag for a rest. Some of my shots were taken from a prone position across a drainage ditch bank, with my sombrero under the forearm, while my buddy rested his rifle on his binocular case. In another area, we parked on the brow of a hill and I shot from a good sit-

ting position with the rifle resting on the sand bag on top of the car bumper.

We killed a good percentage of "dogs," but we missed a good many, too. Most of our misses were due to miscalculating hold-over or under estimating wind drift. However, a lot of those we clobbered would have been impossible shots without the benefit of good steady rests.

A lot of our winter varmint shooting consists of prowling the back roads for crows. Shots are taken from the car with the forearm resting on the top edge of the window. A split piece of rubber garden hose is slipped over the edge of the glass, and cranking the window up or down gives us built-in elevation. With the right arm braced against the back of the seat, this position is very solid and keeping the crosshairs on a target as small as a crow is relatively easy.

Of course, a big-game hunter must also be a good off-hand shot. In brushy country or thick woods, off-hand snap-shooting becomes a must. Practice from this position should be done at short range and at moving targets, such as a rolling bicycle or auto tire. String a running deer silhouette target on a wire and bust it as it slides along. Try running jackrabbits or a small oil drum rolling down a hill.

Personally, I get a kick out of shooting from my "hind laigs." Usually, I can keep all of my off-hand shots in the face of a small bore 100 yard target. Of course, this is with a heavy rifle and a good trigger. Shooting deliberately with my left elbow parked on

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We think we can sell so many of these quality chambering reamers at this low, low price that sheer volume will make up for our tiny, tiny profit per reamer. Understand these are production quality reamers, for use under power or by hand. Three calibers currently available as listed below—more coming!

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my hip and the rifle resting on my fingertips, I sometimes get hot and keep all of my shots in an 8" circle. However, I never take an off-hand shot at big game if I can help it. It's ridiculous for any hunter to take a long range shot off-hand at any big game. Even an expert off-hand shot is a sucker if he doesn't take advantage of an improvised rest.

### Gun Digest Treasure Hunt

Want to hunt in Africa? Or would you rather have a Model 70 worth \$1500? You can collect a valuable prize from more than 500 offered in John T. Amber's new 17th Annual Gun Digest First Treasure Hunt. Read the new Gun Digest carefully, answer the questions on the contest form, and write an essay of 50 words or less on "What it means to me to have the right to bear arms."

Your entry will be judged by Gen. Curtis E. Le May, Warren Page of "Field & Stream," and Franklin L. Orth, executive vice president of the N.R.A. There are plenty of prizes and it will take you only a few minutes to get lined up for one of them. Try your hand at it—and, win or not, the Gun Digest is worth the \$3.95 you pay for it.

The accuracy of modern, "tuned-up" rifles, including the featherweights, is amazing. Using precision bullets in balanced hand-loads, even the lightweight sporters will drive tacks when shot from the bench. There's a Winchester Model 70 .243 Featherweight in my gun cabinet that consistently shoots inch

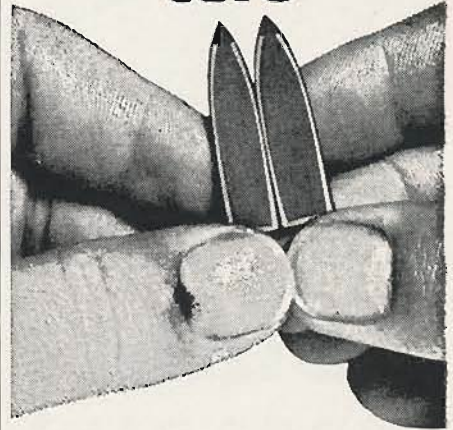
groups at 100 yards, bench rest. The only "tuning-up" this particular rifle has had is a shim of target paper between the barrel and the forearm to increase the tip pressure. But to appreciate and take full advantage of this built-in accuracy in the field calls for shooting from a rest; not necessarily a bench rest, but any handy support to steady the rifle while the trigger is squeezed.

A big-game hunter should train himself to improvise rests from anything handy. Just as shooting off-hand can become a habit, so should shooting from an improvised rest. It only takes a fraction of a second to decide what to use, place the rifle on it, and line up the sights. Then squeeze the trigger as soon as the target picture is right. Try setting up a series of clay pigeons on a hillside at different ranges. Now practice resting your rifle on a rock, against a tree trunk, or over a limb and try to bust the birds as fast as you can put the sights on them and squeeze off.

Remember, however, that there are a few precautions when shooting from any rest. The barrel or forearm should never be placed directly on or against any hard surface. A rifle so held will invariably shoot away from such a rest. If, for example, the forearm is rested against the side of a tree trunk it will shoot to the right or left but always away from the side it touched. Rest the barrel right on top of a boulder or a log, and the shot will go high. Remember to pad the surface in some manner. Use your hand, hat, or rolled-up jacket under the rifle.

While hunting just below Capillo Peak in the Manzano Mountains one morning, I spotted a nice two-pointer as he stepped into a

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\*NOTE—Available in .25 cal. 100-120; 6.5mm 120-140; .270 cal. 130-150-170; 7mm 130-145-160; .30 cal. 150-165-180; .303 cal. 150-180; 8mm 150-170-225; .33 cal. 275; .338 cal. 200-275; .348 cal. 180-220; .35 cal. 180-220-250; .375 cal. 235-285.

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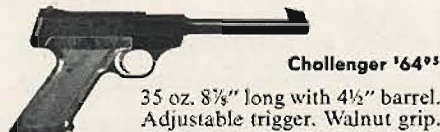
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clearing about 250 yards across the canyon. I simply leaned forward against a handy boulder, rested my left hand on top and placed the forearm of the .25-06 on it. The crosshairs quartered the buck's rib cage as if glued there. All I had to do was squeeze the trigger and collect some prime venison. But, had I rested the rifle directly on top of the rock, I'd have shot clear over his back.

I often use a tree trunk or a fence post to steady the rifle. When using such a rest, I usually place my left hand flat against the surface. The rifle is then rested across the top of my wrist. If I shoot from the right side of the tree or post I sometimes rest my fingers against the tree or post and steady the rifle in the crotch of my left thumb and forefinger. I've often used a fence post in this manner to clobber a jackrabbit at long range. However, in using such a rest, don't make the mistake of pulling the forearm tight in against the post or tree trunk.

In antelope hunting, shots are often taken across the open prairie where there is little to use as a rest. About the only thing handy will be sage brush. I've killed several nice bucks by using a convenient sage as a rest. In one case, I folded up my heavy wool shirt, placed it on top of the brush, then rested my rifle on top. Another buck was dropped at slightly over 300 yards by slapping my old "ten-gallon" hat over a nearby sage and using it as a rest.

Some hunters seem to have the idea that using a rest is a sissy way of shooting. These usually are the guys who hunt about once a year and do very little shooting between seasons. Collectively, they kill a lot of deer simply because a deer is a big target and they throw an awful lot of lead. However, to consistently score cleanly on small targets such as varmint or the vital area of a big buck, a good rest is invaluable. No hunter should feel it beneath his dignity to use one.

One of the prime rules of big-game hunting is to kill quickly and cleanly. The only way to do this is to place your first shot as accurately as possible. To do this, the rifleman must train himself to think first and instantly of finding the steadist position possible under the circumstances. The hunter who does this shows his experience. His target may be a prairie dog or a woodchuck at 300 yards, or the heart of a big buck across some mountain meadow. But regardless of the target, the rifleman who doesn't use a rest whenever he can is taking a big chance at missing or going home empty-handed.

Learn to improvise your rests. Practice using them. By so doing you'll take complete advantage of the precise accuracy built into our modern barrels, precision bullets, and ammunition. You'll kill quickly and cleanly, and you'll get a lot more satisfaction out of hunting.

## A NEW DEAL FOR THE SOUTHPAW

(Continued from page 31)

paws learned, as I did, that after a great deal of practice, the right-hand bolt could be operated from the left side. Circumstances forced a lot of lefties to become quite proficient in its use. I knew a chap in Seattle, Washington, who is one of the greatest competitive big-bore shooters I have ever seen. He shoots a standard .300 Magnum left-handed, and he has trimmed most of the right-winged men at their own game.

This you can learn after years of practice. I presume, however, you can also learn to scratch behind your right ear with your left foot, if you work at it long enough. But I doubt that it would ever be comfortable.

But even if you have the patience to get this over-slap action down pat, just mount a telescope sight on a right-handed musket, and things really get complicated. Unless you're agile as an ape, you're forced to take the piece from your shoulder, change hands, eject the spent case, jack in a fresh hull, change hands again, and then, finally, blaze away with gusto—providing your target hasn't departed for the next township. That's from a standing position. Wrapped in a

sling, in the sitting or prone position, the southpaw might just as well be armed with a muzzle loader.

A lot of lefties still go through these contortions. A lot more simply gave up in disgust and went back to an action which doesn't require an intricate cross-draw to operate. Others—and these are in the minority—began to have their right-handed bolts converted to the left side.

This was the first major break-through on the left-handed bolt gun. While some displayed fine workmanship, others, as you can imagine, were pretty sloppy and, in the long run, the conversion won only half the battle. The brass, still flipped out on the wrong side; the rifle was balanced wrong, and in many cases the safety remained in its original right-handed position. They aren't cheap either. A first-class gunsmith tells me that the job takes from 15 to 20 hours. His price? \$67.50 complete.

Meanwhile, a fellow in California named Harry Matheiu—a fortunate combination of left-handed shooter and gunsmith—developed a left-handed bolt rifle exclusively for

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the southpaw. He still builds them at Mathieu Arms Co. in Oakland, and they're as fine a custom job as you can buy. The action alone sells for \$141, Harry says, and a plain finished rifle for about \$289. Everything is on the left side—bolt and safety—and the brass ejects on the left. Another advantage is that the rifle is built and balanced for the portside shooter.

Now, however, production and semi-production models are also on the market. The first major firm to break the shoulder barrier was Savage Arms. Although this venerable outfit has been churning out firearms since 1864, and their Model 99 lever gun has been popular since Grandpop wore knickerbockers, they had never gone for bolt rifles in a big way.

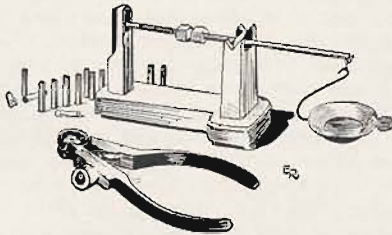
Until a couple years ago, that is, when they unveiled their Model 110 bolt action. Then they went all the way.

Offered in four calibers—.243, .270, .308, and .30-06—the little 110 was also offered in both right- and left-handed models. This was the first factory produced "mirror version" right-handed bolt, and it was priced within range of anybody's pocketbook—a modest \$122.50, compared to \$112.50 for the right-handed model.

Southpaws who haven't tried this little number—and a lot of right-handers who haven't tried their version of it—are missing a bet. I know it wasn't designed especially for the southpaw, but it's obvious that the brain trust at Savage was working, because the 110, in either the north or southside bolt, incorporates more original features than any other medium-priced rifle recently developed.

A few of these bear mentioning. One is the action, which is basically Mauser in design but with a few radical changes. The entire case head is enclosed by the bolt face, and the bolt itself has a double locking lug system with a double lug front baffle to seal the action when closed. Despite the fact that I ran some potent handloads through the piece, I never encountered any difficulty with bolt operation.

The safety is tang type, similar to those on shotguns and within easy reach of either



side. It locks both trigger and bolt. However, the safety can be clicked off, the bolt handle raised, the safety re-engaged and the shells cranked from the rifle without danger of the gun discharging.

Another interesting item is the trigger mechanism, which can be adjusted without removing the action from the stock. A protected screw directly in front of the safety controls the tension. Nothing to it. Just adjust it to suit yourself.

The 110 shoots as any well-made rifle should. The two I used were both left-handed models in .243 and .30-06 calibers. Each was the standard Savage with the reg-

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**Our XX Selected by N.F.S. Grade:** Close to mint condition. These apparently are un-fired and have full old style original pale blue finish. May show some finish wear at muzzle and backstrap **\$49.95**

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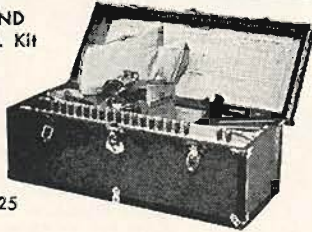
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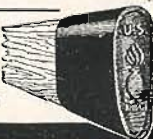
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ular 22 inch, six-groove, barrel mounted free-floating in the stock.

The .30-06 delivered regular groups averaging slightly under 1 1/2 inches, and the .243 tightened these to a little over 1 inch. Had I worked with proper loads for the guns a little longer, I'm sure I could have improved them even more. At any rate, these are closer than most people can hold in the field.

While the Savage is a tremendous little gun, it's only half the left-handed show as this is written. A few months after the introduction of the 110, Roy Weatherby, not in the habit of being outdone in anything, announced his new Weatherby Mark V—in both right- and left-handed versions.

If ever there was a field day for the southpaw, this was it. Instead of competing with the Savage, Weatherby's big cannon takes over where the little 110 leaves off, giving the left-handed gunner a vast new choice in calibers. The dual version of the Mark V is offered in most standard calibers, plus all Roy Weatherby's super-dupers.

The Mark V was obviously constructed to handle the big bores. It's a streamlined version of the Mauser, with all the rough edges

knocked off, both externally and internally. Roy claims that it is the strongest bolt action in existence, tested at far over 60,000 pounds without showing a sign of case stress.

Weatherby once told me that a 220-grain slug was inserted in the barrel of one of his new rifles, a normal round placed behind it, and the rifle touched off. The pressures must have hit an astronomical figure. However, the rifle wasn't damaged, and a light tap with a mallet opened the bolt and ejected the case. That certainly makes it strong enough to handle the hefty cartridge of Weatherby's design.

The Mark V doesn't sell for peanuts. Neither does a Cadillac. But the southpaw who wants a fine rifle in a wide choice of calibers, including the big ones, can start fattening his piggy-bank; the rifle is waiting.

Who knows—there may be still other production rifles for left-handers by the time this is printed. Others are not unaware of the market. But be that as it may, the lefty is no longer an outcast! He can buy any action he wants, and just about any caliber—including bolt actions!

See you at the gun shop!

## THE GERMAN SNIPER

(Continued from page 25)

of the enemy, the German sniper was awarded a Sniper's Badge. The badge was awarded in three grades, based on number of kills: 1st Class—50; 2nd Class—30; and 3rd Class—20.

Let's take a look at the four basic German sniper rifles. These weapons are of standard issue, not of special manufacture. The Germans used only tested and accurate models of the Mauser Kar 98K for use with telescopic sights. The first three rifles in the sniper line are the standard Mauser Kar 98K with turned down bolt handle. The caliber is the usual 7.92 mm.

The first German sniper rifle of World War II was the Kar 98K rifle fitted with the ZF41 scope. This was a very small scope, mounted on a special side bracket on the rear sight base of the rifle. The scope is six and one-eighth inches long, complete with detachable sunshades. The magnification is one and three-fourths. The scope has a picket post and cross-wire reticle, and internal adjustment for elevation only. Windage is

zeroed on the base.

The scope has a very small field of view, and optically the scope is very poor. But the eye-relief of this scope is 14 inches! The mount is a quick-detachable bracket type, T-slotted for the base. It is attached by sliding it forward until it is caught and held by a spring catch which engages the cuts in the base. The base is a milled part of the rear sight of the rifle. The mounting allows clip loading of the rifle.

The scope and mount are carried in a fitted metal case with lens brush and cloth when not in use by the sniper.

The next sniper weapon was the Kar 98K rifle fitted with a two-piece turret mount set-up. The forward base is a turret type which is soldered and screwed to the receiver. The turret is milled in the form of a cone, providing a surface for a spring on the front telescope base. The rear base is mounted on the receiver bridge in the same manner as the front base. This is in the shape of the letter "H." The base is fitted

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with a locking screw and a clamp which engages on the side of the rear telescope sight base. The mounts are soldered directly on the tube of the scope.

These rifles used a 4-power scope. Windage is provided in the rear mount only. The scope provides for an adjustment of elevation. This scope was called the ZF42, and most of the telescopes were Hensoldt-Dialy-

### New World's Skeet Record

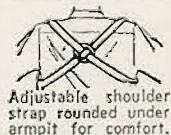
At the Mason & Dixon skeet championships (Loch Raven Skeet & Trap Club, Towson, Md.) the Loch Raven "Gunslingers" broke their own world's record for the five-man club team, setting a new score of 995x1000. The same team set the previous world's record of 994x1000 in 1961 with the same men shooting except for one member. Curtis Castle replaced I. D. Shapiro, who was forced to miss this year's shoot.



Pictured from left to right, with scores, are: John C. Dalton, Jr., of Chevy Chase, Md. (200x200), Harry W. Wright, of Baltimore, Md. (199x200), William B. Stock, of York, Pa. (198x200), Curtis G. Castle, of Baltimore, Md. (198x200), and Ed C. L. Calhoun, of Salisbury, Md. (200x200).  
**Congratulations, Gunslingers!**

tan Models. The reticle is a picket post with crossbars. Another type of scope used on this rifle was the Mars 4x63 model known as the ZF42M. The scope was carried in a metal carrying case when not in use by the sniper.

The next sniper weapon was the Kar 98K rifle fitted with a side-rail mount, similar to the American Griffin and Howe mount. The



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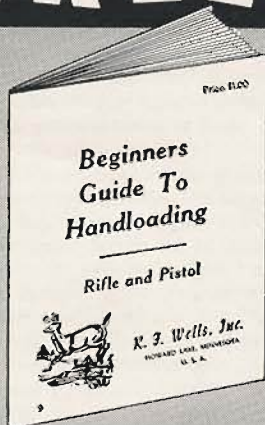
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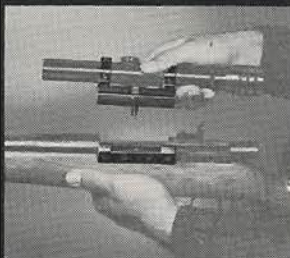


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left side of the special receivers were milled out to the base for the mount. The mount was a single locking lever located at the front end of the mount. The base was fitted on the receiver with pins and screws. The scope was held on the mount by milled clamps, or in later models by spring steel tension straps. There were also two other models of this outfit, the only difference being in the type of mounting the bases and mounts.

This sniper outfit was the ZF42W. The rifles were fitted with many various commercial scopes or war-time code models. They were all of 4X power, using such models as Ziel, Dyalot, and Ajax. Windage again was in the mount, with internal elevation adjustment in the scope. These outfits had metal or leather carrying cases.

The last two Kar 98K sniper weapons could be clip loaded. The turret model K98K could not be clip loaded. All three K98K sniper rifles provided for use of the issue front and rear sights of the weapon.

The last German sniper rifle of the war was the semi-automatic sniper rifle—the Gew 43 or Kar 43. The base for the mount was a part of the receiver, and all production models were sniper models. The weapon was of standard caliber, gas operated, using a ten-shot magazine. The base is on the right side of the receiver to permit the side bracket mount to be attached to the weapon. The scope used is the ZF4. It is 4 power, with both internal windage and elevation adjustment. The scope has a forward sunshade and a rubber eye cup. The eye relief is about four inches, and it has an 8 degree field of

view. The scope is held on the mount by steel tension straps. This weapon was sometimes fitted with a flash-hider. The scope was carried in a special wooden case. The rifle could be clip loaded.

The Germans also issued some very limited sniper rifles in the Second World War. These were the development type weapons and not standard. Only a few actually saw service. The following patterns were attempted:

The Mauser semi-auto rifle Gew 41M, fitted with the ZF41/1, scope and mount. The Gew 41 and 41W, Walther semi-auto rifles fitted with the ZF43B scope and mount. The special parachutist's semi- and full-automatic rifles Model FC42 fitted with the ZFC42 scope and mount. Also the famous MP44 carbines with the ZF4 scope and special mount. Early in 1945, a few Mauser Kar 98K rifles were fitted with ZF4 scopes in special left-side swept-back mounts. The mounting system is like the Gew 43 type rifle.

There were many attempts to design silencers for the Kar 98K rifles. These were issued on a limited scale to snipers. Special low-velocity ammunition had to be used with this silencer.

The sniper had a good variety of ammunition—tracers in three colors, armor piercers, and incendiaries. He used ball or armor-piercing for personnel and crew weapons. The tracers and incendiary explosive types were used to mark targets for his machine-gun and mortar crews.

The German sniper was a very brave man, prepared to fight to the last as an individual rifleman.

## PULL!

(Continued from page 14)

It was all the Woods family in a field of 50 shooters at Villa Grove, Illinois, recently. Forrest Woods Sr. and Jr. shot a pair of 99's and took Classes A and B. Lyle Walker and Paul Jones fired 98's to take the other two classes.

The Isabella County Sportsmen's Club, Mt. Pleasant, Michigan, numbered some distinguished shooting names among the entry list in the club's first registered trapshoot. Present and shooting were Martin Clark, Bob Cernek, Dan Lilly, and Boyd Williams.

The ladies were very much in evidence at the Western Pennsylvania Trapshooters League Ruffsdale Gun Club tournament. One handicap squad was all-female, and included Mrs. Margaret Gaus, Emily Landini, and Viola Contenti, who broke 44 of the 50 targets. The other two ladies in the squad, Mrs. Bill Ferrington and Stella Garbinski broke 39 of the 50 handicap targets, which

was certainly not low score in the tournament.

Twenty-nine shooters completed the entire 500-target race at the Airport Gun Club, Lancaster, Ohio. Dan L. Pickering Memorial Shoot. Dick Downing, the 1962 Grand shooter who lost his billfold but had faith in trapshooter's honesty that was rewarded, won the marathon with 489x500. Ramo Lupi won the Dan Pickering trophy with 97 from 20½ yards. . . . Two feminine shooting buddies on Chicago's North Shore had handicap performances to chatter about. Lucy Epstein fired a 95 to place second in a field of 111 shooters at Maywood Gun Club, and Nancy Howard's 96 topped a handicap field at nearby Hilldale Gun Club.

Since this month's column opened with some glowing words about the skeet shooting exploits of some youngsters, it is appropriate that it close with a few equally glowing words about an 80-year-old trapshooter, A. H. Rose, who won the handicap event in the Kansas Northern Zone shoot with a sparkling 97, and also captured the Class A High-Over-all Trophy with 392x400. Yes, sir, there's room in this shooting game for all ages and both sexes!

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## THE GUNS OF DEATH VALLEY

(Continued from page 37)

Notable among these was Oliver Roberts, the youngest shotgun guard ever hired by Wells Fargo & Co. He later became a deputy sheriff. Much of his work as a lawman was in the Panamints and in the Lookout and Darwin area, where it was claimed that of the more than one hundred graves in the local cemetery only two contained the remains of men who died a natural death. Roberts was sometimes referred to in early publications as "The Warrior of the Desert." If Oliver Roberts had had a good biographer, he might well have had a fame similar to that credited to Wyatt Earp, Bat Masterson, or Charlie Siringo.

In the same general area where Roberts became so well known there lived a husky fellow named John Searles. One day, a band of Indians ran off Searle's mules. This made John fighting mad. He crammed his Henry rifle full of .44 rimfire cartridges, stuck a couple pistols in his belt, and set out in pursuit. Late in the day, he came upon the Indians, who had stopped to feast on one of John's mules. There are conflicting reports as to how many Shoshones John killed that day, but at least four bit the dust in true western fashion. John was wounded in the eye by an arrow, but he succeeded in rounding up and driving home the remaining mules. Men were made of stern stuff in those days!

Another time, Searles went hunting with a Spencer rifle. He came face to face with a grizzly bear in a thicket, and found his gun would not fire. The bear mauled John badly,

tearing away part of his throat. But John Searles survived this encounter, too. It was discovered that he had been given the wrong size of Spencer cartridges for his particular Spencer rifle, and that caused the malfunction—and almost cost John Searles his life.

They say that the desert is a place of many moods. Surely that is true of Death Valley and its surrounding terrain. Balancing the austere and tragic side of this awesome sink there are lighter and happier sides. As dry and desolate as was the soil of Death Valley, it proved to be fertile ground for the imagination of a man who was perhaps America's greatest Munchausen—Walter Scott, known to the world as Death Valley Scotty.

When he was a young man, Scotty had been a pretty good hand with horses, and this had won him a job with Bill Cody's Wild West Show. Scotty learned fast on the sawdust circuit. He saw Bill Cody getting rich by dispensing hokum to a gullible public, and he began to savor the power of Ned Buntline's melodramatic dime-novels.

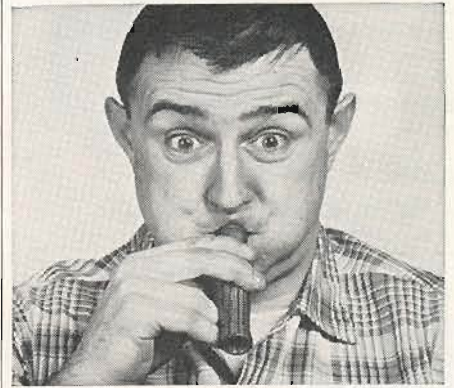
It must be said to Scotty's credit that he loved the colorful beauty and solitude of the Death Valley desert. What worried him was the problem of how he could live there without the back-breaking work, the privations, and the uncertainties of the future. Scotty wasn't satisfied with bacon and beans, either. He liked to spend money—lots of money.

The story of Walter Scott and his mythical mine has been told far and wide. For the latter part of Scotty's reign as the desert's  
(Continued on page 59)

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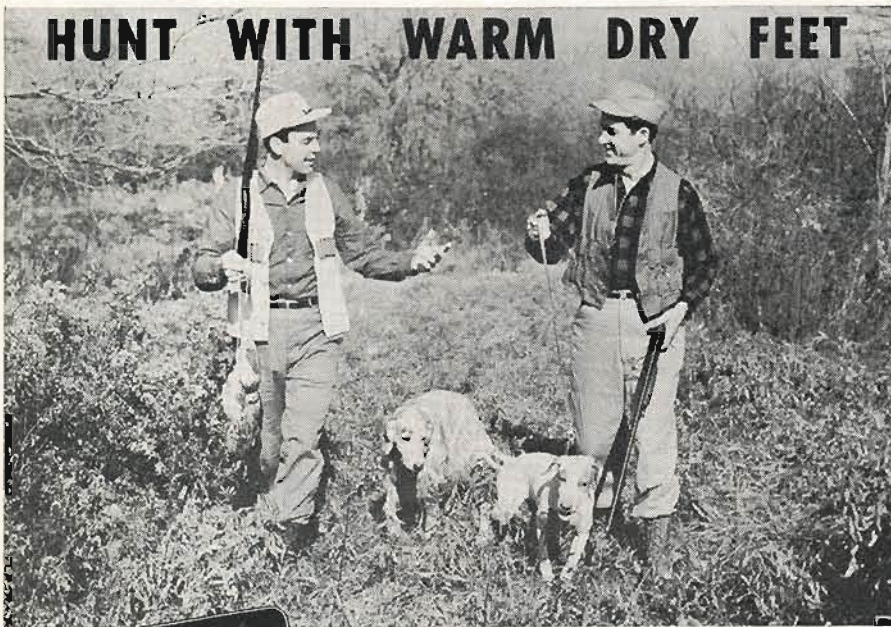
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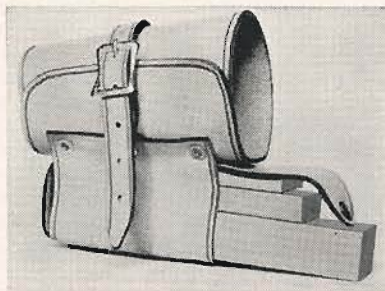
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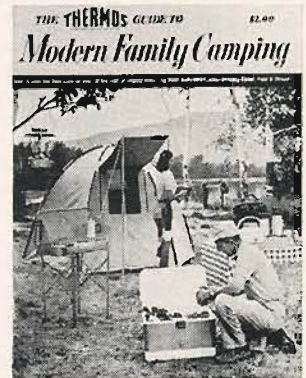
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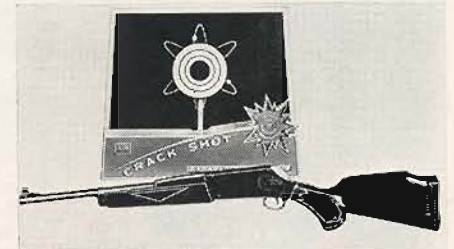
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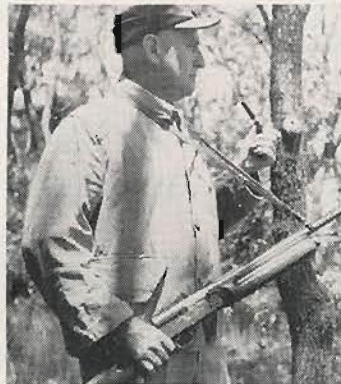
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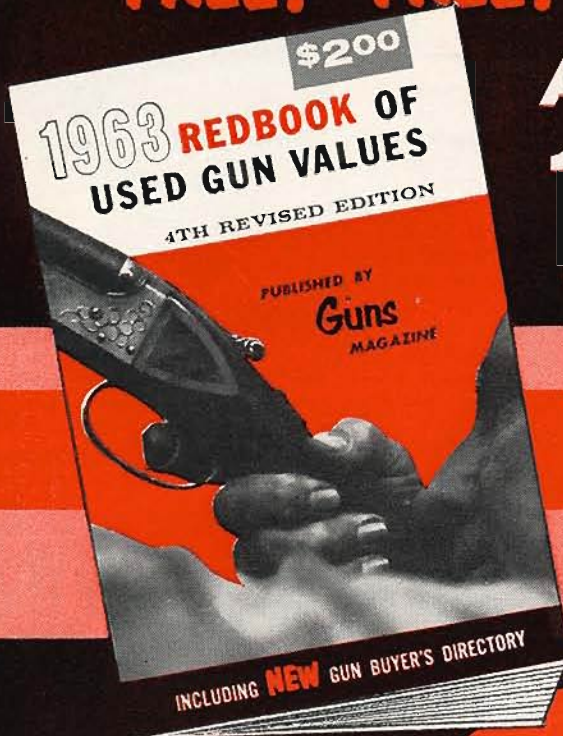
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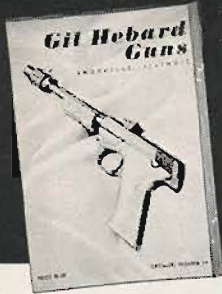
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(Continued from page 55)

most amusing fabricator of tales, he enjoyed the amused support and benefactions of millionaire Albert M. Johnson.

Before Scotty's talents had won from Albert Johnson what was probably the world's record in grub-stakes, he had run into a situation that gave him some trouble. There was the matter of several thousand dollars advanced to Scotty by a gentleman named Julian Gerard.

Gerard, a banker, was not satisfied with the vague reports received from Scotty, so he prepared to send two representatives to take a look at the mysterious mine into which his money supposedly had been poured. This development gave Scotty serious concern. With nothing to show for the money he had spent, Scotty decided to discourage investigation. He called in several cronies and plans were made for the so-called "Battle of Wingate Pass."

"Indians have been mighty bad lately," Scotty told Gerard's representatives when he met them at the railroad. "Yes, sir, they've sworn to kill me." Nevertheless the party piled into the waiting wagons and headed toward Death Valley by way of Wingate Pass. Scotty and his brother Warner were armed to the teeth.

As they entered Wingate Pass, suddenly the walls began to echo with bursts of rifle-fire. There was great confusion. One of Scotty's pals, hidden up there in the rocks, had imbibed too freely of a stronger potion than squaw tea, and this made his aim unsteady—so unsteady that one of his shots nicked Warner Scott. That gave a nice touch of realism. Hastily, the party turned back to the railroad—and there ended Mr. Gerard's attempts to investigate Scotty's non-existent mine.

Scotty maintained not only a small collection of guns but a veritable arsenal. One of his Winchesters finally ended up in a Goldfield bar. It had 28 notches filed in the barrel, a typical Scott gesture intended to serve notice that Walter Scott was a bad man to fool with.

Walter Scott enjoyed a dramatic life of over 80 years. He brought to Death Valley a most imposing structure, the famous Scotty's Castle; and he amused much of the world with his colorful buncombe and acrimonious dialogue.

Now the guns are stilled and the violence is ended in Death Valley. The physical evidence of the old mining camps is fast melting back into mother earth. Only a few landmarks like the beehive-shaped stone charcoal kilns in Wildrose Canyon seem destined for long survival. As the old ghost-towns



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erode and fade away, a new kind of development has taken place in Death Valley. Comfortable accommodations now await the traveler and camper where only sand and barren rock greeted the emigrants of '49. A beautiful museum and visitors' center, staffed by members of the National Park Service, provide pictorial high-lights of Death Valley's history.

It is not likely you'll find anyone quite as obliging as the miners who dug up Joe Simpson, carefully dusted him off, and hanged him for the second time from a pole so a photographer might take a picture; but you will find in Death Valley an earthy friendliness. It is a colorful and pleasant place to visit.

From the time the covered wagons of the '49ers bumped their way to the valley floor, Death Valley has become a vivid picture in our national consciousness. When Ed Stiles took up the jerk-line of the first twenty-mule team and started hauling borax from the valley, there came into existence a colorful transportation service as uniquely American as the Pony Express or the western stage-coach.

Much of Death Valley's strange and violent history has been written—much still remains a mystery. And as Joaquin Miller once wrote, "the silence is so eloquent."

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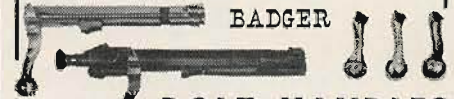
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# GUN RACK

(Continued from page 10)

## Gauges and Reamers

Wildcatting has long been a favorite past time of the gun nut clan around our neck of the woods. Recently, we had the opportunity to ream out a .30-06 to .308 Belted Norma Magnum. To accomplish the job, we borrowed a set of reamers, made by the Clymer Grinding Co., 14241 W. Eleven Mile Road, Oak Park, Michigan. Clymer makes some excellent reamers and headspace gauges. We got a set of '06 gauges from them and carefully checked them against our pet ones. Our precision mikes showed not one bit of difference and, best of all, the Clymer gauges are most reasonably priced. A set of Go, No-Go, and Field gauges will set you back only \$14—the cheapest insurance you can buy. Write to Clymer for their list.

## Poly-Choke News

Some time ago we reported on the Mossberg 500, the shotgun with the safety on top. Tom Wotherspoon of Poly-Choke had been after us for a while to let him have one of our guns so that he could install one of his new choke devices. We got the Mossberg 500 back the other week and promptly put a "Do Not Touch" sign on it. The new Poly-Choke is so much better than the old one that has been on the forward end of our Model 12 that any comparison is futile. The stops for setting the choke are positive and performance of the Poly-Choke was most satisfactory. Being somewhat hard-nosed, we did not take the patterns that Tom mailed us at face value, we checked them ourselves. We could have saved ourselves the work and time—they are right on the button.

Most intriguing is the ventilated rib that Tom put on the Mossberg 500. Made of a

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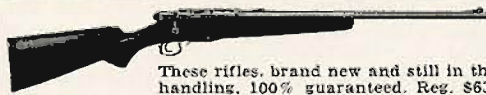
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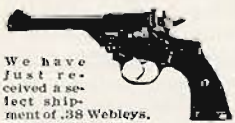
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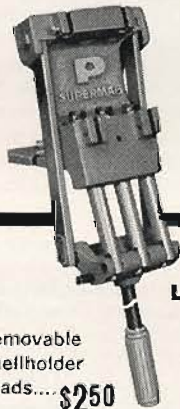


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special aluminum alloy, the rib weighs barely two ounces, is 5/16 of an inch wide. The day we ran tests on our dressed-up gun, temperatures were 90 degrees in the shade and considerably hotter out in the open. Despite the fact that we ran better than 100 rounds through the gun in very short order, the sight picture remained clear and free of shimmer (this of course louses up any future excuses about not being able to see the clay birds). The new FeatherAire Vent Rib on our gun is of the deluxe variety and is in a brass or similar finish. Blue ribs are of course available. Poly-Choke requires the entire gun for vent installation, and each gun is checked for performance before it leaves the factory. And while you have the rib installed, you might as well get the choke device too—it is worth the extra money, especially if you are a one-gun shotgunner.

### Arm Weights For Pistolmen

We have just tested a device designed to strengthen the muscles that affect pistol accuracy by weighting the shooter's arm during dry-fire or live shooting practice. This is a leather weight-holder (with a set of graduated weights) combined with a wrist-cuff adjustable to fit any arm. Dri-Fire Co., P. O. Box 115, Palos Verdes Estates, Calif., offer

the Dri-Fire Arm Weight for \$6.90 plus \$1.00 postage by mail order. A sample was sent to Harry Reeves, and these are his comments: "This is an excellent item for the beginner at the pistol game. Back in the late thirties



and early forties, I used a chunk of lead attached to the revolver to accomplish the same end during dry-firing practice. There is no better way to get those arm and hand muscles in condition than by dry-firing. This Dri-Fire Arm Weight, which is adjustable for the strong as well as the less-strong individual, is quite practical. It is a bit on the costly side, but is well made and certainly handier than the milk-bottle, flat-iron variety of homemade weights I have seen used. One thing is sure, the shooter who trains about fifteen minutes each morning and evening will be able to hold a bit steadier after about six weeks of training, and should get somewhat better scores as a result."

### Southgate Mould

To black powder addicts, the name R. Southgate, Franklin, Tenn., evokes visions of beautiful and highly functional black powder rifles. Southgate also makes some dandy round ball moulds, with wood handle and sprue cutter. He offers these moulds in .45 caliber, but it is an easy matter to open the mould to any caliber you might desire. Southgate's major claim to fame is, of course, his amazing work in restoring, refinishing, and repairing original black powder guns, and this is his primary interest. Write him for a descriptive folder.

### Shooters Service Bullets

The new bullets now available from Shooters Service, Clinton Corners, New York, are aptly named Newline. We received some for testing, and loaded the .44 Magnum ones. They are available in 215 grains, 245 grains, and for comparison we also used some 245 grain Supr-Magg swaged pills. The 215 grain was loaded with 25 grains of 2400 and the 245 grain Newline bullets were pushed along by 23.5 grains of 2400. All primers were CCI Magnum. The 245 grain Supr-Magg was sent

down-range by 24.5 grains of 2400.

The 245 grain Newline slug with the above loads gave 2 inch groups at 100 yards with our Ruger Carbine from a rest and on the Hollywood chronograph, our readings averaged out to 1814 fps. The final proof of bullet performance is not its velocity, but its performance on game way out there—and this can be anywhere from 45 yards out to 100 yards. We have not loaded any of the other Newline bullets, but that .44 Magnum will be our load to collect a bear rug coming hunting season. The gun? The Ruger Carbine, of course.

### Herter Swaging Tool

This tool is constructed along the conventional swaging C tool design. Known as Herter's Super Pistol and Rifle and Three Quarter Jacket Bullet Maker, we found the tool satisfactory, though not as powerful as could be desired for some of the heavier swaging jobs. The tool we tested required considerable adjustments and trial and error swaging before we were able to produce bullets worth loading. Like other handloading tools, this one requires study and good instructions, and these are furnished with the tool.

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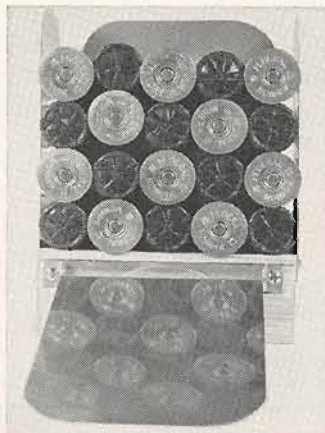
with lead core and cup in place, forms the bullet and the down-stroke of the handle ejects the finished bullet. The bleed hole in the side of the ram is easily adjusted and kept clean, and a plain paper clip will do the trick nicely.

### Maizo Meal

We recently reported (July GUNS) on the Kidwell tumbler. Since then, we have discarded the sawdust and have used, to our complete satisfaction, the Maizo Meal which Tom was kind enough to send us. This meal can be obtained from Lasalco of Texas, Inc., 2818-38 La Salle St., St. Louis 4, Mo. The 50 pound bag retails for \$3.25, plus shipping charges, and although these charges are usually higher than the cost of the meal, it is a worthwhile investment. The meal can be used time after time, and a 50 lb. bag will last the average handloader a long time.

### Shotshell Loading Cradle

Maybe we are overly fussy and really could dump our reloaded shotshells into any old box that is handy. But we do like to keep the various loads separated and thus always are faced with the chore of putting the newly loaded shells into the boxes that housed them



originally. As far as we are concerned, that is a chore we would be happy to pass on to some unsuspecting visitor. However, a new device that came to us not long ago has eliminated all this extra work. Charles A. Levene, Pocahontas, Iowa, makes the Shotshell Loading Cradle. As you take the reloaded shell from your tool, you can place it directly into the cradle. This is basically nothing but a sloping block of soft wood with four narrow, well-finished sheet-metal strips; one of these strips hinges forward and it is there that you deposit the shell as you get it from the tool. Place one shell base toward you, the next one with base away from you and before you know it, your 25 reloaded hulls are stacked neatly. Flip up the fourth sheet-metal strip, invert the original shotshell box over the cradle, turn the whole thing upside down, and presto you can start on the next batch of reloads. Shotshell Loading Cradle is a worthwhile addition to any bench.

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Part I of this book (Basic Marksmanship) is by Col. Lyman P. Davison, District Commander, Midwest Office of Special Investigation USAF, Firearms Advisor for the National Police Officers Association, and a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of GUNS Magazine. Lawrence Severson, author of Part II (Basic Combat Marksmanship) is a former FBI Special Agent and served as a Firearms Instructor in the FBI Field Offices. Each man has had more than 30 years of active experience as shooters and instructors.

That experience is reflected in this book, which was produced for use with the marksmanship courses carried on by the Institute. I know of no better handbook for handgun excellence, in either branch of handgun shooting. The book deserved far better than it got in the way of printing and binding, and a deluxe edition is being planned; but if you are more concerned with handgun instructions than with handsome bindings, this one won't disappoint you. —E.B.M.

## CHECKERING AND CARVING OF GUNSTOCKS

By Monty Kennedy

(The Stackpole Co., Harrisburg, Pa., 1962. \$10.00)

Monty Kennedy is a man who loves good wood, likes to work with it, and is a pro when it comes to gunstocks. All of this is reflected within the first few pages of the good-sized book, and the deeper one gets into it, the greater becomes the urge for a checkering cradle and some tools. Complete working plans, designs, and good photography, combined with Kennedy's salty and

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outspoken way of expressing himself, have quickly made this book one of my favorites. If you are thinking of doing some checkering—and who has not flirted with the idea at one time or another—you can't go wrong with this book. Best of all, the author has recognized the urge of the beginner, and has been kind enough to offer plenty of his professional know-how to the novice.—R.A.S.

**AN APACHE CAMPAIGN** By J. G. Bourke  
(Charles Scribner Sons, New York. \$3.00)

Perhaps because guns and gun skills played such incalculable parts in the winning of the American West, interest in the literature of guns and interest in Western Americana go hand in hand. This little book has little to say about guns, per se; but when you talk (as this book does, authoritatively and with almost pictorial readability) of General George Crook's efforts against Geronimo and the Apaches, guns are implicit in every paragraph.—E.B.M.

**COLLECTORS' GUNS** By Don Myrus  
(Arco Publishing Co., New York. \$2.50)

I wish publishers wouldn't blurb their books "The complete story of firearms, from hand cannon to Buck Rogers." It makes me wonder why I ever bothered to collect my own gun library, which runs to several hundred volumes! But "Collectors' Guns" does touch a lot of years and a lot of guns in its 128 pages, adding estimated collector values in many cases.—E.B.M.

## THE BATTLE OF COWPENS

By Kenneth Roberts

(Doubleday, Garden City, N. Y. \$3.50)

Many of Kenneth Roberts' historical writings (which earned him a special and richly deserved Pulitzer citation) were clothed in fiction. This one isn't. It is a concise, deeply researched clinical analysis of one of the most important single military engagements in our country's history—for psychological as well as for military reasons. It is also a battle of peculiar interest to students of guns and military marksmanship.—E.B.M.

## 50 YEARS OF WHITE TAILED DEER HUNTING IN TEXAS

By W. F. Grusendorf

(Vantage Press Inc., New York. \$2.00)

This is a thin little volume, but there is a lot of pleasant nostalgia in it for old hunters, and a lot of hard-core hunting wisdom for beginners. If you've ever wondered why certain old timers manage to get their venison every year, seemingly with little effort, better give this book a reading. There are times a-plenty when know-how is more important than what rifle!—E.B.M.

## HUNTING

By Clyde Ormond

(Harper & Row, New York. Before Dec. 31, 1962, \$5.95; after, \$6.95)

There were some chiding words earlier in this column about books labeled "The Complete, Definitive, Final Word" on some-

thing other. Without apology for those words, they do not apply to this book, which is labeled, "The Complete Book of Hunting." It's a big subject, but this is a big book (467 page, profusely illustrated) and Clyde Ormond has come as near as is humanly possible to justifying the title. From planning the trip, to choice of clothing, guns, hunting areas, guides, and shooting companions—from how to locate and track game to how to dress it out and pack it in—this book speaks with the voice of experience. It speaks also in a professional, highly readable writing style that explains why Ormond manuscripts are welcomed by editors of this and many other magazines. Note the before-Christmas price cut. Buy it as a gift—for yourself or any hunter, novice or expert.—E.B.M.

## ALL ABOUT CAMPING

By W. K. Merrill

(Stackpole, Harrisburg, Pa., \$3.95)

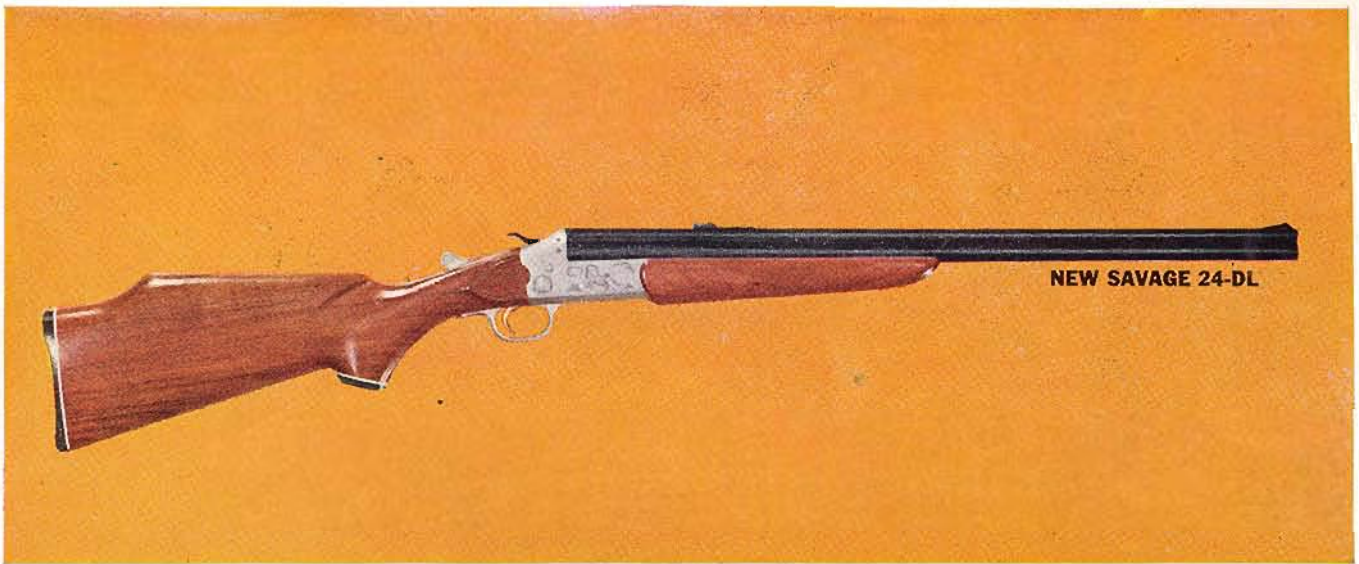
Within the 262 pages, author Merrill has done a fine job in putting down most everything that a man needs to know about camping. And this is not book knowledge, but experience gained from being a U.S. Park Ranger for many years. Besides offering the usual and fairly well-known tricks of camping out under adverse conditions, the author also offers, and perhaps for the first time, much excellent advice and many good suggestions derived from his many years of camping and living in the outdoors.—R.A.S.

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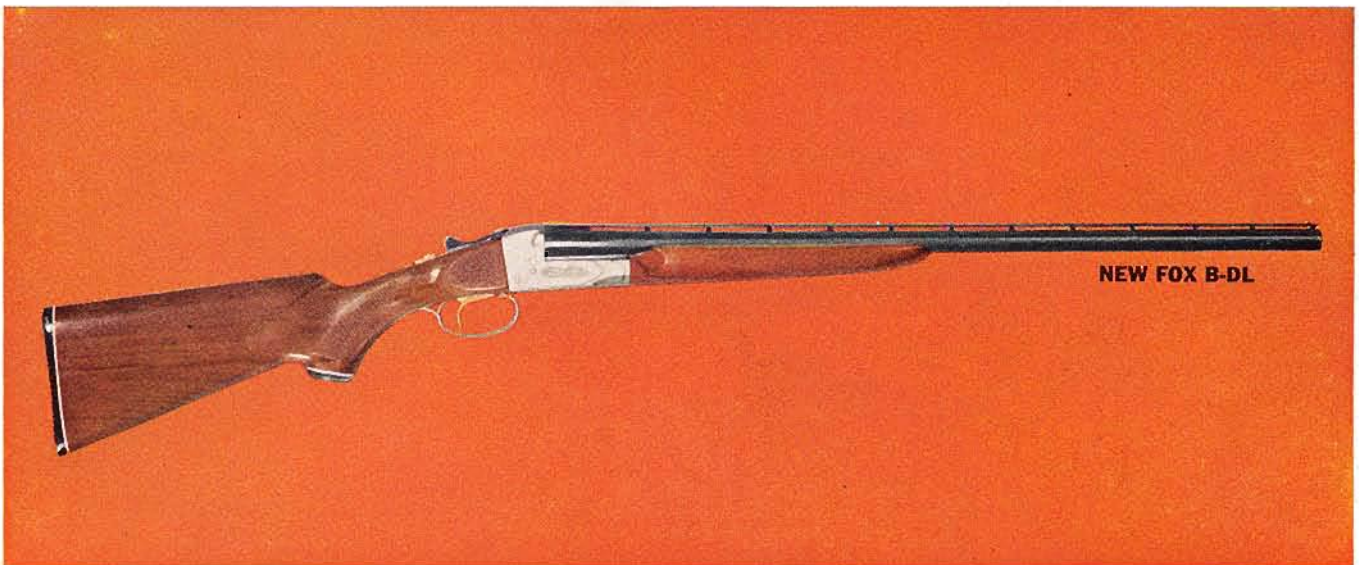
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