

DECEMBER 1964 50c

HUNTING • SHOOTING • ADVENTURE

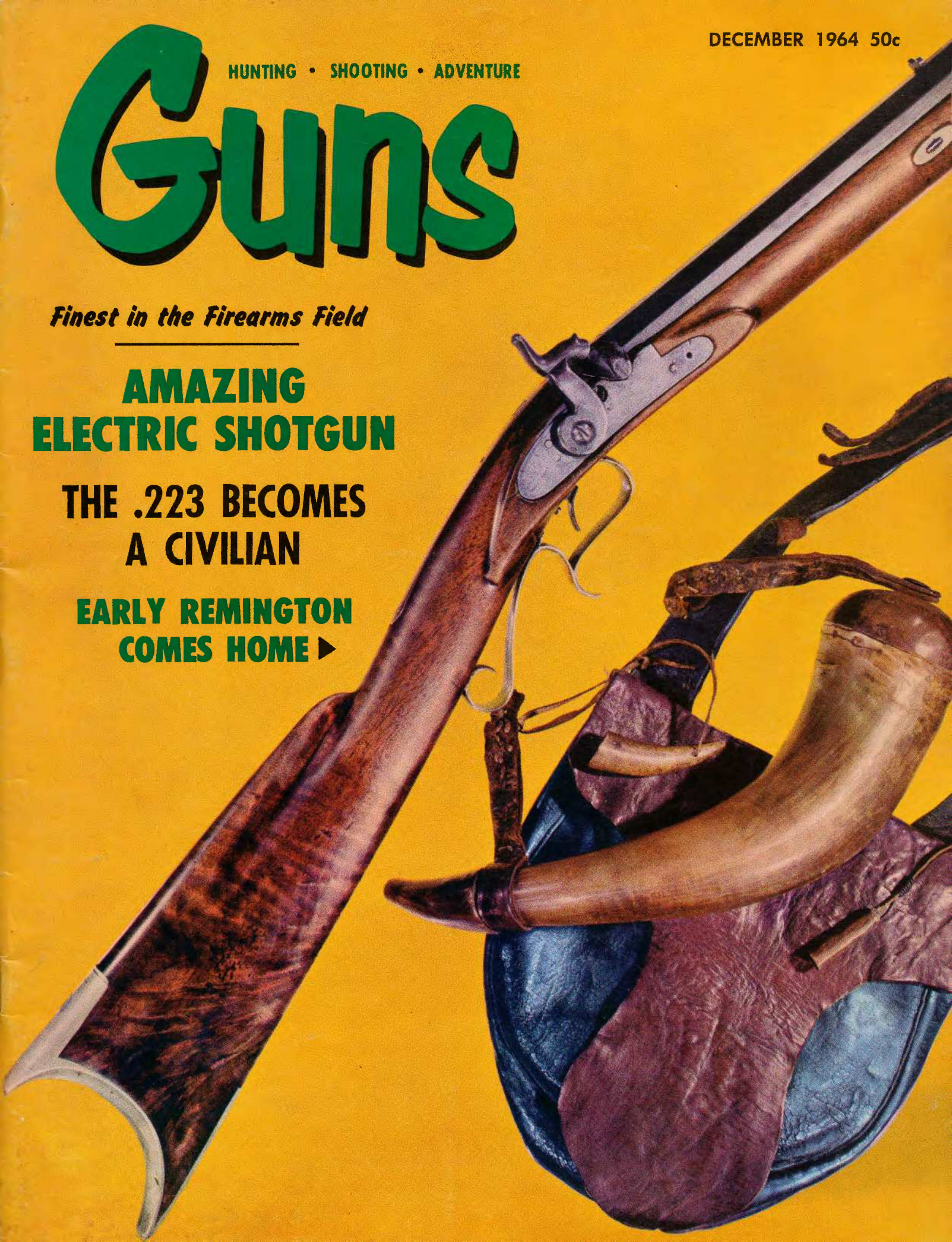
# Guns

*Finest in the Firearms Field*

**AMAZING  
ELECTRIC SHOTGUN**

**THE .223 BECOMES  
A CIVILIAN**

**EARLY REMINGTON  
COMES HOME ▶**



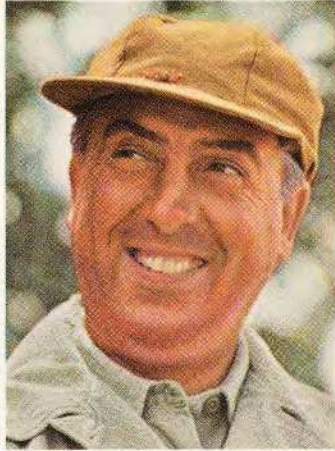
# Who says Remington plastic shells are the most powerful you can buy?



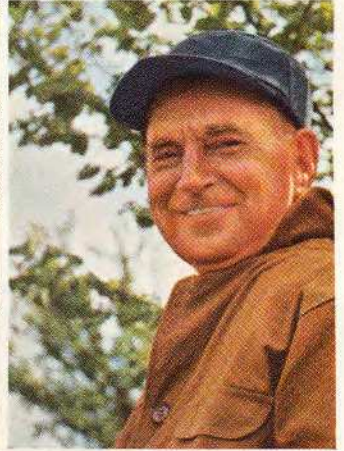
Leo Bandoni, San Francisco, Calif.  
 66 The best-performing shells I've ever used—at all ranges. 99



Allen W. Warren, Minneapolis, Minn.  
 66 The most powerful game loads I've ever shot. And the waterproof body is a great bonus. 99



Don A. Dianda, Hillsborough, Calif.  
 66 Plenty of power—excellent patterns. They're the only shells to use. 99



F. S. (Red) Hawkins, Dallas, Texas  
 66 Remington shells have performed best—with cleaner hits and fewer cripples...more power. 99



J. H. Sargent, Jr., St. Louis Park, Minn.  
 66 They give me the distance I need for those shots that are just barely within range. 99



Andrew Kleeber, Glenshaw, Pa.  
 66 They're everything I want in a shell—more power and better patterns. 99



A. G. Schuehle, Roselle, Illinois  
 66 Terrific range—the kind of patterns you can't miss with. 99



B. L. Williams, Shaker Heights, Ohio  
 66 Their knockdown range is fantastic. I use 'em all the time. 99

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### Congressman George Mahon 19th District, Texas

I would not favor legislation which would prohibit the honest, law-abiding citizen, the sportsman or gun collector, from owning or purchasing firearms. I think, however, that everyone will agree that consideration needs to be given to some means of restricting the sale of weapons to the lawless and juveniles. The sale of firearms through the mails to juveniles has become a major problem.



### Senator Edmund Muskie Maine

It is clear to me that some degree of firearms control is necessary in order to prevent irresponsible individuals from acquiring weapons. The basic question to be considered is what constitutes effective control, and who should exercise that control. In considering this issue, we must be reasonable and realistic. It is my intention to thoroughly study every aspect of this problem in an effort to reach a solution which will protect the rights of all American citizens.

### Congressman Dante B. Fascell Florida

A law abiding citizen should be permitted to have a firearm for self defense and for participation in the shooting sports. Present law provides enough restrictions. I do not favor a Federal Registration law. I don't believe it would disarm the criminal. But such a law would tend to discourage reputable citizens' ownership of firearms.

### Senator Thomas H. Kuchel California

I believe that any legislation concerning firearms, both at the Federal and State level, must consider the Constitutional right of our citizens to keep and bear arms. Responsible citizens have the right to possess firearms for legal purposes, whether it be for self-protection or recreation.

I also feel that the problem of firearms regulation should be handled, wherever possible, by State and local governments. I do think, however, that the use of firearms by minors should be regulated. I also support State or local legislation providing severe penalties for the use of dangerous weapons in the commission of a crime. Mental incompetents, alcoholics, drug addicts, convicted felons, and fugitives from justice should not be permitted to own or carry firearms.



### Senator A. Willis Robertson Virginia

A Federal law to prohibit the people from keeping and bearing arms would be unconstitutional but if passed by Congress and upheld by a Supreme Court that construes the Constitution according to preconceived political philosophies, we will have taken a long step down the road to dictatorship.

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

# Guns

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

DECEMBER, 1964

Vol. X, No. 12-120

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### THE COVER

The gun shown on the cover is the now fully documented Pontious rifle that has been acquired recently by the Remington Arms museum. George Q. Pontious used the rifle to collect a deer in California prior to 1925, and his great-grandfather tanned the hide of the first buffalo killed with this gun. He "made two pouches of the leather, one for Mr. Remington and one for himself." The horns were made into powder horns, again one for Mr. Remington, the other for the gun's original owner.

# BARRELS

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 8-groove rifling \$15.85 + 85¢ post.  
 .45/70 CALIBER 32" long (1 turn in 22")  
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# BARRELS

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# BARRELS

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**WINCHESTER 94** .30/30 26" long  
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# BARRELS

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## M-P Loading Tools, Dies

Micro-Precision Company, P. O. Box 1422G, Omaha, Nebraska, is a rather new company in the reloading field, but it looks like as if the company is out to set a record in producing new and standard handloading tools and equipment. We have recently concluded our tests with a number of their tools and dies, have found M-P equipment to be of good quality. One of the basic tools offered is the Model 600 which is a straight H-press, threaded for the standard 7/8 x 14 dies. The tool is rugged, handles all of the loading chores for metallics. M-P also claims that the tool is convertible for loading shotshells, and there is a provision to accept the larger shotshell dies in the tool. Priming is done on the standard primer post system, and the tool reaches you complete with a shell holder ram, shell holder head, and a universal primer assembly.

One much needed piece of equipment offered by M-P is a powder measure stand, a casting with a 7/14 thread that will accept all of the currently produced powder measures which have provisions for being set into a loading tool. We have long favored the use of a stand for a powder measure, and liked this stand very much.

Of special interest is the Trimike, which is a case micrometer and trimmer in one unit. The micrometer is of course suitable for all standard cases or for any wildcat that you may have since you set case length yourself. The trimmer does require suitable pilots which can be obtained from M-P dealers. Essentially, the Trimike is a sliding micrometer arrangement on an upright bar. By adjusting the sliding bar to the appropriate length of the case, it is possible to maintain constant case length and checking for case length can be done rapidly and perhaps a bit easier than by using a vernier caliper. The Trimike can be mounted on the bench and we found it especially helpful to mount it on a block of 2" x 4", thus bringing the tool a bit above bench level and making it easy to see what is being done. Cases can be trimmed easily and we found operation of the Trimike smooth and efficient. The only point where we encountered any trouble was with the pilot for caliber .243 which readily accepted the standard resized .243 cases, but did not accept resized cases of our 6 mm Remington. Similarly, a wildcat in 6 mm, where the expander plug of the die measured exactly .243, did not accept the pilot. A session with a buffing wheel took care of the problem within a few minutes and performance of the Trimike was thereafter troublefree.

A new wrinkle in reloading is now being offered by M-P—a method of converting a basic set of dies from one caliber to the other. As you know, dies in the various calibers are not interchangeable except in a very few instances. M-P's "Speedies" are set permanently into the press and special inserts for rifle or pistol calibers are then added as they are being used. The basic Speed Dies kit retails for \$8.50, rifle and pistol inserts in standard calibers cost \$4.95. We have successfully used a set of these dies in loading for caliber .243 and .300 Weatherby Magnum and found that once the method of conversion has been mastered, the use of the Speed Dies is indeed simple and gives you excellent results without having to resort to costly sets of dies which you do not use very often. This is an interesting idea and is certainly not a gadget. We found the dies

## Safari Contest

Six lucky sportsmen will be the winners of an all-expense paid safari to Uganda in a contest sponsored by the Toyota dealers throughout the country. To enter, all you need to do is take a demonstration ride in one of these rugged cross-country vehicles. The sa-



fari will take the winners into the East African jungle for three weeks, in quest of a wide variety of big game.

If you have a yen for real big game hunting, stop in at your local Toyota dealer, take a ride in this amazing vehicle—and don't forget to fill in an official contest registration card! It could be your ticket to the hunt of a lifetime.

to be true and well finished, and proof of the pudding is that the ammunition made with these dies fired perfectly well and

(Continued on page 9)



## Ready for a double—a real fine double?

Your dad no doubt used a double gun. He found it was lightning fast in getting off two quick shots. It offered him that instantaneous choice between an open or tight choke. This concept of gun design is now returning to favor. The knowledgeable shooter recognizes its smooth handling ability and more solid construction will provide him with a gun that will out shoot and outlast all others.

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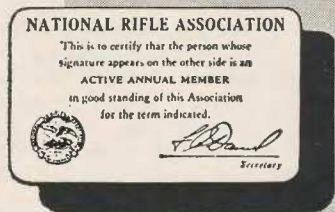
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(Continued from page 6)

handled in our rifles the same way factory ammunition and previous handloads worked.

The M-P dies have a hardness rating of 60, an industrial polish rating of 40. In our rather extensive tests we found that the two adhere perfectly to the SAAMI specs. They are not highly polished or plated, but it appears that the M-P loading dies, both the standard as well as the special Speed Dies, are reliably manufactured and of good quality. Standard rifle dies retail for \$10.95, pistol dies in the standard three die set retail for \$11.95. If your dealer cannot supply you, write Micro-Precision for information.

### Reloading Records and Labels

This seems to be the month for reporting on new handloading gear and equipment. We were especially pleased to receive samples of labels, reloading data sheets, and arms records from General Mail Order, Box 16G, Syosset, New York. The labels are of a size that will fit easily on rifle as well as handgun boxes, and the self-sticking back adheres perfectly to the smooth finished plastic Fitz boxes that we use. The reloading data sheet and the arms record are perforated for a three-ring binder and the reloading data sheet offers space for all of the conceivable information that you may want to put down for your loads. These data sheets are printed on one side only, making it possible to paste a target on the back of it. The arms record gives you a method of keeping records of your guns and also information you may care to list; it even goes so far as to be suitable for collectors and for the man who likes to have his guns custom built.

### New Targets

The first time you see these targets, printed on yellow paper, you will believe that you are either having a bad dream or that somebody is joking. At least this was the impression that all the shooters expressed who saw these targets on our rifle range. In contrast to the conventional targets, these are primarily guide line targets and—they are printed on yellow paper! For years we have avoided the use of white paper targets because of the extreme reflection that becomes apparent when the targets are used under strong sunlight. Yellow, in most everybody's opinion, is the worst possible color to select for sighting-in a gun. In this case, however, the yellow is definitely an asset and the yellow is visible without glare even in full sunshine. When dusk and the later evening hours are used for shooting, the yellow targets with the black and red contrasting scope guide lines stand out superbly. A number of designs of these scope targets are now available. The targets are the Murray G-D Scope Targets and they are available directly from the company, P. O. Box 5553G, Kansas City, Mo. We have used a batch of these targets for almost a month for accuracy shooting, testing scopes, testing rifles, and for sighting in several hunting rifles. We are the originators of two design targets which we, of course, felt were good—we have decided that these Murray G-D targets are even better. Need we say more?

### Carbine Scope Mount

The B-Square Company, Box 11281G, Fort Worth 10, Texas recently submitted a sample

of their Mono-Mount that is designed exclusively for use on the M1 Carbine. The mount is distinguished by the fact that anyone can mount it, since the ring fits over the barrel. There is no drilling or tapping, and the mount settles the scope low over the gun's bore. The mount is designed for the Leupold M8-2x scope and other rings and mounts suitable for other scopes are due to be marketed soon. The Mono-Mount does secure the scope safely on the M1 Carbine but in extensive shooting tests we did find a slight play which required a retightening of the screws that fastened the Mono-Mount. Under normal circumstances this play would probably not become apparent, but we did want to determine just how much give there would be in the mount. Actual measurements were not made, but play was somewhere on the order of maybe .003 or .004 of an inch. On the whole the Mono-Mount did pass the normal requirements for scope mounts, and should be of interest to those who have always wanted to mount a scope on an M1 Carbine.

### Ed's Cartridge Gauge

Essentially, Ed's cartridge gauge not only indicates the bullet seating depth, but in effect, it duplicates the rifle chamber. The gauge indicates maximum overall length of the cartridge and maximum case length gauging is fast and accurate. The use of the gauge for precision loading is definitely recommended. The gauge is made for all American factory cartridges, for some foreign cartridges, and for some of the more popular wildcats. It is made of aluminum and bushings are machined to the closest possible tolerance. You can get the gauge either for one or for two calibers for \$7.65 each from Full Ed's Creel Company, Dept. G, 717 West 9th Street, Cheyenne, Wyoming, and extra gauge blocks are priced as low as \$2.04 postpaid. We found that the use of this gauge is essential in making up ammunition for target shooting and the gauge makes it possible to make superbly accurate hunting ammunition.

### Crow Shooting

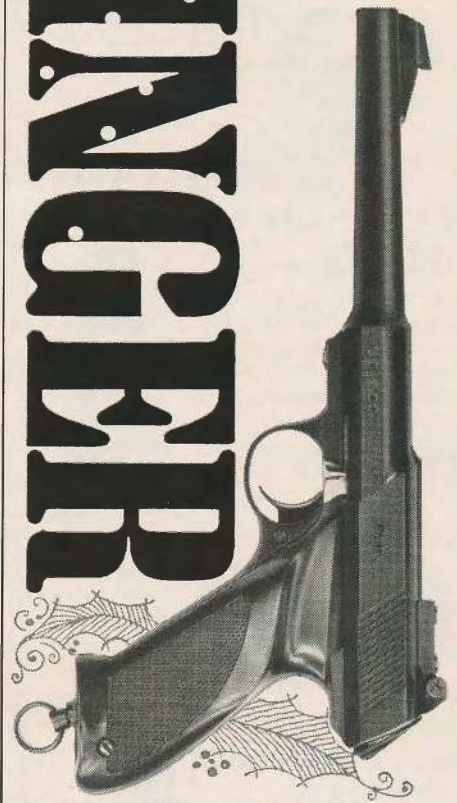
We had word from Mr. Crow—also known as Bert Popowski, Custer, S. D., that he once again has his crow calls available. Last season demands for his calls, records, and his classic book on crow hunting, were so heavy that he was out of stock for a while. We have used his calls quite frequently, and results are most gratifying—that is if you do your part in calling. And learning to call them in properly is easy if you follow Bert's instructions in his book and his record. Calls, record, and "Crow Shooting," retail for \$5 each, directly from Popowski at the above address.

### G66 Fabric Waterproofing

The G66 people, who have given us a fine spray stock finish, a sight blackener, and a bluing compound, are now marketing an aerosol waterproofing compound. We have used a can of this product recently, found that it not only waterproofs but also makes hunting jackets impervious to very severe water exposures. It is nice to know that at least one of the waterproofing products on the market works—and works real well. Get some in your sporting goods store.

(Continued on page 56)

# BRUNING



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## CROSSFIRE

#### Maclean's Article

I would like to inform your readers of an article written by Ian Sclanders and published in "Maclean's Magazine," in their July 25, 1964 issue. I would describe it as one of the usual type of articles using the murder of President Kennedy to stir up emotional response and blind reaction against the NRA, the 2nd Amendment to the Constitution of the U.S., and gun ownership, by trying to belittle gun owners and their efforts, and associating them with maniacs, criminals, extremist groups, and others.

Since "Maclean's" has an international circulation and quite a large following (here in Canada at least), and is liable to prejudice a great number of people against firearms and owners of firearms, any additional articles on the same subject should be discouraged. Foul language and lost tempers won't help the cause, but a deluge of well constructed letters explaining the facts would do much to prevent repetition.

Comments may be sent to the editor, Ken Lefolli, or the author, in care of "Maclean's Magazine," 481 University Ave., Toronto 2, Ontario, Canada; or Maclean-Hunter Publishing Corp., 341 Madison Ave., New York 17, New York.

G. Rodney Schewchuk  
Lamont, Alberta, Canada

#### Spread The Word

I work at Radio Station KBND, Bend, Oregon. As an announcer, I come in contact with many news items. The one enclosed came over UPI. I'm getting sick and tired of the gun enthusiasts of this country cowering with their guns behind their backs, like little boys caught smoking, every time some mentally disturbed person (definitely in the minority in this great country) gets his name in the newspaper headlines by misusing a gun in some particularly sensational way, i.e. Kennedy's assassination.

Now back to the news item that prompted this letter. (Item relates how a New York secretary defended herself against an attacker with a switchblade knife, was promptly jailed for breaking a section of the N.Y. Sullivan law—Ed.). What might have happened to this girl if she hadn't broken the law and carried a weapon to defend herself? We must not only preach in generalities, we must strike at specific laws. We must point out specific instances where obedience of such laws can be downright dangerous and foolhardy. So what must the decent citizen do? Break the law? No! We must change the laws.

Tell stories of where the freedom to possess guns was instrumental in foiling crime. Name places! Show through past history where people unarmed are a conquered people. Lethargy and indifference are two of the most deadly diseases to a society.

Sam Bass  
Bend, Oregon

#### New York Outrage

Would you ask any friend of yours to answer the following questions, under oath, and subject to perjury charges? This is just a sampling of questions asked of a person who will vouch for another who requests a pistol license in New York City.

1. In chronological order, state each and every place at which you have resided for the past five years; including present address.
2. List your present occupation and employment for past five years.
3. Were you ever arrested, indicted, or convicted for any criminal offense, in any jurisdiction, federal, state, or local?
4. Have you ever had any license or permit of any kind suspended, denied, or revoked by any agency, federal, state or local?
5. Have you ever been the subject of military disciplinary action?
6. Have you ever refused to testify concerning, or to answer, any question on grounds of self-incrimination, or other reason?

Remember, these are questions asked of the person who is willing to vouch for an applicant for a pistol license, *not the applicant!*

*The above affidavit was brought to our attention by Shelley Braverman, firearms consultant of Athens, New York, who is "boiling with anger."*—Editor

#### Shooter's Boycott?

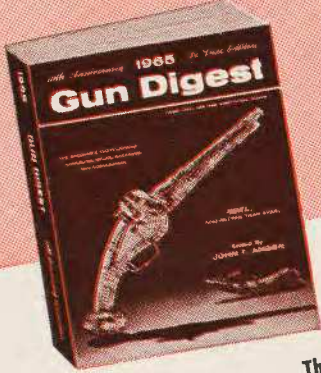
I would like to suggest another way in which we gun owners might fight these anti-gun people. By the use of a boycott.

I don't mean boycotting the anti-firearms people themselves, but their sponsors. For instance, the sponsors of the TV show "That Was The Week That Was," would lose quite a bit of money if a large group boycotted them. From then on, they would have serious second thoughts about sponsoring any more anti-firearms programs.

Another group is the advertisers in the "Saturday Evening Post." The Post would start to change their tune if some of their clients were losing money because of their articles.

Arthur C. Benintente  
Cranford, N.J.

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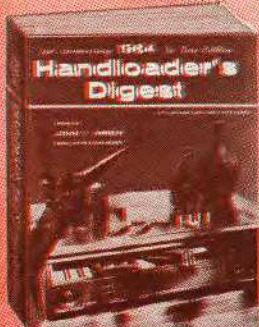
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# HANDLOADING BENCH



By **KENT BELLAH**

**A** HIGHLIGHT THIS PAST month was shooting a HEGEwaffen Superposed President de Luxe in 20 Magnum over .222 Rem. We felt the chrome lined shot tube on this high grade West German piece would pattern as pretty with W-W's new shells as the classy engraving. It did. It handles fast and well. We wondered how a rifle barrel on a hinged frame piece would perform. A chamber cast indicated a precision chamber. It wouldn't take partly sized reloads for my personal Sako .222.

Federal ammo grouped near 1.3" at 100 yards, much better than we expected with factory cartridges. We stuffed partly sized hulls with 20.2 gr. 4198 and CCI 400 primers behind Speer's 52 gr. bullets. Groups ran a hair over 1.0" at 100 yards with a Weaver K-3 glass. This was the only load tested. Groups were nice and round, without a horizontal or vertical spread. I think we could have shot under a MOA by varying the charge up or down, or by using CCI 450 Magnum primers, or a more powerful scope.

My personal Sako .222 Sporter groups best with 20.5 gr. 4198 and the same bullet. This charge is 1.0 gr. over the maximum listed in Speer's new No. 6 Reloading Manual. But it doesn't run excessive pressure in the tight bore Sako, that is in the 45,000 psi range in a normal bore test barrel.

The \$32 HEGEwaffen mount fits an integral base with a positive dead stop. Windage is in the mount. It's quick detachable, holds zero, and returns to zero. The gun is one of many fine sporting arms made by Friedrich Hebsaker, Jr., Master Gunmaker, a 50 year old firm, in a rapidly expanding modern plant. These Old World guns are available in a variety of grades and types, both barrels for shot, or various gauges of shot tubes over a variety of rifles for large or small game.

The 20 Magnum over .222 is my choice in a utility piece for most small game with fur or feathers. Lower priced models are just as good for practical use as our \$345 President de Luxe. They make a nice car, pickup or saddle gun, and add prestige to any gun rack. Request literature from Benet Arms, 1757G Stockton St., San Francisco, Calif.

Benet Arms also have the superb Walther Olympia Rapid-Fire .22 Short target pistol at \$198.50. These are not production guns, but are hand fitted Walther quality, put up in batches of about 20 at a time. The design of this new model complies with International

Rules, was deliberately engineered to win matches. The 5 round magazine is forward of the trigger. Adjustable stocks are thumb rest type. Left hand grips are \$15 extra with the gun, or \$30 if ordered later. Production started about 1962, with probably less than a thousand made to date. The serial number, that probably did not start with 00001, was about 01000 in September 1963, and only 01038 in June 1964. These were hardly made for plinking tin cans, but they will do that job well and at low cost, except for the initial investment.

Numrich Arms, West Hurley 2, N. Y., have a new "5 Star Auto Loader" at \$24.50, complete with two primer arms, a shell holder, and auto primer feed. Extra shell holders are \$2.50 each. The 5 Star takes standard dies. Numrich doesn't make dies. Performance was satisfactory in loading .30-06 ammunition with full length resizing in RCBS dies. If your dealer doesn't have the 5 Star Auto Loader, request factory literature.

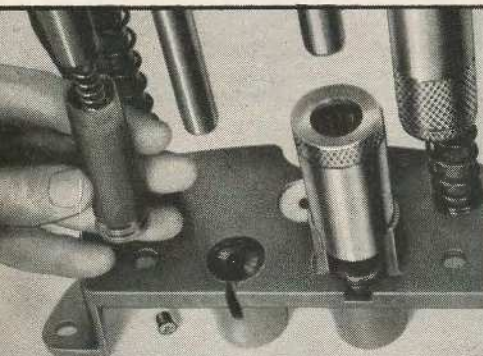
Numrich, successors to Hopkins & Allen, have made quite a hit with 3 new H & A muzzle loading rifles. They are probably best known for stocking modern and obsolete gun parts, some 27 million, give or take a mill. We have never used a better instant cold blue than their Formula 44-40. It does a beautiful professional looking touch-up job. We completely blued a fine L. C. Smith 12 bore with it in 1956, using about one fourth of a \$2 bottle. It looked like a good hot blue job, and still does.

In 1958, I requested Maynard P. Buehler to make a base to fit a S & W revolver without drilling, to use his rings to install a rifle scope for testing a new Kay-Chuk conversion. We didn't have a test barrel in this caliber, and about the same results could be obtained with a rifle scope. In the past 7 years the custom base has been on over 21 guns for accuracy testing and hunting, using Weaver K-3 and K-4 rifle scopes that have long eye relief with adequate power. This base started the current popularity of scope sights on handguns. It has served us well. Maynard doesn't do custom work commercially. He felt sales wouldn't justify tooling up to add it to the excellent Buehler mount line. Maynard and I had used scoped handguns for many years, and we knew the advantages for accuracy testing and pinpoint hits.

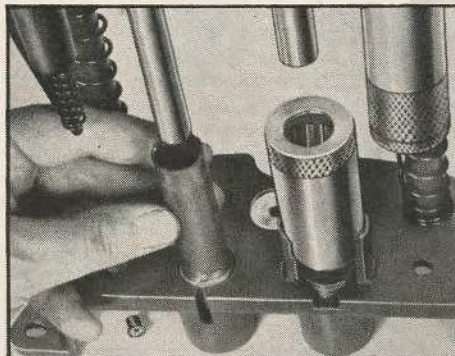
The Buehler handgun mount was too good  
 (Continued on page 14)

# finished shotshells in 4 simple steps!

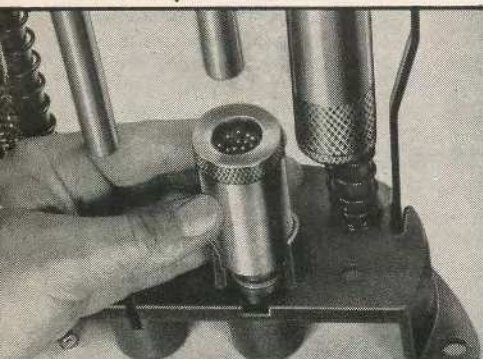
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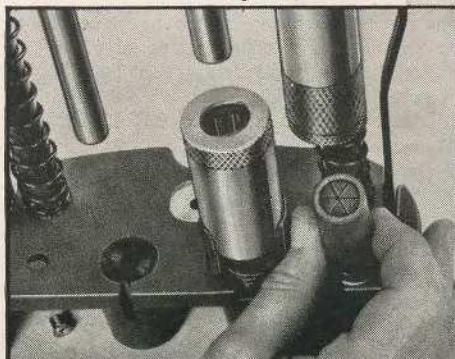
1. Decaps fired shell.



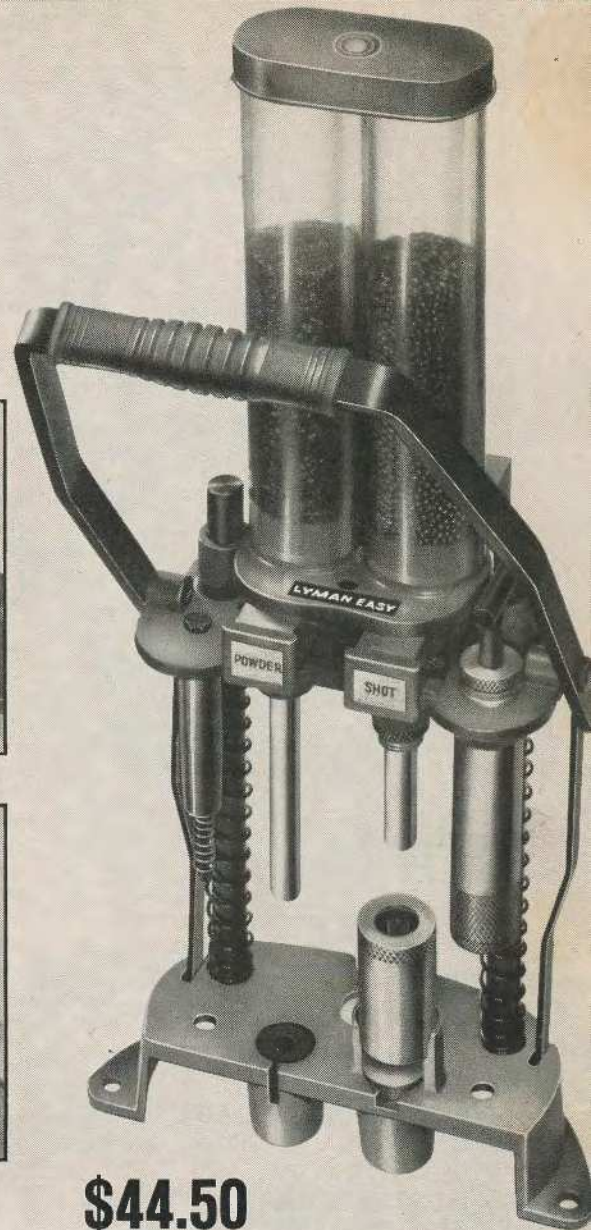
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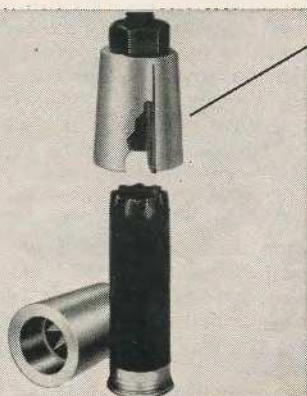
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Send 25¢ for 32 page booklet "Reloading Procedures by C-H", Box 404, El Monte, Calif.



(Continued from page 12)

to keep secret, so I wrote about it. Maynard was swamped with orders he couldn't fill. He quickly toolled up, and added models for most handguns. All Buehler rings fit all Buehler bases. Mounts quickly became popular.

My top Kay-Chuk load is 10.2 gr. 2400 with CCI 550 primers in Remington cases, with a 37 gr. Sisk-Bellah H.P. bullet. Velocity in a 7½" test barrel is 2218 fps at 34,100 psi. In a 6" revolver velocity is 1652 fps. Best load, and the most accurate, is a 40 gr. Speer .223 bullet backed with 9.5 gr. 2400 and the same primers. Revolver velocity is (strange as it seems) 1651 fps. Pressure is down to a decent 28,900 psi, which is highly desirable. With a K-4 Weaver glass, this load gave 3.0" groups at 100 yards. A friend in Kansas got similar groups.

The Kay-Chuk cartridge is more efficient than the Jet. The 9.5 gr. charge gives 64 fps higher velocity than in a Jet. Many owners of .22 Magnum Jet revolvers have excessive case set back and extraction difficulty with factory loads or reloads, and they are most unhappy about it. The trouble can be reduced a bit by having chambers roughed up by a gunsmith who knows what he is doing. It helps to use lighter loads in the case, but efficiency is greatly reduced. Some Jet revolvers, including one of mine, give very little trouble with this load if cases are loaded no more than 3 times, and if RCBS dies are used, with .223 bullets, such as the 40 or 45 gr. Speer.

The Kay-Chuk is a better designed cartridge with the same bullets. Extraction is easier, and accurate loads are not so critical. Jet velocity was advertised at 2460 fps, but factory loads registered only 1806 fps in our 6" revolver. Standard primers give poor accuracy in reloads. Use CCI 550 Magnums.

CCI .22 L.R. "Hyspeed" ammo set some fantastic accuracy records for high velocity fodder. In a 1000 round test it averaged 1.114 MOA at 100 yards. Texas Exhibition Shooter D. L. Cooper used it for all wins one man was allowed in a turkey shoot. He made all nine wins with his Winchester 52 and a Hi-Standard pistol, competing with shooters using match ammunition. Margaret Sutton, a youngster who learned shooting and handloading at my place, used CCI Hyspeed in a Hi-Standard pistol to bag 49 armadillos with 50 shots.

CCI's new .22 L.R. "Target" ammo averaged 1.08 MOA in a 1000 round test. At present, ammo can't be made much better, even in higher priced Match grade. In a Remington 40-X rifle Hyspeed averages 1285 fps. and Target 1145. I believe much of the superb accuracy is due to the CCI bullet design, plus careful loading.

Both types have excellent handgun accuracy. Instrumental velocity in a 5" S&W Model 41 is 1184 fps for Hyspeed, 1124 for Super-X, and 1176 for Remington Hi-Speed. CCI target registers 1036, X-Pert 1054, and Rem. Standard Velocity 1033 fps. CCI velocity is nothing sensational, but the fine accuracy is, especially the Hyspeed. The slightly elongated nose bullet seems to hold velocity better by printing a bit higher at long range for less hold-over. A flatter trajectory is highly desirable. CCI entered the primer field with the intention of producing a superior product. Their success is proof they suc-

ceeded to a high degree. This also applies to their rimfire ammunitions. Sales have been so good they doubt they can keep up with orders in 1964.

Weaver's V-22 scope is continuously variable from 3x to 6x. At \$14.95 with N3, N5, or Tip-Off mount it would be a bargain at twice the price! It's made for .22 and light recoil rifles because of the rather short 2" eye relief, not because it's a delicate instrument. Crosshairs remain constantly centered and constant in size at any power. One half turn of the eyepiece on the ⅞" tube changes magnification from minimum to maximum. We have never seen a scope in this price range that approaches V-22 quality or is so versatile. Weaver scopes have long been proof that really good ones can be made in this country at reasonable prices, with improved features.

B. E. Hodgon, 7710 W. 63rd St., Shawnee Mission, Kansas, has a new greatly enlarged catalog, with 22 pages of reloading data, at \$1.50. The reloading data are good, many loads are new, and some aren't available in any other manual. If your dealer doesn't have the catalog yet, you can order direct.

Conetrol Scope Mounts, Hwy. 183, Sequin, Texas, have a clever split ring design in an excellent mount. The split rings look as smooth as one-piece rings, are made without screws, and do the job well. They also make one-piece rings. Conetrol bases are available with slotted or socket type screws. I recommend the socket type. We like these mounts. If your dealer doesn't stock these, write direct for literature.

Dedicated Colt and Winchester fans are "The Unswitchables." As a cigarette ad says, "They would rather fight than switch." That's why W-W didn't give their new Model 70 a much deserved new name. But dealers have found some chaps who will pay more for a good used old model than a new one.

A dealer told me that he met the same sales resistance when the improved M70 replaced the M54 in 1936. W-W learned a lesson. When they replaced the original 1919 vintage M52 with an improved model in 1937 they retained the 52 name, although the gun was entirely different.

There are some complaints on the new Model 70, mostly on the stock. Some chaps, mostly those who never used one, can't accept the free floating barrel. If you don't like it, glass bed it. It could be better wood, and some shooters would pay a higher price for a better handle. The old one wouldn't win any prize, and many handloaders and tack holers installed a fine custom stock. Like 'em or not, the new models shoot well.

W-W did well to eliminate the coned barrel, using a bolt to enclose the vital case head, plus a bolt sleeve cap. Remington justly praised their 721 and 722 actions with bolts that enclosed the case heads for greater strength. They retained this fine feature on their excellent and greatly improved Model 700, their new low priced 600 carbine, and their super accurate XP-100 .221 Fireball pistol. R-P tells me the XP-100 may be, as I suggested, chambered for popular revolver cartridges if demand justifies it. I trust we get it. Many chaps would appreciate this super accurate pistol to test .38 Special or .357 loads for accuracy with a scope sight in a bolt action gun, that would equal a bolt action test barrel.

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C23-3224. Sporter Deluxe Rifle above with Tasco 1 1/2" 2 1/2-8X 32mm CH Variable power scope installed. . . . . \$109.95



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MILITARY SURPLUS! U. S. SPRINGFIELD M1903-A3 30/06 CAL. MILITARY RIFLE

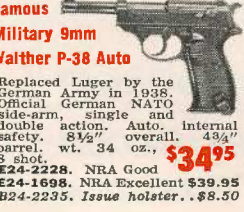
All with high number nickel receiver, milled working parts. Made in Gov't arsenals—not commercially assembled. 5-shot magazine. Adjustable rear peep sight, blade front sight. Great for sporting use. 43 3/4" overall, 8.69 lbs. NRA Excellent condition. Rifle only. \$3978  
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C20-1253. . . . . \$31.78  
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B27-1785. . . . . \$2999  
B27-1786. VARIABLE POWER SCOPE 2 1/2x to 8x. Tasco quality and features same as \$21.99 above. Crosshair reticule. \$17.99  
B27-1724. 2 1/2x or 4x scopes—CROSSHAIR or POST and CROSS-HAIR RETICULE. All the quality features described above plus Fixed Reticule . . . always accurately centered. State choice of reticule. \$17.99  
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E24-1698. NRA Excellent \$39.95  
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E24-2228. NRA Good  
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B24-2235. Drug holster. . \$8.50



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Order # Ga. Chamber Barrel Choke Weight Lgh. Price  
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Table with columns: Order #, Ga., Chamber, Barrel, Choke, Weight, Lgh., Price. Lists various shotgun models and prices.

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Perfect for ducks, geese, fox, etc. Shoots either 2 7/8" high velocity or 3 1/2" magnum shells. 32" full choked barrels. Engraved receiver, double safety underlocks, checkered French Walnut stock, beaver tail forearm, 10 ga. only has double trigger. Auto ejectors. \$12778  
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C23-3226. Rifle with Tasco 1 1/2" 2 1/2-8X 32mm CH Variable power scope installed. . . . . \$89.95  
C23-3227. Sporter Deluxe Rifle only without scope. As described but with 1 1/2" sling swivels and leather military style sling. 16-line hand checkering with border on pistol grip and fore-end. \$69.95  
C23-3228. Sporter Deluxe Rifle above with Tasco 1 1/2" 2 1/2-8X 32mm CH Variable power scope installed . . . . . \$99.95

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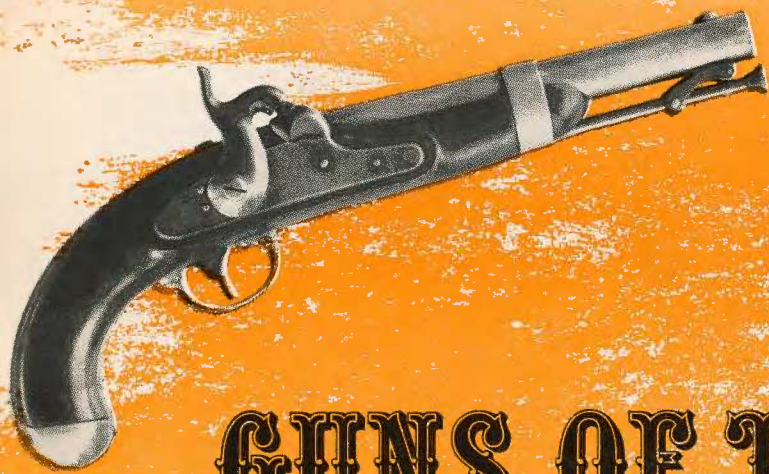
Famous World War II 30/06 caliber semi-auto rifle. 8 shot, 24" brl. 42" overall. Adjustable sight. Exactly as issued with original click type aperture sight adjustable from 200 to 1200 yds. Weights 9 1/2 lbs. Precision welded receiver. In NRA Very Good Condition. \$7799  
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C20-33. M1917 Rifle made by Eddystone. . . . . \$2978  
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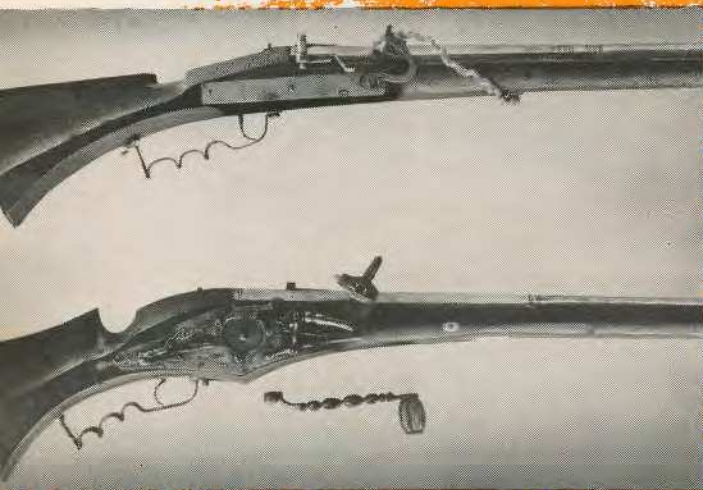
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Tubac, one of oldest settlements, was often raided by the Apaches.

# GUNS OF THE SOUTHWEST FRONTIER

By JAMES E. SERVEN



Coronado's musketeers, entering the SW in 1540, used the arquebus, either as match (top) or as wheellocks.



A Hall breech-loading caplock carbine, a single shot pistol, saber were first arms issued to the Dragoons.



Tower flintlock carbine was used by Mexican soldiers and settlers.



A VIVID ACCOUNT OF THE ARMS THAT SHAPED THE DESTINY OF WHAT IS NOW ARIZONA AND NEW MEXICO



**I**N 1540 A STRANGE SIGHT greeted the Indians of the Southwest. A great cavalcade of warriors came from Mexico. A cloud of desert dust hung over the Spanish expedition of Francisco Vasquez de Coronado as it moved northward. Riders carried a steel-tipped lance, while swords and other hand weapons hung at their side. Some wore highly polished and glittering armor. The footmen carried either a crossbow or European arquebus, sometimes also known as harquebus.

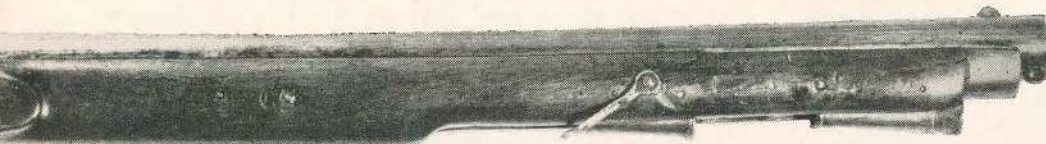
The arquebus was an early form of musket which in 1540 was made in two firing systems. One was the matchlock, earliest form of mechanically operated firearm; it was fired by what was called a "slow match," actually a piece of rope soaked in saltpetre and dried. This match was long burning and was held in the jaws of a curved serpentine. When the serpentine was released, the glowing end of the match swung down to rest in a concave flash pan filled with fine gunpowder. The powder flared and communicated the fire through a vent in the side of the barrel, igniting the main charge and hurling forth the bullet.

Another form of arquebus employed by the Spaniards was the wheellock. This operated on a somewhat similar system of communicating a flash in the pan through a vent in the barrel, but the ignition was generated by a serrated wheel against which pyrites were held. When the spring-activated wheel was released it rotated rapidly against the pyrites, creating sparks, thus causing the necessary powder ignition in the pan. In these rather crude forms, firearms came to the Southwest (New Mexico and Arizona) as early as the year 1540.

In the early 1600s, flintlock firearms came into general use in the old world, and from there to Mexico. The flintlock was an improvement, consisting of a spring-activated cock or hammer striking a steel frizzen to create the igniting sparks. Flintlock muskets and carbines became the standard arms of the colonists and soldiers who came northward to Tubac, Tucson, and Santa Fe; flintlock arms enjoyed a longer period of use throughout the world than any other type of firing mechanism. Many were still in use during the Mexican War of 1846. In 1859 "Northwest" trade muskets, traditionally flintlocks, were offered for sale by White & Granger at Fort Buchanan, and in 1862



The Colt .44 Dragoon Army, the Colt .36 Model 1851 Navy, Colt .44 Model 1860 Army, and Remington's .44 Model 1858 Army pistol were among the most frequently used handguns in the Southwest area.



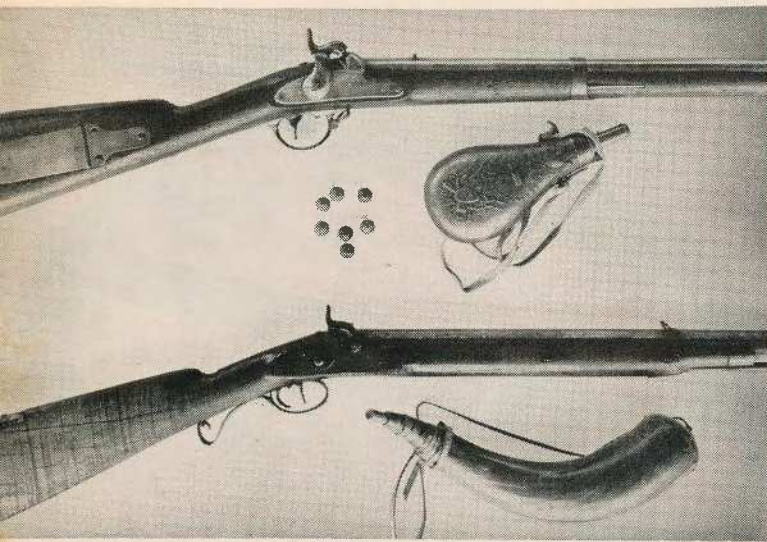
William B. Rhodes engaged in a heroic fight for his life near Tubac, shooting several Apaches, the last of whom was killed by Rhodes as the Apache was reloading a flintlock gun.

After Mexico cast off Spanish rule, arms were purchased from England, mostly obsolete Tower flintlock muskets and carbines. Quite a few of these eventually fell into the hands of the Indians, a few by trade but the majority by theft and murder.

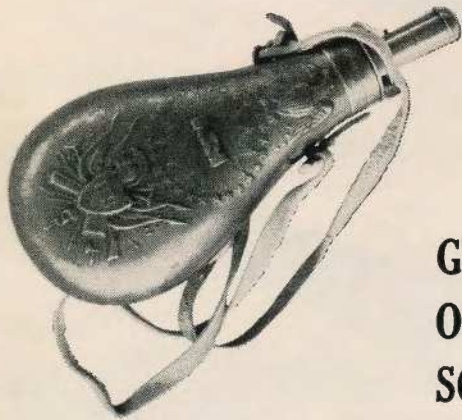
As late as 1864 Charles D. Poston, Indian agent for Arizona Territory, wrote, "The Indians being advised of

our abandoned condition, responded to a request for escort with a bodyguard of ten warriors armed with the London Tower muskets." These were friendly Papago Indians who had doubtless secured their Tower flintlock muskets from Mexican sources.

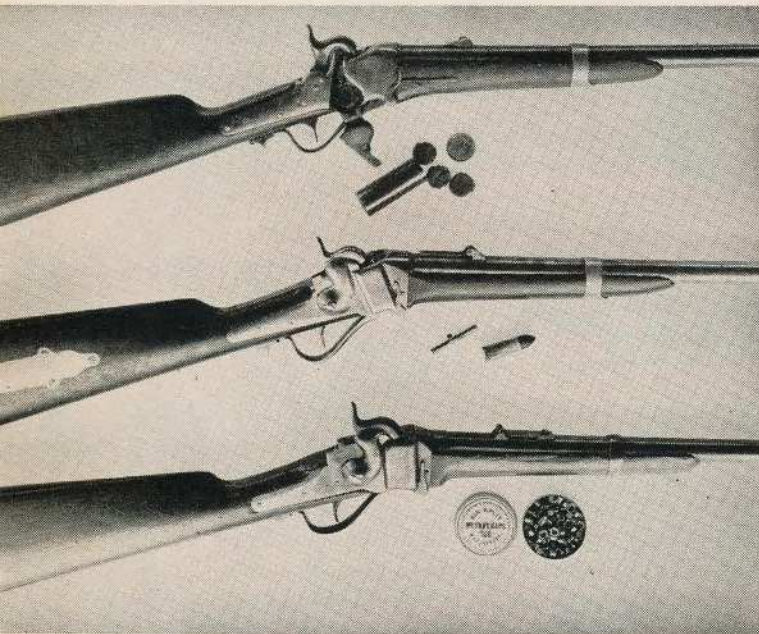
A further reference to early Spanish and Mexican arms is found in Josiah Gregg's "*Commerce of The Prairies.*" Commenting on Mexican armaments of the 1840s he stated, "Most of the regular troops are provided with English muskets which, by the way, they are usually too ignorant to keep in order, but a great portion of the militia are



Two of the greatest caplock rifles were the Model 1841 Mississippi or Yeager rifle (top), and Hawken rifles (below). Both were about .45 caliber and they offered a considerable improvement in firing mechanism for the men who lived in and explored the uncharted country.



## GUNS OF THE SOUTHWEST



Earliest model Sharps (top) uses Maynard tape primers, other two carbines shown use small tube with discs of fulminating copper for ignition. None of these systems worked well, most men relied on standard musket caps.

obliged to use the clumsy old-fashioned escopeta or firelock of the 16th century; while others have nothing but the bow and arrow, and sometimes the lance, which is in fact a weapon very much in use throughout the country."

By American standards, the Spanish-speaking people of the Southwest were poorly armed in the early 1800s, but their weapons had already shaped the course of history. Spanish conquest of the pueblos and villages had been made possible by a superiority in weapons, first demonstrated by Coronado's victories. It had been the stone age versus the age of steel and gunpowder. The propelling force of Indian weapons depended on the arm alone, whereas the roar, flame, smoke, and hot lead of the Spanish guns were doubtlessly terrifying the Indians.

There was a difference, however, between the reactions of the pueblo or village dwelling Indians and that of the nomadic tribes. These nomads, especially the Apaches, were proud, courageous, and ruthless. They could outdistance and evade the Spaniards when pursued and they were destined to raid and kill for many years.

Americans began to move into the Southwest soon after Santa Fe reached stature as a great western trading center. That restless breed of hunters and trappers known as "Mountain Men" led the way by exploring uncharted country north, west, and south of Santa Fe. Sylvester Pattie and his son James reached the Gila River in 1824; others, among many, entering the territory were Jedediah Smith, Felix Aubrey, Ewing Young, Milton Sublette, Joseph Redford Walker, Antoine Leroux, Kit Carson, "Old Bill" Williams, and Paulino Weaver.

By the time the Mountain Men appeared on the western scene, American use of flintlock arms was in a fast decline. All who could obtain a caplock (percussion) gun did so. Josiah Gregg wrote: "Severe winds are prevalent upon the western prairies. It will often blow a gale for days and even weeks together. It is for this reason, as well as on account of rains, that percussion guns are preferable, particularly for those who understand their use."

Among all guns, the caplock rifles made by Jake and Sam Hawken of St. Louis were the favorites of the Mountain Men. Kit Carson's "Hawken" is now owned by the Masonic Lodge in Santa Fe; Jim Bridger's "Hawken" is owned by the Montana Historical Society in Helena; Mariana Modena's "Hawken" is in the Colorado State Museum at Denver; and other historic Hawken rifles are preserved in various museums and private collections. Undeniable records of their wide use are abundant. Thus we had a new kind of weapon introduced into the Southwest—the caplock rifle. It was easier to load, more dependable, and generally more efficient than the flintlock.

The year 1846 brought the first tramp of the United States military boot on Southwest soil. Guided by Kit Carson, his Hawken rifle cradled over his arm, General Stephen W. Kearny led a detachment of Dragoon soldiers across the New Mexico-Arizona mountains and deserts to California. These men were armed with sabers, single shot horse pistols of .54 caliber, and breech-loading Hall caplock carbines. In addition they hauled along, at a high rate of cussing per mile, cumbersome mountain howitzers. This armament was sufficiently formidable that the Spanish Governor of New Mexico at Santa Fe surrendered without firing a shot.

General Kearny's conquest (Continued on page 46)

# STRAIGHT-PULL SNIPER RIFLES

By WILLIAM H. TANTUM

**T**HE FIRST STRAIGHT-PULL, locked breech, bolt-action rifle mechanism was introduced in 1884 by Ferdinand Ritter Von Mannlicher of Austria. Four nations adopted the action, yet today only two of the smaller countries use this type.

Straight-pull rifles are not uncommon, but sniper versions are, and they provide an interesting study for those interested in military firearms. Let's start with the rifle used by our neighbors to the north.

Used by the famous Canadian army snipers of the first war, the Ross rifle, was developed around the turn of the century. The first Model 1905 sniper rifle was manufactured in Quebec, Canada, by the Ross Rifle Company.

The Model 1905, Mark II, the first Ross adopted by the Canadian Army, has solid lugs, locking horizontally. The bolt release is at the extreme left rear of the receiver, in the form of a vertical plunger. The magazine is the Harris-type box, fitted with a small thumbpiece, on the right side of the forearm, which is used to force down the magazine follower and compress the magazine spring for easier loading. The barrel is easily removed by releasing a set screw underneath the receiver, which butts tightly against a recess in the barrel thread for locking.

*(Continued on page 40)*

**STRAIGHT-PULL RIFLES ARE COMMON,  
BUT SNIPER MODELS ARE RARE**



1. Canadian Ross 1905 Mark II with a Warner Swasey 1908 scope. 2. Ross 1910 Mark III with 1913 Warner Swasey scope. 3. Mannlicher Model 1895, 8 mm, with scope bases only. 4. The Schmidt-Rubin Model K31/42, with a 1.8 power scope.



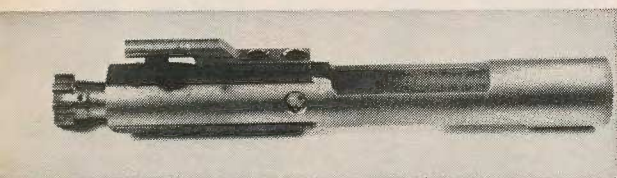


Above: Photo at left shows how the point of a cartridge is used to begin takedown; photo above shows magazine catch. At right is the test gun with the special base and Weaver rings installed, holding a Marble 4X scope. Total weight of the gun, 8 lbs.

Left: Indicator shows bolt release lever. Remington supplied the ammunition for the tests.



Below: Bolt of AR-15. Right: Steindler bench tests Colt's Sako actioned rifle.



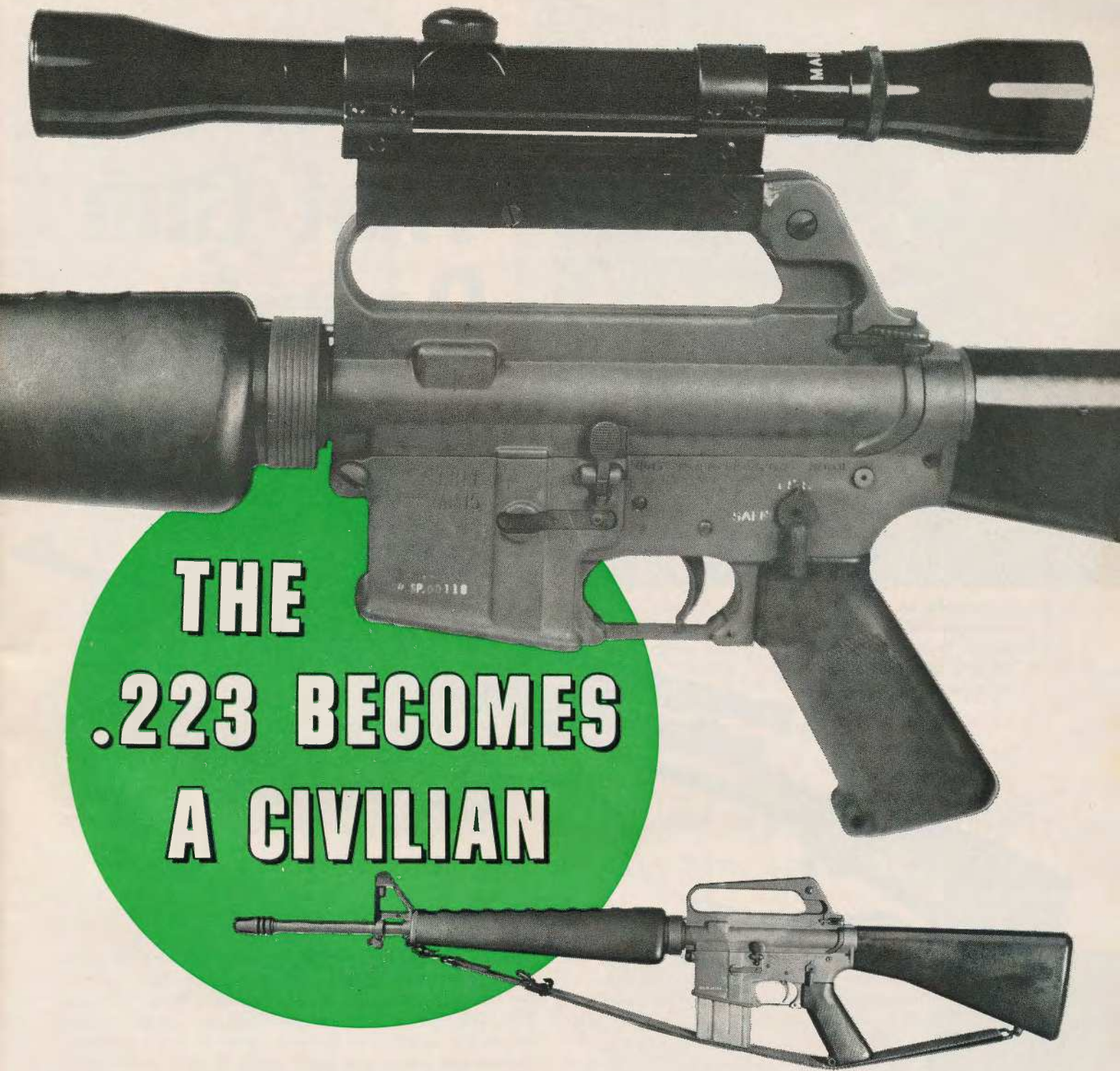
## FIRST SHOOTING TESTS OF COLT'S TWO NEW SPORTING RIFLES—IN .223 CALIBER

By R. A. STEINDLER

**D**URING THE LAST week of October of last year, I visited the Colt plant to get the low-down on the AR-15, then recently renamed by the military and hence designated as the M 16. Because of security reasons, the Pentagon did not permit clearance of some of the ballistics information that had filtered out from the Viet Nam battle areas where the AR-15 had acquired a considerable reputation. Certain facts were later officially released, were incorporated in my article "The Truth About the M 14" (GUNS, March 1964). At the time of my visit, Colt officials hinted that, sooner or later, they would have the .223 cartridge (also known in military circles as the 5.56 mm cartridge) in a sporter model. In January of this year

Tom Turner, of Colt's public relations department, called me to sound me out about a new gun Colt's had in the hopper—a civilian version of the AR-15 that would fire semi-auto.

When I expressed interest, Tom put my name down for a test rifle, and after some pleading, I was given assurance that their absolute latest—a Sako Deluxe rifle also chambered for the .223, would arrive at the same time. It did, and I had a ball with the guns. Ted McCawley of Remington came through handsomely with plenty of test ammo, and after function firing the AR-15, I took the gun to our staff gunsmith Paul Haberly. "Paul," I told him, "mount a scope on this AR-15 Sporter." Because of the carrying handle that



# THE .223 BECOMES A CIVILIAN

also acts as protection for the military peep sight that is being retained on the Sporter, several prototype mounts were made, and Paul finally milled a mount that would accommodate a Weaver base, yet allow continued use of the peep sight.

The Sako sporter is along the standard Sako lines—with but one exception. Scope mounting is not accomplished with the usual grooved mount, but the action is drilled and tapped. The Weaver #68 mounts fit fore and aft, and using a 4X Browning scope in Weaver mounts completed this rig. The box magazine of the Coltsman holds three cartridges, and with one in the chamber, the gun becomes a four shot rifle. Finish and bluing is of the highest quality, and rather

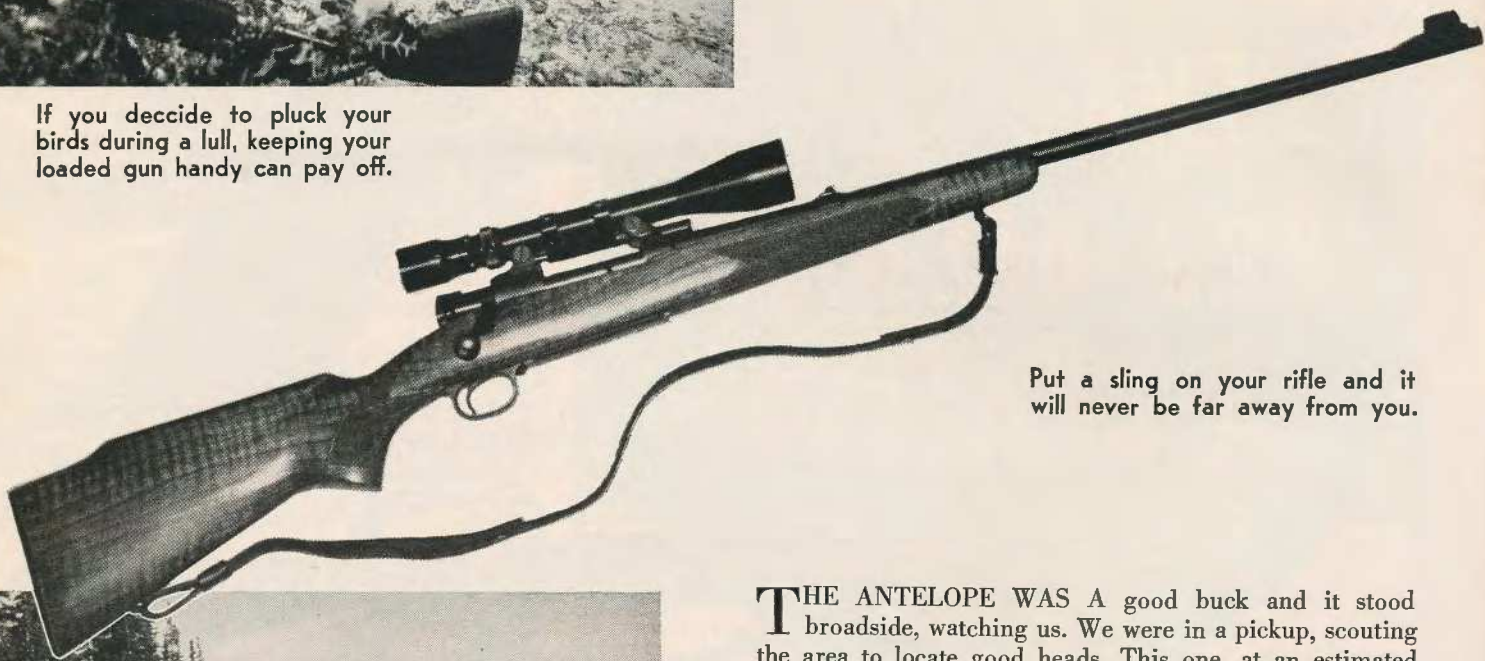
surprising was the heavy recoil pad since recoil of the .223 is minimal. The trigger pull, which is adjustable, was checked repeatedly; the trigger broke cleanly at 2.5 lbs. without creep or backlash; hooded front ramp sight and the folding leaf rear sight, graduated for 100. and 200 yard are standard. Scoped but without ammo, the Coltsman weighed 7.5 lbs., and the gun comes with sling swivels, but without sling. The safety indicator and the safety performed satisfactorily, and I had a ball shooting the Coltsman. Repeated 100 yard groups were fired with the Remington factory ammo, and six out of seven groups averaged 0.875 inches, center to center, five shot groups. For a factory gun, (Continued on page 64)



If you decide to pluck your birds during a lull, keeping your loaded gun handy can pay off.

# Never Lay That Gun Down!

By BYRON DALRYMPLE



Put a sling on your rifle and it will never be far away from you.

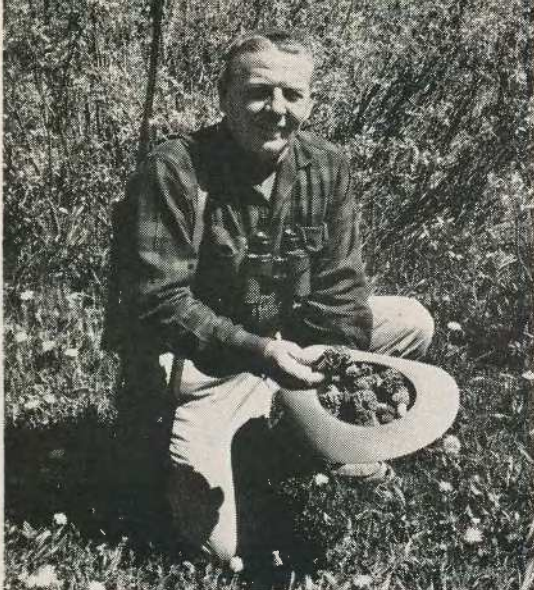


Author's scabbard-bound rifle is yards away when he spots game—fast run for gun will spook buck.

**T**HE ANTELOPE WAS A good buck and it stood broadside, watching us. We were in a pickup, scouting the area to locate good heads. This one, at an estimated 200 yards, looked all right. My hunting partner stepped out of the truck, got his gun, shucked in a cartridge. There was a woven-wire fence beside us. The buck was on the other side. It was only a couple of steps to the fence, and the shooter took the chance of spooking the antelope in order to get a good rest.

When the rifle boomed the buck folded. We thought that the hunt had ended, but it had only just begun. Here is the action that followed: shooter turns, grins, accepts congratulations; shooter unloads spare cartridges from rifle, places rifle back in pickup; shooter states that he wants to pace off distance, and climbs the fence; I, with telephoto camera, go with him; driver of pickup will go down fence to nearest gate, drive back and pick up the buck, which he hopes we'll have gutted by the time he gets there. Of course he won't hurry.

We didn't. In fact, that buck didn't get gutted until quite some time later. My cohort was counting paces



On spring bear hunt, author carried gun while picking mushrooms. Guide laughed, but meeting bear in brush is not funny. Smart hunter carries rifle as he walks up to "dead" deer, and leaving gun behind when taking a look at other side of the mountain can cost you a shot.



## HUNTING OPPORTUNITY FIND YOU RACING FOR THE GUN YOU LEFT BEHIND

quietly as we strode across the intervening distance to the downed animal when I saw it get up.

"Hey," I said, "look there!"

He looked. He waved his arms wildly. "Shoot it!" he barked. "Don't let it just run off!"

"With what? This?" I raised the camera and did shoot a picture of the buck, which now, with head low, began walking away.

We ran. The buck perked up a bit, started to trot. Then it, too, began to run. We yelled back at the moving pickup. He could not hear us. The buck disappeared over a rise.

I remembered thinking that had I been doing the shooting, I'd have taken my rifle with me when I started pacing. It is just a habit, one I got the hard way, long ago.

I have a kind of phobia about keeping my gun with me when I'm hunting. If I am riding in a vehicle and get out to examine a track or other sign, or to glass a piece of country, I sling my gun over my shoulder. If I am on a horse and get down, I pull the gun from its scabbard and drape it over my shoulder.

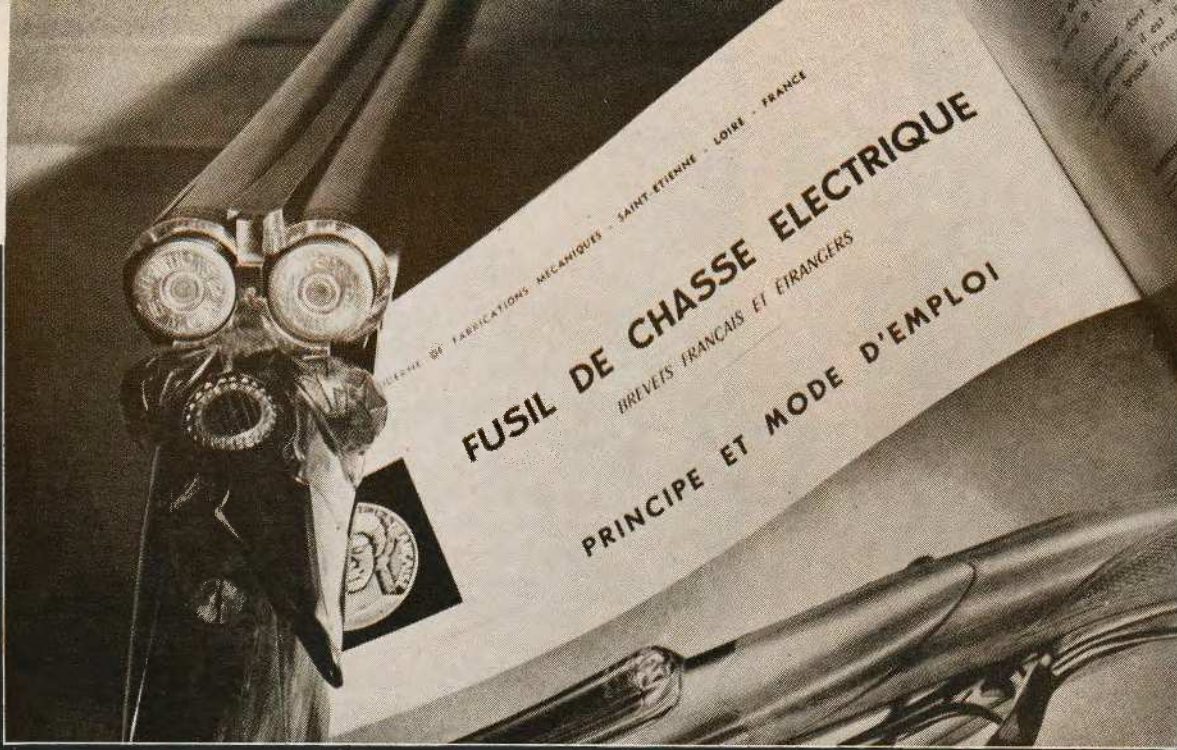
We doped out what had happened. The fancy long-range

neck shot had probably creased the back of the animal's head. It had drawn a bit of blood, knocked the critter unconscious. Injury may well have been serious, but not instantly lethal. As soon as the pickup got there, we began to trail the buck. Sure enough, not far over the ridge we came upon it lying down. As the vehicle approached, he got up, staggered a little, then larruped over the next rise.

We fooled along after that buck, trying for a shot, but lost him twice. At last we saw it duck over a knoll and into a shallow coulee. There we lost it again. We searched the area, finally got down at the point where the animal had last been seen. Fortunately, we found its track right away. We also spotted the animal, stone dead, a short distance out among sage brushes on the nearby flat.

This was the price three hunters paid because one man failed to take his gun with him.

I'm sure most hunters have heard the tales about the gent who laid his rifle across the antlers of the big deer he shot, posed beside it to have his picture taken, only to have the deer leap up and run off with his gun. This story is so pat, and has been repeated in so *(Continued on page 38)*



Dry cell battery in the buttstock provides power for shell ignition.



Presenting—

# *The Ruby* **ELECTRIC** Shotgun

HERE IS A NEW CONCEPT IN SPORTING SHOTGUNS—

WITH AN ELECTRIC IGNITION SYSTEM THAT IS AS MODERN AS TOMORROW



By WILLIAM B. EDWARDS

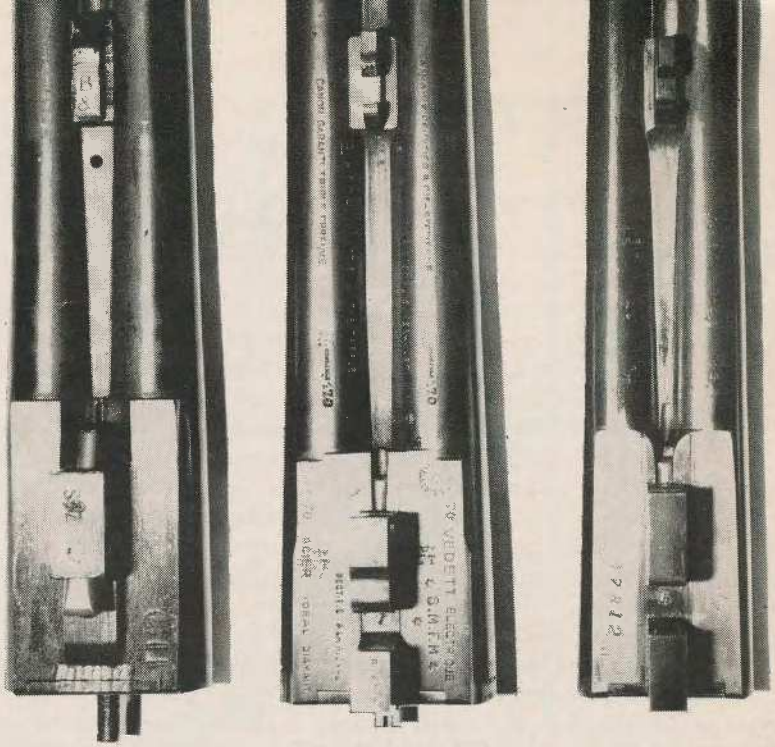
**B**ANG!, BANG! These two words may seem too trite to open a story about the world's most unusual shotgun. But they represent two Blue Rocks that shattered instantly before me in a fair double at skeet. Two hits that occurred as quickly and as simply as if I had merely willed them. The gun I was using was unique among the world's wildfowlers. Made by an old and respected gunmaker in St. Etienne, the "New Haven" of France, it is the world's only sporting arm to discharge its shots by the action of electric current inflaming the primer.

Culmination of a 100-year old dream among scientific gunsmiths, the electric shotgun is not new in principle. The remarkable Mr. Greener who, 100 years ago, was writing about such a wide variety of new ideas that one is amazed anything has been left for the intervening century to patent, said:

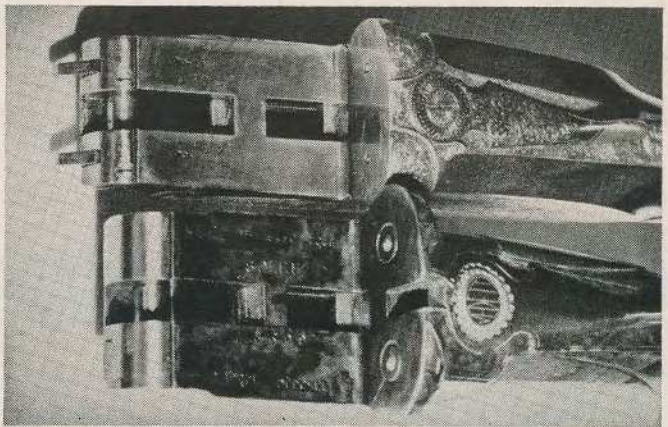
"Another fond delusion of ours, generated doubtless by the Edison electric-light bubble, was to fire the ordinary breech loading cartridge by electricity, generated in the stock of the gun. By a chance, however, we discovered that even that idea was not original . . . . Publicity was given, in 1867, to this ideal conception, destined probably to be the gun of the far future . . . . A French Baron is said to have made models of (electric) guns . . . ."

The future of which Greener wrote, is now here. Under the label Rouby-Montuclard, the Societe Moderne de Fabrications Mecaniques, 56 Rue Tarentaize, St. Etienne, now fabricates the "Fusil de Chasse Electrique," the Electric Hunting Gun. Patented in France and other countries, the Fusil Electrique has practical construction details that set it a century forward of the old French Baron's "Fusil Ideal," as the old gun was itself 100 years ahead of its time.

Rouby's "Electrique" is a gem of a gun, by any standards. External details of fit and finish are



Above: Barrels from Rouby between conventional sets. Below: Conventional action (top) and a Rouby action.



Author places workmanship of Rouby, center, between that of his fine H&H 28 ga. and Savage 12 ga. Fox Model B-ST.



# ELECTRIC

astonishingly good. In comparing it with my own battery of smoothbores, I placed it midway between my light, elegant, and enormously more costly Holland & Holland 28 gauge, and a good, sturdy modern Fox 12 gauge made by Savage. The "Rouby" is a top lever double, with 28" barrels and standard 2¾" chambers. The barrels are choked left, half-choke right; three shots from each barrel at 20 yards figured out to approximately full choke and simple modified, using No. 7 shot calibrated in the Paris measurements, 2.50 mm diameter. The standing breech is nicely chiseled in lighting stroke designs; the standard diameter hinge pin is lightly engraved.

The Anson & Deeley-shaped action body is plain, well polished, and case-hardened in smoky colors. The stock is fine walnut, with a smooth rubbed varnish or laquer finish. The barrels are very well polished outside, not a ripple in them, the insides shine brilliantly. Checkering was neatly and carefully done, with no over-run borders. If there be a defect to the stocking, it lies with the small forearm. Not skimpy even by American standards, it is still the normal small stick

of wood and not the full beavertail forearm that most U.S. shooters prefer.

When you "break" the Rouby, you sense at once there is something different. There is no top strap safety to twitch back and forth, yet the Rouby is more safe than any mechanical gun I know of. The barrels fall away effortlessly, without the pry-bar force so often required to cock a pair of ordinary side or box lock hammers. There are two triggers, as at present there must be because of the design. But when you touch the triggers, they move away from finger pressure with a resistance of under 3 pounds each, but without mechanical delay, build-up to a left-off point, backlash, or disengagement. The trigger pull is non-existent; you just grasp the small of the stock correctly, with the fingers curled around to lift up the safety lever, which lies to the rear of the trigger guard. When you touch the triggers, the explosions are instantaneous, and you can sense this at once.

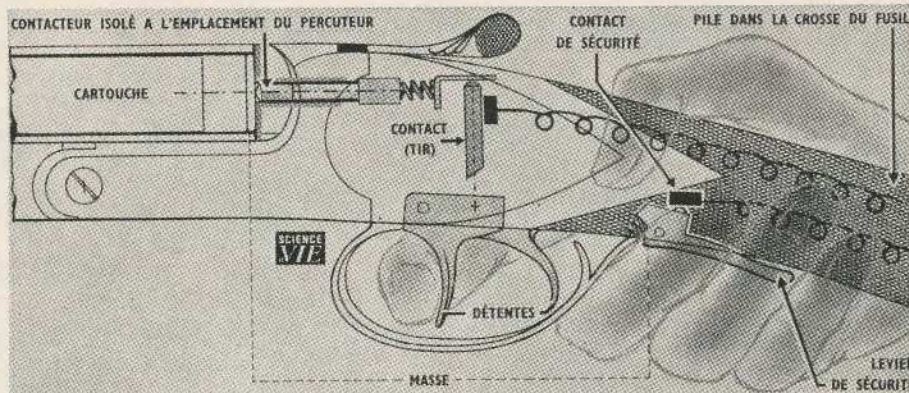
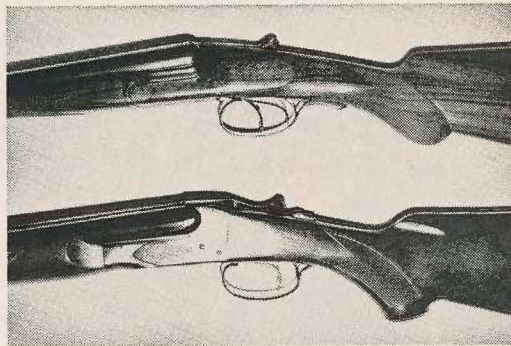
Two kinds of cartridges fit the Rouby Electrique. Regular ammunition looks just like any ordinary paper and brass shotshell, with a very neat roll crimp, reloadable battery cup cases. The smooth red shell is imprinted with the lightning flash trade mark and "Munition Electrique." Top wads bear shot

size numbers. The 5/8" thick center wad is solid cork, wrapped in paper, topped with thin "over powder" type wads printed with the gauge and the name, (in a circle) BOURRE GABEL—EXPRESS BTE S.G.D.C. Powder is a fine, irregular granule looking like crushed yellowish sandstone. The powder chamber in the shell is given unusual strength by a thin steel liner, instead of the usual pasteboard: the base cup does not appear to be the triple metal (copper-steel-copper) laminate popular in European ammunition manufacture, but good, honest brass.

Most unusual, yet most unremarkable looking, is the electric primer. Only on close inspection can one see the primer center is a solid plug of brass, surrounded by an insulating material, in the battery cup. Inside, the plug apparently works like a spark plug and jumps to any part of the battery cup "ground" to which the resistance is least. Filling the cup area is the priming compound; chemical composition unknown.

The breech frame or body for the Electrique is stronger than that of any other hinged gun made. Instead of being hollowed out to receive dozens of flipping parts, it is reduced only enough to make the weight normal. All the metal is distributed in making the action body strong, instead of being used for moving functional parts which, necessary in the old-fashioned firing pin guns, do not add to the strength. Breakage at either the back angle of the frame where the flat joins the standing breech, or failures and wear on the front where the hinge pin passes through, are unknown with the Electrique. For this reason, Rouby-Montuclard guarantees their guns unconditionally against defects in materials and workmanship for five years from date of purchase. The barrels are of Pyro steel, guaranteed rustless. The proof certificate accompanying my gun showed it had been proved in a finished state, 900 kgms/cm<sup>2</sup> with "T" powder, and bore the St. Etienne proof mark a Three Point Crown over PT.

The buttstock hides the secret of the gun, a 4½ volt "Pile Wonder" dry-cell. A flat job, measuring about 4" square, this battery cannot be exactly duplicated in the U.S. from Burgess or Eveready lists. Over about six months, the Pile Wonder lost its poop. To finish off the last round of shells, I obtained an Eveready No. 751 battery "for (Continued on page 45)



The Rouby Electrique uses special shotshells, and the one on the right is the "Lance-Spot" cartridge for dry firing. Rouby and Savage-Fox lines are compared in next picture, functioning of the Rouby is explained in drawing.

# A REMINGTON RIFLE COMES HOME...



## THE REMINGTON MUSEUM ACQUIRES A GUN MADE BY THE FIRM'S FOUNDER

By JOHN BROZ

**I**T IS NOT UNUSUAL for modern firearms companies to display the first gun produced by the founder. For some, this is a simple matter. For others, like Remington Arms Co., whose history dates back to 1816, this is not a simple thing.

However, a muzzle loading rifle, which may be among one of the earliest made by Eliphalet Remington for his neighbors, is now on display in the historic collection of Remington firearms at the company's museum in Ilion, New York. According to documents signed by George O. Pontious, a descendent of the original owner, the rifle was made in the year 1816, and has been in the family for some four generations. After extensive tracing through court records, it has been possible to verify the genealogy of the

Pontious family who later settled in Coloma, California, during the gold rush of 1848.

A well preserved old leather pouch, claimed to have been made from the hide of the first buffalo killed with this rifle is on display with the rifle. Both items were acquired from Mr. Robert I. Howard, Executive Secretary of the Medical Society of Virginia, and an avid collector of historical firearms, who has owned them for a number of years. Because of their historical importance, Mr. Howard has long felt that the gun and pouch should be part of the Remington collection. The following excerpt from a letter written in 1925 by George O. Pontious, a great-grandson of the original owner, gives some of

*(Continued on page 51)*



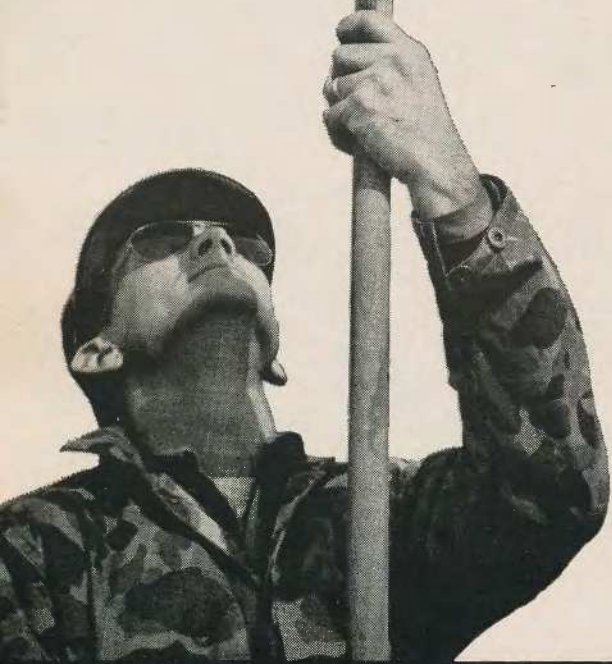


A directional loud-speaker, hooked to one of these portable record players, carries the sound of the call for great distances.



**THE CRAFTY CROW IS MEETING HIS MATCH  
IN THE HUNTERS USING THE  
NEW ELECTRONIC GAME CALLS THAT FILL THE AIR WITH ...**

# CAWS IN



This is a perfect set-up for successful crow hunting. The owl is strategically placed in a clear opening, the hi-fi set is sending out its luring calls, and the hunter is ready for fast shooting.

**T**HERE'S AN OLD SAYING that goes: "If men wore feathers, few would be smart enough to be crows."

How, then, did a couple of Texas gunners manage to pull the trigger on some 11,000 of the crafty black birds in less than a year? Dr. John R. Phillips, of Houston, outwitted 7,000, sealing each decision with a load of No. 9's from a 20 gauge; H. C. White, of Dibol, killed 4,000 of the black robbers in eight months.

It's not that crows have lost their fabled sagacity nor that Phillips and White improved their own smartness appreciably. It's just that the miracle of electronics has gone far toward nullifying the difference in intellect between *Homo sapiens* and *Corvus brachyrhynchos*.

Throughout decades of effort to cope with crow depredation, particularly on crops, duck eggs, and ducklings, hunters have found the Achilles heel of the crow to be his bullying, aggressive nature. His raucous, snarling fight call is well known, frequently sounded as the crow circles and harasses a hawk or owl. Because that call is an invitation for any brethren within hearing distance to come join the scrap, hunters duplicate the invitation on mouth-blown calls with considerable success.

A Mr. Perry E. Wightman, however, went a step farther. Planting microphones in the midst of a great concentration of crows, they recorded the frenzied fight

calls of thousands. The record went on the market, under the title of "Actual Recording of Live Crows."

Such a record was useless to the hunter without a portable player, and Wightman Electronics, Box 989, Easton Md., was formed which produced a record player named "Call of the Wild." Originally distributed by the Animal Trap Company of America, the record player has been transistorized, and is now handled solely by Wightman.

There are advantages to the electronic caller over mouth-blown calls, the recorded calls are authentic and have fidelity. Calling is continuous throughout the shooting, with none of the pauses that are often fatal to high kill rates. The shooter can be ready and waiting when the birds come in, without having to drop his call and grab his shotgun. And then there is the great range at your disposal. If the birds are farther away, just point the directional speaker toward them and turn up the volume.

The recorded calls are tremendously effective. In roost shooting, crows will continue to come to the guns as long as fresh birds arrive in the vicinity of the roost, and kills of 300 to 500 in an hour or two are not unusual.

In the spring and summer, the stop-and-go method of shooting is best, making a stand every mile or so along back roads. Crows will frequently dive down through the trees to within 20 or 30 feet of (Continued on page 59)

# HI-FI . . .

By GRITS GRESHAM



Heading into the river bottoms, the hunters are loaded down with hi-fi, guns, and shells. As his son starts the record player, H. C. White watches for the first incomers, and gets the first shot.



Above. Author's favorite stock finish, used in this article. Left: When final finish coat is completely dry, buffing it with flannel cloth brings out luster, stock is waterproof.

**If a change in the weather has caused your stock to warp—**

# HOW TO Waterproof Your Stocks

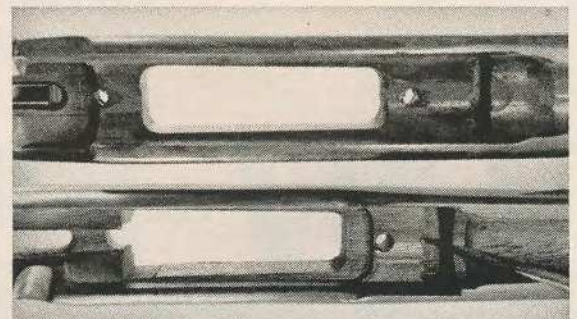
By WILLIAM SCHUMAKER

A MILITARY SPRINGFIELD rifle stock, soaked with both linseed oil and water, cost me the biggest grizzly bear I've ever seen. The whole sad tale was published in *GUNS Magazine*, December, 1962, but to make a long story short, I discovered that my .35 Improved Whelen gave a ten inch vertical variation between a dried out and a wet stock.

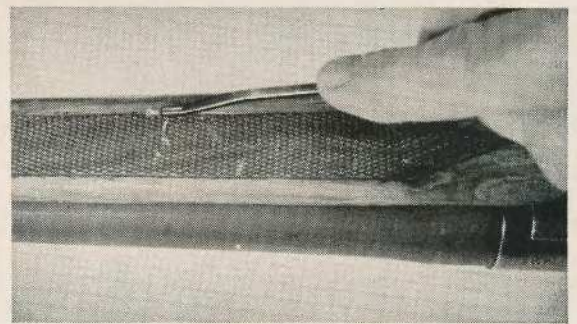
It was then that I decided to build a truly waterproof stock for it. The goal was to come up with a treatment that would control wood warpage, expansion, and shrinkage to the greatest possible extent—thus retaining zero in both dry and rainy weather.

Since every change in pressure, against either the barrel or action, can produce a sighting-in change, and since moisture is the leader of the little demons that cause wood expansion, the first requirement was to start with wood having the lowest possible moisture content, and then to treat not only the outside, but the inside of the stock as well, with the most waterproof stock finish obtainable.

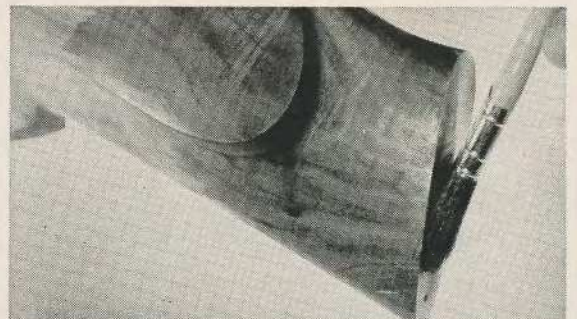
Gunstock finishing has been done with a vast assortment of oils, pastes, and lacquers—down to even grease and heat scorching—but the genuine purposes of a stock finish have sometimes been completely overlooked; these are waterproofing and wood protection.



Factory stocks with poor waterproofing  
Top, uneven filler; bottom, open pores.



Removing old finish from checkering is done with single line checkering tool.



Several coats of finish are required to seal open end grain of the butt stock.

On gun stocks, beauty is a highly desired, yet actually a secondary factor—but with proper finishing you can have beauty and protection.

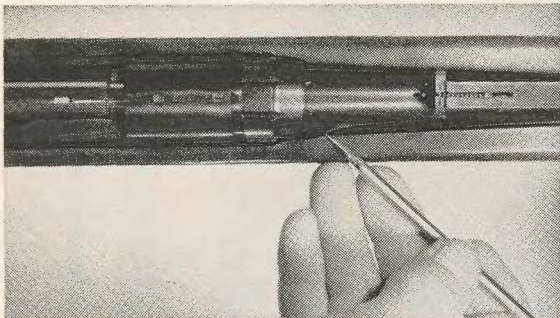
Rugged durability is still another desirable feature, and as a gunsmith, I have occasion to see and deal with the worst cases of firearms neglect. For the chaps who use stocks for walking sticks and to beat shrubbery out of their paths, there is little hope of selecting a cure-all stock finish. But finish should be as durable as possible, resist scratches, the liquid elements, a little bumping, be impervious to oils, and stand up under normal wear.

Admittedly, there is no positive solution to 100 per cent control of wood shifting, but the resin base, plastic, or semi-plastic finishes are far superior to the various oils or boiled lin-

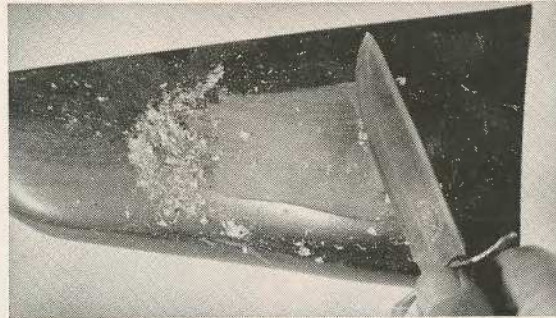
seed oil formulas. For me, linseed oil always remained a bit tacky, and after a week afield during a rainy autumn, the grain was partly raised, the finish smudged, and the wood was anything but waterproof. It didn't seem to matter who boiled it or whose magic touch it bore.

There are numerous good wood sealing finishes on the market and it is impossible to extol the merits of one above the others. But after shelling out a few bucks for a bottle of about everything advertised, and many that weren't. I settled on a resin base concoction originally made up by George Mayer of Miami, Oklahoma. It is known as Mayer's New Wonder Finish, and is marketed by the 45 Ranch Enterprises, (*Continued on page 49*)

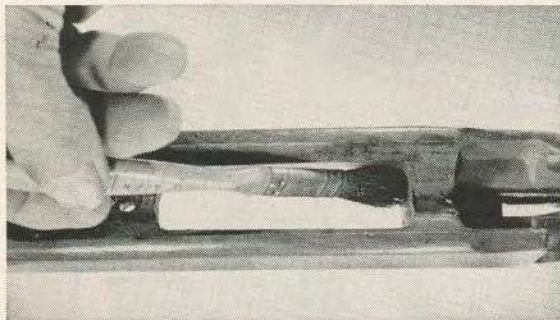
## here's a workshop project made to order for you



Inletting gaps permit entry of snow or rain that will warp an untreated stock.



A sharp, sturdy knife works well in removing old finish in preparation for first sanding.



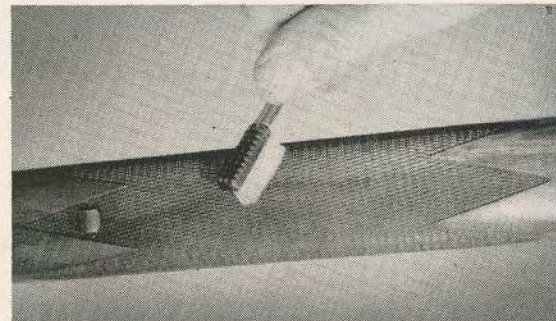
Two coats of finish applied to the inner surfaces, will help repel most moisture.



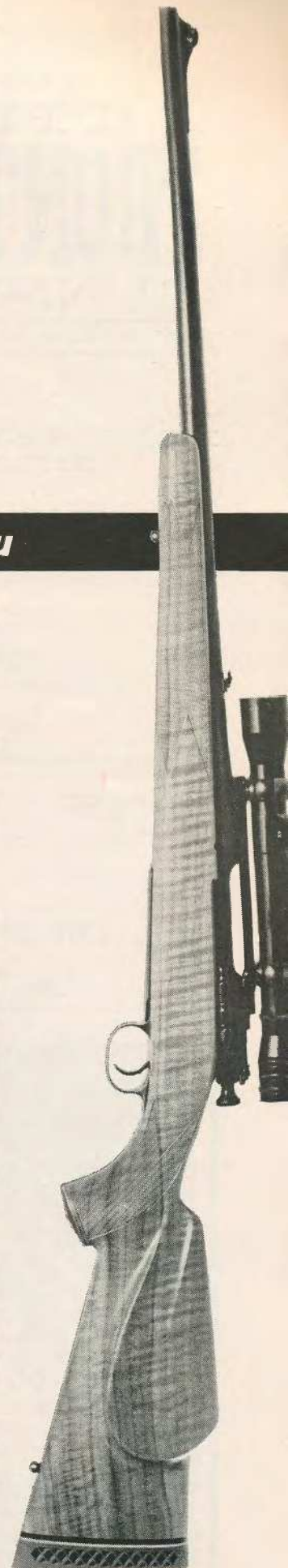
Surface under the grip cap also has open end grain, and it should be thoroughly protected.



Polishing compound is put on cloth, and permitted to dry a bit before applying.



Brushing excess finish from checkering helps keep patterns sharp and professional looking.





# THE FRONTIER GUNSHOP

BY JAMES M. TRIGGS

PIONEER AMERICAN RIFLES:

FORERUNNER OF THE "Gun That Won the West" was the model 1866 Winchester Repeating Rifle, manufactured by the newly formed Winchester Repeating Arms Co. of New Haven, Connecticut. Based on the King patent and an improvement on the Henry rifle which had been manufactured by its predecessor, The New Haven Arms Co., the 1866 was the first gun to bear the name Winchester.

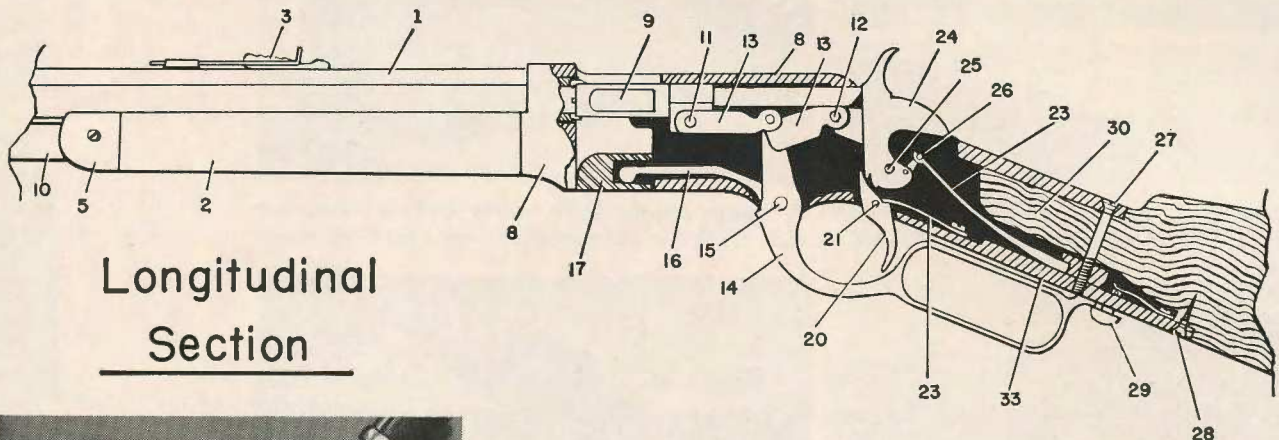
The brass-frame model 1866 was chambered for the .44 rim-fire cartridge. A number of variations in barrel length, style, and mechanism are to be found, but the chief models produced were sporting rifles, carbines, and a musket version which never achieved widespread use as a military weapon.

In 1873, the brass-frame design of the model 66 gave way to a stronger and more dependable action, chambered for the .44 W.C.F. cartridge—model 1873.

Disassembly of both the 1866 and 1873 Winchesters (and many subsequent models) is substantially the same with but few minor differences. To disassemble the model 1866, proceed as follows: To remove magazine assembly (10), remove plug screw and plug at front of tube and withdraw magazine spring and follower. Drift out magazine rig pin under forward part of barrel and slide magazine tube out of receiver and fore-end to front. Unscrew fore-end tip screws and slide fore-end tip (5) forward to permit removal of fore-end (2). Unscrew upper and lower tang screws (27, 28) and pull buttstock (30) off receiver tangs to the rear.

Remove sideplate screws and sideplates from each side of receiver (8). Lift out link assemblies (13) from each side of receiver. Drive out front link pin (11). Cock hammer (24) and draw breech pin (9) out of receiver to rear, allowing firing pin retractor to drop out of breech pin inside receiver. Remove finger lever spring screw and carrier lever spring screw from each side of receiver floor and drop out springs. With hammer down, remove finger lever screw (15). Pull finger lever (14) down out bottom of receiver and remove carrier lever (16). Drop carrier block (17) out bottom of receiver. Loosen mainspring strain screw (33) and disengage top of mainspring (23) from hammer stirrup (26). Remove spring. Remove hammer screw (25) and lift hammer (24) out of receiver. Reassemble in reverse order.

## Winchester Model 1866 Rifle



Longitudinal Section



### PARTS LIST

- |                                   |  |   |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| 1. Barrel                         | 12. Rear link pin                        | 25. Hammer screw                                    |
| 2. Fore-end                       | 13. Link assembly (2)<br>—right and left | 26. Hammer stirrup                                  |
| 3. Rear sight assembly            | 14. Finger lever                         | 27. Upper tang screw                                |
| 4. Front sight (not shown)        | 15. Finger lever screw                   | 28. Lower tang screw                                |
| 5. Fore-end tip                   | 16. Carrier lever                        | 29. Finger lever catch assembly with spring & screw |
| 6. Fore-end tip screws (2)        | 17. Carrier block                        | 30. Stock with buttplate assembly and screws        |
| 7. Fore-end tip tenon (not shown) | 18. Carrier block spring & screw         | 31. Side plates (left and right)                    |
| 8. Receiver                       | 19. Finger lever spring & screw          | 32. Spring cover and screw                          |
| 9. Breech pin assembly            | 20. Trigger                              | 33. Mainspring strain screw                         |
| 10. Magazine assembly             | 21. Trigger pin                          |   |
| 11. Front link pin                | 22. Trigger spring & screw               |   |
|                                   | 23. Mainspring                           |   |
|                                   | 24. Hammer                               |   |

The 1866 carbine shown here is decorated in typical Indian fashion, adorned with beaded fore-end, feathers, and brass-studded stock.





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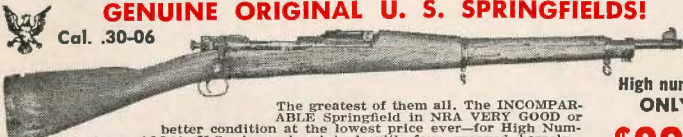
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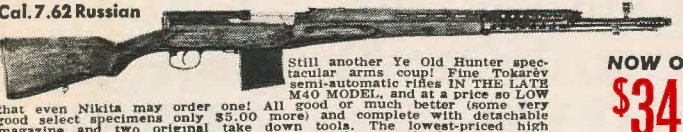
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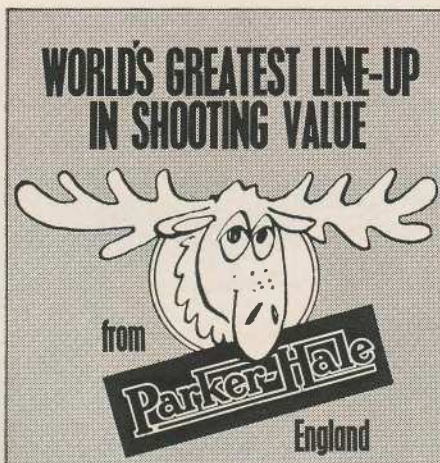
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**T**HE 1964 SOUTHERN ZONE trapshoot had everything—lots of color, tense shoot-offs, youth versus age, All-American competitors, husband-wife victories, brother-brother victories, old pros, new shooters—in other words, a writer's dream.

First of all, the shoot was held over the fine facilities of the Memphis, Tennessee, Gun Club. The story of the Memphis Gun Club as a trap club, and now as host to the important Southern Zone is one of change from skeet to trap as the predominant interest, and overcoming of what seemed insurmountable odds to become one of the South's, and the nation's, finest gun clubs. This story is one of the never-say-die spirit of two men, Harry Williams and Jack Wright. Harry Williams not only can claim his share of credit for bringing the Memphis Gun Club to its present state of affluence, but covered himself with glory in the 1964 Southern Zone.

He began with a win on opening Class Day, with the AA trophy for his 198x200, then took the Southern Zone singles titles the next day, turning back the great Kevin Onka, A. J. Levy, and ATA veep Dwight Brown in a shoot-off. Sunday, he ground out 99 x 100 from the 24 yard stripe, only to lose the shoot-off to 16 year old Frank Watts of suburban Whitehaven, who amazed the crowd with his poise under pressure, and who had begun shooting only the previous September.

When all the firing was done, Williams had won open high-over-all, open high-all-around, open handicap champion, plus his class, zone, and handicap trophies. That's a good week's work for any shooter! Wife Frances chipped in with a top performance, in besting All-American Women's Team captain Punkin Flock for the women's zone doubles trophy. Another of the Southern Zone's color stories was the return to the trap wars after a seven-year lay-off by the inimitable Phil Miller, and he's as sharp as ever, despite the seven-year sabbatical! Thursday morning he broke the first 100, then dropped three on the first afternoon trap, settled down, broke the rest, and posted 197 x 200, good for the Class A trophy.

This was the first time Phil had shot at a Memphis Gun Club in 40 years. In 1924, Phil showed up at the old Memphis Gun Club, which preceded the present club, and finished a run of 561 straight targets for a then new world record. Forty years later, he added another 100 straight targets in his first outing. And this at age 72!

Another shining light in the Southern Zone was Lieutenant Bill Morris from Fort Benning, who took Zone high-over-all with 680

x 700, and Zone high-all-around with 390 x 400. Lieutenant Morris is a member of the 1964 Olympic Trapshooting Team, and his performance at Memphis augurs well for Uncle Sam's chances in the Olympics.

Another Memphian, Pete Turner, covered himself with glory in the Zone. He was high gun in class singles, tied the greatest doubles shooter of them all, Mercer Tenille, in the doubles event both breaking 99 x 100. Sara Bourgeois, from Jackson, Mississippi, whose fine shooting in 1964 was touched upon in last month's PULL column, was open Class D doubles winner on class day.

Two brothers won open class trophies in the singles division. Mike Coleman, from Memphis won Class C after a shoot-off, and his brother, Rip Coleman Jr. won Class D uncontested.

James Driscoll of Chester Springs (Pa.) was an event winner at Roxborough Gun Club, with the perfect century at 16 yards. Mrs. Lewis Wolf topped the ladies in the same program with 97 x 100. A. W. Snyder was one target off the pace for runner-up Frank Barnett topped Charles Hill by one target in the handicap event, and Leon Demboski was doubles winner in the program. Robert Sebra bested Dan Jones by one target (99-98) to win a shoot hosted by Pine Belt Sportsmen's Club at Indian Mills, New Jersey. Ed Schober was handicap trophy winner for the program, and the doubles victory went to Bobby Pagliughi.

Roland Kerr, Harleysville, took a singles event at Red Hill C. C. (New Jersey) by turning back Mike Burychka of Skippack in a shoot-off, 25-23. Al Keller of Pennsburg was the handicap trophy winner, one short of a perfect effort. Mrs. Mary Christopher topped the feminine contingent with her 98 x 100 in 16 yard competition. Burychka salvaged the doubles win, to compensate for the near-miss earlier in the program. William Roman III, and Jimmy Stine cracked one hundred straight in the open 16 yard competition portion of the program.

Shooters, guns, and ammunition have to be getting better. Lt. Col. E. S. Throckmorton broke one hundred straight from 27 yards on July 19 at Cortez, Colorado, and Dan Orlich matched this performance 11 days later at Denver, Colorado.

Remember when 100 straight from 25 yards was considered the ultimate in handicap shooting? Want to bet that some shooter won't break 100 straight from 30 yards during the next decade?

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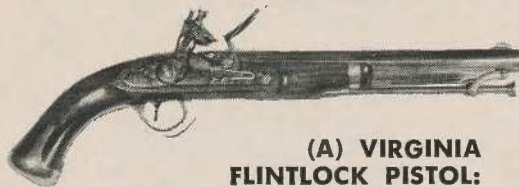
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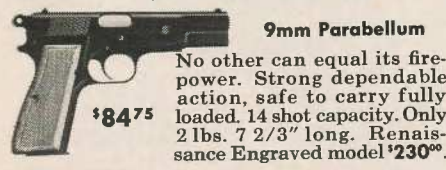
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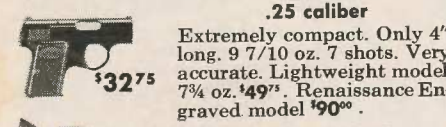
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many places, that it probably did not ever actually happen. But I know of several instances just as ridiculous. And they seem to occur with two classes of shooters: the very experienced, the very inexperienced.

Years ago I talked with a hunter in northern Michigan who was awesomely excited over his first deer. He downed it, ran to it, propped his gun against a tree, and tried to stick the deer with a penknife. At the prick of the knife the deer bounded up and took off. Had the buck been a big one, and inclined to do battle, the man might have been seriously or even fatally injured. Even without malice, the deer might have jabbed an antler point into its tormentor as it leaped to its feet. This deer was barely hurt, ran a short distance, and fell again. The man got his gun and shot it.

This being without one's gun can be dangerous. You may think, for example, that a black bear is a harmless creature. Most of the time it is at least reasonably harmless. But I know of several instances when a black bear refused to hudge from a trail, and I know of several authenticated attacks without provocations. The fellow who shoots a bear, even the "harmless" black bear, runs up to it gunless, or assumes it is dead and props his gun against a tree in begging to get his head knocked off his shoulders.

Last year I killed a bear in the Wyoming mountains. It was not a large bear, and I was certain I had hit it where it lived. But it did run a short distance across a mountain meadow and into dense forest. My guide had been in on the kill of scores of bears, has himself killed scores of them. As we approached, we could see my bear lying in the woods, head across a log.

Did this experienced guide race in to have a close look at what I'd shot? No, indeed. We both edged around, guns ready. Finally we closed in, and the guide, still clutching his gun with good sensible caution, picked up a long stick and prodded the bear. It was dead. A bear is a fantastically fast critter when it decides to move, but because of its bulk, it is deceptive. Wounded and lying in wait, one could be on you in a split second. A small bear of even a couple hundred pounds can mean real trouble.

Let me tell one of the experiences which taught me to make my gun practically a part of me while I am afield. I was deer hunting. I had been deer hunting, in fact, for a solid week and I had not fired a shot. This was a whitetail hunt, and in a certain long meadow beside a creek I had been told a really big buck had been hanging out. I'd been saving this spot, and I decided to make my stand there in the early afternoon. Everything was perfect—breeze just right, cover fine, full view. There were several buck scrapes, fresh sign that looked good to me. For three hours I sat without so much as a wiggle. As dusk fell, I became chilly. I'd had a down coat tied around my middle by its sleeves when I came to the place. I didn't want to wear it because it was too warm, didn't want to sit on it because the outside

material was noisy. I had dropped it in the brush a few steps behind me.

I rose gingerly, leaned my rifle carefully against the tree behind which I'd sat. I turned, took the few steps back to the coat, picked it up, put it on. As my arms came down to my sides again, I looked straight out into the meadow—right into the face of that enormous-antlered buck. He was staring at me. But not for long. There was ample time if I had my gun with me. I never had the ghost of a chance, and I didn't kill a deer on that trip.

On a recent elk hunt, I got my pickup stuck at about 10,000 feet on a hideous trail. There were four of us, and we clambered out. As we picked up down stuff to stick under a wheel we could hear several bulls bugling in the distance. One of the party remarked that I was sure ready for anything, working away with my rifle slung over my shoulder. He added that I could get a heck of a lot more unsticking done if I'd put that gun back in the truck. After all, no elk would be foolish enough to pass us while we were making all that noise!

At that precise moment we heard sticks popping from down the mountainside. Within seconds 13 elk showed up, trotting slowly along. We stood quietly and they passed within 20 steps of us. There was only one bull, a spike, and I did not want him. Had there been a good bull in the group, I was ready. The other guns were almost within reach . . . but not quite.

I wonder how many record heads have been lost this way? How many opportunities for just plain good trophies have been muffed because a fellow wasn't quite within reach of his gun? How many hunters have gone home gameless from an expensive hunt just because their arms weren't long enough to reach ten steps, six steps, three steps, to their rifles they had so foolishly put down?

In hunting, it takes only a split second for opportunity to come and go. How many times you've heard it said when the hunt had been long and unsuccessful "Oh well, don't be discouraged; it only takes a second!" Suddenly the antlers or the hide you came for is there. Whammo goes the shot—if you haven't set your gun down somewhere.

I have never been able to fathom why any rifleman will lug a gun that is slingless. A sling can be a nuisance when carrying the gun in your hand, but it is handy for shoulder carry. The sling is a kind of insurance that will not be separated from your rifle. I am not saying that you must use one, but I'm emphasizing that the sling habit will keep you unconsciously closer to your gun at all times.

This brings up scabbard habits. I have been guilty, a good many times, of leaving my rifle scabbard-bound when I got off my horse. One experience did break me of such carelessness. In Utah I swung down from my mount, bone weary after a long day of beating the high-country timber. Here was a good opening on a slope for some glassing. I dropped the reins. The horse started to graze, moving off slightly. I sat down,

hunched up my knees, lifted the glasses—and stared right into the face of a tremendous mossy-horned mulie about 200 yards away.

The buck was watching the horse. Right before me was a down tree across which I could have had a beautiful rest. What to do? I looked around. My horse was grazing straight away from me now. I started to crawl. The horse moved farther away. I flattened and looked back. The big buck still had not seen me. He was slowly walking toward a dense stand of timber. I jumped up and ran for the horse, and the deer disappeared into the timber.

How easy it would have been to get off the horse, pull the rifle from its scabbard, sit down, and begin glassing! Remember, distant game is quite often not disturbed by the sight of horse and rider. You never know what you are going to be looking at, or when. Nor do you know how far even a good steady horse will drift off.

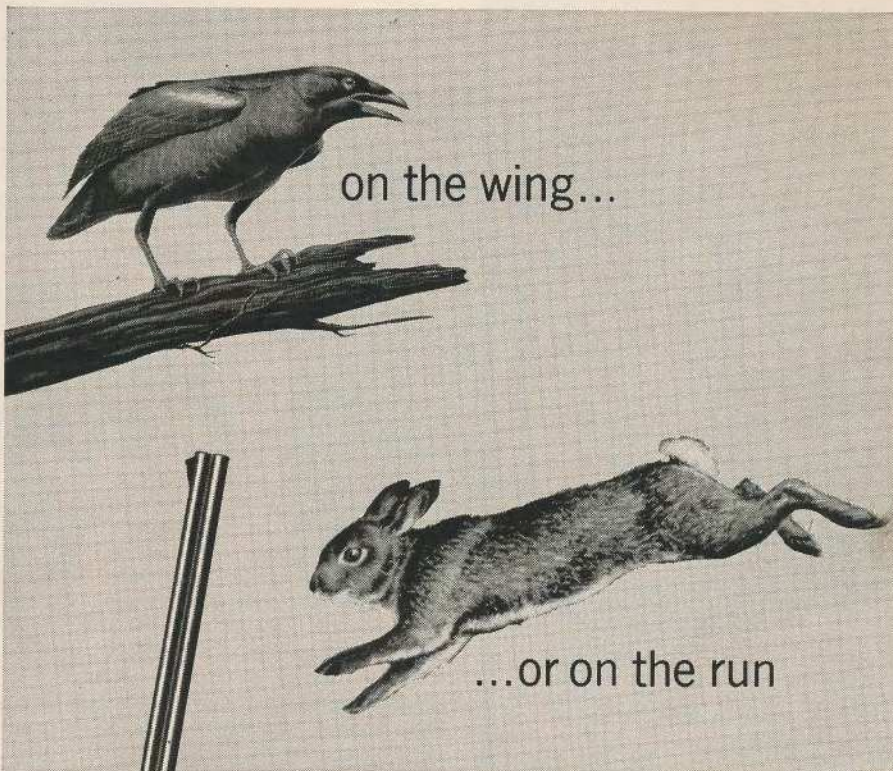
Nor does all of what has been said here apply only to rifles. Six of us were hunting sharptail grouse and prairie chickens a few years ago in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. The morning started beautifully. Five of us had our limits by 10, the sixth had one bird to go. We agreed to help him get his last bird. After lunch we walked untold miles. We couldn't locate a darned single, and we were bushed. I vividly recall the log against which all six guns were leaned. We flopped down into the grass a short distance away, in heavy shade.

About 30 feet from where we lay there was a small, lone jackpine, squat to the ground, with its lower branches forming a little tent over the grass. Sharptails and prairie chickens in such cover usually flush wild if in a covey or pack. But singles often sit extremely tight. However, both these birds are talkers. When they move, running on the ground preparatory to flight, they cackle "cut, cut, cut, cut."

And suddenly from under that jackpine came the thrilling "cut, cut, cut..." and a plump prairie chicken burst forth. You should have seen that tangle! Six guys trying to get up and get that bird so we could quit for the day. Needless to say, not a shot was fired.

One of the most exasperating occurrences in shotgun hunting comes when the guy in the blind wades out gunless to fix up his decoys only to have a big flock come sliding in. They come right down into easy range as he hunches immobile, cussing to himself.

Not long ago two of us were shooting ducks on big stock tanks in the cactus country of south Texas. We had four ducks and things were at a total standstill. We decided to stretch our legs, and to pluck the birds while we waited for the afternoon flight time. We walked back from the muddy edge, propping our guns against the thorny scrub trees. Back among the prickly pear we were picking away and had our birds almost clean. I was taking a picture of my partner plucking away, when a flock of geese sailed in. There aren't supposed to be any geese in that area. They stay in the coastal rice country, and drift into Mexico. I'd have given my boots for a brace of those geese. They were within easy range. They saw us and flared into wild flight. How easy it would have been to take the shotguns with us!



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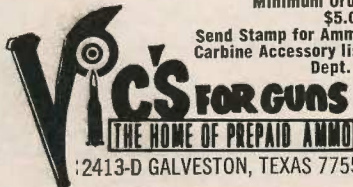
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# STRAIGHT-PULL SNIPER RIFLES

(Continued from page 19)

The bolt is locked by the bolt head lugs rotating into matching receiver wells. In one respect, it can never be as strong as a turn-bolt, since the safety lug cannot be used.

The Model 1905 Ross, issued in the standard .303 British caliber, was matched up with the Model 1908, Warner and Swasey scope. This 6X prismatic scope had a field of view of about 8 yards at 100 yards. The scope alone weighed 2¼ lbs. The scope had dials for elevation and windage, with cross-hair reticle, with a horizontal range-finder, etched on a glass plate.

The scope was attached to the rifle by a bracket on the left side of the receiver, which had two notches for positioning. The scope was made of bronze and brass and painted black, and had a large, hard rubber eye cup.

The next Ross rifle issued was the Model 1910, Mark III, which used the interrupted screw type lugs. The rifle was issued with an elaborate folding target-type aperture rear sight, adjustable for both windage and elevation. A wing type safety lever, at the root of the bolt handle, locks the action shut when in forward or engaged position. The special thumbpiece loading set-up of the Model 1905, was replaced by a Mauser-type box magazine.

This rifle was matched up with the slightly changed and improved Model 1913 Warner and Swasey sniper scope in which the power was reduced to 5.2X, and the elevation dial clamping nut was changed. The rubber eye cup was made of soft rubber, and had three

holes to let out the vacuum. The scope mount was not altered.

Most of the criticism of the Ross is centered on the Model 1910 action. The bolt can be disassembled and reassembled improperly, and when improperly assembled, the bolt head does not rotate to locked position, yet the rifle can be fired. The result would be disastrous, for with nothing to hold it, the bolt would be driven straight to the rear, shearing the light bolt stop.

The chief criticism of the Ross by the Canadian Army seems to have been on extraction. Due to the design of the action, soft brass sometimes stuck in the chamber, making it necessary to place the butt on the ground and kick the bolt backward with the heel of the boot. To reduce this, the Model 1905 rifles were given a very crude and excessive over-chambering, so that a fired .303 case loses its original dimension.

The only Mannlicher rifle to be made into a sniper was the Model 1895, used by Austro-Hungarian troops on the Western Front in World War I, and by many of the smaller military powers in World War II.

The Model 1895 Mannlicher action has cam surfaces on the bolt lugs, working against mating receiver surfaces to provide primary extraction. The Model '95 has a thumb grip at the rear of the bolt to aid in cocking without opening the action.

The rifle is chambered for the 8 mm rimmed cartridge, with a five shot magazine which holds a single row of cartridges in a protruding box in front of the trigger guard. A large "U" shaped metal charger, or clip, which holds five cartridges in a staggered position is used, and the rifle will not function as a repeater without it. The charger, whether empty or full, may be ejected from the magazine by pressing a stud within the trigger guard with the bolt open.

The barrel length is 30", and the rifle weighs about 8½ lbs. Pre-war arms have a pistol grip walnut stock, but some of the war-time models have stocks of other woods, not as well finished in general. Receivers are marked either "Steyr M95" or "Budapest M95."

The Model 95 military sniper rifle was issued with special two-piece side bracket pin type mount bases, offset to permit clip loading of the rifle and use of the standard rear and front iron sights. The scopes used were German Zeiss or Gerard, of 3X, mounted high to provide clearance for use of the open sights. The scopes had adjustments for elevation, but windage was adjusted in the front mount. A few 4X scopes were made by Sussm in Budapest and issued.

Swiss straight-pull sniper rifles, are the Schmidt-Rubin type. Colonel Rudolf Schmidt invented the rifle, which the Swiss adopted in 1890, and Major Rubin developed the 7.5 mm Swiss cartridge. The action is unique; it has an operating rod, which works in a cylinder separate from the bolt proper, and has a stud working in a curved groove in the bolt sleeve; the bolt handle is also on this

(Continued on page 42)



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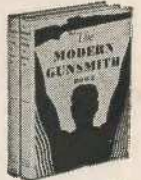
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(Continued from page 40)

rod. Pushing the bolt handle forward causes the operating rod stud to rotate the bolt sleeve, turning the dual locking lugs into their receiver recesses. The bolt stop then slips into a slot on the bottom of the operating rod to keep it from moving back. Early models had the lugs at the rear of the bolt sleeve, but later models have forward lugs. Both types lock in receiver recesses to the rear of the magazine. The sole exception is the latest model, the carbine model K-31, which has its lugs at the extreme forward end of the bolt.

The Carbine 1931, or K-31, came to the army in 1935. The rifle weighs 8.8 lbs., has a 25" barrel. The six-shot magazine is removable from the bottom of the action and is loaded from paperboard and metal clip. The striker rod holding the firing pin has a safety or cocking ring at its rear end. In order to engage the safety, the ring is pulled out and turned to a horizontal position. This disengages the sear from the trigger and locks the action.

Parts for the sniper models of the K-31 are manufactured by private firms. The SIG firm makes barrels, receivers, stocks, and parts of the sight (Hammerli also makes barrels); the Federal Arms factory in Bern, does the final assembling and checking of the weapons. Government proof consists of firing two cartridges loaded to a chamber pressure of about 65,000 psi, about 50 per cent greater than normal.

The K-31 carbines are issued with telescopic sights; the K-31/42 with a 1.8X scope and the KH 31/43 with a 2.8X scope. The telescopes are permanently mounted on the left side of the receiver, on a swivel mount that swings out of the way of the metallic sights. The Model K-31/42 has a rear metallic sight graduated for 100 to 1,000 meters, the Model K-31/43 is graduated for 100 to 700 meters. These sight markings are the only method of distinguishing these weapons. These sniper rifles are still standard issue in the Swiss Army, and I personally feel that they are among the greatest sniper weapons in the world.

The Swiss Army has been testing new sniper rifles; one is a standard K-31, with a Kahles 4X30 scope on a two ring side-mount, and a separate wooden cheek piece. The second sniper rifle, called the Model K-31/55, is a reworked K-31 carbine with a special half-stock and muzzle brake and recoil system built into the barrel, and a set of bipod legs at the balance point of the rifle, just in front of the trigger guard. A new scope, much like the small Russian PU 3.5, is used with a special quickly detachable mount. The unit is mounted directly over the action, and thus the rifle cannot be clip loaded, nor can standard sights be used.

Finding a straight pull rifle is not too difficult, but locating one that was designed for sniper use, with the original sighting equipment, is getting more difficult each day. In military firearms.

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# QUESTIONS and ANSWERS

By GRAHAM BURNSIDE

Questions submitted must carry a Shooters Club of America number or must be accompanied by one dollar. Questions lacking either number or dollar will be returned. If you want a personal answer, enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

## Mauser 98

I purchased a bolt action rifle from a friend at a real low price. It seems to be in real good working condition, shows only the normal wear and has all milled parts, it has the following markings on the barrel and receiver :41 D3, byf, 41, Mod. 98, 5616 with and S under it. Has little eagles with Nazi insignia under.

What make and caliber is it? Is it safe to shoot, and what American ammo should I use? Is it worth spending a couple bucks to sporterize it?

Edward Christensen  
Kewaunee, Wis.

If my calculations are correct you have a 7.92mm German Mauser rifle as made by the Mauser works at Oberndorf in 1941. The rifle is the model 1898 and if in fine condition is an excellent arm.

It handles the standard 8 x 57 Mauser cartridge, is very safe and reliable, and you should be willing to spend more than a few dollars in having it sporterized.—G.B.

## Jap Conversion

Please inform me as to the advisability of converting the 6.5 mm Japanese rifle to .257 Roberts or a similar cartridge. Also, please give me an estimate of the cost.

Tom Fries

The conversion of a Japanese 6.5mm rifle to the .257 Roberts cartridge is not a bad idea.

Some Japanese rifles have a bore tight enough that a simple rechambering will do the job. Most Japanese 6.5mm rifles have a bore about .263" and these are not very accurate with the .257 bullet.

Some people have rechambered their Jap rifle to .257 and then have reloaded using 6.5mm bullets. Of course you can always rebarrel the arm.

I cannot give you costs as they vary—and I do not know what will be done in your particular conversion.—G.B.

## Destroyer Conversion

Not considering cost, in your considered opinion, do you think, or would know, if the 9mm Steyr, Spanish Destroyer Carbine action could be rechambered or rebarreled to

any other caliber? I am thinking of 9 mm Parabellum, 9 mm Browning Long, .38 Super, .357 Magnum. My sidearm is a Browning Hi-Power 9 mm Parabellum automatic, and am interested in converting the above carbine to a little plinker sporter.

Charles J. Huckleberry  
Elkhart, Indiana

The 9mm Steyr cartridge is so close to the .38 ACP cartridge that you may have little trouble in simply using the .38 ACP. Try it, and if she functions—fine. If not, you may have to slick up the action or polish out the chamber a mite.

The difference between the two cartridges is that the Steyr round uses a true rimless case—the diameter of the case head is the same as the diameter of the rim. In the .38 ACP, the case design is semi-rimless, resulting in a case rim that is larger than the case head.

Some gunsmithing on the bolt head and extractor may be in order—or you could turn down the rims of the .38 ACP cases.—G.B.

## Union Arms Co.

How many of the automatic-type (recoil-operated) revolvers were produced by the Union Arms Co. of Toledo, Ohio? Any guesses? What calibers of automatic pistols were produced by this company, and approximately how many? What calibers and types of rifles were produced by the Union Arms Co.?

Where may I obtain photos of any or all of the above mentioned guns, or photocopies of catalog illustrations of the same? Or possibly borrow such a catalog to have photocopies made?

Larry S. Sterett  
Biggsville, Ill.

The details of the operations of the Union Firearms Co. are generally unknown. To my knowledge they only made autoloading revolvers and shotguns, and I have no idea of their production figures.

I suggest you contact D. A. Hutslar of the Ohio Historical Society at the Ohio State Museum, Columbus 10, Ohio. Mr. Hutslar is doing research on Ohio firearms and firearms makers, and may be of help.—G.B.

## Ruger Convertible

I have some questions concerning the Ruger Single Six Convertible .22 revolver.

Is it capable of taking the .22 LR shot, and the .22 WRF ammunition? If so which cylinder are they fired from? Can standard .22 ammunition be fired from the Magnum cylinder? If not, why? Am I correct in assuming both standard and high velocity regular ammunition may be fired from the standard



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.22 cylinder? How many pounds is required to pull the trigger? Is there any book or other reading material which will describe the revolver more fully than the folder Ruger sends describing their line of firearms?

Norman Rice

You can shoot .22 LR shot cartridges in the .22 LR cylinder, but I would not advise it. One, you would get no proper pattern of pellets from the rifled bore and cleaning the bore would be a necessary and continual process.

Standard .22 ammo should not be used in the Magnum cylinder because the diameter of the cartridge case of the standard ammo is undersized and the cartridges would flop around. If they were used in the Magnum cylinder those undersized cases might split and hot gases would be unleashed.

You may use .22 WRF cartridges in the .22 Magnum cylinder because the diameter of the .22 WRF case is the right size.

Ruger is still the best source of information concerning their products.—G.B.

### Czech Duellers

I have a pair of duelling pistols that I would like to know more about. The barrels are blued, the hammers and side plates are polished, the backstraps and trigger guards are copper. These names appear on the right side plates:

Fn Moravek a Krumau

On the back of the butt plate is a shield with the date 1808. A figure of a horse is set into the barrel in front of the rear sight, and in front of this are three symbols (illustrated). I don't believe that the case, powder flask, and other items are original. Please advise me where they are from and about what value you would place on them.

Howard Goodwin  
Riverdale, Ill.

From what information I have available your pair of pistols were originally made as flintlock arms by Ferdinand Moraveh (k).

He was located in Jenikau, Bohemia, about 1770, but may have done work at other places and in other years.

The three figures as you have drawn them match the mark of Ferdinand Moraveh. They are simply artistic designs and do not represent anything specific.

Although American collectors are not heavily interested in such arms I'd say the pair is worth \$150 or better.—G.B.

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## THE ROUBY ELECTRIC SHOTGUN

(Continued from page 26)

special applications" and padded it up with cardboard so the contact points would touch the right contacts inside the butt stock cavity.

The battery permits an unusual feature with the Electric shotgun; indoor dry firing with shooter feed-back response. Instant kill can be seen, misses observed to one's chagrin, habits of mounting the gun corrected and the arguments about aiming vs pointing can be resolved. For the second type of "cartridge" Rouby makes neat chamber-fitting flashlights, called "Lance Spots," pre-focused to throw a dot of light 6" across at 20 feet! In a darkened room you can snap the gun to your shoulder, and if you are opposite a mirror, get a really good idea of all your bad gun pointing habits. You always know you brought the gun up right, for if you look yourself in the eye in the mirror, and snap the gun to your shoulder, the bright flash will be dazzling as you peer right through the reflected bore of the gun.

It is not possible, in ordinary cartridge arms, to have very light trigger pulls, without risk of accidents. With the electric contact principle, the two triggers are regulated, without danger, between 2.2 pounds and 2.6 pounds pull—approximately half what normal experience demands for safety on a searing mechanism. To unexperienced shooters, this is a blessing. Finger control, to avoid "jerking" the trigger, is not necessary.

Shooting is instantaneous—that fact I have proved by tests. If I had to say "how long," that is, in milliseconds, I couldn't come close. But in a relaxed manner, attention directed toward getting the bird, I was distracted by the instant response of the Fusil Electrique, until I got used to it.

I had no opportunity to test pressures or velocities, but Rouby claims that the intense flaming of the electric cap produces a complete ignition of the powder. Tests at the St. Etienne Proof House showed higher peak pressures obtained with 10 shots from the "Electrique," a closer spread in pressures and velocities, and higher velocities, than with 10 equivalent loads from a regular shotgun. Aside from the solidity of the breech construction, absence of moving parts to wear out, lack of firing pins to break, and economy of practice with the "Lance-Spots," the Fusil Electrique has a most significant safety feature for field use: *It absolutely cannot be fired unless the hand of the shooter is in proper position, naturally tensed, on the small of the stock and the trigger is pressed.*

It is not easy at present to reload, but electric primers are no more complicated to

make than ordinary percussion primers; they may be somewhat cheaper since they do not require an anvil nor the complex assembly of the ordinary American battery cap. Cartridge cases are standard, though the Munitio Electrique seems exceedingly strong and sensible with a steel inner liner.

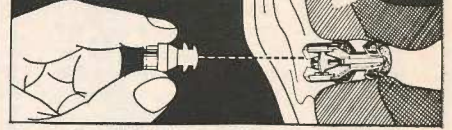
The Fusil Electrique is bound to be an indication of things to come in this electronic age, but it has one advantage over the guns of the future—it is here, today.

Where can you get an electric shotgun? If you have a lot of patience, and don't mind the red tape connected with importing the gun yourself, you could order one from the factory. That would not solve much, however, since you would also have to import the ammunition, and anyone who has gone through the rigors of trying to bring a small amount of loaded ammo into the country will tell you that the added cost of shipping will make your hair stand on end.

Your best bet is to find a local dealer who may have one in stock. A call to the Chicago store of Abercrombie & Fitch told me that they have one in stock, priced at \$275 with 100 rounds of ammo. I don't doubt that there are other gun shops in the country which have these, though it may take some looking to find one in your immediate area. In any case, it's worth the effort, since this battery operated scattergun is more than a novelty, it is a truly wonderful thing to behold.

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(Continued from page 18)

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of New Mexico and his march to California were very important, but the march of the Mormon Battalion, led by Col. Philip St. George Cooke, following soon after General

who had been stranded along the route west and were recruited primarily to build a wagon road from Santa Fe to California. These men were armed with an odd assort-



Mescalero Apache scouts and Sgt. F. W. Klopfer, Ft. Stanton, N.M., 1885.

Kearny's trek, stirred up more dust and also made a great contribution.

Colonel Cooke's force numbered approximately 400 men; the majority were Mormons

ment of weapons. Most had smooth-bore muskets. A few had the Model 1841 caplock military rifle, sometimes called the "Yaeger" or "Mississippi" rifle. As a condition of en-

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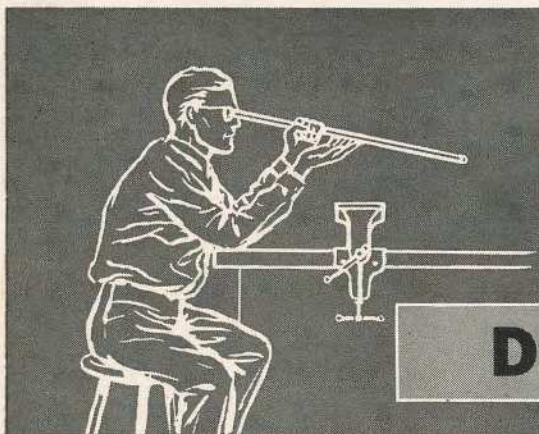
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listment the Mormons were promised that they might retain the arms issued to them when mustered out in California.

Cooke's route swung farther south than Kearny's Proceeding toward Tucson, he met no resistance except from some wild bulls which charged the column, killing several mules. During the general disorder Brevet Second Lieutenant George Stoneman of the U. S. First Dragoons accidentally shot himself in the hand with his pistol, a five-shooter and probably one of Samuel Colt's early Paterson-made models.

When approaching Tucson, Cooke sent word to the Mexican Comandante, Don Antonio Comaduran, that he came in peace but imposed three conditions: Comaduran and his men pledge not to serve against the United States in the present war with Mexico; that two cavalry carbines and three lances be surrendered as a token of submission; and that the Mormon Battalion could freely enter Tucson for the purposes of trade and refreshment. Don Antonio Comaduran sent a message advising that as a man of honor he could not submit to these terms. As a man of discretion, he promptly rode out of Tucson with his men and camped a discreet distance away.

Having formally secured all of what are now New Mexico and Arizona by the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo in 1848 and by the Gadsden Purchase a few years later, and having established a route of travel across this territory, the Government set about establishing army posts to give protection to travelers and settlers. Fort Union, Fort Thorn, Fort Defiance, Fort Buchanan, Fort,

Yuma, and other posts were established. As travel increased, the Indians became more hostile.

Although Apache bows were said to be so powerful that they could send an arrow through a man's body at 100 yards, and a good bowman could loose ten arrows a minute, the Indians preferred firearms. By trading with unscrupulous white men, by theft and by murder, they obtained guns and ammunition. Against the settlers, travelers, and soldiers was pitted a very dangerous, determined, and well armed foe.

The first arms issued to the Dragoons were the Hall carbine and flintlock horse pistol. Some of these flintlock pistols were altered in the early 1840s to use percussion caps. In 1849, a musketoon and a percussion horse pistol replaced the earlier arms. The musketoon was simply a short form or caplock musket. In 1853 Sharps carbines replaced the musketoon, and about 1858 Colt's pistol-carbines were issued as experimental arms. By 1858 other mounted soldiers were armed with Sharps and Burnside carbines and the Colt .44 caliber Dragoon holster pistols.

Flintlock arms were obsolete in all United States Services after the Mexican War. The Model 1841 infantry rifle, used in that war so effectively by Jefferson Davis' Mississippians that it sometimes was called the "Mississippi Rifle," was produced in quantity and became a great favorite in the West. In 1849 they were made available for emigrants to California, Oregon, and New Mexico Territories. It is said that some of the New Mexico and Arizona Volunteer Companies



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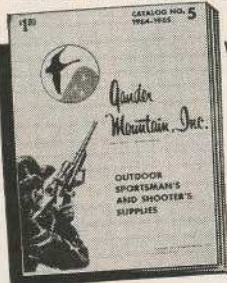
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were issued rifles of this type in the 1860s.

Following the brass-mounted Model 1841 "Mississippi," or "Yaeger" rifles as they were sometimes called, came the iron mounted infantry Model of 1855, very similar to the subsequent Civil War Model 1861 and 1863 rifled muskets except that they were fitted with a patented Maynard priming device soon found impractical and hence discarded.

In the 1850s and 1860s there can be little doubt that the Sharps breech-loading percussion carbine was highly regarded in military circles and was also a favorite of many civilians. It had the advantage of using prepared paper or linen wrapped powder-and-ball cartridges or could be used with loose powder and ball.

Following are excerpts from a letter regarding Sharps carbines written by Captain R. S. Ewell, 1st U. S. Dragoons, on February 25, 1858, at Fort Buchanan: "It is far superior to either rifle, musketoon, or carbine pistol, more particularly as a cavalry arm... I urgently request that my company be armed with them... I do not know a cavalry officer who differs from the views." A. B. Chapman, 2nd Lieutenant of "K" Company at Fort Buchanan stated that he had used a Sharps carbine for several years and it was superior to any small arm he had seen. Captain Edward F. Fitzgerald, of Company "D," 1st U. S. Dragoons, reported from Tucson that the sixteen Sharps carbines in his company had given excellent service.

The San Antonio & San Diego Stage Line, better known as "The Jackass Mail" during its short existence from 1857 to 1858 (when it was succeeded by the Butterfield Overland Mail) offered the suggestion that, among other equipment, all passengers should carry a Sharps gun and 100 cartridges, a Colt's revolver with 2 pounds of balls, and a bowie knife.

As the 1850s drew to a close, mining activity had reached considerable proportions. Arizona's first newspaper, "The Arizonian," was launched at Tubac, and Colonel Edward E. Cross, a veteran of the Mexican War, was engaged as editor.

On January 30, 1859, Cross wrote the Sharps Rifle Company that, "After trying all the breech-loading arms of the day, I fall back on your valuable arm. It is the greatest weapon of the age. Three hundred of them could sell in this territory at from \$75 to \$85 each. The rifle sent me by your concern, last August, I used all the way across the plains to Tubac, where it was stolen. I want another."

It was perhaps fortunate for Sylvester Mowry that someone had stolen Edward Cross' Sharps rifle when, on June 8, 1859, they stood 40 paces apart and blazed away at each other four times with Burnside carbines. While both were reputed to be excellent marksmen, this so-called duel terminated without either man having been touched. A very strong wind was blamed for the poor marksmanship.

But there was one gentleman who was not happy with the turn of news from Tubac. This was Samuel Colt. A few years earlier the Sonora Exploring and Mining Company has been formed and a company store was maintained at Tubac. Samuel Colt, the famous Yankee armasmaker, was a major stockholder in this enterprise.

(TO BE CONTINUED)

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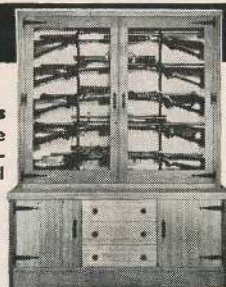
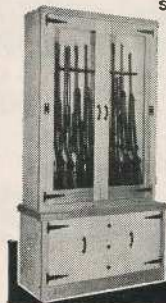
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# HOW TO WATERPROOF YOUR STOCKS

(Continued from page 31)

200 East Central, Miami, Oklahoma.

It remains thinner, and gets tacky more slowly, during application than most others. It dries faster, self-levels better, and produces a hard scuff-resistant finish. Some of the plastics produce an exceptionally durable finish, but are a little more difficult to keep level during a deep build-up.

Making a big gain in treating your stocks isn't as difficult as it may seem when you consider that, almost without fail, new factory stocks have little or no finish of any type on the inside surfaces. Here you can win 50 per cent of the battle by merely applying finish to the inside of your factory stocks. As a comparison, it is useless to protect your hand with half a glove or painting a board fence on one side only.

As an individualist and experimenter, I started by disobeying Mr. Mayer's instructions for using the finish. To me, the recommended fillers are a "hurry-up" evil in good stock finishing. Why? Because we want the greatest possible depth of a finish; we don't want it to chip off like plaster, nor peel off. Filling all the little depressions and wood pores forces the finish coats to go on like thin level skin, with no penetration depth or anchor.

By using the finish itself at the outset, it has a chance to soak into all the small pores, providing thousands of tiny feet veering out in all directions to hold and grip in the wood. Also, the grain-raising, on which some stock-makers place so much emphasis, is to me not only a waste of time, but an outright quality robber. I expect to get collared on this statement, but let's go on. No one has ever visually determined that the grain on my completed stocks was not whisked off after raising. Instead, I've been asked how the raised grain was boned off so smoothly, or kept from raising!

Since we are interested in penetration, depth, and tough adhering qualities of a stock finish, the thousands of tiny particles of wood which usually raise during a few days storage in normal humidity can be utilized as finish anchors, instead of being sanded or boned off. In hot, dry weather, slightly raise the grain with a damp cloth, then allow thorough drying before giving it the first coat of finish.

Try getting all the paint off a rough board, compared to a smooth board. Its in deeper and better anchored on the rough board,

therefore it will be more difficult to remove. It would also last longer. From this, I evolved my theory that using no-filler and not removing the raised grain means building up a better anchored, deeper finish that gives longer wear and better waterproofing.

Preparing new stocks or wood for the finish calls for sanding from rough grits down to 320 or 400 grit sandpapers. Stocks to be refinished first require removal of the old finish. Scraping it off with a sharp knife is as good as any and avoids the messy wood staining of paint removers. Care must be taken around checkering to prevent damage. The only way to clean old finish out of checkering is to re-trace the pattern with a single line checkering cutter.

The first coat of finish you apply is perhaps the most important of all. Give the stock a very generous soaking, *inside and outside*. Cover every surface, including pistol grip cap area, and butt, where plate or pad will be. Where end-grain, such as front of pistol grip, soaks up finish faster than on the flat grain, re-apply several times. Give it all it will absorb, stopping only when saturation point is reached. Try to smooth out runs, but don't worry about them now. Merely apply and distribute the finish with a brush or clean fingers. Don't attempt to rub it in.

Suspend the stock on a rod, through the action mortise, and allow to dry. Drying time



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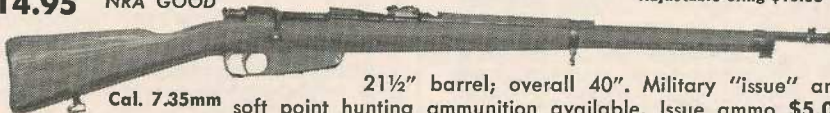
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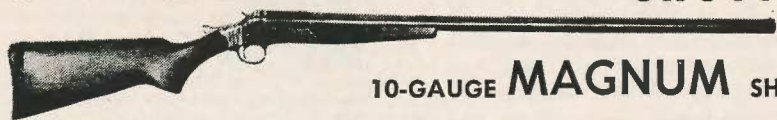
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will vary according to finishes used, temperature, and humidity. During hot weather, Mayer's finish will permit sanding, and an additional coat, every 15 to 24 hours. Damp cool weather may extend drying time to two days.

When dry, the finish removed by light sanding should come off in semi-powder form. If No. 320 black wet or dry sandpaper (used dry) builds up sticky lumps, more drying time is needed. The second coat should also be a "give-it-all-it'll take," inside and outside. Brush the excess from inside of stock, otherwise scraping may be necessary to replace barreled action. Two coats inside the stock is enough to seal it.

When treating checkering, follow by brushing out excess with a clean new toothbrush. Some very gentle retracing of checkering may be necessary toward the end of your project, unless brushing out has been done carefully.

When the second coat is dry, sand more liberally. You are now beginning the finish build-up, and filling all the deep wood pores. The wood is already fairly well sealed and won't soak up nearly as much finish as the first application, so spread only as much finish per coat as you can control. Runs will dry more slowly and remain gummy, so carefully scrap them off with a sharp knife and give extra drying time before sanding.

From here it is just a matter of applying coats, allowing to dry, sanding, and giving it another, until the desired depth is reached. The number of coats required will vary with wood textures. It takes at least five, sometimes as high as ten or twelve applications to fill all the wood pores completely level, and give the stock that beautiful third dimensional sheen.

As you progress, coats should be thinner, and applied as fast as possible to avoid runs. Sometimes, several extra treatments may be necessary to arrive at an acceptably smooth final coat. The last coat should dry for four or five days, or even a week.

Your stock is now as waterproof as you can possibly get it, and you are ready to give it that final touch—a smooth, lustrous sheen. I prefer Mayer's stock polish, letting a dab of it soak on a cloth for about ten minutes to dissipate the excess oil. It is spread onto a clean cotton flannel cloth, and rubbed briskly over the stock with a fast "shoe shining" motion.

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**SCOPE-TARGET**

## A REMINGTON RIFLE COMES HOME

(Continued from page 27)

of the detailed history of this rifle.

"My great-grandfather was Peter Pontious born in Pennsylvania. He moved with his family to Litchfield, N. Y., when my grandfather, George Pontious, was about two years old, and the Remington family living in Litchfield, they became acquainted and great friends, living there a great many years. Mr. Remington started to make guns in 1816. My great grandfather had Mr. Remington make this gun in 1816 and he paid \$105 for it. It was made to his special orders and I have seen hundreds of Remington guns, have travelled considerably and have never run across one like this. I doubt if there is one in existence like it. As the Remington gun works at that time did not have machin-



First Remington rifle was made in this forge near Ilion, N. Y.

ery to cut rifles in the gun barrels, he had E. K. Purdy cut rifles in his gun barrels, until he was later equipped with such machinery to do his own rifling, and you will find E. K. Purdy's name cut in the gun barrel and the Remington name on the lock. Grandfather was born about 1810 and died at the age of 79. This gun was given to my grandfather by his father and was requested to never sell the gun and give it to his son, which was my father Peter Pontious, and his father requested him not to sell the gun and give it to his son which I now have and my father

requested me to never sell the gun and give it to my children and as I have no children and at the age I now am 55 years have decided to sell the gun for the first time in its history, although there have been hundreds of buyers for the gun in years gone by. My parents were so strict they would not loan this gun to anyone regardless of friendship, and this accounts for the gun being in the splendid condition which it is in. This gun has been in the Pontious family ever since it was bought in 1816. I have heard my father and grandfather repeat what is in this letter hundreds of times. After my mother's death I was about nine years old, I made my home at my grandfather's. I could write a nice little book about my grandfather and grandmother telling what all they had killed in the wild game line, etc. And what a time they had with the Indians and hardship they had to contend with. But I presume you could tell quite a bit your father has told you. Well, I will close. If there are any questions you wish to ask that I have not mentioned, will be glad to answer them if I can.

Yours very truly  
George O. Pontious"

Mr. Pontious was a resident of Placerville, California, until his death in 1946. The current deputy county clerk of the town knew him well.

While a search of early land deeds in the Ilion, New York, area failed to show any trace of deeds in the name of Peter Pontious, who is described as having been a neighbor of the Eliphalet Remingtons, it is probable that he leased his home before going West to California. The old rifle is in excellent condition and it makes a splendid addition to the collection. Unquestionably, it is one of the earliest known Remington rifles and appears to be completely authentic.

The Remington Museum, which is located at the company's firearms plant in Ilion, is open to the public seven days a week. It includes samples of almost every firearm made by the company since its founding nearly 150 years ago.



## A MOST UNUSUAL FIELD TEST OF SPEER BULLETS

Enclosed herewith is the remains of a Speer 150 grain .303 slug and a photo of a buffalo shot with it. Although I have done so in the past, shooting buffalo with a .303 is not a pastime to be recommended, and Life Underwriters look upon it as a dreadful habit.

Whilst traveling in the Zambesi Valley I took my lovely .303 Rigby double rifle to look for kudu or an eland for the pot. Now this is an area that is plentifully inhabited by game, but I did not expect to find a buffalo so near to camp. As you have guessed, I loaded up with a Speer 150 grain .303 bullet in the left barrel and a heavier Speer .303 bullet in the right and whilst going along a narrow path in heavy riverine forest I came across quite a large buffalo bull blocking my path. When it lowered its head to charge I had no option whatever but to shoot it, and from sheer instinct I used the left barrel first, as I always do, but with some trepidation. At about ten yards range this buffalo dropped and an examination showed that the bullet entered the head between the nostrils, penetrated the brain, left the rear end of the brain casing and came to rest in the third cervical vertebra.

I do not necessarily imply that Speer bullets saved my life, but I do feel that they stood up to a severe test better than other make bullets I have used, and I belong to the school that thinks "the bigger the better" and I am most agreeably surprised to see what a tiny thing like a Speer 150 grain slug can do.  
—D. CASTELL, So. Rhodesia, 1964

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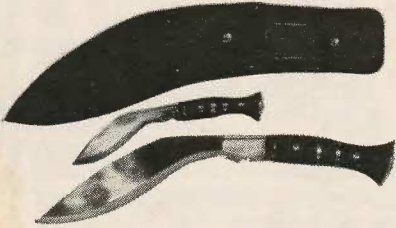
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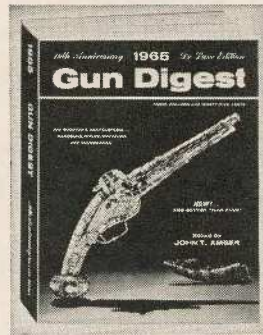
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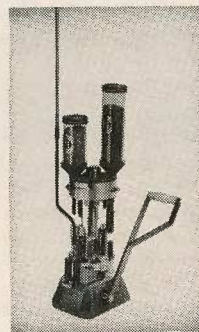
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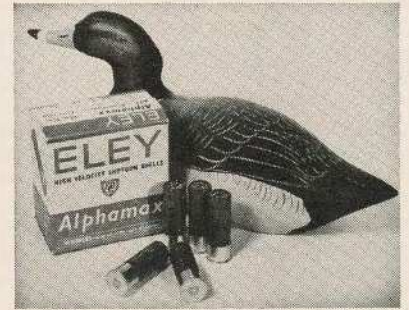
# SHOPPING



JOHN T. AMBER'S all-new 1965 "Gun Digest" is now at your dealer, and it will prove to be the most popular of them all. The 384 pages are packed with shooting, hunting, technical, and historical facts that will interest every gun man. The catalog section has been revised, and a double bonus section on reloading and antique guns has been added. Priced at \$3.95, at your dealer, or direct from the Gun Digest Assoc., Dept. G-12, 4540 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.



TEXAN MODEL M II, a 10-station turret reloader for 12, 16, 20, 28, or .410 shells. Features automatic shell ejector, shell reconditioner, and automatic primer feed as options. Loads 200 shells per hour. Converts from one gauge to another in minutes. Manufactured by Sovereign Instruments Co., Dept. G-12, 8303 Sovereign Row, Dallas, Texas.



ELEY SHOTSHELLS, imported by S. E. Laszlo, Dept. G-12, 25 Lafayette St., Brooklyn 1, N.Y., now have a new Plasti-Coat body which makes them weather- and scuff-proof, and assures long reloading life. These British shells are manufactured under the highest quality control standards, and are fast becoming the favorites of many hunters. See them at your dealer or write for further information.



REPLACEMENT stocks for popular models of the Browning, Remington, Savage, and Winchester shotguns, that are no longer available from the factory, are now made by E. C. Bishop & Son, Dept. G-12, Warsaw, Missouri. These stocks and fore-ends are made in semi-finished, 90 per cent finished, or completely finished models in a wide variety of handsome walnut grains. For a complete catalog, write Bishop.

WINGSHOOTERS HANDBOOK, the most circulated shotgun book in the world, is yours for the asking from the Poly-Choke Co., Dept. G-12, Hartford, Conn. The book offers valuable tips on pointing, leading, and shotgun ballistics. It is must reading for any shotgunner.



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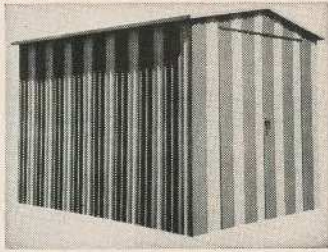


*Beckelhymer's*  
SAN BERNARDO AT HIDALGO  
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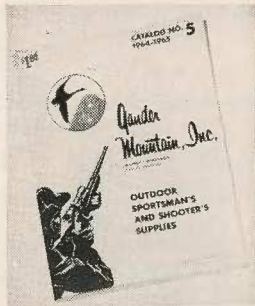


SMALL REPAIRS can cause big problems, and the Mini-Tool kit is a handy answer to many of these problems. Small in size, the plastic handle and five steel tool bits are packed in a genuine leather case only three inches long. Carried in pocket or tool kit, it is ready to tackle smaller size screws, bolts, etc. Priced at only \$1.50 from Power Sales Co., Dept. G-12, Box 461, Ardmore, Pa.

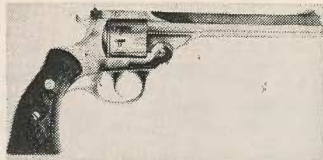
# WITH Guns



**STORE-HOUSE**, an outdoor storage unit that meets the need for extra storage space, is manufactured by Cabanarama Industries, Dept. G-12, 3601 N.W. 81st Street, Miami, Florida. Made in three popular sizes; all aluminum construction, latch handle with lock and keys. Hundreds of uses. Details on request.



**GANDER MOUNTAIN'S** new catalog for 1964 offers the latest in shooting and reloading items, and features many new lines of outdoor merchandise. More pages, and more values make this catalog invaluable to the economy minded sportsman. You can get your free copy by writing to Gander Mountain, Inc., Dept. G-12, Wilmot, Wisc.

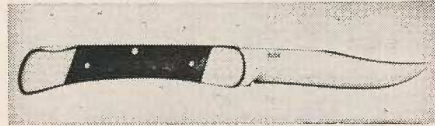


**THE SILVER SPORTSMAN** is Harrington & Richardson's newest handgun. A customized version of the popular 999, .22 caliber revolver, it comes in gleaming chrome with non-glare top surface, and the owner's name engraved on the barrel. For a catalog of the complete line of H&R products, send 10¢ to Harrington & Richardson, Dept. G-12, Worcester, Mass.

**LOADING DATA** for Du Pont's new Hi-Skor 700-X shotshell powder is available by writing the Explosives Dept., Du Pont Co., Wilmington, Delaware. This new double based powder produces optimum ballistics results with minimum charge weights, according to Ward N. Kissell Jr. of Du Pont. The data tables include loads using the new plastic wads.



**WARM FEET** make the hunt a pleasure, and Thermoboots, made by the Bristol Mfg. Corp., Dept. G-12, Bristol, Rhode Island, will keep your feet warm even down to 20° below zero. These boots have the same materials and features that made the Korean pac famous. At your dealer, or write direct for information.



**BUCK KNIVES, INC.**, Dept. G-12, 6588 Federal Blvd., San Diego, California, has recently introduced the folding knife shown above. The knife weighs 6 ounces and has a 4-inch blade. When folded, it measures only 4 1/4 inches long. This model features all of the quality material and craftsmanship that have made the Buck knives so popular, and sells for \$16.00 with the sheath.

**IF YOU ARE TALL** or brawny, there are Duxbak hunting clothes to fit you. Your Duxbak dealer has hunting coats in sizes up to 60, and companion trousers in waist sizes up to 60 and inseams up to 36". Products of Utica Duxbak Corp., Dept. G-12, Utica, N.Y.

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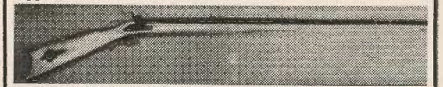
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THE MODEL 400 is the latest in shooting glasses from Mitchell Shooting Glasses, Dept. G-12, Waynesville, Missouri. They feature zylonite frames in demi-amber color or black; ground and polished lenses in Mitchell Yellow, Ozark Green, or neutral grey; and may be made with prescription ground lenses. These glasses have a panoramic design which wraps around the face for maximum comfort. This is only one of the many styles of glasses for shooters and sportsmen offered by Mitchell.

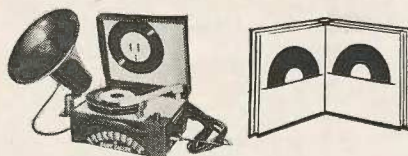
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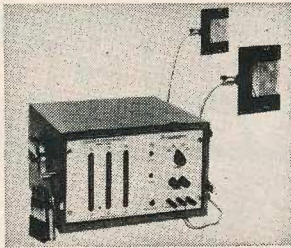
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# WITH Guns

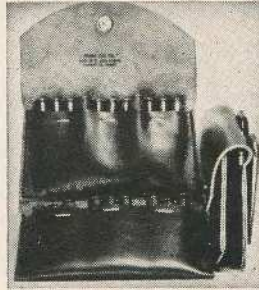


NEW CATALOG from Eddie Bauer, Dept. G-12, Seattle, Washington 98122, lists more than 400 items for sportsmen. Everything from boots to the famous Eddie Bauer down-filled parkas and sleeping bags is illustrated and described. You'll see the equipment used by the American Mt. Everest Expedition, which was outfitted from head to foot by Eddie Bauer. If you are a camper, hunter or outdoorsman, Eddie Bauer has something for you. The catalog is free on request.

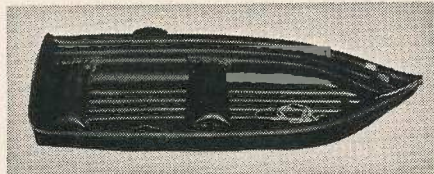
AVTRON'S new Model T333A chronograph is a vast improvement over the original model. Transistors have replaced tubes, and a built-in screen tester makes testing easier and saves wasted shots. The T333A is priced



at \$345, including screen holders, screens and instruction book. From Avtron Mfg. Co., Dept. G-12, 10409 Meech Ave., Cleveland, Ohio.



CARTRIDGES ARE SAFE, yet handy, in the new Magnum Piggy Back Ammo Pak. Made of black or tan boot leather, it holds from 18-22 cartridges, depending on the caliber. Priced at \$3.00, direct from Ammo Pak, Dept. G-12, Box 9734, Portland, Ore. State caliber when ordering.



WILDLIFER inflatable boat is made of nylon coated with Neoprene for long term dependability. It will take a 5 HP motor, and comes complete with a carrying case, transom, and volume pump. The Wildlifer is 10' 3" long with a beam of 3'8". Priced at \$239.95 from Wildlifer, Dept. G-12, Box 1874, Fairmont, West Virginia.

STOW-A-WAY meals are simple to prepare, and delicious. They require no refrigeration, and are easy to store. Stow-A-Way Products, Dept. G-12, Cohasset, Mass., has a new catalog of 1964 menus that contain complete breakfasts, luncheons, and dinners. Each menu serves four, and they're priced surprisingly low. Write for their catalog today.

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## GUN RACK

(Continued from page 9)

### New Speer Bullets

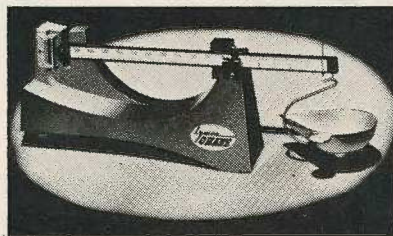
Finally we are able to report on the new Speer 52 grain HP 22 Match nickel jacketed bullet. Although this bullet has been listed in the Speer #6 Reloading Manual for some time, most people have not been able to obtain them. There is a real good reason for this—those who had a chance to shoot the bullets in matches have besieged Ray Speer so much that his supply of bullets is constantly at a low point. Ray himself used them to "clean up" in a Northwestern bench rest match recently and we have used this bullet in the new Winchester .225 where it gave us superb accuracy. If you are a bench rest or have a .22 caliber center-fire rifle that you like to see perform especially well, why not try and load some of these 52 grain HP Speer bullets?

### Rifle Stocks

If you are planning to have a rifle restocked or are thinking of doing the work yourself, you might take a hint from this experience. We have a .243 with a heavy Douglas barrel which was built up for us by Paul Haberly on a Model 98 action. Looking for a suitable stock we decided to give the stocks by Royal Arms Inc., 10064G Bert Acoster St., Santee, Calif, 92071, a try. The stock received is a fine walnut stock with a rosewood tip and cap and perfectly inletted for our action. Just a little relieving here and there and a little bit of work with sandpaper and we had a stock that looked very much like a custom job. Royal Arms has been doing a considerable amount of research in inletting and stocking, and noteworthy are the fancy grade stocks that this company is marketing. If you are thinking of stocking a gun this winter, you should definitely decide to look at the stocks made by Royal Arms. Write them for a catalog—available free of charge.

### New Lyman Scale

The new Lyman-Ohaus D-5 reloading scale is the economy model of a highly efficient powder scale. The magnetic dampener works extremely well and somebody at Ohaus or at Lyman should be congratulated for the de-



sign of the powder pan that, at long last, is so that it is easily handled and powder spillage has been reduced to an irreducible minimum.

The scale has a capacity of 505 grains, and can be used as an all around reloading

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scale. The magnetic dampening is quick and clean, and it's a positive stop that does not appear to be affected by exterior circumstances. The bearing surface is genuine agate and the balance beam is easily read. The scale retails for \$15 and is available at your favorite gun shop or sporting goods shop.

### Eley Ammo

We recently reported on the Eley shotshells and since then have managed to secure a small supply of Eley high velocity Long Rifle non-corrosive ammunition. This is a British import with a soft lead bullet; cases are head stamped with the ICI mark within the arrowhead. We put this ammunition through its paces on our indoor and outdoor range, both in handguns and rifles and find that accuracy is on par with any other of the ammunition that we have ever run through accuracy tests. In semi-automatic handguns as well as in two semi-automatic rifles we had no malfunction in a total of 250 rounds and fouling is minimal. Not available at the present, unless you are extremely lucky and can secure some special lots, is the Eley match ammunition which is superbly accurate and is on a par with any of the match ammunition that we have ever seen. We managed to secure 25 rounds of this ammunition, and using our heavy match rifle as well as our Browning match pistol, we fired some exceptional groups from solid rests. It is to be hoped that Eley match ammo will become more available in the near future. Eley ammunition, by the way, is imported by S. E. Laszlo of Brooklyn, N.Y.

### It Floats

We were recently the recipient of a new type of flashlight—the Uni-Float which delivers a long beam, can be used as a red emergency blinker, and will also deliver a beam and a blinker simultaneously, color of the blinker depends on the plastic flashlight housing. We first floated the lantern in the bathtub and after this test fastened a line on it and heaved the burning lantern into the lake not far from our home. An hour later the light was still burning, the mosquitoes were biting, and we decided to haul the lantern in and call it a day. This is a handy lantern and should definitely be on your packing list for your next camping trip, . . . it would not be out of place carrying it in your car as an emergency light. The Uni-float Mark II lantern is made by the Protect-O-Lite Mfg. Corp. at 600 E. 16th Ave., Dept. G, North Kansas City, Mo.

### Powder Dispenser

The Valley Arms and Research Co., Santa Maria, Calif. is marketing, through Wisler Western Arms (215G Second Ave., San Francisco, Cal.) a new powder dispenser. This Varco dispenser differs basically in three features. First of all, the dispenser is high enough off the bench to fit over most of the powder scale pans. Secondly, the legs of the dispenser have rubber cushioned grippers that prevent slippage of the dispenser while it is being used. The plastic hopper is large enough to accommodate a more than adequate amount of gun powder and can be used to bring a powder charge up to the desired weight or can be used to deliver the entire powder charge into the pan directly.

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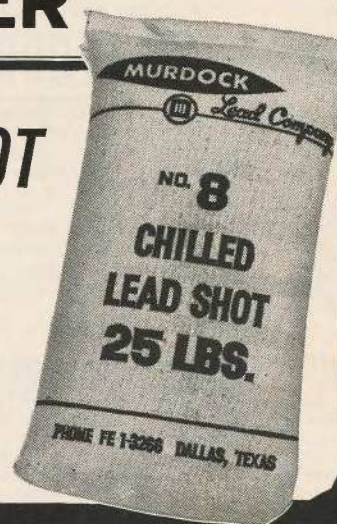


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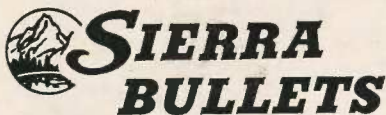
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By rapidly rotating the handle of the Varco Powder Dispenser you first deliver a fair amount of powder, and once your scale beam starts motion, stop the rotation of the handle. Then just move the handle back and forth, thereby delivering only several granules of powder at a time. This action is, of course, similar to that of other powder dispensers currently on the market. The powder dispenser works equally well with 5010 as well as with ball powders, although we found that the flow of ball powder is less easily controlled. The Varco dispenser allows exact delivery of powder, but individual powder granules cannot be controlled as accurately as with other powder dispensers, unless the handloader acquires a certain degree of skill.

**Pope Tool**

Jerry Simmons, 713G Middlebury St., Goshen, Indiana has an improved version of the old Harry Pope capping and decapping tool. To the shooters of single shot rifles, the Pope tool is about the handiest little gadget available.

The tool can of course be used by anyone to load fixed ammunition. The head of the tool must be of the correct size to handle a given cartridge. Heads for the customer's cartridge will be supplied upon request at no extra charge.

The tool comes with one head, complete with Allen wrench for \$20.00. Extra heads for the cartridge of your choice are \$3.00 each.

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## CAWS IN HI-FI

(Continued from page 29)

the machine and the hunter.

A couple of years ago, four of us made a quick trip from our Louisiana homes to gun the Oklahoma crow roosts. None of us had been there before so we floundered around quite a bit locating the right areas and getting set. With the aid of an electronic caller, we managed to kill a total of 887 crows in only two days.

The crow has no peer at testing the ability of a wingshooter, and quite probably no equal. That's my opinion, and that of a tight-mouthed group of "I-ain't-gonna-tell-nobody-about-this" crow shooters throughout the country. No other bird offers the variety of shots that this fellow does. His flight direction can be straight up, straight down, or any angle in between, and he is the absolute master at changing directions. It seems that no two birds fly at the same speed.

It's no wonder that crow shooters are close-mouthed. Here's a bird that's plentiful in most states, that is a tremendous challenge to the shooter, that comes readily to a call, and on which there is no closed season nor bag limit. Why should members of this cult invite competition?

The shotgun you use on crows is purely a matter of personal taste. My favorite, arrived at over 30 years of crow shooting, is a 20 gauge, Model 12 pump, tipped with a Poly-Choke, and having an over-all barrel length of 25 inches. The choice of action, of course, is a personal thing, but shell capacity weighs the scale heavily toward either a pump or an automatic.

I use light loads of No. 8 shot, with the Poly-Choke set on Improved Cylinder most of the time. At the short ranges at which you can take crows coming in to a "hi-fi," this combination—wash tub size pattern densely filled with small shot—is deadly beyond belief.

On the rare occasions when crows won't work in close, I adjust the Poly-Choke accordingly. The 20 gauge is big enough, but not too big. The light recoil is appreciated when you're shooting several hundred shells in an hour or two. The lighter weight of 20 gauge shells is appreciated, too, when you must lug them to a roost area on foot.

In addition to several excellent crow records, Wightman also markets the recorded calls of ducks, geese, wild turkeys, squealing rabbits (for calling predators), and one that chases starlings away.

Other electronic game calls are now on the market. M. L. Lynch, Box 6022, Birmingham, Alabama call his the Lynch's ML-5 Electronic Game Caller. Johnny Stewart, 925 North 22nd Street, Waco, Texas, is another manufacturer with a good machine, and some spectacular records. Like the other two listed above, Johnny's record player has a provision for using a microphone. There are occasions when there is an advantage to using a mouth-operated call in conjunction with the records—if you're good at calling, that is. Electronic Game Calls, Inc., 210 West Grand Avenue, Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin is another manufacturer with a fine game calling machine. A note to any of these com-

panies will bring you full information.

Even with caws in hi-fi, however, the crow population can absorb far more punishment than it now does without suffering. The fact is that even the authentic, real-life, recorded calls lose their effectiveness for a time following heavy shooting of an area. Crows that have been gunned require several weeks to recuperate from the Judas treatment. During that period of convalescence, they frequently flee from the most natural sounding crow talk, apparently not even trusting each other.

One wag expresses concern for future crow reproduction, speculating upon what might happen if the above distrust penetrates into the breeding pairs. Knowing the ability of the old black rascal to overcome almost any adversity, however, crow shooters and farmers fully expect that sex will out—that the flow of young crows from the wooded coverts of the nation will continue despite the electronic menace.

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### REBEL IN BLUE

By Herman Toepperwein

(William Morrow & Co., New York, N.Y., 1963, \$4.95)

This is a novel, but it is based upon a fact so little known that it deserves the attention of any student of Western Americana—the fact there was in south-central Texas throughout the Civil War a little group of German colonists who remained steadfastly loyal to the Union in surroundings and among neighbors violently dedicated to the Confederate cause. Herman Toepperwein is a descendant of those German settlers who founded the town of Fredericksburg, Texas, and his story is based on stories told him by grandmother and great-grandfather. A book well worth reading for information as well as for entertainment.—E.B.M.

### COWBOYS AND CATTLEMEN

Edited by Michael S. Kennedy

(Hastings House, New York, N.Y., 1964, \$10.00)

This roundup of articles from the pages of the Montana Magazine paints a word picture of the life and times of cowboys, cattlemen, and rustlers. As expected, there is a lot of Montana in this book, but no treatise on cowboys or cattle would be complete without mention of Texans, and they abound in this volume. The book is factual, interesting, and well worth the price and the time it will take to read. The dozen of masterful paintings and drawings by Charles Russell, used to illustrate the 25 major articles, add color to the lore, pathos, humor, and action packed into the 364 pages of this book.—J.R.

### SHOOTER'S BIBLE 1965

(Stoeger Arms Corp., S. Hackensack, N.J., 1964, \$2.95)

With each edition, the Shooter's Bible becomes a greater source of reliable gun information. And this 56th edition proves the point. In addition to the most complete catalog listing of foreign and American guns and accessories, it is well larded with articles of interest to shooters, articles by Pete Kuhlhoff, Charles Askins, and others. This book will undoubtedly take its place on the bookshelves of thousands as a primary source of information on guns and shooting.—J.R.

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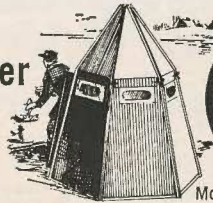
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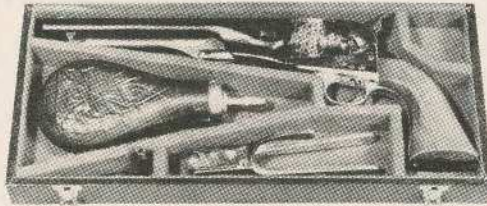


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#### THE DEER HUNTER'S GUIDE

By Francis E. Sell  
(The Stackpole Co., Harrisburg, Pa.,  
1964. \$5.00)

Here, in one tidy package, the novice deer hunter can get all of the low-down on deer hunting he might need in the woods next fall. But make no mistake, author Sell also offers some sound advice to the experienced hunter, advice that could easily make the difference between eating venison and cracking open a can of beans. A large part of the book is devoted to deer habitats, the reading of sign, the things to look for while stalking through the woods.

There is more, a great deal more, but suffice it to say here that this book is a worthwhile investment for the greater part of the deer hunters who take to the woods and fields every year. Sell tells you the how-to, but you'll have to do some of the work yourself out there in the woods.—R.A.S.

#### THE ART OF THE GUNMAKER

By J. F. Hayward  
(St. Martin's Press, New York, N.Y.,  
1964. \$18.00)

This is the second volume of Mr. Hayward's monumental work. Beginning with the Restoration Period of 1660, it takes you through the years of tremendous productivity and artistry in the field of guns. I believe that this big book with its many splendid photographs, will rapidly attain its rightful place on the shelves of those men who are students of the firearms history, and those who want to learn more about the development of the gun. I recommend it highly.—R.A.S.

#### THE YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK

By Hiram Martin Chittenden  
(The U. of Oklahoma Press, Norman,  
Okla., 1964. \$1.95)

Mention to anyone the name of our largest and oldest national park, and you'll hear a recital of its natural charms. I frankly admit that I considered reading this book a chore, but it soon turned into a pleasure session. If you think that you know something about its history, or about the development of the park, have been to the park or are planning to make a trip there, don't cheat yourself—get this book. It is a fine example of Americana presented in an interesting way.—R.A.S.

#### THE YOUNG SPORTSMAN'S GUIDE TO DOGS

By John R. Falk  
(Thomas Nelson & Sons, New York,  
N. Y., 1964. \$2.75)

This slim volume, by one of the recognized dog authorities, offers some fundamen-  
(Continued on page 63)

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(Continued from page 61)

mentals for the younger reader or for those who are about to acquire their first dog. Falk has successfully given a quick over-all view of the entire dog world and presents the six standard AKC classifications, gives typical examples of the dogs in these classes, and from his broad store of dog knowledge, he offers some pointers on training, house-breaking, and general dog care.—R.A.S.

### Booklets:

B. E. HODGON'S, INC., 7710 W. 50 Hiway, Shawnee Mission, Kansas, now has available their Reloader's Catalog #6 priced at \$1.50. While basically a catalog, there is much reloading information inside the more than 150 pages of this spiral bound booklet. Basic reloading steps are described and illustrated, and complete loading tables are included for all of Hodgson's powders.

JAMES, C. TILLINGHAST, Box 541G Marlo, N. H., has reprinted a number of fascinating catalogs. One of those is the scarce ammunition catalog issued by Sears, Roebuck and Co., another one is the Winchester catalog of loaded and empty shotshells, originally issued in November 1897. Ever hear of the Crittenden & Tibbals Manufacturing Company? Their catalog sheet, showing their metallic cartridges, has also been reprinted by Tillinghast.



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**THE .223!**

(Continued from page 21)

this is exceptionally good accuracy, and the gun held its zero, even when the barrel was heated by rapid firing during a heatwave when the temperatures reached the low 90's.

The AR-15 Sporter, the model is designated as SP 1, was an interesting study in engineering. The military AR-15 fires full



and semi-auto. Converting a semi-automatic rifle of this kind into full auto would, for a great many skilled gun tinkers, be child's play. In order to forestall objections by the ATU, Colt engineers revamped the firing mechanism to such an extent that conversion of the AR-15 Sporter into full automatic is completely out of the question. So much metal was removed that basement conversion to full auto is impossible, and making a completely new action would be the only way to convert the gun into a fully automatic rifle. The ATU men, according to Del Shorb, were "gratified with the work our engineers had done to forestall tampering with the gun."

The Sporter resembles the military rifle in all details, except for the full automatic firing feature and the fact that the web carrying sling on the civilian model is black, while the GI version of the sling is the standard OD color. Trigger pull, although measured at 7.5 lbs., does not appear to be that heavy. The minimum allowed trigger pull of the rifle is 5 lbs., the maximum is 9 lbs. In the AR-15 Sporter, the 55 grain Remington bullet churns up slightly better than 3100 fps., muzzle energy is over 1200 ft./lbs., but chamber pressure is under 52,000 psi. The scope mount with the Weaver mount, rings and the 4X Marble scope, did not make the gun top heavy, and although I tried to locate a shorter scope, preferably one of the military sniper variety, time was against me and I had to settle for a standard scope. Without ammo but scoped, the AR-15 Sporter weighed an even 8 lbs.; the magazine is blocked for five cartridges. It is possible to increase capacity of the magazine to 20 rounds for target shooting, and the job is accomplished easily and without tools. Take-down of the gun, with the exception of the front hinge screw, can be accomplished with one loaded cartridge to push out the various pins, but a punch is suggested because of the bullet's soft nose. Stripping instructions come with the gun, as do the complete instructions on how to adjust the peep sight.

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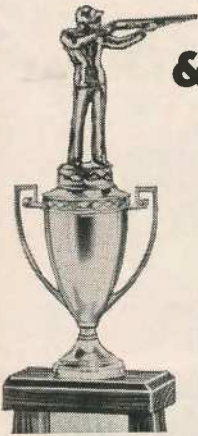
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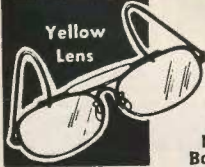
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Ballistically, the .223 cartridge is identical to the .222 Remington Magnum. There is little doubt that the availability of .223 ammo will create a demand for rechambering to this caliber, and the job should not be difficult, should prove successful if the conversion is from .222 or .222 Remington Magnum and if the original barrel has a 1 in 12 twist. Twists other than this will not stabilize the bullet adequately—an experience that Colt's had before settling on the 1 in 12 twist.

Colt is now planning to introduce a scope complete with base, but it will be some time before this becomes commercially available. A Colt spokesman told me that he already had reports from the field about the effectiveness of the AR-15 Sporter in the field, and small game, varmints, and even deer have fallen to the .223 cartridge. Had I anticipated that Colt's was interested in further field tests on game, I would have taken their Coltsman along to British Columbia—who knows, it might have collected a Boone & Crockett trophy!

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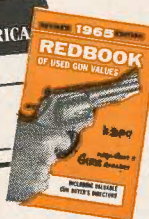
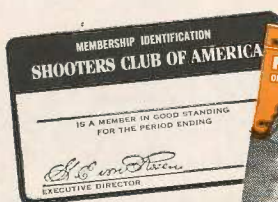
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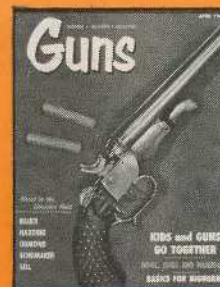
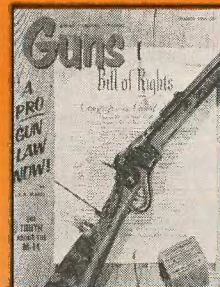
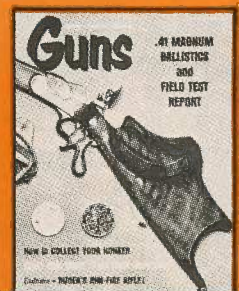
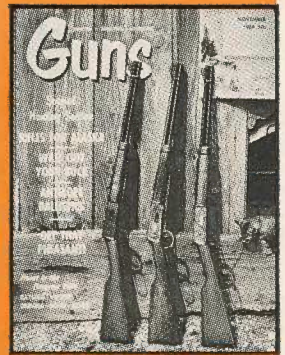
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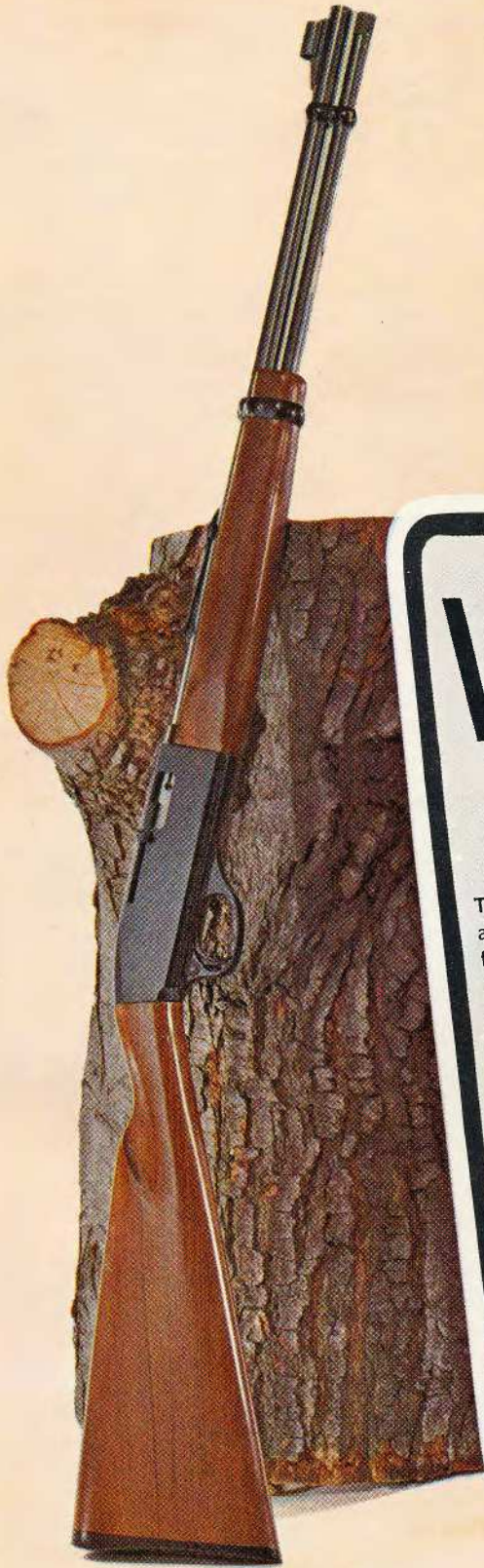


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# GUNS MAGAZINE

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# VARMINTS TAKE NOTICE

THIS LAND IS PROTECTED . . . by the new Colt autoloader, a 4 $\frac{3}{4}$  pound featherweight that fires fifteen fast and accurate .22 LR shots. The autoloader has a Western stock, an easy loading tubular magazine, a fully adjustable rear sight, a hooded gold-bead front sight, and a positive cross-bolt safety.

Make yourselves scarce, varmints. New Colt autoloaders are at all Registered Colt Dealers now.



Colt autoloader, illustrated, costs \$52.50.  
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**Colt Industries**

Colt's Firearms Division  
Hartford, Connecticut

# Why we made Tanganyika the proving ground for these two great new Winchester shotguns.

Our new slide-action Model 1200 and Model 1400 automatic both have many new features. So we tested and proved them on safari—with David Ommanney, “our man in Africa.”



Few men know more about game and guns than this famous professional hunter, whom we chose to lead our safari. We wanted his straight-from-the-shoulder opinion.



First shot Ommanney made with the new 1200 bagged this spur fowl—at 55 yards. In Tanganyika, game birds are plentiful, daily limits liberal. Both new shotguns got a real workout.



Loading is easy, though automatic shotguns are tightly controlled in Africa. Conservation laws limit you to one shell in the chamber and no more than two in the magazine.



Only shot shells used were our new plastic Super-Speed and Super-X “compression-formed” Mark 5’s. “I never saw shells made like these, or that shoot so *hard*,” said David.



Waiting in blind for sand grouse Ommanney is about to load his 1200. This new slide-action shotgun costs \$96. You pay a bit more, of course, for the new 1400 automatic: \$134.95.



Soon after dawn, the action was fast and furious—as hundreds of flights of sand grouse came barreling in to drink. Here, Ommanney gets in the swing with his 1400.



These sand grouse and doves took some stopping. The sure way our new shotguns and shells dropped them at long range—cleanly and consistently—was just the proof we needed.



New feature on both guns is this front-loading, rotary bolt head, not found on any other shotgun. Its 4 lugs lock directly into the barrel, give you *vault-tight* breeching.



For teamwork that can't miss, try using our new plastic Mark 5's with either of these shotguns. All did so well on safari that Ommanney called their performance “smashing.”