

JUNE 1958 50c



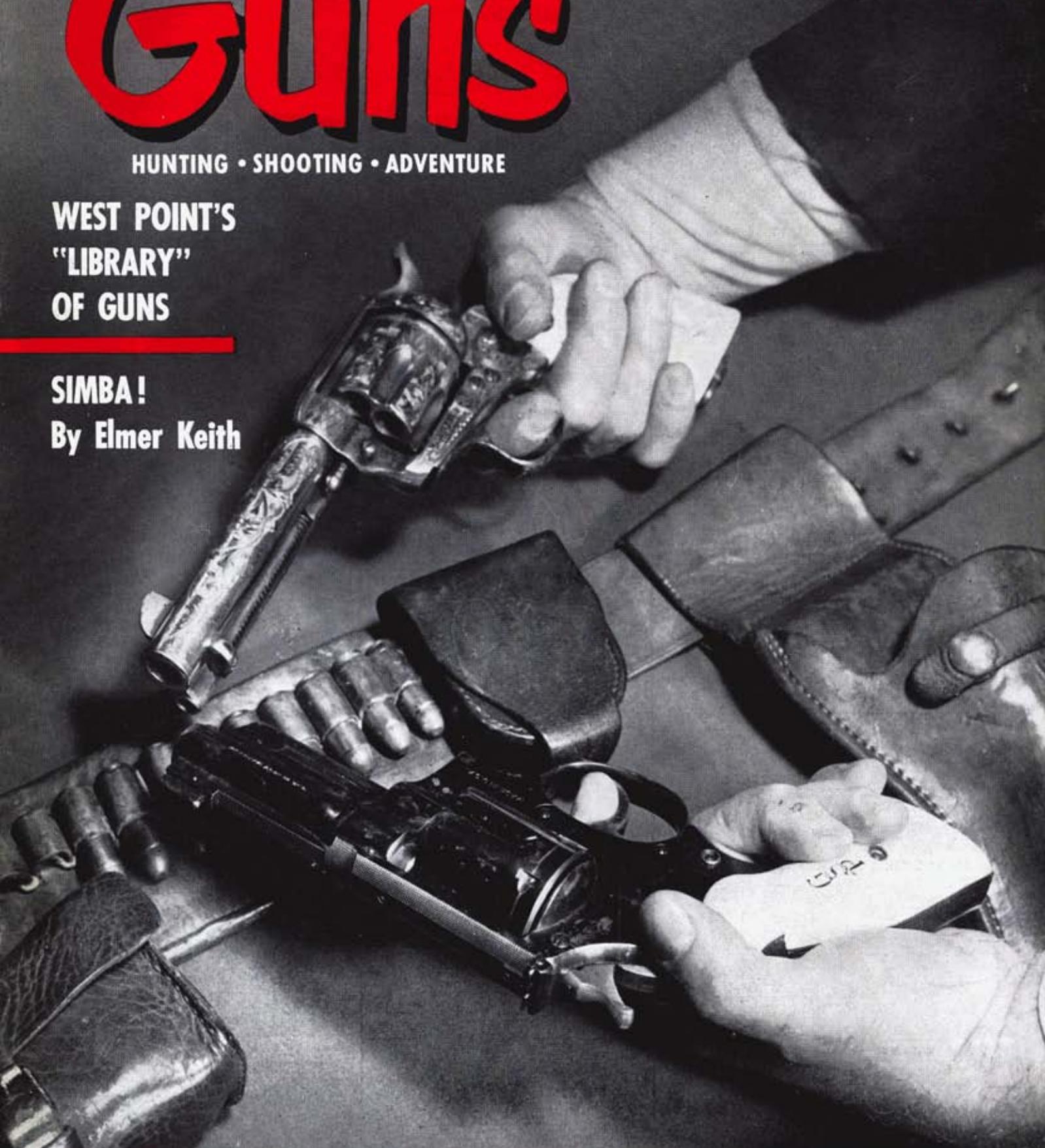
Guns

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OF GUNS

SIMBA!
By Elmer Keith



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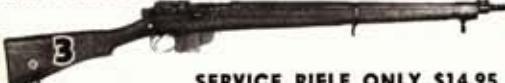


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Cal. 11MM Mauser Only \$9.95

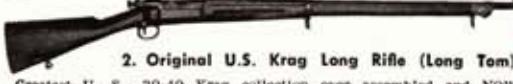
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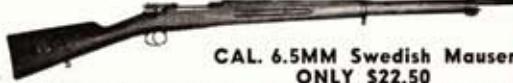
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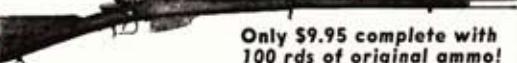
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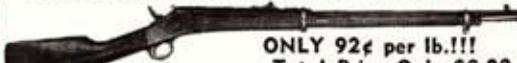


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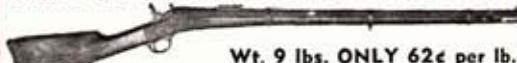


ONLY 92¢ per lb!!!

Total Price Only \$8.28

Remington Rolling Blocks, those are the Remingtons! Ye Old Hunter's of course, and at the Remingtons' give-away prices within the reach of everyone. Look at this steel—original 7mm Remington in "gun crank condition" (see below) the perfect companion piece to the noble 43's listed below at world's lowest price. You can almost see the finger prints which the former fanatical owner put into the gun as you realized the Jig was up! Don't confuse our original indescribable Remingtons with the incredible specimens offered elsewhere. Nobody but Nobody has Remingtons like these! Ask the man who cleaned one. TOTAL PRICE ONLY \$8.28. Shipped pre-paid. WE GUARANTEE COMPLETELY COMPLETE AND IN "GUN CRANK CONDITION" (Minimum order 9 lbs.) A few elite Old Hunter hand picked glowing specimens at \$1.12 per lb.—only \$10.08. Ye Old Hunter has now located a few original bayonets for these jewels at only \$1.00 each! "Long Tom" type, bayonet type, cut footed type. These bayonets are the famous knife-blade variety which gleamed about many revolutionary camp fires in days of yore! Pack your teeth on the Revolutionaries' favorite, Condition Fair. Order now!

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Wt. 9 lbs. ONLY 62¢ per lb.

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By IOSIF SIRBU, Romanian International Shooter

FOR SHOOTING ACCORDING to the rules of the International Shooting Union I use the Finnish "Lion" free rifle, caliber .22 Long Rifle. With this rifle I shot in fifth place in the smallbore prone match at the Olympics two years ago. This must be my favorite rifle, because I have taken it to two Olympic matches and completely around the world once. I hope to compete at the International Matches in Moscow in August, 1958.

MY FAVORITE GUN



By FRED N. BARNES
Custom Bullet Maker

ELECTING a favorite gun from among the many I have owned and shot is no problem—it is this rifle of my own design of stock and caliber, .276 B-J Express. It shoots a 180 grain bullet over 3000 f.p.s. using 81 grains of .50 MG powder. Stock is Japanese cherry by Stanley McFarland of Grand Junction, Colorado, and scope is 6X Supra, steel tube. This is my favorite rifle for one main reason, not because it is super accurate (the barrel is too

light for that), but because it consistently shoots to the same point of impact, this week, next week and the next. This is very important on an extended hunting trip where it is next to impossible to check the sighting-in every few days. Last fall in Alaska I killed two caribou and a fine Dahl ram, all at long range, one shot each. I also killed six ptarmigan, head shots, one for each with one miss. Returning home six weeks later, I checked the sight adjustment and found it to be exactly "on target," after 8,000 miles shaking around in an automobile, 400 miles in an airplane, and carrying it over all sorts of terrain and at every altitude.

TRIGGER TALK

As a boy, as a man, Elmer Keith dreamed of hunting big game in Africa. More than 20 years ago he bought a .476 Westley Richards double rifle. He knew that someday, somehow, he would span that 10,000 mile gap from the hills of Idaho, and that three thousand dollar financial hurdle, to experience the thrills of personal conquest on one of the world's last big-game frontiers. Now in GUNS Keith for the first time writes of shooting the king of beasts, the African bush lion. Elmer used his .476 on the tawny monarch of Africa to take his trophy.

Another frontier recurs on the pages of GUNS this issue with two features relating to the Old West. The saga of "Pistol Pete" Eaton, the still-living Oklahoman whose life span knits together two different worlds in time is a fast-paced, rough tale of life—and death, and justice—when the West was young. And linked in shooter's minds with those days of rugged individualism and sudden justice is the Colt Frontier revolver. The Frontier Colt receives a clear appraisal at the hands of a man who has studied its mechanism and knows how it works. Canadian shooter Alec Mactavish takes apart the Peacemaker piece by piece, and tells you how to put it together again so it will have that durable, reliable quality spoken of by the old frontiersmen and so seldom attained by the modern gunsmith in rebuilding.

"This Law Makes Crime Safe" is the third in an intermittent series of articles on firearms laws. Naturally the grandaddy of anti-gun laws, the "Sullivan Law" of New York, comes in for examination in terms of what it means today to the citizens which it affects. "Roger Riley" is a necessary pseudonym of a well-known New York journalist whose daily living puts him in close touch with law enforcement officers in the N.Y. P.D. His career as a journalist would suffer if his name became known and, in addition, he might get a lot of parking tickets.

Our cover story, West Point's "library" of guns, tells of one side of this important institution of learning which is almost unknown. Wider publicity to the emphasis which the U.S. Military Academy gives to small arms studies might attract more cadets from among GUNS readers. The Army should be seriously considered as a career offering good monetary rewards with the plus of enabling a young man to distinguish himself in the service of his country.

Texan Toney returns to us with his article on submachine gun marksmanship. Seldom understood is the accuracy potential of full automatic fire. While Toney makes no claim to the "2600 Club" with a Reising or Thompson gun, he does prove that in the hands of experienced shooters these are effective.

Next month GUNS will present more unusual articles, one featuring a shooting match attended by 80,000 to 100,000 shooters. Another tells of our Army's new automatic arms. Tech editor Bill Edwards and GUNS writer Herb Erfurth were able to borrow an M14 and an M60 machine gun for a real gun-crank's evaluation of these new weapons.



THE COVER

Silent are his guns, mementos of the indomitable General George Patton. Today in the Point's "library of guns," they recall to cadets the memory of Old Blood & Guts' greatness, not his faults: the firm, instant decision; the ability to lead where the fire is hottest—these memories live on.

Guns

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

JUNE, 1958

VOL. IV, 6-42

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GUNS magazine is published monthly at 8150 N. Central Park Avenue, Skokie, Illinois. Second class mail privileges authorized at Skokie, Illinois. SUBSCRIPTION: One year, \$5.00. Single copy 50¢. CHANGE OF ADDRESS must be made six weeks in advance on all changes, send old address as well as new. CONTESTS admissible mailing entry, photographs or other material sent to the publisher, Mailed entries must be returned unless accompanied by sufficient postage. PAYMENT will be made at rates current at time of acceptance and will cover reproduction in any or all GUNS magazine editions. ADVERTISING RATES furnished on request.



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GUN RACK



GUNS Technical Staff

Plastic Shot Shells

THE LATEST THING in cartridges, something which may revolutionize the ammunition industry, is the use of plastics in shell case fabrication. American work in the field tends to the big stuff, artillery; but abroad, shotshell design and production has attracted manufacturers. Earliest plastic shell brought to our attention was the "Robijn," a Dutch shell, details of which were known only through a 1951 pamphlet. Finally, in the fall of 1957, we obtained samples of plastic shells for shooting; the Pinto made at Como, Italy. Meanwhile, the plastics on cartridge dealers' lists spiraled up in value to a dollar a round as a curiosity. It was with a mild amusement that we found ourselves blazing away at the clay birds with ammunition worth a buck each time we squeezed the trigger!

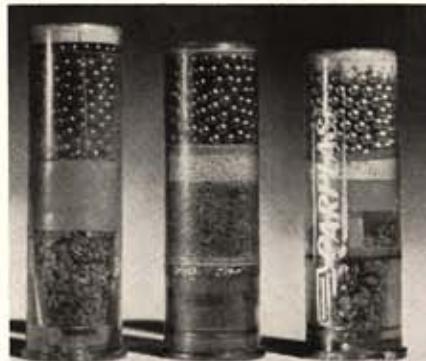
First was a round of trap using a Remington 12-gauge M58 gas-operated autoloader. The box of Pintos declaims that they are for automatic "fucili," but the red, low velocity jobs tore the rims against the thin ejector and failed to eject cleanly. The red shells seemed of slightly softer plastic than the gray, high power loads. Some of the gray shells ejected properly, about 15° to the side. The Model 58 of course is the roughest system of autoloader, in terms of damaging cases, since the bolt assembly is carried to the rear by a separate gas force, not the direct pressure of the case head against the bolt, as in the recoil operated autoloaders. Both red (low power) and gray (high power) shells were used, about a dozen fired, and a dozen birds dusted.

Later, I tried a few rounds pheasant hunting, using a single-barrel 12-gauge Greener GP gun. Snow was knee high or deeper, and the terrain below the smooth white cover was uneven, unsure footing. I found it convenient to drop the GP lever, pop out the round, and stick it in my pocket, for absolute safety. Several times I stumbled and fell, and knowing the gun was entirely empty made me much less concerned for the safety of my fellow hunters. Using the GP single gun that way, too, I noticed that it didn't flop into several fragments, like a hinged frame shotgun when broken. It was easy to slip in the shell, throw the lever shut and flip the safety forward all in one motion as I brought the gun to my shoulder. Three shots at three birds brought all down. Two other shots missed—one I walked up to within ten feet. It took wing and I fired with too much lead, while the other one I just plain missed, no alibi!

The gray high velocity loads have an inner shot case consisting of two half-sections of curved plastic that slide out the tube with the shot and wad. There is considerable jostling of shot as could be seen by the dented plastic half section which I found on the white snow, but it unquestionably kept the pellets from touching the bore, and might reduce lead fouling. Since I had fired

both red shells and gray ones, there was some slight fouling in my GP after firing.

In Italy, these shells are new on the market and fairly expensive, costing as much as any others at retail. The red ones will not reload. The top rolled crimp appears to be torn off by the top wad. The gray ones may reload, but the edge is ragged—the edge remains curled, snapping back after



Foreign Pinto and Carplast shells are heavy and regular loads, but rims tore from automatic ejection.



the shot leaves. Several of the low pressure shells from the M58 had their primers set back, due to the fast opening action. The gray Pintos use a rubberlike plastic wad with a skirt for gas seal; the red ones, apparently an earlier development, use cardboard and fiber wads of standard pattern.

In France, similar shells are also available under the name of Carplast. Unusual in the Carplast shell is the wad, a ribbed structure with cavities around it into which the power flakes will drift. Perhaps these cavities make a better gas seal—no Carplast shells were available in quantity to test.

Plastic materials adaptable to the fabrication of shot shells are being made by Marbon Chemical Division, Borg Warner Corp., 7165 Chicago Ave., Gary, Indiana. According to Mr. T. N. Wells, Sales Department, Marbon Chemical, "A lightweight plastic cartridge case . . . has been successfully tested by actual firing in a 105 mm howitzer." Report No. 1, Project M-5, from Marbon, on the use of their "Cycloac" thermoplastic for shell casings, mentions that "One of the big questions to be considered during the forthcoming . . . studies by the Army is the ultimate reduction in overall ammunition costs which may be expected. Mass production of plastic cases is substantially cheaper

than brass or steel cases . . . Ease of manufacture is another important advantage of plastic cartridge cases. The special grade of thermoplastic used in this development can be moulded into cartridge cases by conventional injection moulding processes . . . This feature will permit hundreds of U.S. plastics firms to perform work previously done by a limited number of cartridge case suppliers, thereby broadening the base of supply and increasing competition." Lower-cost factory loads will be welcomed by all shooters.

We have not done exhaustive patterning studies with the Pinto or Carplast shells. But they lend themselves, just as do paper and brass shotshells, to the most precise loading of which the machines are capable. Some alert plastics fabricator wanting to turn to a new product can crash the ammunition field with first quality shooting stuff probably at half or one third of current retail brass and paper shells. While the hotter-working automatics do not take too kindly to the plastic base shells, single and double guns fire them excellently, and most pumps and some recoil-operated autoloaders will function with them. As you read this, some alert plastics former may be working up moulds to put the first U.S. made plastic shell on the market. The development is long overdue.

Colt Pocket .25's Are Back

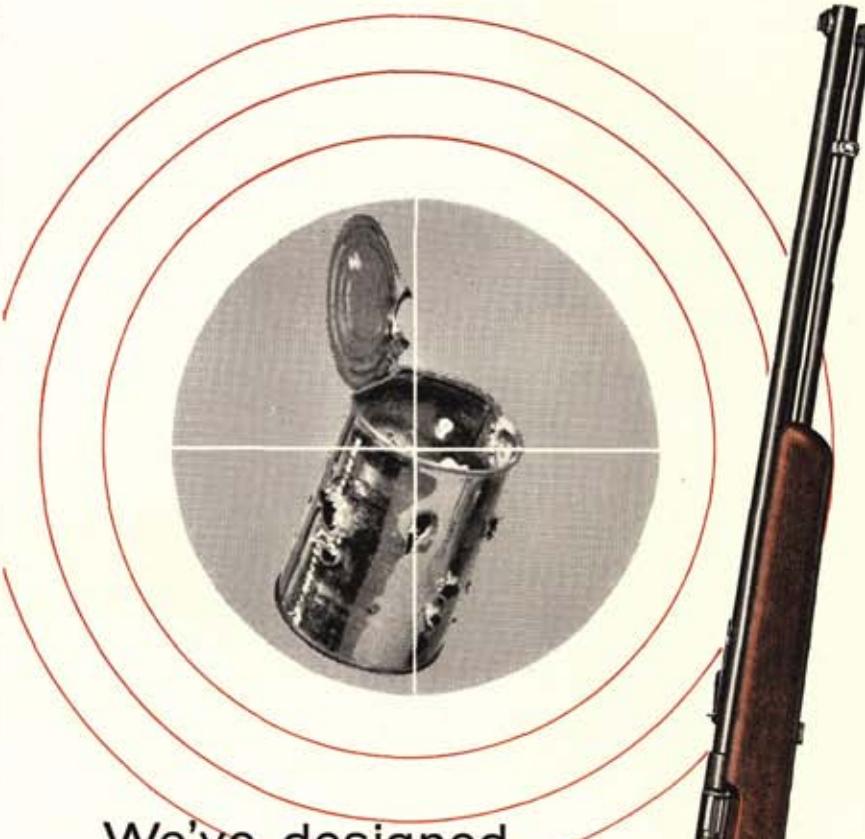
From the first advertisement of the Colt .25 pocket automatic pistol many long years ago, the little handgun has been centered in controversy. The editorial comments from the 1908 humor magazine, "Gimlet," reproduced below the original announcement of the Colt pocket .25, pointed out the feelings which some inevitably had toward .25 pistols, that they were only good for killing people, and not much good for that. Yet as time went on and thugs in their impartiality used stolen police service revolvers, boughten .22 plinking pistols, and sawed off single barrel shotguns in their depredations against citizens, the Colt .25 pocket pistol continued to be a strong seller. Police officers in off-duty situations and in plain clothes found it comforting to tuck



New Colt .25 is pint sized, comes with extra .22 conversion slide, clip.

one in a vest pocket. Second-hand .25's attested to years of being carried in with the keys and loose change, to judge from the superficial nicks found on them, and in general, over 350,000 of the tiny guns found a ready sale among the orderly and sober members of society. Women often requiring pocket defense after dusk or in some far corner of the city found them handy in the purse. And so, despite the occasional sensational crimes of passion which, consummated

(Continued on page 62)



We've designed
these **Stevens 22's**
for younger shooters

Here are two great new .22's designed especially for younger shooters. The Stevens 87-K "Scout" carbine (shown at the right) is as good-looking as it is straight-shooting. Fires 15 long rifle cartridges as fast as you pull the trigger. It's also a bolt action repeater or single shot with any size .22 cartridge. Gold-plated trigger . . . chromed operating knob, safety and tube support. Desert tan stock with white line butt plate insert.

Below you see a new single shot, bolt action rifle—the Stevens 15-Y. It's got the fit and feel that youngsters go for—short stock and 21" barrel. Really accurate, light to carry and easy to handle, too. Bright-plated cocking knob, bolt and trigger. Also made with full size stock and barrel.

See these fine .22's at your dealer's now. There are Savage and Stevens .22's for every type of shooting—11 different models to choose from. Write for free rifle or shotgun catalog. Savage Arms, Chicopee Falls 17, Mass.

Model 87-K
"Scout" carbine
\$39.75



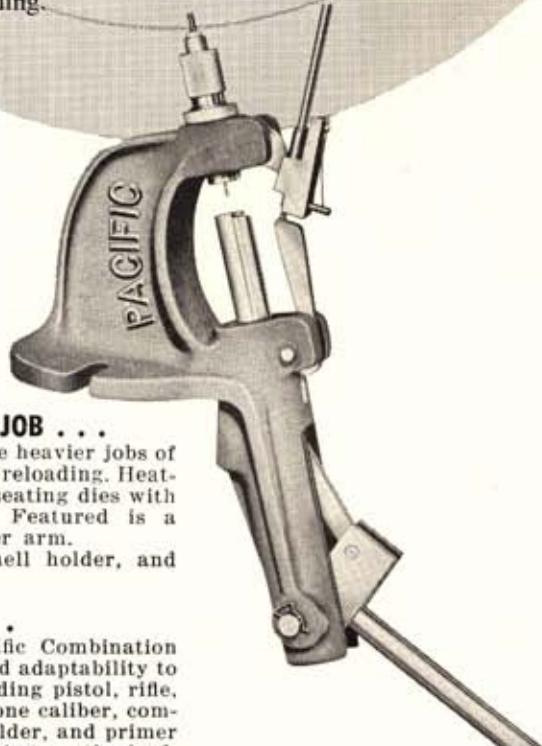
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GUNS in the NEWS

[Special]

◆ Dr. Norman Cardey, says the Los Angeles, California, "Times," killed three ducks with one shot. Dr. Cardey says he was so flabbergasted when the three birds fell that it never occurred to him to fire again.

★ ★ ★

◆ Washington, D. C.: A World War I veteran, Nathan Meyers, a grocer, routed an intruder in his store by blazing away at him with a pistol. He missed but his wife didn't. She clubbed him over the head with a broomstick as he ran by her.

★ ★ ★

◆ Virginia, Miss.: Defending Jon Lynott, his four-year-old master, a plucky dog fought a fang-and-claw duel with a 35-pound wildcat. The cat had sprung on the boy's back but the dog sprang at the cat. James Drake, a retired policeman, happened by and saved both the boy and the dog with a single shot from his gun.

★ ★ ★

◆ Baltimore: When a man tried to hold up Grocer John Belton with a toy pistol, Mr. Belton refused to budge. "Who're you trying to scare with that thing?" he asked. The man meekly ordered a quart of milk and handed the grocer \$1 to pay for it. Mr. Belton took the dollar, pulled a real gun out of the cash drawer and held the man for the police.

★ ★ ★

◆ Chebeague Island, Me.: Death came to William C. "Billy" Hill, the only man known to ever have "outshot" Annie Oakley. He met Annie in a special match at Rangeley Lakes in the early 1900s and shattered 99 out of 100 clay balls. The famed marks-woman hit only 88.

★ ★ ★

◆ Atlanta, Ga.: Emmett Beeks, a night watchman, routed two prowlers at gunpoint from a restaurant but waited until the place opened next morning to report to police. It seemed he'd delayed phoning because he had no dime.

★ ★ ★

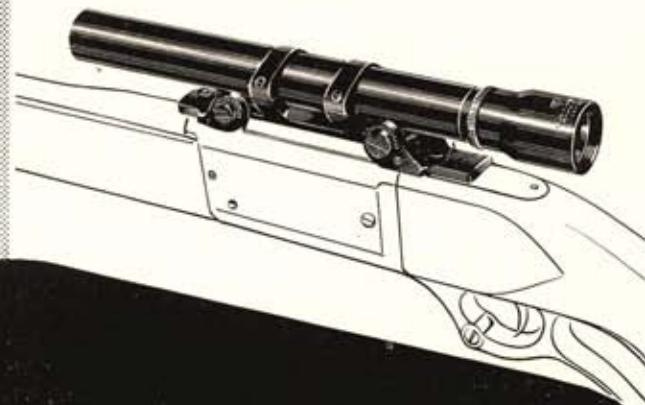
◆ New York City: Boat owners here are being told they are violating the Sullivan law when they carry rockets and other distress flares on their craft. They need a pistol permit.

★ ★ ★

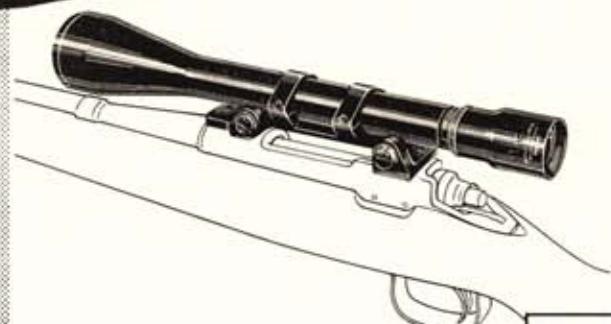
◆ It is reported that Henry T. Downey of Youngstown, Ohio, found a \$20 bill in the mouth of a rabbit he shot. Ohio farmers are now seeking the seed that produces that kind of lettuce.

★ ★ ★

◆ Boonville, Ind.: A house cat, mistaken for an alleged "black panther" which had been terrorizing the town, was shot to death. The incident brought this comment from a posse leader: "Those who don't know a house cat from a panther should stay home."



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CROSSFIRE

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

the Lee Arms Co., Bridgeport, Conn. They have straight bolt handles. A total of 300 were purchased by the U. S. Navy in 1881. I have three in my collection. The second model "Remington Lee" was number 36 in the Board of 1882 trials. It took first place. It has the bent-down bolt handle like the gun you pictured.

Don Hanks

Woodacre, California

The rifle pictured is in my personal collection, is an unmarked arm, from the estate of James Paris Lee. The "first Lee rifle" made by the Lee Arms Co. of Bridgeport was not the first Lee rifle by any means. The "Lee Arms Co., of Bridgeport" and Sharps Rifle Co., also in Bridgeport, had the same office address. The improved Lee rifle was the one Sharps planned to introduce, in my opinion. Catalogs describe it, ordnance reports show it. The 1882 Lee-Remington is fundamentally similar to the Lee-Sharps—naturally, it is the model which Remington subsequently made. But the detail parts differ. Hugh Borchardt of the Sharps company remained in association with Lee for some time. If you will review the 1882 ordnance board report you will find it is not the Lee-Remington, but the Lee of Hartford which is displayed by Borchardt at the trials. Meanwhile, if you have any photos or detail descriptions of your Lee rifles, including marks, would welcome hearing from you. Plan to do a story sometime soon on Lee's guns.—William B. Edwards, Technical Editor.

Elmer Keith
Salmon, Idaho

The Bodrie Cover

Dealers as well as shooters have been giving me the razz about our new Colt S.A. that shoots so fast it goes off with the hammer still in the full cock position. If seeing is believing, look at your Joe Bodrie "fast draw" photo on the April cover. It's there in black and white . . . Please tell 'em it ain't so.

Bill Murphy
Colt's Sales Rep.
Chicago, Illinois

Several readers have accused us of a goof on this one. Nobody goofed. The picture was taken by stroboscopic light, which flickers many times a second. When the gun came level just before the shot, the flash recorded the cocked hammer. The gun fired at the end of that same flash and the muzzle blast itself recorded through the still open camera lens. The photo shows the blur of the hammer's fall; the cover reproduction lost this blur. The picture on page 13 is from another film, shows the hammer down. No retouching of any kind was done on either picture.—Editors.

Experts Disagree

I am not going to renew my subscription because I find your articles very inaccurate. For example, your caption on page 35, January '56 issue, describes a pictured gun as the "first Lee rifle . . . made at Sharps Rifle Co. in Bridgeport before Sharps firm folded in 1880's." The first Lee rifle was made by

Experts Also Sometimes Goof

Thank you for the excellent treatment you gave my article, "I Like The Side-By-Sides," in the April issue. However, I would like to correct two inaccuracies in picture captions on the first page.

First, the Westley Richards shotgun is not mine—I have never owned such a gun; and, second, the shotgun shown in the still life picture is not an Ithaca but, instead, is my old Lefever. It has served me well since 1929 and deserves to have due credit.

In my opinion, GUNS has lapped the field and is still going away.

George W. Busbey
Grass Valley, California

Too many cooks spoiled the broth. One of us added extra pictures to the Busbey folder—another man captioned the layout, thinking all guns were the author's. But the Lefever Nitro Special pictured was made by Ithaca from 1921-48 and Col. Busbey states in his article that he purchased his in 1929.—Editors.

I don't often write to editors, but when I buy a magazine I like and find a part of one of the best articles missing, I get my dander up. The article in question is "Keith On Big Bullets" in March GUNS. Something is missing where the article is continued from page 18 to page 44.

Would like also to find out if a 44-40

Single Action made by Hopkins & Allen and in fair condition would have any value?

Arnold S. Marple
Camas, Washington

Several readers (including Keith!) noticed this slip. Four words were missing: "... bear. I finished him . . ." Sorry. It was all the fault of them damn' gremlins.

The "Blue Book Of Used Gun Values" (published by the publishers of this magazine, price \$2.00) says your H&A is worth about \$30, retail, in really good condition. How good is "fair" is up to you.—Editors.

Thanks, Friend. We Needed This.

I have been reading your magazine for over 2 years, and to say that your magazine is THE guns magazine, would be an understatement. How you are able to come up with issue after issue of such classic articles on guns is uncanny. Guns magazine and its staff should be congratulated on their research and thoroughness put into each of the articles.

Neil Pethick
Toronto, Ontario

"Pistol Pete" is Dead

We have stopped the presses to include this "flash" from Perkins, Okla., bearing the dateline April 8: "Frank (Pistol Pete) Eaton, 97, former United States deputy marshal, reputed to have killed 11 outlaws in his younger days, died here today."

Eaton gained fame while avenging the death of his father who, he said, was killed by 'Missouri bushwhackers.' Eaton was 8 at the time, but he vowed to get revenge. It took him 19 years to do it, but . . . he killed 5 men connected with his father's death." (See story, page 26.)

So passes another of the old-timers who wrote western history in the smoke of ready, deadly guns.

Psalm of Keith's Disciples

With all due apology to Mr. Keith, I would like to reveal what I heard a fellow gun-bug mutter as he was being committed to the local asylum for "blastitis" (a specialized form of shell-shock):

Elmer Keith is my master,
I shall not flinch.
He leadeth me to larger calibers.
He suggesteth hotter hand-loads.
Yea, though I load with 2400,
I fear not failure.
For my S&W is with me.
Recessed chambers comfort me.
I hunt chipmunks with my .458;
Verily, I slay cans with my .44 magnum.
Yea, though I load maximum with a pinch
for luck,
Yea, though I implore Lyman to design a
heavier bullet.
I shall not be satisfied.
Surely, someone will bring forth a hotter
magnum;
Then, shall my heart be gladdened
And powder-smoke shall surround me all
the days of my life.

If you wish to put this in "Crossfire,"
please don't print my name!

Name withheld

Fight For Freedom

Washington's Birthday is a most appropriate day to thank you for your Fight For Freedom, and fight to let us have our guns.

Mr. Snyder in Milwaukee informed me of the fact that you backed his vs. the local custom collector's error in assessing his 1811 flintlock pistol. I am happy to see that we have one Editor who "sticks to his guns."

Ken Lane
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

There'll Never Be Another McGivern

Thanks for an honor I'll never forget. Your write-up in Trigger Talk offering my article ("You, Too, Can Be a 'Trick' Shooter," March, 1958) in tribute to the memory of Ed McGivern hit me real hard. He was my greatest inspiration when the going got tough. I knew it could be done—because he had already been over the road.

I doubt if there will ever be another McGivern. There really isn't much incentive anymore except to satisfy a personal curiosity. It is really too bad to have to admit that the day has long gone when we were considered a "Nation of Riflemen."

Clyde G. Howell
Yorkville, Illinois

The Missing Mr. Gee

I saw the write-up by Keith on the Gee Magnetic Scope Sight Mount and am very much interested in this. Where can I get one? Are they being sold in stores or does Gee make them?

Gill Smith
McNary, Oregon

Mr. Gee was "wanted," not only by GUNS readers but by a manufacturer interested in the commercial possibilities of the scope. His address: 4443 No. 48th Ave., Glendale, Arizona.—Editors.

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and
LIGHT
from this

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78 years of gun-making skill is yours in this spanking new king of the .22's.

The same pride of craftsmanship that has always distinguished ITHACA from "just another gun" lives in this modern new .22.

You get these features at a low, low, price . . .

- Two interchangeable front sights, hairsplitting red "Ithaca Raybar" and Tack Driving black.
- Clip loading. Safer & Faster.
- Solid-steel construction, carefully machined. Built entirely in USA by gunsmiths with a reputation for quality.
- Triple-Safety, the really safe safety for built-in peace of mind.
- A real man's gun built along sturdy military combat lines, that you would expect to cost far more than it does. Strong, Rugged parts, built for use and abuse.
- Easiest take-down of any .22 you ever saw.



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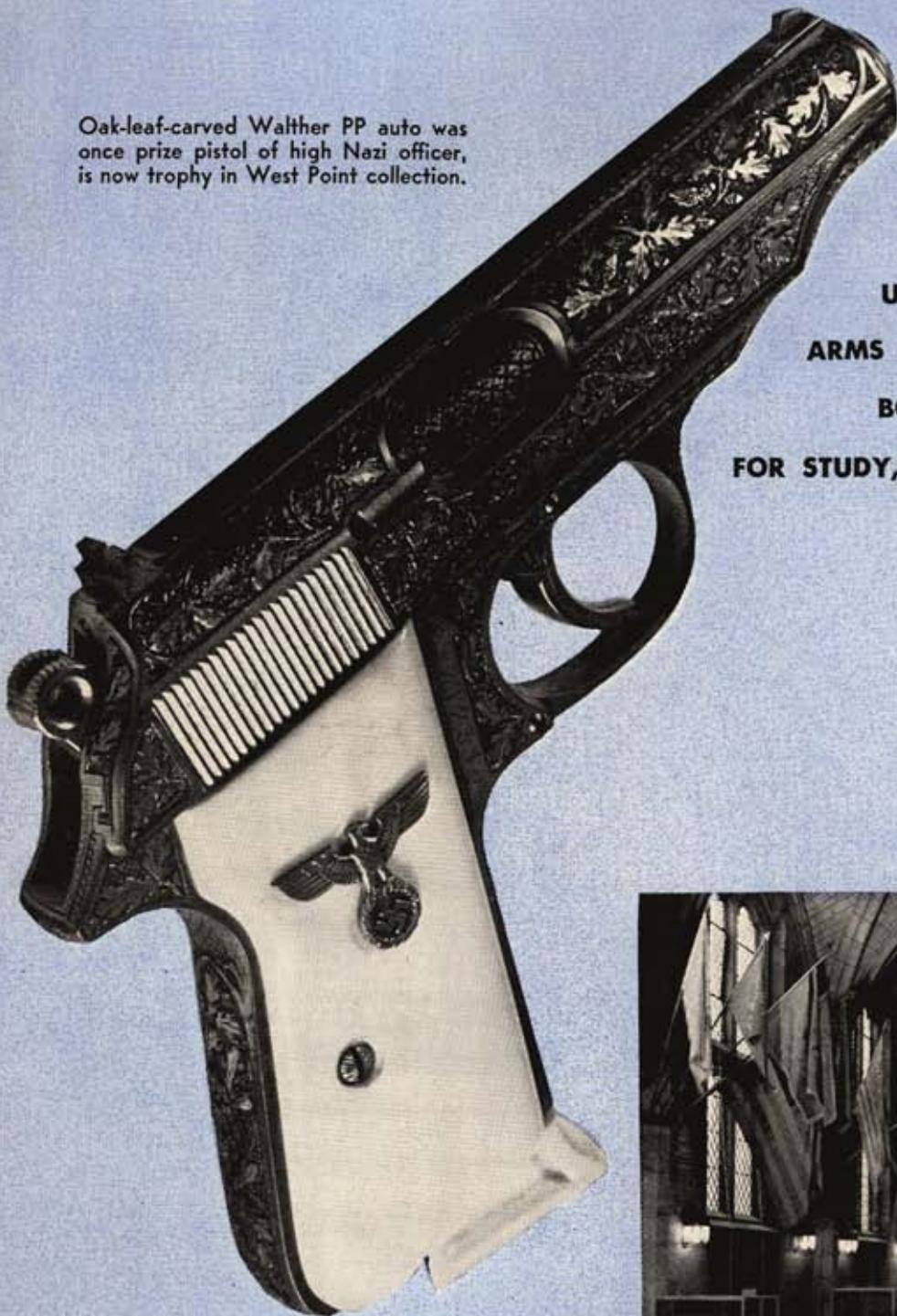
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WEST POINT'S "LIBRARY"

Oak-leaf-carved Walther PP auto was once prize pistol of high Nazi officer, is now trophy in West Point collection.



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ARMS IS CIRCULATED LIKE LIBRARY
BOOKS TO FUTURE GENERALS,
FOR STUDY, MANUAL FAMILIARIZATION,
AND ACTUAL TEST FIRING

By MILTON F. PERRY

*Former Curator of History
West Point Museum*



Vaulted gallery is one small part of huge Military Academy arms display. Bronze Confederate cannon fired last shot of Civil War.

OF GUNS



Scale model of 1885 U.S. cannon is studied by cadets in history of artillery. Some "plebes" shoot arms like cap lock gun or Morse carbine on the Academy's range.



ALL UNIVERSITIES have libraries. In thinking of any library we immediately visualize rows of shelves lined with books. However, some colleges own libraries of medical specimens, manuscripts, paintings, or photographs. But only at the Military Academy at West Point is there a library of guns for the use of college students. Organized and staffed like most libraries, it is perhaps the world's busiest gun collection. This feature of West Point's Museum is shown to every new class of cadets during their first month at the Academy, and cadets use the guns for detailed study throughout the four year course.

The museum's "Study Collection" is a library in every meaning of the word except one. Instead of books, there are rifles, machine guns, pistols, cartridges, swords, and all types of military accoutrements. These are on shelves and on sliding panels, or stored in drawers and boxes. Every item can be borrowed, just like books in other libraries. Any cadet can come in and "browze" at will through the collection. If he wants a Colt 1860 Army revolver, a Luger, a Lewis machine gun, an MP 40 "burp gun," a Springfield '73, or an Argentine Mauser, he simply signs

for it and lugs it off. He may want to study the mechanism because he's curious about it; or he might be working on a term paper or giving lectures; or he may want to test the weapon on the range. Whatever the reason, if he pledges to return the weapon in as good condition as when he received it, the museum, through the Study Collections, is ready to help him.

This section of the museum is a logical development from the old Ordnance Museum that was established at West Point more than a century ago. Here were maintained samples of firearms and artillery, as well as ammunition, for the cadets to study. Gradually, they began borrowing these articles, until a special section of the museum was created for just this purpose. This "library" has been so popular that it now takes on vastly expanded duties and occupies practically the full time of several trained "librarians." In the future, the museum's entire collection will be available for study, and not just by the cadets; for it is hoped that collectors, students, and writers will avail themselves of it.

Many of the new cadets have never fired a gun before



Among historic treasures at the "Point" are Washington's Hawkins pistols, given by generous New Yorker Clendenin Ryan.

they came to West Point. Few indeed have any real conception of the history of firearms development. Some use their own limited free time to study the guns in the museum and the comprehensive library of technical material. For them all, the staff of the museum provides guidance and personal contact.

Every cadet at West Point is regarded as having the makings of a future general, and there exists the distinct possibility that some of them may develop into firearms geniuses of the class of Ambrose Burnside, Stephen V. Benet, Benjamin S. Roberts, or James C. Benton, all generals from West Point; or tactical masterminds such as John P. "Gatling Gun" Parker, or George Patton, officers who saw sweeping battlefield uses for existing weapons. The cadet's initial exposure to the manifold firing systems of history is at the museum.

Certain Plebes borrow weapons and accoutrements for temporary display in their company orderly rooms. Each display presents an overall plan, developed in cooperation with the Curators of History, and breaks it down into logically connected groups. The first-year men study the background, check the guns against the technical descriptions, and then digest the data into tiny labels and arrange their own exhibits, taking care to point out the significance of the collection. If called on by their superiors, they can rattle off calibration, rates of fire, and various other statistics with ease. By the end of their first year they sometimes absorb more technical knowledge than did many of the "ninety day wonder" commissioned officers during their whole service in World War II.

Each category of weapons circulated through the various orderly rooms is subject to various interpretations. Take, for example, a number of automatic rifles. This is an intriguing subject for men who may someday use them

in combat. Today, the M14 light rifle has been adopted. But the Museum has specimens of others studied and ordered by the Army in limited quantities. These weapons are admirably suited for displays. Currently, the cadets are using the T48 or FN rifle, the BAR, and several experimental Garands fitted with selective devices to permit both auto and semi auto fire. They usually like to include the American "grandaddy," the Springfield 1903 Mark I equipped to take the Pedersen Device. This was a gun within a gun that would convert the rifle into an auto. It was intended for the American Expeditionary Forces back in World War I.

Sometimes a display will be devoted to the history of the "Automatic Pistol, M1911;" or another may contrast the revolver and the auto. No matter how one cuts it, the students organizing the shows, and the audience as well, become familiar with some previously unrealized aspect of small arms.

The museum also lends arms for firing. Special interest recently has been on Russian weapons, as well as some German, Japanese, and Italian types, although the one gun the cadets never fail to admire is the Thompson. "A dream," was the way one put it, adding that "though it must have been expensive and slow to make, it shoots like it was certainly worth it." Other arms draw favorable comments, especially those made in Germany early in WWII. The MP40 is perhaps the best example. One Second Classman thought it had a unique appearance, but that it was amazingly well built for a quantity production weapon and "most skilfully designed."

The West Point Museum has more Russian PPSH sub-machine guns than any other single kind of arm, for it is without question the most popular weapon with the cadets, all of whom have some interest in Russian arms.



Washington's ownership makes the Point's Hawkins pistols irreplaceable though there are many similar British horse pistols in existence.

Figures of Confederate (right) and Union soldiers with old equipment mounted are used in war lectures to the Army cadets.



Most popular weapon in collection is PPSH Russian burp gun, in Soviet, North Korean (above) and other models.

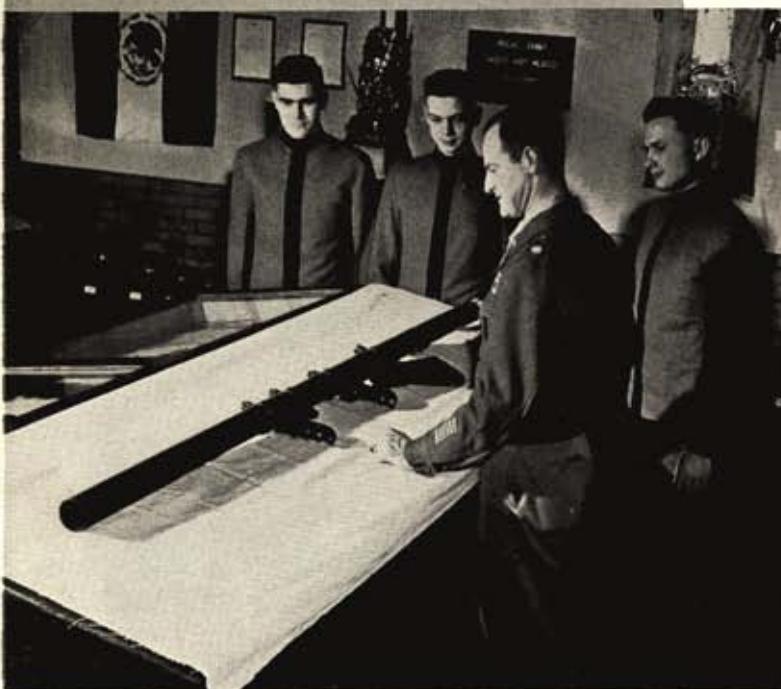
Their first appraisal is one of disappointment, which later turns into a grudging admiration. On being asked to explain this, a First Classman replied: "It looks shoddy and half-finished at first glance, as if it was made by peasants, for peasants. But after you check the thing over, you find just how ingenious it really is and how a reliable combat weapon can be turned out in quantity by poorly-trained workers who disregard polishing and fine machining. It's not as accurate as I'd want my gun to be, but it can really take a beating and still come up spouting lead, which is what it was made for."

Perhaps there are many who might take issue with his reaction, but none can dispute the thought behind the comments, and all will agree that he has learned one thing more officers and soldiers should know: to appreciate the weapons in the hands of foreign troops.

Still, the American M3 "Grease Gun" is preferred by every cadet interviewed—not only over the PPSH, but any of its foreign contemporaries. This could well be because the men at West Point have been exposed to it extensively, understand its capabilities, and feel that they can rely on it. However, they are afforded an opportunity



Cadets have used Garands, Charleville French musket (in 1802), and small M1830 cal. .54 muskets made for them.



New as well as old relics are important. Lt. Col. Hall explains to cadets about the first bazooka rocket launcher made.



Exhibits in company day rooms are made of items borrowed from museum, aid students in studying past conflicts.



Ferguson breech loader was military rifle designed in 1770's and used against Americans at Kings Mountain by British.



Arms of past generals, like Patton's Colt and S & W, inspire future generals in their careers.

to handle and get the "feel" of guns of other armies and to learn what other nations can do in making guns. At least they won't go into combat without being aware of what the enemy soldier carries, as so many Americans did in 1941.

Sometimes the weapons borrowed from the Museum are as varied as guns in the hands of Washington's Army—and some of these too are at West Point still. That hunk of "Flying Artillery" you see the cadets dragging around the playing field at football games came from the Study Collections. It is rigged up to fire with a resounding boom that rattles radio and TV networks whose supersensitive microphones pick up the sound.

Once, on a freezing January day two years ago, high in hills above the reservation and away from traffic noises, an antique French 6-pounder bronze field piece, "D'Annae," was fired repeatedly while (*Continued on page 43*)

TUNE UP YOUR SINGLE ACTION



Artillery size .38 Spl. Colt Single Action is shot by Canadian author Mactavish using accurate C-I-L ammo.

By ALEC S. MACTAVISH

**'SMITHING THE BIG SINGLE
ACTION FOR TOP PERFORMANCE
AND SERVICE IS A JOB WELL
WITHIN THE SCOPE OF ANY GOOD
HOME-WORKSHOP GUN CRAFTSMAN**

NO OTHER GUN IN THE WORLD is known to as many people, by sight and by reputation, as is the Colt Single Action. No gun has been praised more highly by its admirers . . . and few guns have been more heartily damned by their critics. This last, I suppose, is only natural. Hold man or gun up to the extremes of adulation that have been bestowed on the Single Action and the human instinct to find feet of clay on other people's idols is bound to produce violent criticism, with or without reason. And there is some reason in some of the criticisms of the Single Action. Whether it is the fault of the gun or not is another question.

Most of the criticism of the Single Action has been aimed at its functional reliability. "The gunsmith's friend," is a pat phrase frequently applied. Some shooters insist that the flat springs are prone to breakage, that one or two other small parts won't stand up to rough usage. "You can't keep a Single Action in shooting trim more than a month at a time," is a gripe I have heard fairly often.

Yet after exhaustive rust tests, dust tests, and service tests with the U. S. Cavalry in the field, the Single Action was judged by U. S. Ordnance Department experts in 1876 as ". . . a military weapon . . . not liable to get out of order; readily taken apart and cleaned; having entire interchangeability of parts, with a high order of finish. Commended for durability and actual service in the hand of a soldier . . ."

And, for a current case in point, take a pair of post-World War II Single Actions carried by Joe Bodrie. As a former exhibition shooter for Colt's, Bodrie used these guns in thousands of demonstrations of quick draw, fanning, twirling, and the actual firing of all kinds of loads. It would be hard to imagine a rougher ordeal of use than that to which these guns of Bodrie's have been subjected; yet neither gun has required any repair, both are still perfectly timed and adjusted, still



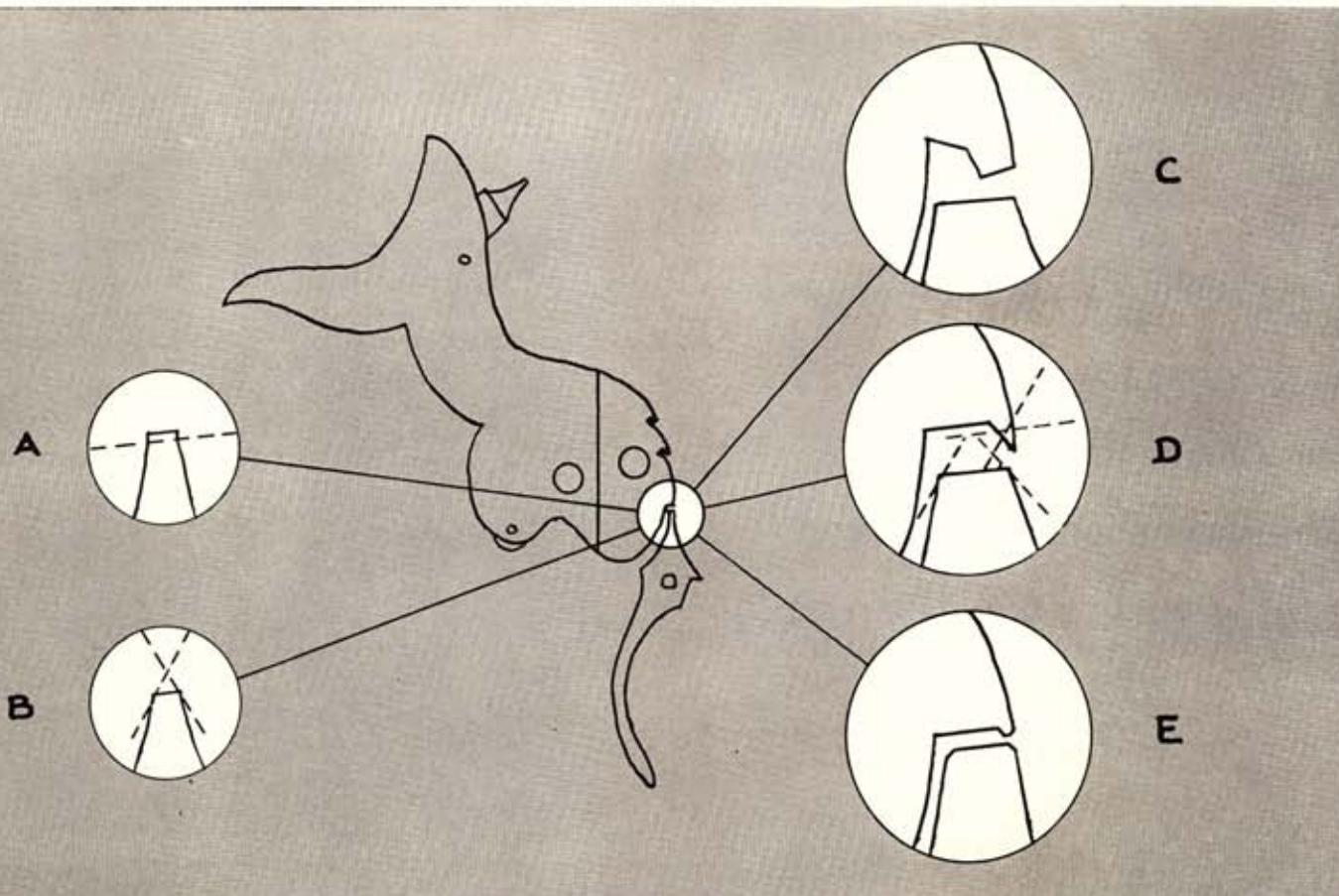
Hammer is heart of Frontier fitting. Stud on inside cut is smoothed where it touches bolt leaf. Full cock notch has slight hump but will break clean on pull.

tight and functional as when they left the factory.

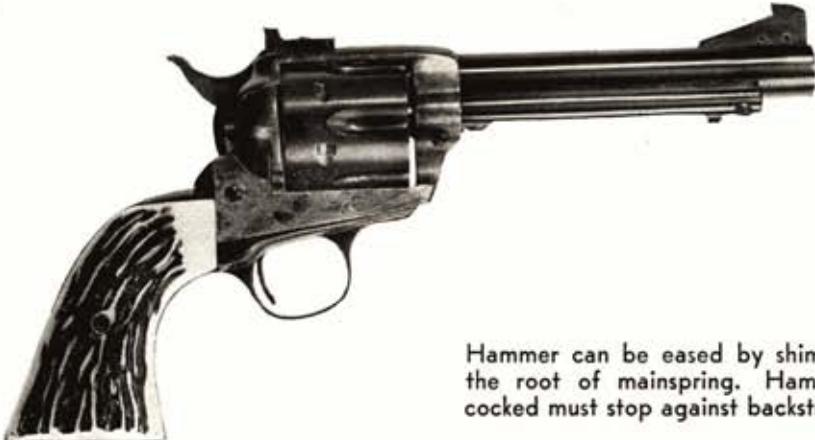
Unusual? Perhaps. Yet the Single Action could not possibly have won such a tremendous following over so long a time had it been as bad as some have painted it. It was severely tested before its Army adoption, has been tested by all kinds of use and abuse throughout the eighty-odd years since that adoption, and it is still one of the most popular guns ever manufactured.

Why, then, do some people feel so strongly against it? Perhaps one reason is that, when the U. S. Army pensioned off the Single Action back in 1892, the market was flooded with cannibalized monstrosities bearing four or more serial numbers on the various parts—parts salvaged from junk or junkers, thrown together without tooling or other assembly precautions. These, and the other thousands of old, worn-out Single Action Army rejects, guns with parts worn, broken, missing, or incompetently mended, were sold to a greedy public, to buyers who couldn't have picked good from bad even had the good been offered. No wonder these guns earned the ire of shooters who expect top gun performance.

But perhaps there is another reason, too, for the recriminations that have been poured on the Colt Single Action. Perhaps it is because, or partly because, few people, even gunsmiths, know very little about the correct fitting and



Trigger must be shaped for perfect functioning. Cut A shows first reduction of sear which next is corner-stoned slightly as B (exaggerated shape shown in D). C shows usual sear-notch shape, but profile of E will give crisp trigger pull.



Hammer can be eased by shim at the root of mainspring. Hammer cocked must stop against backstrap.



Frontier fans like shape of gun for target use, have shops like Cristy redo old guns with match sights.

timing of replacement parts in the weapon. Very little exists in print on this subject. And of the nearly 375,000 Single Actions made to date, a great many have suffered from the ministrations of home-workshop mechanics and others (even gunsmiths) not qualified to "work" the gun. Yet the "secrets" of fitting and tuning the Single Action are not hidden. Tuning the big Colt is a job within the scope of any careful workman, once he knows what is needed and how to attain it. And tuning can transform a "junker" into a serviceable sidearm. I know, because I did it.

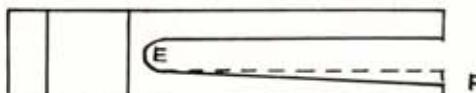
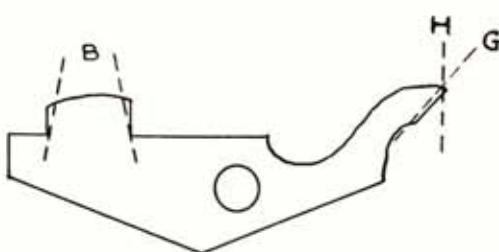
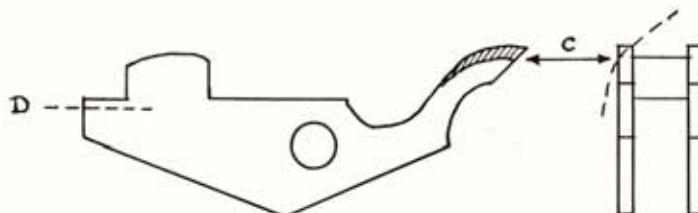
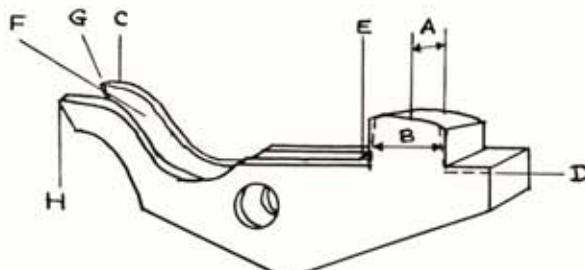
Already the not-so-proud possessor of a Single Action, and thoroughly tired of its sloppy fitting, creepy trigger, and coffee-grinder action, I ordered a complete set of factory-new parts from Colt's and set about the fabrication of something a little nearer to my heart's desire. The following bits and pieces of information didn't come to me full fledged, out of the blue; they are products of a lot of trial-and-error effort. But they got results, and perhaps they will help others.

First, I installed the hammer and trigger, thereby establishing a constant relationship around which the bolt and the hand could be timed. But the hammer and trigger, as they come from the factory, are just not ready to be installed. The sear end of the trigger is apt to be from 1/32nd to 1/64th of an inch too long; and, to obtain a decent trigger-pull, the full-cock "bent" or notch needs to be reshaped.

When stoning down the top face of the sear, it is important to retain its original angle or profile. Optimum length is when the hammer engages the sear almost at the farthest extent of its backward travel, with the backstrap assembled. After it is engaged by the sear, the hammer should still be able to move back an almost imperceptible distance. This permits the hammer to cam back slightly as the sear disengages when the trigger is squeezed.

In fitting the Single Action (or any other gun, for that matter) it is essential to proceed very slowly and check and recheck constantly. This is particularly true when adjusting the trigger pull.

In the full-cock notch of the Single Action, there should be a hump over which the sear (*Continued on page 58*)



Critical shaping of bolt for long life starts with trueing width at A and B to fit cylinder. Cam limb is next rounded at C to ease action on hammer. D cut corrects bolt lift into notch. Limbs last longer if notch is radiused by filing at E, drawfiling limb F. Design dates back to the Walker pistol of 1847, will give good service for years when properly fitted up by knowing gunsmithsman.



Legitimate dealer and honest citizen face almost impossible obstacles in transfer of a .22 target pistol; yet this same dealer lost a dozen big-bore handguns (.38 and .45 caliber) to a trio of armed "hoods" who staged brazen daylight hold-up.

SULLIVAN LAW:

**THIS LAW MAKES
CRIME SAFE**



Does a "tough" gun law make guns hard for criminals to get? Ask officer at left, one of 125 NY police who staged 2-hour shoot-out with armed murderer. Ask detectives (above) who took these weapons from 10 teen-age bank robbers.



Spellbinding boss politician "Big Tim" Sullivan (right) authored law outlawing honest man's self-defense weapons.

REPEAL OF THE NEW YORK LAW WHICH IS LOADED FOR CROOKS

AND AGAINST YOU IS URGED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT LEADERS

By ROGER RILEY

IN NEW YORK CITY, some 100,000 armed criminals have the drop, speaking very literally, on more than eight million honest men and women. Crimes of armed violence breed black headlines day after day, and burglary in New York City is big business. Why not, in a city which guarantees the burglar against his worst occupational hazard—the mischance of running into an armed citizen?

And this practical guarantee does exist in New York City, in the form of the law itself . . . the notorious Sullivan Law which arms the hoods and disarms the honest citizen.

"Law abiding New Yorkers have few guns, but the underworld abounds with them." So admitted the city's Deputy Police Commissioner Walter Arm in *This Week* magazine, Sept. 4, 1955. Appropriately, Commissioner

Arm titled his revealing article, "Is the Sullivan Law Loaded?" His doubts of its effectiveness suggests very strongly that all Americans everywhere should take a searching look at this vicious anti-gun law, Sections 1896-97 of the New York State Penal Code, the law that gives gangsters the drop by making it practically impossible for law-abiding people to bear or even own arms. Recent license application forms can deny you the right to buy a pistol if you have ever used sleeping pills—"opiates or barbiturates in any form!" And three friends must be dragged into your struggle with red tape by filling out separate four-page forms with "Your Wife's Maiden Name" and "Would You Hire This Man?"

The Sullivan Law, model for many acts restricting weapons in other states, has abridged *your* liberties and

C 20914

POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY OF NEW YORK

Permit No. 45-189469 Benjamin H. T. 1942
H. R. 22-10943 My 26-17044

Date: MAY 7 1942 FOR

PERMIT TO CARRY PISTOL IS HEREBY GRANTED

To: Edward B. Orties

Address: 605 E. 112 St.

Occupation: Writer

Employed by: Wm. M. Keay Co.

Nationality: U.S. ONLY

Age: 39 Height: 5' Weight: 155 Pd: 24

(DEPUTY COMMISSIONER)



266

GUNS editor got the New York pistol permit pictured above because he "knew somebody." Permit is stamped "For Target Practice Only," yet police never questioned the inclusion of Orties .25 pocket auto., a typical "belly gun."

magnified the power of hoodlums to harm *you* wherever you live. Anti-gun fanatics throughout America encourage efforts to sharpen the fangs of the Sullivan Law, and even as I write this, organizations such as the New York Associated Sportsmen's Council on Firearms are battling attempts to "strengthen the law" during the annual session of the General Assembly at Albany. These groups of legitimate gun users are fighting for *you* whether you reside in Maine or Oregon. All shooters, everywhere, must understand the disastrous functioning and sinister history of the Sullivan Law, must educate the public about it, if we are to defeat measures inspired by it which are perennially introduced not only in state legislatures but in Congress.

For forty-eight years, almost a half-century, the Sullivan Law has been harassing the honest and helping the hoods in New York. Its author was burly, crafty, Tammany Hall politician "Big Tim" Sullivan. Sullivan's political cohorts, recruited from Hell's Kitchen and the Bowery, regularly intimidated opposition voters with trigger artistry. Rumblings of revolt against Big Tim's six-shooter regime were unpleasantly audible in his ears when he took his seat in the New York assembly in 1911. Many good citizens were tired of being gun-pushed by ward heelers and were promising to fight fire with fire. New York state law then did permit bearing weapons, subject to certain regulations, if they were not concealed.

But Assemblyman Sullivan was a

sagacious politician. Seeing his fear-dominated bailiwick cracking at the seams, he went after the votes of those ever-present, earnest, high-minded folks who will support any kind of proposal if it is garnished with enough idealistic fluff. The fluff Big Tim dished out to them was "crime prevention." Just deprive citizens of the right to carry guns, he promised, and you'd have utopia right in New York.

No corrupt politician ever worked more cynically, or more successfully, to put over a deal that would perpetuate his power. "He knew, of course," a retired policeman told this writer, "that his own boys would keep on getting gats without papers." But he went about enlisting unthinking "reformers" to bat for his bill through press and pulpit.

In that same year this touching misalliance of roughneck and reformer spawned the legislative monstrosity named the Sullivan Law after its cunning sponsor. A hodge-podge of amendments has been added to it by legislatures since. But its main intent has been changeless through these two generations: to give anybody like yourself a hard time if you want a weapon for self-defense in a city where crime rides the streets faster than police cars prowl.

Let's see how its provisions would hit you if you were a resident of New York City. If you live in a better neighborhood, prowled by thugs, you can't just buy a .38 for protection and stick it in your pocket. You can't keep

any kind of hand arm—not even an air pistol *in your home* without getting the permit required by Big Tim Sullivan's law. For a violation, carrying or possessing, you can draw six months to ten years in the pen. So to comply with the law, you go to the police station nearest your home and ask for a permit to carry a gun. The clerk takes your ten dollar fee; then you submit to being fingerprinted and photographed like any criminal. Understandably shaken up, you go home to fill out a form which involves answering exactly one hundred questions. You must write out a complete record of your life from the day of your birth, covering approximately everything except when you last kissed your wife. You must offer elaborate and detailed reasons for your wish to own a weapon. Three friends must *also* fill out similar papers, to vouch for your character and honesty, under present New York City regulations.

You return the applications, truthfully filled in, to the police station. But your heavy paper work is just the starter. The rocky part of the road is still to travel.

Precinct detectives scurry around your community, asking questions of different people. You may feel that these devoted law enforcers might better be employed rounding up thugs, but you want your permit, so you keep your mouth shut. Assuming you pass this screening, your application then goes for a second look to the main detective division of your central police district—and these higher ups go through the whole thing again. But suppose you pass this test. Your request is referred then for final consideration to the Police License Division. There is nothing to prevent these big-shots from saying no, regardless of what's on your application. In fact, this is exactly what they often do, with or without reason.

Through some miracle of bureaucracy, you may be the approximately one in five to whom the brass says yes. Modulate your cheers, however, for you get a police "purchase document" which allows you to buy one gun and one only from a licensed New York weapons dealer. The dealer hands you back a part of the document with the make and serial number of the weapon on it. This section you must file with the police of your local precinct. This usually takes at least three weeks.

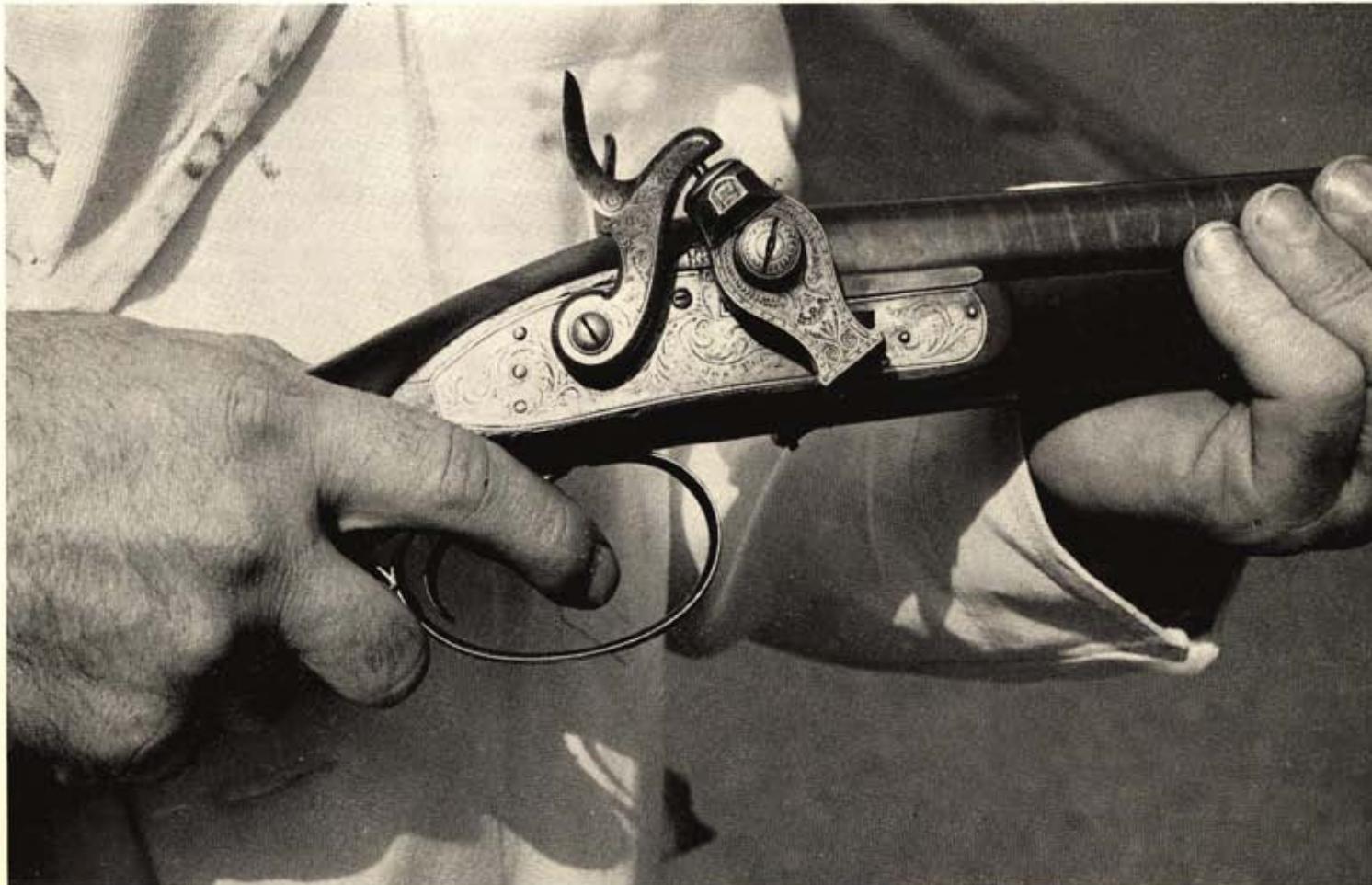
Your gun license runs for one year. Each twelve (*Continued on page 52*)

FORSYTH: FATHER of the MODERN GUN

By RON SPILLMAN and JACK RAMSAY

FEW MEN IN HISTORY have held the fate of their nation as firmly within their grasp as did a dour Scotch clergyman in the beginning of the last century. Napoleon had offered \$500,000 for the brilliant new percussion system of detonation invented by the Reverend Alexander John Forsyth, M.A., LL.D., but the clergyman, although given a raw deal by the British government, wasn't selling his country down the river—or, in this case, across the Channel.

As he watched his bloody but victorious troops cutting down the remnants of the Emperor's forces at Waterloo, Wellington, the "Iron Duke", little knew how much he owed to the forbearing patriotism of Forsyth. If the pig-headed British government of the day had encouraged the inventor's genius, the Duke of Wellington's historic victory could have been achieved more rapidly and with the loss of far fewer Redcoats.



This double shotgun made by Joseph Egg was converted from flint to detonator with late model Forsyth lock similar to one on which inventor based his claim to Parliament, 1840.

1768

1843

To the Memory of the Reverend
ALEXANDER JOHN FORSYTH
M.A. LLD
Minister of Belhelvie
Aberdeenshire
1805 he conducted experiments
the Tower under the Master
General of Ordnance and in 1807
perfected the percussion system
which was adopted by the
British Army in 1830.

This Gun was made
in 1800 for Alexander Forsyth
Gentleman

Plaque at Tower of London
honors Forsyth's inventive
genius. Forsyth 5-barreled
volley gun at right loaded
one slug per barrel, fired
all barrels simultaneously,
was used on swan and geese.



Forsyth's invention made obsolete the flintlock, and allowed the soldier to fight on a rainy day.

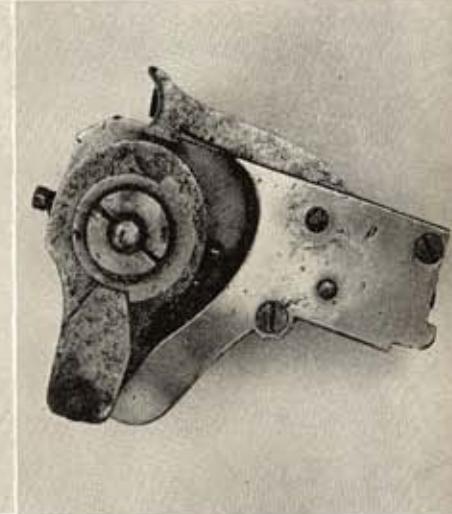
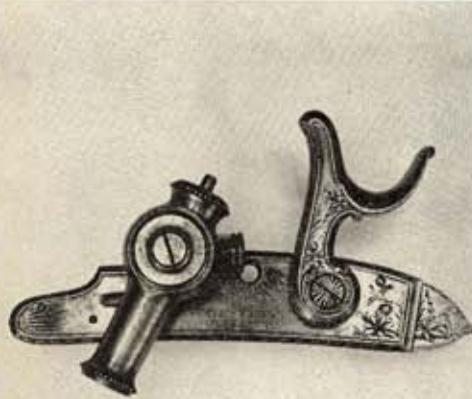
Back in the drowsy little village of Belhelvie, in Aberdeenshire, the Reverend Alexander John Forsyth was known as a first-class shot—both from the pulpit, to the discomfiture of sinful parishioners, and from the surrounding hedgerows, to the discomfiture of many innocent birds. When shooting wildfowl on a loch near his home, the man of God was often heard to use ungodly language when rising birds escaped his shot, warned by the characteristic flash from the pan of his flintlock, or the fizz of a hang-fire from powder wetted by "Scotch mist."

Forsyth tried covering the lock with a sighted hood, but his fertile brain began to devise an entirely new method of ignition, faster and more efficient than the time-honored flint and steel. In a brilliant stroke of genius, the clergy-

man solved two of the problems which had defied the combined efforts of scientists and gunmakers for more than two decades—how to make use of explosive fulminates, and how to make the perfect form of ignition for the muzzle-loading gun.

Forsyth's first step was to carry out experiments similar to those of the French chemist Berthollet who, in 1783, had tried to produce a form of gunpowder compounded with potassium chlorate, which would shoot more powerfully than ordinary nitre powder. After nearly blowing himself and his tiny garden workshop tree-top high, Forsyth concluded that the chlorate powder was too risky a proposition, and would never be much use as a propellant.

Next, the inventive clergyman tried fulminate of mercury and potassium chlorate as priming powders for an ordinary flint-lock. He hoped the gun would fire instantaneously



Left-hand lock at left above was for a double shotgun, shows an early type of Forsyth priming magazine. Reverse of same lock, center, shows its mechanism. At right is experimental lock for a three-pounder cannon, designed for Lord Moira.



Forsyth 1840 pistol is shot near the Tower of London where inventor worked to perfect his gun designs.



Double shotgun (left) is Forsyth flint-percussion conversion. Center is volley gun shown close-up on page 24. At right, Baker-type cavalry carbine with Forsyth lock.

instead of giving off a warning flash in advance. It seemed simple, but Forsyth ran into an unexpected snag—the new powders acted much *too* quickly and generated so little heat that the gunpowder they were mixed with was never ignited.

After several weeks of experimenting, during which his usually well laden table was without a single wild goose, he decided that the detonating compounds would remain useless as long as they were merely set on fire by a spark from flint and steel. He had noticed, however, that the explosion was much more violent when caused by percussion, and this line of approach was eventually crowned with success. In the summer of 1805 he produced a gun working on the percussion system, which proved far and away superior to any flint-lock.

A year later the clergyman rattled into London on a stagecoach, nursing his percussion gun and a pocketful of letters of introduction to famous sportsmen whom he hoped would help him exploit his invention. As yet he had not realized its enormous military value. Nevertheless, one famous shooter showed the novel weapon to the Master-General of the Ordnance Department, Lord Moira, who was so impressed that he persuaded Forsyth to move into a workshop at the Tower of London and start work on military arms.

At first things didn't run too smoothly. The original lock which he had fitted to his modified fowling piece wasn't much use when it came to firing the three-pounder cannon which Moira asked him to work on. The original priming powder was found to be far too violent for use in large quantities. To make matters worse, the chemists of the day were terrified of all fulminating compounds. They supplied Forsyth with the ingredients, but insisted that the "dirty work" of mixing them should be carried out by himself.

Just when the clergyman had managed to overcome all the technical snags, politics reared its ugly head. There was a change of Ministry and Lord Moira, who knew that Forsyth's invention could give (Continued on page 41)

PISTOL PETE EATON:

HIS GUNS



MADE HISTORY



By GLENN SHIRLEY



FROM POWDER-SMOKE PAGES OF OLD WEST COMES THE SAGA OF FRANK EATON, GUNSWIFT LAWMAN

THE MOON RODE HIGH and full in a cloudless sky on a summer night in 1868. It was so quiet one could hear the whisper of the breeze across the Kansas prairie. At their home eight miles west of Carbondale, in Osage County, the Eaton family was preparing to retire.

The silence outside was shattered by the drum of hoofs. The horsemen swung into the yard, throwing gravel that clattered against the side of the house as they reined up their mounts at the front.

"Eaton!" a heavy voice called out. "Frank Eaton!"

Inside the house, the elder Eaton rose to his feet. "Something has happened—probably Mose Beaman and the boys coming for help."

Mose Beaman commanded the Vigilantes—a group of Northern men who had banded together to protect local citizens against a lawless gang of Southerners called the Regulators who rode at night, often in disguise, pillaging, destroying, and stealing stock from emigrant trains going west along the Santa Fe trail. Frank Eaton was a Civil War veteran from Connecticut who had joined



Gun battle in which Eaton killed Wyley Campsey is portrayed in artist's drawing (left). Nearing a hundred now, "Pistol Pete" (above, center) still loves to shoot, is still fast and accurate with the big sixes, entrances young and old alike with his reminiscences.



Amid mementoes of the past, Eaton sits in his Perkins, Okla., home and talks range roping with Lee Good. At 75, Eaton won a gold cup as All Around Cowboy.

the rush to Kansas in 1868 and Beaman's Vigilantes shortly thereafter.

"Maybe they have located the Campseys," he added as he stepped to the door.

The Campseys were a bad bunch. They lived a short distance from the Eaton's, across Rock Springs draw. They rode with the Regulators and had ridden with Quantrill's raiders during the Civil War. The Campsey farm, owned by Shannon Campsey and his three brothers, Jim, Jonce, and Wyley, was a hideout for all sorts of questionable characters, among them the notorious Ferber brothers, Doc and John. Only that day, Eaton had been responsible for a tip that had led to the location of several stolen horses on the Campsey place and the sheriff and his posse had been searching for the brothers and the two Ferbers, who had fled.

Eaton opened the door and paused with the lamplight at his back. Too late he realized his mistake. A half dozen six-shooters covered him.

"Outside, you damn Yankee!" one of the riders shouted. "Come out and get what's coming to you."

Eaton, hands raised high, stepped to the edge of the porch. Tall and slender, clad only in nightclothes, he was standing like that when little eight-year-old Frank Jr. rushed to the door. The boy saw the blast of gunfire that knocked his father off his feet, saw him crumple on the hard, dry earth of the yard, and heard his mother scream in terror. The killers spurred forward, shooing the lad inside with their revolvers. Then they fired a second volley into the body and raked the front door with a fusillade.

"Remember that, Yankees!" the leader shouted as they turned their horses and rode away into the night.

Little Frank remembered. He had seen their faces in the moonlight and he never forgot them. Lying across the body of his father, sobbing, while his mother fled to the home of their nearest neighbor for help, the child swore a grim oath.

There in the dust of that Kansas farm an amazing saga was born—the saga of Pistol Pete. The child was Frank Eaton Jr., who was to become the badmen's nemesis, earning his reputation as the "toughest gunfighter of 'em all" with a pair of heavy, single-action six-shooters that left a bloody trail across the Southwestern frontier.

The most amazing facet of the Pistol Pete saga is the fact that he is alive today. A spry 95 years old, Frank Eaton now resides in Perkins, Oklahoma—a living legend from the most livid pages of American history when cold-blooded gunfighters were as fast with a six-shooter as a snake's strike, and just as deadly.

Shortly after the murder of his father, young Frank received his first pistol from Mose Beaman—an old Navy revolver with an eight-inch barrel. For two years he practiced drawing and firing, left handed as well as right. By the time he reached his 10th birthday, his draw was quick and smooth and his small thumbs flicked the hammer with amazing rapidity.



Comparing old and new in Single Actions, Eaton tells F. W. Thornton of Colt's that he got his first Colt at age nine.



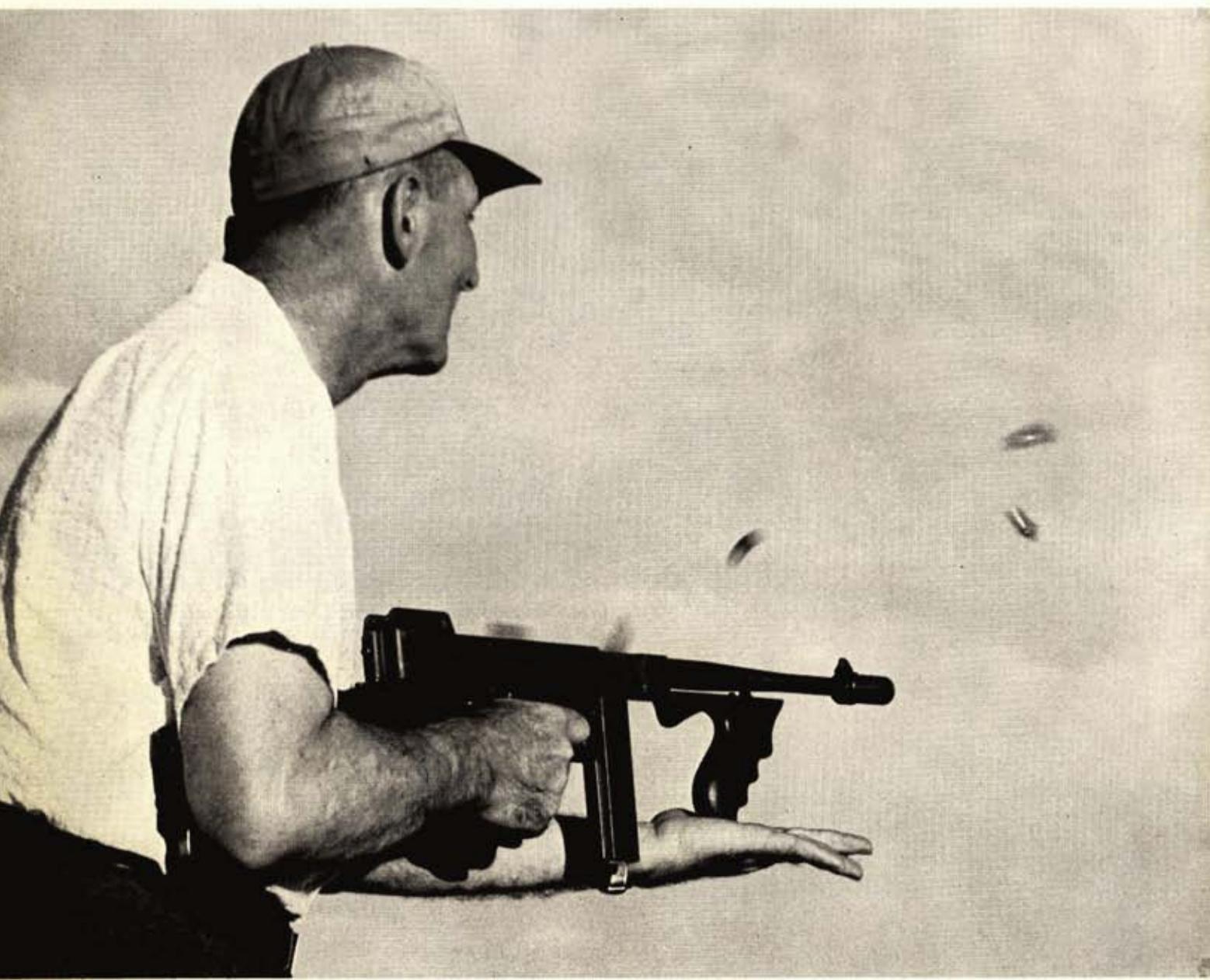
Marshall of Tulsa Frontier Pistol meet, Eaton watches Alene Parks prepare to fire a .36 Navy. Eaton wears hair long, braided Indian fashion.

In the fall of 1869, his mother married again, sold the farm and moved to southern Kansas, on Onion Creek west of Coffeyville. A year later, they moved again to the Cherokee Nation in Indian Territory.

Young Frank spent his days around Fort Gibson, where the Sixth Cavalry was stationed under the command of Colonel Copinger. The soldiers liked the boy and fed him, raced horses with him and taught him to shoot. Little Frank, with his heavy pistol thonged to his slender leg, drew and outshot the best of them although the soldiers were considered the top marksmen in the country. Colonel Copinger was so impressed that he awarded the lad a gold medal and nicknamed him "Pistol Pete."

Frank matched shots not only with the soldiers, for when Big Jim Starr, of the Cherokees, heard about him, he invited Frank to pistol matches held (*Continued on page 48*)

The Tommy IS a



Submachine gun fired on full automatic can be aimed precisely by experienced marksman. By holding gun tightly against side, but loose in front with grip resting lightly on palm of hand, border patrolman Toney fires burst with no noticeable tendency of gun to lift.

Target Gun

WHEN CHIPS ARE DOWN, A TOMMY
IN TRAINED HANDS OUT-PERFORMS ALL
OTHER POLICE WEAPONS FOR FIRE EFFECT

By BILL TONEY

THE SUBMACHINE GUN, brought into the American spotlight by gangsters of the prohibition era and the Army in World War II, is probably the most effective weapon in existence for fast, deadly gunfighting at ranges up to 100 yards, by day or night.

Fired semiautomatically (one shot with each pull of the trigger), it has sufficient accuracy for hits on man-sized targets beyond 100 yards; but that is rifle range, and the submachine gun is no match for high class rifles in range, accuracy, penetration, or muzzle energy. Its superiority over the rifle lies in the greater number of rounds that can be loaded at a time, and the superior speed with which heavy (230-grain) bullets with great knockdown effect can be delivered.

Pistols or revolvers and sawed off (riot type) shotguns are preferred over the submachine gun by many police officers. The ballistics of .38 Special or 9 mm. and .45 ACP handguns are almost identical to those of the same calibers in submachine guns. The .357 Magnum and the .44 Magnum are superior to submachine guns in available calibers, from a ballistics standpoint. Also, the handgun is more conveniently carried and concealed. A career police officer can be expected to carry his service revolver within easy reach at all times. When the trouble breaks, the nearest submachine gun may be locked in the armory at headquarters.

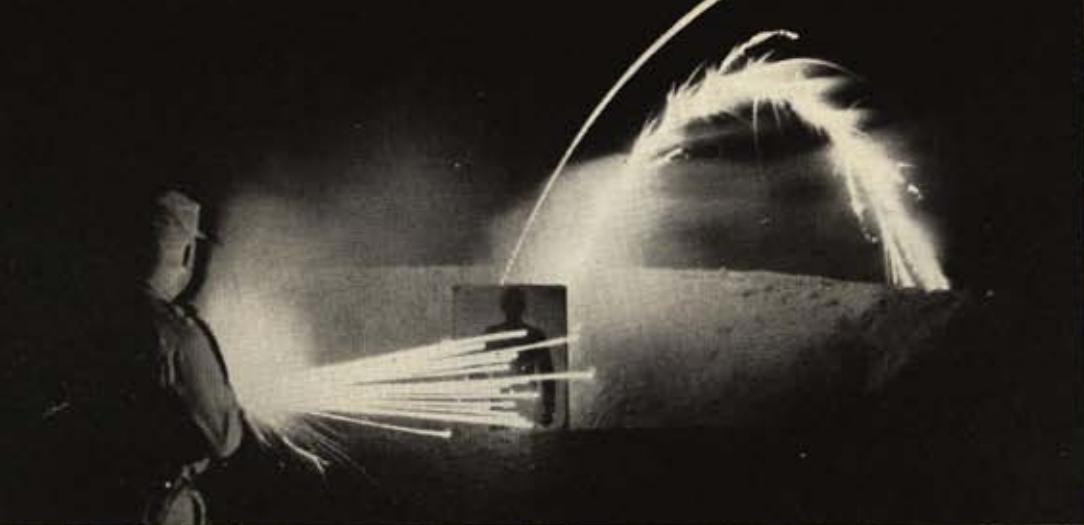
However, the situation does not have to be that way. Patrol cars may carry submachine guns in racks built overhead on either side, along the in-



Cradling Reising .45 SMG with which he fired 48 out of 50 shots into scoring zone, Toney studies submachine gun effectiveness on range.



Take-down of Thompson is demonstrated by author who lays out units for quick reassembly. Trigger group can be taken apart easily for repair. Clips are preferred to bulky 50-shot drum by many officers.



Noted pistolman Bill Joyner shows controllability of H & R Reising .45 with tracers at 45 yards distance at night.

side of each front door, or across the back of the front seat—except when prisoners are carried in the rear seat. For the plainclothes officer on foot, there is a neat, compact, luggage-type case which will carry a Thompson sub-machine gun, its stock, one loaded 50-shot drum type magazine, five loaded 20-shot box type magazines, cleaning equipment, and a few of the most useful spare parts. It resembles a saxophone case and attracts no special attention on the street or in crowds. Yet, a fairly skilled officer carrying the weapon in this manner can put it into action in a few seconds.

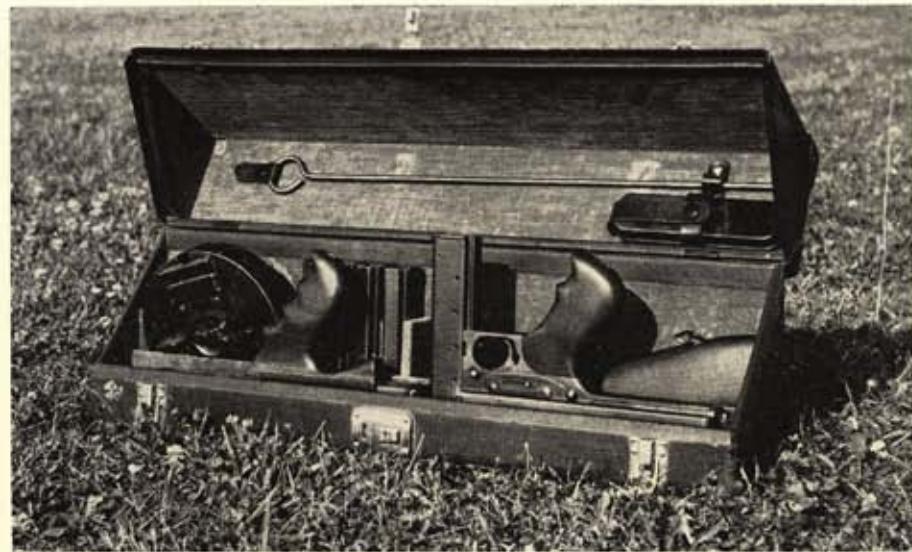
Police officers given equal training with handguns and submachine guns will be able to deliver more effective fire with the latter. In addition, the latter have special attractions such as tracer ammunition to aid firing without sights and shotloaded shells for riot use.

I once made a close comparison of the development of a class of young law enforcement officers with both weapons, using combat-type courses of fire on the Colt Silhouette Target and the Globe Silhouette Target of about the same difficulty for each. The submachine gun course consisted of the following stages: Ten shots slow fire in

military standing offhand position at 50 yards; Ten shots semi-automatic fire in ten seconds at 25 yards standing; Twenty shots in ten seconds in short, aimed, full-automatic bursts from the shoulder at 25 yards; Twenty shots in ten seconds in short, full-automatic bursts from the hip at 15 yards using half ball and half tracer ammunition. Fifty rounds of ball ammunition and ten rounds of tracers were needed. The possible score was 300 and the suggested qualifying score 225.

The trainees, after firing this course three times in practice, fired it the fourth time with an average score of 224.1. Their average scores by stages were: Stage 1—45.9; Stage 2—48.5; Stage 3—69.2; and Stage 4—60.5.

The same class, after expending about 60 hours and 450 rounds of ammunition in revolver training, then fired a revolver course on the same type targets consisting of: Ten shots at 50 yards slow fire; Ten shots at 25 yards timed fire (two strings of five shots each with a time limit of 20 seconds per string); Five shots double action with the right hand at 15 yards; five shots double action with the left hand at 15 yards. (Time limit at Stages 3 and 4 was five seconds for five (Continued on page 45)



Does Toney have the Tommy? No, author (left) totes saxophone while fellow lawman Bob Brennan has TSMG box, shown open above. Violin cases are passé.



WHO IS YOUR CHOICE FOR GUNS POLICE AWARD?



EVERY YEAR, GUNS Magazine offers presentation guns, properly inscribed, to the law enforcement officers in the United States who, in the opinion of the judges, perform the most outstanding social services involving guns.

This act may be, as it was last year, an act of heroism in which police officers won a gun duel with a vicious criminal. But it need not be that sort of thing at all. It could be a program of target shooting instruction where men and women, or boys and girls, were offered a new community sport interest. It could be a police-guided course in hunting safety. It could be the solution of a crime by means of ballistic evidence in the crime laboratory, or by means of the officer's own "gun savvy." If it involves police and guns in the public interest, it is contest material.

To the officers chosen throughout the nation, GUNS will give a pistol or revolver (make, caliber, and model of the winner's choice), suitably engraved and decorated. Special awards will be added if, in the opinion of the judges, they are merited.

Send us the name, rank, and police organization of the man you select. Tell us in full what he has done to merit your nomination. Newspaper clippings covering the story should be included if available. The number of nominations received for an officer will, of course, be considered. But the judges will consider every nomination received, regardless of locale or size of the police unit he represents. Two Chicago police detectives won it in 1957; what about your town for 1958?

Write us. That's the first step. Fill out the nomination blank below—or, if you don't want to mutilate your magazine, write us a letter giving the information called for in the nomination form. Nominations by letter will receive exactly the same consideration as those on printed forms.

GUNS POLICE AWARD NOMINATION

Name of officer Rank

Organization _____ **Place** _____

(City, county, state) (City, county, state)

(City, County, State
or military Police.)

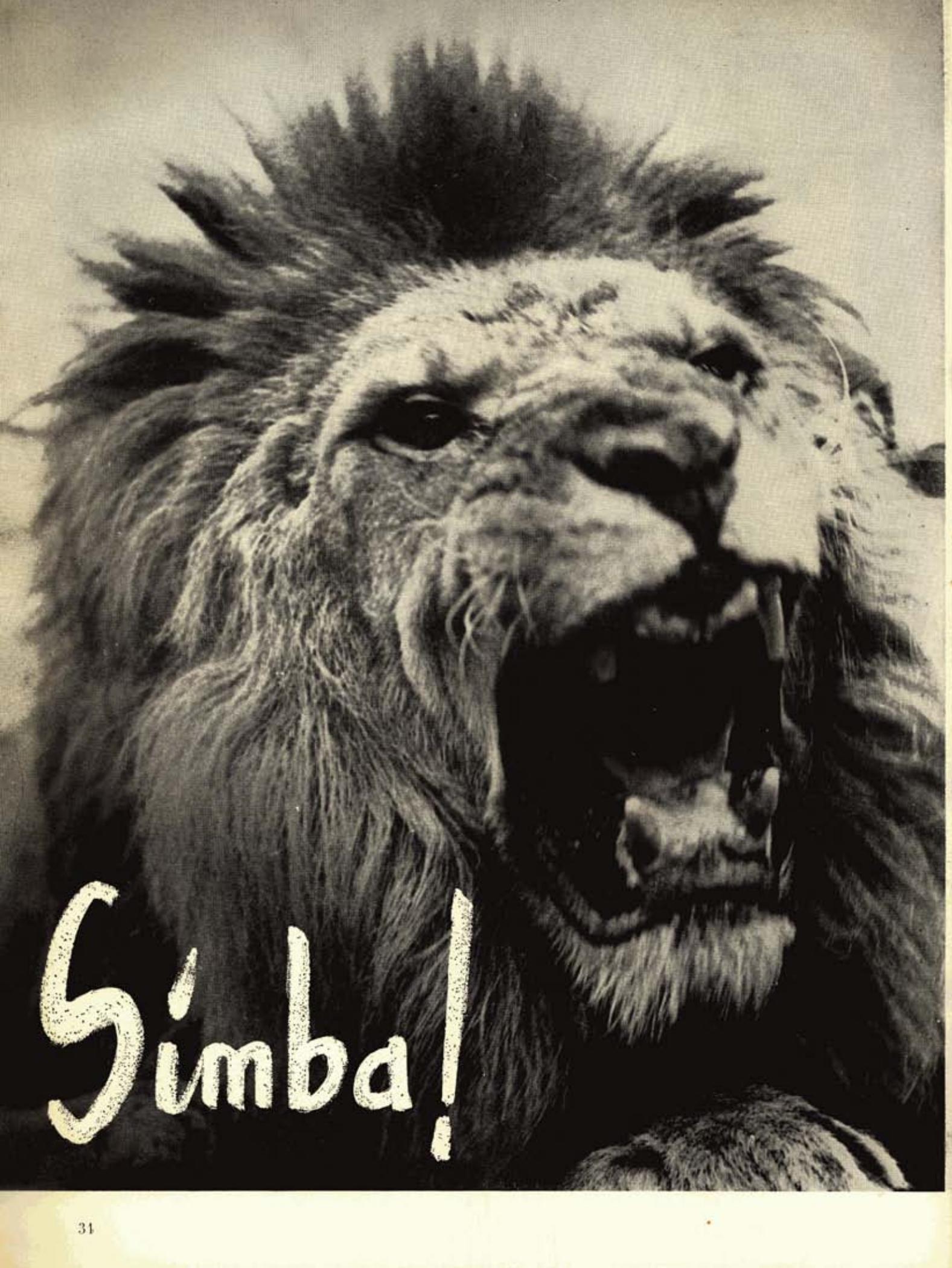
FBI, or what? Any

law enforcement

agency is eligible.)

I enclose herewith letter____ newspaper clips____ (both if possible) stating why I think this officer merits the GUNS police award. If further information is needed, write me, address below.

Mail to: Police Awards
GUNS Magazine, 8150 N. Central Park Ave., Skokie, Ill.



Simba!

**THE DAY OF "EASY" LION IS PAST,
BUT SIMBA IS STILL KING OF THE
CATS, NOT TO BE TAKEN LIGHTLY**



Measuring 9' 2" from tip of nose to tip of tail, Keith's black-maned trophy fell to one 520 grain slug from big .476 Westley Richards double rifle.

Keith measures heavy tusks of big wart hog killed at 140 yards offhand with scope sighted .333 OKH.



By ELMER KEITH

THE OLD DAYS when Paul Rainy coursed lion with dogs are long gone. Likewise, the days when Stewart Edward White, the Martin Johnsons, Leslie Simson, and others had their pick of fine maned lions almost daily are now history. Today, good long maned lions are rare except in the parks, the vast game reserves which now comprise most of the territory where the Johnsons, White, and the others formerly hunted. The great plains lion of Kenya are more apt to sport a long mane than the thorn bush lion of Tanganyika. Today, if you get a lion at all you can expect to work for him, unless you are very lucky. Both lion and rhino are getting scarcer and harder to come by in many sections where they were once plentiful.

From many years correspondence with African hunters and their white hunters, I had little hopes of getting a lion and leopard, but had decided to take out the 500 shilling license on each, just in case I was lucky. During our last day in Nairobi, John Lawrence, my white hunter, came out of a meeting of White Hunters, Ltd., and announced out of a clear sky, "Keith, we have voted you our western representative, if you want the job." I accepted, of course. Who wouldn't? Then he told me, "Now you cannot leave Africa until you get all of the big five of African dangerous game."

That suited me perfectly, so we left for Arusha, procured licenses for everything I wanted, and left Arusha, Tanganyika, on Nov. 12th with a 5 ton Austin truck loaded with camp equipment, food, and some eight of our ten boys, while we followed in the Jeep safari car. We made camp on a slight raise in nice open bush country, and that night I heard the moaning of a lion in the distance, and also the rasping cough of a leopard much closer to camp. These sounds, and the sighing wail of a hyena in camp, did not help my first nights sleep "in the bush."

On the 13th, the next day, while trailing a bunch of five Oryx, I saw my first wild



Aged but heavily ivoried bull elephant was first of coveted "big five" African dangerous game trophies Keith collected. Massive-horned roan antelope (left) was killed for trophy, food, and lion bait.

lion. We had trailed the oryx some five miles on foot in the terrible sun, with the jeep following us at a distance, when I saw a great, round, yellow head come up over the top of three-foot grass some half a mile away. It would disappear, then reappear farther on. By this time, the oryx had joined up with a lot of game and soon the whole band including zebra, eland, oryx, and wildebeast took fright and ran from the spot where I seen that great round head raise above the grass. John searched for him with the glasses and could see nothing, but I knew in my own mind that I had seen my first lion even though it was a half mile away.

That evening we hung up a wildebeast to make two lion baits, using what was left after the boys had taken enough meat for their camp. This wildebeast (or gnu) I had taken at 450 yards with two lung hits with 300 grain soft nose slugs from the .333 O.K.H., followed by two more from John's 7 x 64 when the beast again got up. We selected each bait tree carefully, with an ant hill for an approach and a steep bank at one site, and a big old down tree and grass and vines at another, and the morning of No-

vember 14th saw the start of our lion hunting.

We were up well before daylight, had a cup of scalding hot tea, dressed, loaded our heavy rifles, and headed for the lion bait in the dark. I carried my .476 Westley Richards double rifle, loaded with 520 grain soft nose slugs, while John had his old .416 Rigby also loaded with 400 grain soft nose. Though we slipped up very carefully for the last mile, nothing had touched the first bait and we had to retrace our steps and go run the other bait below camp. There was nothing there either, and this was just the start of 16 days which we put in for lion before we scored. Since we hunted all other game in between times, it was the 13th of December before I got my first chance

at a lion. This is not unusual. John Lawrence spent a total of 130 days last year running lion baits, and got a total of four lion in that time.

We ran the baits every morning for five days at this camp and, although we got other game, we did not get a shot at lion.

On the 17th of November, we drove south through Babiti, stopped for the night at Singida, then drove on through Manyoni and deep into the dry thorn-bush elephant country. We saw lion tracks at our elephant camp daily, but did no shooting until I had killed my bull elephant. That done, I killed a fine big wart hog boar at 140 yards off-hand with the .333 O.K.H., and we hung him in a beautiful site where we could approach to within 90

yards of the bait tree. We ran that bait next morning as it was breaking daylight, but again—no lion. From there, we moved west into sable country. All kinds of game watered here: elephant, rhino, buffalo, zebra, eland, sable, Kudu, wart hogs, Kongoni—and lion. The first day out of camp, while searching for a suitable place to hang a lion bait, I spotted an old king sable and collected him. Here again we got nothing on our baits but did locate a lion kill, young bull rhino. From all the tracks and sign, it looked as if two lions had done the job. The little bull must have put up an awful fight. Both of his very short, immature horns were covered with lion mane.

That afternoon we went back and hid in some (*Continued on page 39*)



Moan of roving lion disturbed Keith's sleep in this camp. Jeep safari car hides 5-ton Austin truck which carried boys and gear.



Fine black-maned lion killed by Don Hopkins. Lions found in thorn-bush country are often nearly maneless due to loss of hair in brush.



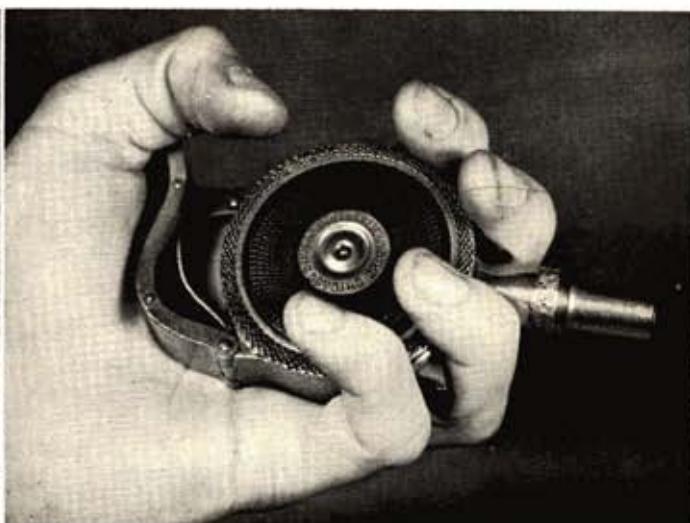
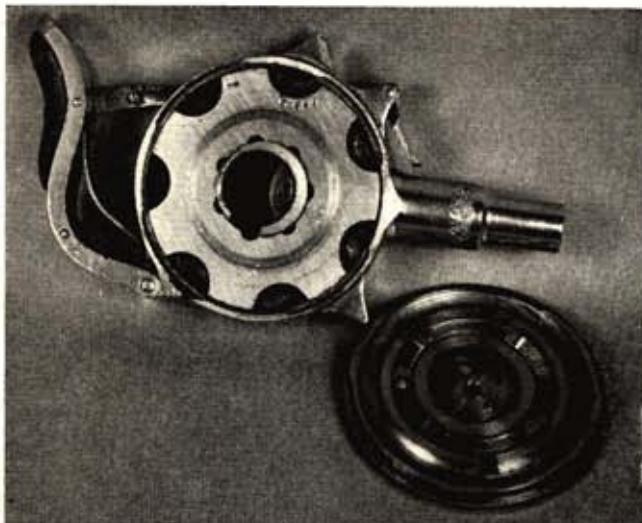
Gun of the Month

By OSCAR T. LAEN



THE OLD • THE NEW • THE UNUSUAL

PROTECTOR PALM PISTOL COMES
FROM DAY WHEN INVENTORS
WERE NOT YET SURE WHETHER A
REVOLVER SHOULD HAVE A
FLAT OR CYLINDRICAL MAGAZINE



Chamber arrangement with cartridges carried like spokes of a wheel makes "Protector" revolver popular collector's oddity. Lever was squeezed to shoot pistol between fingers.

MOST POPULAR of odd cartridge handguns is the Chicago Protector Palm pistol. Also found in variant form, labelled "Milwaukee" for out of town visitors, the gun was the invention of Jacques E. Turbiaux of Paris, France, and was patented in the U.S. on March 6, 1883 (#273,644) specifically described as an improvement on "pocket revolvers." Inventor Turbiaux considered it to be a "revolver without a stock or handle," and so designed it to lie flat, be concealed, and also serve as a weapon when all shots had been fired. Improvements on the weapon, still considered as a "revolver," were made by Peter Finnegan of Austin (Chicago) Illinois, August 29, 1893 (#504,154). The French-made Turbiaux pistol is known as "Le Protecteur."

One of a class of firearms oddities prized by collectors, the Protector was made in fair quantity and examples exist with serial numbers spanning 227 (in Herschel Logan's *Hand Cannon To Automatic*) to #11941 shown above. Most collectors know of the earlier attempts in the revolver field to design pistols with pan-cake cylinders. The Cochran of 1837 was a hopeful military arm, never adopted. And the Porter, made about 1850, blew up and killed its inventor. During the cap-and-ball period shooters shied away from guns which had charges pointed back at them. But with the advent of metal cartridges, such pistols as the Protector became practical. UMC made ammunition for the guns (.32 extra short centerfire marked "Protector"), and of course the .22 examples will fire ordinary rimfire ammunition.

Other pocket pistols in this era had grip-squeeze operating handles. French types especially seemed to like concealable guns, and logically they did away with the handle extended far to the rear as in the more common American designs. With the squeezer handle and the turret revolver design, the barrel naturally stuck out between the fingers for shooting. Convulsing the hand compressed the lever, rotated the cylinder, triggered off the shot. The hand had to be squeezed for each shot, just as in more common revolvers the trigger has to be pressed for each shot. The sideplate lifted off with a circular twist, allowing the cylinder to be lifted out for reloading and cleaning. The gun is rather fragile, and often the hammer, which strikes inside the cylinder ring, is broken. Hard rubber checkered side inserts were standard, with a pearl-like insert on the deluxe model. Some Protectors are known polished smooth all around, but later guns had knurling about the edges to aid in gripping them in the hand. Finish was nickel plated, and we have not seen a blue one.

The Protector today is fairly common, and almost every gun store within a six months period will have a couple pass through its stock. Gun fans who specialize in pocket pistols or the "derringer" types invariably also add a Protector to their collections. It is an interesting reminder of the days when inventors weren't sure which kind of cylinder was best for pocket revolvers, the parallel chamber kind or pancake style, and of a social order in which the hide-out gun was common personal equipment for men—and women.



Simba!

(Continued from page 37)

tall grass about 60 yards from the dead rhino. The heat was terrific and I never saw so many tse tse flies in any other one place on the entire trip. They simply made life miserable, and we dared not make a move to fight them for fear of warning off the lions which we hoped would come in to the bait that evening. But we watched until dark and no lion showed. That was about as miserable a wait as I ever suffered through, and I made a mental resolve that if I ever went to Africa again I would take a head net and at least keep those flies from crawling down my shirt collar and into my ears.

Next morning, we found the tracks of the two lions, both big ones. We trailed them some five miles but, though we passed a great deal of fine cover—deep grass and thorn filled dongas—they refused to lie up. Finally, a herd of buffalo obliterated their tracks and we lost them.

We hunted kudu and rhino from this camp until the 3rd of December, getting a wonderful 54" kudu but never seeing another lion track and never getting sight of any of the big bull rhino we trailed.

On the 3rd of December we pulled camp, stopped at Manyoni to have my ivory stamped and registered and to register what game we had then killed, then made a long drive to Singida where we stayed the night. Next morning, while driving through some heavy grass interspersed with open places, we spotted a fresh lion track. Loading both heavy rifles with soft nose we took his track and had trailed him only a quarter mile when we jumped him. We had fanned out with the trackers in the middle, John on the left, and I on the right. John had just signed that he would probably be in some heavy bush ahead and I had my .476 ready for a quick shot, when we heard his short coughing roar as he took off. I merely saw the bushes shake, but John had a good look at him as he crossed an opening in the bush and said he was a beauty, with full, light colored mane, and not rubbed.

John was determined to get that lion for me, so here again we hung bait, made our morning visits, sat for hours and pinched the heads off persistent tse tse flies, waiting for a lion who never came. The best we saw was a beautiful leopard which came down a tree head first within 30 yards of the Jeep. I could have killed it easily, but already had my allotted leopard. This one was probably a female, as it was much smaller than the 7 foot tom I had killed.

The morning of the 8th we ran both lion baits again. At the first one, we saw four hyenas a couple hundred yards from the bait, so we knew something must be on the bait. When we approached the tree, John searched the ground in the dim light with his binoculars, but saw nothing. We walked slowly up to the tree with rifles ready. Just as we walked under the near edge of the tree, a big tom leopard came out of the tree right over our heads, landed five yards away

with a nasty rasping growl, and took off for the bush, three jumps away. Instantly, my .476 was at my shoulder with safety off. There was not much weight left on my trigger when John yelled not to shoot. John's yell registered just in the nick of time. I was looking for lion, and the big cat startled me. Another split second and I'd have been in trouble with two leopards on one license. John said had either of us been alone the leopard would probably have jumped him, as he was guarding his bait.

I killed a cheeky young bull rhino that day that took me on at 18 yards. We took both his hams for lion bait, while the boys removed about all the rest of him for meat.

This went on and on. The morning of the 9th, we ran both lion baits and found no fresh tracks at either bait. The lions must have killed elsewhere. We went back to the baits that afternoon, and again the next morning. The morning of the 11th of December, we again ran both lion baits and when we approached the lower one we saw a big tom leopard up in the tree. He had pulled the half of zebra up in the crotch of the tree and eaten a big feed, then stretched out on a branch guarding his meat. We left him undisturbed.

The morning of the 12th, we again ran the lower bait first, and found a big lioness stalking around the bait tree. She would rear up on the zebra and pull, but was so full of meat she made only half hearted efforts to pull the zebra down. We had cut down the ripe rhino ham the evening before and tied it with heavy rope to the base of the tree to let the hyenas have a fill, so their wailings would help attract the lion.

A whole pride of lions were feeding on the rhino ham to our left under very dense bush and heavy trees. We could hear them growling and feeding, and heard the old man growl a time or two, but we could see nothing of them in the dim half light of early morn. However, even this was encouraging. So John said, "Now we have them coming to the bait and it's only a question of time and more bait. You will get your old tom eat in the morning."

The morning of the 13th (my wife always says the 13th is a lucky day), we again ran the lower bait. This was just a month after I had started working for lion. We left the jeep a mile and a half away and Galu and our local tracker went with John and me. I had the .476 loaded with 520 grain soft nose and John had soft nose in his .416 as well.

This time, when we slipped up under our thorn tree, the place was alive with lions. It was still too dark to see the sights on my .476 Westley Richards, but light comes fast there under the equator and every minute it became lighter. I shoved the safety ahead on my big rifle and rested it and back of my left hand through a crotch in the thorn while we looked them over.

Right in front of us and 40 yards away, a

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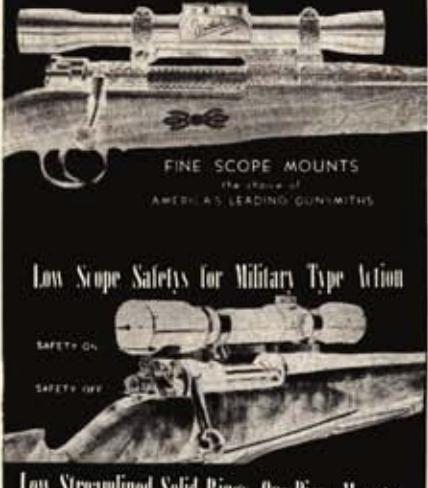
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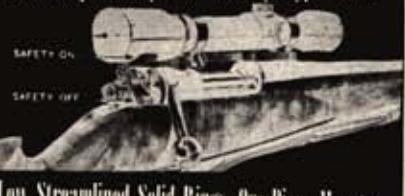
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WRITE FOR
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MAYNARD P. BUEHLER
ORINDA, CALIFORNIA



young maned tom lion lay sleeping. Just beyond him were two lioness and three young spotted cubs. A third big lioness walked around the tree and looked up at the remains of the zebra. Some yards beyond the tree was another lion that looked much larger to me than any of the others. He was lying on his left side, belly toward us. His chest looked black and I sized him up as the boss tom.

Soon I could see the front bead clearly and the bottom of the rear sight notch, but could not see the platinum center line. It was still too dark under the foliage of our thorn tree. I had a tickling in my throat and wanted to cough so bad I had to grit my teeth, to keep from so doing.

There was a strip of grass right over the first lion's back, between him and the big lion, and this short grass was lighter than the surrounding scenery, so I lined up both sights perfectly in the grass. Just then, the big cat raised up and turned toward us. When I saw his big maned head, I knew this was it. I centered my sights just right for his heart and squeezed the trigger. With the crash of the heavy rifle and the big flash of flame in front of the muzzle, pandemonium broke loose.

The old maned lion jumped to his feet, uttered one loud coughing growl, then swapped ends and made the brush in three jumps.

Two lioness ran into the bush to the left, and one to the right, followed by the three spotted cubs. Then, after all the rest of the pride were out of sight, the young lion woke up, raised his head, and looked around as much as to ask, "Where is everyone?" Then he jumped up and also ran into the bush to the left.

John and I started forward after I had reloaded the barrel of my .476. Just a few feet from our tree, I saw a yellow movement under the bush to the right, where the lioness and cubs had gone. I told John to hold it, and pinned my sights on her. Things did not look good to me then, with a wounded lion and two lioness in the bush on the left, and young maned lion and a lioness and three cubs in the bush on our right, so we waited right where we were until the boys came up with the jeep.

When the jeep arrived, we loaded all four guns and walked down on the left side of the jeep as it drove slowly to the bait tree. Little Galu had the 12 bore double loaded with No. 6 shot and when John asked him what he was going to do with it, he answered, "If that lion's eyes look in my eyes, I am going to blow his damn eyes out."

We spread out with the natives between us, with me on the right. We worked slowly along the edge of the dense bush, being able to see only some ten feet under it. Then, as they all started to work back to the left where the big tom had entered the bush leaving a good blood trail, I saw something. It looked like a long strip of yellow hair.

I told John to hold it and come look, the while I kept the .476 trained on that strip of yellow hide. When John arrived, he said, "It's a lion. Keep it covered and shoot if there's any movement, while I back around and have a look from the other side."

John moved out slowly, parting the thorn ahead of him with his rifle, while the two natives and I kept the cat covered. Then John spoke. "Elmer, it's your old lion, and he is dead as a mackerel." I breathed a sigh of relief. The last thing I wanted on the trip was a wounded lion in dense cover like this, where you could not see ten feet.

The boys cut a hole in to him with their pangas and roped his hind feet and tied this rope to the jeep, and we hauled him out of the thorn. My slug had taken off the top of his heart and pouched out the skin on the off side. He had made only one more jump after hitting the bush.

He proved to be a very big, heavy lion. John said he would go well over 500 pounds empty. He must have carried a hundred pounds of zebra in his belly, as it was all six of us could do to load him in the jeep.

Back at camp, as the light increased, we took some pictures and measured him. He went just nine feet two inches in a straight line from tip of nose to tip of tail. He was part black mane, with better than average coverage but scrubbed short from the thorn. John said he was past his prime, but was still boss of the pride.

After 16 days of lion hunting, I had old Simba at last.

The 520 grain soft nose .476 had torn away the whole top and one side of the heart and lay, perfectly expanded, under the skin on the off side. John said, "Now you can see why I won't let a client shoot a lion with a small rifle. When I see one of these big boys hit, I like to figure that he's hit for keeps!"

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FORSYTH: FATHER OF THE MODERN GUN

(Continued from page 25)

world-wide supremacy to British arms, was heaved out of the Ordnance Office. His successor, the Earl of Chatham, immediately ordered the clergyman to remove his "rubbish" from the Tower and give a detailed account of the money he had spent. This was a dig at Lord Moira, who had authorized an initial payment of £100 to cover the bare cost of the experiments.

Insulted by this cavalier treatment, Forsyth set up his own gun-making business in partnership with James Watt, inventor of the steam engine. They opened a shop in Piccadilly and hired a first-rate gunsmith named James Purdey, who had been a pupil of Joseph Manton. Later Purdey was to found the well known firm of James Purdey & Sons, still a premier London gunmaker to this day.

The lock turned out in Piccadilly was a far more perfect mechanism than any of the rough models Forsyth had produced at the Tower, although the principle was the same. The most important parts were the hammer and the magazine primer. This latter became known as a "scent-bottle" because of its shape. It could be turned through a half-circle on a steel plug screwed into the side of the gun barrel.

One end of a hole drilled through the center of the plug entered the breeching and led to the powder charge, while the other end was blocked by a screw holding the primer in place. On top of the plug, a miniature flash-pan connected with central cavity by a pin-hole vent. Since the pan was completely enclosed by the priming magazine, the flame generated in it was forced down the vent with ample force to ensure instantaneous ignition of the charge.

With the primer in the firing position a blunt-ended striker was so placed that it would carry the blow of the hammer to the few grains of priming in the flash-pan. To re-prime, the "scent-bottle" was swivelled bottom-up. A fresh charge of detonating powder from the magazine in the bottom of the scent-bottle (now on top) then fell into the pan. This small magazine contained enough powder for about twenty shots and an additional supply was carried in a separate ivory priming flask.

In London's exclusive clubs, sportsmen spluttered over their snuff while arguing the pros and cons of the Forsyth lock. "Demme, Sir," cried Colonel Peter Hawker, who had formerly been a staunch supporter of the flint, "any man who uses a detonator for a season will take to fulminating powder as to a wife, for better or for worse, and will stick to it!" "Gad, Sir," replied one dandified old officer from the depths of his armchair, "I had my whiskers singed off only last week by the flash from the pan of a flint-lock. I forgot to tell the man next to me not to fire. Must try this Forsyth feller's gun."

But there were also complaints that Forsyth's detonating gun did not shoot as strongly as the flint-lock, and these com-

plaints were partly justified. Efficiency depended just as much on the weapon's boring as on the comparative efficiency of the two locks. To get maximum advantage from the percussion lock the bore of the gun had to be a near-perfect cylinder, whereas many of the high-class sporting guns brought to Forsyth's shop for conversion had bores choked a few inches from the breach to ensure full combustion of the powder under the old system, by retarding the movement of the shot until the powder burned and pressure was built up.

The combination of such a bore and Forsyth's lock, which gave instantaneous ignition in any case, caused terrific recoil and strained the barrel when the shot was forced at the narrow point in the bore. Soon, however, this was realized and customers were advised that not all guns were suitable for conversion.

A more serious objection which Forsyth was faced with was the danger from explosion of the substantial amounts of fulminating powder in the priming magazine. The risk was finally minimized by facing the important central plug with platinum, which protected it from corrosion. In addition, a safety vent was drilled in the lid of the priming magazine and lightly stoppered with a horn plug.

THESE and other safety measures made the locks a very expensive proposition. A single pair of Forsyth locks cost more than the best Birmingham flint-lock gun. All the same, high pricing alone doesn't explain the

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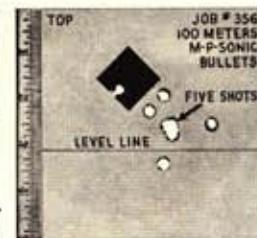


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violent prejudice the system encountered for several years. The Ordnance Department was antagonistic, and it was not until 1834 that the invention was given a grudging test at Woolwich Arsenal. Six thousand rounds were fired from six flintlocks and the same number from six percussion muskets.

These tests were carried out in all kinds of weather and the results provided overwhelming proof of the superiority of the percussion system. Shooting was more accurate and rapid, and the recoil was less, there were fewer misfires, and a great saving in ammunition. By this time, of course, Forsyth's original lock had been superseded by the percussion cap, generally recognized as the invention of Joshua Shaw of Philadelphia. The percussion musket was first used in the field during the first China War when it helped the British to capture Amoy in August, 1841, two years before the death of Forsyth.

The clergyman-inventor has been described as the paramount inventor of his age, at least as far as firearms are concerned, but some modern inventors feel justified in calling him a prize sucker who never insisted on getting an even break from the government he served so well. In fact, he only claimed a reward as late as 1840, when his friends insisted that he send a petition to Parliament. This was ignored until the year before his death, when the Master-General of the Ordnance Department grudgingly felt "inclined to recommend the petition to the favorable consideration of the Treasury."

Eventually, the Treasury agreed to pay a piddling gratuity of £200 "for remuneration as the original inventor of percussions for small arms." A year later, four months after Forsyth died, the Treasury admitted that they had been too tight-fisted, and offered an additional thousand pounds to the inventor's surviving relations.

Military historians believe the British government made one of their biggest strategic blunders by throwing cold water on Forsyth's lock at the beginning of the Peninsular War in 1808. At the time, with the British and French armies nearly equal

in fighting power, it should have been obvious that the country introducing a big improvement in small arms would have the advantage. Proof of this is to be found in such well known examples as the hollow-handled ring bayonet against the solid-handled plug bayonet in Flanders, the iron ramrod against the wooden ramrod at Mollwits, and the needle gun against the muzzle loader at Koniggratz.

Forsyth had the principles of his calling and was not the man to grab credit for someone else's genius. In the patent covering his detonating lock he was careful to make it clear that he had played no part in discovering the mixtures or chemical substances which went into the detonating powder.

Nevertheless, there were plenty of unscrupulous gunsmiths who weren't so shy about pirating Forsyth's invention. Because of this a considerable portion of the profit made by the firm he set up after being ejected unceremoniously from the Tower was eaten up by law suits against opportunists who tried to muscle in on the percussion business. Forsyth could have died a wealthy man if he had not been so patriotic. He turned down Napoleon's \$500,000 as an insult from his country's enemy, and once his Piccadilly shop was running smoothly preferred to go home and attend to the spiritual welfare of his village flock at Belhelvie, in Scotland.

Forsyth lived and worked during one of the most eventful periods in the history of English gunmaking, towards the end of George III's reign, which was marked by the appearance of such brilliant craftsmen as Durs Egg, Henry and Samuel Nock, Ezekiel Baker, H. W. Mortimer, Rigby, Pattison and the Mantons. Although Forsyth must be reckoned the foremost inventor of this group, it is extraordinary to think that he was neither a gunsmith by profession, nor even remotely connected with the craft.

It is also astounding to consider that an invention of priority importance to the military was devised by a village clergyman whose initial motive was more frequent dinners of wild goose!

When he wanted to do some heavy thinking about his work he liked to stroll along the seashore near his home. His old servant used to tell unexpected visitors, "Och, he's awa' at the shore, thinking about his guns, and his locks, and his thingies, and he'll jest be back weet feet, for he never looks when the sea's comin' up." So has genius been noted for its eccentricities, in all countries, in all ages.

On the 30th of January, 1930, eighty-seven years after his death, a memorial tablet was unveiled in the Tower of London. It is inscribed:

1768 — 1843

**To the Memory of the
Rev: Alexander Forsyth
M.A. LL.D.**

Minister of Belhelvie, Aberdeenshire

In 1805 he conducted experiments in the Tower under the Master-General of the Ordnance, and in 1807 invented the percussion system which was adopted by the British Army in 1839. This monument was erected in 1929 by admirers of his Genius.

It was the first memorial ever erected to a private individual within the Tower of London.

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WEST POINT'S "LIBRARY" OF GUNS

(Continued from page 16)

microphones picked up the explosions and recorded them. These sounds were later incorporated into a recording of Tschaikowsky's "1812 Overture"—the first time this piece of music, which called for the booming of cannon in its original score, has been recorded with vintage guns firing.

The most ambitious attempt at making practical use of the West Point Museum's collections of firearms has resulted in a popular series of shows. Every Fall, the Museum and the Academy's Department of Military Art and Engineering present lectures demonstrating the history of warfare in this country. By using appropriate weapons, uniforms, and other equipment, colored slides, and a running narrative, they show how battle tactics have been influenced by the arms in the hands of the soldier.

The demonstrations are divided into three series: The Napoleonic Wars, The American Civil War, and World War I. Actual arms of the various periods are used. Not only are they there for the cadets to see, but loading and firing procedures are demonstrated. Though all of the weapons are antiques by current standards, they were respectable instruments in their day. No matter how crude they might appear to sophisticated moderns, the old guns dealt out as final a sentence of death as an atomic bomb. Proof of this is the little-known fact that battles of the past had far more casualties than modern ones.

Limitations of fire, range, and accuracy are the measuring sticks discussed here. These figures are interrelated to the prevailing tactics of the periods and their effects evaluated accordingly.

When discussing the armies of Napoleon, much emphasis is placed on the "The Line"—when infantry, intermixed or preceded by artillery, was strung out across the countryside in a two- or three-rank line often extending for miles. This was the best way of firing simultaneously a maximum number of inaccurate, short range smoothbore muskets. The Little Corporal modified this concept as he used more and more citizen soldiers and learned how to rush concentrations of fire quickly to specified points. He fought battles as synchronized operations in which all arms had vital roles.

To illustrate these points, the museum staff primes and fires muskets to contemporary commands straight out of the drill manuals. Occasional misfires and hangfires only serve to stress more dramatically the imperfections of the weapons. Actual muskets from European armies of the time are employed: French, Belgian, English, and Prussian.

The discussions on the Civil War attract perhaps the largest number of outside spectators. They discuss the changes taking place on the battlefield since Napoleon, and the informal approach of the American soldiers. The rifled musket, the Minie ball, the repeater, and American topography all play their parts. By the second year of the war, the science of "digging in" had become both real and necessary. It bred a system of battlefield tactics that lasted through the Korean conflict.

A large number of guns are demonstrated. Comparisons between a U. S. cap lock '61 Springfield and a Spencer are made—both are loaded and fired at top speed for one

minute to reveal the superiority of fire and the ease of handling found in the repeating weapon. Handled by the cadets are numerous carbines, pistols, swords and hand grenades. A new-found understanding of the victories and defeats that occurred just four generations ago at Gettysburg, Sharpsburg, Cold Harbor, or Petersburg is obvious by the reaction of the gray-clad audience, for the arrows on maps and the words in the textbooks have taken on a graphic meaning.

The present Corps of Cadets is of the generation when "The War" was with Germany and Japan. Until they came to West Point, the current classes had little opportunity to study the "first" World War in any detail. Some groundwork is necessary both by classroom instructors and the museum lecturers.

Interrelated with WWI weapons displayed are factors that made them possible: the new steelmaking processes and related industrial complexes permitting wholesale production of high precision arms, and advancements in transport and supply enabling whole armies to move vast distances. More than any single small weapon, the machine gun was responsible for the "front"; a continuous fortification, miles deep, hundreds of miles long and without flanks. Headon assaults resulted in appalling losses. Poison gas and tanks were designed to smash gaps in the interlocking strongpoints so the infantry could drive a wedge. It was on the muddy battlefields of France that artillery reached its greatest heights, but above all the repeating rifle and machine gun dominated the action.

Various models of machine guns are shown, including the Lewis, Maxim, Colts, Brownings, and others. Even the earlier Gatling Gun is found here, and is used to "lead up" to the more effective ones. With them are light automatic arms—the Benet Mercie, and the Chauchat, besides rifles of all the major powers: Enfields, Lebel, Steyrs, Rosses, Mausers. Special note is made of the Mauser system and its great

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popularity. By the end of the period such phrases as "the 75", "No Man's Land", and the trench are familiar.

As part of this same general course, the First Class is called upon individually by its teachers to organize and deliver short talks of their own about particular aspects of the various military periods. The museum's lectures provide only the overall picture in swift, bold strokes; the cadets' efforts fill in the details and shadings. Not only do these personal studies focus attention on single weapons, but the cadet acquires a personal appreciation of them.

Already, the museum is studying how to assist nearby universities offering ROTC courses. At present, neither adequate personnel nor equipment is available to do this, but an intensive investigation is being made for future possibilities. Undoubtedly there are other collections in both public and private hands that could offer similar programs.

Unlike most larger European nations, the United States has no national military museum. The West Point institution is the only large government installation of its type that is devoted solely to the study, preservation, and exhibition of American Military History. That this is true is no surprise, for Americans have always been neglectful of their military heritage even though the nation was born from a call to arms. Scattered at various Army posts one finds a number of smaller museums devoted to local history, and restricted in space and scope. In fact, some of them have called on West Point for help and there are now, in the Pentagon, exhibits from the West Point collection.

Few American museums have used their arms collections as actively as West Point, though many welcome the opportunity, as does the Military Academy, of making them available for study by individuals. It is the actual lending, the "library" procedure, that



Cadets find rare Dragoon Colt of value in studying cavalry mobility.

is unique for a firearms collection. More museums should investigate this procedure. One need not use the rare or priceless guns. They are, for purposes like this, usually not required. What are most valuable are guns that soldiers used widely. Perhaps this "West Point Concept"—though not entirely original to the school on the Hudson—might spur proprietors of other collections to do the same. The major purpose of any collection is pride of ownership and knowledge. And the greater the general knowledge about guns, the wider grows the popular interest.



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THE TOMMY IS A TARGET GUN

(Continued from page 32)

shots.) The possible score over this score was 150 and the suggested qualifying score was 113. The class averaged 107.9, divided by stages as follows: Stage 1—35.4; Stage 2—42.7; Stage 3—15.9; Stage 4—13.9.

At 50 yards, the submachine gun fire was more accurate. (Average score 45.9 versus 35.4 with revolvers). When firing revolvers, the officers had to stop to reload after each five shots. (Six could have been used). Using submachine guns, they fired ten shots without reloading and could have fired twenty without stopping. Each shot with the revolvers delivered a bullet weighing 148 grains at a muzzle velocity of about 750 feet per second. Each shot from the submachine guns delivered a bullet weighing 230 grains at about 900 feet per second.

At 25 yards, the revolvers netted an average score of 42.7 fired at an average rate of one shot every four seconds and with the officers halting fire to reload after each five shots. The submachine guns netted an average of 48.5 for the same number of shots fired without reloading at an average rate of one shot per second. Twenty such shots could have been fired without reloading.

At 25 yards, firing aimed full-automatic bursts, the submachine guns had an average score of 69.2 and the twenty shots were fired in one half the time allowed for each five shots at that range from the revolvers.

At 15 yards, the revolvers fired double action with both right and left hand, had an average score of 29.8 for ten shots fired in two stages. The submachine guns deliv-

ered twenty shots fired from the hip in full-automatic bursts without stopping, in a time limit of 10 seconds for an average score of 60.5. At this range, the revolvers were aimed as well as possible, firing double action at the rate of one shot per second. The submachine guns were pointed from about hip level without the aid of sights, but pointing was facilitated by loading half ball and half tracer ammunition. The tracers helped the gunner to spot his shots instantly and make correction, if they were not hits. This would be particularly desirable for night work.

The weapons used for this training were .45 caliber Reising submachine guns of World War II vintage but generally in good condition. Some of them were practically new. The ammunition was military type .45 caliber automatic pistol ammunition of various ages in various stages of deterioration. Most of it was of wartime manufacture. Some of it had a large percentage of rusty cases. One lot was twenty years old, from the markings on the cases. A large number of misfires and malfunctions were incurred that could be traced directly to the ammunition. Some feeding failures were caused by faulty magazine clips. With good, fresh, ammunition and good clips a Reising kept clean and in good condition usually proved to be very reliable in function.

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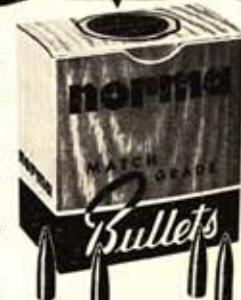


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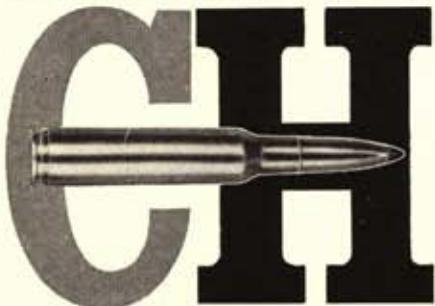
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chologically. It also has weaknesses. Many of us have long had two dangerous misconceptions regarding it. The first is that every redblooded American grows up skilled in the use of a shotgun. The other is that one has only to point the scattergun in the general direction of the target and cut loose to score smashing hits. Everyone has to be trained with any weapon, and the ease of training closely parallels the pleasure of shooting it. There is little pleasure in firing a 12-gauge, 20-inch cylinder bore with high velocity buckshot loads on a still target.

Bill Joyner, Max Mandel, and I once conducted a series of tests with Reising sub-

As we carried out the firing we kept a careful record of the total number of hits, hits in the kill zone, total score, weight of striking projectiles, and the actual time for firing each string at 25 and 15 yards. It is important to consider the weight of the different bullets in order to judge the relative effectiveness of the two guns. A 12-gauge shotgun fires nine pellets at each charge of "00" buckshot, but they weigh only 55 grains each. The .45 caliber slugs from the submachine gun weigh 230 grains each.

The information which we gathered is shown in the chart below, by averages.

	No. of hits	Kill zone hits	Score	Wt. of hits	Average time
Submachine gun	9.4	6.6	42.4	2162.0 gr.	10 seconds
Shotgun	8.9	3.4	34.4	489.5 gr.	10 seconds
			Stage 2.		
Submachine gun	14.9	11.9	74.0	4327.0 gr.	8.6 seconds
Shotgun	33.9	18.4	138.6	1864.5 gr.	9.0 seconds
			Stage 3.		
Submachine gun	15.5	10.9	70.4	3565.0 gr.	6.3 seconds
Shotgun	29.9	17.5	130.4	1644.5 gr.	6.1 seconds

machine guns and Remington 12-gauge auto-loading shotguns with 20-inch cylinder barrels to determine their relative effectiveness. We used Western full charge .45 automatic pistol ammunition and Remington .45 caliber tracers in the submachine guns. Western Super-X "00" buckshot was used in the shotguns.

For comparison of the weapons, we used a three-stage course of fire on the Colt Silhouette Target. Stage 1 consisted of ten shots standing with the submachine gun and five with the shotgun at 50 yards range in ten seconds. At Stage 2 we fired twenty shots standing with the submachine gun in short full automatic bursts, and five from the shotgun at 25 yards. All shots were aimed, and the average firing time was computed for each weapon. Stage 3 was twenty shots—half ball and half tracers—from the submachine gun in short automatic bursts with the gun held at hip level, and five shots with the shotgun. Range was 15 yards. Average firing time was computed for each arm.

We found that at 50 yards we could comfortably fire ten aimed shots with the Reising and five with the shotgun in ten seconds. Since five shots was the capacity of the scattergun, we could fire no more with it at any stage without stopping to reload. The Reising had a capacity of 20 shots that could all be fired in less than ten seconds at the shorter ranges, and it was so loaded at 25 and 15 yards. In a combat action in which reloading became necessary, there would be no comparison between the two guns in reloading ease. The submachine gun could be reloaded with a 20-shot clip in a few seconds. The shotgun would require about 15 seconds for the reloading of five shots one at a time.

We three men represented three different types with regard to training and experience with the weapons handled. All of us were above average with pistols and rifles. I was well above average in proficiency with the submachine gun and fairly good with the shotgun. Joyner was good with both weapons but not outstanding with either at that time. Mandel had never fired a submachine gun or shotgun before and was given only brief instruction for the test.

At all stages, the shotgun was more uncomfortable to shoot because of the punishing recoil, and more difficult to control from one shot to the next. We had no malfunctions with the shotguns and only one feeding failure in 400 shots with the submachine gun.

The spread of the pattern of shot from the shotguns reduces their effectiveness above 25 yards range. In fact, at 25 yards, our average of 33.9 hits out of 45 pellets fired on the target is not particularly good. At 50 yards, the size of the shotgun patterns was so great that we obtained an average of only 8.9 hits out of 45 pellets fired in each five-shot string. No comparative tests were run at ranges above 50 yards. We believed that the submachine gun, fired semi-automatically like a rifle in a sitting or prone position, would still deliver a high percentage of hits at 100 or 200 yards. The percentage of hits with that type shotgun at 50 to 100 yards would have been very low.

It appeared that greater skill pays greater dividends with the submachine gun in more effective fire. I had one string of ten hits out of ten shots at 50 yards with the Reising, with eight in the kill zone for a score of 48. A string of 20 shots fired in 8.5 seconds at 25 yards were all hits in the kill zone for a score of 100. At 15 yards, I had a 20-shot string fired from the hip with a perfect kill-zone score in six seconds. In view of the great difference in weight of the .45 caliber slug and the "00" buckshot pellets, I could not approach such effectiveness of fire with a shotgun.

We used tracers mixed with the ball ammunition at the 15-yard hipfiring stage of submachine guns to facilitate control of the points of impact. Their use would make gunfire still effective at 15 yards or greater ranges at night, and would be an advantage over shotguns. The pattern and impacts of the shotgun pellets could not be observed.

American police agencies usually choose between some model of the Thompson and Reising submachine guns. The military have the Submachine Gun Caliber .45, M3 and M3A1, commonly known as the "grease gun" because it looks like one. All three weapons use .45 caliber automatic pistol ammunition. The military "grease gun," with a cyclic rate

of fire of about 450 rounds per minute, is most notable for positive functioning under difficult field conditions and for its simple construction and economical manufacture. The Thompson has a cyclic rate of fire of 600 rounds per minute. It is outstanding, especially in the older models, for superior workmanship and material and for great durability. The Reising has the highest cyclic rate of fire of the three (about 900 rounds per minute) and is likely to be outstanding over the other two for accuracy in semi-automatic fire.

Most of the complaints against submachine guns come from improper use of them and poor technique in their use. It is easy to lay a Tommy gun across the open palm and fire a 20-shot full automatic burst without it rising off your hand. Yet many 200-pound policemen briefly acquainted with the weapon will swear that it climbs as it fires full automatic, because it ran out over the top of the target with them. The "climbing" of the gun is an illusion. The man puts the gun to his shoulder, stands balanced on his hind legs, squeezes the trigger, and some six or seven shots go off before he can release it. The series of rapid pushes on his shoulder from the recoil of the shots causes him to lean backward. Then he finds himself pointing up into the air. Firing from the hip level, the untrained man's muscular reflexes cause him to catch the gun at the top of its "bounce," so that he himself actually forces the gun up. Fired loose, from the palm, it will return to the same level between shots and deliver a nicely targeted cone of fire.

That, however, is slightly beside the point. There is rarely, if ever an occasion in police operations to let go a long burst of raking full-automatic fire. The submachine gun is of greatest value to the law enforcement officer when fired semiautomatically or in short bursts of full automatic fire. When used in this manner, ammunition is conserved for more effective use, and the operator has that most vital prerequisite of all police firepower—control at all times.

No, the Tommy is not a target rifle in the usual sense, but it has plenty of target ability for combat use—plus firepower that can save the lives of its police users. In addition, it is a tremendous psychological weapon. Very often, the very sight of the gun will remove the need for shooting it.

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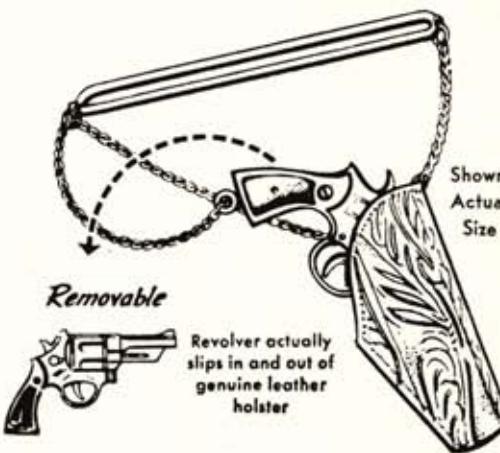
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PISTOL PETE EATON: HIS GUNS MADE HISTORY

(Continued from page 29)

by his tribe. Little Frank competed with the best Indian marksmen at tribal council meetings and was proclaimed the best shot in Cooweescooee District. Starr gave him a Colt .45 and his first boxes of factory-made ammunition.

In 1875, when Frank was 15, he began riding the range for Osage Brown, a cattleman on Mission Creek in the Osage Nation. At this time, the cattlemen were having lots of trouble with horse thieves and rustlers, and one day while talking to some Cherokee cowboys from a nearby range, Frank learned that much of the stolen stock was being disposed of through two men—Shannon Campsey and Doc Ferber, who were living on the Canadian River, southwest of Webbers Falls. It was the first word he had received about any of his father's murderers, and Frank rode south eagerly, following directions given him by the Indians.

The cabin was located in a clearing at the head of a draw, near a little creek. A high picket fence surrounded it and a log porch ran across the front. Shannon Campsey was sitting on the porch as Frank approached. He got up and went inside, reappearing a moment later with a Winchester. He sat down in his chair with the rifle across his lap and waited.

Frank rode up to the fence and dismounted. As he opened the picket gate, Campsey rose to his feet.

"Stop where you are, youngster!" he ordered. "Who are you, and what do you want?"

Frank was already through the gate. A dozen yards separated them.

"I didn't figure you would recognize me, Shan," the boy replied. "I was just a little like the night you shot down my father."

Campsey jerked his rifle to level in a split second. But that was too long. He died, doubled in a heap on the edge of the porch steps, with his face on the ground and crimson trickling out across the stock of the Winchester he had never fired.

Frank leaped back on his horse, gun still in hand, looking sharply about for Doc Ferber. When no one appeared, he cautiously rode around the house. He had ridden only a few yards when the wind brought him a whiff of burned hair and hide, and he knew someone was in the woods branding cattle. He had reached the head of a ravine and started across a little clearing, angling toward the woods, when suddenly a rider burst from the trees and rode toward him.

"Hello, boy," he called, "what are you doing here? I thought I heard a shot."

"You did," Frank replied. "That was Shan-

Campsey. I came up here looking for a couple of fellows. Shan tried to stop me."

"What the hell—" stammered Doc Ferber. "Who are you? Who do you want?"

"I want you, Doc, don't you know? You're one of the men who killed my father. Draw your gun, you son-of-a-bitch!"

Doc was already reaching for his six-shooter. But he was too slow. He fell forward off his horse, and Frank left him dead on the prairie with two bullet holes in his breast.

The cattlemen were not bothered with rustlers again for a while. Frank was lauded for his lone-hand play against two cattle thieves and was appointed detective for the Cattlemen's Association.

Shannon Campsey and Doc Ferber had been rebranding the stolen cattle for re-sale in Missouri. Checking this out, Frank learned that their Missouri contact was John Ferber, another of his father's killers, now living at Southwest City. Frank rode north; but, the night before he arrived, Ferber was shot for stealing a jack from the bottom of the deck in a poker game. Frank stayed for the funeral and inquired around Southwest City. He learned that Jim and Jonce Campsey had a little ranch up in the Ozarks.

The next morning he rode up in the hills. He rode all day before he reached the Campsey cabin, which stood at the edge of a spring in a clearing. It was almost supper time and Jonce Campsey was at a bench outside the door washing his hands. His brother was not in sight. Frank asked, "Is this where Jim and Jonce Campsey live?"

The man nodded.

"Are you Jim?" asked Frank.

"I'm Jonce," was the tense reply.

"I have a message for Jim from John Ferber, who was shot at Southwest City. I can't give it to anyone but Jim," said Frank.

This brought Jim Campsey from the house with a rifle in his hand.

"I'm Jim," he said. "What did John say to tell me?"

Frank dismounted and deliberately walked closer to the two men. When he was within a few feet of them, he said "I'm Frank Eaton and I'm going to kill both of you!"

Jonce reached for his six-shooter and Jim swung his rifle around. Jim died like Shannon Campsey, on the porch of his home with his Winchester under him. Jonce got his revolver clear of its holster, but the only shot he fired was into the ground as he fell.

Frank rode back to Indian Territory. Five of his father's murderers were dead. He carved five notches on the handle of the .45



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Colt given him by Big Jim Starr, the Cherokee. Now only Wyley Campsey clung to the end of his list. But the trail was cold, and Frank continued for a while punching cattle and as detective for the association.

With the Apache outbreak, in the summer of 1885, Frank joined Captain Emmett Crawford's Warm Springs band to fight the crafty Geronimo and his renegade forces, and served as scout alongside Tom Horn, Al Sieber, Arizona Bill Gardner, and others. It was during the Apache warfare that he was almost scalped, but was saved by the timely arrival of his comrades.

Frank returned to Indian Territory and soon was commissioned a deputy United States marshal out of Judge Isaac Charles Parker's "hanging" court, at Fort Smith, Arkansas. Outlaws from every state and territory had found the Indian country an ideal place for hiding and showed little respect for the 200 marshals Parker sent into the area to ferret them out; 65 of these officers were killed in the line of duty.

Frank's work now served a double purpose. It was a job for which he had developed an inclination—man hunting—and it kept his gun hands in perfect tune for the showdown with Wyley Campsey, if and when the day ever came. He added five more notches to his "old reliable" .45 and played a part in bringing many of the territory's worst desperadoes in on the hoof. Finally, he learned that the sixth of his father's killers was tending bar in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Again Frank Eaton rode west. Nothing about him had changed in all these years. It was a job he had to do. He had sworn an oath over the dead body of his father and he would never rest until the last of the slayers had been accounted for.

One night, several weeks later, he rode into Albuquerque. While he was canvassing the saloons, a long-legged, somberfaced man stepped behind him into a patch of lamplight. Frank turned and strode back.

"Stranger, are you following me?" he asked. "My name's Frank Eaton—from Indian Territory."

The other said grimly, "My name is Pat Garrett."

Frank looked at him with new interest. The whole West was still talking about Pat Garrett, who had shot Billy the Kid in the closing days of the Lincoln County War.

"It's a privilege to meet you," Frank said. "Are you the sheriff here?"

Garrett said he was not. "I have been watching you go in and out of the saloons, and you don't even smell of whiskey. If you're looking for somebody, maybe I can be of help."

Frank bluntly told him that he was looking for somebody, and gave the reason. "I

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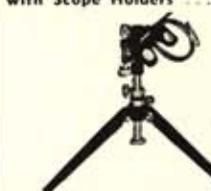
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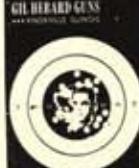
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have him located. He's tending bar in that place I just come out of. His name's Wyley Campsey."

"Campsey's a bad hombre, son," Garrett said. "He's been in a lot of trouble, and his two bodyguards are a couple of gunmen from Lincoln County—as dangerous as any men in New Mexico."

"The odds aren't high enough," Frank said carelessly.

The famous sheriff studied him a minute, observing the notches cut in his six-shooter. "When you go up against two men and come out with a whole skin, you're lucky," he said finally. "But three to one is a hard game, son. I'll be waiting to see how you come out." He walked up the street.

Frank opened the doors and paused inside. Campsey was at the end of the bar, talking with his two henchmen. Frank could not have asked for a better arrangement if he had planned it. He slapped his holsters with his hands, gave his body a quick twist inside his belt to settle his guns in position, and walked straight through the crowd toward the trio.

A few paces from them he stopped. The stocky bartender stiffened and the two gunmen stepped back from him slightly. Quietly, Frank informed Wyley Campsey of his identity, then said: "Go for your gun!"

For an instant the bartender was stunned. Then his hand darted to the ledge beneath the counter. Before he could lift his revolver above the bar, Campsey died with two bullets through his heart. The guards had drawn their weapons. One of them shot Frank in the hip and sat him down. A bullet from the other gunman's six-shooter tore into his left arm above the wrist, knocking the gun from his left hand. When the shooting started, the crowd had stampeded. In the confusion, someone shot out the light, and Frank crawled outside into the arms of Pat Garrett.

Garrett glanced at the wounds in his hip and arm, then said: "Well, you came out all right, but you lost one of your guns. Here, take mine, and get out of town before they kill you."

Garrett took a revolver from his belt and slid it into Frank's empty holster. "A few miles out," he said, "you will see a 'dodge' off to your right. Go there. Tell the people I sent you. You will be among friends until you are able to ride on."

Frank thanked him and galloped out of town.

The next day, Frank was well on his way back to Indian Territory. He hunted up a doctor friend, and soon recovered from his wounds. He went back to his old job as deputy marshal and spent another year chasing horse thieves and whiskey peddlers for Judge Parker.

But his vengeance trail had ended, and Frank "got the urge" to settle down. In the fall of 1889, after Oklahoma had been opened to settlement, he purchased a home in Perkins and opened a small blacksmith shop.

He is a picturesque person today as he putters around the forge and anvil. Visitors and passers-by often stop and stare curiously at him and the articles he keeps lying around—old guns, bullet moulds, powder horns, saddles. They all have histories, and they all remind Frank of some stirring event of an earlier day, particularly the two long-barreled six-shooters dangling from a peg on the shop wall. One of them blasted the life from the last of his father's slayers. The other, a gift from Pat Garrett, is the gun, Frank says, that killed Billy the Kid.

Eaton claims that after going to the house of Garrett's friends, his wounds were dressed. He spent the night with these people, and while the man was re-dressing his wounds the next morning, Eaton examined the gun Pat Garrett had placed in his holster. It was a hair-triggered Colt .44 with an eight-inch barrel. Garrett's friend also looked at the gun and handed it back to Eaton, saying: "You're mighty lucky. That's the gun Pat used when he killed Billy the Kid!"

On the other hand, the late Jesus Baca, once sheriff at Santa Fe, claimed to have owned the weapon that killed Billy; and Pat Garrett's daughter, Miss Elizabeth Garrett, of Roswell, New Mexico, declared before her death that the Tom Powers estate of El Paso had the gun; that her father loaned it to Tom Powers, owner of the Coney Island Saloon in El Paso, in 1903, and that it was on exhibition there when her father was slain in 1908.

Perhaps Jesus Baca or Miss Garrett were right; perhaps Eaton is right. His "old reliable" .45 bears 11 notches and his skill with a six-shooter is still almost unbelievable for a man of 95. Frank says it's true, and that he'll "back it up with both guns."

I have no desire to argue the point with him.

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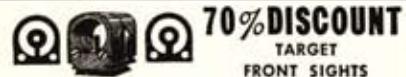
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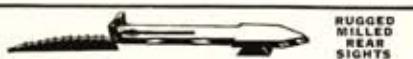
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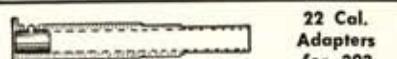
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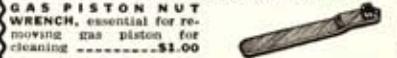


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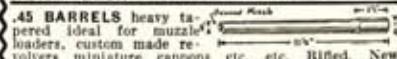
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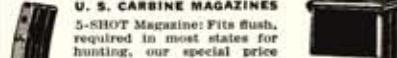
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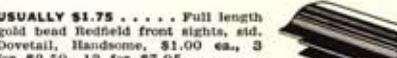
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THE SULLIVAN LAW

(Continued from page 22)

months you must renew, undergo a character check, and plank down five additional bucks. And each time you have to sweat out keeping your gun. Because, for any reason that strikes their fancy, the police can pull your license and you are automatically violating the law if you keep your revolver.

Recently, the new forms caused some legitimate competitive marksmen to give up in disgust and turn in their guns. "One shooter brought me 24 handguns to dispose of," a big dealer told me. "I couldn't give him a very good price for them," the dealer said, "because I'll have to dump them to some out of state dealer to get rid of them."

So delicate is this balance of authority that a creditor could claim you "threatened him with a deadly weapon" when he came to collect a bill, and get your license revoked. Loan sharks have done just that to get even with "debtors" who tire of submitting to usury. A lying busybody can go to the police station, charge that he saw you intoxicated in a bar, and get your license lifted. This, too, has happened. Or somebody who may wish to disarm you as a prelude to mayhem needs only to allege that you "menaced him with your gun."

Once your license is gone, you need never expect to get another. You're through. But chances are you'll never have to buck all these problems. You are more likely to be one of that 80 per cent of all applicants who are never granted permits in the first place. In which case, you're a three-time loser. You are left defenseless, right where you started; your time and trouble have gone for nothing; and gone, too, is your ten bucks application fee. Oh, no, you don't get it back. It gets tossed into the kitty of the Police Pension Fund.

This is how the law-abiding citizen fares in America's largest and most lawless city during this danger-fraught year of 1958. But how do the muggers and murderers make out in those same five boroughs? How do they get their guns?

Very simply, they steal them. Steal them by the crate and in singles, paying unconscious homage to the memory of Big Tim Sullivan every time they make a haul. What they don't appropriate for themselves, they peddle on the black market to sadistic psychotics and larcenous dope addicts who further jeopardize the law-abiding.

Fine imported guns, consigned for lawful sale and use, get stolen by the gross from shipping piers along New York's long waterfront. Guns are constantly being filched from foreign shipments to be exchanged for cash on the black market. Any hood, requiring a gun, knows that he need only scout around almost any waterfront gin mill for any make or caliber he wants.

Other stocks of firearms disappear from warehouses and the shops of legitimate gun merchandisers. Occasionally the thefts are perpetrated through brazen daylight hold-ups—as on November 5, 1955, when Stoeger's, on Fifth Avenue, lost a dozen .38 and .45 pistols to three youthful thugs who entered under the guise of customers.

As this article was being written, police found cached in the East Side apartment of George Tilipho 10 rifles, five shotguns, eight revolvers, 2000 rounds of ammunition and a dozen knives, arms stolen from a gun shop

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in New Hampshire. Charged with Sullivan Law violation, Tilipho's story was that he'd bought the "hot stuff" from a man he'd met on a hunting trip.

FBI reports show repeated large-scale weapons thefts from National Guard armories and other military and naval installations. The .38 revolver which slew Arnold Schuster after he'd tipped police to the whereabouts of bank robber Willie Sutton, proved to be one of 13 revolvers consigned for Army shipment to Japan. And in the week of March 3, 1958, a shipment of 50 revolvers from a Chicago firm to a New York retailer, placed by the shipping company in a bonded and watched warehouse, was hijacked. Whether the guns "went to Cuba" as some believe or were earmarked for the brisk underworld blackmarket in firearms, makes little difference. It seems the law aimed at keeping hoods from getting guns just demonstrated again its unworkable nature.

Has the Sullivan Law helped clear up murders like that of tip-off man Schuster, still unsolved during these six years since this law-abiding man was ambushed in cold blood by anonymous gangsters on a sedate residential street in Brooklyn? Has the act, through its compulsory arms registration clause so often lauded by its defenders, solved this or any other such crime?

The answer is an emphatic no. Instead, miscarriages of justice, some ludicrous, some tragic, stud the sorry history of the Sullivan Law. Recently a jewelry firm messenger, a retired policeman trained to shoot during his years on the force, was jumped by four hoodlums inside a subway station. One stabbed him in the back. The wounded ex-officer drew a revolver and shot at his attackers. The robbers fled.

"In many states," Commissioner Arm comments dryly in his article, "the man might have been hailed as a hero. In New York, he was arrested for carrying a gun without a permit, a violation of the Sullivan Law..." Such incidents only enhance a growing mood of despairing resignation to outlawry among decent New Yorkers.

"If the Sullivan Law is workable, as its champions assert," one thoughtful citizen remarked to me, "why does it restrain people like the messenger, who certainly do not use the weapons they carry for criminal purposes? Why doesn't it wipe out that black market in guns which find their way into the hands of the lawless?"

The black market keeps raking in the dollars during this forty-ninth year of the Sullivan Law. Commissioner Arm declared, from official estimates, that "hot guns" come into the city "at the rate of 100 a day." This means that approximately 36,500 pistols change hands, unlicensed, each year in New York city. Police believe that the total number of hot-gun toters is substantially higher than the previously quoted figure of 100,000.

Legitimate arms manufacturers and distributors pay taxes to maintain New York's city and state governments. They find their businesses cramped and their proper operations restricted through the workings of the Sullivan Law. But illicit "manufacturers," closely connected with the underworld, do a booming trade from secret factories in what one detective called "gun moonshining." A notorious case was the discovery by police of such an illegal arsenal in an abandoned Bronx soda factory where guns were made and stored until needed. Here

(Continued on page 56)

PRECISION-CHAMBERED BARRELED ACTIONS



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FN ACTION OR HVA ACTION BARRELED TO FINEST DOUGLAS ULTRA-RIFLED CHROME MOLY BARREL.

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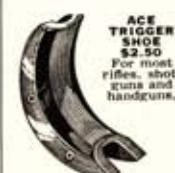
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F. N. Mauser-ACE Barreled Actions in any weight or caliber as above, (white)\$67.50

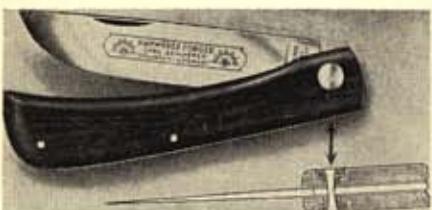
Barrels are ready to be turned into your receiver. They need only have headspace checked DEALER inquiries invited and GUNSMITHS be sure to ask for our special descriptive literature on this time and money saving tremendous value item. RETURN PRIVILEGE IF NOT COMPLETELY SATISFIED.

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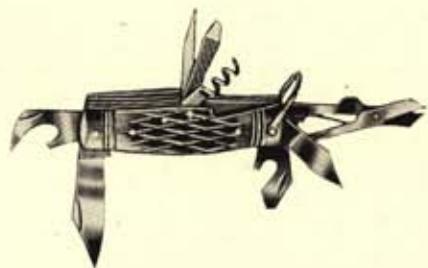


NEW "INSULATED MOUNTAINEER" BOOT. The rugged features of the Chippewa Shoe Company's heavy-duty utility boots have been combined with the warmth and comfort of their insulated hunting boots in the new "Insulated Mountaineer" boot. With upper stock of water-repellent, brown, full grain, chrome tanned Brazil ski leather, the nine-inch "Insulated Mountaineer" resists moisture and still retains full "breathing" ability. The unusually flexible sole, a product of Max Mayer-Gasser, Basel, Switzerland, is molded from a unique rubber compound. Maximum traction and durability are assured under all conditions. Rugged rawhide leather laces and nickel-plated hexagonal ski eyelets enhance the boot's eye-appeal. From the Chippewa Shoe Company, Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin.

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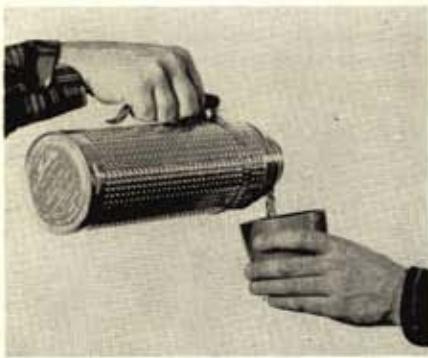


NEW LUBRI-KIT TUBES. Lehigh Chemical Company, Chestertown, Md., announces the use of a new, improved tip for the polyethylene tubes in their Anderol Gun Lubri-Kit. The new tip increases the efficiency of the tubes by allowing for deeper penetration into heretofore inaccessible portions of the gun mechanism. The tip is longer, more accurate, specially designed to allow the passage of the desired quantities of Anderol lubricant. Lubri-Kit synthetic grease and oil tubes with the new tips are now on the market and are available to all sporting goods dealers.



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NEW HUNTING IDEA. Ideal for the all-year-round hunter is new Aladdin vacuum bottle Handee-Handle, just introduced by Aladdin Industries, which fits any size vacuum bottle and easily clips onto a belt. It turns any vacuum bottle into an easy-to-use pitcher. The wide-mouth Aladdin vacuum bottle is excellent for carrying hot drinks on an all-day outing. Lids for the bottle make good drinking cups. A wide assortment of vacuum bottles, outing kits and Handee-Handle are manufactured by Aladdin Industries, Inc., Nashville, Tennessee. Available in stores everywhere. Handee-Handle retails for 59c.



CLIP AUTOMATIC. Mossberg Model 350K, shown above, shoots 22 cal. Long and Long Rifle regular or high speed ammunition and 22 cal. Short high speed. According to the factory, this model and the Mossberg carbines (No. 352 and 352K) are the first and only 22 cal. clip automatics that provide this convenience. Model 350K has same sights as Model 346K and receiver is grooved for scope mounting. It is claimed that tests show the mechanism will fire 7 rounds in less than 2 seconds. Model 350K is available immediately, is Fair Traded and lists at \$37.95.



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"FRONTIER" SIX SHOOTER. Great Western Arms Company's Frontier six shooters contain no aluminum die cast parts, are reputed to have the smoothest, softest action ever incorporated into a single action six shooter. They are now distributed exclusively by Stoeger Arms Corporation, located at 45-18 Court Sq., L.I.C., N.Y. In addition to this line, Stoeger will sell and distribute Great Western's complete line of Derringer models. Derringers were popular weapons in the Old West, are enjoying a revival of popularity along with other facets of Wild West interest.



TWO NEW BAUSCH & LOMB SCOPES. The Bausch & Lomb Optical Company, Rochester, N.Y., has added the new BALTUR and BAILEIGH scopes to a complete line of telescopic rifle sights. The BALTUR 2½X sight gives a fifty foot field of view at 100 yards—the widest field of any 2½X on the market. The BALTUR is designed specifically as a big-game sight, ideal for woods and brush country. The BALTUR combines high quality optics, rugged construction, is fog proof, and has an anti-reflection coating. Available immediately with three different reticles: cross-hair, \$65; post reticle, \$65; and Lee Dot, \$77.50. The BAILEIGH 8X is a rugged sight designed for long range varmint shooting. Improved contrast is possible through use of Balcoate anti-reflection coating. Available immediately with cross-hair reticle—\$85. The B&L line now includes variable power:

BALvar 24, 6X-24X; BALvar 4, 2½X-4X; BALvar 8, 2½X-8X. Fixed power: BALfor, 4X and the BALsix, 6X. For additional information, contact David Templeman, Dept. G, Bausch & Lomb Optical Co., Rochester 2, New York.



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THE SULLIVAN LAW

(Continued from page 53)

gangs held regular drills as preparations for robbery and slaying.

The "gunsmiths" of the black market concentrate on turning out tiny, easily carried weapons, camouflaged to look like something else. On September 8, 1955, New York City patrolmen Leonard Chase and Marlin Powers accosted a suspected thief named Howard Sims, who'd been trying to peddle a batch of clothing in the bars along Seventh Avenue. The two officers paid no attention to an inch-long fob dangling from Sims' watch pocket.

But while they were questioning the character, his right hand stole down to the fob and pressed it quickly. A pellet of shot tore a wound in Policeman Chase's left hand. A fragment of the lead pellet struck Patrolman Powers in the left eye. After Sims had been hauled in and locked up, a department firearms expert took the lead-spouting trinket apart. Inside the gadget was a $\frac{1}{2}$ inch bore, completely disguised weapon.

But no matter who gets hurt, the Sullivan Law stays on the books, and crime's gory carnival continues, netting payoffs that are juicy and easily-gotten by bandits wielding triggers against unarmed citizens.

Here are a few graphic incidents that occurred during the last half of 1957. They are selected from the encyclopedic files on the subject maintained by Karl T. Frederick, distinguished New York attorney and ex-president of the National Rifle Association:

July 28: A dapperly-dressed unidentified gunman shot and critically injured a 45-year-

old Harlem domestic worker, Mrs. Ann James, who was believed to have given information to the police in the often lethal New York numbers racket.

August 2: Another unidentified hold-up man, wearing cowboy boots, brutally pistol whipped Irving Wolkoff, owner of a Brooklyn wood-working plant after first grabbing \$1145 from an office desk drawer.

August 3: Victor Marques, 32, and Victor Rodriguez, 24, were shot and wounded by a 12 gauge shotgun when they were surrounded by fourteen young Brooklyn desperados who mistook them for two other men on the gang's death list.

Hundreds of these episodes prove that the Sullivan Law no more keeps arms from getting into the hands of juvenile delinquents than it does those of adult robber killers.

November 27—Joseph Gruber, 43, Brooklyn liquor store keeper, died after an unsuccessful operation that followed a wanton gun blast touched off by a jittery hold-up man identified as Woodrow Miller.

Joe Gruber had been buried but 24 hours when the New York *Journal American* revealed that notorious hoodlum Joe Magliocco was the holder of a Sullivan gun law permit while attending the recent, police-adjourned Mafia "convention" held in upstate Appalachia. Also licensed to tote a trigger was Joe Barbara on whose swank estate the assemblage of homicide and racket specialists gathered. Magliocco had held his permit, renewed annually, since 1945. This in spite of the fact that his identity as a leader of the international crime cartel had been a matter of official police record since 1928, when he was one of the top mobsters rounded up by lawmen who raided a secret

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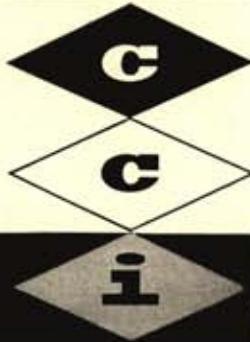
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conclave of the Mafia in Cleveland. To cap the climax, Magliocco had earlier been arrested in New York for violation of the Sullivan law, carrying a gun without a permit!

What other than a combination of gangland pull and police corruption could have enabled Joe Magliocco to get a gun legally and carry it, legally, through all those years? Nor is his case unusual. A surprising number of known hoods and triggermen have held Sullivan law permits ever since the day of Big Tim himself.

"Influence," not necessarily big and not necessarily criminal, continues to be one of the best ways to get a New York pistol license. In 1941, the editor of this magazine, then a competitive pistolman, applied for a permit to bring his target guns into New York City, then his home. His application was rejected. That winter, he met a member of the New York Police pistol team at the Midwinter meet in Tampa. "How come I haven't seen you at the New York shoots?" asked the policeman. "Can't get my guns into the city," Mann told him. "Aw, hell, tell your precinct people you know me," said the police shooter.

Mann returned to the city, entered a second application. The same precinct lieutenant to whom he had previously applied laughed at him. "You know you're not going to get a permit," he said. "Why waste your money?" "Well, Sergeant _____ told me I should tell you he wanted to get me into some New York matches so he could get even with me for beating him in Tampa." The lieutenant did a double take. "Why the hell didn't you say you knew the Sergeant? Sure; we'll put your application through." ... The permit pictured herewith (for six

guns, making it practically unique in Sullivan law history) was the result. Complying with the regulations, being a law-abiding citizen, was not enough to crack the Sullivan law barrier. "Knowing" a New York policeman did it.

What is to be done? How can we get the guns out of the hands of the Joe Maglioccos and into the hands of the Joe Grabers? As leading sportsman and former assistant New York D. A. Lester Lewis Jay concludes after analyzing the underworld's go-ahead statute:

"The problem of the armed criminal will not be disposed of by amending the Sullivan Law. It is time... to realize that the approach to the firearms problem by way of the Sullivan Law and all its amendments has failed dismally. When a gun law, like the Sullivan Law... is directed against honest citizens as well as criminals, it is doomed to failure. *It cannot be strong enough to stop the criminal because it would then too grievously oppress honest citizens and sportsmen.*"

Speaking for the Associated Sportsmen's Council, lawyer Jay emphasizes we need "laws which operate against the lawless elements and leave honest people unaffected." Only then, he points out, can law itself be made "tough enough to work against law-breakers." But the remedy is in the hands of the voters themselves. Only they can make New York legislators at Albany undo Big Tim Sullivan's work before too many more good people get killed by armed hoods. And New York is not the only place where vigilance is needed. The Sullivan Law is a pattern too many misguided do-gooders (as well as more sinister forces) are willing to copy. Be warned... or be sorry!

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TUNE UP YOUR SINGLE ACTION

(Continued from page 19)

must climb. The purpose of this hump is twofold. It must provide enough resistance to prevent the sear from slipping out of engagement in the event of the gun being accidentally dropped or struck while the hammer is at full cock. It must also prevent any suggestion of creep. When the trigger is squeezed, the sear builds up pressure against the hump and, when sufficient pressure has been developed—three to three and a half pounds—the hammer is suddenly released. The trigger should be completely free from all subsequent travel.

The steps to be taken in adjusting the Single Action trigger pull are as follows:

1. Widens the angle of the full-cock notch to not more than 90 degrees, making sure that a slight but clearly defined "hump" remains. All file or stone marks should be polished out.

2. Starting with the top face of the sear (stoned to its original plane) very slightly round off the leading edge of the sear, enough to allow the sear to ride over the hump with a minimum of disturbance or upset. Round off the rear edge of the sear a similar amount to prevent drag and to aid the sear in clearing the full-cock notch as the hammer begins to descend.

3. When hammer is at full cock, the sear should fit snugly into the notch without any fore-and-aft play, reducing creep.

4. If the trigger pull still remains on the heavy side, further polishing of the "hump" area of the full-cock notch should ease it up.

Smooth operation can be produced by polishing the leading face of the hammer beneath the safety, half-cock, and full-cock notches on which the rear face of the sear bears, as the hammer is cocked. These surfaces are invariably left rough by the factory and much of the internal grinding and grating stems from this one source.

Having adjusted the trigger pull to your satisfaction, the next step is to install the bolt. The bolt is the heart of the Single

Action, and from it stems the complete timing sequence of the action. In spite of its reputation as a bad actor, the bolt will stand up indefinitely provided that it is correctly fitted and that its opposite number, the cam on the hammer, is modified in order to reduce unnecessary lateral movement of the flexing arm of the bolt.

As received from the factory, the bolt requires a number of modifications. Here, in correct sequence, are the jobs to be done in order to correctly install the bolt:

1. The first step is to reduce the width of the locking head of the bolt until it exactly corresponds to the width of the bolt notches in the cylinder. The bolt opening in the frame should correspond with the width of the bolt notches. The bolt head should, therefore, be able to pass through this opening. It will also be necessary to taper the ends of the locking head so there is no trace of binding as the bolt pivots on its axis screw.

2. The next step is to round off, or bevel, the top leading edge of the flexing arm of the bolt, to permit the arm to travel over the sloping face of the cam without hindrance.

3. Now we move to the other end of the bolt. In order for the cylinder to be able to lock really tightly, it is necessary to lower the plane immediately in front of the locking head until the end of the bolt measures approximately one sixteenth of an inch in height. The relationship of this plane to the inside floor of the frame regulates the distance that the locking head protrudes through the bolt opening. Do not reduce this plane too much, or the whole timing operation of the bolt will be thrown out and the concave curve of the flexing arm will not position alongside the cam when the hammer is in repose.

4. One of the principal reasons for bolt failure is the sharp 90 degree "cut" before

(Continued on page 60)

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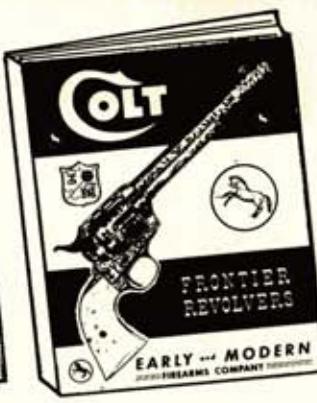
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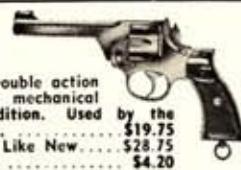
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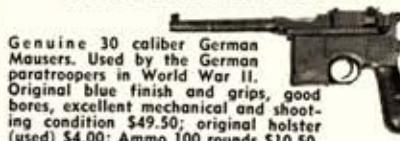
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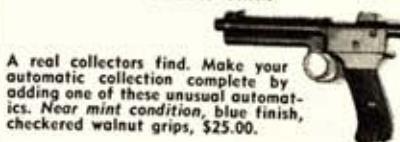
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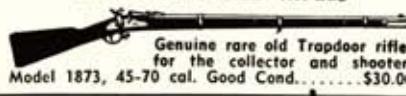
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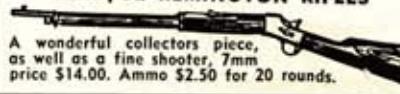
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(Continued from page 58)

tween the bolt arms. Continuous flexing of the operational arm results in the arm fracturing where it joins the main body of the bolt. This can be overcome easily by filing out this square in such a manner as to obtain a perfect radius. Fine rat-tail files are ideal for this purpose. A further measure for prolonging bolt life is to draw-file the inside face of the flexing arm to a gradual taper—making sure that all file cuts are longitudinal in direction.

5. When the hammer is in its half-cock position, the locking head of the bolt is held unnecessarily far below the external level of the bolt opening in the frame. This imposes unnecessary flexing of the bolt limb of the trigger and bolt spring. This may be reduced by cutting down the end of the flexing arm sufficiently to permit the bolt head to remain just below the external level of the bolt opening. When undertaking this step, be sure to retain the exact profile of the arm and do not alter the concave curve in any way, as this will most certainly wreck the timing of the bolt.

While working on this end of the bolt, check to be sure that the extreme tips of the bolt arms clear the angle, or wall, of the hammer as the hammer descends. Occasionally, these bolt arms are slightly overlength. Binding on the face of the hammer behind the cam will certainly result in a broken bolt arm or arms.

6. The life span of the bolt can be prolonged almost indefinitely by reducing the sideways movement of the bolt arm. This can be overcome by reducing the height of the cam so that it is only very slightly higher than the thickness of the flexing arm of the bolt. When stoning down the cam, be careful not to alter the slope or taper in any way as this will upset the timing of the bolt. All that is necessary is to file or stome the top of the cam so that the relieved area is parallel to the base.

7. The cam is a separate pin set into the hammer and, where the taper is at its lowest, a slight but noticeable shoulder remains. So that the flexing arm of the bolt can travel over this without being subjected to unnecessary wear, this shoulder should be stoned down to the level of the surrounding metal.

Installing the hand in the Single Action is pretty much the same as in any other Colt revolver. The hand has two points of contact. The upper point starts the cylinder on its journey of one sixth of a complete cycle and, because the hand moves in a perpendicular plane and the cylinder moves in an arc of a circle, the upper point loses its hold on the tooth of the ratchet. At exactly the same instant, the lower point of the hand picks up the next tooth on the ratchet and carries the cylinder on until the chamber is exactly lined up with the axis of the bore.

Like most other Single Action components, the hand requires a certain amount of fitting before it can be installed in the gun. The principal fitting operations are:

1. Round off or bevel the outside leading angle of the hand from the top point to approximately opposite the shoulder at the bottom of the opposite side. This is to permit the hand to clear the frame in its perpendicular movement.

2. Being extremely careful to retain their exact angle, keep lowering the two points until optimum condition is arrived at. This is recognizable when, with the hammer braced against the back-strap, a barely perceptible

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lateral movement is noticeable in the cylinder. This minute movement is desirable so as to counteract the sharp halt of the cylinder when the gun is cocked fast. If no such play is allowed, there is a risk of breaking the hand pivot pin. It is usually necessary to lower the top point about twice as much as the lower. Remember, it is the lower point of the hand which holds the cylinder braced against the bolt. The lower point is, therefore, the most critical.

All that now remains to be fitted are the main spring and the trigger and bolt spring. The bolt limb of the trigger and bolt spring has the reputation for being an habitual source of trouble. The reason for this is that it is stamped out of flat stock and no provision is made at the factory for tapering the spring. If the arms of the spring are tapered from the rear towards the points of the limbs, the life of the spring will be prolonged.

Tapering an existing trigger and bolt spring requires a considerable amount of effort and patience. You may prefer to make new springs which are shaped out of pre-tapered stock. The one thing to remember is to file or stone lengthwise and NEVER across the flexing direction. This will reduce the chance of a failure starting at the minute file cuts which might remain after polishing.

Now for the mainspring: not usually a source of trouble, other than being hell on wheels to cock. The mainspring requires no actual modification. It does not need to be ground down nor the spring's width reduced to give a lighter hammer fall and a quicker cocking action. A greatly improved cocking action is obtained by placing a small wedge-shaped shim of leather, cardboard, or plastic between the trigger guard frame and the mainspring. When installing this shim, be sure the mainspring does not bind on the frame when the hammer is at full-cock. Tapering this shim will prevent this.

A leather shim is handy for hammer snapping, too. NEVER dry fire a Colt Single Action without first wedging a small square of leather immediately above the firing pin opening in the frame. This effectively cushions the abnormally heavy hammer fall.

In spite of what sceptics say about the functional efficiency of the Single Action, my personal experience with my three guns convinces me they leave little to be desired so far as reliability is concerned.

Two of my guns have been worked over in the manner described in these pages and the third is in its original factory condition, except for having had the trigger pull smoothed up a little. One of these guns has been subjected to usage hard enough almost to rate as abuse, yet it is still as tight and as "seaworthy" as the day it was shipped from the Colt plant at Hartford. Sears, trigger and bolt springs, hands, and correctly fitted bolts, all of which enjoy slightly dubious reputations, have stood up admirably and have given no cause for complaint.

It is possible that, maybe 25 years from now, I may be forced to eat my words and admit that one or another part has finally given up the ghost. Until that time comes, however, I shall go right on believing that the old Colt Single Action Army, Model of 1873, is still a pretty faithful work horse and, like the man in the book says: "For my money, work horses is mighty nice people!"



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GUN RACK

(Continued from page 7)

with a .25 slug, fronted the yellow pages of the press, the .25 built up a reputation as a handy little gun, hardly a man stopper, but a great man-discourager. And it was for just that purpose that Browning designed the original model back in 1903.

Since World War II few of the old model have been sold—a baker's dozen or so were assembled from prewar parts and shipped out to dealers at \$40. With competitive pistols shortly selling as much as fifteen bucks less, these had all the commercial appeal of a bushel of lead balloons. Ultimately they sold to collectors, and the .25 with the Colt brand moved off dealer's shelves. Meanwhile, .25's by the ton were being imported from Spain, Belgium, France, Italy, to supply the very real demand for a low-priced weapon verging on the lowest edge of the "service pistol" class, the .25 automatic.

Browning's tiny cartridge for the .25 is not much to boast about: a 50-grain metal



Original Colt .25 was Browning design, had inside spring firing pin. Eased bullet from a 2" barrel travels 820 f.p.s., yields 75 foot-pounds muzzle energy. In comparison, the 29-grain .22 Short bullet slips along at 1125 f.p.s., (presumably from a rifle-length, say 24", barrel) with all of 80 foot-pounds poop. In the 2" pistol barrel the Short has considerably less developed speed, yet it still stacks up well against the much heavier .25 round. Logically, the .25 pistols of many makes are also available in .22 Short caliber.

Colt's, in planning to reenter the .25 market, surveyed the field and found .25 pistols were in major demand; .22's, though popular, in less demand. Accordingly, they issue their gun in a basic .25 caliber, with additional slide, barrel, spring and clip, for .22 Short, as a Conversion Unit. The whole outfit, "Junior Colt. 25" and the Conversion Unit .22, is made for Colt's by Astra, one of Spain's best pistol makers. Each is marked "Made In Spain For Colt's." Each gun is proof tested and then inspected by a Colt factory inspector.

The standards of manufacture, to judge from a specimen in comparison with the more costly Hartford-made pre-war guns, are not as high. Externally, the Junior is a satiny black "cold rust blue" finish, attractive and much liked by European gunmakers. Grips are black checkered hard rubber, with the Colt rampant trademark in a circle. At the frame left is the thumb safety, which rocks forward to lock the trigger action. Recoil spring, trigger spring, magazine, and hammer spring (driving an exposed hammer) are all of coiled wire, a design improvement over

(Continued on page 64)

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the older guns which used several flat springs. The hammer is also an improvement as it avoids the necessity of carrying the gun cocked, or laying it away loaded and cocked, yet the hammer can be thumbed back ready to go in an instant. The clips, .22 and .25, are bright plated for smooth operation.

In shooting, I was happy to put all shots on the 20-yard standard American paper at 50 feet. The group was about 3" wide, about 6" high. Though not up to National Match performance, this was not bad for a gun with sights so small I could hardly see them, and a relatively rough trigger pull never intended for the firing line. By tradition the effective range of a .25 is about as far as you can spit, but this Colt proved to be a fairly close grouper at target distance.

The .22 unit fitted on easily, and I shook a clip full (6 shots) out in jig time, after several clips-full had failed to feed on one or two shots. This was because the gun was brand new and needed smoothing up. Manually operating the works might do this: even J. H. "Fitz" Fitzgerald, the famous Colt field service expert of the 1930's, heyday of Colt hand-made gunsmithing, claimed you had to shoot 500 shots in an Officers' Model before it would settle down and do its best work. All things considered, the little .25 pop-pistol is a fair buy at \$36, with the .22 conversion unit, half a gun more and two guns in one, listing for just \$15.50 additional. Though an imported pistol, Colt's full service guarantee and warranty applies to the gun and parts are available direct from Hartford.

Loads for the 7.35 mm

Mannlicher Carcano

Speer Products Co., Lewiston, Idaho, now supplies sporting bullets and loading data for the 7.35 mm Carcano. Their 150-grain semi-spitzer soft point bullet can be loaded to over 2500 f.p.s. muzzle velocity, with performance midway between .30-30 WCF and .300 Savage. It is considered to be suitable for all but the heaviest American big game, and an adequate deer caliber.

Winfield Arms Co. of Los Angeles sells sporting ammo, G.I. ammo, or bullets only. Winfield as well as Ye Old Hunter in Alexandria, Va., also offers military full patch ammo in excellent clean condition, but with European Berdan primed cases. Repriming these cases is possible, but difficult. Until someone makes center-hole Boxer primed 7.35 mm cases available, handloaders should buy NORMA 6.5 x 54

Mannlicher-Schonauer new empty cases. Dimensions are identical except for neck diameter and length. Necks can be expanded by running successively larger reloading die expanding plugs through them, .270 first, 7 mm next, and 7.35 mm last. Lubricate necks inside before each expansion. Trim necks to 51 mm overall length, about 2". For the record, Speer's 7.35 mm 150 grain s-s SP bullet has a sectional density of .241 and a ballistic coefficient (C) of .262.

From the Speer Handbook the following information is reproduced:

POWDER AND VELOCITY DATA

Rifle: Italian Service Carbine, 7.35 Carcano

Barrel Length: 21"

Bore Dia.: .291"

Groove Dia.: .301"

Twist: 1:9½"

Cases: NORMA 6.5 x 54 ms

Primers: CCI 200

Bullet: 150 Speer Semi-Spitzer

Velocity			
Grains	Number	Muzzle	200 Yard
42	4895	2550	1849
40	4895	2477	1796
38	4895	2356	1677
42	BL-C	2522	1828
40	BL-C	2422	1756
38	BL-C	2292	1632
41	4064	2511	1820
39	4064	2371	1719
37	4064	2281	1624
40	3031	2536	1839
38	3031	2449	1776
36	3031	2328	1658
39	HV-2	2536	1839
37	HV-2	2406	1744
35	HV-2	2289	1630
35	4198	2557	1854
33	4198	2487	1803
31	4198	2395	1736

While these loads have been arrived at using Carcano carbines in good condition and with normal caution there is no warranty as to these loads stated or implied by Speer or GUNS Magazine in publishing them. Maximum loads should be used with caution; reduce the charge in each instance by three or four grains weight, and work up, observing signs of set-back and pressure on primer faces, case stretching, stiff extraction. CCI primers are recommended, their No. 200.

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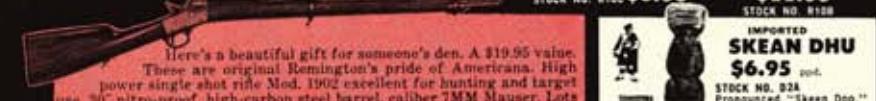
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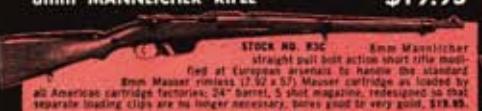
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