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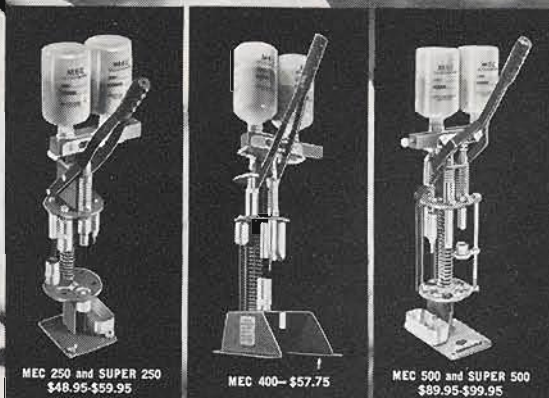


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THE EDITOR'S

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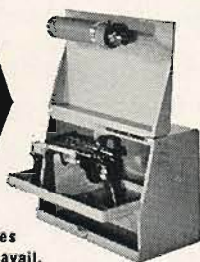


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IN A WORLD darkened, for shooters, by constant war against anti-gun legislation and anti-gun propaganda, the birth of a new force for shooting promotion and gun education and pro-gun propaganda brings new hope.

The National Shooting Sports Foundation is established "to foster in the American public a better understanding and a more active appreciation of all shooting sports." Already joined and supported by 40 companies from every branch of the industry and allied interests, the Foundation is a young but already working agency. Under the direction of an enthusiastic Board of Governors and with a full-time, dynamic Executive Director in the person of A. Robert Matt, the foundation is now actively at work on a broad, carefully planned program for creating a favorable public image of guns, shooting, and shooters that will blot out the unfavorable images we have permitted others to paint. At last, shooting is taking the offensive, not waiting for others to attack it.

The NSSF program includes the production of films in color to be distributed for showing by women's clubs, P. T. A. groups, service clubs, schools, and similar organizations; of short film clips for showing as a public service by television stations; of radio tapes, program length and fillers, for radio stations. Object: to interest and inform more people about guns and the shooting sports. Similarly, news releases will be prepared on shooting subjects for free use by newspapers, and articles will be placed in general-interest, mass circulation magazines to provide good national publicity instead of the damaging, inflammatory kind we have seen in the past.

The shooting sports will, of course, be promoted in every way possible, for their direct aid and expansion. And, finally, firearms training courses will be introduced into the physical education programs of major universities, to provide accredited personnel among teachers in secondary schools where firearms instruction should be offered if not required. Object: to make American "teens" safe hunters, straight shooters—advocates of and participants in the shooting sports.

Fifty million Americans fished or hunted in 1960, according to a survey recently released by the U. S. Department of Interior. They spent just less than four billion dollars—for guns, tackle, ammo, supplies, travel, clothing, food, lodging, and incidentals. Not counted are hundreds more millions spent in the pursuit of handloading, collecting, and the target sports—rifle and pistol, trap and skeet.

This is Big Business; big enough to deserve support not only from gun and ammunition makers and other direct beneficiaries, but also from those equally benefited but heretofore non-contributing businesses, the railroads, air lines, hotel and motel and restaurant chains and associations, state tourist bureaus, automobile manufacturers, gas and oil companies, and many others. These people are now being approached, with results already vastly encouraging.

GUNS is backing NSSF, with cash and with editorial support. We are urging our advertisers and friends to support it. Consideration is being given now to the possibility of offering limited, individual memberships—in which case we will urge our readers to support it. Meanwhile, individuals should write Bob Matt, NSSF, P.O. Box 355, Hartford, Conn., for complete information.

Back the group that backs your sport! Only money and hard work will enable us to heal the hurts incurred through years of apathy. Only money and hard work will enable us to defeat the forces that fight against us.—E.B.M.



Guns

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

JUNE, 1962

Vol. VIII, No. 6-90

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THE COVER

The two derringers (left) on this cover, one in nickel with pearl grips and one with blued barrel and case-hardened frame, carry no serial numbers. Both are .41 caliber. The "lady's purse revolver" is a .22 caliber Forehand & Wadsworth, with serial no. 37086. The four-barrel pepper box (lower right) is .22 caliber, ebony grips, nickel plating, serial no. 8766. Hammer revolves to fire each barrel in succession. The poker hands speak for themselves, most unequally, we fear.

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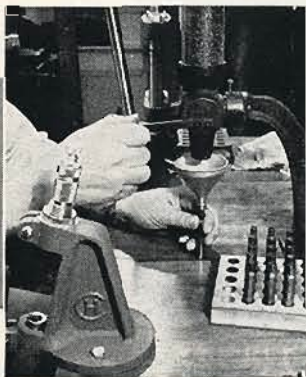
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HANDLOADING BENCH

By KENT BELLAH



New .22 Jet Dope

MY LOADS for the .22 Remington Jet were in last October's GUNS. They still stand. Now I've standardized loads. Max is 12.5 grains 2400 with CCI 550 Magnum primers, with either of two bullets. A 37 grain Sisk-Bellah .224 H.P. Revolver pill develops 45,700 psi pressure in a standard unvented pressure barrel, at 2448 fps. It chronographs 2049 fps in my 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ " revolver, and 1938 fps in my 6" S & W .22 Magnum.

Hornady's .223 Jet (No. 3461 Experimental) develops 45,400 psi pressure for 2287 fps. Remington lot X28G runs 36,800 psi at 2242 fps. This lot registers 2000 fps in my Magnum revolver with 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ " barrel. Another lot, number not plain, chronographs 1870 fps in my 6" gun. Pressures in the test barrel, of minimum S & W specifications, were with .225" x .500" copper crushers. Instrumental velocity was recorded at 15 feet, over 20 feet. The slight variation from factory figures, both over and under, is nor-

mal for different barrels. Probably different lots of ammo were used.

Both reloads are far more potent than factory ammo. Pressure and velocity are also much higher. My guns take the reloads perfectly, with easy case extraction.

Best standard Hi-V load for either bullet is 10.5 grains 2400 with CCI 550 Magnum primers. They give better ignition and less velocity spread for better accuracy. I have not chronographed these loads, as Speer found the charge gave 1796 fps in a 6" revolver, when loaded with their 40 grain .223 rifle bullets. The new enlarged Speer manual, at \$2.95, lists 36 loads with six different powders.

The Sisk-Bellah pill, made by R. B. Sisk, Iowa Park, Texas, gives terrific expansion. Hornady's Jet is not far behind. When drilled with a Forster Hollow Point Accessory, a little gadget I suggested for the Forster Case Trimmer, it works as well as the Sisk. I trust Hornady supplies their excellent Jet in a Hollow Point type. Speer made several

experimental Jet designs, but have not put the final design in formal production at the time this is written.

Max loads for any cartridge should always be worked up for your particular gun. Any change in components, or other factors, may increase or decrease pressure. My standard Hi-V load is adequate for all normal shooting, using the specified primers. Handgun bullets are more potent than rifle types.

For minimum cost shooting with the Lyman-Bellah No. 225107 cast bullet, cast with IBA No. 7 mix, or a hard alloy, the best light load is 3.5 grains Bullseye, excellent for small game. Or use 5.4 grains Unique for a bit more punch, with either a solid or hollow point. I prefer CCI 500 primers, but W-W Small Pistol types also work.

Sticky cases are not always dangerous, but indicate trouble. The first experimental factory ammo probably ran higher pressure with soft cases. It didn't harm my guns, and none was sold to consumers. The original bullets were too hard. The improved factory bullets have a blunt nose, and $\frac{1}{8}$ " of lead exposed. Original pills were pointed, with $\frac{1}{16}$ " of lead exposed. Remington's current stuff makes the Jet a real jet blaster, being excellent ammo indeed.

Fired cases that stretch to more than the 1.288 max may cause hard chambering, hard extraction, and a whopping pressure increase. Trim, and size fully, so they drop freely in chambers. Seat bullets friction-tight without crimping. Factory pills (listed at .2225 max) are minimum groove diameter or smaller. As they expand to fill cylinder throats, I believe there is an advantage in a .223 pill, or even .224, if they drop freely through the chambers. Remington may not agree, but that's my opinion.

Thick case necks increase pressure and cause hard extraction. Fired hulls need .002 clearance over bullet diameter. Forster's Neck Reamer, for their trimmer, is a good one. Specify the Jet case and your bullet diameter. Discard all Magnum pistol cases that have a visible defect in the web, vent, or body.

You can make Jet cases from .357 hulls with RCBS Case Forming Dies. Norma's unplated, unannealed brass is best. Anneal by standing hulls in $\frac{3}{8}$ " of water. Heat case necks with a torch until the brass turns red, then tip the case over. Lube lightly with RCBS resizing lube. Run cases first in the No. 1 Forming Die, then in the No. 2. Cases stretch about .060. Trim to 1.286. Full length size in your loading die sizer. Prime, charge, and seat bullets as usual. Degrease your ammo and gun chambers with lighter fluid. You can not form cases in loading dies, as one writer claimed.

.38 AMU S-R

Colt and Smith & Wesson .38 AMU S-R auto target pistols are in use by the Army Advanced Marksmanship Unit at Fort Benning. The semi-rim cartridge is identical to the familiar .38 Special wadcutter round except for the rim. You can make .38 AMU hulls by turning .38 Special rims and grooves to .38 ACP dimensions on a lathe. The advantage of the S-R case was to aid functioning in Colt 9 mm conversions, or in custom pistols.

Gil Hebard Guns, Knoxville, Illinois, have a \$1 catalog listing practically everything

(Continued on page 12)

TIGHT GROUPS and CCI PRIMERS

... go together

says H. B. Reagan, Big Springs, Texas

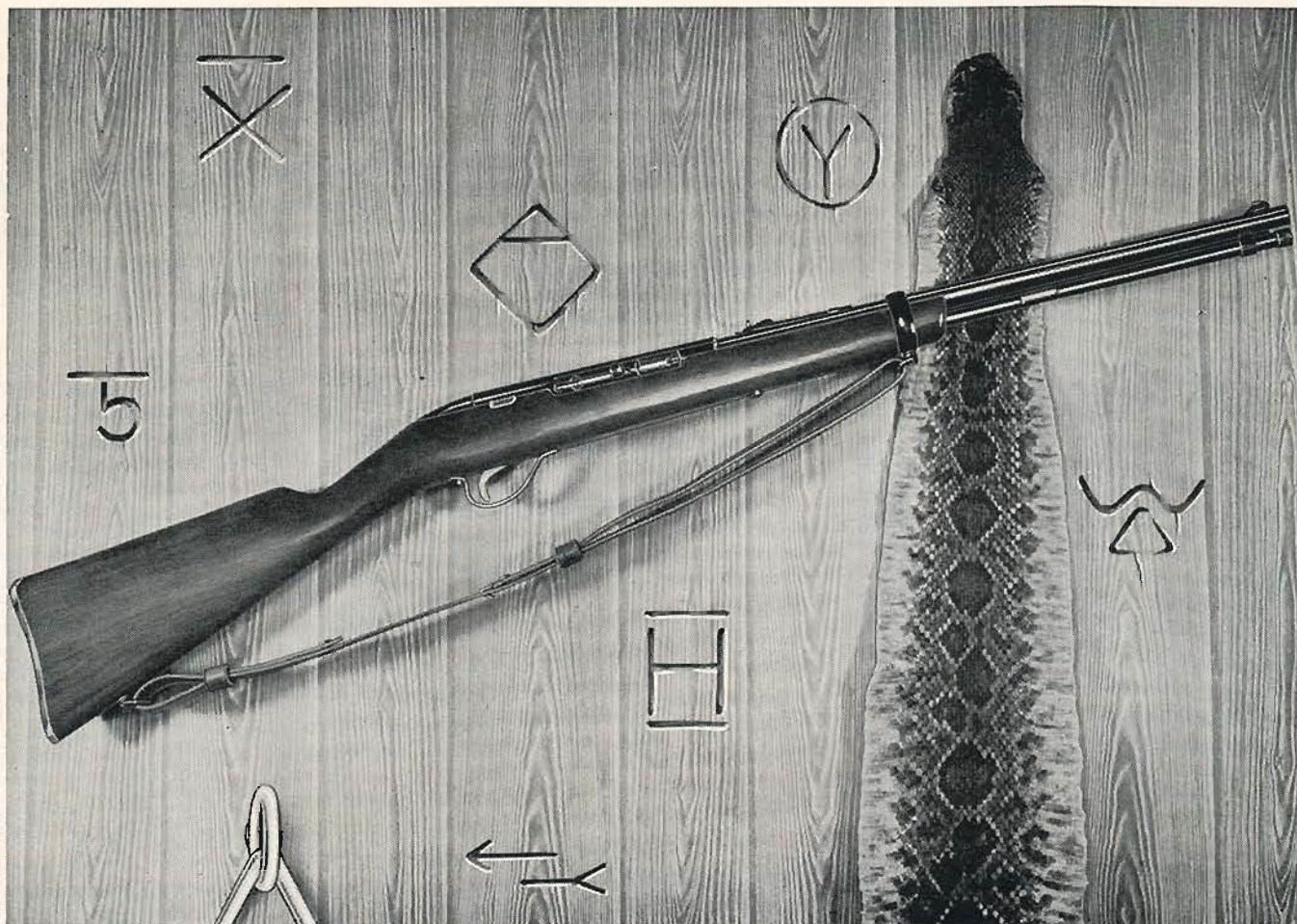


5-SHOT GROUP MEASURED
.2038"—100 yards, Sporter
Rifle, NBRSA Shoot,
San Angelo, Texas.

Mr. Reagan's record is one of several made recently by shooters using CCI Primers. His comment typifies the many Cascade Cartridge receive. Consistent, uniform ignition means greater velocity stability — less vertical dispersion. "CCI Primers provide positive ignition — that's why I say: tighter groups and CCI Primers go together. I recommend them to all shooters who reload their own ammunition."



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CROSSFIRE

"They Gun For Dough 'Down Under'"

Jeff Carter's article about rabbit shooting for a living in Australia brought us such a flood of letters that we are faced with a problem. We began by forwarding the letters to Jeff Carter. Then we realized that answering them would require weeks of work for him, so we started holding the letters and wrote Carter to ask, "What shall we do?" His reply: "Let me write an article answering the questions." That makes sense. We've told him to go ahead, and we'll get the article into print as soon as possible. Sorry to delay you eager emigrants, but this is the best we can do!—Editor.

Appeal To Collectors

I would like to see in future copies of GUNS more articles about European arms. It would mean a lot to me and to your many readers on this side of the world.

I would like to get in contact with someone who is interested in collecting trophies of WW II. I would be very pleased if somebody in your country would write me. I am well aware that anyone can easily buy these things in USA, but here in Finland it is for a collector very difficult to lay his hands on these things. I could maybe help somebody over there, by sending things that we have here in Finland and elsewhere.

Kenneth Wiklund
Tavastgatan 16 C 66
Abo, Finland

Those Dalton Guns

I read with much interest the article about the Daltons. In 1933, I acquired a Colt revolver from a Mrs. Freeman who was then living in Miami Springs, Florida, and was about to leave for her home in Ohio. She was in need of funds for transportation.

Mrs. Freeman gave me a statement in writing to the effect that this gun was taken from one of the Dalton boys who was killed while robbing a bank in Coffeyville, Kansas, in 1892. It states that the Sheriff took two guns from this Dalton, one a pearl handle and the other ivory handle. The Sheriff, keeping the pearl handled gun, presented the ivory handled gun to Mrs. Freeman's father.

The Colt revolver which I obtained from Mrs. Freeman in .45 caliber, Number 85998, 5 inch barrel, ivory handles, hammer and cylinder gold plated.

This letter is submitted for what it may be worth and if you have any comment which you think might be of interest I would be very glad to hear from you.

H. A. Vivian
Okeechobee, Florida

Long Shots

I've just finished reading the wonderful article by Col. Charles Askins in the February issue, titled "Long Shots Are For Bad Hunters." I was especially interested in what Col. Askins had to say in regards to waterfowl. In duck hunting, for instance, I'm sure that the number of wounded and unfound ducks equals the number that are killed and retrieved. I'm sure that any duck hunter must be conscious of the tremendous waste. Col. Askins article can be applied to all fields of hunting and I strongly suggest that all hunters read it.

Cpl. J. W. Yirsa USMC
FPO, San Francisco

From A Bow Hunter

A bouquet of roses to you on "Long Shots Are For Bad Hunters" in the February 1962 issue.

At one time, I was a gun nut with about 15 different guns. I liked to repair and shoot them. So many people would brag about their long shots, finally I sold all guns and now am a bow hunter. While I do not have much big game to my credit with the bow, at least I had to work to get it. I have taken deer (mule), bear, pronghorn and javelina. The pronghorn measured in at 78 4/8 points by the Boone & Crockett measurements.

I feel that, to be a real hunter, a person must meet the game on their own grounds and outwit the animals. Then and only then can a person be truthfully called a hunter.

Dr. D. A. Henbest
Taos, New Mexico

Australian Wants Letters

I get your magazine late, but consider it the best. I live 350 miles from the coast, have good shooting all around me—pigs, kangaroos, foxes, and ducks are in abundance here.

I would like to contact other shooters in different parts of the world, to compare notes.

G. Sandiford
P.O. Box 61, Blackall,
Queensland, Australia

"How's That For Grouping?"

I'm 16 years old and I greatly appreciated that article by Chase Hunter. I think it would be a fine idea if American schools would provide some type of firearms instruction and practice.

Bob Rissland
Hoboken, N. J.

So do we, Bob.—Editors

My highest praise to you for that article by Chase Hunter and others like it, advising

parents how to train their sons. I have a boy 7 years old and am teaching him target shooting and gun safety. I get real enjoyment out of this, and out of seeing other fathers doing likewise with their sons and daughters. You have a real fine magazine; keep up the good work.

Robert G. Wallace
The Dalles, Oregon

Verification

William B. Edwards' article (Your Guns Are Being Destroyed) in the December 1962 issue of GUNS is sad but true; very true. Last year, I was in charge of the gun room for (name and location of unit deleted) and had several hundred carbines and .45 autos which were in daily use. I continually had to order parts for these weapons, as they were in pretty bad shape. Yet right here on the same base, brand new carbines, many still in cosmoline, were being put to the torch. Many .45s and .38s were and probably still are being destroyed.

I tried to stop this idiotic waste, but the answer I got was, "These are paratroop models, with folding stocks, and if we don't destroy them, they might fall into the wrong hands." I pointed out that regular wooden stocks could be put on them, but this was ignored. Since then, I've been transferred, quickly and quietly . . .

I wish every GI, every civilian, every NRA member, every GUNS reader, every taxpayer, would scream enough about this to get it stopped.

Name withheld
for obvious reasons

Warning From England

Each month, in newspapers and magazines, we read the pros and cons of gun legislation, usually with the idea of preventing crimes, lowering the accidental death rate, etc.

People in the U.S. at least have the National Rifle Assn., gun magazines, and thinking citizens to help keep our government officials on the right track and avoid stupid laws banning sportsman from the game fields. The British who can afford to hunt are in the low minority, and laws can only be described as rough. These laws are passed whether the shooters like it or not. May we Americans be spared from the same in the future.

Capt. Wm. C. Moseley
APO 405, New York

Disagreement

I do not agree with writers from England that it is "almost impossible" to obtain a firearms permit here. The law of this country says that any citizen may own firearms providing that they are used for a legitimate purpose, and the police cannot refuse to issue a permit without very strong grounds. (A police record would provide such grounds.)

I have never had any trouble obtaining any guns I want; I have 9 on my permit, three rifles and six handguns. My permit also allows me to keep ample stocks of ammunition.

I have read in American magazines (not GUNS) that handloading is not allowed in England. This is not so. All handloading components are freely available except black powder, for which you must obtain a license.

The only restriction is that you must not assemble more cartridges than your permit allows you to have. I myself reload for my guns, using Lyman and C-H presses and dies, which are being imported by many of the gun shops; and there is nothing special about me—I am just an ordinary (and well satisfied) citizen of Great Britain. What I can do, anyone can do.

R. Whitehouse
West Bromwich, England

Kudos To Kloppenborg

I am speaking for about 20 other fellow shooters and hunters who work here in the plant. We always read GUNS and think it is a swell magazine. But we have always been slightly skeptical of outdoor writers. That is, we were until a couple of months ago, when a man by the name of Blaine Kloppenborg stopped by our gun club on his vacation. We got the surprise of our lives.

He aided us in zeroing in our rifles. We invited him out on a varmint hunt. In thirty minutes, he called up 4 foxes and 3 chucks; more than some of us had seen all season. This man proved to us that writers for GUNS magazine can do the things they write about. They know their stuff. It was a privilege to observe one of the leading writers of woodchuck and varmint stories in action. Above this, he was a real sportsman.

We would like to see more articles on woodchuck hunting or shooting in GUNS. Thanks a million for a fine magazine.

Burl Olafson
Dunham-Bush, Inc.
Marshalltown, Iowa

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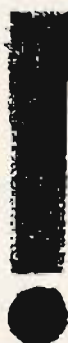
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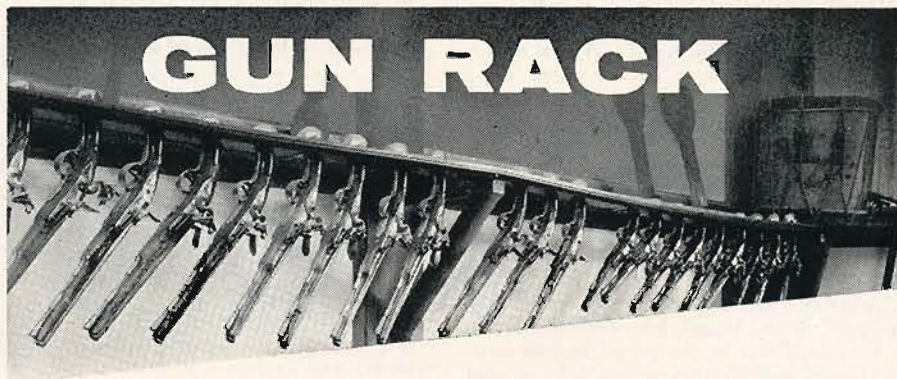
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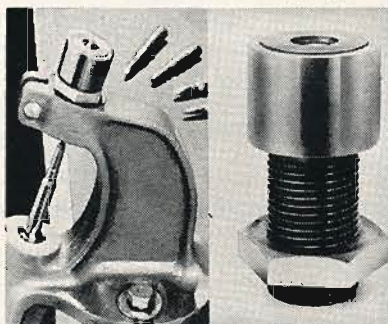
B&L Shooting Glasses

Since early last summer, we have been using the new B&L G-15 shooting glasses. In contrast to the well-known green shooting glasses, the G-15's have gray lenses. The new glasses are designed for shooters exposed to especially bright light such as snow, gravel, sand, and areas of sparse vegetation. In brushy country, the older green lenses might be preferable, but since using the G-15 glasses, we have not used the green ones except for comparison purposes.

The gray glasses—we usually call them smokey-gray, but B&L sticks to the term gray—give a more uniform light transmission with more true colors than are transmitted through the green-tinted lenses. Under extremely bright conditions, the G-15 lenses filter out an extra amount of light, and especially over water and snow this was found very restful to the eyes. Shooting glasses are a must of course, and if you are contemplating a new pair, be sure to look at the new G-15's.

Bullet Puller

The Redco Universal all-caliber bullet puller fits any standard press, and once adjusted, removes bullets without damage at a rate of around 700 an hour. An all-caliber bullet puller is a blessing for the hand-loader who salvages military ammo components in large quantities. Removal of bullets is achieved through a set of spring loaded steel jaws inside the housing. The initial tool stroke relaxes the spring tension



on these jaws, thus adjusting the bullet puller to all calibers. On the reverse stroke, the jaws close tightly around the bullet, and the stroke of the press completes the bullet removal. Bullets are ejected automatically, but the last bullet must be removed by taking the puller apart. This is accomplished by loosening the heavy collar with the help of the small set-screw. Spring tension then allows complete take-down, bullet removal by hand, and reassembly—all done in a minute or so.

In using the Redco Universal, it is essential to adjust the bullet puller to proper cartridge length by screwing it up or down in the press and then locking it in place with the standard locking nut. If this is not done, the sharp steel jaws will cut the brass. In one case, when the adjustment was neglected to see what would happen, the cutting action of the jaws was sufficient to cut completely through an '06 load, removing bullet and part of the neck as clean as a whistle. But, properly adjusted, the Redco Universal, retailing for \$15, worked cleanly and efficiently. Available in gun shops or from Airex Sales Co., 20 West 41st Ave., San Mateo, California.

Ruger Trigger Stop

Easily installed in all Ruger Single Action guns, the Dewey Trigger Stop improved the trigger pull on two of our Ruger revolvers, the Super Blackhawk and the Convertible. Complete directions with diagram and some lubricant come with each trigger stop, and installation can be done by anyone with a screwdriver.

The Dewey Gun Company, Roxbury, Conn., also produces a very fine Gun Bore Cleaner and Gun Oil that we have been using for quite some time. The Bore Cleaner has excellent solvent power and we have used it recently to clean a badly neglected barrel with only several passes with a wire brush. Neither Bore Cleaner nor Gun Oil affect the shooting if the barrel is not wiped out after long storage, and both products have been protecting some of our most cherished guns for almost a year.

More Shotshell Wads

The Felton-Bluestreak and the plastic Air-Wedge wads made by Alcan have been combined to create what is now called the Combo-Wad. The use of the Combo-Wad has the advantage of cutting down on the steps required for the loader in handling the wad column and of course also offers the advantage of a single wad. We have tested these wads in several shotshell loading tools, and in all tools the new Combo-Wads fed well and took the wad pressure without distortion. In actual shooting tests, we were unable to detect any change in patterns, but on close shots, it was possible to see the wad and tell whether the shot would connect with the clay pigeon. Presently, the Combo-Wad is available in 12 gauge only.

Folding Cook Stove

One of the handiest and most compact cook stoves we have used in some years
(Continued on page 67)

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.303 Br. Terrific Bargain!

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Semi-automatic

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C20-T774. Pay \$1.00 Down, \$4.91 a week for 22 weeks, or...**

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MARLIN 336C WITH 4X SCOPE—Mounted—Ready to shoot! Well known, fine quality 1" diameter 4X Scope with hard coated magnesium fluoride lenses, click stops for windage and elevation adjustments. Tip-off mounts for quick, simple scope removal. Scope is nitrogen filled to prevent fogging. Leather lens caps included. MARLIN 336C, 4X SCOPE, MOUNTS, RECOIL PAD, CARRYING STRAP, SWIVELS. Compare at \$139.70 elsewhere! \$94.88
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Priced L-O-W! World's most popular, better quality .22 semi-automatic rifle... the Marlin Model 99 De Luxe with a 4x Scope and Carry Strap. Custom Styled with Monte Carlo walnut stock, gold-finished trigger. Hooded ramp front sight, precision open rear sight. Tubular magazine holds 19 Long Rifle cartridges. 22" micro-groove barrel. 42" overall; weighs only 5 1/2-lb. 3 1/2" diameter. Scope has cross-hair reticle, click stops for windage and elevation, adjustable hard coated magnesium fluoride lenses. Mounted—ready for shooting!
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If you want a 22 that delivers real fire-power and accuracy, you want the Stevens 87. This great automatic, with an action proved by well over a million sold, pours out up to 22 shots as fast as you can pull the trigger, converts instantly to a single shot or repeater. With the 87, you can mix all three lengths of .22 cartridge—long rifle, long and high-speed short—without adjustment. Receiver and stock are sleek and streamlined. Yet the Stevens 87 is the lowest priced auto-loader with all its features!

See the 87 now at your sporting arms dealer. While you're there, look over the Stevens 87-K—with the same lightning fast 3-in-1 action in popular carbine length!

FREE! Colorful, illustrated, 28-page catalog of Savage, Stevens, Fox firearms. Write SAVAGE ARMS, WEST-FIELD 9, MASS. Prices subject to change. Slightly higher in Canada.

\$42.50 87-K "Scout" carbine, **\$43.75**



Stevens
87 by **Savage**

(Continued from page 6)

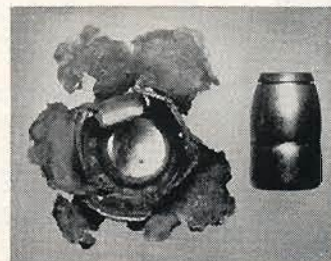
for handgunners and reloaders, plus good dope on target shooting and reloading. Gil lists the fine Clark Model 61 at \$174.50 for the .38 AMU on special order. James Clark, one of the few top pistolsmiths, fits and assembles these guns for Gil Hebard. Colt makes the parts on special order for Clark, so it isn't a conversion, but a true custom piece. Hebard supplies factory ammo.

One lot of R-P stuff was made with nickel plated cases, headstamped .38. As the figure is off center, I believe SPL had been ground off the headstamp die. Western (white boxed) ammo is labeled .38 Special Super-Match Mid-Range Semi-Rimmed. The headstamp is WESTERN 38 SPL SR on unplated brass.

An interesting fact is that AMU stuff functions in my Smith & Wesson .38 Master, Model 52 target pistol, and all Colt and Smith & Wesson .38 Special revolvers. You can reload with your favorite target charges, using your .38 Special dies, but you need a .38 ACP or AMU shell holder. Some 9 mm shell holders can be used, if cases are not pressed to the back of the holder, and are okay for limited production if used carefully.

New S.S. Products

Shooters Service, Clinton Corners, N. Y., have some new and improved items. Their new catalog will be ready by the time you read this. The "Triple Jeopardy" Buck-O loads (See February GUNS) are now more potent for .357's. They use the same Prot-X-bore wadcutters ahead of two OO Buck. The more potent charge is 7.0 grains of what looks like Unique. (You can't identify powder by looks!) At up to 50 yards you get a three-slug "pattern."



Supr-Magg bullet fired from Ruger carbine expands well.

Their handgun shot "cartridges" have been improved. The .357, for example, uses 6.5 grains Unique followed by a Lyman gas check, skirt up, a pinch of powered lube, and 120 grains No. 7½ shot. The top wad is a Lyman gas check, skirt down, and the case crimped. Real neat to learn aerial shooting before you graduate to bullets, and for snakes and small game at very close range, say to 20 feet. The .44's and .45 Colt have longer range.

S.S. has a new 246 grain jacketed .45 ACP bullet. Backed with 7 grains Unique and CCI 300 primers, it has a whale of a punch. Jim Schulhoff, of S.S., made a clean, one-shot kill on a deer with this load in a 1917 revolver. Pressure is not excessive in my Colt lightweight Commander, even with a 7.5 grain charge I checked. The S.S. load is powerful, but I have not tested it for pressure or velocity.

A new S.S. load for Ruger's Deerstalker is a real heller. It's premium grade, premium
(Continued on page 67)

REVOLVERS!

CENTENNIAL

TRADE MARK

CARBINES!

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NOW BETTER AND IMPROVED BY THE MOST RIGID INSPECTION OF EVERY MANUFACTURING DETAIL PROOF TESTED WITH MAXIMUM LOADS.

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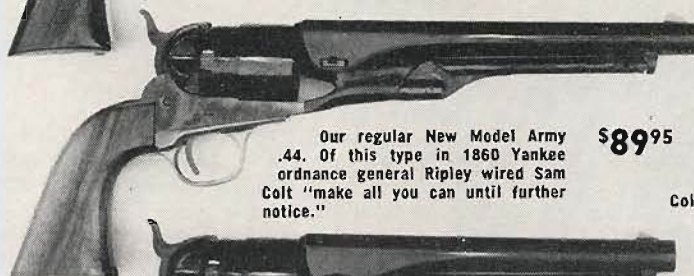
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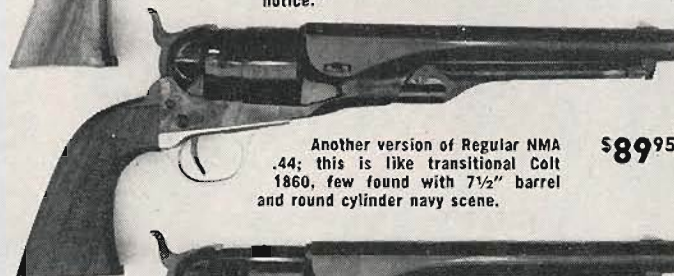
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Greatest of them all, .44 Army "Civilian" copy of Colt's post-1864 pistol, beautiful silver plated handle straps, navy cylinder.



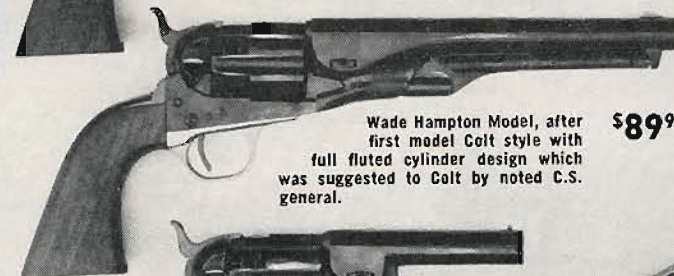
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Our regular New Model Army .44. Of this type in 1860 Yankee ordnance general Ripley wired Sam Colt "make all you can until further notice."



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Another version of Regular NMA .44; this is like transitional Colt 1860, few found with 7 1/2" barrel and round cylinder navy scene.



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Pull!

BY DICK MILLER

PULL'S Florida correspondent, an old circus fan (as I recall from the trips we took to the Big Top when I was a boy), reports that the Sarasota events in the Mid-Winter Trap Chain were an eight-ring circus, and twice as exciting.

Our Florida bureau (my Dad) interviewed Sarasota Gun Club maestro Bill Hoffman before the big event and reported everything in readiness for the South's biggest trap-shooting tournament. Eight traps on twenty acres, a large clubhouse, and plenty of parking space for cars and trailers greeted the crowds. And, the weather man added his blessing to make conditions perfect at Sarasota.

A portent of things to come in the Circus City's big show came in the Sarasota Inaugural when James Null of Grover, Mo., and pro Bob Andrews from Jackson, Miss., broke perfect hundreds for the 16-yard trophies. A. L. Tettem liked the contrast between the weather in Sarasota and Vernon Center, Minnesota, and showed it by taking the Inaugural Handicap trophy from Ohio's Owen Stauffer after a shoot-off. Edna Stark showed that a little ticker trouble had not affected her shooting eye, when she took Ladies honors.

Lewis Class purses in the 16-yard Inaugural, after Null took the top spot, went to Paul Halloway, Clementon, N.J., W. F. Frye, Washington, Ind., and I. H. Waltersdorf from Pottsville, Pa., in that order.

Six shooters with 99x100 chased Null's perfect century. They were R. C. Johnson, H. W. Hines, Forrest Woods, Olmer Webb, Homer Clark, and A. S. Godshall.

The State of Illinois took top honors in Wednesday's 200-target 16-yard events, but not without a struggle. Forrest Woods from Leroy, and H. W. Hines of Carmi, bagged AA and A honors, after shoot-offs with Homer Clark Sr., from Alton, and a couple of "furriners," J. F. Null from the Show-Me State, and J. L. Shaver from LeCenter, Minn.

Elbert Johnson, Wingdale, N.Y., took Class B honors, while Class C stayed in Florida with J. F. Helmerich of Ft. Myers Beach. James Satterfield came over from San Antonio, Texas, to take Class D.

The ladies reversed positions from the previous day. Mrs. Van Marker, the pride of Versailles, Ohio, topped Edna Stark, the delegate from Hoosierdom's capital city. Another perennial Hoosier hot-shot, Earl Tolliver, from Orleans, flew all night Wednesday night to make the Thursday Circus City 16-yard Championship, and was still flying high when the 100 targets had been fired. 1962 looks like a repeat of 1961 for the genial Tolliver. Earl racked up 32 hundred

straights in 1961, and ended the year with a .9890 on 10,000 targets. His 1960 average was .9872 on 17,500 targets.

W. F. Frye, Washington, Pa. had trouble with one first-trap target, and settled for runner-up. Third spot went to Vernon Casper from Canton, Ohio, for his 98. W. C. King upheld the Blue Grass state in the Circus City handicap, taking the trophy back to Lexington after a shoot-off with Arthur Bland of Bedford, Indiana and Charles Schenkel from Rydal, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Marker was again high for the Ladies, with Stevie Sikes from near-by St. Petersburg dropping Edna Stark to third in a shoot-off.

H. W. "Sonny" Hines, the Carmi, Illinois, toughie, sent local scribes looking into the record books when he broke 200 straight in Friday's Sarasota Singles Championships. Manager Bill Hoffman could not recall a perfect 200 in a tournament at the club grounds.

J. L. Shaver took runner-up, four birds off the pace. Howard Boskin, Cincinnati, grabbed Class A, and George Bogner from Hamburg, N.Y. topped the B contingent. McKeesport, Pennsylvania's Fred Hartman stayed out of a three-way shoot-off by besting three hopefuls deadlocked for second in Class C. Another Pennsylvanian, W. W. Warner of Yardley was high in the Class D struggle. Mrs. Marker again topped the ladies, while Sarasota's own Clara Toppan took runner-up.

The Gulf Coast Doubles Championship, and Gulf Coast Preliminary Handicap, were decided on Saturday. When the smoke had cleared, J. R. Downs from Houston, Texas, was the doubles champ, and Vinton Porterfield of Waldo, Ohio, topped the handicap hopefuls. Downs had to down Forrest Woods for his doubles victory, after both had racked up scores of 97. Porterfield's identical 97 spared him extra innings with George Bogner and Woods, who were one target off the pace. Woods was again a bridesmaid in this shoot-off, but his hour of glory came when the high-over-all results were tabulated.

The Ladies race was all St. Petersburg. Stevie Sikes topped Dorothy Schmitt by one target for the toga.

Lewis Class doubles wins were recorded by W. E. Gleason from Rochester, New York, and Ardito Dipaolo from New Jersey.

Foley Wheelodon, the Central City, Kentucky ace, topped the field in the final event at Sarasota, the Gulf Coast Grand Handicap, but not without a challenge from Arthur Bland from down Bedford, Indiana, way. Both finished the regulation 100 targets with scores of 97. Jump Houchin from Dana in the Hoosier state closed with a 96, which was matched by Jim Satterfield from San Antonio, Texas. Jump jumped higher in the

(Continued on page 70)

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SOCKET WRENCH & TOOL SET

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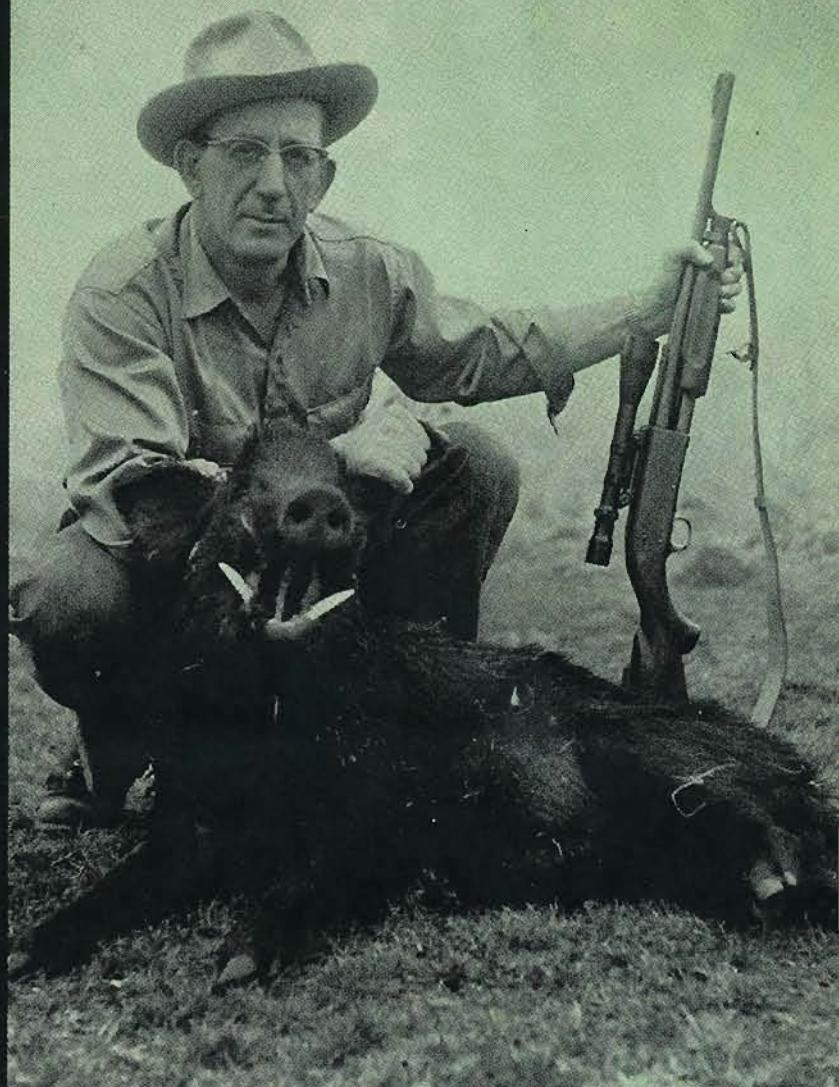


SAY HAWAII AND YOU
THINK OF BLACK
BEACHES, ROLLING SURF, A
SALUBRIOUS CLIMATE.
DID YOU KNOW IT'S ALSO
A HUNTER'S PARADISE?

LET'S HUNT Hawaii



Big ram is hidden by powder smoke, but hunter called shot with scope.



Strongly resembling original Russian boar, this Hawaiian trophy tusker, weighing 117 pounds, was dropped at about 70-80 yards.

By ALFRED J. GOERG

HAWAII HAS SO MUCH to offer the tourist that even its best press agents have practically overlooked one of the state's best natural resources—best, at least, to a great number of mainland sportsmen. In a well equipped camera supply store where you could buy beautiful pictures of practically any square foot of ground you might care to name in Hawaii, I asked the clerk for pictures of hunting in Hawaii. "We don't have them, sir," he told me. "You see, we have very little hunting in Hawaii."

Little hunting, maybe—but lots of game! I knew, because I had just spent ten wonderful days hunting sheep and pigs on the big island of Hawaii and goat and deer on Molokai. With the co-operation of Hawaiian Accommodations, the Hawaiian Airlines, and the Hawaiian Game Department, I had bagged better than a dozen fine trophies. Here, with a shotgun shooting rifled slugs, I had taken mountain sheep and mountain goat that I'd have had to climb high and far to reach with a long-range rifle, in the

homeland. No wonder Dick Woodworth, Chief of the Bureau of Game in Hawaii, hoped I would tell you mainland hunters about it.

Plans for this hunt started many months ago, with letters of inquiry regarding hunting regulations, seasons, bag limits, equipment, and transportation. GUNS Magazine gave me a letter that established my *bona fides* with the Game Department, and the Ithaca Gun Company had long ago unwittingly solved another problem for me when they developed their Deerslayer pump shotgun with a special barrel designed for accuracy with shotgun slugs.

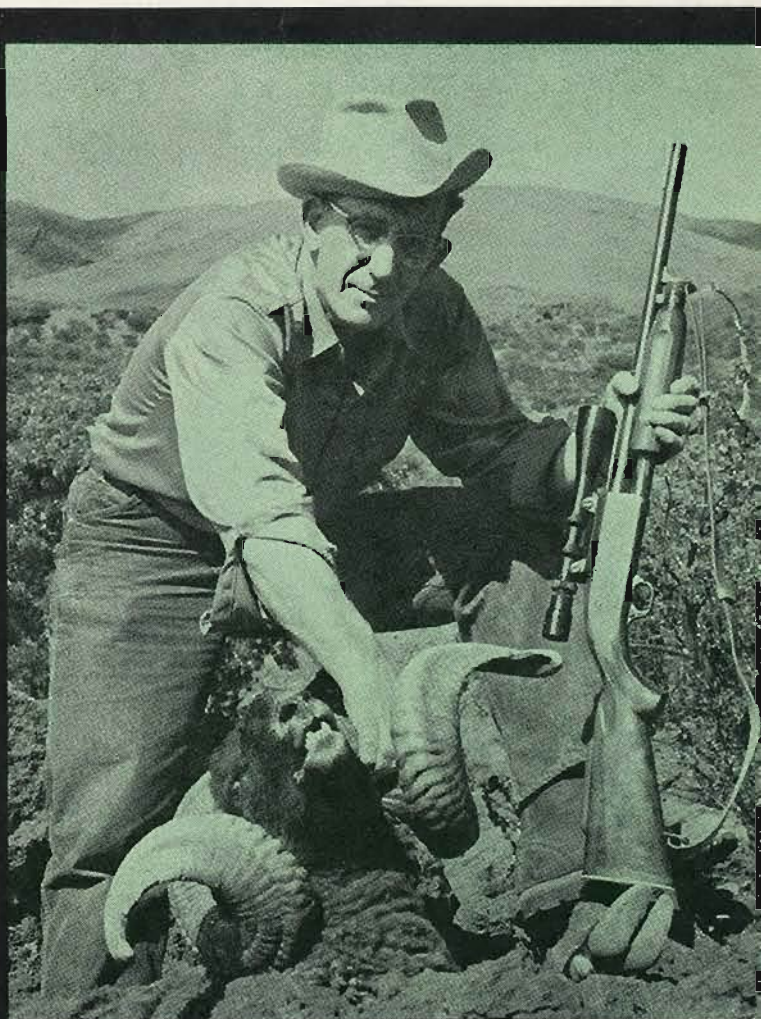
Hunting big game with a slugged shotgun has long been a pet theory of mine, and this seemed to be an opportunity to try it. The hunting would be largely in heavily wooded, brushy country, with ranges not too long and the accent on quick shots with big, hard-hitting slugs. I selected an Ithaca Deerslayer, 12 gauge, with a 20" barrel for easy handling in the brush; and for the longer shots (long for a shotgun) I installed a Bausch & Lomb 2½-8X scope.

Test-firing this outfit with Federal Cartridge Company's rifled slugs, I got groups about the size of my hand at 100 yards. The groups were remarkably uniform, with dispersions of about 4" vertical, 8" horizontal; good enough to assure me that, by selecting my ranges carefully, I could make vital hits.

It is an hour's flight from Honolulu to Hilo on the big island of Hawaii, and from the hotel at Hilo I phoned Lyman "Nick" Nichols, game biologist, at Honokaa, 45 miles northwest of Hilo. Nick was making a field study of the wild pigs, some of which weigh up to 300 pounds, and Dick Woodworth had suggested that I simply do Nick's shooting for him.



Author's Ithaca Deerslayer with 20 inch barrel and with B & L scope grouped well at 100 yds. from rest. Federal's rifled slug loads performed very well afield.



This trophy ram of Mauna Kea sheep fell after stalk to Deerslayer with slugs. Plentiful game and fascinating country made hunt memorable.

Coloration and size of Axis doe made her hard to find in dense woods after she was downed.



One-ounce 12 gauge shotgun slug went clear through a four inch thick alder tree, proving terrific power of ammo, gun.



Nice Hawaiian goat was dropped in rugged lava country with slug. Wild dog packs decimate goat herds, may spook game.

I would shoot, and Nick would then do the "autopsies" he would have had to do anyway—weighing, measuring, taking blood samples, checking lungs, heart, liver, kidneys, and intestinal content. Three pigs a day would be about our daily stint.

Next morning, Nick picked me up in his Jeep and we drove out to the huge Parker ranch, second largest in the United States, which runs up the northern slope of Mauna Kea, Hawaii's 13,796 foot mountain. Early morning mist shrouded the hunting country, limiting visibility to about 60 yards—ideal range for my "sporter."

Leaving the Jeep, we proceeded on foot, winding through the mamani trees, scanning the cropped grass for pig sign. Gradually, the sun burned away the mist to give us greater visibility, and we began searching the slopes through every opening for moving black spots. Suddenly, eight sows and young boars broke from the shelter of a fallen tree and ran out along a ridge some 90 yards from us.

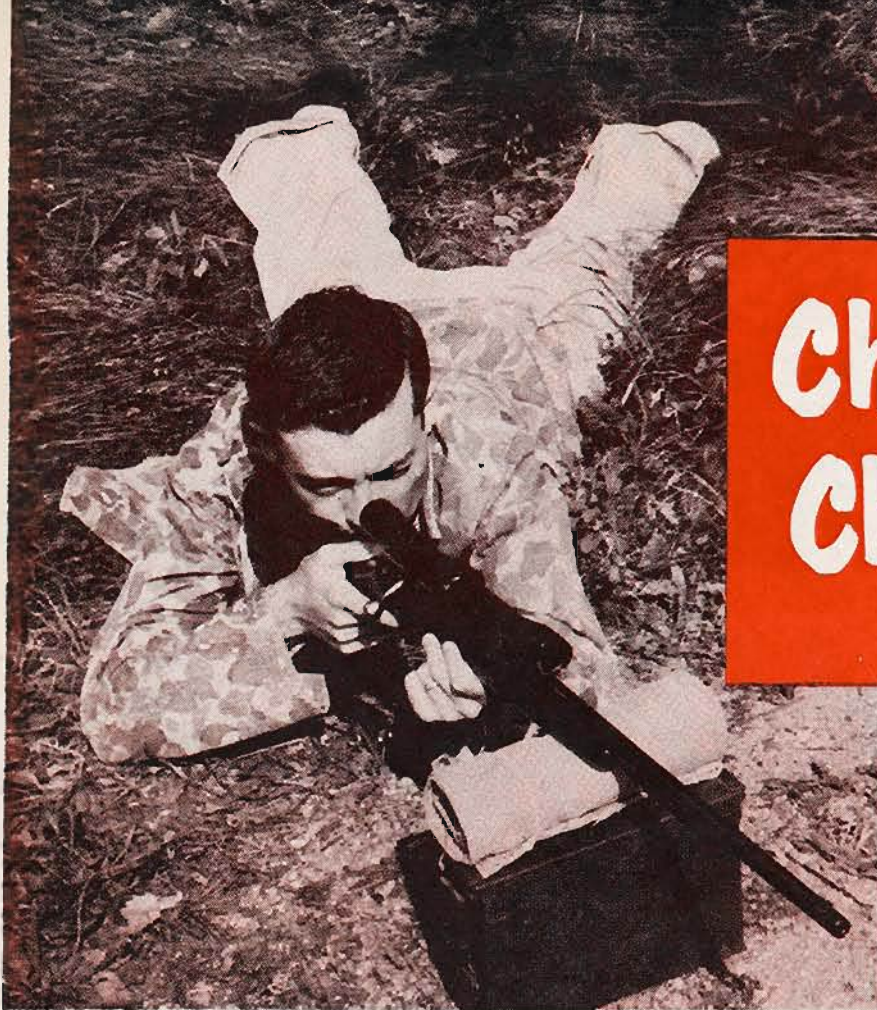
I dropped to one knee and placed the crosshairs on the nearest target. At the shot, the pig tumbled, but the hit was a little too far back, in the front of the paunch. I learned there and then that, with this equipment, I would have to increase my lead a little, to make up for the slower-moving shotgun slug. This time, the slug went all the way through, but the pig ran some 50 yards further and I had to run after him to finish him with a shot through the throat and front edge of the shoulder.

For the next few days of hunting, while we waited our turn on the public hunting grounds of Pohakuloa on the south side of Mauna Kea mountain, I searched hungrily for boar big enough to make a real trophy. We found him—on the last day. This time, I stalked to within 70 yards, placed my slug well to the front of the ribcage, and dropped him instantly. He looked big as a moose to me, but a trophy always looks bigger to the man who shot it, so I waited for Nick's comment. He was the pig expert; how would this one stack up with the scores he had measured?

"He's a big one," Nick said. "A real dandy. Looks a lot like a Russian boar; long tusks, wool mixed with the hog bristles, big ears—a real trophy!"

With a testimonial like that, what hunter could be less than happy? Now if I could do as well on sheep...

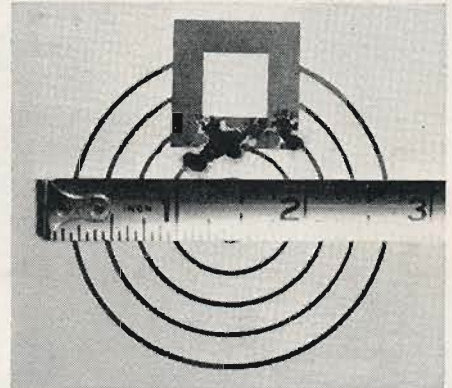
Pohakuloa is a vast desert of molten lava at the foot of Manua Kea mountain. Only on the very oldest lava is there any vegetation, and this is primarily brush. However, this brush must provide an abundance of food of some sort, for dove, quail, pheasant, and chukars are quite abundant. Here there are two (Continued on page 44)



Challenge to a Chuck Hunter

By BLAINE KLOPPENBORG

Match ammo at 100 yards consistently delivered minute of angle groups.



Model 72 with Weaver scope from solid rest accounted for big chuck.

HE WAS BIG, CRAFTY AS A MULEY BUCK—AND I HAD TO GET HIM WITH A .22 RIFLE!

IF YOU EVER ASPIRED to the truly bizarre in varmint hunting, try conquering rough, unbroken, hill country in the breaking hours of early dawn, groping through a rolling fog, in search of a varmint legend—a monster chuck, known locally as the “Ghost Chuck” of Clear Creek.

He was as large as a dog, crafty as a mule deer. He could hear like a cat. He had the brass-bound nerve of a coyote. His hide was a beautiful grizzled gray; and on anybody's list of the country's varmint trophies, he'd be on top.

It was early spring, but most of the chucks had come out of hibernation, and many had already started to clean out old dens or excavate new dens sites after the long cold winter. Sought by many for several years, the rare monster chuck had the uncanny ability to vanish just as they thought they had him trapped. I had heard of the big chuck, but hadn't paid too much attention.

Then one day, from a central Iowa turkey farmer, there came a very conspicuous and multipostmarked envelope. Quite obviously it had been around some before finally reaching me. Three glaring sentences summed up his brief letter: (a) He knew where I could probably find the world's largest woodchuck—right on his farm. (b) Would I be interested in coming up to his place to try for a record chuck? And (c) He wouldn't allow anything larger than a .22 on the place!

Well, sure, I was interested. But, what manner of a man would speak of a common ground hog as though it were a measurement for the Boone and Crockett Club . . . and then insist on hunting it with a .22? No reason was given for not permitting me to use a rifle of larger caliber, with a standing offer like that, I wasn't about to argue. It was a challenge, (*Continued on page 48*)

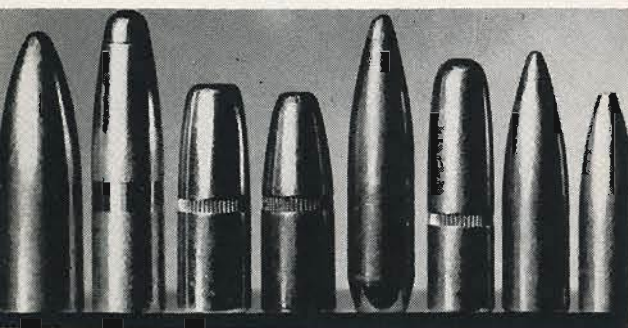


Giant ghost chuck weighed 17 lbs. and 14½ ounces, a record critter.

You Could Be Wrong About **BRUSH-BUSTERS**



Partial battery tested for brush-bucking ability include A .200 x .222, 12 ga. shotgun with slugs, .243 R.C., a .30 Belted Newton, a .30-'06, and .35 Imp. Whelen in hands. Circled flags indicate line of fire to hidden targets.



From the left: 250 gr. .35 cal., 200 gr. .30 cal., 170 gr. .30-30, 150 gr. .30-30, 150 gr. boattail .270, 150 gr. round nose .270, 130 gr. also in .270, 85 gr. .243. They all penetrated brush.

By WILLIAM SCHUMAKER

FOR YEARS I have listened to heavy bullet brush-bucking talk, complete with all sorts of theories. Some "facts" were based on tests totally unrelated to conditions actually encountered in brush-hunting. I decided to conduct a series of practical tests, without the frills of one-inch pine boards, soap bars, gelatin blocks, and a bench rest. So dumbfounding were some of the things I learned, that numerous re-runs were made and far more ammunition expended than originally planned.

Can any hunter tell you when he sends that bullet into brush and timber, whether it will meet up with a twig of lead pencil diameter, a sapling of wrist size, or a 16 inch tree? Certainly not. Yet stories from experts and novices alike ranged from bullets plowing off a

HOW MUCH BRUSH WILL WHICH BULLET REALLY CUT, AND STILL KILL?



Author points to only hit made by 7 12 ga. slugs fired 50 yards from target through some saplings.

bushel basket full of twigs and getting to their mark, to one chap claiming he shot through a 6-inch tree and dropped a buck on the opposite side, on the dead run.

The rather small caliber this hunter used is usually not capable of much more than getting through a 6 inch tree, depending of course on distance the tree was from the rifle, weight of the bullet, type of wood, and type of bullet. I doubt if the deer would have been more than stunned had he been napping with his head resting against the opposite side of that 6 inch tree.

Since heavy bullets are given credit for a lot of superiority in brush, these were the first ones called out to defend their title. All shooting was done at 65 yards alternately off-hand and kneeling. Position of the shooter was shifted after each shot to simulate hunting conditions. A hunter isn't often shooting from a bench rest or prone. Similarly, he isn't able to choose his bullet deflection material nor is he able to place interfering objects at a chosen distance from game. Each bullet has a life of its own, and in the field, follows a path unlike that of any other bullet.

My brush-bucking test firing was done over an actual deer crossing in my back yard, where cover was thick enough to barely permit brush shooting at deer. Calibers and bullets were too numerous to even attempt covering all of them. A .200x.222, the .222 Remington case necked down to .20 caliber, was picked for the smallest. Then the .243, .30-30, .30-06, .270, .30 belted Newton, .35 Imp. Whelen, and finally the 12 gauge shotgun with slugs, which weigh approximately 400 grains.

There are three principle situations encountered in brush shooting. Either you are somewhat in the open and shoot at a deer in the brush, or you are in the brush, while the deer enjoys speed advantages of the semi-open. In the latter case you see a picture of (Continued on page 42)

.35 Improved Whelen

Five 250 grain bullets went through 15 yards of brush, but only one of them would have struck a deer at 150 yards. Key-holing bullet is unreliable for game killing.



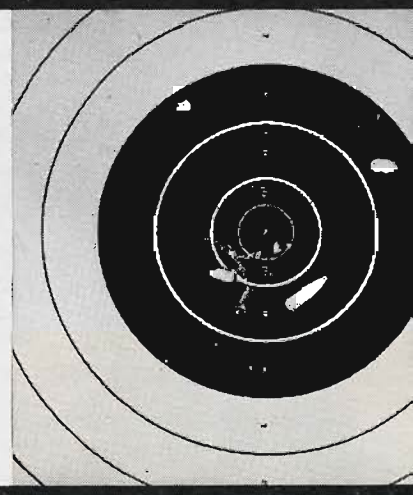
.20 caliber

High velocity bullets all reached the target, but only one would have done the job on deer. Target shows that small bullets don't always disintegrate on contacting brush, or other obstructions.



.243 caliber

Five 85 grain bullets did not reach target through 15 yds. of brush unscathed. One bullet did not blow up in the brush but it hit target flat.



.30 Belted Newton

The 200 grain Nosler bullet showed 1 in 5 ability to penetrate brush and strike nose first. Velocity did not seem to affect brush-bucking power of most of the bullets.



TEXAS

is tops for

QUAIL

UNLESS YOU WERE BORN here and learned to love it, you would not call this land lovely. Rolling and rocky in spots, drably flat in others, Texas is replete with fields of dusty red dirt, with scrub mesquite and thornbush and weedy patches—and more red dust, more thorn, and more distance. But no place is without redeeming features, and Texas has them. One of them is—quail.

We had fought our way through a creek bottom and up its muddied banks and through a tangle of vines so tangled that a man felt a scary sense of entrapment. Above the vines, scraggly trees thrust upward, bare of leaves. I paused to blow—and heard the patter of quail's feet as birds scurried unseen around me! I heard not one but three distinct groups, in three different directions!

I bulled my way through to the fence and crawled over it, into a field of low weeds and grass. A covey of birds got up, driving straight away, and I swung. As I did so, I was conscious of another covey bursting out from my right and flying to the left, across the course the first covey had set. But already I had picked my quail from the first group, and my shot was on its way.

He folded nicely, tumbling—no, two birds had folded. The second was way out past the one I had singled, and I had that startled, unreal feeling that comes to the gunner who sees something falling that he did not shoot at. I yelled for my partners, hoping the dogs were near to help me retrieve. There was an answering shout from one of the hunters, and I was conscious of his coming in, but dogless.

"I saw it," he said as I bent to pick up the bob. "Some shot."

"Some shot, nothing!" I scoffed. "I'd have claimed later it was intentional if you hadn't been looking. But it wasn't. . . . Here's the one I shot at." I retrieved and held up on display a bobwhite cock. "The other one simply happened across the line of fire. It was from a second covey."

"Dead ahead of you," he said.

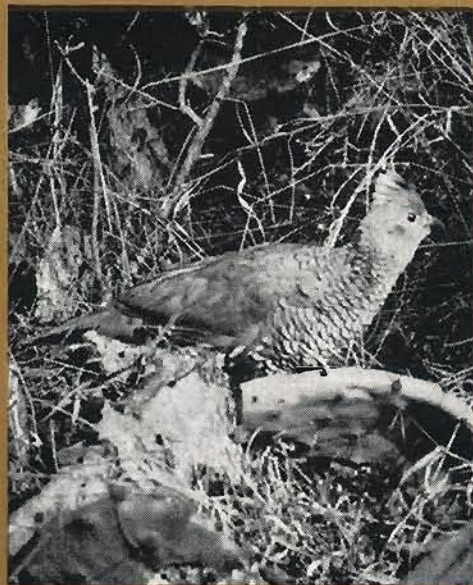
I kept going, and there it lay. I bent and picked up the second bird. This one, with its jaunty white topknot, was a blue. One shot, two species of quail, both from the same thicket! Where else could it happen?

For many years the Deep South and its fringes have been the highly touted quail hunting grounds of the U.S. I can't recall knowing an avid quail hunter from any other part of the country traveling to Texas to hunt quail, yet the greatest quail area in America, in my opinion, is in north Texas, right along the Red River that forms the border with Oklahoma.

THINGS GROW BIG IN TEXAS!

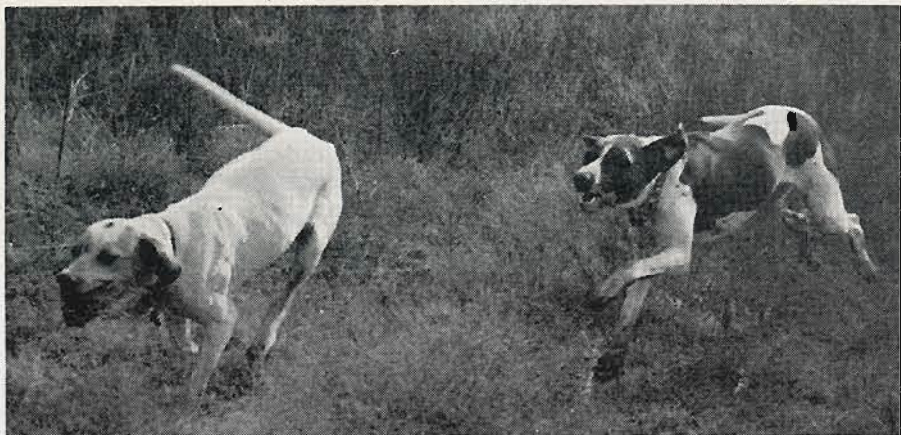
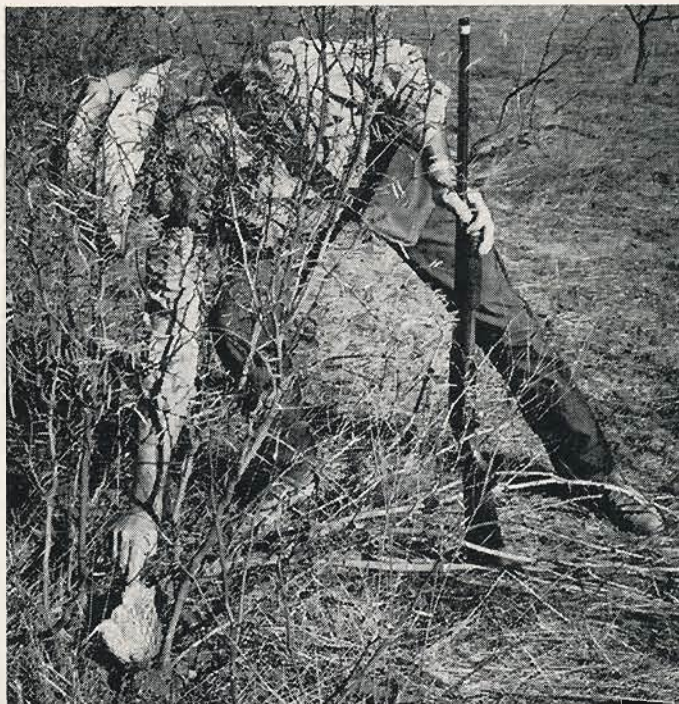
**BUT TEXAS QUAIL ARE NOT THE BIGGEST;
THEY'RE JUST THE MOSTEST!**

By BYRON DALRYMPLE

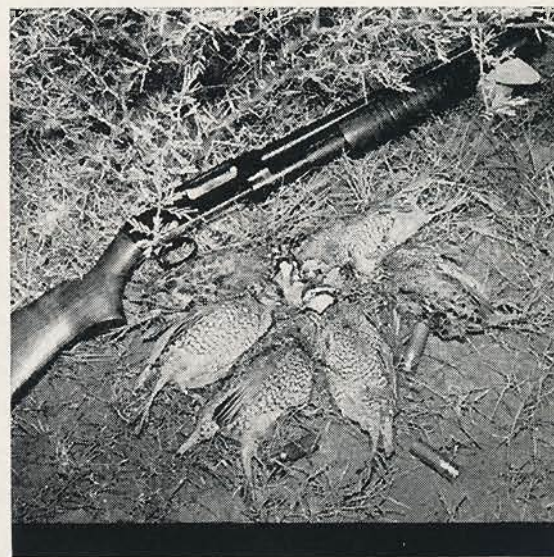


Although I have hunted this region several seasons, I have never seen more than a few quail hunters, mostly natives. I can only conclude that this is possibly the most overlooked quail bonanza in the U.S. It is perfect country in which to work a dog, perfect country, except for the few dense creek bottoms, in which to walk and shoot. And I have seen and shot at more quail here than in any other area I have ever hunted. That takes in a lot of territory, from Florida and Georgia to West Virginia, from Mississippi and Nebraska to California.

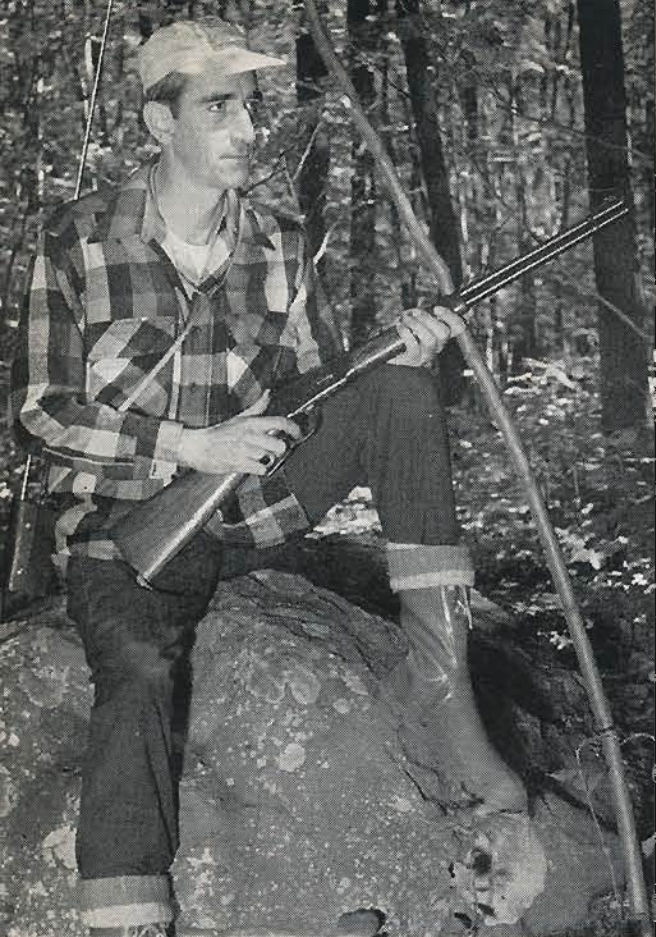
Look at a Texas map and find the Fort Worth-Dallas area. Then run a finger northwest to Wichita Falls. The region west and north of this is "it." I hunt mostly in Wichita and Wilbarger Counties, though good quail hunting fans out from the general region in all directions. There are many small villages and towns here. It's cow country mainly, with some grain crops, and with some oil. But as far as I am concerned, it is quail (*Continued on page 51*)



Thorny scrub mesquite in Red River area makes retrieving dropped bird bothersome. Dogs set up one covey every fifteen minutes, making for fastest bobwhite hunt on record.



The birds were sturdy and plump, and there were lots of them. Rest and counting the bag was essential so as not to over-shoot the limit. Blues are found in rough terrain.



Each hunter is equipped with small two-way radio, thus is able to keep in touch with partners, even in hills and densest woods.

**DON'T LET ANY DEER READ THIS! HE
MIGHT SCRAMBLE THE AIR-WAVES!**

We HUNT by



By BILL CLEDE

EXCEPT FOR a couple of things, the man sitting on the boulder, rifle across his knees, looked like any other hunter. His face even bore that look of wrapt, listening attention men wear when they strain their ears for the small sounds of bucks in brushy country. The two things that set this man apart were—the tiny ear-phone, like that of a hearing aid, in his ear; and the shiny chrome rod that extended above his shoulder, waving gently as he breathed.

Some hunters, even with normal hearing, do wear hearing aids in the woods, to magnify the sounds made by approaching game. But this man was not wearing a hearing aid. He was listening, all right; but the sounds pouring into his ear were not game sounds; they were words, in plain English.

"Bill, this is Art. Don't answer. A big buck is headed your way; watch out for him. Watch out for me, too. I'm coming up behind him, to keep him moving in your direction."

Two-way radio. That's what the hunter was using—a war tool, now doing civilian duty. This time, it failed; the deer

veered off, and the waiting nimrod did not get his shot. You can direct hunters via walkie-talkie, but you can't control game.

But alerting a waiting hunter is only one of the ways in which two-way radio can pay off for hunters. On another day, we were moving into new, unfamiliar country. Given directions to our stands, we agreed to check in via radio as soon as we were located, then check in again on the even-numbered hours. By ten o'clock, one man had reported a kill (by radio); the rest of us had seen nothing and were ready to move. One by one, we checked in—except for Bob.

Bill, the man who had made the kill, gave us a clue. "I saw Bob when I was dragging my deer down off the mountain. He was headed up the next ridge to the north of us."

"Okay, Bill. Your radio has a little wider range than ours; meet me where the road crosses that next ridge, and we'll see if we can reach Bob from there."

From there, it was easy. No sooner had the call gone out than the answer came: "Okay, you jokers. Where've you been? I've been trying to reach you. Where in blazes am I, anyway?"

RADIO....



This hunter just saw a deer sneak through the edge of the woods and with the help of the radio forewarns his partners about its imminent arrival. Use of radio by several hunters can be of great help in still hunting.

"You tell us!" Bill told him.

"Heck, there was nothing doing where I was, so I climbed the ridge to see if I could stir up something. Guess I got turned around. With no sun, these ridges look alike. I'm in a valley, but not the one I crossed; this one has a creek."

"Creek, huh? Can you see which way it runs?"

"Sure."

"Face downstream. Then come up the ridge to your right, and we'll meet you."

It was as easy as that. Not a big problem; Bob would have figured it out for himself, given time. But time is sometimes of the essence, especially in country where storms can be deadly. Some people panic when they get that "lost" feeling, and panic can kill you. A friendly voice coming to you over two-way radio can quell that panic, guide you back to safety.

The walkie-talkie of World War II was a bulky, cumbersome affair, heavy and awkward to carry. Its range was approximately a mile. Today, you can get a two-way radio with a one-mile range that will fit (*Continued on page 58*)

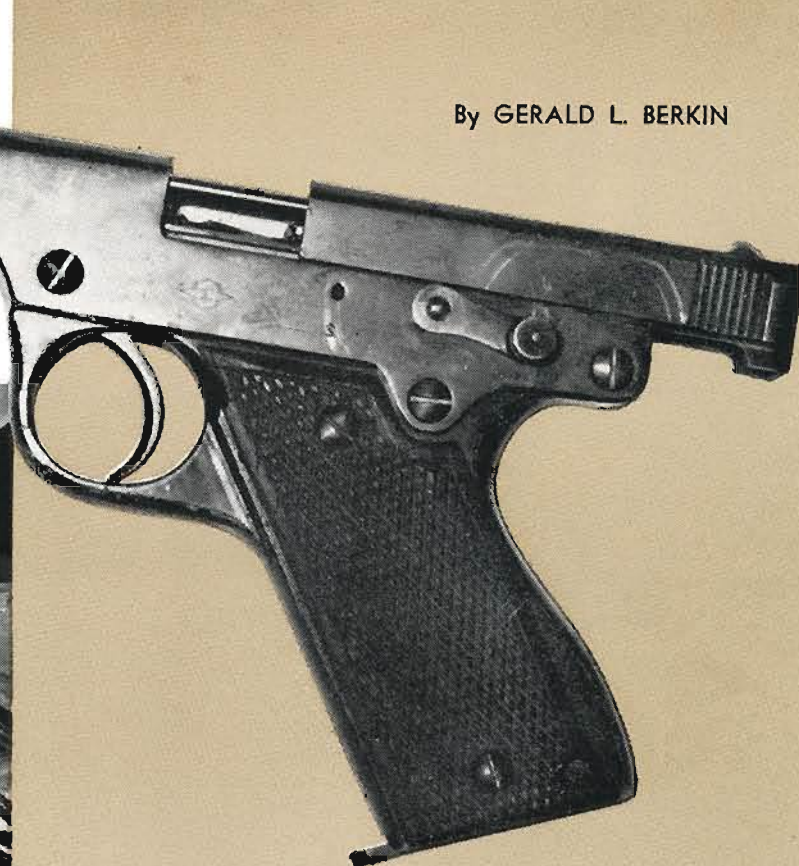


Use of small radios in strange hunting territory can prevent hunter from getting lost, separated from pals.

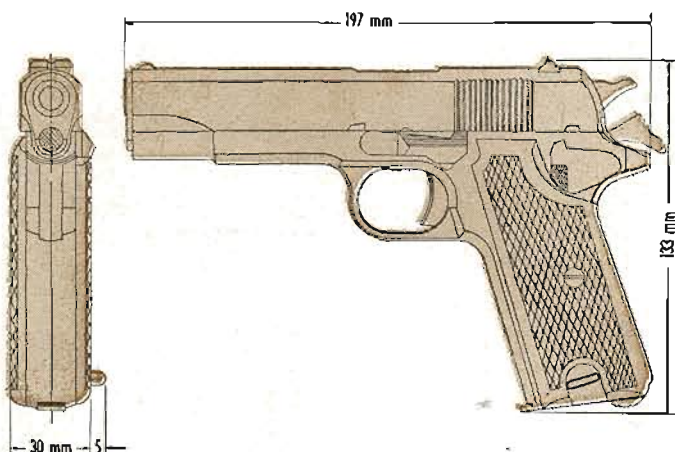
OLD NAME-NEW GUNS

By GERALD L. BERKIN

Prototype 10 shot .22 cal. auto pistol holds promise as accurate target gun. Alignment of revolver cylinder is checked painstakingly.



**NEW NAMBU PISTOLS LOOK FAMILIAR, BUT HAVE NO RESEMBLANCE
TO PISTOLS THAT BORE THAT NAME IN WORLD WAR II**



The new Nambu M 57 9 mm short recoil automatic pistol bears a strong resemblance to well-known American gun from all angles. Shin Chuo Kogyo Co. hopes to export the guns all over the world in not too distant future.



TO STUDENTS and collectors of military guns, the word "Nambu" means "Pistol, Japanese, vintage World War 2." But Nambu pistols are being made again, this time for civilian use.

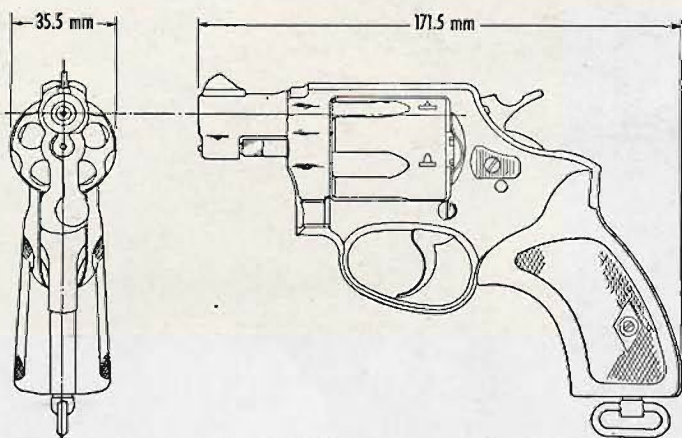
I knew, of course, that the war-time Nambus were made by Shin Chuo Kogyo (New Central Industrial) Company, Ltd., of Tokyo; and since I live in Japan, I made an appointment with the superintendent of that company, Mr. Isao Kasama, to learn more about these new handguns. Shin Chuo Kogyo is the only authorized pistol manufacturer in post-war Japan, and I had heard some interesting reports about their current output.

After some general pleasantries and the inevitable exchange of calling cards, Mr. Kasama and I drove to Shin Chuo's large plant in Omori, an outlying section of Tokyo. The plant, one of two maintained by Shin Chuo in the Tokyo area, is a large gray concrete building with a watchman's hut overlooking the main gate. The employees all

wore I.D. badges in keeping with the strict regulations governing arms manufacturing plants in Japan but, as a foreign visitor, I was eased right through with a smile and a polite bow from the watchman. Of course, being with Mr. Kasama helped a good deal!

In Shin Chuo's second floor conference room, heated by a little potbellied stove, I met Mr. Inaba, Chief Engineer, and Mr. Nemoto, of the Firearms Section. These gentlemen had Shin Chuo's latest products in neat little hardwood sample cases, and I could hardly wait for the formalities to be over and done with. First, however, I had to drink my cup of green tea, and inquire about everyone's health.

Over the tea, the layout and history of the plant were discussed. During the war, Shin Chuo employed more than 20,000 people in the production of Japanese military handguns, but at the time of my visit, the number of people working on pistols was only a shadow of the war-time force. At the war's end, (Continued on page 61)



This new Nambu Model 60 is chambered for the .38 Spl., holds five rounds, and looks very much like famed U.S. snub-nosed revolver. Gun has automatic hammer safety, but otherwise is built along the conventional lines.



This new Nambu Model 57 B is the 7.65 mm pocket auto pistol. The clear plastic grips permit seeing function of the magazine disconnect safety. Gun points well, handled nicely on range, placed shots satisfactorily.



Tinsley is proud of three rabbits bagged with handgun during morning hunt. Getting bunnies was a challenge.

Rabbits Ain't Easy With a Handgun!

By **RUSSELL TINSLEY**

I MISSED with my first shot, and the cottontail took off in high gear, zig-zagging between bushes in quick, unpredictable bounces. Three more fast shots merely pushed his accelerator down three more notches, and the last I saw of him he was diving into a clump of briars, still going strong. So I fed fresh cartridges into the .22 rimfire revolver, and made a few derogatory comments about my skill with a pistol.

However, I was able to take a philosophical view of the failure. I'm no Wild Bill Hickok with a pistol, and there are easier targets than rabbits. With a rifle or shotgun, it's different; but with a handgun, I've learned not to expect a heavy bag. One or two in a morning is about average. But the shooting—the shooting is tremendous. Of course, pistol shots at a running rabbit, with me shooting, seldom do

MOST HUNTED OF ALL GAME, RABBITS OFFER OFF-SEASON SPORT FOR MILLIONS, WITH RIFLE, SHOTGUN, OR TINSLEY'S PET—PISTOLS

more than amuse the rabbit and enrich the ammunition makers, but it's fun; more fun, I think, than any other sort of summer shooting.

If you really want rabbits, the rules for the handgun hunter are short and simple: Take only sitting shots, and even then, get close; the closer the better. A sitting bunny in grass or other cover doesn't give you much of a target at best; and they're wary. He's likely to decide you're too close a considerable while before you think you're close enough!

Those rules paid off on the next bunny I sighted. Cat-footing around a clump of prickly pear cactus, I stopped to search a little grassy clearing—and there, not 20 yards away, was my rabbit. I took dead aim and squeezed the trigger like Harry Reeves at Perry, and the shot cracked loose on a perfect (for Tinsley) sight picture. It was good enough, anyway. The rabbit jumped, tumbled, kicked twice, and became a trophy. This was a nice young one, plump and fat. It would go good in a stew laced with tomatoes and onions.

But rabbits don't let the ego of a handgun hunter remain long inflated. A hundred feet further, and I glimpsed another bunny scrambling up a grassy incline. It paused briefly, and I took quick aim and fired. I'd swear that cottontail timed my trigger-pull exactly, and jumped just as the bullet left the muzzle! What I mean is—I missed. This time, I didn't even give him the parting salvo. He was going fast enough, without encouragement.

The sun was well above the horizon now, and I had only some thirty minutes or so of hunting time before the rabbits would retreat into their burrows or back into the safety and shade of the thorny thickets. I checked on my ammunition: a little more than half a box remaining. These were .22 Long Rifle hollow points, chosen for their killing power. With these, most solid hits will get the job done quickly and cleanly.

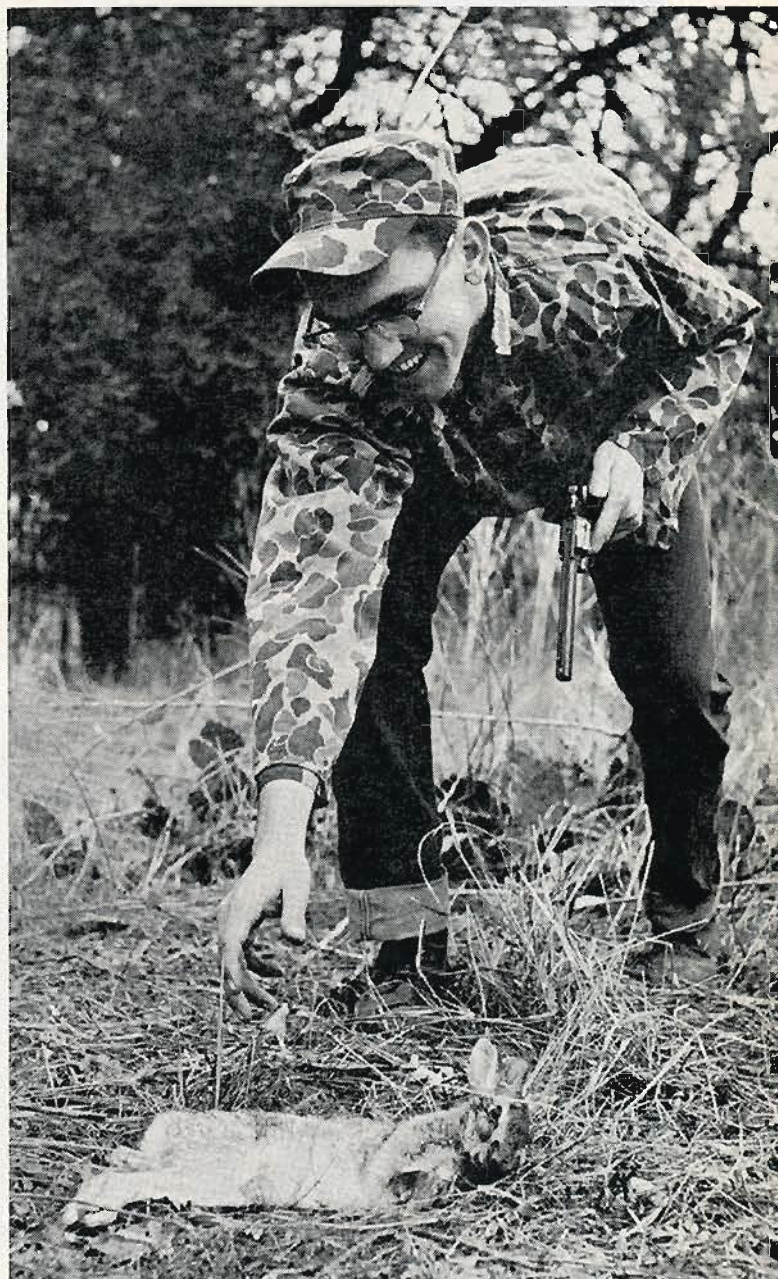
Just about any .22 handgun can be pressed into service for rabbit hunting. But I prefer one with at least a six-inch barrel because it sights easier, is more accurate (there is more spread between the back and front sights), and seems to be better balanced for small-game hunting. The choice between a revolver or automatic is simply a matter of preference.

Nation-wide statistics reveal that more cartridges are burned on cottontail rabbits each year than on any other game animal. The foremost reason is distribution. Cottontail rabbits are found universally throughout the continental United States, and in most states the season on bunnies is liberal.

I guess I'm one of the more fortunate rabbit hunters. In my Texas bailiwick, there is no closed season on rabbits. And whenever I think of rabbit hunting, I see a long prairie, studded with clumps of cactus and briars, stretching along a creek in central Texas. (Continued on page 56)



With gun poised, author catfoots through brush, cactus looking for rabbit-targets.

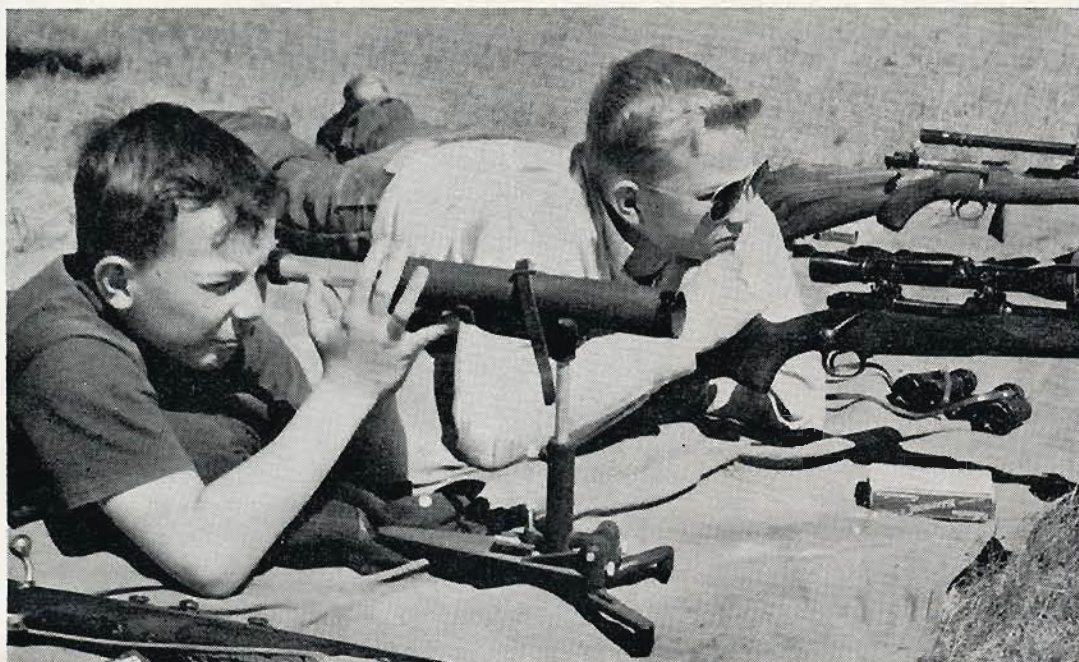


First rabbit of morning was plump and produced a happy grin on hunter's face. Using handgun means limited bag.

HERE'S YOUR



There is only one foot of dog and the vital area is small. Trying shots at 200 yards requires good glassware, great care, and patience. This is a virtue the boys must learn if they are to grow up to be champion dog hunters, and good gun handling can pay off!





SUMMER TARGET

HOW TO MEASURE RANGE AFTER A SHOT IS PART
OF SUMMER SHOOTING FUN FOR PRAIRIE DOG HUNTERS

By ROBERT J. CHRISTIANSEN

SPRING DAYS AFTER A LONG, HARD WINTER do strange things to the ardent rifleman. His eyes acquire a far-off, misty look; words are spoken to him and he hears them not; he bumps into furniture, forgets his wife's birthday, dreams vividly of woodchucks and prairie dogs standing erect at the mouths of their burrows—the pictures carefully quartered, of course, by the delicate crosshairs of a rifle scope.

Where I live, spring provides few really good days for long range shooting because of racing winds. But there are some perfect days; and when these occur, blame it on spring fever if you hear me tell of an unbreakable appointment and then see me sneaking out of the house laden with rifles, spotting scopes, shooting coat, and ammunition. I wasn't lying; the appointment *was* unbreakable.

To the undying gratitude of men like me, there is in nearly every section of this country at least one species of animal which offers legal all-year hunting. For some it's rabbits, for others chucks, for others crows—for me, it's prairie dogs. Naturally, for such highly specialized hunting as this, a man needs highly specialized equipment. He needs to be a highly specialized diplomat, too, when he brings that expensive stuff home and faces the wife whose birthday was forgotten!

I'm not about to tell you what rifle, scope, or bullet you must use on prairie dogs. Use what you have. Then, if your results (or this article) suggest that you need other equipment, do something nice for your wife first. A good offense is the best defense, or so they tell me.

I started out with one heavy barreled target rifle. It was a thing of beauty; a .22-250 custom-made for me by Wally Springer of Hettinger, North Dakota. With its 16X scope, with the trigger set and the right man at the throttle, it could shoot in three-quarters of a minute of angle or better. But—I wasn't the right man. It's humiliating to admit it, but I'm just not that good a rifleman; and the knowledge that the gun was better than I was made me no better.

So I sold the .22-250 and had a .270 built with a short but relatively stiff barrel, put a 6X scope on it, and explained to my dear wife what a sacrifice I had made in the interest of economy. (I'm now dropping hints, however, that the .270, built for light bullets, is not perfectly adapted to heavier, longer bullets, and wouldn't it be nice if I had another rifle?)

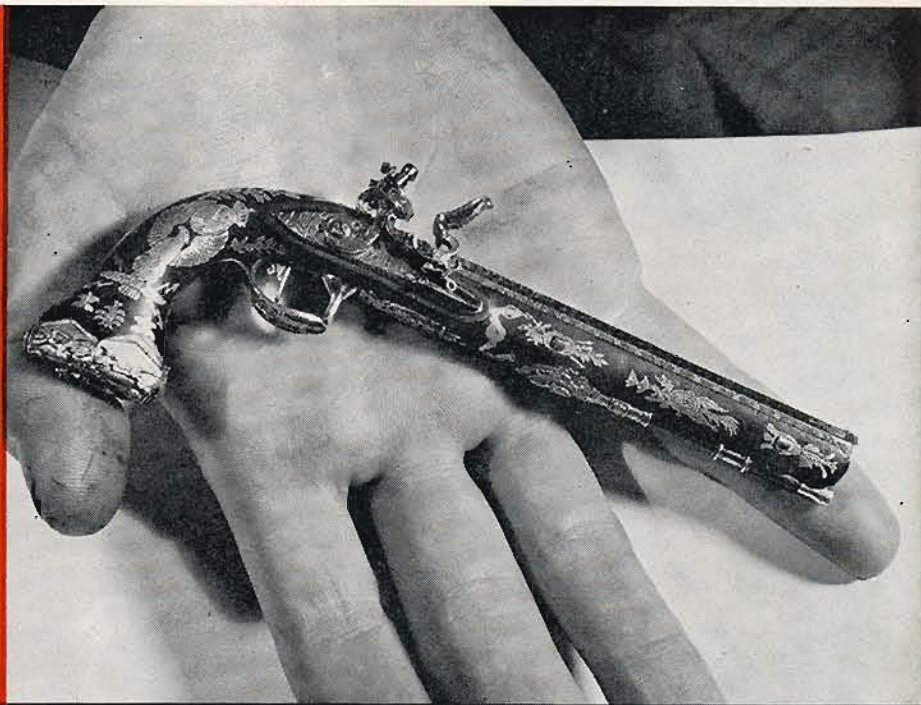
I can, however, account for as many prairie dogs with this outfit as I could with the .22-250. I have no grudge against the poodles, and I limit myself to shots long enough to brag about a little; if I fire ten shots and kill two dogs at 200 yards or better, I feel fine and consider it a lovely day. Some days are better, of course; and there are also days I don't care to talk about, here or elsewhere. . . . Then there's that day when you take that really long shot, never really expecting to make it, and everything is right, and you do make it, and varminting is paradise enough. You're hooked, brother. You'll be a varmint until you die.

Choose your own rifle. Choose it on the basis of performance (for you), finances (yours), and personal tastes (your own). Don't give me a bad time about my .270; I like it. With a Sierra (Continued on page 40)



The more shooting, the more fun, and part of the fun of varminting is testing factory ammo and reloads to get maximum performance from whatever rifle is used. Range practice helps field shooting.

**BOUTET, GUNMAKER TO ROYALTY, PROVIDES
MODELS FOR PRESENT-DAY MAKER OF MINIATURES**



Johnson holds the miniature replica he made of Boutet's famed gun.

MASTERPIECES

This close-up of Boutet's work shows fine details Billy Johnson had to copy.

By
HARRY C.
KNODE

"THEY DON'T make 'em like that any more," and "We don't have craftsmen like that today," are clichés heard wherever and whenever collectors of antiques or people who love fine things gather together. Unfortunately, there is a lot of truth in those sayings; enough, at least, so that a really fine present-day craftsman attracts attention. And William A. Johnson, of Birmingham, Alabama, is a truly fine craftsman in the field of gun making and gun engraving.

One of the greatest of all time in these fields was the Frenchman, Nicholas Noel Boutet, whose Napoleon shotgun was the subject of a painting by James Triggs which appeared as a gatefold in Volume Two, "GUNS QUARTERLY."

If Billy Johnson and Nicholas Boutet could meet and talk and compare their work, surely they would find much in common. But this is hardly possible; Billy Johnson is very much "circa 1962," whereas Boutet was born approximately two hundred years ago, about



Amount of work that went into creating the miniature Boutet becomes apparent when sizes of guns are compared.

in MINIATURE

1761, and died in 1833. Yet Johnson "knows" Boutet very well; knows him in the sense of knowing the work Boutet left behind him, work Johnson has studied with minute care and great admiration.

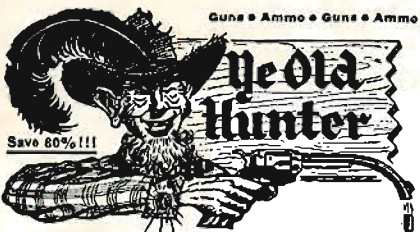
Boutet was a master craftsman, producing some of the finest, most beautifully decorated firearms of all time. He came by his talents honestly. His father, Noel Boutet, was Arquebusier des Cheveau Legers du Roi, gunsmith to Louis XVI and other monarchs. Following in his father's footsteps, Nicholas Boutet did not even sign his name on a gun (or so the story goes) unless it was made for royalty. Fortunately, there were many of these, many of which are preserved in museums and private collections. Napoleon Bonaparte recognized Boutet's rare talents and, in 1800, granted him the

exclusive right, for 18 years, to make fine ornate presentation arms at Versailles, and to train others in the making of military arms.

One of the most beautiful of the Boutet arms which have been preserved to dazzle modern craftsmen is a highly ornamented flintlock pistol owned by Charles H. Moses, of Ashtabula, Ohio. Mr. Moses saw some of Billy Johnson's craftsmanship on miniature arms in my personal collection, was so much impressed by what he saw that he commissioned Billy to duplicate the Boutet pistol in one-third of the original size, the miniature to be complete in every detail including shoot-ability. Billy guessed that it would take him about a year, working in his spare time, to complete the job. He was not far wrong; it took fifty weeks, working ten hours a week (*Continued on page 57*)



Johnson closely studied Boutet's pistol before starting miniature.



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Cal. 7.5 Swiss



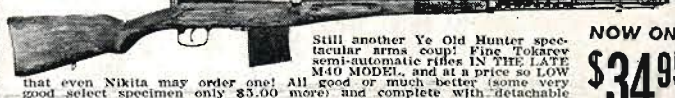
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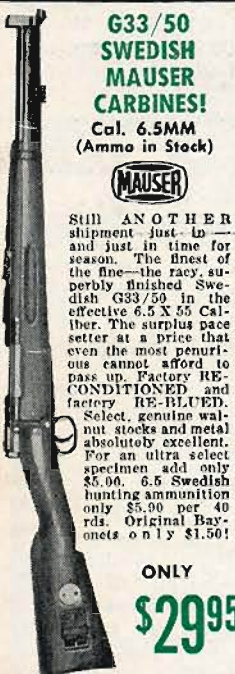
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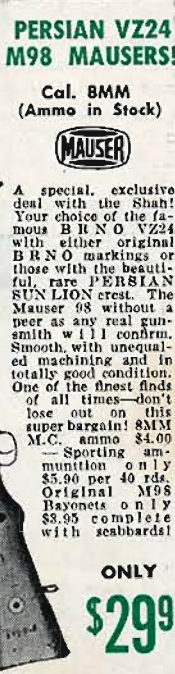


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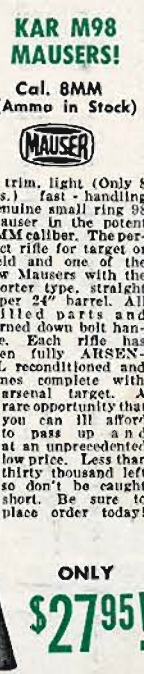


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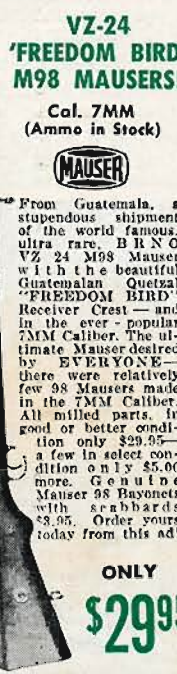


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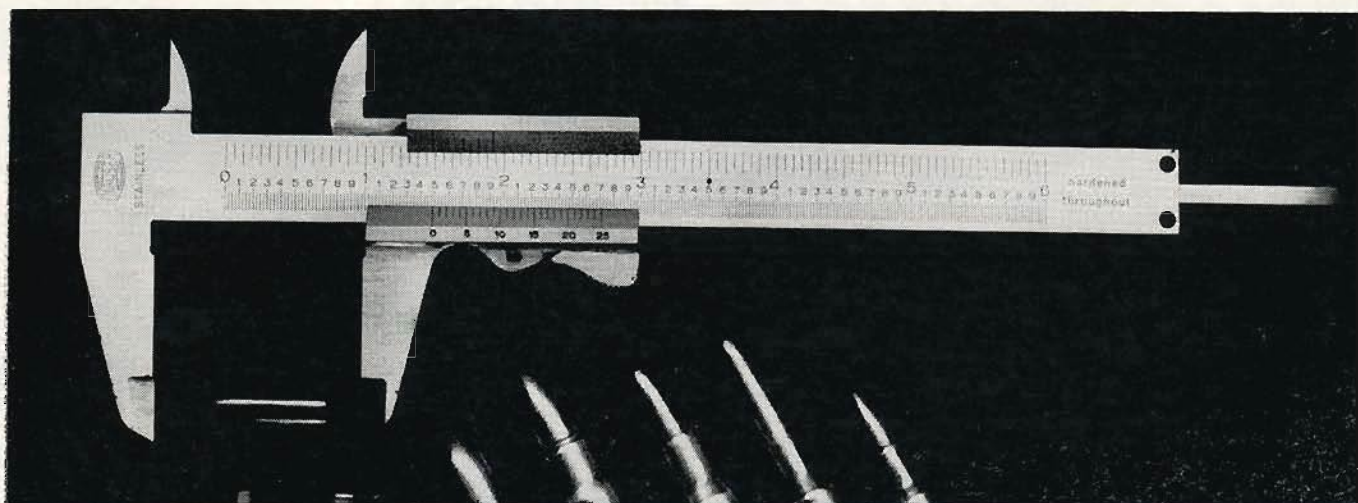
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Vernier caliper is one of the most important tools of the reloader. Instrument should also show metric system.

How To Read A VERNIER CALIPER

By JOACHIM K. SCHOLZ

A VERNIER CALIPER permits highly accurate measurements in .001 of an inch, 1/128 of an inch and 0.1 of a millimeter graduations and in three dimensions—inside, outside, and depth. But few handloaders are skilled in reading the vernier caliper, and many are thus sacrificing precision selection and accurate assembly of reloading components. The well-known standard micrometer is cumbersome, expensive, and will only measure outside diameters of limited ranges. With it alone, unless you invest in additional bore gages, it would be impossible to determine inside diameters of case mouth or primer pockets—important knowledge to prevent gas leakage. Once measuring with a vernier caliper is mastered, it will be a welcome help in identifying cartridges, and you

will find countless other applications in gun work. Most vernier calipers give you also an instant conversion chart from the English to the Metric system, a very important feature in working with cartridges. The conversion can, of course, be worked both ways.

The following instructions are based on a caliper produced by the Mauser Co. of Oberndorf, Germany. However, the same method and sequence of measuring is used with any other calipers. The reason for using this particular product is that the vernier scale is quite long and consequently easier to read.

Let us start with the explanation of the vernier calipers parts and function. Referring to Fig. 1, the bar is the main body of the tool. Sliding back and forth on it is the vernier slide with scale. The third member is

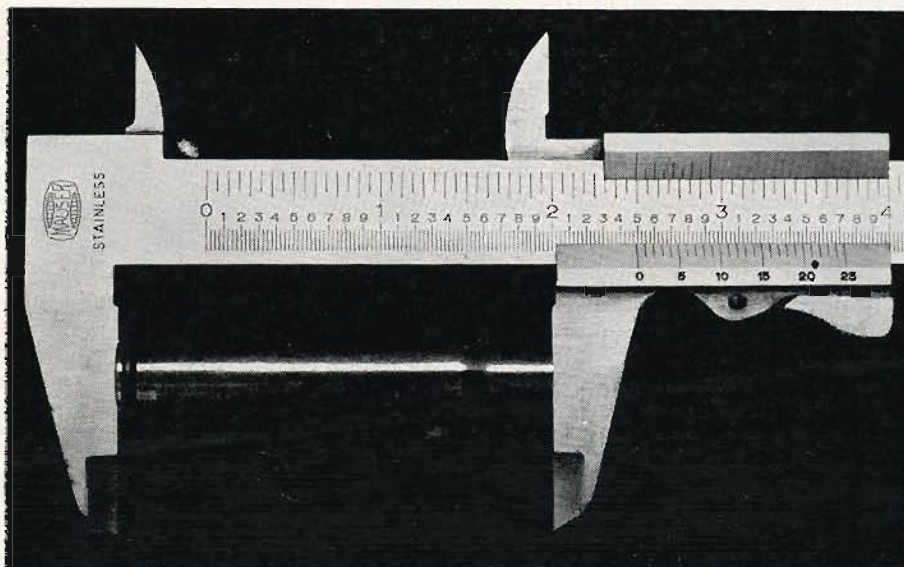
the depth gauge or rod, protruding from the back side at the right end. The two longer prongs projecting downwards enable you to measure external dimensions. At the ends of these measuring prongs the knife-like sharpening allows you to measure hard to reach places, such as the rim groove diameter. The upper prongs are also knife-like and are used for measuring internal dimensions. The depth rod slides out of the body of the tool, and this too is precision ground and should never be used as a scraper.

We now start with the actual reading and measuring. Look at the lower scale of the bar. You will notice that 1. inch is divided into 40 graduations. Every fourth division is marked with a number from 1 to 9. If you divide 1.000 by 40 the result will be .025; or, in other words, the distance between every graduation line on the bar equals .025 inch. Add 4 divisions (.025 + .025 + .025 + .025) and you have .100 inch, which means that the distance from 0 to the graduation line marked 1 equals .100 inch. Now, if you add to the 3 inch graduation the subgraduation of 5 (as indicated by the dot on the picture, Fig. 1) your dimension will be 3.000 + .500 = 3.500 inch.

Practice various dimensions with the aid of Fig. 1. Soon you will be well on your way to reading the vernier caliper accurately.

Next look at the vernier slide and find 25 graduations. We know now that our smallest graduation on the bar is .025 inch. Subdividing .025 inch into 25 parts (.025 ÷ 25) gives us .001. Therefore, every graduation line on the vernier slide scale represents .001 inch. All you have to learn now is to determine accurately which one of the vernier graduation lines is lining up with any of the bar graduation lines, and then do some simple adding.

Let us start with a practical example, such as measuring the over-all length of a .30-06 case. See Fig. 2. By sliding the longer prongs snugly against the head and case mouth, the 0 line of the vernier scale comes to rest beyond 2.475 of an inch. We now follow the vernier graduations and find the 21st line from the 0 line to be the first line in perfect alignment with a graduation line of the bar scale. We make certain that no other vernier graduation to the left of the 21st line is aligning. Every vernier line represents .001



Overall case length shown here measures 2.496 inch. This is but one of the measurements for which vernier caliper can be used. Get a good one.

inch; therefore, the 21st line equals .021. We add now the already determined dimension from the bar (.2475) to the .021 inch from the vernier, establishing the length of the case as 2.496 inches.

Simple, is it not? For all length and width measurements, you proceed exactly the same way, whether it is bullet diameter, case length, or rim thickness.

The rule to remember is "bar dimension + vernier dimension." That is, add up all the graduations to the left of the 0 line and then add it to the bar aligning vernier graduations. A magnifying glass is sometimes necessary, but remember only the first vernier line that aligns is read.

Our next example will be measuring the primer pocket diameter, see Fig. 3. This being an internal dimension, we use the upper prongs, insert them into the hole, and slide them apart until they are stopped by the primer pocket walls. The method of reading the scale is identical to previous readings.

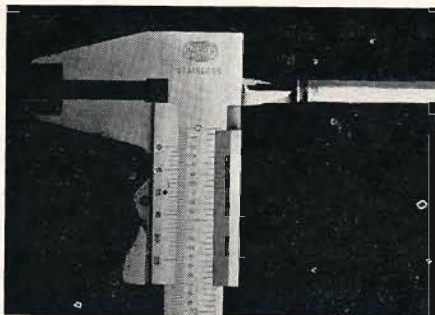
Use the depth rod for measuring the primer pocket depth, and read the scale as before.

Measuring the wall thickness of the case mouth is very important to a reloader. Proceed as if measuring case length, inserting case mouth into the measuring prongs. Again, read the scale as before.

You have now learned all that is necessary to measure in thousandths with a vernier caliper. Let us proceed now to study other measurements. You will notice that on the upper scale of the bar 1 inch is graduated into 16 divisions, which means the smallest division equals 1/16 of an inch. A vernier scale is always a subdivision of the smallest bar scale division. The upper vernier scale has 8 graduations. Divide 1/16 by 8 and the result is 1/128 inch. This establishes the measuring capacity of this scale arrangement.

To measure with a fractional vernier, you proceed in the same manner as already described, supplementing 1/16 inch instead of .025 inch for the bar and adding 1/128 for each graduation of the vernier scale.

We now turn the vernier caliper over and



Inside diameter of primer pocket measured with thin prongs scales .210 inch.

discover a third scale—the millimeter scale. You will find the smallest division to be 1 mm. The subdivision on the vernier scale (located on the rod in the center) is 10, which means that one graduation line equals 0.1 of a millimeter. The measuring procedure remains the same.

This dimension has also some other significance, the remarkable thing being that 1 31/64 inch = 1.484 inch = 37.7 mm. This provides a handy conversion for identification of European cartridges. For example, 6.5 mm bullet diameter equals .257 inch. The case length of 57 mm equals 2.244 inch.

You have now mastered reading the vernier caliper, and you will find it a very useful instrument. Its cost is only a fraction of that of a micrometer, and it will give you a greater range of application. Vernier calipers are available in various length vernier scales. The longer the vernier scale, the easier it is to read it.

Vernier calipers are manufactured from various materials, including hardened stainless steel with a satin finish to reduce glare. They are priced to fit anyone's pocketbook, and are produced in the United States as well as abroad. Buy a quality caliper, but no matter which one you get, your vernier calipers will become invaluable for your hand loading bench and other precision work.

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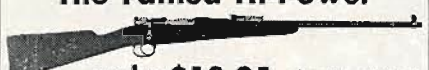
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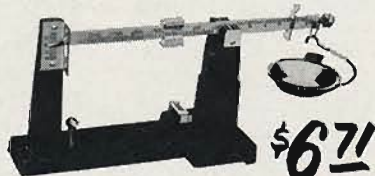
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HERE'S YOUR SUMMER TARGET

(Continued from page 33)

90 grain hollow point bullet, and a fairly stiff charge of 4895 pushing it out the end of a 12-inch-twist barrel, I'm happy.

And for targets, I'll take prairie dogs. Call him *Cynomys ludovicianus* if you want to be pedantic, but whatever you call him, he's about eleven inches long, not counting four inches of black-tipped tail which you can discount for target purposes. He may be a little bigger or a little smaller, depending on age, sex, or diet, but that roughly-one-foot specification can be useful in making final sight adjustments, and I pass it along for what it's worth.

In order to enjoy success in hunting any animal, it helps to know something about the animal's habits and habitat. Prairie dogs, wood chucks, and rock chucks all belong to the same family, the *Sciuridae*. (I'll write 'em; you pronounce 'em.) So do ground squirrels, flying squirrels, and just squirrels. One or more of the three first named beasts can be found over most of the United States—except, I'm told, in the deep south, deep southwest, and extreme west coast. I pity the riflemen in those parts, but maybe the land-owners are lucky. Rock chucks prefer terrain not of much value to the farmer, but wood-chucks and prairie dogs are never happier than when rooting up choice pasture or hay meadows, digging burrows that break the legs of horses and cattle. This can be a boon to the rifleman, up to a point. If the damage done is not too great, most farmers will welcome you as an aid in diminishing the pests. Let the situation get too serious, however, and in comes the poisoner to rob you of your targets. This should ease your conscience if you have qualms about your shooting. You can tell yourself that, by shooting a few, you're saving the rest from slaughter.

The two books I am using as reference for this treatise claim that prairie dogs are born naked, blind, and about five in the litter. Their introduction to life takes place in a grass-lined nest off the main tunnel. These tunnels will run to fourteen feet deep, with a fourteen foot lateral, generally angling upward. Off this lateral are the nursery, bedroom, pantries, and usually a back-door exit.

Prairie dogs are sociable by nature and, years ago, ideal conditions would lead to "towns" covering thousands of acres. With the price of beef as high as it is today, such an infringement on the livestock industry is not tolerated, and what colonies remain, are held in check. I know of only a couple in western Dakota, outside of parks, that cover as much as half a section.

You need only one look at one of these towns to know why farmers and stockmen hate the prairie poodles. Hardly a spear of grass is visible. Any green thing that manages to poke through the surface of the earth is cropped. Death Valley with small pox is what a big town looks like. As a pup matures and is sent out into the world on his own, he finds competition keen, so is forced to build his home at the outer perimeter or suburbs, just like people. And so unless checked, the town grows.

With the coming of warm spring days, the dogs, young and old, leave their spooky subterranean parlors and goof around out in

the front yard. Their front door consists of a hole about four inches in diameter centered in a cone of earth, thrown up for the purpose of keeping the burrow from being flooded.

There are days when prairie dogs are supposed to be out, and days when they are supposed not to be out. In my own experience, there are also days when they are supposed to be out, and they ain't. Ain't out, and won't come out. There are other days when no amount of commotion will run them to ground to stay. You shoot, cuss your misses, wait a few seconds, and another one rears up at the mouth of his burrow, chattering at you. So it's my turn, and I miss, too.

Prairie dogs don't drink, or so the books tell us. Some old timers scoff at that theory, say that every prairie dog burrow leads somewhere to water. Considering the dry lands in which I've seen towns, this too seems unlikely to me; but I'm not much concerned about it. Let him drink, or let him be a teetotaler, I couldn't care less, so long as he pops out now and then to challenge my rifle.

Regarding those days that dogs aren't supposed to be out—don't count on that, either. One cold winter morning several years ago, I loaded rifle and long-johns into the family limousine and drove out to a dog town, not precisely for the purpose of shooting dogs, but because I had seen a coyote working across this town several times, and—who needs a better excuse?

I sat slowly freezing to death in the sub-zero weather, watching the night turn grey, the stars fade, and finally the sun inch its way over the horizon. No coyote—but as the first rays of bright sunshine splashed out across the town, what should rear up and look around but an old dog. In the bright clear air, he looked as big as a shetland pony.

I then committed a tactical error I have ever since regretted. . . . I shot him.

At once, I realized what a stupid thing I had done. Here was a dog, defying the convention of generations, conditioning himself for the frigid winter weather. Had I been smart enough to let him alone, to let him beget others of type, we might have had a new era in dog shooting—in winter! Along with portable shanties for ice fishermen, the market might now call for winterized folding bench rests, electric hand warmers built into rifle stocks, defrosters for scopes—no telling where it would have ended. Go ahead and cuss me; I deserve it. The one slim hope I have is that he had taken care of his "begging" prior to coming up for air. Seems logical; he was an old one.

To be sure of a hit at two hundred yards, a rifle must have a one-minute-of-angle potential; the ability to keep all shots in groups not exceeding one inch at one hundred yards, two inches at two hundred yards, and so on. The rifleman must also have that same potential; and there are fewer men than rifles that possess it.

But in the course of tuning up the rifle to approach this potential and finding the load that will best do the job, it is bound to follow that you, as a rifleman, will improve

your shooting. When rifle, ammunition, palseyed hand, and bleary eye have been honed to a keen edge, head for the dog town. Get a comfortable position, a safe back stop, and settle down in the sun. Be quiet; relax and—try to dope out the range to that hole yonder, the one the dog dove into as we stopped the car. You'll need to dope it pretty accurately, because your target isn't very big, his instant-kill area is still smaller, and he may give you even less than that to shoot at.

When my two sons accompany me to a dog town, I get as much kick out of their performance as I do from the shooting. I know, from the look of concentration on their faces as they try to stare a dog out of hiding, that they are Dan Boone and Davey Crockett, that the dogs are hostiles creeping up to scalp all the beautiful maidens, and that only brave shooting can prevent a massacre. It's not a bad place to take a boy. Shooting soon teaches a boy (or girl, for that matter) that only skillful adherence to the rules will put a bullet where you want it, that self control is essential, that sloppy work gets only misses. And the dogs teach the virtues of patience—a commodity boys seem to be born without—and the meat in the old adage, "If at first you don't succeed, wait some more, and try again."

What you will learn about "gestimating" range, shooting in a dog town that you come back to repeatedly, will improve both your shooting and—your stories. You will, of course take measurements to see how far it is to (yonder) post and yonder sage brush there at the foot of the hill. Accurate measurements, because this is to aid your shooting, not to improve your stories.

But when you make a hit near one of the farther landmarks, you will, equally of course, forget your measurements and "estimate" the distance. Or you will pace it off—with short steps. That's another thing you have to learn if you are going to be a dog or chuck shooter . . . little short steps. This, you see, is to add to your stories. You call those short step yards when you tell about it. You may even add to that a little.

A lot of fellows want big results when they go to a dog town. Either the kill is terrific, or they had a lousy day. Like I said before, I have no grudge against the pups; I only wish to flatter my ego by making a few good shots. I'm not a fisherman, but I have a notion that my approach to this game is about the same as that of many anglers. I like to watch the clouds drifting across the sky, the hawk swooping and circling on the warm air currents. I like to poke around away from the town and let the dogs relax while I look for the first crocus and the first wild onions.

Last time I was out, I fired three shots and made three hits. One hit: the mound the dog had been standing on. The second hit: a dry, bleached, and weathered cow-pie that looked exactly like a dog stretched out on his belly. The third: a real dandy old dog at two hundred and thirty yards (short steps, of course).

So don't hang up your rifle just because it's spring. Take the rifle—any rifle—out and have at the chucks or the prairie dogs or what have you. I swear that I'll believe every word you say when you tell about it. And you'll enjoy it. It's good medicine for that nervous stomach. If you don't believe me, ask your doctor.

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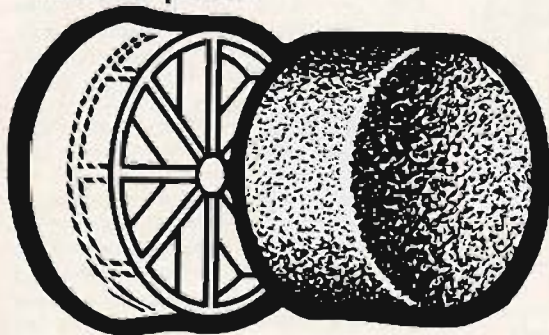


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YOU COULD BE WRONG ABOUT BRUSH BUSTERS

(Continued from page 23)

brush, limbs and trees whirring by; this somewhat resembles counting sheep behind a picket fence while your car is slipping down the highway at 60 miles an hour. Of course both you and the deer can be in brush. In this event the animal can't be recognized very far away. You shouldn't shoot anyway.

The 100 yard small bore rifle target, 14 inches square, with a 6 inch black bull, was placed in the deer trail, behind brush thick enough so that the target outline was barely visible. Brush extended some 15 yards from the target toward my firing position.

My big bullet caliber available for the test was the .35 Imp. Whelen. Both 250 grain and 220 grain bullets were fired. Since this is larger than average brush-bucking bullets used on deer, its performance gives ample coverage to the big bullet field. First five 250 grain bullets all got to the target, but only one struck the 6 inch black head-on. Two struck the black sideways and two were sufficiently deflected to land slightly tipped in the white.

The target was peppered with brush particles. Any of the five would have clobbered a whitetail at this 65 yard distance—yet probably only one could have made it within deer accuracy to 150 yards. Next five shots were fired with 220 grain flat nose bullets. Again all five hit the 14 inch paper, three in the black. Two were in the white, one sideways nearly missing the target. Four of these bullets would have been fatal. Possibly three would have hit a deer out to 150 yards. The fact that ordinary hazel and willow

brush completely up-ended many of the large bullets may come as a blow to some, but did not surprise me, as I'd had a few sickening big-bullet, brush-bucking experiences in the past.

What really amazed me was the first 5 shots from the sub-caliber .200x.222, with a 45 grain bullet travelling about 3450 fps. Four shots lit sideways, one head-on, but all were grouped nicely in the black. I did not test this gun as a good deer caliber, since the bullets are too small and too fast to do a proper job on deer, when free from brush interference. It is anybody's guess whether keyholing 45 grain bullets would kill deer. Certainly they would at least cripple.

This does disprove the idea that fast bullets always completely blow up on making contact with a mere twig. The .243 with 85 grain bullets placed four in the black, only one landing point first, one sideways and two badly tipped. One missed the paper completely.

How is the test shaping up at the end of the first 20 shots with three rifles of vastly different calibers? Heavy bullets are not out-pointing the smaller ones by much. It must be conceded they do have the advantage when deflecting objects of small size are encountered. Their remaining energy may still be sufficient to kill. But brush-hunting does not dish events up this way.

Once, prior to this more complete test, a low-hanging, dead fir limb, and half the diameter of a .35 caliber bullet, caused my 250 grain slug to stray off the entire 14 inch paper at 75 yards. It was 35 yards to the guilty limb. This leads me to believe big bullet brush efficiency is over-rated and definitely limited. Its misses may not be as wide, but a miss is still as bad as a mile.

During a late fall hunt on Gillette mountain some 10 miles north of Colville, Washington, my two companions were firing at a buck ambling through a heavy, but leaf-less alder thicket. I too joined in the attack. After a magazine full of deliberately aimed shots, he still enjoyed perfect health. It seemed as if I had fired blanks. While I was reloading, my brother Gene dumped him with his .30-06, using 125 grain bullets. My .35 caliber brush-bucker may never know how close it came to being wrapped around the nearest tree. Examination of the deer revealed nary a nick except the well-placed, high behind-the-shoulder hit from the light .30-06 bullet.

Had I been a mere novice in the hunting and shooting game, the affair might have deserved brushing off via the element of human errors, so many of us fail to detect in the field under a little excitement. But I had killed many deer, won several state championships and fired one new national rifle record. It is indeed seldom that I am unable to call shots, and miss standing or walking targets of deer size at this distance. Testing the .35 for zero later proved no blame could be placed on the equipment.

Why then, had six well-aimed shots been misses? The entire outline of the buck had been visible at times through the cover. There was only one answer. Some or all of the bullets had contacted brush, and deflected enough to miss. Faith in the big-bore brush-buster somewhat shattered, and badly

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bitten by the 6 mm bug, the next several seasons I carried a .243 Rockchucker, loaded first with 100 grain Sierra round nose bullets and later with 85 grain Noslers. Due to 1-in-12 twist, this gun would not stabilize longer bullets.

"That's no brush gun. Those dinky bullets will blow up on the first twig they touch," almost everyone told me. The little .243 did well however, in open country. It was flat



Left: the .30-30 and the .20 cal. wildcat whose 45 gr. bullet looks tiny beside a 12 ga. shotgun slug in the cut below.



shooting, superbly accurate, and killed like a .270. It became my favorite rifle and I packed it annually for about five years.

One stormy autumn afternoon on a dense north slope during either sex season, a deer burst out almost under my feet in cover so thick it took several glimpses to establish identity. Ill luck had plagued me that fall. I'd settle for even a doe. Swinging up in typical brush-shooting fashion, I fired at the turmoil of legs, brush and deer body. The thudding of hooves continued into the cover. It looked like certain failure.

Picking up the tracks revealed a good blood trail, and a blob of innards lay in the trail 50 yards ahead, but no deer. Like most hunters of long standing, I'd gut-shot deer before, due to poor lead judgment and general brush-whacking. Some were lost altogether despite hours of tracking. Others were encircled and finished off. But, never had I seen a batch of intestines like this blown out of a deer. And all this from a little 100 grain Sierra bullet in front of 47 grains of 4831. Another 60 yards onward the animal was found on the verge of death and promptly dispatched.

Examination disclosed a jagged belly cut that could have been made by a chain saw, gone wild. This bullet had obviously contacted brush and was careening crazily when it caught the deer. Ah, I thought, maybe this puny 6 mm is a better brush gun than I realized.

Next season the curtain fell. The largest whitetail buck I've ever seen chose his emergency exit from a drive, streaked directly between me and a farm-yard, making it impossible to shoot. He paused at the timber edge. A scrawny, thinly needled pine limb hung in the path the bullet was destined to try. The slightest hunter movement was taboo. I shot with the entire standing deer showing quite plainly through and around the obstruction which I ignored. The 243 R.C. cracked with the crosshairs resting on the rib cage at a mere 140 paces. He lunged into cover. A mile farther on there was still not a single drop of blood in the fresh snow. It was positively a clean miss. The interfering branch had been about 50 yards in front of me. A minor deflection there could have moved my bullet yards off-course. I would

have traded my 6 mm for a ball bat that evening! I can never forget that rack nor the hoof-prints that resembled a big mule deer buck, but belonged to a whitetail.

That big 250 grain .35 caliber bullet would have done the job! Or would it? Opinion proves nothing. The .35 Whelen had loused up six times in a row previously, and the .243 had wrought havoc in a brush shot of the most hopeless type. Why? Would a slower moving .30-30 bullet, or a round nose 220 grain .30-06 bullet, or some other combination have done better? Probably not.

Back-yard testing, with the target almost out of sight in 15 yards of brush, was showing well over 50 per cent hits, despite calibers tried. Ability of the .20 caliber and the .243 to get through, was surprising most of the time, with 30 shots fired from each. Every shot and each target varied, but the percentage was from 50 to 100 per cent on deer size area.

When the brush and target positions were reversed, I fired from within the 15 yards of brush and placed a large army A target 50 yards beyond in the open. Here the percentage of hits within a deer area became pitifully low. It is plain arithmetic that an angle widens with distance. That slight angle of travel bullets were forced into by deflection within 15 yards from the target, was now subject to about double this error. At 150 to 200 yards you can miss a dance ball with a deflected bullet.

Seven shots were fired from each gun with this set-up. You may want an explanation for numerous near center hits on the big target shown. Bear in mind that about 70 shots were fired at it. Most bullets that



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struck brush enroute missed altogether. The others apparently slid through practically unmolested. Besides the regular shooting through the cover without any favoritism for interlocking brush and saplings, I then deliberately fired seven rounds with the 250 grain bullets and the .35 Whelen, aiming on wrist-sized saplings, but aligning the black target bull. Not one bullet touched the large A target! Seven 12 gauge slugs also failed, only one hitting the bottom left corner of the target.

Maybe those big projectiles are better brush-buckers, but not good enough to hit a deer target more often than once in 10 tries, under the usual brush-hunting conditions. When hitting wrist-sized saplings, the percentage was zero, 50 yards ahead. Beyond that, it would be even more hopeless.

When I re-read this article, I almost started looking for that chart with all the calibers listed in order, with number of hits and misses, so the fellow with the chart could prove his buddy wrong. Unfortunately, I can't provide you with a chart that would give you an honest and accurate answer. During approximately 250 shots fired, hit and miss variations were so wild that no precise figures could be established. The closer to the deer the interlocking brush is, the greater your chances of hitting him. The closer to you the bullet hits brush, the more apt you are to miss.

Why don't you try some similar brush-shooting experiments? Each target, every brush patch you try it in, will be different. You may disprove me one time and find me even more correct the next time. If you continue, it will show up like Latin American political situations, different powers in the lead from time to time—and it doesn't necessarily mean they are the everlasting best.

Brush shooting is 90 percent luck. Bigger, flatter, or round-nosed bullets are no cure-all. It is a game of chance over which you have little or no control. Swapping your favorite deer rifle because you missed a flurry of brush shots is no guarantee for meat in the freezer, no matter how large the bore on the bullet.

Why not stop being a brush-hunting worry wart? Pick your shots as good as possible, in the most open places. When you do brush-shoot, first be 100 per cent positive of your deer target. Don't expect 100 per cent hits regardless of your equipment. You can't clear land with 6½ to 8 pound deer rifle. Prepare to accept the gambles of hitting a deer in brush. You'll have more fun when you stop blaming the equipment, and perhaps you'll get more hits.

GUNS will have another article on bullets for brush in an early issue, by no less an authority than Col. Charles Askins.

LET'S HUNT HAWAII

(Continued from page 18)

public hunting areas—A and B. Only a certain small number of hunters may hunt here, for two days at a time, by reservation. (A hunter who wants to hunt longer in the same area must re-apply, and may obtain permission unless the registration quota is filled.) The limit is two sheep a day, of either sex.

Before starting the hunt on our first day, we ran the Jeep up a one to two hundred foot cinder pile back away from the mountain. Here we used Nick's spotting scope to locate the sheep. We saw sheep, all right—at timberline, and above. This meant a long hike, so we ran the Jeep in as close to the base of the mountain as possible, and parked in a fairly open area. On foot again, we started up a small dry creek bed.

Ninety per cent of the vegetation here was mamani, a tree that grows right out of the lava. Sheep, natural grazers in most parts of the world, are browsers on Mauna Kea mountain. The bushes or trees are eaten clean of all leaves that the sheep can reach. The condition of the bits of leaves and twigs on the ground will indicate how long it has been since they were last here.

It was this type of sign that we came upon, well below timberline. Browsing had been done here this morning, and we resumed our climb. Time after time we sighted sheep, but they also saw us and would run uphill. With a rifle, I might have been able to get a ram, but the shotgun made it a different problem; a problem we were not to solve that day.

But tomorrow was to be a better day. We took a road, suitable for only a Jeep, to one side of our designated area. From the end of the road, we climbed until we were slightly above timberline. As we neared our designated hunting area, we heard sheep bleating

ahead and slightly below us. With the aid of the B & L rifle scope, I could make out a flock of maybe forty, including some big rams. They were busy feeding on mamani, and I thought it should be comparatively easy to shorten the distance between us.

Nevertheless, remembering that any member of a feeding herd, even one not visible to you, may sight you and spook the others, we made our approach very carefully. Luck was with us, and we closed in to within 50 yards of the nearest sheep. From behind a dead bush, I watched them.

Three good rams with fine heads were feeding about 100 yards from me. They were chocolate brown in color, and each had a full curl of horns. Suddenly, another ram came into view, only about 60 yards off. He also was chocolate brown in color, but his horns had a curl and a half. Quickly, I placed the crosshairs on his ribs and squeezed the trigger. The ram ran about thirty yards and collapsed. The herd disintegrated like smoke in a breeze. Only shadowy figures could be seen scurrying through the mamani above us.

With Nick's tape, we made a quick measurement of the horns. One was 30½ inches long; the other was one-eighth inch shorter. I had no idea what a Mauna Kea sheep trophy should be but, Nick assured me that it was a good head. The ram was an old one and had been fighting. The full length of the bridge of his nose was freshly skinned.

With the trophy head and cape on my packboard, I had a load. Nick boned out the choice pieces of meat for his pack, and it was dark when we reached the Jeep. We had to check out at Pohakuloa, and there I had a chance to check my trophy with the game manager, and his comments added to Nick's convinced me that I had a fine head.

The public hunting grounds open to hunters without a guide take more exertion than the area where a guide is needed, but the trophies are there. So far, luck had been with me all the way. I wondered if that luck would hold, for I wanted very much to add Axis deer and goat to my Hawaiian trophies.

On the evening of my last day's hunt on Hawaii I received a phone call from Dick Woodworth, Chief of the Bureau of Game of the State of Hawaii. He had obtained permission for me to hunt Axis deer on Earl Thatcher's ranch, the Diamond T Bar, on Molokai island. This was not the regular deer hunting season, but it was arranged so that I could hunt on private land. The Hawaiian Game Department had held a special deer hunt for this same animal on Lanai island during the regular fall season, limiting it to shotguns only. The results were very poor. The Department attributed this to ignorance of hunting methods and the desire by many hunters to make drives instead of still hunting. I got the impression that the Department wanted to gather first-hand in-



Island goat with freak genetic horn was dropped by a 200 yd. freak shot.

formation on the practicability of a shotgun on this animal in this type of terrain, and that if my scoped 12 gauge Deerslayer didn't work, they would probably act accordingly.

As I came in off the airstrip on Molokai, I met Noah Kepelo, game manager for that island. Noah was ready to hunt and had the horses ready, so it looked as if no time would be lost getting into action. But when I called for my luggage, the bag that held my hunting clothes was missing. A tracer was immediately placed on it and, after registering at the Seaside Inn, the only hotel in Kaunakakai, we went shopping for something for me to wear. About an hour from the time I reached the island I was ready to fork a saddle.

A few hundred yards down the highway from where we obtained our horses, we unlocked a gate leading into country that immediately went uphill. Following a well-worn trail, we avoided all brush and overhanging limbs because, in contrast to Hawaii, the trees and brush on this island have thorns!

About a mile up the mountainside, Noah informed me that we were in good deer country. I could see where tracks were plentiful in the trails wandering through the high sour grass and brush. This was a brushy area, and I could also see the advantage of hunting from horseback. Visibility

would have been poor for a hunter afoot, but a good game trail led upward towards a swale on the hillside and we kept a sharp lookout ahead as the horses worked their way along. Suddenly, we saw three of the Axis deer run into the bottom of the swale.

I climbed down from my horse and screwed the 2½ to 8X variable B & L scope up to its full power. I could see the brush moving and, as I leveled the scope, the head and neck of a doe popped into view. Quickly, I held over the head and touched off the trigger. There was a wild scramble as three doe flushed out, each going its own way. One doe was quite erratic in its run, and I watched it closely as it disappeared into the bushes. It would not go very far; of that I was very sure.

I left the horse with Noah and walked over to where the deer had been when I had fired. There was a spray of crimson on the foliage, and this sign was repeated every ten or twelve feet as I worked the trail. Then, suddenly, there was no sign at all.

Noah joined me with the horses. "Are you sure you hit it?" he asked.

I pointed to the last blood sign. "I hit it," I said, "Finding it is something else!"

Still in the saddle, Noah worked the brush ahead of me. But it was not until he rode back toward me that he solved the mystery. From the vantage of his horseback seat, he pointed into the thick brush to one side and a bit behind me. "There's your deer, Al," he chuckled. "She tried to fool you."

Sure enough, there lay the doe, shot through the neck. On her last bound, she had jumped backwards and to one side where the brush had swallowed her. Noah had ridden right by her when he had first joined me, and I had missed her completely.

The blow flies were beginning to gather, so we quickly dressed the animal and tied it behind Noah's saddle. Forty minutes later, we were back at the ranch where we got the horses. It had been a short hunt, and my luck was still good. Tomorrow, we would hunt goat in the mountains, where they are so plentiful that no bag limit restriction is placed on the hunter.

After an early breakfast, we were off to the hills again. Noah drove his Jeep as far as possible, and we then resorted to shank's mare. We would hunt, Noah informed me, from a washed out dry creek bed for the goat could be found on the banks of the creek. This sounded very different from Rocky Mountain goat hunting, and I looked forward to it as a new experience.

After an hour, we came to an area where we could use the binoculars to search a fairly wide area. Looking up the valley, half way up the hillside, we could see two white animals coming rapidly towards us. At first, we mistook these for goats; but then we saw that they were dogs—dogs harassing goats! With the glasses focused in, we could see goats on both sides of the canyon, all vitally aware of the impending danger from the dogs. The dogs were rapidly climbing the slope to our right, and the goats headed for the higher hills that were shrouded in fog.

With all goats in the area alerted and intent on the dogs, there was no use trying to remain hidden. On our left, about 300 yards away, was a whole bachelor's club of all-black goats, some with fine spreading horns. We climbed the hill, but they became

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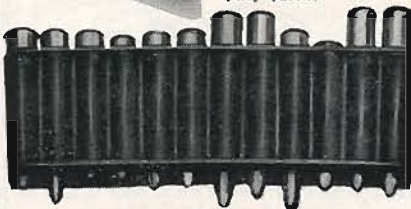


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suspicious as we neared the top and disappeared from view. Later, we found them climbing the steep hillside of the opposite valley, into the higher mountains. Slowly, we worked our way up. Occasionally, we saw a nanny or a kid, but no billies. And that was the day's story. A hunter's luck is unpredictable, and perhaps I had bragged too soon.

We returned that evening a bit crestfallen, but at least I had gained some knowledge of the game and country. This was all to the good because, since tomorrow marked the opening of the bird season, Noah would have to run a checking station. He offered me his Jeep for which I was extremely grateful. Tomorrow I would tackle these hillbillies alone.

At the break of day, I was right back to where I had started the previous morning. But instead of going up the creek, I started at the low end of a ridge leading high into the clouds. There was a strong, hot wind blowing on my back, and I knew that my scent would forewarn all the animals ahead of me. But that couldn't be helped at the moment; I would try to correct it later.

As soon as visibility became good enough, I scanned the ridges for sign of an animal. Sure enough, about a half mile ahead I saw two billies feeding about 150 feet from the crest of the ridge.

As the wind was directly behind me, I dropped down a couple hundred feet from the crest on the opposite side from where the billies had been grazing, hoping that the wind would sweep my scent past them. I held this "off-crest" position until I came to where I had mentally marked them. Then, slowly, I climbed back to the top and, minus hat, scanned each rock and bush below me.

The two billies had hardly moved from where I had first seen them. They were still grazing. It was ridiculously easy. At 50 yards, I placed a single slug into the ribs of a dark brown and tan billy. He fell, and the other goat started running. At about 75 yards, I hit him in the ribcage and knocked him rolling. End over end he tumbled—to the very edge of a 50 foot sheer drop. One more yard and he would have taken a fall that might have ruined his horns.

I took my pictures, prepared my pack, and started back to the Jeep. Instead of climbing the mountain with my heavy load, I decided to follow the creek bed. After nearly an hour's hike, I came upon the remains of a young goat apparently killed by a wild dog. Then something pulled my glance up-slope and there was what appeared to be the same

group of black billies we had seen the day before. They had stopped and were milling around, only about 70 yards from me.

Nick had told me that, in a certain area on Molokai, some genetic quirk was producing goats with curled horns—and one of the goats there above me had just such a horn! This I must have! I lifted the Ithaca, and fired.

The slug hit him in the shoulder. He fell, regained his footing, and lunged in pursuit of the herd into a gully leading uphill.

Sure of my hit, I squatted in the creek bed and waited for the goats to reappear. Some 200 yards above me, they came back into view, heading single file for higher country. I had almost decided that the goat with the freak horn was down somewhere in the gully when he, too, appeared, far behind.

I would never have attempted such a shot except to stop a wounded animal, but if I didn't stop him now, no telling how far I might have to trail him. I held some four feet above him, and fired twice. There was nothing to tell me where the slugs struck, and I fired again, this time just as the wounded goat passed in front of a slab of lava. This time, I saw a puff of dust well above him.

Realizing that I had held too high without considering the steep uphill angle, I lowered the crosshairs and tried again. The goat fell as if struck by lightning.

This was sheer luck, and I know it. At that distance, no shotgun could throw slugs into less than a 20 inch pattern. As I said before, I would never even have tried the shot except to put a wounded animal out of its misery. But, believe it or not, and I took plenty of pictures to prove the story, that slug drove straight into the goat's ear and hit the brain!

That evening, my wife and son and I went swimming at the beach on Waikiki. How's that for a finishing touch to a tale of fabulous hunting?

Wild pigs, deer, sheep, and goats are not the only game targets Hawaii offers. For the upland gunner there are open seasons and generous bag limits on two varieties of doves (Lace-necked or Chinese, and the small barred shouldered type), pheasants, chukar partridge, and two kinds of quail (California Valley and Japanese.) Seasons and hunting areas add up to a story too complicated for inclusion here, but full details can be obtained from the office of the Fish & Game Director, 1449 Ainaloa Ave., Honolulu, Hawaii.

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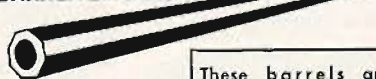


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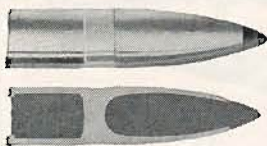


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CHUCK HUNTER'S CHALLENGE

(Continued from page 21)

and I took him up on it.

Wes Miller, an old hunting partner, agreed to join me in the hunt, meeting me at the farm. He took a somewhat dim view, however, of this .22 only business.

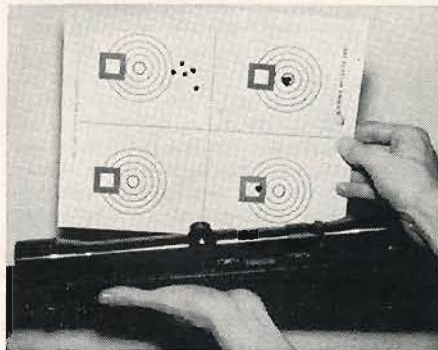
My .22 varmintier had been severely damaged in a rock slide, and I wouldn't be able to use it. Frantically, I started looking around for the makings of a good .22 that could be cheaply converted into a good close-range varmint rifle. I was particularly interested in a special long-time favorite, Winchester's Model 72. A local gun dealer finally located one in another dealer's stock, and fortunately for me, still unsold.

Winchester has discontinued this model, but, varmint hunters the country over have been quietly absorbing those available. Its ideal for close work, and it also makes a good rifle for the little woman to take along on a family chuck hunt. The model 72 can be converted cheaply and easily into a very excellent short to medium range chuck rig. The long, 25 inch heavy target-type barrel produced some highly satisfactory groupings.

But I needed better than "satisfactory." From a walnut stock blank, I carved, chiseled, and sanded a custom fitted stock to my own specifications. After a finishing, I added a set of swivels and a military-type sling. A little judicious honing eliminated the burred edges and rough surfaces in the action, and a heavier trigger guard was installed, along with a trigger shoe. I then fully glass bedded the barrel and action to the stock. This process should be reserved for the full-

stocked bolt action rifle when it comes to the .22's, since most over-the-counter-rimfires do not have enough of the basic qualities of accuracy to make it worthwhile. A Weaver K6 scope, along with special top mounts to fit the 72's grooved receiver, completed my new .22 varmintier.

I test fired the gun at 50, 75, and 100 yards from a bench rest. The results were solid one inch groups. I couldn't expect much better. Although I probably wouldn't be shooting at ranges greater than 75 yards, I had to be sure of what I had out to 100



Left: Hi-Speed H.P.'s at 100 yds.; match ammo at 50 (top) and 25 yds.

yards. But more than this, I am a firm believer in the fact that complete familiarity with any gun is the payoff on game and on the range. I zeroed the rifle to hit point of aim at 25 yards. This would place the bullet about 1.5 inches high at 50 yards, dead on at 75 yards, and about 2.5 to 3 inches low at 100 yards.

How good is the M72 on chucks? Believe me, it is capable of outstanding accuracy. After conversion and tuning up, it will consistently group less than an inch at 100 yards with match ammo. Initial sighting in was done with Western Super Match Mark III ammo. A re-adjustment, however, was required when I switched to the more potent high speed hollow point ammunition. There's no doubt about it, match ammo is in a class by itself, whereas the high velocity loads tend to be a bit wild and one-half inch high at 75 yards. And allowances must be made for the 40 grain solid point and the 36 grain hollow point bullets. The solid point bullet drops 7.5 inches in the first 100 yards, as opposed to 5.5 inches for the hollow point.

We used a Jeep as a combination base camp and shelter, setting up shop on an old farmstead, accessibly only by Jeep trail, and over a mile from the nearest road. From that moment on, the weather was against us. A slow, drizzling rain started and worsened steadily as the day wore on. That night we were joined by our host, and we planned our strategy for the strangest of all hunts: a woodchuck safari.

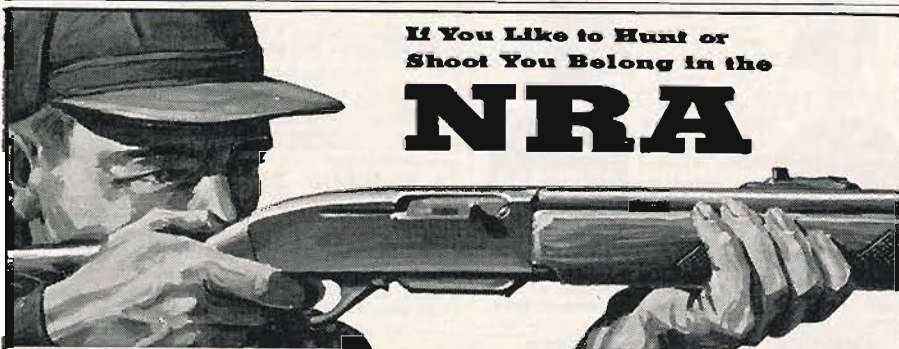
Last year's squirrel hunters had reported seeing the big chuck on a number of occasions. "From all accounts," our host said, "he's a real monster." His mysterious comings and goings had given him the local label of "ghost chuck," and—after three days of walking, waiting, and sitting in endless rain failed to produce the monster—we were in full agreement with that title.

The hunt wore on. Finally, after a lot of wandering, we found his fresh diggings, and caught a fleeting glance of the big chuck high upon a ridge. It continued to rain.

"This doesn't look a bit good," Wes told

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me soberly. We'd been getting weather reports on the Jeep's radio. "This is back country" he said, "and anything can happen up here."

"I've got to get that chuck, Wes," I told him. "I'll stay here for the rest of the week if I have to."

"You may end up staying here longer than that if we get weathered in," Wes said ominously.

But on the fourth day we got a break—it turned clear and warm. Wes agreed to go and see if the big chuck had started digging again. "If he's not waiting for us, we'll have to forget him," he warned. The rainy weather was gone, but it had already souped-up the low areas, and if it got worse, even our four-wheel drive would not help. To add to our misery, the warm moist air was bringing with it a rolling ground fog—a weather feature we did not calculate to improve chuck hunting.

We had seen many smaller chucks at various times during the three days we'd spent getting the hang of this rough Iowa ridge country. In fact, we had seen so many chucks—small chucks, respectable chucks, and some really big chucks—that Wes wanted to sit down and start blazing away. I was afraid that the shots might scare the ghost chuck, and as full of chucks as this country was, we could afford to hold our fire. We whiled away the hours by practicing our chuck calling (see GUNS, September, 1961).

We'd had a tough thirty-minute climb to reach the top of the ridge. I was tired and shaky. My mouth was dry, and sweat was running in to my eyes. Then we saw the big chuck, 70 yards away and watching us. A smaller chuck was standing near the burrow. I decided to gamble on some long odds and pick him off first. My shot jackknifed the smaller chuck into the den entrance, plugging the hole. My gamble had paid off. Now the big chuck's escape route was shut off and I had him trapped on the surface.

Then I went after the big one. Using an old GI ammo box as rest, I spread-eagled on the sandy loam. Off to the side, Wes was busy cranking off photos with my camera. I shoved the Winchester up to my shoulder, but could barely see the scope's black crosshairs, much less the chuck 70 yards down the ridge. But when I got the sights really on him—

"Bro-t-h-e-r!" I whispered. I'd never seen a chuck look so big. I was shaking. Then, before I could think of shooting, the big chuck dropped out of sight.

I waited for some movement out there, and once more the big chuck stood up, turned sideways for a moment and remained stationary. The crosshairs on the K6 were steady now. I gulped in a big breath of fresh air, held it, exhaled slightly, and squeezed off hopefully.

The first bullet zeroed the chuck neatly. He flipped over backwards and lay still.

That chuck weighed a monstrous 17 lbs. 14½ oz. Truly the granddaddy of them all—a memory for all time.

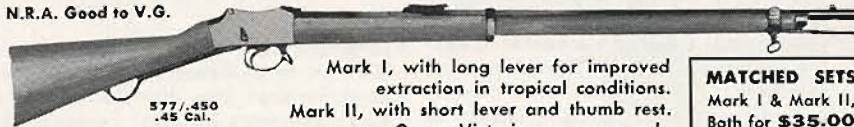
I have killed a lot of chucks over the years, and many were big ones, the kind that create high points in the life of a varmint hunter, but I'll lay long odds on one thing: Never again, no matter how long I hunt, will I have a thrill like the one the Ghost Chuck gave me that spring morning up in Clear Creek.

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THE United States became an independent nation through the efforts of brave men and women. Their courage was manifested in battles, not only in wars for righteous causes but, continuously, in battles against innumerable enemies encountered during the opening of a wild and immense territory. And, while their moral courage was outstanding, it should be remembered that neither moral nor physical courage is enough to defeat a better equipped enemy. To make the odds more even, our men and women used guns. And, to this day, normal men and women know that possession and proper use of guns represents Americanism and a safeguard of personal liberty.

In the early days, guns played an important part in the economic life of America by providing the major portion of food for the families who built the East and opened the West to the march of settlement. Later, as agriculture and industry replaced individual necessity for providing sustenance to the family groups, men used their guns for recreation. From the extemporaneous shooting matches of pioneer days has grown a gigantic network of organizations dedicated to gun sports. Hundreds of thousands of American men and women and children enjoy and benefit from these sports, in addition to the millions who go afield to hunt and shoot game of all kinds. Deep in their blood and bone, the instincts of a million years find normal outlet in pitting strength and skill against Nature and her wild life.

From such a race inevitably sprang, in time of need, the soldiers, sailors, marines, aviators, and coast guards capable of saving our country from enslavement by vicious dictators. Sprang, too, the technicians and scientists whose sympathetic attention in time of peace to the needs of good citizens made possible the superior equipment essential to our war needs. All this is obvious; but it has not prevented incessant effort by a vociferous and subversive minority to legislate out of existence the grand heritage which we so rightly cherish.

Too lightly, the average citizen dubs such persons "Do-gooders," laughs at the absurdity of their proposals, relies upon his legislators to keep his heri-

LOOK BEHIND THE FRONT

BY COL. GEORGE W. BUSBEY

tage secure. Then, too late, he is shocked to find that another law has been sneaked into the Code, taking away one more innocent personal liberty! Nothing could be more foolish and dangerous than to take "Do-gooders" lightly, and the reason is easy to understand if one analyzes the cause and effect of such groups.

First, the cause. The overt cause is a leader who persuades a group of individuals to coalesce around him and, by skillful use of "front" men and women, attains his desired objective. Unlike the leader of a lawful, disciplined army, the leader of a subversive "Do-gooder" group is controlling a potentially dangerous mob. Completely free from ethical inhibitions, he recognizes no rules of truth or honor. He has no feeling of responsibility for his disciples but, instead, allows them to take all the risks inherent in dropping his word-bombs. Lies and half-truths, quotations taken out of context, passages from the Scriptures, all are used to incite his mob and to create doubt, suspicion, and dissension among the leaderless majority. By endless repetition, inevitably, many of his victims are convinced that a bad objective is a good one.

But the overt cause is not always the real one. Too many "fronts," apparently innocent or unimportant, mask deadly threats to the life and liberty of our country. Communism and its overt threat is easily understood. The overthrow of our government, by force and violence if necessary, is the openly avowed purpose of Communism, and this we understand and oppose almost universally. Not easily recognized and understood are the hidden threats, skillfully concealed behind allegedly noble projects and high-sounding titles, supposedly authorized and sponsored by high-minded men and women whose names appear on the letterheads of publications issued by many an organization whose purpose is subversive.

What is the effect of such activity

in our country? Nothing immediately spectacular like an earthquake, a hurricane, or a great flood, but, rather, more like a creeping fungus disease or a slowly crippling arthritis which, little by little, decreases individual freedom.


Specific effects include anti-gun laws which limit the rights of citizens to own, possess, use, keep, or bear arms—in spite of the Second Amendment to our Constitution which plainly states: "... the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed." While the words, own, possess, and use are not contained in the amendment, this implication is obvious to any honest mind. Yet, in spite of the solemn pledge to the people by their Government, countless hundreds of restrictive laws are in the State and Federal statutes. Most of there are the work of "Do-gooder" groups operating behind allegedly noble-purpose "fronts."

Not all the restrictive gun laws are plainly directed against guns. Instead, they achieve their purpose by devious or oblique attack. For example, there is the "Quail are songbirds" law, and such slogans as: "Doves are the bird of farmers' dooryard;" "The dove is the bird of peace;" "The dove is the only bird honored in the Bible;" "Does ain't deer," and many another tear-jerking bit of maudlin sentimentality disregarding facts. Is it only coincidence that such campaigns against the rights and privileges of American citizens are being waged so actively at this time? Is it coincidence that the Soviet Union, proponent of World Communism, is currently waving the dove as its symbol?

One unusual happening is notable; two may be coincidence; three arouse doubt, and each succeeding repetition stretches the long arm of coincidence beyond credibility.

You may say such questions evidence a suspicious mind, that such things are not probable, that the idea is far-fetched, or that the matters are unimportant. Are they? World history replies that they are not. History shows that they are part of an ancient pattern which may be succinctly stated as: first weaken, then conquer and destroy.

Wake up, America!

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TEXAS IS TOPS FOR QUAIL

(Continued from page 25)

country, with a great big capital Q.

One typical hunt was made some seasons back. I stayed with a rancher friend, and each morning I helped him feed his cattle, no hunting until well into mid-morning. There was no sense in going early. It was just too easy to get a limit; and we hunted without a dog. There was no point in using one. I think the quail there would have driven a dog stark raving crazy! There were quail everywhere you looked. The outbuildings all had quail pecking around them. The yard was full of quail. There was thin, scattered brush coming up on all sides of the house, and you could see quail moving about just anywhere in it. When we fed hay and grain to the cattle, on a rise about 150 yards from the house, several coveys of quail would be feeding within shotgun range of us.

We started that morning about half a mile from the house, parking the pickup where we saw the first covey close at hand. We got out, loaded and went after them, and we each killed two. We wanted to go after some of the singles, but by then we had run into another covey which ducked over the lip of a small wash. Into those we went, and we each had two more. We walked a circle of three quarters of a mile and each shot his limit of twelve quail. We were through for the day.

They were running about three coveys of hobs to one of blues. This is a kind of fringe range for blues, an eastern fringe. The

three-to-one ratio holds fairly constant, I believe, much of the time, although on down cycles probably the bobwhites stay farther ahead, possibly 5 to 1 or better.

I admit that during this particular season the quail were on a very high up-cycle. It was a year when quail were plentiful over much of the west and southwest; so plentiful that it was predictable that thousands of quail were going to die. There were just too many.

I don't know how many were taken in the area that season. My rancher-host had numerous guests there to hunt, and I was there several times. The next fall, I was back again. A die-off had come as predicted, and hunting wasn't quite as easy.

That fall, there were perhaps half as many birds. We hunted with dogs, and between two and five the first afternoon, we set up an even dozen coveys of bobwhites—one every fifteen minutes. There weren't as many blues, and we did not bother with them, for they are upsetting to well-trained dogs. They're runners, and we tried to keep the dogs off them.

I am not selling the blue, scaled, or cottontop quail short. I spend many days each season hunting blues, and in most ranges they are a bit larger, and a good deal tougher to kill than the bob. Under most circumstances, blues will run like racehorses, and even a good quail dog will follow. If you can get a covey of blues in

(Continued on page 53)

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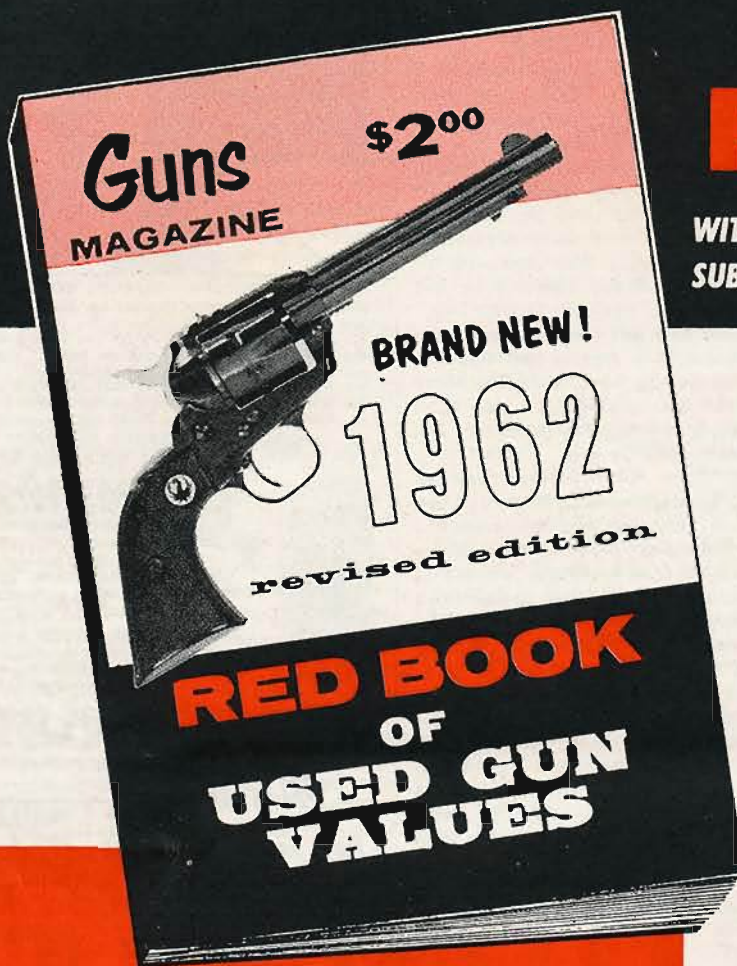
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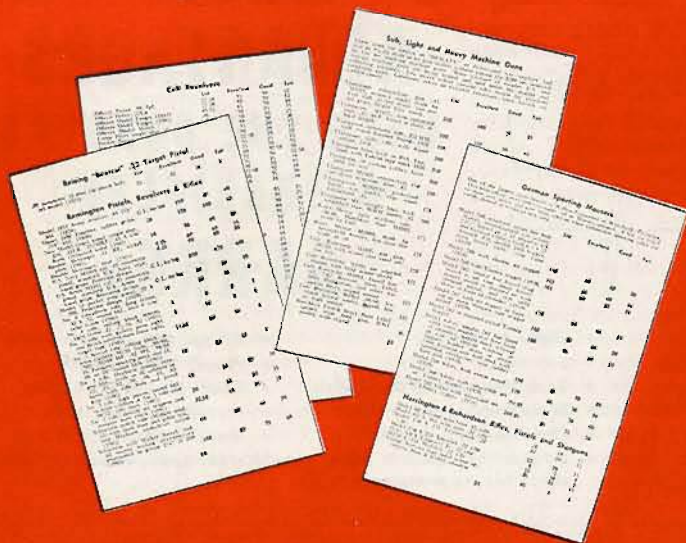
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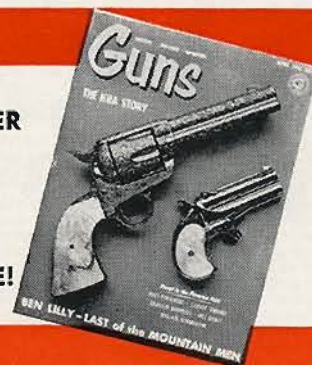
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the air and scatter them, the singles will often lie surprisingly well, especially if there is close or dense ground cover. It's good hunting, but it's different, and you can't blame a dog if he finds it confusing.

The great appeal of this Red River country to the quail enthusiast is that here are two species of quail. Coveys of blues will be found along a rocky wash, or in cover denser and more thorny than bobwhites ordinarily relish. If you get the land owner to hunt with you, he usually knows where the blues are. You can do your bobwhite hunting with bird dogs, and your blue quail hunting on your own, or with a dog that will run them hard and get them off the ground. If you like exercise, the blues will give it to you!

Thorns of scrub mesquite are bad in spots, for dogs and men not used to them. There are also plenty of sand burrs, so dogs need tough feet. It is dry country ordinarily, and dogs that can't work the dry stuff should be left at home. Fortunately, quail season frequently coincides with weather cold enough to put rattlesnakes into their dens. But on a warm winter day, it is a good idea to watch dogs closely and shy away from rock piles or other spots that might be snake dens.

Bobs usually lie very well to a dog over this terrain. In dry years, when ground cover is sparse, they will run, trying to find a place to squat. At such times, a slow dog is best. But by and large, you will be offered standard-range shots on the bobs, and gun and load should be just the sort you would use anywhere else.

I like a 20 gauge with modified barrel, and No. 8 long-range loads. But on the blues it is a different story. You must accept long shots. Blues, when wounded, will run and duck into a rat hole or other hiding place, and you'll never get them. They must be hard hit, to fall dead.

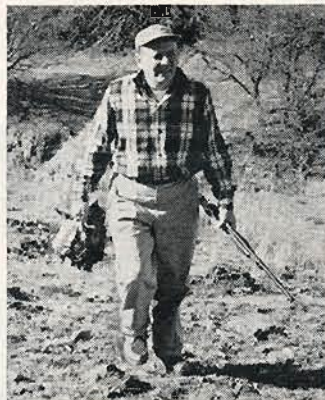
Consequently, it is not a bad idea to carry some high-base 6's or 7½'s in one pocket, and to have a quick-adjustable choke on the end of the barrel. When you stumble onto a covey of blues, screw down the choke, pop in a hull or two of stronger medicine, and go after them. I know there are hunters who scoff at this, but I also know that when quail of both varieties are shot over a period of time with the same load and choke, more crippled blues than bobs are lost.

A Texas non-resident license costs \$25. This is a bargain, for it also covers big game. If you are able to get a chance farther south in the state for deer and turkey and javelina, you may hunt them too. Quail season is very adequate, and runs anywhere from four to eight weeks, depending upon location and quail population. It opens anywhere from early November to early December, making it possible to arrange your trip so you can be in Texas during deer and turkey seasons.

Visitors must understand that all land

is deeded. Texans do not take lightly to trespass upon their premises, the law is tough, and some of the lawmen tougher. Besides, a good many ranchers are deputies. As in most other quail hunting states, you have to get permission. And, just as in other places, there will be those who turn you down. But many will let you hunt, if you respect their property and are careful about cattle.

Get to the hunting area a few days early and make the acquaintance of a rancher. Ranches here are of fair size, usually several thousands acres, and you'll need only one. Make a good friendly contact, and it will



probably last for years. Prices at motels and restaurants are very reasonable, and there is a frontier atmosphere that isn't put on for your benefit. It's real.

Texas weather is exceedingly unpredictable. The quail season may be bright and balmy, particularly during the middle of the day. It may also be about as cold as any place you're likely to find—raw, windy, with hard frosts at night and sometimes by day. Snow is rare during the major share of the season.

The country north of the Red River, in Oklahoma, is very similar, and also offers quail shooting. Oklahoma has a non-resident reciprocal minimum license fee, with a \$15 base. Ordinarily quail shooting is on staggered days, but the season is long, corresponding closely to Texas rules. If you don't mind buying two licenses, a variety of terrain is available by shooting staggered days in both Texas and Oklahoma, going back and forth across the river. The country right along the river furnishes some excellent shooting, and so does the country around the meandering creeks.

There may be bad quail years along the Red River, but I haven't seen one yet. Some of you may get there during a low cycle. It's possible, but don't give up. There will be years when the quail won't just be abundant, they'll be literally swarming . . . too many quail. When that occurs, it's hard to know what to do with yourself after nine or ten A.M. By then, if you can hit quail at all, your days' hunting is over!

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RABBITS AIN'T EASY

(Continued from page 31)

This has long been a rabbit-hunting haven for me. I can't think of any place where the bunnies could be more abundant. It seems every brier clump holds one or more.

When I first started hunting, I had a single-shot shotgun that I used on rabbits. It was deadly. Whenever one of the bunnies jumped out of a brier patch and fled for freedom, I knocked it kicking. Later, I graduated to a .22 rifle, which is still a pet small-game gun for me. Then came the .22 handgun, the most fascinating and challenging gun of all.

I'd driven up from my home in Austin, the capital city of Texas, to spend a few days with my folks in Mason, a small crossroads

hamlet in the so-called hill country of Texas. A visit to Mason means a rabbit hunt, and this has become a sort of ritual with me.

The next rabbit I saw was inviting disaster. It came hopping around a clump of prickly pear cactus, and upon sighting me it simply stopped and stared. For a moment, I don't know which of us was more surprised. But, fortunately, I was first to regain composure. I brought the revolver up, aimed hastily, and fired. The force of the slug spun the rabbit around and killed it instantly.

This one was an older male. I added it to my left hand along with the one bagged earlier, and started back toward the road where my car was parked. As far as I was concerned, it had been a very successful morning.

But I wasn't through yet. Perhaps 50 yards away I walked around a cactus clump and surprised two feeding rabbits. One leaped out of sight in the briers. The other paused momentarily at the fringe of the growth. The hesitation was all I needed. The first shot was just over the rabbit's back, but it didn't alarm the bunny. I quickly got off another shot, and that one scored.

As I picked up bunny number three, the other member of the party suddenly, and unexpectedly, popped into the open on the opposite side of the brier clump. I pulled up the revolver, started to aim, then lowered the gun. Three rabbits was enough. Anyway, I didn't want to press my luck any farther. There would be another day, another time, another rabbit.

The cottontail started hopping off. "Run, you little rascal," I muttered to myself. "I'll be seeing you some other day. Maybe then you won't be so doggone lucky."

But the point of all this is not just to narrate the story of one man's one-morning hunt for rabbits with a handgun. It's to point out to those who have never tried rabbit hunting with a handgun that this is one of the sportiest and one of the most-fun varieties of hunting I've ever tackled. For the man who likes shooting even better than meat, this is the ticket. And the meat isn't bad, either! I know plenty of people who call it better than chicken.

But there's an added bonus to rabbit hunting. To many men who love guns and love the hills and the woods and the thicketed plains and valleys, the end of the big game season—or the upland bird season, or the wildfowl season—brings sadness and an end to their favorite recreation. They hang up their guns and accept the fact that, except for nostalgic memories and dreamy planning, hunting is over until another season.

It need not be so. Even today, with all of the over-crowding, all of the reduction of hunting facilities, in almost every locality there are areas for off-season shooting. For millions of Americans, rabbits are the answer. For some, it's chucks; for others, prairie poodles. In many places these animals are looked upon as pests by farmers, and a friendly approach to a land owner can get you hunting rights that will fill your off-season months with pleasure.

Don't just stare at your guns with dreamy nostalgia when all nature is calling you out into the open. Off-peg those guns, and go hunting. The practice will make you a better hunter next season, and you will have expanded your sport for year-long enjoyment.

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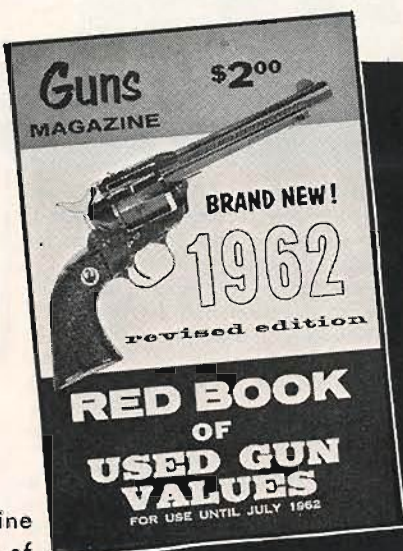
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MASTERPIECES IN MINIATURE

(Continued from page 35)

on the average, to complete the miniature.

During these 500 hours of study and work, Billy became very familiar indeed with Boutet's ability and with his methods. He learned too that Boutet, like all mortals, made mistakes. Billy learned also that to make such an arm, whatever its size, you must be a master gunsmith, a stock maker, barrel maker, filer, springmaker, engraver, sculptor, an artisan in gold and silver. You must also be blessed with untold patience. Coupled with those abilities must be unlimited devotion to the job at hand, and a feeling for fine arms.

Craftsmen such as Billy Johnson are born with a certain something that most other men don't have. You cannot assimilate that much ability and feeling. As a child, Billy modeled in wood, mud, soap and most anything that would take shape in his hands. In the third grade his dexterity was so outstanding that he did special lettering for his teacher. Billy left school at the end of the eighth grade to finish his apprenticeship under Max Scholder, a well known local jewelry manufacturer and sportsman. He was then fifteen years old. At eighteen, he opened his own shop as a manufacturing jeweler and has been so engaged ever since.

Billy feels that he has no mechanical ability as far as machine tools are concerned. He has no lathe, shaper, milling machine or drill press; he works as Boutet worked, using a hand drill, a jeweler's torch, a polishing head, a few hand tools such as files, jewelers saw, gravers, and a lot of know-how. His basic materials may start as a curtain rod, a small gas pipe, a piece of switch box metal, or anything at hand. He did go overboard with this miniature, using 3 ounces of gold and 1½ ounces of silver.

Billy saw my collection of miniatures, and was most anxious to see what he could do with such a project. I gave him scaled-down photographs of disassembled martial pistols, and they became Billy's blue prints and templates.

To give some idea of the difficulties experienced, let me quote Billy: "After a great deal of study and examination of the gun, I felt that the barrel and it's 150 gold stars would bother me above all else, and so I tackled it first. I had had a little success in flowing gold into steel, but never anything so intricate as this. After shaping the barrel, I engraved as deeply as I could the scroll and stars. Then I made my first big mistake. I tried to flow all of the gold into the cuts at one time. I used high carat gold solder, and the idea was to melt it into the cuts, then dress down the excess to reveal the design.

"It didn't work. After completely encasing the barrel in gold, I started dressing it down and found, to my dismay, that the cuts were only partially filled. This amounted to complete failure and the necessity of starting all over. After many agonizing hours I completed the inlaying, almost one start at a time.

"As I went along, I found that the barrel wasn't the biggest job after all. When I began to put the silver into the stock, it was like trying to run a rope through the eye of a needle. The high relief carving on the gold hardware was slow and pains-

taking, but to me this was easy—I was just making more jewelry. In examining the original, I found one thing that made me feel a little better. The old master, Boutet himself, goofed on this. I wondered why the sear screw on the lockplate had a particular design around it and, upon closer examination, found that he had evidently ground the hole too big, so he shimmed and engraved around it to cover the mistake."

Fortunately, Billy did not lose his enthusiasm for making more miniatures. He intends to produce only miniatures and do restoration work on antique firearms in the future. If you compare the miniature with the original Boutet, it will show that Billy's abilities to copy the original are astounding and you are bound to agree that we do have craftsmen equal to those of yesteryear.

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WE HUNT BY RADIO

(Continued from page 27)

into the pocket of your hunting coat, no bigger than and only half as heavy as a loaded .45 automatic pistol.

Restricted to an input power of no more than 100 milliwatts and with attached antenna not longer than 60 inches, these modern walkie-talkie units require no license so long as you talk only from one walkie-talkie to another. Other types of radios operate on the same frequencies; they are licensed, and you must have a license to talk with them. But as between hunters, all you need is the price of the unit and its battery. This is Citizen's Band radio, occupying the old 11 meter Amateur Band around 27 megacycles on the radio spectrum. There are nearly a quarter of a million licensed

Citizen's Band stations across the country, with new applications pouring in at the rate of nearly 12,000 per month.

Citizen's Band radio is governed by Part 19 of the Federal Communications Commission's regulation. It is intended for short-range communications. The limit of 5 watts input power gives these transmitters effective range of up to 20 miles, depending on the terrain.

Walkie-talkie radios are governed by Part 15 of the FCC regulations, which permits their use without license so long as they are used only between walkie-talkies. There is an advantage to having a license. Given a licensed call signal, you can use any of the many different brands of equipment in the 5 watt category, and you can clip the little walkie-talkie to a regular base station or mobile antenna to increase its range.

The range of any Citizens Band transmitter is affected by the efficiency and sensitivity of the equipment used, the type of antenna system used, and the local land conditions and topography. When Bob was down on the other side of that mountain ridge, our little sets could not reach him. As soon as one man got up on top of the crest, we regained line-of-sight contact and could read him clearly. You can figure on about one mile range with a walkie-talkie, barring geological and topographical obstructions. Naturally, they vary somewhat according to their quality and price.

The Johnson Personal Messenger, for instance, retails for about \$110 and we worked a pair of Johnsons exactly 1.9 miles apart in the unfavorable conditions of a busy residential neighborhood. The Johnson has eleven transistors.

The Webcor Micro-350 is also an excellent quality set, with nine transistors, that sells for about \$100. A clip is provided on the bottom to attach a ground wire which aids the set's performance.

Provision for accessories is one reason for the difference in price. The Johnson has an earphone jack, a choice of power sources, and a squelch control. The squelch control can be adjusted to quiet the receiver until a strong signal from a transmitter comes through. Then it cuts out and lets the message through. By eliminating the background noise, the battery drain is less because the transistors are not pulling much power unless they are working.

From the hunter's point of view, an earphone jack is a necessity. It could prove embarrassing to have a loud-speaker blare a message at you just as a deer was approaching! With an earphone, no sound is heard outside of your ear.

The Johnson Personal Messenger was the most versatile of the units tested and, of course, was the most expensive. It can be used with a battery pack of eight penlight cells, or you can get a rechargeable nickel cadmium battery. There is also an adapter for powering the set through the cigarette lighter of your automobile, and another to connect it with the long mobile whip antenna. These are at extra cost. When the walkie-talkie is used with these accessories, it must be licensed.

On both the Webcor and the Johnson, the antenna extends down through the case

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Barrel	Diam. at Breech	Diam. at Muzzle	Lgth. at Muzzle	Weight
Lightweight	1 1/8"	.600"	22"	2 lb. 6 oz.
Sporter-Weight	1 1/8"	.615"	24"	3 lb.
Med. Heavy Wgt.	1 1/8"	.700"	28"	4 lb. 4 oz.

TWIST: Ace Barrels come in standard twists as follows: Cal. 243, 257, 270, 7MM, .25-06, 280, 318 and 30-06, 1-10, Cal. 244, 250, 300 and 308, 1-12, Cal. 22-250, 220 and 222, 1-14.

F.N. Ace Barreled Action (White), \$72.50—Add \$5.00 for F.N. Supreme (Series 400) Action. Fitting Service: Flaig's will fit any Ace Barrel to your action, stamp caliber, headspace and test fire for \$5.00. Returned f.o.b. Milvale, Pa., unless postage and insurance remittance is enclosed.

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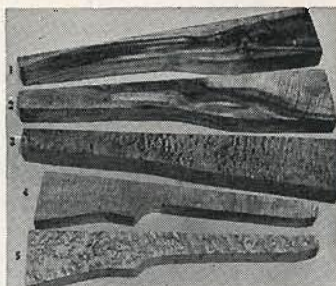
Turned and semi-inletted stocks	\$ 7.50 to \$40.00
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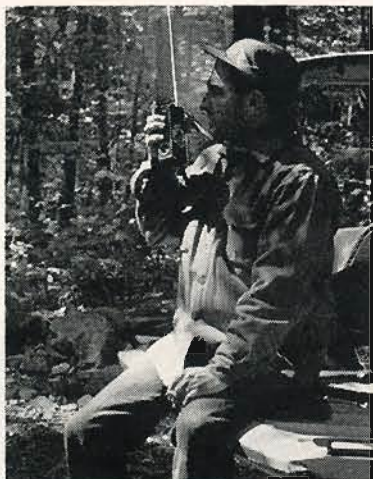
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to connect at the bottom. This gives a sturdy support in case a low branch gets in the way.

Another unit tested was the Heathkit GW-30 which sells in kit form for about \$33. Factory assembled and ready to go, it sells for \$51, about half the price of the other units tested. It has a four transistor circuit and will reach out a mile. Under mountain-top to mountain-top conditions, it will do even better.

These were the only three units tested but there are no less than a dozen others on the market. Price is a pretty good yardstick to measure performance. It stands to reason that higher priced sets, with more transistors,



First man back at base camp, car, calls hunting partners in for chow or coffee break.

will do better than those made to sell for less. But they all work and, when price is a factor, sets like the Heathkit will do the job. By paying more, you get a little better range and clarity.

Before you rush out and buy a walkie-talkie, there are some things you should know about Citizens Band radio.

While it is free and easy to get a license, there must be a valid reason. "For personal communications," is not enough; you have to show how and why two-way radio communications is needed. "For necessary personal communications between my car, boat, residence, and summer camp," explains how the radio is to be used. SS Bulletin 1001b, available in single copies from FCC, gives other examples.

Citizens Band radio is not for chit-chat. CB radio may be used "to communicate primarily with other units of the same station, and secondarily with units of other stations in the Citizens Radio Service, only when necessary for the exchange of substantive messages related to the business or personal activities of both the licensees concerned."

You have your choice of 23 different frequencies (channels)—except that walkie-talkies cannot operate on channel one. You can change from one channel to another just by changing the crystals, and you do not have to notify FCC.

But everyone else that has CB radio can operate on his choice of these same 23 channels. There is no exclusive use. You must share the channel, just as we used to share the old party line telephone. Back in the woods, this would be no problem—

walkie-talkies are limited range sets—but in the city, there could be a dozen other stations operating on your same frequency, and, within the range of your set, you can talk with them. They will interfere with your transmissions unless you take turns on the air. There are no designated use channels; however, the manufacturers of CB equipment and the many CB clubs are promoting the idea of voluntary agreement to set up certain stand-by channels.

Channel 13 is generally agreed to be the primary channel on which marine stations—pleasure boats—stand by. Channel 9 is for commercial boats. The National Tourist Service channel is 15. The idea is that hotels, motels, service stations, restaurants, anyone who serves the tourist, should listen for calls on channel 15. Then, a motorist anywhere in the country could use his radio to get a bed, meal, or road service on a uniform channel.

In urban areas, the channels are sometimes crowded, so channel 11 is the calling and emergency channel. Everyone listens on channel 11 for a call. As soon as the contact is made, both stations switch to a different channel to transact their business. This is not the case in every area today but it is the trend.

It would be reassuring to a traveler to know that he could tune to channel 11, for example, and reach the police, fire department, or an ambulance no matter where he might be in the United States. I was driving through North Carolina during the wee hours some years ago when an accident right in front of me sent a car into the ditch where it burst into flames. Driving the 15 miles into the next town was the only way to notify the police. CB radio could have saved valuable time.

Walkie-talkies usually operate only on one channel—without changing the crystals inside; but the large 5 watt units are usually multi-channel. They can change channels by flipping a switch, like a television set or a regular radio.

A sensible system for a hunting party would be to use a 5 watt mobile unit, with its multi-channel capability, in conjunction with a number of walkie-talkies all on one channel. The higher powered mobile unit can contact the hunters even when the hunters are too far away to reach the mobile unit, and the walkie-talkies themselves have a longer range when working with a licensed station. We worked the Personal Messenger with a land station a measured seven miles away. The longer 102 inch whip antenna of the mobile unit can pick up the little portables much farther away than the little 44 inch walkie-talkie antennas. And the mobile unit could act as a relay station when the portables are too far apart to talk with each other.

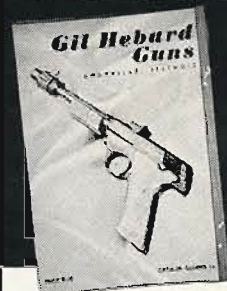
Two-way radio is a convenience on the hunt. If you're lost or need help, it can be a lifesaver. But they don't bag game. The usual problems of the hunt still remain, matching hunting skill against game wariness and wisdom.

But—please don't show this article to a deer! Already, they are reading the newspaper outdoor columns to find out when the season opens; if they set eyes on this, they might start using two-way radio to intercept our messages and give us false directions!

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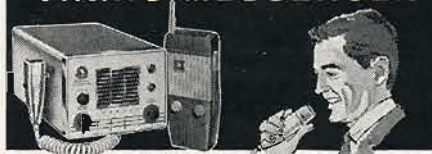
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TRAIL AND TARGET

INCIDENTALLY, and before anyone gets any wrong ideas about it, Harry Reeves is not responsible for this primer of pistol instruction. This is revised from a training manual written long before I ever guessed that Harry and I would both be writing for the same magazine; and now that I do know it, I could sort of wish I'd kept my trap shut about pistols! But I'm in it now, and too scared to run. Maybe Harry will tell you, later, the real scoop on pistol mastery. But I'll bet he'll agree that what I'm telling you won't hurt you, even if it's not all in line with his thinking.

In May, I talked at length about how to take hold of the gun. I concluded with the comment that there would always be more than enough movement when you point a handgun at a target, and that there were ways to reduce it.

Note that the word is "reduce," not "eliminate." Nobody ever lived who could hold a handgun rigidly still on point of aim—and that is a good thing to remember. Knowing that you can't eliminate movement may help you to ignore it. And ignore it you must. You can, with practice and correct methods, reduce gun movement to a minimum—and, believe it or not, the movement you can't eliminate won't keep you from scoring possibles.

When you first point a handgun at something you want to hit, the gun will wander all over the target. The first thing that will occur to you is, "I'll never be able to hit the blasted thing, never!" Forget it. Every person who ever tried to aim a handgun had the same problem. They solved it; so can you.

Your second thought will almost certainly be, "Hah! Next time that black spot floats by, I'll nail it! If it's going to insist on being a moving target, I'll wing-shoot it!"

Forget that, too. The only way you can catch that bullseye on the fly is to yank the trigger, and that's the worst thing you can do.

Concentrate on your sights, not on the target. Using proper square-notched rear and square-topped front blade target sights, you want the top of that front blade exactly level with the top of the rear sight notch; and you want the front blade exactly centered in the rear sight notch. Direct your whole mind to the effort to make that sight picture perfect and keep it so. Concentrate on it so hard that nothing else can enter your mind. Focus your eyes on the sights. Somewhere out in front of that sight picture, you will be visually (dimly) aware of that silly, won't-stand-still bullseye, but don't let it distract you. You're going to hit it—provided you do exactly two things right.

The two things you must do right are—keep that sight picture perfect, and pull the trigger straight back without moving the

gun. "Without moving the gun" means "without disturbing the sight alignment." That sight alignment is all-important.

At this point, you don't believe what I've told you. You don't believe that you can ignore the way your gun wavers over the target, and still hit the bullseye. It's hard to accept something you don't believe, so let's see if I can explain it so you will believe it.

Let's say, just for example, that you're aiming at a 5" bullseye. You're "in the black" if your bullet cuts anywhere inside or on the edge of that circle. This means that your gun can swing a full five inches left to right or top to bottom without carrying your shot out of the black—provided



Note how gun aligns with shooter's arm, and how top knuckle stands clear of gun.

you maintain that perfect sight picture that keeps the gun barrel pointed straight at the target. It's exactly as if you were shooting down a stove-pipe five inches in diameter. Keep the bullet inside the pipe, and it's in the black. Okay so far?

The bullet *will* stay inside the pipe as long as the sights are kept in alignment. Any normal person can hold a gun so that it doesn't swing as much as five inches! If you need convincing, have somebody hold a five-inch crochet hoop (or a section of stove-pipe!) in front of you. Stick the gun muzzle inside. See what I mean? So you've got it made.

You have—so long as you keep those sights aligned. But let that front sight waver off-center in the rear sight notch even a fraction—or get too high by a fraction, or too low—and your bullet will tear right out of that imaginary stove-pipe and off into the wild blue yonder! So long as you keep the sights in alignment, the bullet goes down the pipe. Lose that sight alignment, and

you'll miss the whole darned target!

The second thing mentioned above—trigger pull—is just a corollary to the rule about maintaining sight alignment. The trigger finger must pull straight back on the trigger. It must do so without causing pressure against the gun that will spoil sight alignment.

Start putting pressure on the trigger as soon as the gun is pointed at the target. (Forget the bullseye; concentrate on the sight picture.) Keep on exerting pressure, a little more and a little more—until the gun fires. If you give the trigger a spasmodic yank in an attempt to set the shot off just when the bullseye looks right to you, you'll yank the gun, ruin the sight alignment, miss. If you obey instructions, you'll hit—if not the dead-center bullseye, at least close enough to it so you'll see that you can do it.

Steady is the word for trigger pull. As you become expert, you will learn to add trigger pressure when the sight picture registers on the bullseye—stop pulling when the bullseye floats away from you—pull again when the picture looks right. But that's for later. The rule for the beginner is, "Keep adding trigger pressure, regardless of the bullseye, as long as you're pointing at the target."

If your arm tires from holding the gun at point too long, release all trigger pressure, rest, and start over. Trigger pull will be slow, at first, and your muscles will tire quickly. With practice, you can make your pull faster, and your arm muscles will strengthen to permit longer holding—steadier holding too, though there'll always be movement. You'll see experts fire so fast you'll swear they are yanking the trigger, but they're not. If they're hitting, their trigger pull is smooth; fast-smooth, where yours is slow-smooth.

Stance? A lot has been written about

stance, what's right and what's wrong; yet if you see a dozen Masters on a firing line, like as not you'll see a dozen different stances. *Don't* stand facing the target; with your feet in line your body will sway more than need be, and sway in this position will cause your shots to spread high and low. *Don't* stand at right angles to the target, feet in line, shoulders in line with the line of aim. This position, too, lets your body sway, spreads your shots from left to right.

Take a stance 45° off the line of bullet flight, feet parallel and comfortably apart (where they feel best to you). Shut your eyes, and swing your hand up as if to aim at the target. Look down your arm. If you're pointing too far to the right, move your left foot back a little; if you're too far to the left, move the left foot forward a little. Find the position that lets you point at the target without having to muscle your arm to one side or the other. That's your position, so far as your feet are concerned.

Hold your body erect but relaxed—comfortable, no strain. Keep your head up, neck straight. Bring the gun to your eye level, don't twist your neck to meet the gun.

What to do with the non-shooting hand? Who cares, so long as it isn't moving (to disturb sight alignment), and isn't causing muscle strain or body imbalance. Let it hang straight down at your side; stuff it in your pants pocket; forget it. You're not posing for a picture; this is serious business! You say, "Shucks, I didn't know pistol shooting was so easy?" Brother, I have news for you: it isn't easy. Simple, maybe, but not easy. You'll tear up a lot of targets (some with bullets, and some because you're so damn disgusted) before you shoot top scores with a pistol. It takes practice . . . and practice.

But who's complaining? Practicing with a pistol is the most fun there is—else why do it?



OLD NAME—NEW GUNS

(Continued from page 29)

U.S. Occupation Authorities ordered the total dismantling of Shin Chuo's facilities and only recently has the Company begun to re-equip itself for arms manufacture. At present, both U.S. and West German machine tools are being installed to facilitate the production of Shin Chuo's new line of pistols. The Company, like many other fire arms manufacturers, is primarily engaged in activities other than making guns. Shin Chuo produces electric motors, generators, and some machine tools, employing some 500 people.

Eventually, Mr. Nemoto opened the sample cases. The first sample was a 9 mm military-type semi-automatic pistol with the model designation New Nambu M-57. This gun is a short recoil pistol with manual and magazine disconnector safeties. No grip safety is employed. Take-down generally follows that of the Colt Government Model caliber .45 pistol (M1911A1), which it outwardly resembles.

Unlike the Colt, however, the M-57 is broken down into four component groups consisting of the 8 shot magazine, slide, frame, and the unique hammer assembly. The hammer assembly consists of the hammer, hammer rod, sear, sear spring, magazine safety, and magazine safety spring, all of which lifts out of the top of the frame as a

unit. This feature, of course, facilitates field maintenance considerably.

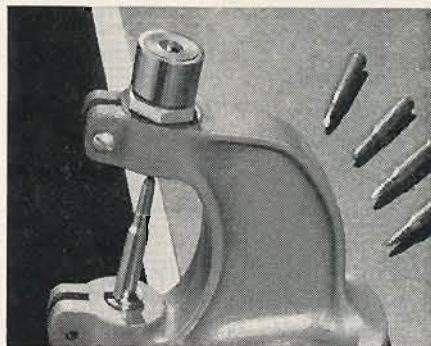
The pistol has a 4½ inch, 5 groove barrel with a right-hand twist of 1 turn in 10 inches. The barrels for this pistol are made with 5 or 6 grooves (I could not find out the reason for this variation), groove diameter 9 mm, and land diameter 8.8 mm. The sample's slide wobbled a bit, and the finish was badly worn due to the hard use the sample had seen. These sample pistols had been made in 1957 and had been handled and fired hundreds, if not thousands, of times since then.

Unlike the Colt, the M-57 has locking rings machined completely around the barrel as in the Tokarev—presumably a machining simplification. Instead of a link and pin unlocking arrangement as in the Colt .45, the M-57 employs John Browning's last design of a camming block integral with the under surface of the barrel, the forward edge of which acts as a stop for the recoil spring and rod. At the start of recoil, the barrel and slide, locked together, move to the rear. After a short stroke, the sloping rear surface of the barrel block contacts a camming edge on the inner part of the frame. This camming edge forces the barrel block down and with

(Continued on page 64)

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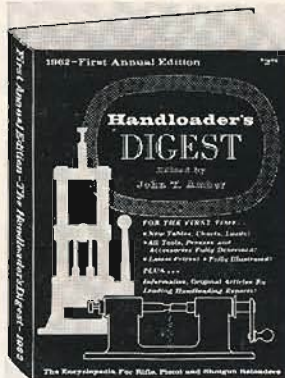
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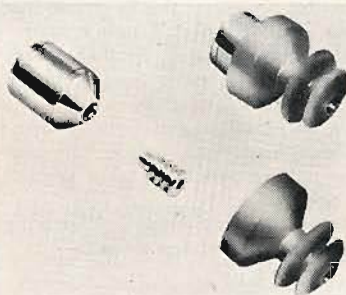


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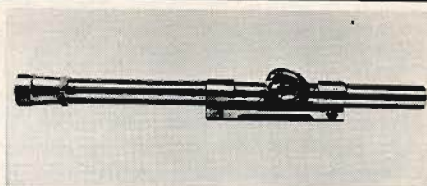
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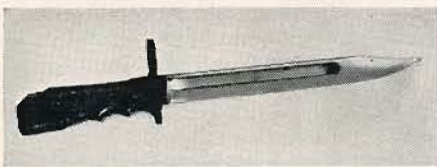


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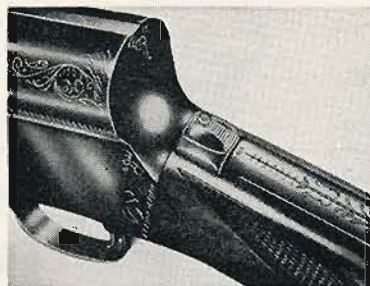
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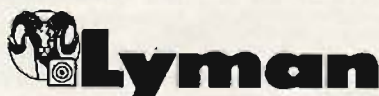
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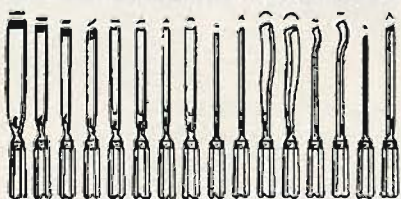
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(Continued from page 61)

it, the barrel, thereby unlocking the gun. The slide then continues to the rear to complete the recoil cycle.

When I test fired the M-57, it handled well and all shots went into the black on a 6 inch bull at approximately 35 feet. The test range is located in a long, low tunnel, is poorly lighted and not well equipped acoustically. The deafening explosion of each shot made me wince and it is likely that I would have fired better scores on some other range.

Next on the agenda was the Nambu M-60, a 2 inch barrel, 5-shot, .38 Special revolver closely resembling the S&W Chiefs Special except for its stubby grips. When I took off the side plate of the M-60, I discovered one major difference. The M-60 "automatic hammer safety" consists of a small steel block which stands between the hammer and cartridge when the pistol is uncocked. When the hammer is cocked, the safety block is pulled down out of the way by a long arm which permits the falling hammer to strike down to detonate the primer. Cocking the hammer brings a fresh cartridge into line, and easing the hammer forward, into what would normally be a half-cock position, brings the safety block up again in front of the hammer. Thus, a half-cock notch is not needed. The system is similar to the safeties used in American revolvers.

The sample M-60 had brown plastic grips, a blade front sight, and a grooved top strap which takes the place of a rear sight. The grip contained the wire coil mainspring and a lanyard ring in the butt. The sample's cylinder was a bit on the loose side and again, the finish was pretty bad. The 2 inch barrel has 5 grooves, a right-hand twist of 1 turn in 15 inches, and groove diameter is 9.03 mm, land diameter is 8.78 mm. In test firing, all shots went into the black, but the pistol pinched the skin between my thumb and forefinger. It was painfully obvious that those grips weren't designed for American hands! This feature, though, can easily be corrected by using enlarged plastic grips, and I am sure that this is just what the company will do with their export models.

The last production sample I looked at was the Nambu M-57B, a 7.65 mm (.32 ACP) straight blowback semi-automatic pocket pistol with exposed hammer. The pistol is cocked manually for the first shot. The M-57B is equipped with a manual and a magazine disconnect safety. The grips of the sample were of clear plastic to show the workings of the magazine disconnect safety.

This safety operates through lugs integral with the magazine, the lugs camming the trigger extension arms upward when the magazine is inserted into the grip. When the 8 shot magazine is removed, the spring-loaded arms are forced down and cannot move straight back when pressure is applied to

the trigger. The pistol has a loaded-chamber indicator pin which protrudes at the rear of the slide just above the firing pin. This indicator can only be seen or felt if the hammer is cocked.

A disconcerting feature of the M-57B lies in the takedown procedure. Takedown must be accomplished with a special tool which fits into slots machined into the barrel bushing. This key-type wrench rotates the bushing 90 degrees, at which point the bushing is freed and the recoil spring and slide are drawn off the frame. The recoil spring is "wound" around the 3.4 inch fixed barrel as in the Walther pistols.

During test firing, the modest report of the 7.65 mm ammo gave my ears a much-needed break, but I nevertheless did poorly with this pocket pistol. The main reason was the tiny rear sight which, at arm's length, was next to impossible to see in the dimly-lit tunnel. Since the pistol is made for pointing rather than aiming, this feature isn't too much of a drawback when one considers that larger sights might snag in pockets. Another reason for the poor scores fired with this gun lies in the heavy trigger pull. I'd swear that it was at least 11 pounds or so, and my exertions in tugging at the trigger raised hoh with my aim.

The barrel of the M-57B has 6 grooves with a right-hand twist of one turn in 12 inches. Groove diameter is 7.9 mm and land diameter 7.7 mm. Before putting this pistol down, I put the hammer on half-cock and pulled the trigger. Much to my surprise, the pistol fired! The look on my face prompted Mr. Nemoto of the Firearms Section to say that on production guns, the half-cock troubles of the M-57B would be rectified but, at the moment, no one knew how this was to be effected.

These three models, the M-57, the M-57B and the M-60, were designed primarily at the urging of the Japanese Government, which provided a subsidy in 1957 for this purpose. The Japanese police and armed forces (Self Defense Forces) now use U.S. surplus equipment, and the Japanese Government is endeavoring to nurture the growth of their arms manufacturing industry. The Japanese authorities are satisfied with Shin Chuo's manufacturing methods, and have placed an order for 200 each of the pistols for service tests.

This limited production keeps the cost quite high, but the company is presently exploring the world market and hopes to be able to export their pistols competitively. There is one problem connected with export that deserves mention: If a foreign pistol contract is cancelled, Shin Chuo cannot resell the arms in Japan because of the tough firearms control laws. The pistols would thus have to be resold to another foreign buyer after endless red tape and delay—not the best way to make a profit.

In spite of all this and the depressing remains of the bombed-out portions of the original plant, Shin Chuo is going ahead with their goal of increasing production. They have high hopes that their reputation will grow and that with growth will come new designs for other guns. Shin Chuo, by the way, is also authorized by the Japanese Government to manufacture submarine guns but is not doing anything in this line as yet.

Shin Chuo is expected to start work soon

(Continued on page 66)

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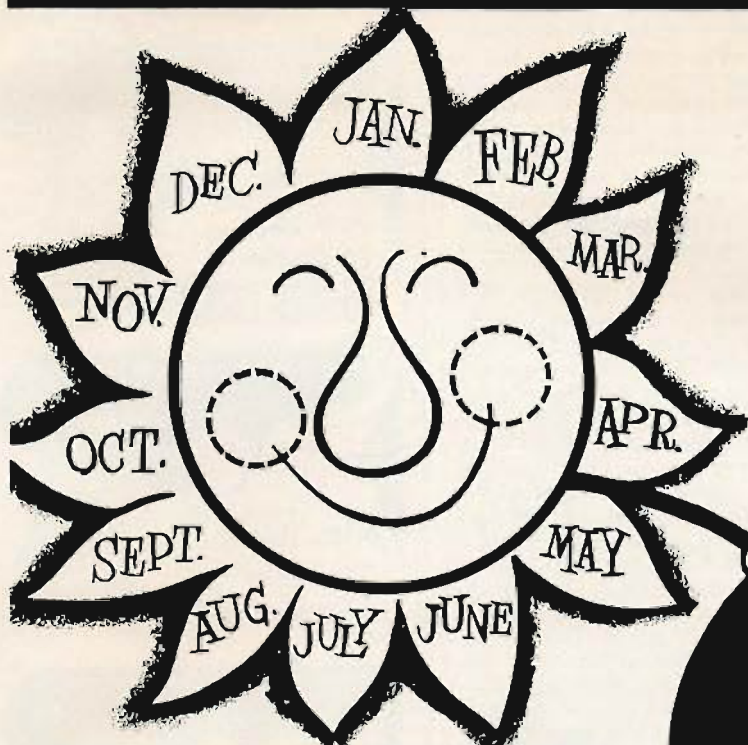
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THE QUICK DRAW THEATRE

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(Continued from page 64)

on sporting hand guns. Their design capability is adequate, and hand-finishing presents no problem. Japanese capacity for detailed and painstaking craftsmanship could very well result in superior, beautifully-made guns which would be a joy to own as well as shoot. The only drawback at the moment to plans of this kind lies in the relatively limited production capacity of the company. If sizeable foreign advance orders were to come in, expansion of present facilities would be warranted. In any case, state-side gun nuts may be pleasantly surprised in the not too distant future by the availability of sporting and target pistols marked "Made in Japan."

Before wrapping up my visit with Shin Chuo, I was shown an experimental .22 semi-auto pistol that was reminiscent of the wartime Nambu pistol. The prototype was made some 7 or 8 year ago and was dropped from production plans because of the high initial cost of quantity production. It had a 10 shot magazine, stamped alloy frame, and is equipped with manual and magazine disconnector safeties. Aside from the awkward manual safety which worked like the starting crank on a Model T Ford, the pistol handled well and was pleasant to shoot. Occasionally, the company engineers trot out the old relic and fire a few rounds with it. This interest in the .22 convinces me that Shin Chuo will eventually get around to making a production .22 but not necessarily with the same lines as the prototype. At the moment, however, Shin Chuo has to satisfy the needs of local agencies for larger caliber guns and it is not yet known how soon production will be expanded and export of the pistols begun.

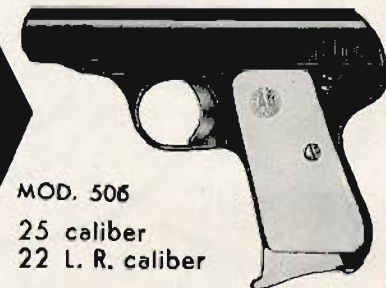
I was pleasantly surprised at Shin Chuo management's desire to produce fine handguns which would be equal to those produced anywhere. If and when they succeed, credit for the success will go to Shin Chuo's staff of highly skilled engineers and firearms technicians. The prototypes I saw were good, and with a little more work, production models could make the Shin Chuo mark known all over the world.

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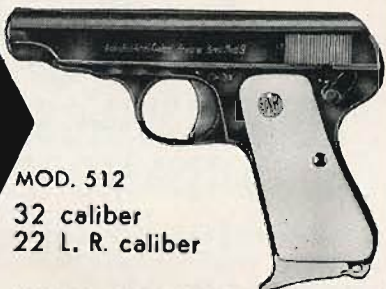
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HANDLOADING BENCH

(Continued from page 12)

priced ammo, using a new .429 "Super-Magg" 240 grain, heavy jacketed bullet, made in five operations. Soft lead wire is 1) cut in slugs, 2) swaged to uniform weight, 3) swaged in long, heavy jackets, 4) swaged to form, and 5) a crimping cannellure is swaged in. Loads take a whopping 25 grains 2400, made possible by the reduced bearing surface created by the cannellure. Accuracy is much better than the regular Jugulars, which I prefer in revolvers. Supr-Magg pills pack a double whammy, expanding to over an inch in moist sand! The jacket makes a classic mushroom, and stays on the expanded core. Best description of the punch is, "Holy Cow!"


Supr-Magg pills were designed for rifles. Expansion from revolvers is much less than Jacketed Jugulars. You'll find that 22.5 grains 2400 with CCI 350 Magnum primers works well in the carbine, and can be fired in revolvers when deep penetration is desired.

S.S. uses the superb CCI primers in their fine custom loads. CCI ballisticsian, Elmer R. Imthurn, reported on shelf life on their No. 200 Large Rifle primers. After 21 months storage in the hot and humid climate of Houston, a drop test proved there was no change in sensitivity. I'm way ahead of their test. Different lots of rifle and pistol types were stored for two years in the high humidity of a bathroom, in the summer heat of an attic near the roof, heated in an oven, and frozen in a freezer. They passed the original drop test 100 per cent. Under fairly reasonable storage, they should be good for more than a generation, probably two generations. Probably reloads with CCI primers will be in shooting condition by the year 2062. Perhaps some scribe will quote this statement a century or so from now.

Have you wondered what happened to the Maxim Silencer Co., that made gun silencers when they were legal? Several years ago I had a letter from them, at 122 Homestead Ave., Hartford 1, Conn., where they make silencers for power mowers and garden tractors. They won't discuss firearms silencers. To quote a 1923 catalog:

"The Maxim Silencer is not recommended for use on shotguns, auto pistols, or revolvers. It's effective on repeating or single-shot rifles and pistols having a bullet velocity of less than 1100 fps."

(In spite of what you've seen on the screen or in print, silencers never did work satisfactorily on handguns, except single-shots and a few autos. Escape of gas and noise at the breech was the problem. This was especially true in the case of revolvers, in which the gap between cylinder and breech permits most of the noise to escape before it ever reaches the silencer. Anyway, bullets traveling above the velocity of sound make a "sonic boom" which can't be silenced.



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GUN RACK

(Continued from page 10)

comes from Sterno. Called simply Number 46, it folds into 6½ inches by 13½ inches and is only ½ inch thick. When set up, it is four inches high and, complete with a can of Sterno, weighs less than two pounds. Cook stoves using liquid fuel are difficult to handle on portages and there is always the fire danger. This Sterno stove is sturdy enough to hold a kettle of stew and the coffee pot without tipping over.

New Metering Bars

The C-H Die Company has introduced new metering bars for the Shellmaster shotshell loader. With the new bars, it is now necessary to use only one Universal Bar for the powder measure and one for the shot measure. Each Universal Bar requires insertion of the proper sleeve for the desired load. Powder sleeves are grouped by letter, each group consisting of several different loads, and thus only one or two sleeves are required. The Universal Bar is drilled to deliver 47 grains of AL-8.

The Universal shot bar is drilled for 1½ oz. loads, and again each load requires its own sleeve. Complete loading data and group

charts are available from your dealer or directly from C-H Die Company.

If, by the way, you are using your Shellmaster to load trap and skeet loads and then proceed to have long runs on the field, let your club secretary know about it. Runs of 25, 50, 75, or 100 are now honored by C-H with a special brassard, for either trap or skeet. Have your secretary write to C-H, and they will forward the appropriate brassard by return mail.

Jet Bullets

Joyce Hornady recently mailed us some of his new Jet bullets. You may recall that some months ago we reported some experiments we did for Hornady, and these bullets are the results of these trial runs. The new 40 grain bullets miked out to .222 diameter and are made with very soft lead for perfect expansion. We weighed some thirty bullets on our Ohaus 505 and found the weight to be very consistent. Field performance of the bullets was excellent, but we have not tried them in the .22 Hornet as Joyce suggested. Properly loaded, these 40 grain pills should do a fine job in the Hornet.



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(on sale May 25) is April 10. Print ad carefully and mail to GUNS Magazine, 8150 North Central Park Blvd., Skokie, Ill.

BOOKS

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HARD CAST Bullets: .38 Spec., .357 Magnum, sized .358, 158 gr. Thompson gas check—\$2.25; 175 gr. Keith—\$2.00. .44 Spec., 44 Magnum, sized .429, 215 gr. Thompson gas check—\$2.50; 250 gr. Thompson gas check—\$2.75; 250 gr. Keith—\$2.50. Plus Postage. Prices per hundred, minimum order 200. Rex McPherson, 7635 17th N. W., Seattle 7, Wash. SUnset 2-7516.

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TANNING: Two Formulas and instruction \$1.00. Easytan, Box 6146, Phoenix 5, Arizona.

**SEE PAGE 52 FOR
SPECIAL FREE GIFT OFFER!**

Jet Brass

RCBS has hit the market with a set of case forming dies that makes it possible to grab some of the .357 Magnum brass that has been collecting on the loading bench and make .22 Jet brass out of it. Although a good many handloaders have been converting cases for a long time, Fred Huntington carefully encloses complete directions on how to do the job. Simply anneal the .357 Magnum brass, run it through die No. 1, then run it through die No. 2, trim cases to proper length, and (using your full length resizer), you are ready to load Jet ammo.

Like all RCBS dies, the set we tested was finely finished and machined to close tolerances, and the workmanship of the case forming dies is up to the high RCBS standards. Since factory ammo is relatively expensive, forming cases and handloading is just the ticket if you shoot much.

Gloves For Hunters

As this is being written, the thermometer hovers around the 20 degree mark, and summer seems a long way off. Frostbitten hands are the bane of our existence, and we collect gloves at the rate of at least two pair a year. All of them are supposed to keep our frost-bitten fingers operating, but very few of them have lived up to their expectations. Last fall we found a pair of Morris "Dual Feel" gloves for field use and, although they did not stop us from getting cold fingers on prolonged exposure, they were far superior to any other hunting glove we have tried in some years. Wool and Byrd cloth are water-

proof, and gun-fee with the gloves is not hampered. As a matter of fact, it is possible to handle the cold snaps on the dog leads with the gloves on—certainly a blessing when the temperatures hover around zero. Gloves are made by the Morris Mfg. Co., Newbern, Tenn., and are sold in sporting goods stores.

Plastic Ammo

Indoor target shooting is becoming more and more practical, and most of it with a minimum of noise and cost. Latest in the field is Plastic Ammo, presently marketed for .38 Special only. Plastic cartridge cases and tightly fitting plastic bullets, plus a primer, a cardboard box with a target pasted on the front, and you are ready to score bullseyes. Primers are removed by simply punching them out of the plastic case, and a new primer is seated by hand. Bullets are not distorted, and functioning of Plastic Ammo was smooth in our Colt Python and an old .38. Seating and deapping primers in the conventional way with a loading press was complicated by the fact that the lip of the plastic case is a thousandths thicker than the space in the shell holder and the plastic was shaved. Once the bullet is placed into the case and seated, we found the simplest method of seating a primer was by using a bench vise. This assures flush seating of the primer. Accuracy at 25 feet was good and test bullets did not suffer in accuracy after repeated firings. Plastic Ammo will be available in other calibers in the near future and a package of six cases and six bullets will retail for \$1.49 at your local gunshop.

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PULL!

(Continued from page 14)

shoot-off. Seven shooters were bracketed at 95, and one of these was Mrs. Marker. Her 95 topped the ladies' scoring. Other members of the 95 club were R. C. Johnson, H. Aldritt, L. DiProspero, Cliff Gadaire, W. B. Marriott, and Vinton Porterfield.

94 was also a popular score (by the numbers). Grouped at this spot were George Bogner, Homer Orell, H. W. Hines, Van Swearington, Earl Tolliver, George Morris, and George Wallace.

As reported earlier, when the entire week's results were in, Forrest Woods, the pride of Leroy, Illinois, topped the field. His Illinois running mate, H. W. Hines, was runner-up, 9 targets off the pace. Hines was high in 16-yard events, with 590x600, but Woods was a strong second here with 584, and added 368 handicap hits in 400 tries, plus a good 93 in 100 doubles targets.

Thus endeth the ninth running of the Circus City and Gulf Coast Mid-Winter Trap Championships. And the conductor of Pull! hopes to be on hand to help our Florida bureau in reporting the sure-to-be great 10th stanza at Sarasota next year.

○ ○ ○

NOTE: Ad Topperwein, the great exhibition shooter who thrilled thousands upon thousands with his shooting mastery, died March 4th in San Antonio, Texas. He was 92 years old. Ad's best known feat was his 10-day run in which he broke all but 9 of 72,500 2½" aerial targets with .22 rifle bullets.

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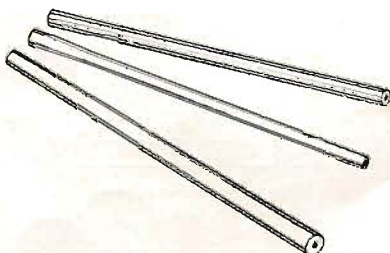


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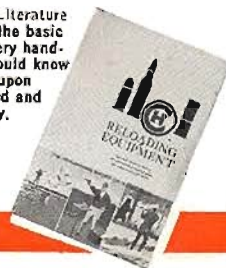
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