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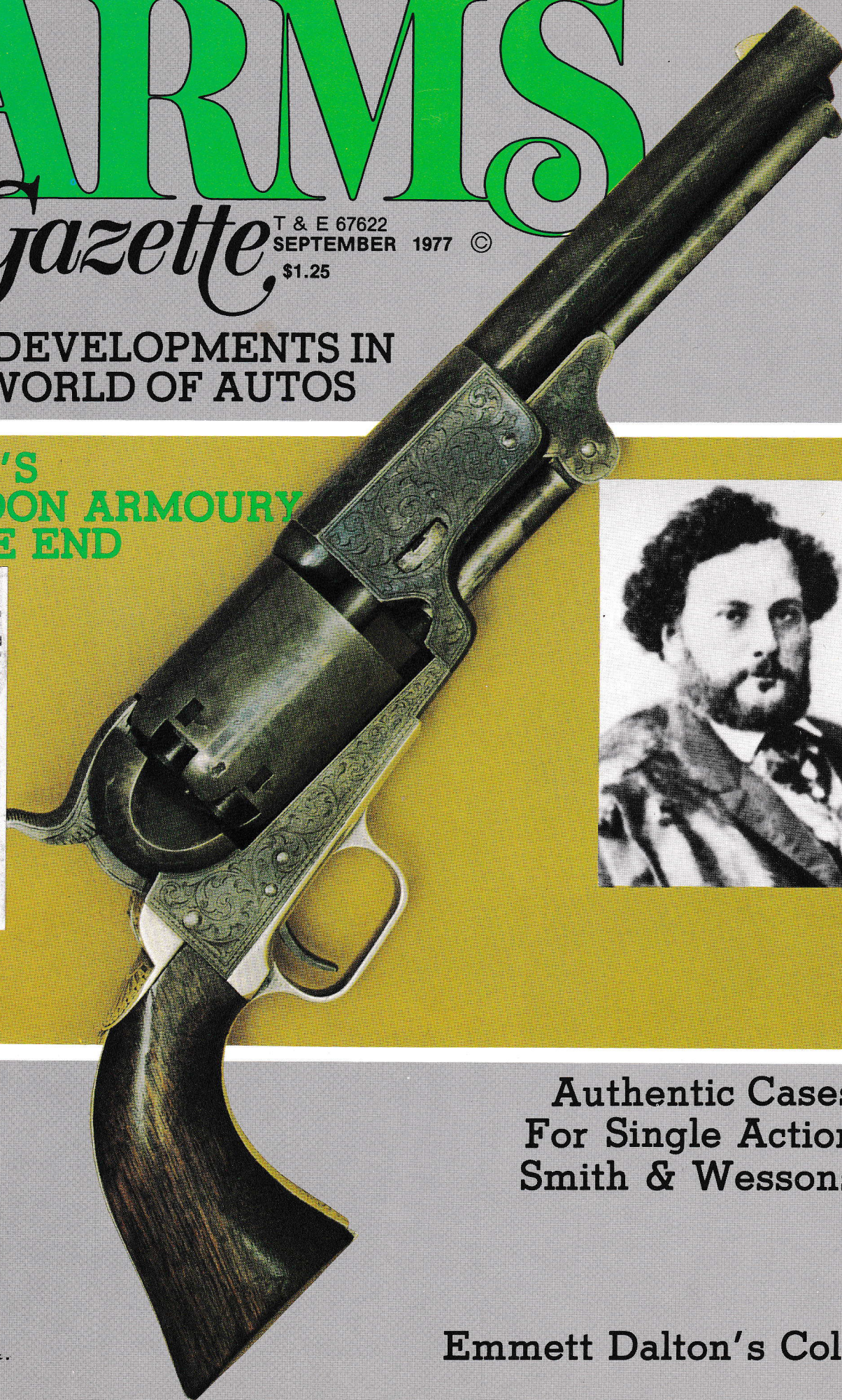
Gazette

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NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN
THE WORLD OF AUTOS

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LONDON ARMOURY
—THE END

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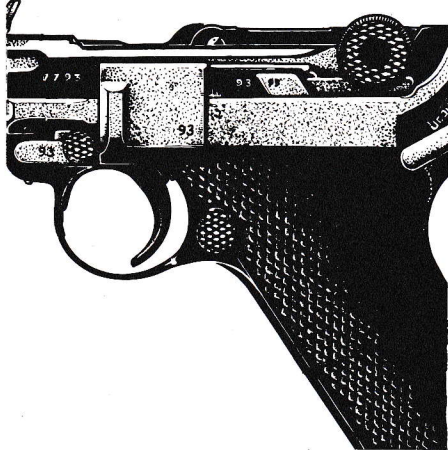
ARMS Gazette

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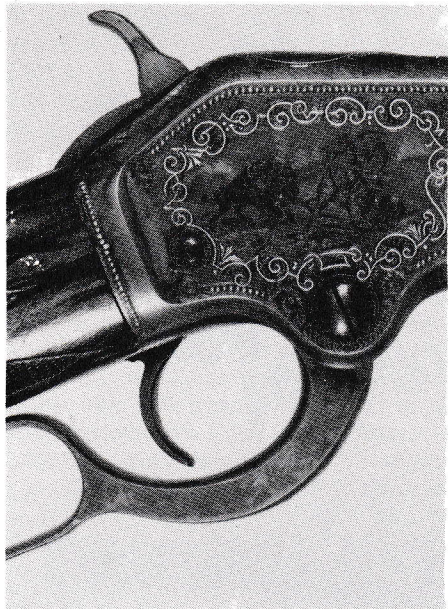
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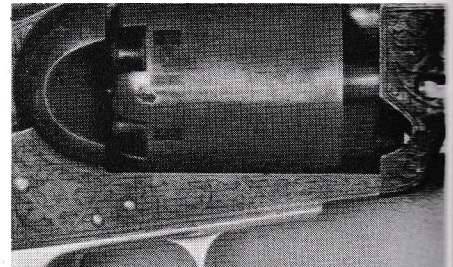
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COVER: "Col. T. D. Lawrence"—From Samuel Colt to the Colonel in 1851, this Dragoon, profusely scroll engraved, was presented by Colt, records prove. Serial Number 186 of the London Dragoon series. (Buddy Hackett Collection) See the story on Colonel Colt's London Armoury, page 12.

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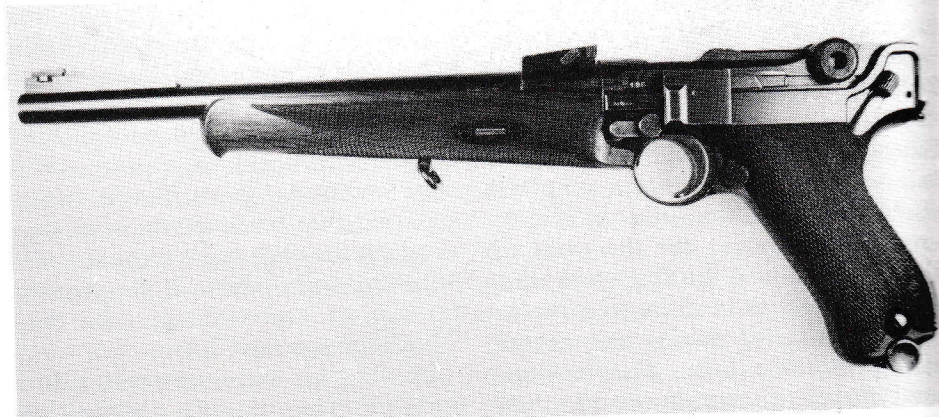
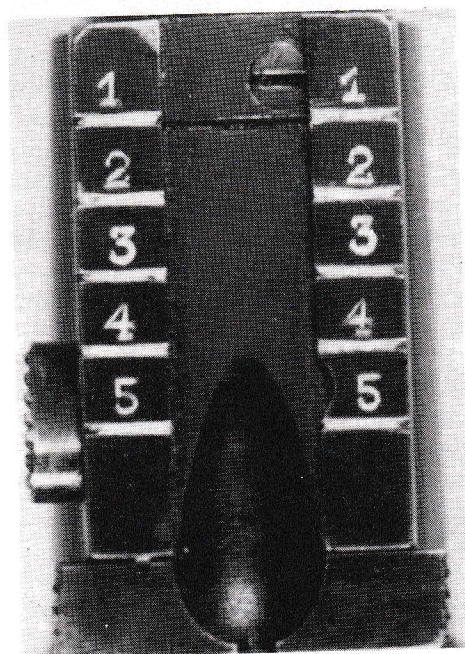
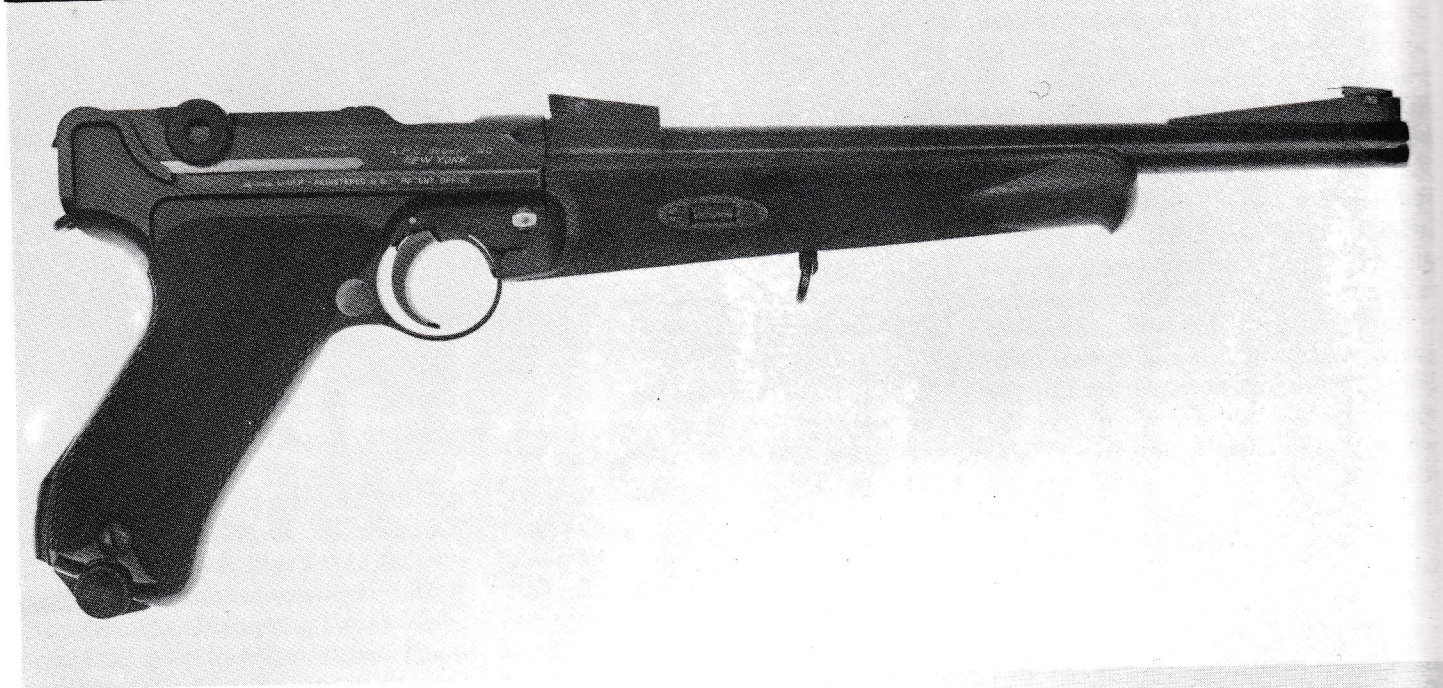
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New Developments In The World of Autos

by Ralph Shattuck



1933 Mauser Stoeger Luger Carbine—never before seen. Distinguishing characteristics, 10 1/16-inch barrel (11 7/8-inch barrel is standard), American Eagle on chamber, marked A. F. Stoeger on frame and receiver, matching serial numbers on all parts, extractor marked "LOADED," safety well marked "SAFE," select walnut stocks. Accessories: Leather case with matching extra 16-inch barrel and receiver, snail drum and loader. This is the only carbine noted with a 5-position rear sight.

Some Rare Pieces Have Recently Emerged That Are Opening Collectors' Eyes.

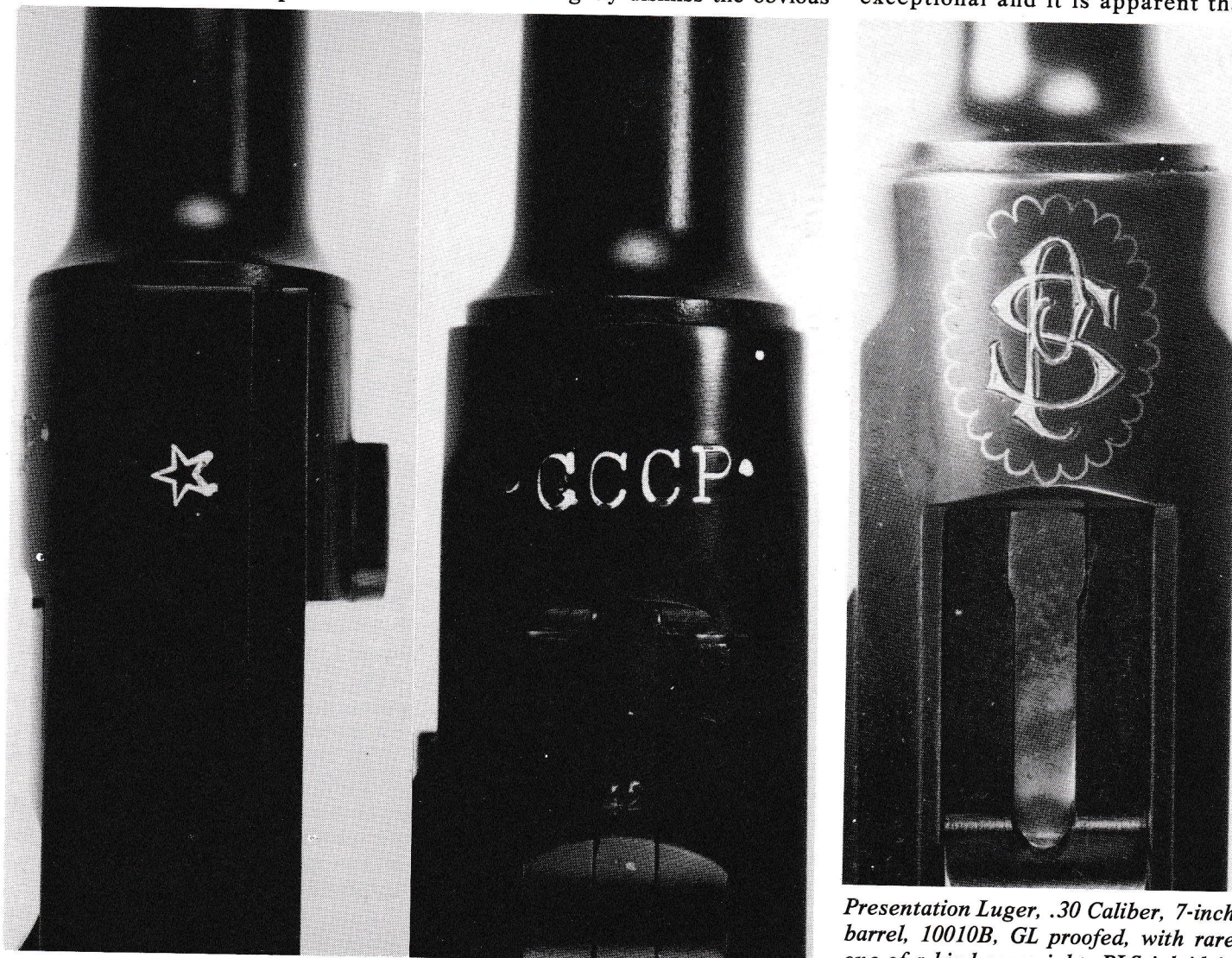
Perhaps it is the anticipation of discovering a new variation—or viewing, for the first time, a known variation—that provides the impetus for the seasoned collector to continue his pursuit in his chose field of interest. Even though I must admit (immodestly perhaps) that my own collection is considered to be somewhat extensive by most standards, on reflection, I believe it is the lure of the possible new discovery that fuels my continuation.

I cannot conceal my excitement regarding one particular piece that is

now in my possession. I wish to share the knowledge of its existence, its description, and the accompanying pictures first with the readership of this publication. I refer to the 1933 Mauser Stoeger Carbine. I had only fragmented and unsubstantiated information concerning the existence of this gun over the past two decades, since its two previous owners preferred anonymity respecting their possession of it. This is an unfortunate situation for the collecting fraternity but conversely, one cannot lightly dismiss the obvious

merits of such a position.

The Carbine bears all matching serial numbers, of course, and is replete with an also matching extra 16-inch barrel and receiver. The length of the primary barrel is 10-1/16 inches, as compared to the standard 11-7/8-inch barrel. An American Eagle is found on the chamber; the Stoeger logo appears on the receiver and frame. The extractor is marked "LOADED" and the safety well is marked "SAFE." The finish, certainly original, is truly exceptional and it is apparent that

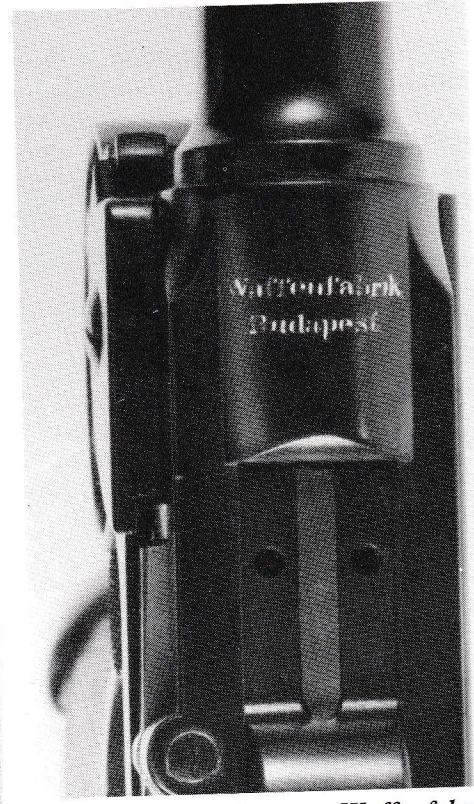


Russian, VOPO—chamber marked with C. C. C. P. and a star on the right side of the receiver. Heretofore only rumored, none verified. This was discovered at a gun show with documentation. Serial number 42. Era 1945 post war. Issued to East German police. Very few. Value over \$1,200.

Presentation Luger, .30 Caliber, 7-inch barrel, 10010B, GL proofed, with rare one-of-a-kind rear sight. PLS inlaid in gold on chamber, heretofore known as only the PS Luger. As you can see, the letters are PLS—Paul L. Speer. Value over \$25,000.



Finnish Prison Luger, .30 Caliber, 4-inch barrel basically a 1920 commercial. Sold to the Finnish and issued to the Finnish Prison Administration. Three known, all in fair condition. Very rare and valuable, \$2,000.



Borchardt with the rare Waffenfabrik Budapest marked chamber—the only one known. It has been mentioned previously in World of Autos but never shown before. Still no answer why the markings exist. Photo courtesy of Herb Muenkel. Value ????



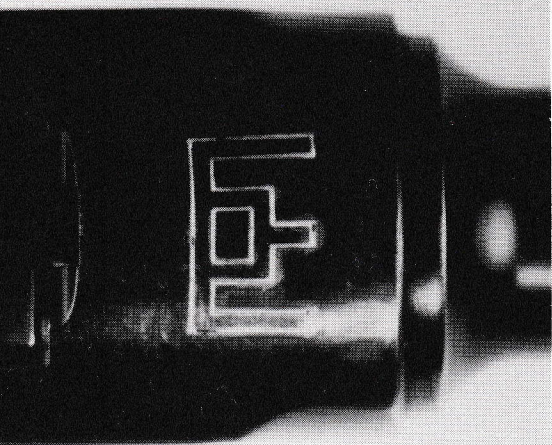
Walther PP—no serial number, 9mm, seen once in Lockhoven. Verified by Jir Rankin and will appear in his Volume 3. This is an experimental prototype—the only one made, taken from the factory during World War II. The whole gun is beefed up to accept the 9mm parabellum cartridge. The number on the right side is a police I. D. number, not a serial number. Completely mint with wood grips—first time seen in the U. S. Value \$15,000.

great care had been exercised in the selection of the forestock; it is also obvious that the shoulder stock was custom-made of a high grade walnut with an extremely handsome grain. The Carbine and extra barrel are housed in a custom-made leather case which is also fitted to receive the snail drum and the loader, both of which are completely original. The bottom section of the case has space for ten boxes of ammunition and cleaning equipment.

This complete unit has been personally examined and verified by no less an authority than Charles Kenyon, author of LUGERS AT RANDOM.

Rare weapons are difficult to appraise at best, and a one-of-a-kind, virtually impossible. In this range, the prospective buyer must decide for himself what any individual gun is

continued on page 20



Lithuanian Luger—one of the latest variations discovered, the only one this editor has ever seen. I have seen the Lithuanian proof on Brownings and the late eagle N proof on other Lugers built after 1940. The right side is marked "FRANKENSCHLOSS," a Border Town. The Lithuanians were under occupation until 1944. This weapon was carried by border guards under the German occupation. Value over \$1,000.



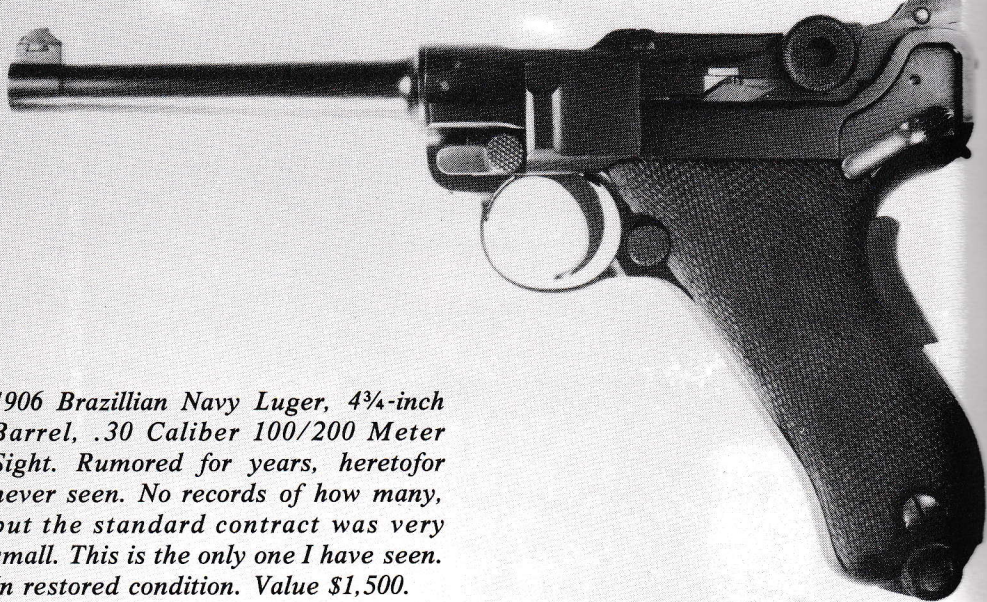
worth to him. I believe that the Stoeger Carbine can support a price tag in the vicinity of \$20,000.00 and possibly even exceed that figure.

Many articles and several books have been written and printed regarding Lugers, Walthers, and other automatics. Frequently some of the information contained in those books is later proven wrong, despite the arduous research and the dedication to the principle of authenticity that produced them. One of the purposes of this column is to acquaint the readers of ARMS GAZETTE with newly unearthed information about automatic weapons.

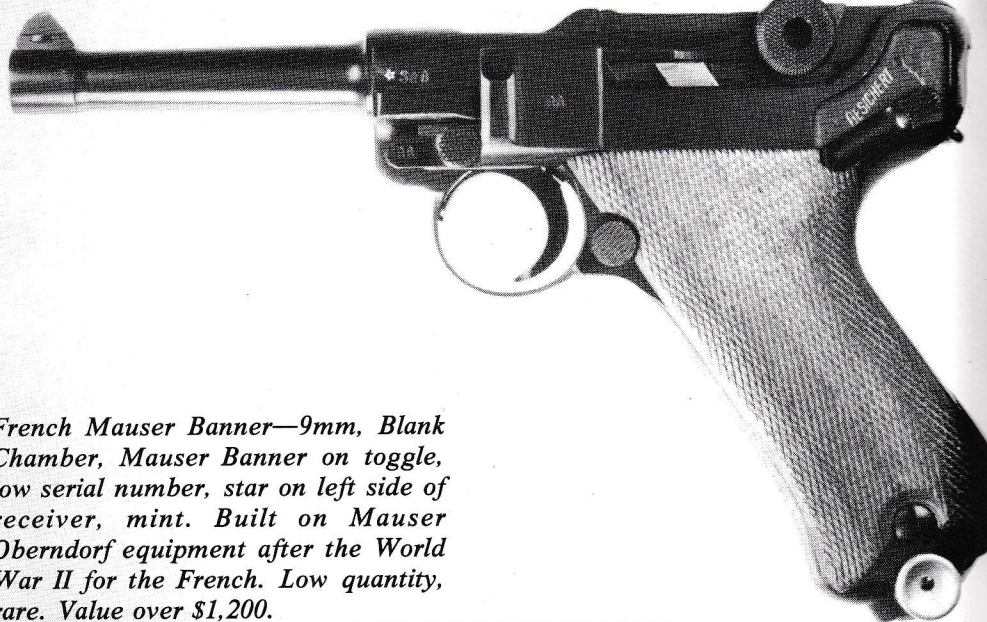
In that vein, I submit photographs and brief descriptions of several weapons which I have recently acquired. □



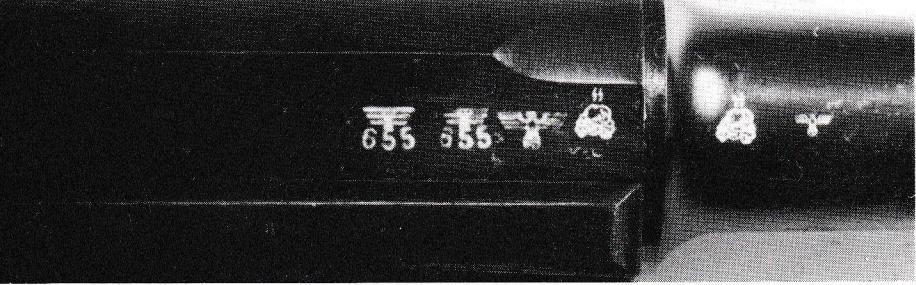
1938 dated Krieghoff, one of the rarest of the dated Kreighoffs. Never shown before. Ranks with the 1945 model. Value \$2,500.



1906 Brazillian Navy Luger, 4¾-inch Barrel, .30 Caliber 100/200 Meter Sight. Rumored for years, heretofor never seen. No records of how many, but the standard contract was very small. This is the only one I have seen. In restored condition. Value \$1,500.



French Mauser Banner—9mm, Blank Chamber, Mauser Banner on toggle, low serial number, star on left side of receiver, mint. Built on Mauser Oberndorf equipment after the World War II for the French. Low quantity, rare. Value over \$1,200.



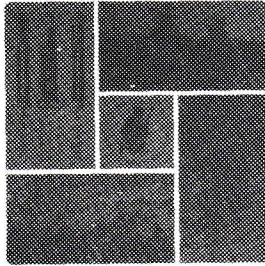
Mauser Deathhead Luger, the only Deathhead Luger seen with Deathhead the size as the proofs. Chamber dated 1940, Toggle marked 42. Note two Deathheads with lightning bolts along the side of the Mauser Proofs of Eagle 655. Vary rare. Value \$1,500.

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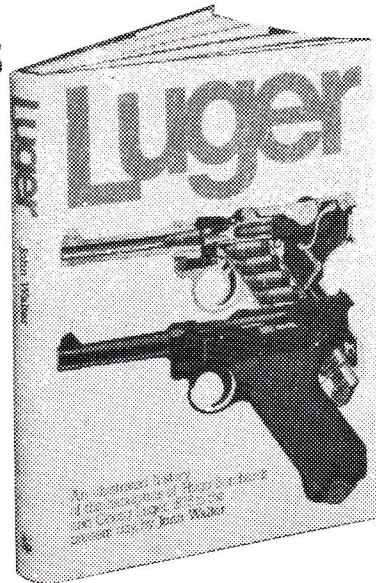
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Much new material that has come to light in recent years is incorporated and, as well as discussing the history, construction, production and performance of the Luger, John Walter provides a valuable perspective on its variants and adaptations, its rival and contemporary weapons, patents, ammunition, holsters and markings.

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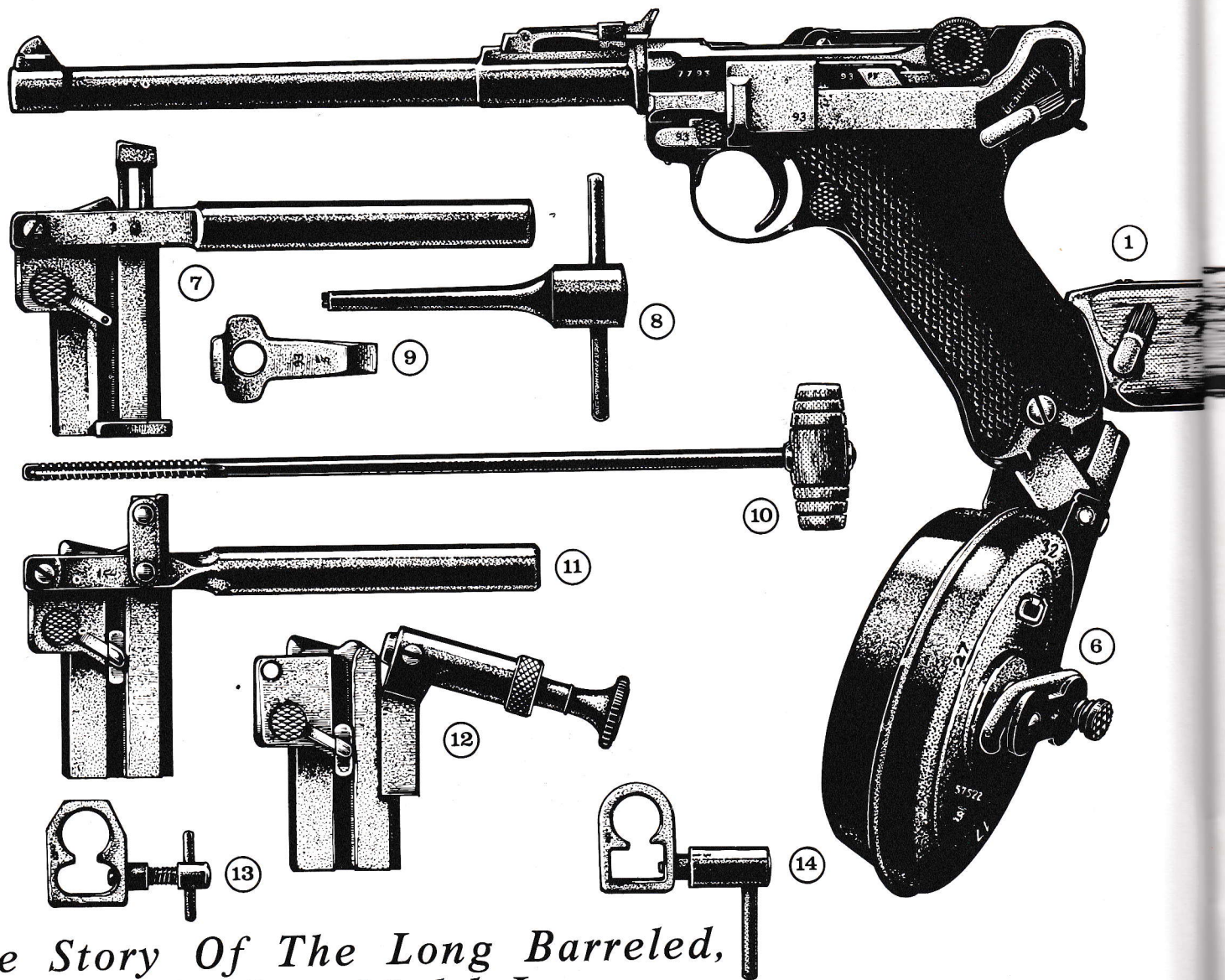
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The Story Of The Long Barreled, So-Called Artillery Model Luger. Excerpted From The New Book Luger.

Much confusion surrounds the introduction of the so-called "Artillery Parabellum," which was simply a long-barreled derivative of the Pistole 08. Various guesses—generally without substantiation—have been published; some have stated that its introduction took place in 1911, more in 1914 and others in 1917. Typical of the last is Ian Hogg's claim: *In 1917 came the long-barreled "Artillery" model. It appears to have been issued for service in August or September 1917, the first specimens falling into Allied hands during a trench raid in the Loos sector in September . . .* Evidence of capture, however, is rarely a reliable guide to an introduction date and in this case is wrong; coincidentally, the British Small Arms Committee had tested the Karabiner 98 in 1916 as a "New German Rifle"—and it had been

adopted in 1909! The orders relating to the introduction of the long Parabellum were signed in mid-1913. Their text reads: *Following the report given me, I approve the pattern proposed to me of a semi-automatic pistol with a shoulder stock, with the designation "Long Pistol 08." In addition to my order of 22nd August 1908 [the adoption of the Pistole 08] I declare that the Field Artillery and the Airmen are to be armed with the long pistol, subject to available funds, and that it can also be issued to the fortresses. The War Ministry has to implement this.*

The Kriegsministerium published and released this order on 2nd July 1913 and the Bavarians, after corresponding briefly with the Prussian authorities, adopted the Lange Pistole 08 on 12th September. The orders confirm the dates on which the

standard and long Pistolen 08 were adopted, and the units to which the latter was initially issued. It seems probable that the stock lug was added to the Pistole 08 at about this time.

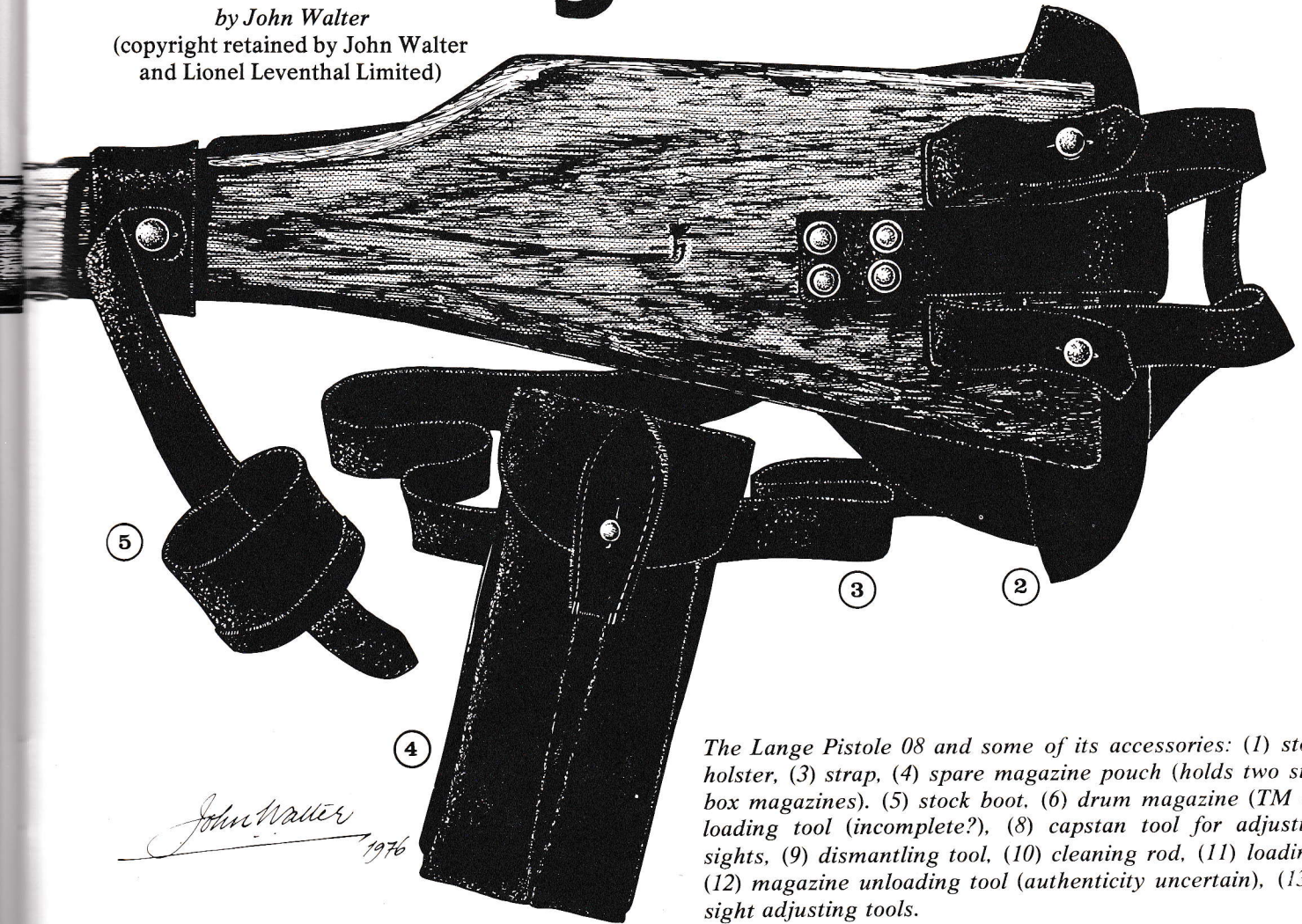
The official manual for the Lange Pistole 08, *Anleitung zur langen Pistole 08 mit anteckbarem Trommelmagazin (T. M.)*, states that: *On account of its high firepower and easy handling, when employed as a light carbine, it [the Lange Pistole 08] can be used effectively against "head size" targets at a distance of 600 metres. Accuracy to 800 metres is possible if the back sight is adjusted accordingly. When careful aim is taken, all targets will be hit at 200 metres. The bullet will penetrate horses' skulls and steel helmets at 800 metres.*

The pistols were standard new pattern Parabellums with 20cm barrels

The Lange Pistole 08

by John Walter

(copyright retained by John Walter
and Lionel Leventhal Limited)



The Lange Pistole 08 and some of its accessories: (1) stock, (2) holster, (3) strap, (4) spare magazine pouch (holds two standard box magazines), (5) stock boot, (6) drum magazine (TM 08), (7) loading tool (incomplete?), (8) capstan tool for adjusting the sights, (9) dismantling tool, (10) cleaning rod, (11) loading tool, (12) magazine unloading tool (authenticity uncertain), (13 & 14) sight adjusting tools.

and tangent leaf-sights mounted on the barrel in front of the receiver. Their mechanism was identical with that of the standard Pistole 08, without the anti-bounce lock and the grip safeties found on some earlier Parabellums. Luger's combined extractor and loaded-chamber indicator was fitted in the breechblock, and a "downward safe" manual safety lever was recessed in the rear left side of the frame. The sights were generally constructed with a "bias," in which elevation automatically compensated for bullet drift at long ranges. The sight leaves were graduated from 0 to 800 (sometimes 900) metres in 100m steps. The front and back sights of some guns could be laterally adjusted by set-screws and capstan tools. All Langen Pistolen 08 had short frames, and most were made in the DWM Berlin-Charlottenburg or

Berlin-Wittenau factories. A few, however, are known to have been made at Erfurt—though production in the government arsenal was far exceeded by production in the private DWM factories. After 1916, there were pistols with the old pattern sear bar ("*Langen Pistolen 08 mit Abzugsstangen alter Art*") and with the new type ("*Langen Pistolen 08 mit Abzugsstangen neuer Art*"). The official handbook, dated 1917, clearly recognizes the distinction.

In about 1915, the Germans began experiments with spring-driven helical-feed magazines, the first developments being intended for the *Flieger-Selbstladekarabiner M 1915*. The resulting *Trommelmagazine*, or "drum magazines," were based on patents granted to the Hungarians Tatarek and won Benko shortly before the First World War. The long Parabellums were

initially issued with the standard eight-round box magazines, until someone suggested developing a drum pattern for the 9mm pistol cartridge. The result was the *Trommelmagazin 08 (TM 08)*, which acted as an extension of the standard box pattern and contained no fewer than 32 rounds—20 in the drum and 12 in the elongated feedway. It was issued in 1917; clumsy and inefficient, loading was so difficult that the troops were issued with special loading tools. A single *unloading* tool, apparently converted from a loader, exists, but there is no evidence that it was official issue: the "Kasten fur TM 08," or magazine box, contained five magazines, one loading tool and ammunition—but no unloading tool. The complicated and delicate mechanism of the *Trommelmagazin* often jammed, and light pressed-steel or

Book Reviews

REMINGTON TIPS by E. Dixon Larson, published by Pioneer Press, Union City, Tennessee. Description: 99 pages, 8½ x 11-inch format, many gun photos and other illustrations, \$4.95.

The first of the Pioneer Press "Tips" series was "Colt Tips," by this same author in 1972: at that time, there were several detailed textbooks on Colt revolvers, but the idea of an inexpensive monograph, with brief comments on the various models, plus some 'tips' on what to look for—and avoid—was a different approach.

REMINGTON TIPS is of a different content, to fill a different need: the definitive Remington handgun text is yet to be written. "Remington Handguns" by Cy and Carol Carr, the pioneering work, is still in print. But none of the later students and collectors have come forth with a more detailed study of these arms. Hence, **REMINGTON TIPS** offers a new reference, with generally large and clear photos. It does have some unsupported statements—serial number ranges of the double derringers, for example—and offers no bibliography or supporting documentation for other production run totals. Nonetheless, it is the best picture reference available at the moment, and the price is reasonable! Charles R. Suydam

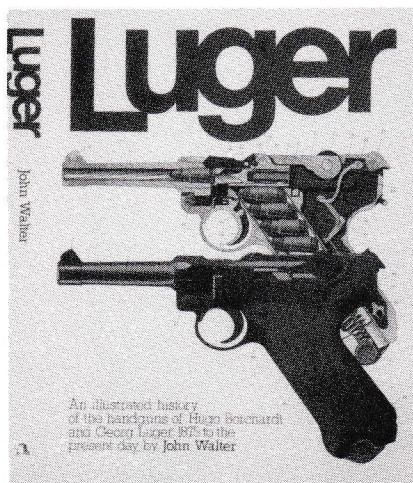
THE HOME GUIDE TO CARTRIDGE CONVERSIONS by George C. Nonte, Jr., published by The Gunroom Press, Highland Park, NJ, \$12.95, 404 pages.

What are "cartridge conversions"—at home or elsewhere? The dust jacket blurb explains: "... each year, ammunition for many older guns ... becomes unavailable or too costly ... **THE HOME GUIDE TO CARTRIDGE CONVERSIONS** tells, step-by-step, how to make cases for practically all calibers, foreign and domestic ... " Cartridge conversions, then, are just that: converting one cartridge to another to create a supply of cartridges of obsolete or hard-to-get

calibers. The frontispiece gives a startling clue to what can be done: it shows 14 other cases made from the venerable .30-06, and 10 others made from the .45-70!

The first 165 pages of the book are a well-organized explanation of basic techniques, and the machinery available and necessary to do this work. Anyone slightly familiar with hand loading of cartridges will have no difficulty following the material presented. Pages 167 to 390 list step-by-step directions for making a great many—"practically all" is close enough—U. S., British, and metric rifle cartridges (roughly 400 of them), plus a new (to this edition) section on 30 pistol cartridges; suggested loads are also included. Following are lists of bullets and cases available in the U. S., a reading list and bibliography (both updated), and a list of suppliers—the latter updated by addition of new names, but some now out of business have not been dropped.

Obviously, the book is intended for shooters, but gun and cartridge collectors will find use for the information and dimensions given when trying to identify unknown calibers. Charles R. Suydam



LUGER by John Walter, is a large (9 x 11½ inches) hardback volume, published by Fortress Publications, Inc., P. O. Box 241, Stoney Creek, Ontario, Canada L8G 3X9.

The main thrust of this work is the

development of the history of the handguns of Hugo Borchardt and Georg Luger from 1875 to the present. It contains 256 pages and over 300 illustrations.

In my opinion, this is the most comprehensive work to date concerning the Luger pistol. The painstaking research that produced it is very apparent. The proof marks shown in it are truly excellent and the discussions of grip strap marks add immeasurably to its value. My only regret, and this has to be a minor consideration, is that it does not contain more photographs.

I feel that the exploration of new material presented in this book and not available in any other source alone justifies its price of \$27.50.

Mr. Walter's "LUGER" rates my heartiest endorsement!

Ralph E. Shattuck

DIGEST OF CARTRIDGES FOR SMALL ARMS PATENTED IN THE UNITED STATES, ENGLAND, AND FRANCE by W. A. Bartlett and D. B. Gallatin, reprinted by Museum Restoration Service.

Originally published by the U. S. Patent Office and written by two examiners of the Patent Office covering the period up to Jan. 1878, this text has been reprinted a number of times in the past. This reprinting in 8¼ x 11-inch format is the finest to date. Softbound with excellent illustrations, it is a must for the collector of cartridges as well as early self-contained cartridge weapons.

The book has four sections consisting of:

- Part I—Cartridges for Small Arms patented in the United States*
- Part II—Cartridges shown in American Patents for Fire-Arms*
- Part III—Cartridges for Small Arms patented in England*
- Part IV—Cartridges for Small Arms patented in France*

A necessary reference-type text available at a very reasonable price of \$5.95 from Museum Restoration Service, Bloomfield, Ontario, Canada K0K 1G0. George G. Kass