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Guns

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FitzGerald
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SHOOTING



RARE
LUGER
CUTAWAY
MODELS

TAMING
SHOTGUN
RECOIL

THE .38 SUPER
VS. .45 AUTO

WIN
A FREE
ALPINE SUPREME
BOLT ACTION RIFLE

Details Inside

Full Color Features
BOY'S RIFLES OF
YESTERYEAR

Test Report

TRIO of NEW
PELLET GUNS

TRIGGER TALK

IN RECENT WEEKS, we have seen our elected representatives in Congress pass laws banning the sale of firearms by mail order, and we must ask ourselves several questions.

1. Why can't politicians say what they mean? For years we have heard them say "We need some kind of control of the sale of firearms." Yet—at least to my way of thinking—there is a vast difference between control and outright ban.

2. During the Dodd hearings in 1964, and in the Ways and Means hearings in the House at a later date, many legislators asked why the two Federal laws, which have been on the books since 1938, had not been enforced. The Treasury Department, which was responsible for enforcement of these laws, led the committees to believe that they would get a report on enforcement efforts, yet none was forthcoming. Why should Congress think that Treasury will do a better job now than they did before?

3. Why must all gun owners be classified as being pawns of, or brainwashed by, the NRA? With one million members, the NRA still has little or no influence over the rest of the 20 million gun owners in the U.S. Why can't the news media believe that 19 million people have minds of their own, and as much a right to "lobby" as the members of the NRA?

* * *

Just received a letter from Bill Schumaker, our Gunsmithing editor, which reads as follows:

"I got into this pro-gun fight so deep here, a lot of people asked me to run for state representative." Enclosed with the letter was a card; "William (Bill) Schumaker, Republican candidate for State Representative." Bill is running as representative of District 2-B in the state of Washington, and we wish him much success.

THE COVER

Pictured on this month's cover is FitzGerald's .38 Special Colt Single Action flat-top, made especially for him by the workmen at Colt's. Note the extra long grips and special sights. This gun, serial #154334, is in the collection of David Brown of Albuquerque, N.M., along with an authenticating letter from Mrs. J. H. FitzGerald.

OCTOBER, 1968

Vol. XIV, No. 8-10

George E. von Rosen
Publisher

Guns

FINEST IN THE FIREARMS FIELD

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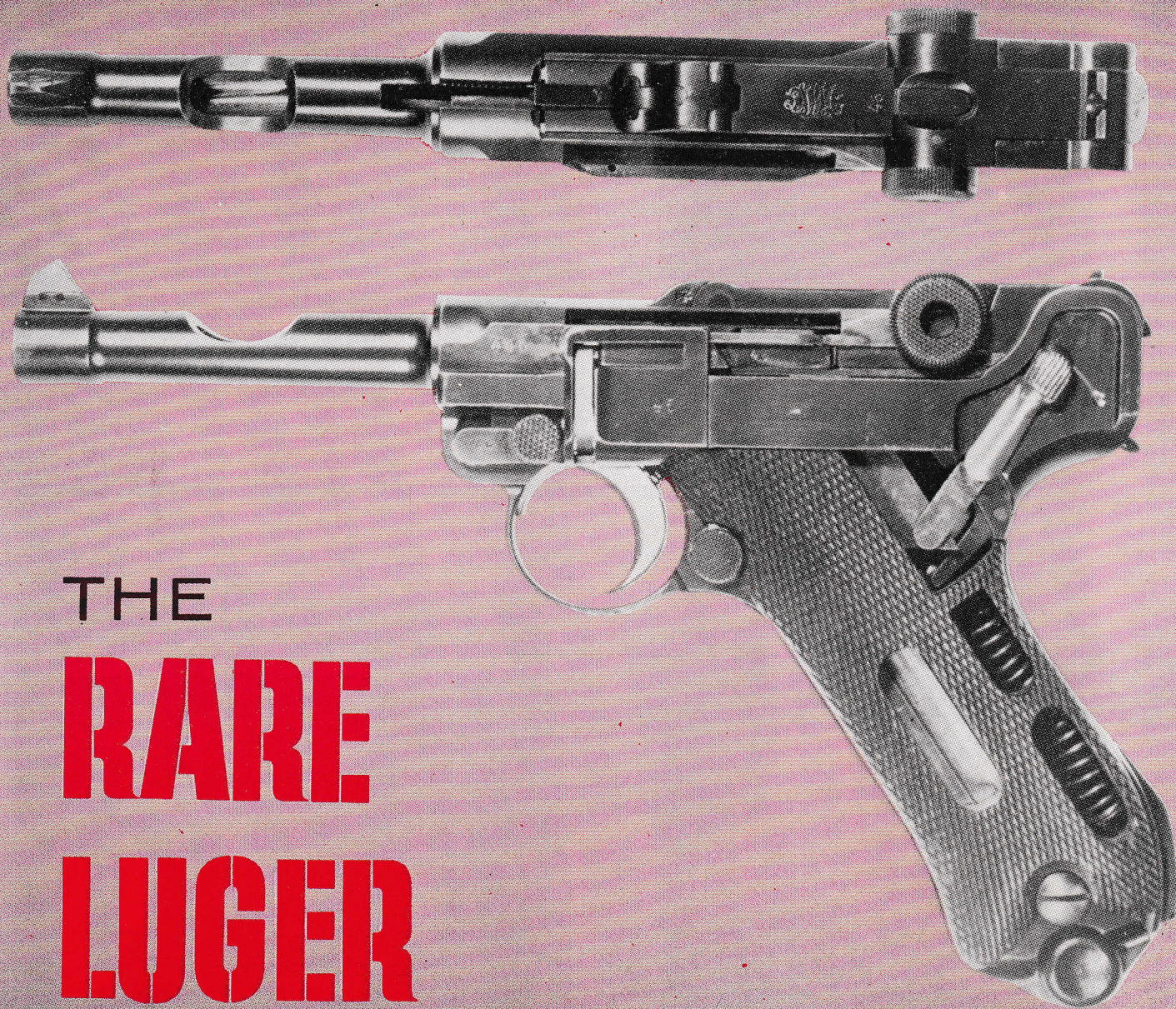
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EDITORIAL OFFICES: Jerome Rakusan, 8150 N. Central Park, Skokie, Ill. 60076, ORchard 5-5602.
 NATIONAL ADV. OFFICES, 8150 N. Central Park Ave., Skokie, Ill., 60076, ORchard 5-6010.

GUNS Magazine is published monthly by Publishers' Development Corp., 8150 N. Central Park Avenue, Skokie, Illinois, 60076. Second class postage paid at Skokie, Illinois, and at additional mailing offices. SUBSCRIPTIONS: One year (12 issues), \$7.50. Single monthly copies, 75¢. CHANGE OF ADDRESS: Four weeks' notice required on all changes. Send old address as well as new. CONTRIBUTORS submitting manuscripts, photographs or drawings do so at their own risk. Material cannot be returned unless accompanied by sufficient postage. PAYMENT will be made at rates current at time of publication and will cover reproduction in any or all GUNS Magazine editions. ADVERTISING RATES furnished on request. Copyright 1968 Publishers' Development Corporation. All rights reserved. Title to this publication passes to subscriber only on delivery to his address.



THE RARE LUGER

CUTAWAY

The DWM cutaway is unique in that it has a removable barrel. This is from the collection of the author.

By RALPH E.
SHATTUCK

AS A LUGER COLLECTOR for twenty years and a fancier for some years more, it has been difficult for me to understand why Georg Luger found it necessary to employ any sales tool in the merchandising of the immortal Luger pistol. But, as a salesman for a large steel company, I can appreciate the value of a product sample coupled with an excellent working knowledge of that product.

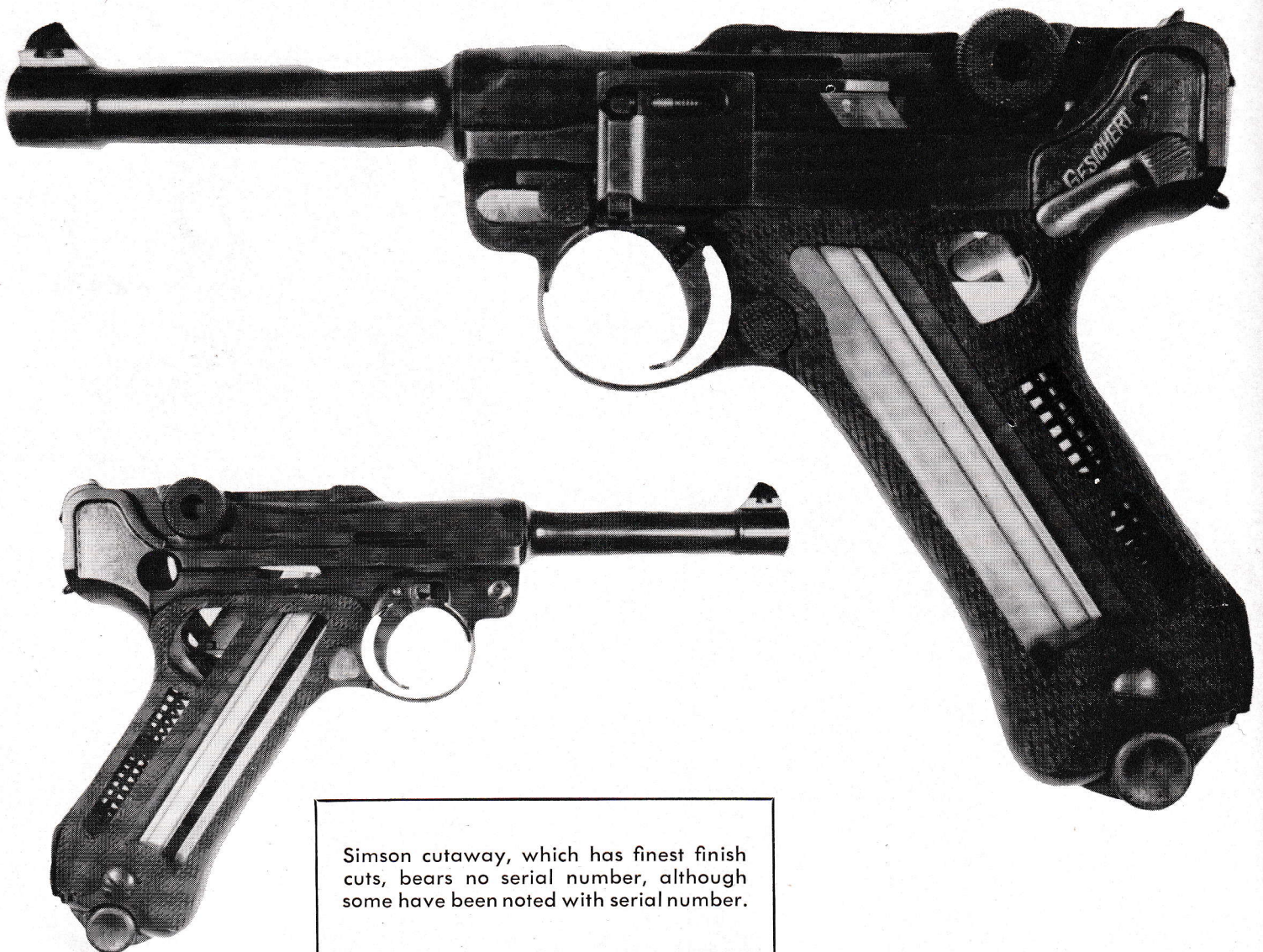
Thus was born the Luger cutaway. Although used primarily as a sample to be displayed and demonstrated to Luger's prospective customers, the

LUGER CUTAWAY

cutaway was also used as an ordnance instruction tool in World War I.

Only a few of these prize pieces were manufactured—no records have been unearthed as to the exact number produced—and even fewer have been recovered by collectors. I am aware of the existence of only five cutaways at the present time.

The cutaways were manufactured at three factories—Mauser, Simson, and DWM. They were taken from the production runs and were functional and mechanically excellent. Although some bore serial numbers, some were produced without numbers; all were proofmarked. Some were originally test pieces and then later converted to cutaways; an example of such a piece is the Mauser shown—note the UB on the chamber. The Simson shown bears no serial number, although I have seen one numbered Simson cutaway. The DWM cutaway is proofed and numbered, bears the



manufacturer's name, and is the only cutaway with a removable barrel. While the Mauser and Simson cutaways do not show their respective producers' names, the manufacturer can be determined by the proofs.

Every cutaway possesses a minimum of at least thirteen cuts; the maximum number of cuts—seventeen—are to be found on the Mauser. The finest finished cuts are borne by the Simson; those on the DWM rank second.

There is contention in some quarters with regard to the existence of a 1900 cutaway; although there is no evidence to support the denial of such a piece, I have no personal knowledge of a cutaway of this vintage.

It is difficult to place a value on these rare collection pieces. However, my closest estimate is that an original factory cutaway would command a price of upward of \$1,000.00 on today's market—with the value increasing as years go by.



Mauser-made cutaway, identified by the proof marks, has "UB" on the chamber. From the collection of Dr. Dale Smith.

break-away indoor birds if one is holding well.

Since this setup is quite likely to be used indoors, we checked its ricochet characteristics. A 3/4" plywood panel was set perpendicular to the line of fire at a range of 20 feet. Safety goggles and leather jacket were donned. The first round produced a spray of shot directly back on the shooter, striking chest and face. Pellets striking exposed skin smarted a bit, but no bruises resulted. Less than 10% of the pellets remained in the target panel, the balance penetrating about half their diameter, then rebounding directly along their original line of flight.

This points out that it is necessary to utilize a loosely hung canvas backstop when Mini-Shells are shot indoors. Shot will rebound from any hard surface and *could* cause injury, especially if safety goggles are not worn.

The question of gas escape arises, since a rigid, non-obturator case is used. We experienced none. The case is, in effect, a short barrel. By the time the shot charge clears the case, pressure is so low there appears to be no tendency toward gas leakage to the rear.

Depending on what you pay for primers and shot, cost of shooting Mini-Shells should average about 1.5¢ per shot. If break-away targets are used, their cost can be amortized over a long period without adding significantly to the cost. That makes for very economical shooting. Charlies new firm: Sport Ammo Corp., 8407 Center Dr., Minneapolis, Minn. 55432 at \$14.95.—George Nonte

Henry Hunting Knives

A good hunting knife is a necessity for the well equipped hunter and certainly is a necessary working tool for the hunter's guide or outfitter. One of the most painstaking tasks for a hunting knife is the caping of rare, hard to get trophies, like the Big Horn Sheep. To do the best job possible a knife must have a special size and shape blade.

A little over a year ago I had the opportunity to visit a friend and one of the master knife makers. Bo Randall of Randall Knives, Orlando, Florida. Hung on his office is one of the largest and most complete knife collections in this country. Bo owns a semi-production factory and Randall

knives are known and used around the world. Fighting knives, made by Randall, are carried by thousands of our service men in foreign countries. Looking over Bo's collection of knives I noticed one made by a California knife maker to whom I had once sent deer horns to be made into handles. Bo surprised me when he told me that he thought this man, D.E. Henry, was the finest craftsman and best knife maker in the world, today. That was high praise from such an expert as Bo Randall.

A short time after my visit in Florida I received a letter and a drawing from D.E. Henry. The drawing was of a knife he proposed to make for me and was really a piece of art by itself. It looked perfect and I okayed it and sent it back. Time passed and I had just about forgotten about this knife when a box arrived from D.E. Henry and in it was my knife. I examined its shape, blade thickness and width, the handle, made of East India stag horn, and the way the guard was made and put on. I found no fault with it in any way. The silver name plate, imbedded in the handle and engraved with my own signature is just one of the things that makes this knife become "The Knife" when I

(Continued on page 75)

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