

LETTERS

SHOOTING TIMES welcomes comment from its readers on any material published in its editorial columns. Letters should be under 200 words and signed. Anonymous letters will not be printed, but names will be withheld upon request. We reserve the right to edit letters for reasons of space. Address letters to: Executive Editor, Shooting Times magazine, News Plaza, P.O. Box 1790, Peoria, IL 61656.

Are New Bolt-Action Rifle Safeties An Improvement?

I haven't seen any reference in *Shooting Times* to the changes Ruger and Remington have made to their bolt-action rifle safeties. A year or so ago, both companies eliminated the bolt-locking feature on their two-way safeties so the chamber can be unloaded with the safety on.

This may have been a commendable decision in the interest of product liability, but I consider it a disaster for hunters. Try carrying one of these new rifles slung on your shoulder through heavy brush or timber, and I guarantee a branch will pull the bolt handle up from its fully locked position, thus disabling the piece.

I discovered this "improvement" the hard way when it cost me the only elk I saw last year. I've since traded my newest Ruger Model 77 for a pre-'64 Winchester and would be interested in comments from your contributing editors on this change.

It wouldn't surprise me if "pre-'84" Rugers and Remingtons become collector's items.

Jack Pollock
Lighthouse Point, FL

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Ponsness/Warren Is Back

IDGAS Enterprises Inc., a new Idaho corporation, has purchased the patents and tooling for all Ponsness/Warren products and has resumed the manufacturing of these high-quality, shell-reloading products. In addition to continued dealer activities, in order to provide better availability and service for the user, all products, parts, and service are now available direct from the factory.

The main elements of the factory direct marketing strategy are national consumer advertising for product awareness, guaranteed source for products and service, and most important, a reduced price for the shooter.

IDGAS Enterprises is introducing a new improved 800 Convertible Shotshell Reloader with interchangeable dies and tooling, new improved crimp starter for all gauges, and primer feed assembly. With a simple change of tooling, this new machine will now load four gauges. This reloader features the same high quality as all Ponsness/Warren products, yet, in keeping with the new lower pricing policy, it is in the \$500 price range.

For further information or to place your order, write: IDGAS Enterprises Inc., 1000 West Hubbard, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814; phone: (208) 664-1596.
IDGAS Enterprises Inc.
Coeur d'Alene, ID

Thanks For The Dumb Crooks

I'm writing to thank Jerry Constantino for his "For Your Information" column. I find it to be very much of interest, and it's especially helpful in preparing "progun ownership" talks and presentations for the general public. As a long-time member of NRA (57 years), some 20 years on the NRA Board of Directors, and a background of 29 years as a Detroit policeman, I like to be prepared with some good arguments on the progun side. It helps a lot when one can throw out some humor along with the statistics. The "dumb crook" items have helped me win several confrontations with antigun people.

Harry Reeves
Andrews, NC

Buck Knives Backs Its Blades

On a recent camping trip, I accidentally broke my folding lock-blade Buck knife No. 110. I broke the blade and bent the handle, rendering the knife completely useless.

I mailed the knife to Buck Knives Inc., requesting that the company replace the blade and, if at all possible, straighten the handle. Only five weeks after I sent in my broken knife, I received a new knife at no charge.

It's nice to know there are still companies offering the public quality products and service.

Paul Whitney
Lancaster, CA

SHOOTING TIMES

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