

Return
to US-aka

Les and Martie Bowman

LB-RANCH

SOUTH FORK
CODY, WYOMING

Feb. 3, 1963

Dear Wayne Leek;

Got the mount drawing today but you did not say whether you had sent one to Dave bushnell or not. I wrote to him and told him I'd airmail if not. Say will you? AS soon as the new mount comes from you I'll put it on Toms gun. He has not been back for a week and with the weather the way its been must have had trouble making his regular calls thru M nt. and Wyo. HE was to try the holster that he was having made over at Sheridan and Daves letter of yesterday said that he would have the holster finished at his holster source out there and forward it to me right quick. Then when your fittings come I'll do some messing around. I want something good for the saggie too.

Have been making cores for 224 bullets this morning and last evening. I have a hell of a time swaging cores to an exact amount and too many of them vary 0.1 gr. But then I weighed fifty Speer 52 gr bullets a while ago and they varied .02 up and .02 down .5 just to check I weighed 50 of the ones I made last fall in B&A dies and that we have been using in the 221 and they ran max of .04 plus and .01 minus. They are actually 52.6 gr. In making these cores today I FEEL a lot that do not swage enough and have put them aside. Will reset the dies sometime and make 50 gr bullets from them. Or 51.5.

Yea, I would think that re sales you would be short of men in the field with ALL round know how. I had your Perk Perkins here owe on a spring bear hunt and he knew less about a rifle than most anyone I have ever seen. Shotgun was qhl.

For over a year and a half now I have been teaching Tom handloading. HE knew absolutely nothing about it before. Also have been teaching him what I know about bench rest stuff. I ordered a set of good handloading stuff for Tom and will help him set it all up some day in his basement. Now, he uses mine here. There is just about nothing that I don't have here in this line. You'll have to stop by someday and see it all and talk awhile. I have a hell of a time planning enough room tho. 14 presses, 65 sets of dies, shotshell presses, swaging presses, 2 chrono's and all the other stuff take room. Got two new benches finished now so they'll hook well in photo's for storie illustrations. I really need 4 more benches but no room at present. Worse than when I was in the aviation business as an engineer. But I quit that end early and took over sales and liked that better.

RE the .230 baby mag Wayne, I am a small (relatively) bore man. I can't see why one has to use the same damn caliber to take an antelope or deer or sheep that he has to to take an elephant or buffalo or such. I use a 22 for cottantails, for why? cause it is plenty big. And on other game I like to fit the gun to the game. the onlt thing I'm finaky about is the bullet I use on game, and the place I place that bullet in the animal.

I-43 states the law says its illegal to use less than 23 caliber, for game.
over

-2-

Heil,I could write a book on the damn gun and why its okay and sales reasons. I had in mind that the low recoil angle yet with the flat ,high vel game bullet and mabe bringing it out in a .270 caliber too on the same case with 130 bullet (we got 3000 with the 130 gr in a trial) would have appeal to certain elements with enough sales potential.

The case alone is a sales appeal.People are just cnnditioned to the belt as being the BEST.The fact it may cost more would only make it better in their mind. The fact that is is better would not have to enter it to make sales.

I just can't understand why someone like me will be so crazy as to fool with stuff like this that takes so much time.Just one damn .270 in the closet would take allt the game in N.A that I'd ever want.

Jack O'C wrote me last week about the small head .280 that Win has just brought out in the lever and 100. I have not seen one as yet but don't think I'd go for it.

Thats enough now Wayne.

Hope that they get one of these pistols out here to me soon to go ahead with.

Best
Les
Les B

SAY,Wayne;; You have some barrels out with 1 in 14 and are to change.If you have one and mabe two of those barrels that you junk and can send them to me I'd like that.P.O. and I may want to play a bit and*F*he can rebore them easy.Mabe one to .230 and one to 6mm.I don't know.Just have an idea.

You don't know but I might just for the hell of it rechamber one to 222 case. Is the action okay for that or the mag???