

**CARE OF
YOUR
SHOTGUN**

L. C. SMITH

"The Double That Sights Like a Single"



WELCOME to the hundreds of thousands of shooters who have joined the ranks of L. C. Smith gun owners during the past fifty years! Your gun bears the most famous name in shotgun history. Shoot it with pride and confidence.

L. C. Smiths manufactured half a century ago are still giving excellent service. They have been handed down from father to son, carrying with them the priceless heritage of sportsmanship. Your gun will give the same long and satisfactory service if you follow a simple, common-sense procedure in its care.

You purchased this firearm for pleasure and it is not our intention to burden you with a complicated procedure for its

maintenance. However, the correct treatment of your gun will greatly increase your enjoyment of it, promoting not only longer service and better performance but also gratifying you with the pride and satisfaction felt by every true sportsman owning a clean, well-kept shooting piece.

DON'T MAKE A SAMPLE GUN OUT OF YOUR NEW L. C. SMITH!

When you have seen the "inside mechanism" of one L. C. Smith—the locks, ejectors, and one-trigger—you've seen them all. Possibly your dealer has a sample gun cut away to show the mechanism and its various functions. At least he has such a picture. Use these to determine how your gun operates. A torn-down gun

never functions quite properly when reassembled, unless the work is done by the factory. If you are tempted to see how your gun works, inspect the sample gun which your dealer has for that purpose.

BEFORE YOU TRY IT OUT!

Your gun was shipped with the inside of the barrels coated with grease. Unless you're prepared to take a sizeable jolt on the first shot, wipe this out.

To assemble your gun, first push the top lever to the right as far as it will go and the trip catches it to hold it in place. Next, attach the barrels, dropping the rib extension down in the slot in the frame which will release the trip allowing the top lever to return to its normal

position, thus locking the bolt. Then, put on the forend. Be sure the catch or spring is set properly in the notch on the loop before applying the pressure. If it binds or goes on hard, it isn't set correctly and forcing may render the spring. It is better not to put on the forend with the hammers down, uncocked.

Perhaps you noticed that the position of the top lever when the gun is closed is slightly off center to the right. This is because of the L. C. Smith Rotary Bolt, a feature of which is the tapered tongue which "bites" in further as it wears, thus always remaining tight. When this occurs, the top lever gradually, over a period of years, works its way to the left to a corresponding off-center position.

TRANSPORTING YOUR GUN!

Always use a gun case. Your new gun will stand terrific punishment of the kind for which it is intended. The barrel will stand several tons of pressure from *within*, but even a fraction of that pressure from the *outside* may cause dents which will render the gun less effective and, in some cases, unsafe. Probably the highest shotgun mortality rate can be traced to carelessness in transportation. A few seasons of bouncing around unprotected in the trunk or back-seat of a car will put a strain on parts not designed to withstand such abuse. There are many types of gun cases available which will provide protection

against this hazard. An investment in one of these cases will pay you well.

IN THE FIELD

The habits of safety and sportsmanlike conduct are undoubtedly yours. Add to these habits those that make for the preservation of your gun's beauty and effectiveness. For example, when crossing fences, acquire the habit of sliding the gun through and laying it flat on the ground. To really play safe, it is wise to break the gun before laying it down. Leaning your gun against a fence may result in a scratched stock or dented barrels by its falling. Attempting to carry the gun over a fence with you invites the same hazards and may also cause you a personal injury.

KEEP THE BARRELS FREE AND CLEAR!

Your new L. C. Smith has been rigidly proof-tested and can safely accommodate several times the load you use. However, if even a slight obstruction occurs, the result is pressure a dozen times stronger than normal. A piece of twig, particles of mud, snow, or other foreign matter may cause a bulged or bursted barrel. Always look through the barrels whether or not the muzzle has been exposed to any possible obstruction. It is also a good idea to see if any obstruction exists before loading at the beginning of the day's shoot. A piece of cleaning rag, etc., might very possibly be there.

If there is a 20-gauge shell

among your shooting companions, watch out for it. It is an all too common occurrence for a 20-gauge shell to be placed in a 12-gauge chamber which goes past the chamber and lodges in the forcing cone. Under a bit of excitement, the shooter sees what appears to be an empty chamber, forgets he has loaded, puts a 12-gauge shell behind the 20 and fires. If at any time you pull the trigger and hear only the hammer click and find an apparently empty chamber upon inspection, don't jump to the conclusion that you have forgotten to load. Look *through* the barrels!

It also goes without saying that you should examine the barrels before loading your gun upon its return to you after a few shots by a fellow shooter.

AFTER A DAY'S SHOOTING

Shotgun barrels should be cleaned after each day's shooting to dislodge the lead and powder fouling which may occur. Remove any beginning of rust and coat with oil to preserve the polished surface. Various methods and materials are used by shooters for this purpose. Below is described one good procedure to follow. You will need a rod with three attachments—a ball shaped wire brush, a felt ball, and a metal eye to which an oiled cloth may be attached.

Push the wire brush through with a circular motion to completely loosen the fouling, rust formation, etc. Remove this residue with the felt ball. Then, using the cloth soaked with any

good gun oil, coat the barrels. If the gun is to be put away for more than a week, coat the barrels with grease. If this is done, the barrels will retain their polish and give a full, evenly distributed pattern throughout the lifetime of the gun.

The stocks used on Hunter-made guns are the finest available. Several years are devoted to thorough and proper seasoning. However, wood is not a stable material. It swells and checks when it receives a severe wetting. This swelling may occur near the locks and is likely to cause a malfunction. Ordinary moisture to which it will be subjected will not prove harmful, but should, however, be wiped off as soon as possible with an oil-soaked cloth.

LUBRICATION OF THE WORKING PARTS

It is well to remember that more damage can be done by over-lubrication than by none at all. Once before the season and once after the season is sufficient—even then very sparingly. The lock plates must first be removed. To do this, first cock the gun and put on safe. Take out the screws located just below the standing breech, being careful not to mix them. Next, release the lock plate screw, the head of which is found towards the rear of the left lock plate. Turn this screw until all the threads clear, and gently tap the head until the opposite plate drops off. Then remove the screw and insert it from the

opposite side and drive off the left plate.

Use a pipe cleaner dipped in a high-grade gun oil and apply thinly to the working parts. Never use an oil can or pour oil into the mechanism, as this would form gum and sludge, and deteriorate the wood of the stock.

In replacing the locks, care should be taken not to jar the trigger mechanism or stock.

IN CASE OF ACCIDENT TO YOUR GUN

The Hunter Arms Company maintains a Service Department in order that owners of Hunter-made guns may be assured of the same high quality of workmanship and materials that are found in new L. C. Smith guns. There-

fore, when an accident happens, send your gun for repairs to the men who made it. In spite of the fact that the Smith gun is remarkably simple in design, only real gun men, who have had years of experience with its manufacture, are qualified to restore the gun to its original superior shooting form.

Too, the material and parts which we use are selected especially for Smith guns because of their high quality. For example, all working parts are of Chrome Vanadium Steel to prevent breakage. A substitute could not give you complete satisfaction. Send your gun to us for reconditioning as well as minor repairs. Always remember, we think as much of your gun as you do!

If in the future you desire any extra equipment such as Automatic Ejectors, Hunter One-Trigger, Beavertail Forend, etc., our Service Department will gladly enter into correspondence with you concerning them, with recommendations and quotation of prices.

The above has been presented with the aim of assisting you in deriving true sportsman's pleasure from your gun. If you will give your gun common-sense care with emphasis on the points mentioned, that pleasure will be yours.

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