

50252-1

THOMAS HUNTER, PREST
R. B. HUNTER, 1ST V. PREST
S. C. HUNTER, 2ND V. PREST

THE HUNTER
ONE-TRIGGER

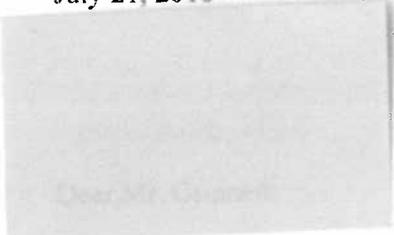
Manufacturers of the
L. C. SMITH
HAMMER, HAMMERLESS AND EJECTORS.
ALSO
THE HUNTER ONE-TRIGGER
GUNS.



A. B. C. CODE 5TH EDITION
CABLE ADDRESS "HUNTER" FULTON

Fulton, N.Y.

July 21, 2010



*L.C. Smith Ideal Grade
Serial Number 56680
Finished February 24, 1950*

Certificate No. 16610

This is the information I have been able to find regarding your L.C. Smith shotgun. The L.C. Smith Gun Company manufacturing records for Serial Number 56680 show that it is a 12 gauge Ideal Grade with 26-inch barrels. It was started on December 20, 1949 and finished on February 24, 1950. It was shipped on February 28, 1950 to the Thomas & Howard Company (no address provided). The letters FWSP in the ledger indicate that it has a featherweight frame and a single sighting plane rib. No other information is available for this serial number. The beavertail forend is not mentioned in the records. The Research Division assumes no responsibility for the recorded accuracy.

The Ideal Grade was next to the least expensive Field Grade L.C. Smith shotgun. It had the same lock mechanism and rotary cross bolt locking system found on the highest grades of L.C. Smith shotguns. The Ideal Grade was introduced in 1913 at a price of \$37. Serial Number 56680 would have retailed for \$138 in 1950, which was the final year of production.

The Ideal Grade was available only with London fluid steel barrels, and LONDON STEEL was often stamped on the underside of the barrels. The top of the right barrel was usually roll-stamped L.C. SMITH IDEAL GRADE while the left barrel was stamped HUNTER ARMS CO. M'F'R'S FULTON, N.Y. U.S.A. During the latter years of production, only the right barrel was roll-stamped. No markings were placed on the barrels of some of the 1949 and 1950 shotguns. Some variations to these markings have been reported. The barrels were rust blued.

The locks were fully engraved with an oak leaf and acorn design, and the outside borders were engraved in a zigzag, stitched pattern. Both lock plates were marked L.C. SMITH. The frame had simple line engraving on the front, top, and bottom and the oak leaf and acorn pattern continued on the breech balls. Some variations in these patterns have been reported. The frame and locks were color case-hardened to add strength and beauty. The stocks were usually made from American walnut. The stock and forend were checkered.

Ideal Grade shotguns were manufactured in 10, 12, 16, and 20 gauges and .410. Total production during the period of 1913 to 1950 was 25,812 with 17,351 12 gauge shotguns.

The L.C. Smith Collectors Association invites you to keep up with the organization's events and latest information on shooting and collecting L.C. Smith shotguns by visiting www.lcsmith.org.

Sincerely,

James Stubbendieck
Research Division
L.C. Smith Collectors Association

