



ARMY AND NAVY  
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS



"WITH THE COLORS"

Friday 11-2, 1917

Dear Marie,

I managed to get hold of a Colt instruction sheet and will try to give you a clear explanation of it.

(Seeing as how you are only a girl.)

I am going into detail so as to be sure you will know how to take good care of it — you know how "fussy" I am about my "junk."

Let's <sup>know</sup> what the names of the main parts of the pistol are. On the second page is a diagram showing:



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- No 1. The receiver.  
 2. " slide  
 3. " barrel  
 21. " Retractor spring  
 guide.  
 20. The retractor spring.  
 7. " Firing pin.  
 8. " Main spring.  
 9. " Main spring guide.

When the gun is taken  
 apart you will have  
 the loose parts shown  
 on the third page.

The firing pin — 7, 8 + 9 —  
 will not always fall out.

The end of the barrel  
 where the cartridge is "seated"  
 when fired is the chamber.



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(3)

The other end is the muzzle end.

The magazine - No 23 - is the little box that holds the six cartridges. It must never be in the gun (empty or not) when the gun is being taken apart or put together.

Read third and fourth pages, but do it this way:

1. Remove the magazine.
2. Pull back slide just as if you were going to shoot. This will throw out a cartridge that may be in the chamber of the barrel.



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3. Remove all cartridges from magazine and replace it in gun. Then pull the trigger — just as if you were shooting. When it snaps, the "hammer" is "uncocked."
4. Remove magazine.
5. Hold the pistol in left hand exactly as if you were going to shoot, as shown on fourth page, except, keep your thumb down in normal position and not on the slide. The instruction sheet says to hold the slide back with the left thumb but your hands are too weak to do it this way.

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Instead — (Right hand)  
Put thumb and  
index fingers on the muzzle  
end of the slide so as  
to push it back instead  
of pulling at the rear.

Push it back far  
enough so that the  
muzzle end of the barrel  
shows as in picture on p. 4.  
Now, if you placed your  
thumb and fingers right,  
you can hold the slide  
back and at the same  
time turn the barrel to  
the right a quarter turn,  
so that the <sup>3</sup>catches  
show, (as I have marked.)

Let the slide come



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forward and the gun  
 will fall apart, exactly  
 as shown on p. 3.  
Note position of

No. 21 and 20 in

No. 1 and 2. Also 7, 8, 9

in No. 2.

Now remove the barrel  
 from the slide by turning  
 the barrel a quarter turn  
 to the left and drawing it  
 out to the rear.

Put the cleaning rod in  
 the barrel with its ring  
 end at the muzzle.  
 Put a small patch of

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no lint

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soft cloth in the slot and  
moisten it well with  
"Hoppes' Nitro Powder  
Solvent - No. 9." Draw  
this thru the barrel  
several times — always  
from the chamber toward  
the muzzle.

Now wipe dry and apply  
3-1 oil in the same manner,  
leaving a thin coat in the  
barrel. The first drop  
cleans only — 3-1 oil  
lubricates and  
prevents rusting. PLEASE

Now before you put the  
gun together be sure there  
are no bits of lint or  
threads in barrel or working  
parts.

(B)

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Read the above instructions  
Chinese fashion and you  
will know how to put the  
pistol together. Put the  
magazine - empty - in  
last and ~~take~~ take the  
whole outfit to bed with you.

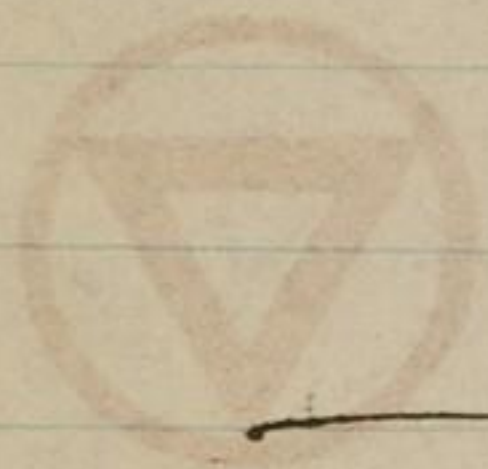
Always be  
careful to keep dirt out of  
the barrel. So don't put  
gun in a dirty sweater pocket.

Don't let anyone  
stand at your right hand  
where he may get hit in  
the eye by the empty shell  
which is thrown out.

If the gun is ice-cold,  
warm it up before cleaning.

"A gun is always loaded."  
Do I get your goat at last?  
Forrest.





See other letters.

See other letters.



Miss Eva Maria Shaw  
389 Highland Co.  
Bellevue, Wis.

From

F. W. Basset  
Co. A-6 7Bm P.C.  
Ft. Leavenworth,  
Kansas.

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OF THE  
YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATIONS  
OF THE UNITED STATES  
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