

SPECIAL METHOD FOR LEARNING LEWIS GUN MECHANISM.

When learning the mechanism of the Lewis gun, learners have often been noticed holding such parts as the body cover, or the bolt, upside down whilst examining them. This generally creates a confused idea in the minds of those learning the mechanism. In order to visualise and thoroughly understand the action of the pawls under the body cover, or how the striker post works in the cam slot of the bolt, it is necessary to hold each of them above one's head **and look up at them from below.**

This particularly applies to the action of the striker post in the bolt. In order to clearly understand this action, the bolt, the feed-arm actuating stud, and the rack should be assembled; then with the left hand holding the feed-arm actuating stud, and the right hand holding the rack, the learner should hold these assembled parts well above his head and look upwards. The right hand can then move the rack forwards or backwards when the action of the striker post in the cam slot, and the consequent forward movement resulting in the rotation of the bolt and the locking action of the four resistance lugs, can be clearly observed.

If two people hold the completely assembled gun high up whilst the instructor draws back the cocking-handle, allowing it to go slowly forward, the learner by standing on the right hand side of the gun and looking upwards and under the magazine can thus clearly see and understand how the dummy cartridges do not drop, but are forced (with a positive feed) to leave the magazine, and how the loading of the gun is accomplished.