

### Army Pistol Shoots Colors

A DECIDED novelty in the way of pistols has been perfected for use by the United States Signal Corps for the purpose of communicating at night. In appearance, the pistol resembles the old-fashioned dueling pistol except that it is lighter and smaller. Cartridges firing spurts of flame of various hues are used for ammunition, the color of the flame carrying a definite message to the distant lookout.

### A One-Pound Diamond

THE great diamond mines of the Transvaal have been revealing their age-long secrets for many generations, but the greatest surprise of all came on the twenty-fifth of January, 1905, when



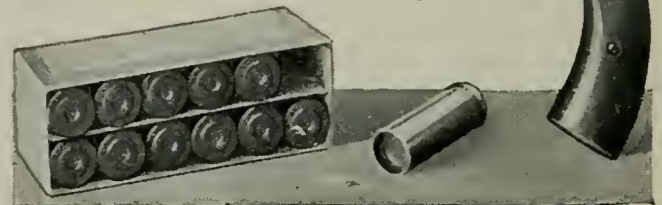
One and one-third pounds was the weight of the famous Cullinan Diamond. It was cut into two large gems and over a hundred smaller brilliants

the Cullinan stone, afterward named *Star of Africa* by George V, was discovered. When the excited owners placed the colossal gem on the scales they found it weighed 621.2 grams, about one and one-third pounds. It was more than three times the size of any diamond ever found before or since, weighing  $3,025\frac{3}{4}$  carats, and of the finest quality.

King Edward VII was presented with the stone on his birthday in 1907. Later it was placed in the hands of the famous Amsterdam firm of I. J. Asscher and Company who cut it into two large stones and over a hundred smaller ones. The larger jewel has the exceptional number of seventy-four facets being a drop

brilliant of 516½ carats. It ornaments the royal scepter of England. The smaller stone is a brilliant of 309<sup>3</sup>/<sub>16</sub> carats and is the central figure of the English crown.

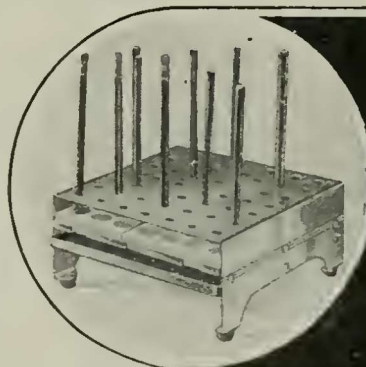
Only six months were required for cutting the splendid stone, advantage being



An army pistol which shoots colored light taken of the planes of cleavage.

### Disinfecting School Pencils

IT has long been recognized that the school pencil is a fruitful source of disease. The pencil points are usually given a bath by the child's placing it in his mouth to soften the lead. Then the pencil is passed on to another child, who does the same, thereby spreading all kinds of communicable diseases. The pencil is disinfected by a new system, through the action of formaldehyde gas upon the bacteria.



The lead-pencil of every child is a germ-carrier. Disinfect the pencil with formaldehyde gas, as shown by the picture in the circle, and the spread of disease in schools will be reduced