

How fast does a bullet travel as it speeds through the air? Almost as fast as Superman? This question was addressed by Dennis O'Toole in a paper presented before the North Carolina Collegiate Academy of Science meeting in Winston on April 2.

The St. Andrews Presbyterian College graduate reported on experiments he conducted in the basement of the college science building. Using a

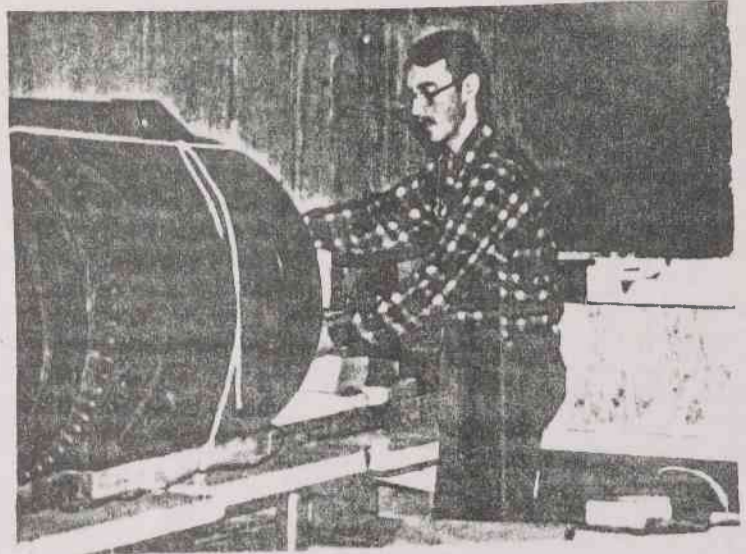
combination of scientific equipment, fabricated devices and his own ingenuity, O'Toole devised a method of simultaneously measuring the velocity of a bullet electronically and its rotation photographically as it sped down the 100 foot range he had constructed.

The graduate of Bishop McInnes High School in Winston-Salem initiated and conducted this project during the month of January, which is

set aside at St. Andrews for students to become deeply involved in a single course. When needed, guidance and suggestions were provided by Dr. David E. Wetmore, St. Andrews chemistry professor, who has a recreational interest in fire arms and ammunitions dating from his army days.

The project focused on the variation of the rate of rotation with different linear velocities of a bullet, which were obtained by using bullets of different loads.

Dr. Donald G. Barnes, chairman of the math, sci-



DENNIS O'TOOLE works with the apparatus he devised to determine the speed of a bullet (Photo by Rooney Coffman).

ence division at St. Andrews and member of the North Carolina Academy of Science, helped to arrange for the presentation of this paper. Afterwards he observed, "This has been O'Toole's project from beginning to end. He has done a fine job of taking the available resources and

molding them into a system which would generate the data he needed.

As for O'Toole himself, he is already considering new experimental techniques which can be used to improve the values he has already obtained.

McDonald Appointed For Drama

'Strike at the Wind' had the type of script I would have offered to top box office star Clint Eastwood," commented Arthur McDonald to the board of directors of Historical Robeson, Inc. following his appointment as director of the outdoor drama.

McDonald's praise was not confined to the script. He was also pleased with the intimacy of the amphitheater. "The audience will feel a part of the action without being overwhelmed by it as is often the case in the cavernous settings of some of the other outdoor dramas."

Since 1961 McDonald has been a member of the theater faculty at St. Andrews Presbyterian College. He earned the Bachelor of Arts degree in history at the University of Georgia and the Bachelor of Divinity degree at Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, Va. He also holds a Master's degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and will soon receive a Doctor of Philosophy degree in theater from the University of Indiana.

McDonald has directed 35 major play productions, ranging from Greek tragedies to Shakespeare to the works of modern playwrights. Most of these plays have been part of college theater programs, first at Converse College,

Spartanburg, S.C., then at St. Andrews. He has had two years experience producing drama on money-making basis leading a summer repertory company in Montreal.

His experience includes travel-eight trips to Great Britain in the last seven years-and work with outdoor drama. He worked two years for the successful outdoor drama "Unto These Hills," the story of the Cherokee nation, first as an actor, then as stage manager.

In outlining his plans to the board, McDonald promised to make every effort to cast Indians in Indian roles, whites in white roles, and blacks in black roles.

"You have an educated tri-racial population quite capable of handling major roles," he added.



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