

Research and Development does not recommend this treatment for large surfaces such as sights, triggers, etc., because it is believed that the finish is not bright enough to be acceptable.

#### 16 and 20 Gauges

Eight pilot 16 gauge guns have been assembled and gallery-tested. With Remington ammunition, results were satisfactory, but with Winchester magnum, Federal magnum, and Winchester light loads, feeding failures were encountered. It was found that the shells were catching on points on the barrel support extending into the receiver. When this was corrected and the guns retested, a big improvement was found. Ten additional guns are now being tested.

Forty-five 20 gauge guns have been assembled, and, following the experience with the 16 gauge guns referred to above, they have been modified to remove the barrel support points. Gallery test results are not yet available.

The warehouse schedule on both guns remains as previously reported. The Sales Department will field-test the guns whenever they are available, and should have them by September 1 at the latest.

#### Power Cone Development

Because of the continued general development program referred to above, Research and Development has not yet turned guns over to DED for installation of Power Cones. It is now expected that these may be available to DED by the end of July. At the last meeting, another suggestion was made that DED start with guns having all of the features they believe desirable, and add to these guns a carrier latch. It has been decided that further exploration of this possibility will be deferred until completion of the test with the guns to be furnished by Research and Development. If difficulty is encountered here, the second possibility will be re-considered.

It was reported for the information of the committee that the Higgins Model 60 has the functional equivalent of a Power Cone. Firing tests at Ilion indicate the performance is similar to that of the Sportsman-58 with a Power Cone. Although it is not known what patent coverage may be sought on this device, the Associate Patent Attorney is of the opinion that no coverage can be obtained which will interfere with our use of the Power Cone.