

4. Increase the bolt handle detent. There have been occasions of lost bolt handles.

Due to normal manufacturing variations, there will be some differences in the ease with which bolt handles can be removed. It is believed, however, that if the average detent were increased, there would be many cases when it would be difficult to remove the bolt handle when desired.

5. Improve inspection of Dial-A-Matic Devices. There have been instances of guns shipped with improperly adjusted Dial-A-Matic caps.

While there may have been some instances in early production, it is believed that the procedures and inspections now in force will make such occurrences very rare.

6. Strengthen the carrier release to avoid breakage. It is believed that carrier release life is acceptable. No opportunity exists at present for an increase in strength without impairment of function.

7. Improve grip cap appearance. This matter is under active investigation. Samples of grip caps with present doghead design, molded in plastic rather than in metal, are expected in about two weeks.

16 and 20 Gauge Guns

The increase in ejector engagement reported last time has been accomplished. To decrease the force when shooting magnum shells (Winchester), the size of the orifices on heavy setting of the Dial-A-Matic cap has been increased slightly. The making of these changes together with the delay in the receipt of Winchester magnum shells for testing, prevented meeting of the November warehouse schedule.

In the meantime, field testing of five 16 gauge guns by the Sales Department in Bridgeport, showed generally excellent performance, but with four of the five guns showing failures to connect, totaling about 1 per cent. Examination of these guns at Ilion has failed to uncover the cause for this difficulty, except in the case of one gun which had a metal chip lodged between the