

MODEL 870

28 and 410 Gauges

Preliminary information was furnished to the Treasurer's Department by the Ilium Plant on February 11. The economic study by Treasurer's should therefore be available at the time of the next meeting.

SHOTGUN FINISHES

At the time of introduction of black oxide finishing, the surface preparation was an important part of the approved finish. This involved the Supersheen treatment in order to eliminate traces of polishing marks. With occasional exceptions, the capacity of the Supersheen equipment has been sufficient to permit all Sportsman-58 - 12 gauge shotguns to be processed in this manner. 83

With the introduction of the 16 and 20 gauge guns, the capacity of the equipment is exceeded, and it has been necessary to substitute a wire brush treatment for the Supersheening as surface preparation. It was agreed by the Ilium Plant and Research and Development that this does not produce quite as fine a finish as the Supersheen process, but the difference is so small that no one has questioned the appearance of the 16 and 20 gauge guns.

Supersheening has not proven to be a very satisfactory production operation, and investigation is now under way on a number of alternate preparatory treatments. In view of the promise which some of these hold and the unsatisfactory experience with Supersheen, the Ilium Plant would not recommend the acquisition of additional Supersheen capacity at this time.

The Ilium Plant and Research and Development recommended that in the immediate future the Supersheen equipment be used to the extent of its capacity, that wire brushing be used as surface preparation for the remainder of the shotgun line, and that efforts to develop a more satisfactory preparatory treatment be continued. The committee concurred in this recommendation.