

Although the Sales Department concurred in the adoption of Plan 3 because of the outcome of the economic study, they would still prefer to have the small gauges in the Model 870. The possibility has been suggested that elimination of consideration of an A Grade gun might make this economically justified. To check this possibility, a revised forecast has been prepared by Sales based on the ADL as the least expensive grade and has been submitted to N. F. Larsen for restudy.

To reduce costs by use of a common receiver size, J. K. Hamil suggested the possibility of using a steel lined aluminum barrel like that used on the Model 572 lightweight. Sales was receptive to this suggestion and the possibility will be explored in more detail.

Fore-end

The revised fore-end for the A grade guns has been approved, tooling should be ready for try-out December 9. Since this change was adopted without obsolescence, assembly of guns for the new fore-end should start late in January 1958.

SPORTSMAN-58

Ejector

A project authorizing the change to the new ejector has been approved. Because of the run-out of parts in process, it is now expected that the assembly of guns with the new ejector will start in April or May 1958.

In anticipation of this change, machining of breech blocks with the necessary revisions in the ejector slot will start in December 1957. Revised breech blocks can be used with the present ejectors. The new ejector, however, can not be used with the old breech block and hence it will be necessary to carry the old style ejector as a spare part, for all guns shipped prior to about January 1, 1958.

Magazine Spring

Some difficulty has been encountered in the field with Sportsman-58 guns in that the loaded length of some Federal shells and our own buckshot loads is too great to permit loading two shells in the magazine. As a method of overcoming this difficulty,