

Ilion Minute No. 5, 1959

INTEGRAL ACTION BAR AND SLIDE
(MODELS 870, 878 and SPORTSMAN-58)

The Research & Development Department displayed and described an integral action bar and slide for Models 870, 878 and Sportsman-58 shotguns. The unit comprises an action bar closed at the breech end by an integral bridge portion, and a slide block braised upon the closed bridge portion. By combining the action bar and slide a more rigid construction is obtained, with estimated 100% increased life. Collateral benefits are increased extractor life to the extent of 30%, and virtual elimination of impact damage to receiver rails.

Research & Development reports that drawings have been made, and are presently out for vendor quotation. An effort will be made to incorporate this design by January 1960.

The Committee is strongly in favor of this improvement, assuming favorable economics and performance are experienced.

SPORTSMAN-58 - IMPROVED CARRIER LATCH

The Research & Development Department displayed an improved carrier latch incorporating a more rigid tab on the carrier and a more rugged leaf carrier latch spring. The modifications have been made to overcome weaknesses noted in consumers' guns.

It is indicated that improvements will not significantly change cost of the carrier latch assembly.

The following action was taken -

Decision

The Operations Committee, Ilion Division approves the proposed modifications to the carrier latch, on the basis of necessity, and indicated insignificant cost increase.

CENTER FIRE RIFLES

SPORTER STOCKS FOR MODELS 721 and 722 RIFLES

The Research & Development Department displayed a redesigned sporter stock with cheekpiece which can be made from present Model 721 and Model 722 stock blanks.

The Model 721 rifle shown was also equipped with a 20" barrel. It is the opinion of the Research & Development Department that sporters with 20" barrels are feasible for all Model 721 rifles, including the 300 H&H caliber. The Sales Department reserved decision on shortening center fire bolt action rifle barrels to 20".