

flat bolt handle; an 18-1/2" barrel, with attached raised sighting rib; and a lightweight Mannlicher type stock, now in wood but slated for nylon manufacture. Total prototype weight is 5-1/4 pounds. Weight with nylon stock is estimated at approximately 4-1/2 pounds.

Currently, layouts are being made to investigate the feasibility of feeding rimmed cases such as the 44 Remington Magnum and 30 Winchester. Use of rimmed cases will require redesign of the extractor, bolt head, receiver and barrel. No such problems are entailed with the rimless 308 cartridge.

The question of recoil with the 308 cartridge was discussed. It is the general feeling that the shooter will accept the greater recoil to gain the advantage of lighter weight. A recoil reducing butt plate may be desired for this item.

The Sales Department expresses approval of the XC-13 concept, and requests that the 22 Remington "Jet" Magnum be added to calibers being investigated.

COMMITTEE ACTION: The Committee is in favor of continuing work on the XC-13 concept.

Cost figures for this item will be prepared as a basis for determining whether this item will be added to the Development Schedule.

MODEL 700 BOLT ACTION RIFLE

A sample Model 700 rifle in "A" Grade was displayed by Research & Development. This prototype includes a new form of safety lever, disposed at the side of the action tang. Reposition of the safety involves redesign of the trigger mechanism housing, lever and cam. The Sales Department wishes to make further review of the safety at Bridgeport before approval is complete.

The prototype Model 700 has been modified by removal of wood adjacent to the receiver sight mounting screws. This change was requested by the Sales Department to facilitate field mounting of receiver sights without wood cuts. The Research & Development Department considers that the contemplated removal of wood is poor structural practice, and further states a conviction that not more than 10% of bolt action rifles are eventually fitted with receiver sights. In view of the structural strength loss, and poorer overall gun appearance resulting from receiver sight mounting cuts in the prototype, the Sales Department will accept the higher, continuous wood line of earlier Model 700 samples.