

FIREARMS

The meeting was principally devoted to a review of long range product development plans with the first presentation by the Manager of Firearms Research and Development.

Exhibit 1 represents a concept for a bolt action center fire rifle to accommodate caseless ammunition. The bolt action rifle would be the simplest to design. Since the transition to caseless ammunition would be gradual, the design must also be adaptable for present ammunition with minimum changes in parts.

The concept would provide space in the Stock for recoil reduction features, possibly electric ignition or any other special adaptations which may develop.

This development must go hand in hand with that for the ammunition.

Committee Comments:

The only justification for such a program is to provide the customer with better performance. Lower cost to the consumer would also be important; however, based on present concepts, indications are there may not be a reduction in ammunition costs.

Exhibit 2 covers the concept of caseless ammunition for automatic guns.

Exhibit 3 covers the proposed use of formed laminates for Stock and Fore End construction.

The process for formed laminates was described and sample half sections of a Fore End were shown to the Committee. Formed laminates may provide a simulated wood which could be used with the Nylon 66 action.