

SPORTSMAN-58, 16 & 20 Gages

Arms Design expects to complete model testing for final release of the design of 16 and 20 gages, May 1.

Model drawings have been released for the processing of the 16 and 20 gage parts. Changes to the 16 gage are minor and parts from the previous pilot run are for the most part available. The balance of the components can be completed so pilot assembly and testing can start in May. 83

In order to strengthen the 20 gage Breech Block to overcome breakages, it was necessary to reduce the width of the slot which affected the Slide, Operating Handle, and Locking Block. The dimensioning is dependent upon the relation of the slot to the machining cuts and particularly to the Bolt face for heading, therefore, the slot had been used as the locating point when processing the M/870 parts. In order to produce the 20 gage parts, it will be necessary to secure new branches and change locating blocks on the fixtures. The Natco Special Machines is used for both the M/11-'48 and M/870 processing. The release of the machine for altering probably must be held until the vacation shutdown.

The other related parts can be handled by additional operations. The pilot assembly and testing of 20 gage is, therefore, being set for September.