

Fore-end

N. F. Larsen had submitted a report at the last meeting (see Arms Minute No. 7, 1957) showing that the vertically grooved ADL type fore-end for the Model 870AP would cost 66 cents more than the present type, and that, on the basis of forecasted quantities, an additional volume of 2,400 guns would be required to offset this increased cost. These figures were based on a split of 80 per cent AP grade guns and 20 per cent ADL. These figures were later revised informally based on the current calendar-year forecast, to show that sales of an additional quantity of approximately 2,000 guns would be required, to break even.

W. H. Foster recommended the adoption of the vertically grooved ADL-type fore-end at no increase in price, and stated that the Sales Department would increase its forecasts by 2,000 guns if this change were approved.

The committee was prepared to accept the Sales recommendation except for a concern that this change might result in sufficient reduction in the distinction between the AP and ADL grades to cause a significant shift in the ratio of sales of the two grades. This would result in a reduction in earnings unless it was accompanied by a further attendant increase in sales of the model. The Sales Department was therefore requested to submit estimates, not only of the total sales of the Model 870 with and without the fore-end change, but also of the quantities of sales expected in the AP grade and in the higher grades. With this information N. F. Larsen will prepare another study showing the effect of the change.

Magazine Cap

The Sales Department reaction to the proposed design submitted at the last meeting by Research and Development was unfavorable. Since there is no presently evident way of producing an acceptable cap at a saving using powdered metal techniques, Research and Development is tabling this proposal.

MODELS 870 AND 11-48 - MAGAZINE PLUG

The Production Department requested that the Operations Committee authorize a change in Arms Standards, removing the printed instruction label from the magazine plug. The standards would then conform to present practice. The committee concurred.