

A Grade

As requested at the last meeting, Research and Development had prepared a list of possible changes which could be made to the Sportsman-58 ADL to produce an A Grade gun. Cost information had been obtained from the Plant on the change in direct cost for some of these items and these reductions in direct cost are listed following the items.

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|---|--------|
| 1. Omit checkering of stock and fore-end  | \$ .25 |
| 2. Omit comb cut  | -      |
| 3. Omit grip cap  | .28    |
| 4. Omit receiver decoration   | .03    |
| 5. Omit Dial-A-Matic magazine cap and use regular Model 870 cap with a single gas hole vent suitable for medium field loads                               | .45    |
| 6. Omit carrier release mechanism and instead use the Model 870 carrier with magazine follower release arrangement as in the original experimental design | .65    |
| 7. Omit magazine follower latch assembly  | .52    |
| 8. Reduce number of barrel combinations   | -      |
| 9. Omit bolt return plunger and bolt return spring  | -      |
| 10. Use lower cost butt plate material  | -      |

The reduction in direct cost for the six major items would be \$2.18 for 12 gauge. Since the magazine follower latch assembly is not now used in the 16 and 20 gauge, the weighted reduction of cost for all three gauges would be \$1.98. This reduction in direct cost is not sufficient to support a reduction of \$13.50 in retail price as suggested by the Sales Department, and furthermore, the functioning of the gun would be adversely affected by some of these changes. It was felt, therefore, that this approach was unsuitable.

However, as requested, the Sales Department had prepared the following tentative forecast which shows clearly the advantage of having the Sportsman-58 A Grade available for 1959.