

redesign. Research and Development was therefore requested to investigate this matter in greater detail with the Sales Department and to report their findings at the next meeting.

MAPLE STOCKS AND FORE-ENDS

The Ilion Plant reported that control of bleaching of walnut stocks has proved quite difficult and that even satisfactorily bleached stocks tend to darken with age. They have therefore produced some sample stocks from maple and one sample was shown at the meeting. Detailed cost estimates are not yet available, but present indications are that the use of maple for light colored stocks might reduce costs by approximately \$.50 per gun. The appearance was considered sufficiently satisfactory to justify a more extended test for which 200 blanks have been ordered and should be received by the middle of May.

GENERAL

ARMS STUDY

As a result of a presentation to Management on April 25 by the Development Engineering Division, a list of possible changes to the Arms line was presented for consideration by the Operations Committee. Some of these items are already under active study so were deleted from this list. The others were rearranged by types and in order of priority established by Sales. This revised listing is as follows:

Arm Fire

- R1 Larger caliber (25 caliber? "Poor man's Varminter")
- R2 Boy's Rifle.

This item has previously been rejected by the Operations Committee on the basis that modification of the Model 514 to produce a boy's rifle would increase cost but selling price could not be increased. DED has certain ideas which they believe will reduce cost. They will prepare preliminary product costs and investment estimates.