

The Plant commented that the Model 878 has desirable functional features which are not found in the Sportsman-58, and we should look two to three years ahead and realize that the added features of the Model 878 may make it necessary to raise the grade of this gun to obtain additional profit from the line.

The Committee feels that feasibility of a 3" Magnum Model 878 has been demonstrated. No further work will be undertaken pending a decision and authorization to add this item to the line.

SPORTSMAN-58

3" Magnum

The Plant reports that feeding problems with roll crimp 3" Magnum shells has delayed production of Magnum guns. Design change from a special action bar to the regular production 12 gauge unit corrected most feeding problems. A thin section in the magazine follower required sorting of parts. After several delays, production was released at the end of April.

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The warehouse schedule is revised as follows -

	<u>March 3, 1959 Schedule</u>	<u>May 5, 1959 Schedule</u>
March 1959	300	251 Actual
April "	(As required by Sales)	141 Actual
May "		300

Research & Development reported a pilot test of 10 Sportsman-58 3" Magnum guns having latest modifications. On functioning test each gun was fired through 175 rounds, using 7 different types of Remington and Western ammunition. Over-all performance was 99.1% perfect with two guns being fired without any malfunctions. The worst sample had four malfunctions for a performance rate of 97.8%.

Three guns were continued in endurance firing in shooting jacks. Two were fired to 1,700 rounds and the third to 3,550 rounds. It was observed that heavy Magnum loads limit extractor life to a figure of 950 to 1,700 firings. Slide breakage occurred in 2,800 rounds. Cracks developed in test gun bolts but these parts did not fail. Receiver cracking did not occur.

The Research & Development Department considers the endurance life of the Sportsman-58 Magnum to be approximately half that of the normal Sportsman-58 chambered