

Ilion Minute No. 3, 1959

XR-3 RIFLE

The Sales Department expresses concern over the sales possibilities of this item pointing out that the auto-ejection single shot is a model of doubtful sales appeal, as indicated by reported poor sales of the Winchester Model 66.

Research & Development defined the possibilities of converting the XR-3 rifle to a clip-feed autoloader at low additional cost. The possibilities of producing an autoloader for sale under current market prices were discussed.

Sales requested that a sample be prepared having the XR-3 action, a steel barrel and the Model 514 stock. Research & Development will prepare the sample.

The Committee agreed that apart from preparing the sample gun for Sales review, there should be no further Research & Development work on this item at this time. The Plant will supply the Treasurer's Department with costs from which economics will be prepared on the XR-3 rifle as a single shot and as a clip-feed autoloader, and in light of these economics the Sales Department will reach a decision on the XR-3 concept.

NEW OPEN SIGHTS FOR MODEL 572A and MODEL 552A RIFLES

The Plant has authorized the new Model 572ADL front and rear sights for Models 572A and 552A rifles, pursuant to Committee approval contained in Ilion Division Minute No. 2, 1959. Parts list and model drawings are being changed. Pilot guns are being tested for point-of-impact and as soon as tests are completed, Production will be authorized to use the new sights. Date for first production use is estimated to be in early May 1959.

RIFLES WITH TELESCOPIC SIGHTS

The Sales Department informs the Committee that it is considering possibilities of offering our rim fire rifles with telescopic sights. It is contemplated that a four-power telescope with tip-off receiver mount could be offered with a new rifle at \$10.00 additional list price for the combination.

It is reported that Sears Roebuck and others who offer rifle-telescope combinations are selling more rifles with telescopes than rifles with iron sights. The offering of the telescopic sights seems to stimulate rifle sales.

Possible sources of telescopic sights were discussed.

This item will be retained in the agenda for report by Sales after further exploration.