

CENTER FIRE RIFLES

MODEL 721-722 RIFLES - SPORTER STOCKS

The Research & Development Department reports that the proposed raised comb cheek piece stock for Models 721-722 rifles is being modified to provide a thinner comb and a longer fore-end. Samples of the revised stock will be sent to Bridgeport in approximately one week for Committee approval. This item will be scheduled for announcement in January, 1961.

The question of up-grading the Model 725 stock to include a cheek piece was raised. It was pointed out that Model 725 stocks are procured from a vendor and are not produced at Remington, therefore the cost of a cheek piece Model 725 stock does not substantially effect economics of a sporter stock for Models 721-722 rifles.

On the subject of stock cost, the Production Department pointed out that Government procurement of walnut for M14 rifles will substantially increase the factory cost of stocks procured from vendors. The Government has ordered 400,000 M14 stock blanks for delivery in 1961. Coupling Government requirements with an increased demand for walnut veneer results in a distinct shortage of quality walnut required for Model 725 rifle stocks. It is estimated that the cost of a Model 725 cheek piece stock will increase \$2.50 at the vendor level, and \$3.11 at factory level.

In view of the prospective increase in cost of stocks for the Model 725 rifle, the Treasurer's Department recommends a 1961 price increase for this rifle. The Sales Department is not in favor of a price increase inasmuch as this item is competitively priced at this time.

The prospect of increased walnut prices prompted Committee discussion of substitutes for walnut in rifle stocks. It was agreed that the Research & Development Department will investigate use of other stock woods, including Tropical and African mahoganies, as a means of reducing factory cost.

COMMITTEE ACTION: Subject to Committee and General Management approval of revised prototypes, a cheek piece sporter stock will be provided for the Models 721 and 722 rifles, with announcement January 1, 1961.

A cheek piece Monte Carlo stock will be provided for the Model 725 rifle, with announcement January 1, 1961.

The Research & Development Department will investigate suitability of other woods to replace walnut in rifle stocks and report thereon to the Committee.