

in the Sportsman 58. The comparison will be more reliable as more production guns are tested.

Production Status

Production is completing tooling and machine changes to comply with revisions made as a result of Research tests. Only 5 guns have been assembled to date and these used for product test. Production parts are in process to assemble 100 guns in November, 200 in December, and to have a Warehouse quantity of 1000 by February 1. Many operations are being performed on temporary facilities. Permanent operations for volume production will be complete after the first of the year.

Sales stated the need for 1500 to 2000 sample guns will take all production through about February. Shotguns will not be on the dealers racks until March. Production will make their best effort to better their schedule. As it is, the sample guns, representing 100% of initial production, will be as-produced rather than on a selected basis.

Sales Promotion

The Sales Department is completing arrangements with Research and Production for the writer's shoot at Lordship November 26.

ALL MODELS - 3" CHAMBER

Research reviewed results of a limited Bridgeport test indicating a 2 to 3 per cent pattern improvement in full choke shotguns by shooting 2-3/4" shells in a 3" chamber. The long chamber also benefits hand loaders by reducing mouth tears. A 3" chamber in a shotgun intended for 2-3/4" ammunition would invite using both length shells. The two lengths can not now be used interchangeably, and to do so would require compromises in functioning, feeding and endurance.

Production noted their current work to improve pattern by changing the choke and bore relationship.

Research was asked to summarize their results, resolve them with other work being done and make a recommendation.

CENTERFIRE RIFLES AND PISTOLS

MODEL XP-100 BOLT ACTION PISTOL

Production Status

Production reported satisfactory test results of the pilot lot. Approximately 100 pistols will be assembled during November --