

GENERALWOOD

Production processed the two hundred (200) elm blanks as Model 550 Stocks and the two hundred (200) birch blanks as Model 512. The objective was to determine the machining characteristics in Stocks having the more complicated inletting cuts. While a lot of two hundred (200) Stocks is not sufficient to fully determine production costs, it is adequate to indicate if elm or birch could be used as a substitute for walnut.

The elm and birch Stocks are at the finishing operations. It is indicated that a major problem with these woods could be the development of a uniform acceptable color that can be reproduced by production methods.

Investigation of these and other woods processed in the past has been to determine what action to take if the availability of walnut and/or the price should make a change necessary. At present, there is no reason to use any substitute either for strength, price or availability for any current arms models.

The cost of the Stock blank for the proposed XC and XR Series Bolt Action Rifles is less for birch than for walnut. R & D has proposed using birch for the new rifles. In the discussion, the advisability of introduction of new rifles with other than walnut was questioned.

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

The next meeting will be March 9, 1965 at Ilion.

VGD:I
Attachments