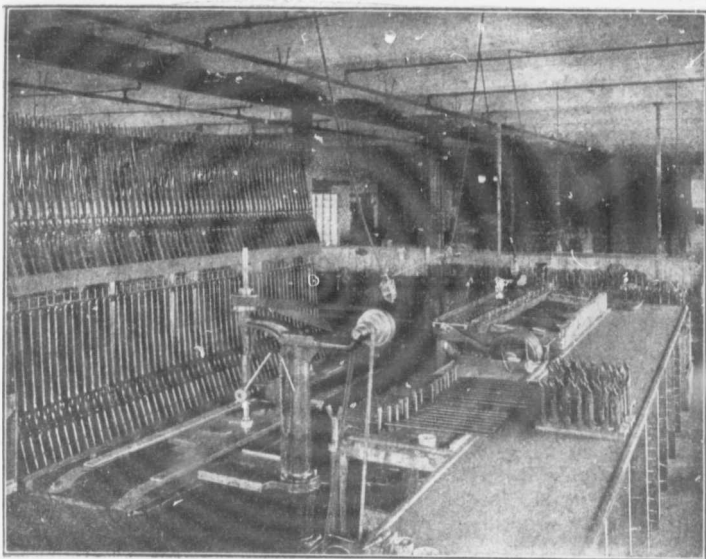




ASSEMBLING DEPARTMENT, THE ROSS RIFLE COMPANY'S WORKS

which are a positive advantage over the Lee-Enfield, while it is contended by Sir Charles Ross that he can easily remedy any of the drawbacks which have been pointed out.

"The rifle has been on the ranges during the week of the Dominion Rifle Association meeting, and has been examined and fired more or less by many riflemen of experience, and while it is not suggested that any conclusive testimony has been afforded from such desultory examinations and tests, it is significant of the favorable impression of riflemen that no adverse comment were known to have been made, and all seemed to be pleased with the action of the rifle.

"The Board do not profess to pronounce upon the question of a complete remedy of this objection, but, having called attention to it, assume that due precaution and provision with reference thereto will be taken

in event of the rifle being adopted."

On the strength of that report and the fact also that practically the same rifle (the Mannlicher), 1,000,000 of them, was in use in the Austrian army, induced the Government to give the Ross Rifle Manufacturing Company a contract for 12,000 rifles and whatever rifles the Government might afterwards require, provided, however, that in case of emergency, such as war, the Government could demand immediate delivery of whatever number might be required, and if the Rifle Company could not deliver them, then the Government might buy them elsewhere. That looks like a fair business arrangement.

Since then, experts, both prejudiced and unprejudiced, have examined it under special and extremely rigorous conditions, and as a result it is safe to say that the latest model of the Ross rifle is the best all-round