

# COLT CO. WILL GET GOVERNMENT ORDER

## Vickers Guns Will Be Made Here.

### TYPE FAVORED BY BOARD OF EXPERTS

### Colt Stock Jumps In Hart- ford Market.

Washington, Nov. 10.—The immediate purchase of 4,600 Vickers machine rifles of the present standard model for the equipment of the regular army and the national guard is recommended by the joint board of army, navy and marine corps officers which has been studying for months machine gun problems. The department has \$10,000,000 available for this purpose.

A preliminary report from the board was made public today, showing that further tests are to be made with other types of machine guns, but that on the strength of information already in the war department and that obtained from European battlefields the board sustained the army ordnance department in holding the English-made Vickers gun the most serviceable weapon now available. The board considered reports on several other foreign guns and upon the Lewis and other American automatic rifles.

Representatives of the manufacturers of each had a hearing. The board notes that in case of sudden emergency machine rifles of any of several makes could be quickly purchased in the open market.

The board, after carefully reviewing the industrial resources which could be utilized in war time for manufacture of machine guns, expresses the opinion that weapons of this type could be supplied in excess of the number of operators the government could train to their use. The rate of manufacture is estimated at about 4,500 guns of all types a month. The board divide machine guns into two types, light and heavy, each of which has a definite sphere of action in war time. The Vickers gun, it holds, meets every requirement for heavy guns, but a lighter rifle will not be recommended without additional tests.

The report shows that 8,015 heavy and 9,268 light guns will be required to equip the regulars and National Guard, on a basis of six rifles to a regiment, and with adequate reserves. It is recommended that Congress be asked to supply funds for the purchase each year of enough guns to equip new units of either service added under the national defense act.

Tests of the light guns will be held at Springfield Arsenal and inventors are urged to enter their weapons for the competition.