

Handloader

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ON THE COVER

Old guns seem to last longer if they're treated to an occasional outing on the range. Even if they're chambered for an obsolete cartridge, like the .44 S&W Russian, there's no reason they can't be fired. A set of beautifully finished Redding dies, a box of .44 Special or Magnum cases trimmed to .97 inch, some modest powder charges capped by cast bullets and presto, the well-preserved Smith & Wesson New Model Number 3 single action target revolver is ready to show what it can do! Photo by Randy Swedlund.

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The RELOADER'S PRESS

Any Suggestions?

Already scheduled for the Wolfe Library Classic series are *Big Game Rifles and Cartridges*, by Keith; *Practical Dope On the Big Bores*, by Ness; and *Handloading Ammunition*, by Mattern. Dozens of other titles are under consideration but if any of you have any suggestions, if there are any old favorites you'd like to see reprinted, drop us a line and let us know. In addition to the title, include the name of the publisher, if you can — and a brief idea of the subject matter.

New Remingtons for 1985

Although Remington's 1985 catalog isn't printed as we go to press, a preview of company products revealed that there will be a new, limited-edition Classic 700, two new centerfire chamberings in the Sportsman 78, two special-purpose shotguns, the addition of an autoloading 12 gauge to the Sportsman series, two new handgun loads, a two-bladed "Bullet" pocketknife and new pocket-sized squeeze-bottles of REM oil.

The Classic will be chambered for the .350 Remington Magnum. Originally unveiled in 1965 as a potent big-game round designed especially for short-actioned rifles, the .350 was given excellent reviews by everyone who tried it. Sales lagged, however, and the chambering was discontinued in 1974.

The Classic .350 will feature a short action with a 22-inch barrel. Rate of twist will be one-turn-in-16 inches. The rifles won't be available until early summer but if past performance is any indication, they won't be on dealers' shelves very long.

The Model 1100 autoloader and Model 870 pump will be made available in versions dedicated to the highly specialized needs of waterfowlers and turkey hunters. All exposed metallic surfaces of both guns will be parkerized. Even bolt and carrier assemblies will be colored a dull, non-reflective black. Buttstocks and forends will boast a non-reflective oil finish and each gun will be equipped with a wide, padded sling made of Cordura. Barrels will be

chrome-lined, offered with three-inch chambers and full choked in 26 and 30-inch lengths. Both models will have ventilated ribs.

The Sportsman 78, Remington's economically priced centerfire rifle, will be offered in two more calibers this year: .243 and .308. Barrel lengths of all calibers will be 22 inches.

An autoloading 12 gauge, designated the Sportsman 12 auto, will flesh out the low-priced line. Barrel options will be limited to 28-inch modified and 30-inch full choke. Both will be equipped with ventilated ribs.

Sportsman models feature walnut-toned hardwood stocks, either plain or decorated with pressed checkering. They are basically utilitarian, no-frills versions with emphasis on performance rather than appearance.

For handgunners, Remington is adding a 125-grain semi-jacketed soft-nose in .38 Special. Combining a plain lead nose with a half jacket offers handgun hunters a bullet which should penetrate deep. The new rounds should also be useful to silhouette shooters. Muzzle velocity is listed at 945 fps from a four-inch barrel. Muzzle energy is 248 ft/lbs.

The second load was designed for the .357 Maximum and sports a 180-grain semi-jacketed hollowpoint. That load was created with silhouette shooters in mind, but should also make a very effective hunting round. Muzzle velocity is 1,555 fps; muzzle energy is 966 ft/lbs. Mid-range trajectory is only 2.5 inches when the pistol is zeroed for 100 yards. That should make an ideal small-game round.

REM oil has been made more useful packaging it in small, squeezable plastic bottles. The one-ounce bottle is just the right size to slip easily into a shirt or jacket pocket.

I've been using REM oil for the past year. It carries out its lubing chores in fine style but I found it's particularly

(Continued on page 57)

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