

TIPS from a CHAMP

HOW TO BUILD MODEL AIRPLANES

by Ronnie Thorsen

Editor's Note: Fifteen-year-old Ronnie Thorsen of Portland has been bed-ridden most of his life with recurrent attacks of rheumatic fever. But that hasn't dampened his enthusiasm for model airplane building which he does with such skill that last year his plane, flown by a friend, took first place in the junior division of the Plymouth International Model Plane Contest at Detroit against a field of several hundred contestants. With plans for another entry this year, Ronnie tells in this series of articles how to get started in one of the fastest growing hobbies in the nation.

Chapter Three

General Construction

To those who like to work with tools and make things, building model airplanes provides plenty of interest. Model clubs have grown up all over the country and each year it seems like more and more people are getting into this fascinating hobby. I have found model building the ideal answer to help those who may be disabled or shut in.

Each month, every news-stand carries a wide variety of magazines and publications on model building alone. These magazines have many articles and suggestions on building. Thousands of modelers read or contribute to them and lots of new ideas are exchanged. Sometimes it looks as though there are as many ideas on some subjects as there are model builders, each having successfully worked out his own way of working.

The accepted way followed by all builders in starting their projects is to have a set of plans and instructions and follow them as closely as possible. Model makers eventually get enough experience and "know-how" to design their own craft, but even then they follow a set of plans and use standard construction principles.

Unless you have already collected your own tools and equipment, I'd like to offer a few items that have been helpful to me in my building. Adapting what you already have on hand is of course to be considered when you plan to build.

One of the items most used will be some sort of trimming knife. Several manufacturers offer complete sets of these with handles made to hold every type of blade or bits of old razor blades. Items you may already have around the home work shop such as small-nosed pliers, clamps (clothespins may be adapted for many uses here), small hand drill or if you desire, a most welcome addition to the modeler's tool kit is an electric type of roto-tool. These use every imaginable type of small tool, including drills, grinders, buffers, saws, polishers and what-not. You will also want a block sander of some sort, a good straight-edge for trimming guide and possibly a scroll saw. I have a small electric jigsaw which is good for all sawing work.

Most of my work is done while I am sitting in my adjustable bed, so my work-table problems are different than most builders may have. I use a large flat board to lay my plans on and various adjustable bed tables for working purposes.

For supplies, there are a number of things you should keep on hand. You'll probably have to get from your model dealer some cement, clear or clored dope, some good camel hair brushes, lacquer thinner for thinning dope and for cleaning brushes and perhaps, some assorted sheets and blocks

of balsa wood. Usually, however, as far as actual construction materials are concerned, these will come with model kits, or at least will be determined by instructions furnished with the design of plane you will build.

Generally speaking, there are a few basic steps that fit most jobs. One of the first things is to lay out all your plans and become familiar with the thing. Most likely, you will construct your plane's parts directly over the plans. In doing this, use wax paper over the plans or rub a cake of soap over them. This will prevent glue from sticking to your plan sheets. Always re-cap glue tube so it won't dry out.

When making a model with built-up wings, pin wing leading and trailing edges over plans. Remember, pins are stuck beside, not through the wood. The wing tops and ribs are then added. Coat surfaces very lightly with cement and allow to dry. Then join as shown in plans, using just enough cement to properly stick the joint. In working directly over plans in this way, you are more likely to make less mistakes and end up with a much better job.

When constructing a cabin type fuselage, work over plans and construct the second side over the first so that they will be exactly alike. Again, use wax paper strips between to prevent messing up the job with cement. When putting crosspieces or bulkheads between two sides, be very careful to keep the whole set up in alignment.

Misalignment in any phase of model building shows up horribly when the plane eventually takes to the air. A few moments spent patiently in assembly will mean smiles when flight time comes. And certainly, in any contests such as the Plymouth sponsored state-wide contest, modelers will want top performance and trouble-free operation.

Local News Items

Mr. and Mrs. Howard James, and family, who left here June 30 for an extended trip to Seattle and Victoria, B. C., returned home last week. They report Hwy 101 in bad shape in spots, largely due to excessive log loads being hauled over it.

Mrs. Jennie Smith just returned last week from a trip which she and Robert Darling took to Spokane, Wsh., where she visited relatives. She also visited Grand Coulee dam, McNary dam, Bend, Crater Lake, and to Brookings. She says she is tired from the trip but that her visit to Grand Coulee was worth the effort.

Visiting at the Stanley Patterson home from Thursday to Saturday were Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Triggs and sons of Michigan, and Mrs. Patterson's grandmother, Mrs. W. F. Zander, of LaHabra, Calif.

FORMER SHANGHAI, CHINA, BROKER TELLS OF CONDITIONS IN 'ORIENT'

Continued from Page One

"China is not self-supporting. It does not even raise enough of its principal food—rice. Methods are primitive, as they do everything by hand there. By not being self-supporting—by not producing anything much for export, China lacks world credit in exchange of goods.

"I am pessimistic about the future of China. They have no leaders whom other nations trust in any manner. Madam Chiang, a graduate of Wellesley College, a highly educated woman, has lost prestige in America since she made her last trip here. She is of the Soong dynasty, a greedy and untrustworthy group which has long had control of China.

"Time will tell what China is destined for. She never has been for progress, rather she has stood still, and the world has gone by. I do not believe, however, that the Communists will ever gain control, but no one can tell."

Several Visitors Present

Rev. William T. Holt, Episcopal minister of Yreka, Calif., was a guest Tuesday and spoke a few words when introduced.

"I was in the navy for many years as chaplain, and I always longed to get in a car and drive. I have toured the coast from San Diego northward lately, and it is with genuine pleasure that I came this way to enjoy this climate.

John McDonald, a realtor of Walla Walla, Wash., was another visitor, as was Hershel Obye, regional supervisor of Siskiyou National Forest, of Grants pass, together with the speaker, Chet

Wentworth.

Governor Here Next Week

Members of the club are reminded that Charles R. Cooley, new district governor, will be in Brookings next Monday and Tuesday on his official visit to the club. He will hold an evening meeting Monday at 8:00 p. m. for general discussion, at Vincent's dining-room and will be present and give the talk at the Tuesday noon luncheon.

SMITH RIVER

Word was received here by relatives telling of the sudden death of Rodney Lee, 3-months-old son of Mr. and Ms. Marland Rice at Albany. Mr. and Mrs. Rice and four sons spent July 4 vacation here visiting relatives and friends and the sudden death of little Rodney was a shock. Surviving are the parents, Mr. and Mrs. Marland Rice, twin sons, William and Thomas, and Marland Leslie, his grandparents and other relatives.

Miss Charlotte Hickman, former pastor of Smith River and

NOTICE

TO PARENTS OF CUB SCOUTS

There will be a combination work meeting and pit picnic Sunday, July 25, at Virgil Goldsberry's place, just south of Brookings Laundry. This will take place of the regular pack meeting.

Dads are asked to bring tools and be ready for work at 10 a. m. Moms and families to be on hand at 1:30 with plenty to eat. Coffee and soft drinks will be served.

N. V. Strommen flew to Texas Monday to attend the flower show.

ORDERS NOW TAKEN FOR FRESH

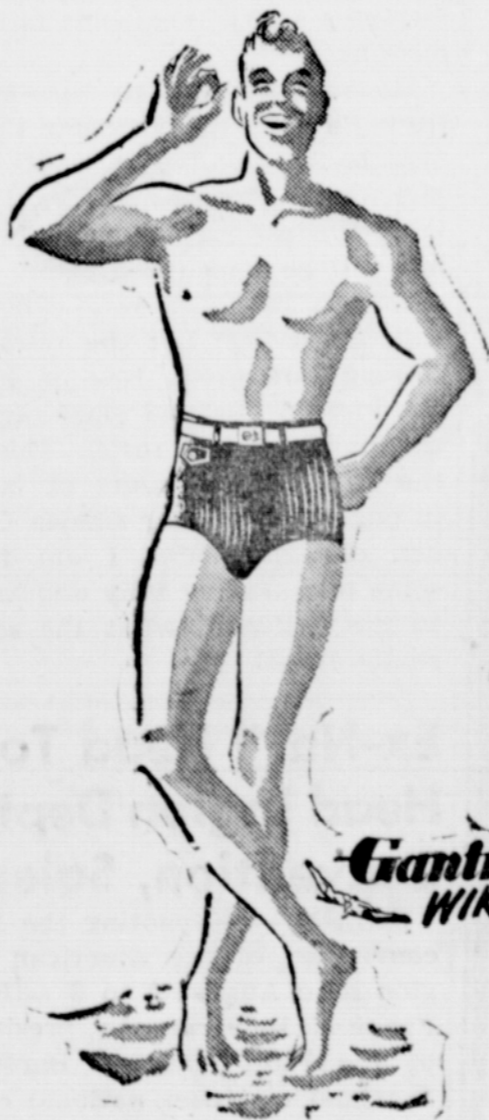
Canning Salmon

\$35.00 Per 100 Pounds

SEE OR WRITE

SEHORN'S MARKET

Rivers End (Smith River, California)



Sale

MENS AND BOYS SWIM TRUNKS
Rayons Wools Cottons
Part Wools

Buy now and be prepared for that picnic or beach party. You can't miss at these sale prices—

Regular \$3.75 and \$3.95

NOW \$2.69

Regular \$2.95 values

Now \$1.98

Regular \$1.65 Values

Now 98c

Regular \$1.00 Values

Now 69c

Moore's Variety & Apparel Shop

We Give S. & H. Green Savings Stamps On Purchases!