



USAMA—Mail boat operating during the summer months on the Fulton Chain of Lakes in New York State's Central Adirondack region, is 34 feet long, has a beam of 10 feet, nine inches, and a speed of 15 m.p.h. Craft serves between 155 and 200 campsites, making one delivery each day during June and September and two daily during July and August. The mail boat will log 35 miles on a single trip when all docks are touched crossing and re-crossing the various lakes in the chain between Old Forge and Inlet. If the mail boat doesn't whistle—no mail today.

Accessories Aid Safety, Comfort

The answer to "what's new" in recreational boating can frequently be found in the wide selection of nautical accessories that are introduced each year to make boating safer and more comfortable.

The hundreds of extras that hold a special interest for boating folk range from waterjet propulsion units to flotation belts for poodles.

Many of the new boating accessories that were presented in January at the National Motor Boat Show indicated an increasing overall emphasis on work elimination, on simplified operation and maintenance, especially of mechanical equipment.

Much of the new electronic gear, for example, is designed to appeal to owners of smaller craft who take relatively shorter trips and who generally don't have the technical backgrounds or even the budgets for more complicated and expensive installations.

Compact Units

This is particularly evident in communications and navigational equipment. New units are more compactly designed, require little installation space. Portability, self-contained battery power, automatic controls and, in many cases, lower price tags are other prominent features.

Marine generators, instru-

ments and boat trailers feature interchangeable parts and components that can be adapted for added uses. For example, there's a combination speedometer and tachometer which, with a flick of a switch, gives readings in MPH or RPM's. An AC to DC power converter adjusts itself to the required voltage rate, and when the battery is charged, turn itself off, both automatically.

Adaptability is a key word, too, with galley equipment: stoves that use either alcohol or kerosene; a folding compartment that turns the stove top into an oven; a device that easily converts an icebox into a refrigerator.

Boat Seat Belts

Ease of application, more durability as well as wider color choices are obvious trends in marine coatings and compounds. One manufacturer has introduced paint containers the same size and shape as coffee cans and equipped with key openers.

In safety equipment, more emphasis is being placed on automatic operation and compact packaging. Seat belts for boats are available from a number of suppliers.

Easy-maintenance materials such as aluminum alloys and different types of plastics are very much in evidence in tools, pumps and docking equipment as well as in many hardware items.

Fuel and water tanks, sea-water converters, headlights, horns, vinyl deck covering, boat air conditioners and heating units, navigational aids and maintenance equipment of all kinds are among the many other types of accessories available to boatmen.

Outboard Motors Need Checking In the Spring

Checking the outboard motor — as well as the inboard engine — in the spring may seem to be duplication. However, it really acts as a double check in case you missed something at haul-out time.

Sparkplugs, spark-gap settings, worn wiring and loose connections can be the root of outboard failures and should be looked over when winterizing and again in the spring. Rid fuel filters of accumulated dirt, clean out fuel lines and make needed carburetor adjustments. Check the motor lubrication, cooling system for leaks, clogging and pump efficiency. Also inspect shear pin wear and propeller damage. And finally, apply the proper coating of grease to protect all internal moving parts.

Sailboats require a special examination of standing rigging, running rigging, and ground tackle. If all items checked out for fitness at haul-out time any replacements needed may be obtained during the winter and ready for installation in spring.

Catching the small rips in the sails before they blow into larger damage is good boatmanship. Torn sails discovered in the fall can go to the sailmaker and be back well before the spring rush.

Sails should be washed, dried and stored in a well ventilated place. When spring comes and the mast is stepped the sails can be broken out with the assurance that a day of sailing is ahead with no last minute emergencies.

Mid-Season Check

The third of the trinal maintenance seasons is in mid-season when a haul-out for inspection of the family boat and equipment is recommended. A propeller may be nicked, a shaft bent or covered with barnacles or other growth. The bottom probably may need scraping or cleaning. Good maintenance of the boat is good safety insurance. Properly equipped and with hull and all mechanical parts in ship shape order, the own-

CHANGE CRANKCASE OIL

Owners of inboard boats should change the crankcase oil in the engine every 100 operating hours. Some experts suggest that crankcases be drained and replenished at least once every season regardless of the amount of use given the powerplant, to eliminate water and impurities which can collect even if the boat is not in operation.

After the speed of a fast outboard boat smoothly and slowly when passengers are standing or moving.

er, his family and guests aboard may cruise in contentment and confidence.

Following the proper maintenance procedure at each of

the trinal seasons holds work to a minimum and in the long run will provide the skipper with many extra carefree days afloat.

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Remodel Kitchen For New Outlook

When you remodel your kitchen, the entire house seems to take on a fresh, new outlook.

Kitchen improvements can be extensive, or relatively minor.

Extensive structural changes, such as knocking out a wall or eliminating an old-fashioned pantry, may be necessary to achieve a modern appearance.

Major internal changes, such as new appliances or built-in cabinets, are sometimes all that's needed in many older houses. Adequate lighting also is lacking in many kitchens.

In some kitchens, however, a change in decor will alter considerably the appearance of the area. For instance, if the Kitchen has been painted white with few colorful sections, new paneling, counter tops and flooring can make a big difference.

Plastic-surfaced hardboards, plastic laminates or tile, are all ideal for kitchens because they resist heat and moisture.

Dividers are another easy way to modernize and old kitchen. They can be installed easily and economically. A serving counter, planter or storage cabinet can be used as a divider.

Use a square knot to fasten a child's life jacket.

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