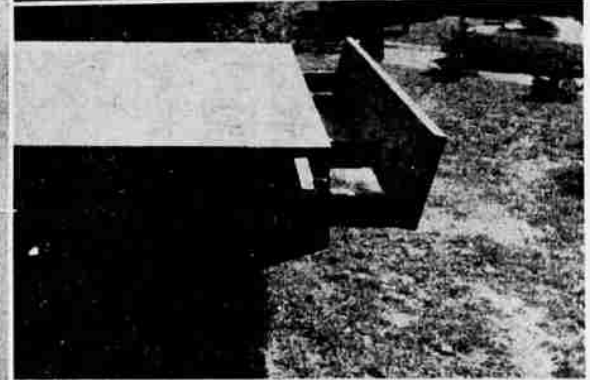
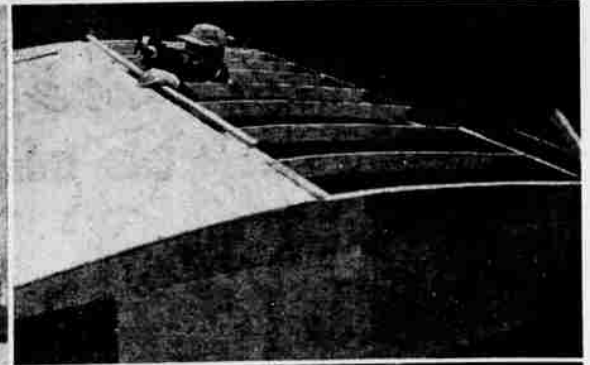
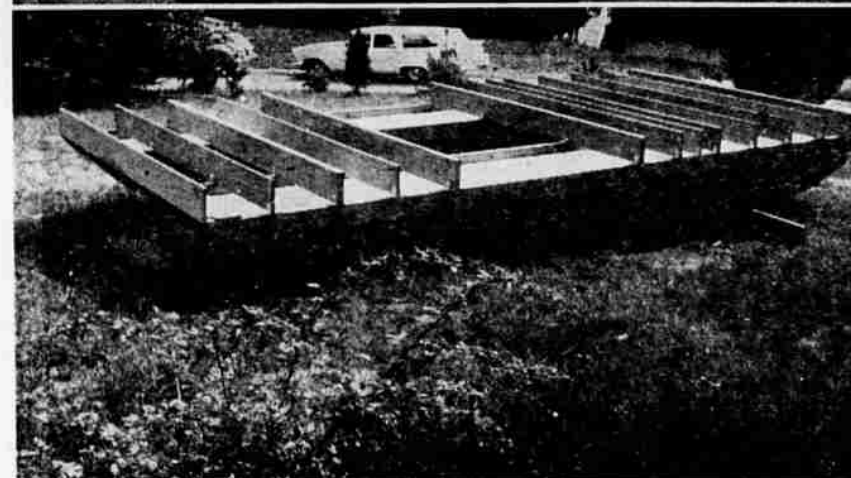
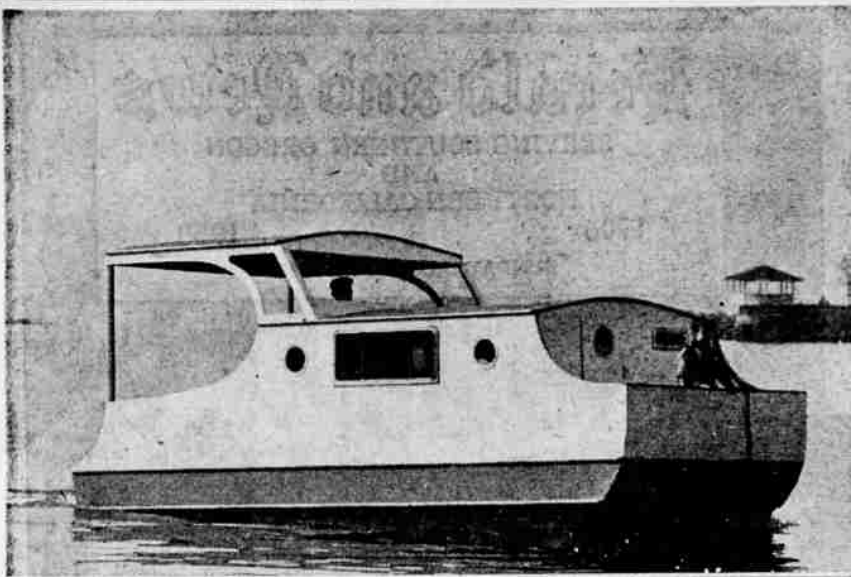




House Boat Fun For Whole Family

A HOUSEBOAT WON'T WIN ANY RACES but it offers space, safety, and solid comfort as shown in the upper left picture. This model is pushed along with a pair of twin outboards, center left, which affords a speed of some 12 miles per hour. Initial step in building the boat is to work from two pontoons, lower left, and deck over for the cabin and walkways. The enclosed cabin, upper right, has 80 square feet of space for galley, eating area and bunks. Here half inch exterior-type fir plywood is being applied over lumber framework to form decks and bulkhead. The houseboat's two-inch-thick transom, center right, is inclined 12 degrees from the vertical for engine mounting brackets. Basic unit of the houseboat are two Navicat 18-foot pontoons which are lightweight, rot-proof and unsinkable as well as eliminating bilge problems. (bottom right).

What's your leisure time pace—fast or slow? If you prefer lazy loafing to high horsepower, you might consider a houseboat. The number of houseboats has risen sharply because many families are now taking their "Sunday drive" on the water instead of the highway.

And no wonder. With a houseboat, you get an amphibious outing on a river, lake, lagoon or bay in a craft designed for easy living. And you never leave the comforts of home behind.

The broad deck area and roomy cabin on a houseboat have plenty of room for fishing, swimming, skin diving, partying, sun bathing, eating, sleeping, and just loafing. Like Noah's Ark, a houseboat is designed for space, not speed. A cruiser with this kind of room would cost thousands.

Ordinarily, building even a small boat yourself is no cinch. Even

some houseboats are major projects. But here's one with good square lines that is easier to build than almost anything afloat, short of a raft. It's just a simple plywood vacation cabin mounted on pontoons.

After it's built, you can easily "remodel" your houseboat from year to year, adding porches, galley, or more bunk space.

There are about 30 different models on the market, but you can save many dollars by doing the construction yourself. The boat pictured here was built by two Connecticut residents with no blueprint and no previous experience. It is 20 feet long and eight feet wide, with a draft of only ten inches. The boat has 300 square feet of living space, including an 80-square-foot enclosed cabin with a galley, head, bunks, and closet.

One of the simplest ways to begin your houseboat project is to

choose a ready-made hull. There are many buoyant possibilities, including trimaran hulls or plywood plastic pontoons. This boat has two

THE COVER

Five-Year-Old Tootzie Page, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gene O. Page, posed for Herald and News photographer Ott Ellis recently for this setting at the head of Wood River. The picture was taken on a cloudy day at F16, a 50th of a second on Royal Pan film with no filter.

18-foot Navicat pontoons made from fir plywood and styrofoam plastic. They are covered with copper and are rot proof, lightweight, and virtually unsinkable.

By using these ready-made pontoons, you have no worries about hull construction and you can build the cabin to suit your hobbies and tastes. Decks and bulkheads on this houseboat are made from exterior-type fir plywood over lumber framing. The plywood roof over the cabin serves as a sunbathing, fishing, and sightseeing area.

Windows and other equipment can be obtained through house trailer supply houses and hardware stores. Controls and fittings, such as running lights, chocks, cleats, anchors and moorings are available at marine supply outlets.

Outboard motors provide a good power plant for your houseboat. The two 18-horse outboards on this boat push it through the water at

a comfortable 12 knots. With a single motor, the craft will make about 6 knots.

The cabin interior can be furnished with chairs, tables, head, galley, and full-size bunks. Unlike many other boats, there's plenty of room to stand up inside the cabin.

This houseboat, called the "True Maru," is featured in the July, 1958, issue of True Magazine.

For more details on how to build and equip your houseboat, write Douglas Fir Plywood Association in Tacoma 2, Washington.

TRUMPING THE HEAT

WANTAGH, N. Y. (UPI)—The Milton J. Pritchards and the Robert P. Dimins like to play bridge even on the hottest days. So they took two-year-old Elsie Pritchard's eight-foot backyard swimming pool, filled it with water, placed a table in it, climbed in and dealt the cards.