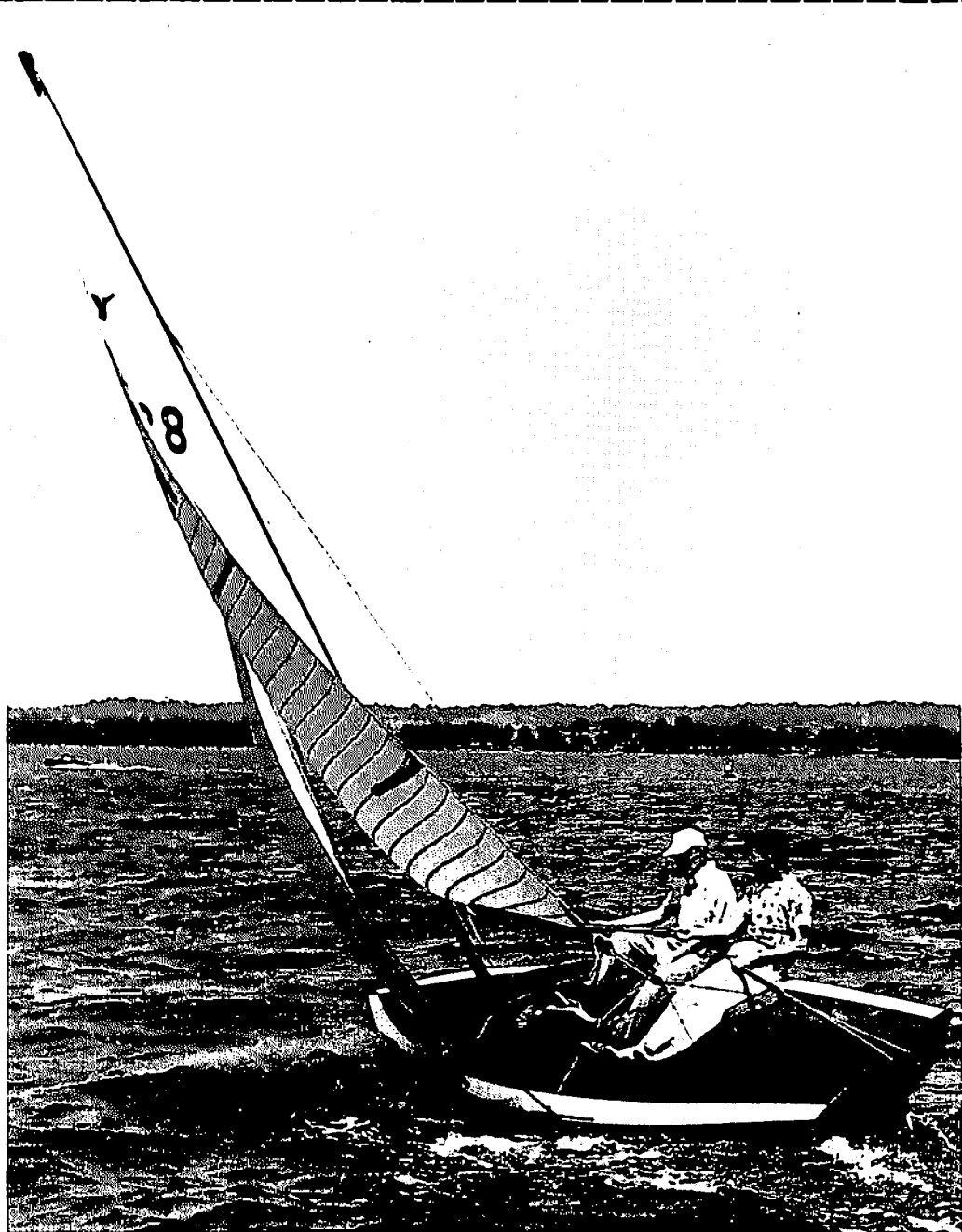


# SNIPE BULLETIN

MAY · 1954

VOL. 3 NO. 12



ED GRIER, SKIPPER and SAM GRIER, CREW,  
IN SOME HEAVY GOING  
ON LAKE PEORIA, ILL.

# 5 FIRSTS

MARCH 1954 MID-WINTER  
International Championships

with

**GUY ROBERTS**

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\$4 50 two sets postpaid U. S. A. for strong winds.

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# SNIPE SPARS

*built to TED WELLS specifications*

ALSO

**BOOMS—RUDDERS—TILLERS**

**REACH and WHISKER POLES**

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**SEAVY LUMBER COMPANY**

P. O. Box 697.

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# Varalyay

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“The Choice of  
Champions”

1953 National Championships

1st — 3rd & 4th Places

1953 Junior Nationals

1st & 2nd Places

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# SNIPE BULLETIN

The SNIPE BULLETIN is edited and produced monthly by Birney Mills, Executive Secretary.

Address all correspondence to:

Snipe Class International Racing Association,  
655 Weber Ave., Akron 3, Ohio, U. S. A.

Subscription Rates.

\$2. 00 Per Year.

Owners of measured and paid-up Snipes receive  
SNIPE BULLETIN as part of their membership free.

Forms close on the 15th of each month preceding publication. Material received after that date will not appear until a later issue. Contract advertising rates may be had on application. Be sure and notify SNIPE BULLETIN of any change in address, giving both old and new addresses.

**REAR COMMODORE BOB VREELAND** has been assigned the task of getting the various districts organized to conform to the new set-up. The first step is the appointing of a Temporary District Governor to supervise electing a District Governor and Secretary. He has appointed the following:

District #2: Harold Gilreath, Wichita, Kan.

District #4: Fred Pember, Atlanta, Ga.

He reports that District #5 has already held their election, but the results are not in yet. (Shades of 1916.) Districts 1, 3, and 6 have not been organized as yet, but hopes are high. This is a very important move for SCIRA, so let's all get together and help Bob put it over.

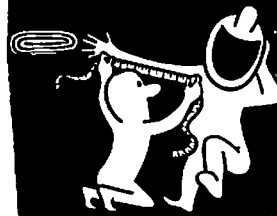
**R. S. GOZZALDI**, San Antonio, Texas, waved his magic wand, dipped into his sailor's cap, and came up with the missing Bulletin issues of July and August 1951. The copies are in the official file, which is now complete, and the treasury is richer by \$2. 00, thanks to "Gozz." Tom Frost and Terry Whittemore also contributed some old copies, at the same time completing their own files. Terry says: "I can't understand why all interested Snipers didn't keep their issues. Some very interesting material and sound points on Snipe racing are included in almost every issue. Personally, I review them several times a season."

**HOW DO YOU LIKE** the new mast-head for Wells' Wanderings? It was sent in by Cleve Slauson, Fleet Captain of the Peoria Divisional Fleet #131. We like it a lot--it shows Mr. Wells' Buick station wagon and his personal signature. Our thanks to you, Cleve, for your interest in the Bulletin.

**DON'T FORGET YOUR CONTRIBUTION** to the Crosby Trophy Memorial Fund. Charley Gabor, a loyal old-timer from Danbury, Conn., and Clearwater, Fla., was the first contributor, closely followed by the N. Y. State Snipe Ass'n. We are anxious to complete this fund so we can get the trophy for the Nationals in August, so please send your gift in.

**THE 1954 RULE BOOKS WILL BE MAILED WHEN OFF THE PRESS IN MAY.**

THIS JOB IS MORE FUN  
THAN MAKING MONEY



**OUR PUBLICATION PROBLEMS** remain the same---but greatly intensified. This issue of the BULLETIN contains more paid advertising than ever before---and

less news space! Likewise, it has the largest circulation we have ever had, going to an increasing number of subscribers. Those facts predict a happy future and reflect the excellent support given by our members. Please

continue to send in articles, pictures, cartoons, suggestions and ABOVE ALL--PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISERS AND LET THEM KNOW YOU SAW IT IN THE BULLETIN!

# JOHN NICHOLSON IS HI-POINT CHAMPION

## WINS WITH PERFECT SCORE

John Nicholson, Captain of the Thames River (Connecticut) Fleet #354, walked off with the top honors for the high-point championship for 1953. He sailed in 20 races and finished first in each one for a perfect score of 1750. Five to eight boats took part in each race. It is interesting to note that the three previous winners also had scores of 1750, 1740, and 1750, so you have to sail in at least 15 races and be darned near perfect to win.

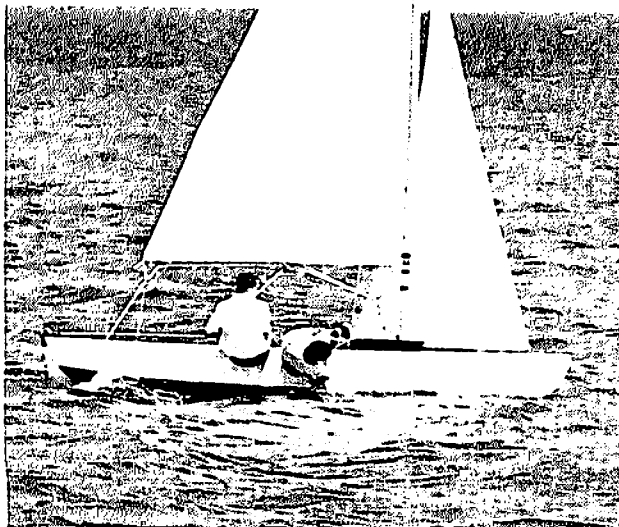
John will get the Minneford Perpetual Trophy for the U. S. High Point Championship and also the Reichner Perpetual Trophy for having the highest score for the entire world. Both trophies date back to 1932.

Carlos Bosch of the Santiago, Cuba, Fleet #360, with a record of a second place in his first race of the season and then 12 firsts in the next 12 races, takes second place, moving up from 42nd place last year. Carlos gets a pat on the back and a wish for better luck next time.

BOAT.	NAME.	CLUB.	RACES.	POINTS.
7120	John Nicholson, Thames River.		20	1750
8999	Carlos Bosch, Santiago, Cuba.		13	1723.9
7588	Joseph Remlin, Cedar Pt. YC. N.Y.		15	1723.8
7094	Ugo Cantisani, Paraiba, Brazil		14	1723.2
4571	Charles Webster, Oak Orchard, N.Y.		17	1718.2
1032	Bob McPherson, Oshkosh Y.C.		17	1716.1
6929	Jules Voerge, Jr., Lake Merritt, Cal.		15	1713.6
9168	Barbara Wood, Birch Lake YC, Mich		13	1711.7
5485	Barbara Nicholson, Pine Beach, N.Y.		16	1710.5
23	Harold Martin, Dallas, Texas		12	1706.8
8099	John Hayward, Sequoyah, Oklahoma		24	1698.4
6775	Carl Zimmerman, P.L.Y.C. 110, Akron		13	1694
8641	Bengt Johnson, Sea Cliff, N.Y.		25	1689.3
5894	Robert Dimond, Lake Parsippany, N.J.		19	1687.6

9512	Winston Ely, Green Lake, Mich.	9	1681.2
8309	R.C. Coates, Maldon, England	8	1680
7953	Jose Bruscky, Cascais, Portugal	10	1676.3
6454	George Reiner, Lake Merritt, Cal.	15	1676.1
7428	Billy Roberts, Chattanooga, Tenn.	11	1674.8
8076	Tom Head, Peoria, Illinois	11	1674.6
8300	I.Y. Halsey, Three Mile Harbor, N.Y.	12	1674.3
3518	Bob Huggins, Winchester, Conn.	15	1673.7
9102	Brooks Applegate, Portage Lakes, Wis.	9	1672.2
5933	Eddie Williams, Missouri Y.C.	11	1668.2
8760	Frank Appgar, Jr., Parsippany Y.C.	14	1667.5
8682	Clio Guimaraes, #211 Brazil	14	1667.4
8570	Harold Griffiths, Chautauqua	15	1667
5851	Bob & Jack O'Brien, Iowa-Nebraska	18	1663.4
8645	Joe Becker, Dallas Snipe Fleet #1	17	1662.5
7790	Donald Bogert, Sea Cliff	22	1662.4
8696	Wm. E. Rushlow, Potomac River	12	1661.6
4839	Edwin Weiss, Pine Beach YC.	15	1661.2
8086	James Paxton, Iowa-Nebraska	20	1660.1
7610	Beth Olsen, Beachwood YC	6	1660
3994	Robert Frahm, Grand Rapids	30	1657.4
6979	H.C. Jerome, Sequoyah YC.	22	1654.6
9103	Ed Younie, Massachusetts Bay YC.	9	1655.1
6715	John Nagle, Grand Rapids	30	1654.3
9365	Diana Scobie, Green Lake YC.	13	1653.1
9002	Rod Pimental, Encinal Y.C., Cal.	14	1652.8
5471	Quinn, Crystal Lake	13	1652
9144	Clemente Inclan, Havana	9	1648
5917	Clarence Johnson, Thames River	19	1646.9
4359	Terry Anderson, Oshkosh YC.	17	1646.6
8151	Patricia Coley, Cedar Point YC.	15	1641.8
3929	John Welshofer, Chautauqua	12	1641.8
9500	Al Kroeger, Newport YC.	23	1639
7696	Raymond Tyler, Bantam Lake	10	1636.4
9191	Charles O. Hardey, Shreveport	6	1634
6025	Ted Wells, Wichita	12	1632.1
4349	Mel Nichols, Wolf Lake YC.	17	1632
4140	Jim Newman, Winchester BC	18	1630.8

(MORE SCORES NEXT MONTH)



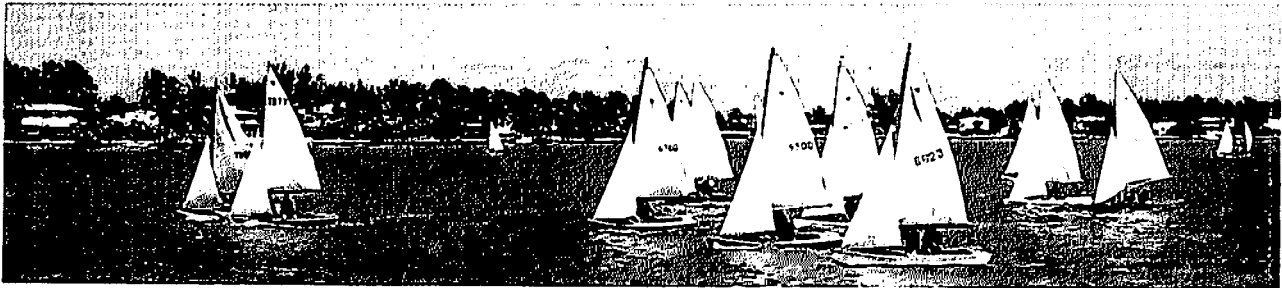
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Tom Frost sailed "Snowball" to victory in the Junior and Senior National Championships, also the European Championship.

# SEAVY STILL FLORIDA STATE CHAMP



**SNIPES START THEIR FINAL HEAT. WINNER(6995) MAY BE SEEN IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PACK.**

Francis Seavy of Clearwater, Florida, was the only skipper to retain his state title during the Miami Yacht Club's Midwinter Regatta March 6-7, which saw ninety-two boats participating in nine different classes.

Seavy, a veteran sailor who held the National Snipe title in 1951, won the Florida title for the second straight year as he piloted his trim "HONEY" home in front of 18 International challengers in the first two heats of the Senior race and then finished close behind Eddie Williams of Wichita, Kansas, in the third and final race.

Steve Bellows, the Miami policeman who formerly held the title, wound up second in the overall standings with 2-3-4 for the three heats as Julius Kroeger of Rochester, N. Y., finished third with 4-2-8.

Williams, who had his new Snipe flown from California the day before the race, was fourth in the final results with 9-5-1, while Bruce Colyer of West Palm Beach placed fifth with 6-4-7.

In the Junior Snipe race, sailed Saturday afternoon, Carlos Rodriguez, a 16-year-old youth from Madrid, Spain, attending the Graham-Eckes School in West Palm Beach, defeated a seasoned fleet of sailors to win the State title. Carlos won the first and third heats and wound up third in the second. The most amazing feature of his triumph was that three months ago he didn't know the bow from the stern of a sailboat. Nicky Welsh, also of Graham-Eckes School, was second with 3-1-2, while Catherine Casey, also from the same school, was third with 4-3-2.

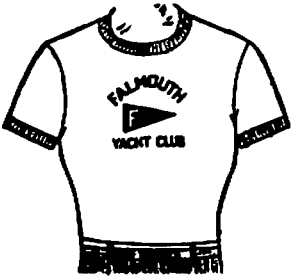
Although there were only a few spills, boat after boat was withdrawn from competition in the various classes as a result of ripped sails, busted stays, and broken sprits, caused by choppy seas and brisk, chilling winds. The regatta attracted one of the largest Snipe fleets ever assembled in Miami.



Winner of the State Snipe Championship Francis Seavy, left, receives the trophies from Miami Yacht Club Commodore Charles Wilson. (Photos by the Miami News Bureau.)

**IMPORTANT NOTICE** to all BUILDERS and MEASURERS. There are two sets of measurement sheets in existence, both labeled "Revised July 1, 1952." One sheet gives the stem height at station 0 as 25 7/8", plus or minus 1/4", and **THAT IS INCORRECT**. The other sheet shows the measurement as 25 7/8", plus 2" minus 1/4", and **THAT IS CORRECT**. The correct sheet can be further identified by underlining under the first sentences in paragraphs 1 and 2 and a notice at the top of the page in heavy letters. Destroy all other blanks.

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If you plan to go to Chattanooga and race in the Southern Championships this month, these gentlemen will be your hosts. Meet the new officers of the Privateer Yacht Club, from left to right: Commodore W. G. Layson, Jr., Rear Commodore Dr. Van Fletcher, Secretary John Wesley, Vice Commodore George Stolle, Treasurer Sam Chester, Jr., and Fleet Captain Dan Williams. "Wynchall come on down?"

Cleve Slauson, the energetic captain of fleet 131 at Peoria, sent in the cover photo this month to demonstrate sailing on BEAUTIFUL-BIG-WINDY Peoria Lake. He says: "We are adding a new traveling trophy to our annual regatta this year. It will be sailed for during the annual IVY Regatta July 3-4-5 and will be symbolic of the championship between the West Central District #2 and North Central District #3. Since our fleet draws boats from both districts, it was decided to put more emphasis and prominence on our regatta by holding the inter-district championships. Details are being sent to all fleets. We have everything to offer from a fast working hoist launching rig to a new swimming pool, not to mention sailing in beautiful Peoria Valley. Lake Peoria, a part of the Illinois River, is about 5 miles long and 2 miles wide with no obstructions. The only time a starboard won't work here is on a 750 ft. barge and river tow! Eddie Williams is the present holder of the fleet trophy and championship. We want to make Peoria a "HAPPY MEETING GROUND" for the two districts."

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**FOR SALE---VARALYAY DAGGER BOARD SNIPE 7371**  
Like-new condition; AIRPLANE FABRIC COVERED HULL AND RUDDER; mahogany plywood deck; two excellent suits of Watts Sails; all for \$900.00. Write to PETE LEACH, 755 ALGOMA BLVD., OSHKOSH, WISCONSIN.

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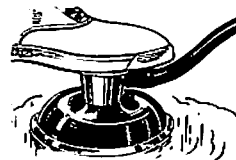
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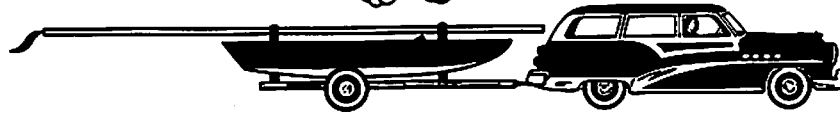


**QUALITY FROM DENMARK**

# Wells Wanderings

by

Ted Wells



## "WHAT KIND OF SAILS SHALL I BUY?"

What with moving out of an apartment in Clearwater, Florida, the first of the month to return to Wichita to a house which was supposed to be finished but wasn't; moving out of an office in Clearwater to one in Wichita which was finished but not furnished; traveling around a little to try to scare up some business for the Central Engineering Corporation (it--and I--are in the business of weighing things with an electric load sensing cell, not recommended for weighing snipes, but if you have anything else you want weighed, I will be glad to fix you up) (if this free advertisement brings any business, I will put a \$5.00 ad in the Bulletin, assuming that the editor doesn't cut out the free advertising); plus answering several dozen letters all starting out "What kind of sails shall I buy?", it appeared for a while that Wells' Wanderings for this month simply wouldn't get written.

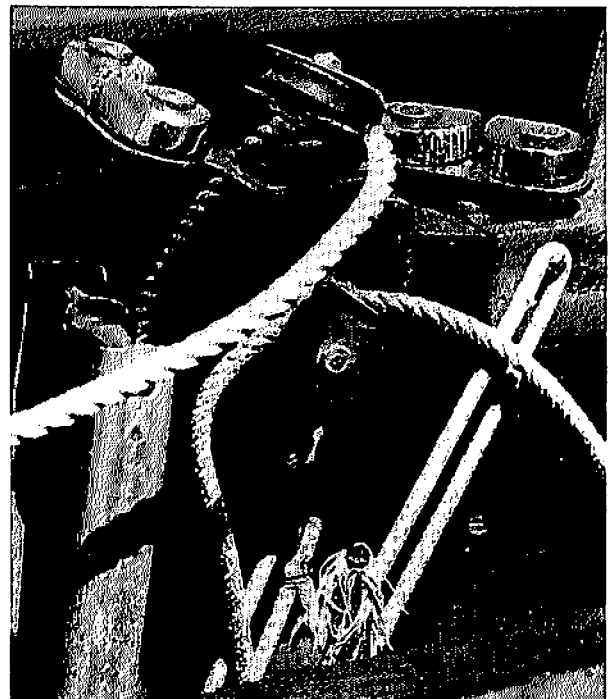
Judging from the letters that I have had so far on the subject of sails, it appears that I will save myself a lot of trouble from the standpoint of answering letters and get myself into a lot of trouble at the same time by giving my answer to the above question in this column. Life would certainly have been a lot simpler if no one had ever made orlon or dacron sailcloth or if the stuff had turned out to be no good. Unfortunately, it appears to me that it is very good indeed, and I am afraid there are going to be some dandy squabbles about what action the Board of Governors should take concerning its use in the future.

There is going to be considerable difference of opinion as to how much better, if any, these materials are. On a small lake, with winds which are spotty and shifty, it would be almost impossible to prove anything conclusively. Even on the Gulf of Mexico where the winds are very steady both in direction and velocity, other things can enter in, and it is probably impossible to arrive at any conclusions that won't be argued about. However, the purpose of allowing the use of these materials in regattas this year was to obtain information and experience to guide future policy, so I will venture my opinion on the subject--which is that the orlon and new heat-set dacron fabrics produce sails which will make a boat go noticeably faster and that cotton sails are a definite competitive disadvantage.

So what do I tell a guy who writes to me and asks me what sails he should buy, particularly the one who says that the last time he could afford a new suit of sails was three or four years ago, who is now ready to buy some new sails and can't afford to make a mistake, as it will probably be three or four years before he can buy any more? There is also the problem of the skipper who now has two suits of cotton sails and it will be a long, long time before he can afford to buy two suits of new synthetic sails to replace his cotton sails. All of which is sad, but imagine the plight of the married skipper who has made remarks to his wife for years on the subject of new coats, dresses, shoes, and whatnots she buys when the old ones are not worn out. Just wait until she finds out that he is about to whoop off more than \$300.00 for a couple of suits of synthetic sails when his cotton sails are probably good for another ten or fifteen years, with proper care.

Suggestions have ranged all the way from relegating synthetic sails to moonlight sailing, to allowing their use for every thing immediately. Ruling them out forever would probably cause the least trouble for the Board of Governors, but they would certainly be accused of placing monkey wrenches in the wheels of progress. One suggestion which has been made several times is that, after this year, synthetic sails be restricted to fleet races (one person suggested that they should be allowed in fleet races only when the fleet unanimously approved their use) for some period of time (periods of two or three years have been suggested). After which time they would be allowed unlimited use.

My answer to the question of "What sails should I buy?" has therefore had to be that I don't know. Future action by the Board of Governors will be based on their judgment of what is best for the Snipe Class throughout the world--and their decision will be aided by hearing what Snipe skippers think. My new address is 755 Edgewater Road, Route 4, Wichita 15, Kansas. I've been cussed by experts, so have at it.



### SECRET WEAPONS USED BY WELLS!

This picture was taken by the chief operator of the Bulletin's Bureau of Investigation at the 1951 Nationals at Barnegat Bay and is printed for the first time as a service to our readers. However, don't forget that the H-Bomb has been developed since then and the enemy is always alert to changes.

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**SCIENTIFIC SAILBOAT RACING**

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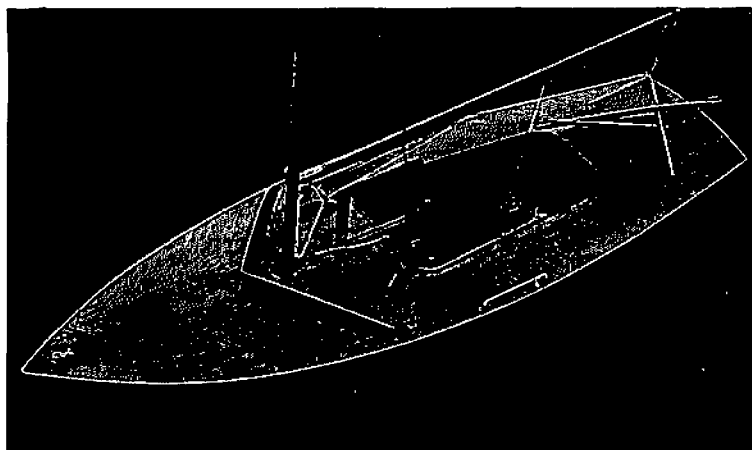
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BUILT UP TO A HIGH NOT DOWN TO A PRICE!



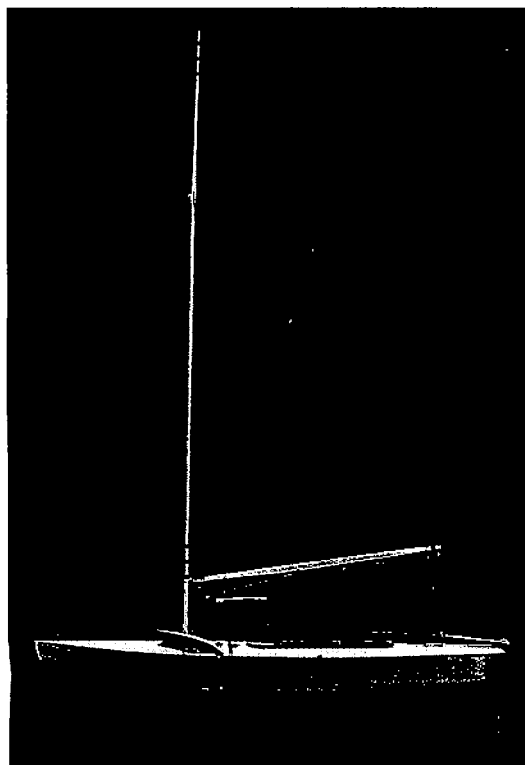
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The delivery includes the finished hull with sprayboard, floorboards, deck with cockpit coaming, mast, boom, and the rudder with tiller extension.

Everything is varnished four times and ready for fixing of your own hardware. Only the finest materials and 100% boilerproof glue are being used and all screw-holes are counter-bored and wood-plugged.

These boats are built to American light weight standards and to the average of all tolerances permitted with exception of the sheer, which is right at maximum.



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**Additional Race Dates**

- May 22-23 SOUTHERN Championship, Lake Chickamauga, Tenn. Dan Williams, 1721 Auburndale Ave., Chattanooga, Tenn.
- May 29-30 SEQUOYAH YACHT CLUB annual regatta, Lake Sequoyah. Okla. Chet Livergood, Tulsa 6, Oklahoma.
- June 26-27 MIDWESTERN CHAMPIONSHIPS, Wichita S. C., P. H. Pelley, 4510 Mt. Vernon Rd., Wichita, Kansas.
- July 3-4 WEED and MAYER Trophies, Oak Orchard, New York.
- July 10-11 5th MISSOURI VALLEY Invitational Regatta, Lake Manawa, Iowa. Jack O'Brien, Council Bluffs Nonpareil, Council Bluffs, Iowa.
- July 10-11 SEA CLIFF Invitational. Sea Cliff Y. C. N. C. Martin, 10 Cliff Way, Sea Cliff, N. Y. New York
- July 10-11 NEW YORK State Junior Championship, Henderson Harbor, New York.
- July 10-11 MIDDLE ATLANTIC Championships, Potomac River. Bruce W. Wetmore, 712 Maplewood Ave., Takoma Park, Md.
- July 17-18 DANISH NATIONALS, Horsens, Denmark. Cai Marckman-Hansen, Regensgade 12, Copenhagen K, Denmark.
- July 22-24 NEW YORK STATE Championships, Olcott, N. Y.
- July 24-25 LONG ISLAND SOUND Individual Championship, Cedar Point Y. C., Westport, Conn. Ellis Meyers, Dogwood Lane, Westport, Conn.
- July 31-Aug. 1 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS, Arcachon, France.
- Aug. 10-20 MARYLAND STATE Championships, Deep Creek Y. C. G. S. Brown, 5711 Falls Rd., Baltimore 9, Md.
- Aug. 14-15 BRIODY Trophy and RITZHAUPT, Newport, New York.
- Aug. 21-22 NEW YORK STATE Invitational, Sodus Bay, New York.
- Aug. 28-29 MANHASSET BAY FALL SERIES, Manhasset Bay, Long Island. Gerry Van Amerongen, 39 Rose Ave., Great Neck, L. I., New York.
- Sept. 8-12 WESTERN HEMISPHERE Championships Havana, Cuba. Gonzalo Melendez, Manzanana de Gomez, 238, Havana, Cuba.
- Nov. 15-20

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