

The Houseboat In American Waters

Rapid Growth of a Sensible Fad -- The Vacation Problem Solved In a Most Agreeable Way at Small Expense

GIVEN a modest income, a sympathetic and co-operating family and a yearning for an unconventional outing, the summer vacation problem need not be as difficult. To these essentials it would be well to add another—a real liking for the water. Endowed with this equipment, any man who is not too subject to circumstances may become the skipper of a more or less comfortable houseboat and sail away in search of the fulfillment of his happy anticipations. It is almost certain to come.

For the first time in his life, perhaps, he is a captain—just as truly a captain as is his neighbor who is owner of a \$50,000 yacht. Best of all is the fact that he will probably secure more comfort from his craft than will his richer neighbor from the high priced yacht. For one thing, he will not be burdened with the care and responsibility of a crew and the countless details of a vessel connected with the intricate machinery of the costlier craft. In short, the answer to the problem of a satisfactory summer or part of a summer on the water is the houseboat.

The owner of a houseboat is vastly more independent than is the proprietor of a country cottage. He need never become weary of his surroundings, for he may change them at will. With no taxes to pay and few repairs to be made he may gratify his fondness for novelty, sport, ozone, nature and half a hundred other things to any extent that may seem prudent to him. Free from the noise and bustle of the crowd, the busy world all left behind, he may have a quality of rest that is impossible on terra firma.

Comparatively few persons know at what small sacrifice they may have their moving summer homes. Houseboating seems to be one of the popular fads that are not prohibitive on account of the expense. It is within the reach of almost any one, be he man of moderate salary or possessor of several millions. Some of the most successful craft of this kind have been homemade, and some of them are the product of the professional shipbuilder, their cost running into four figures and even five. But the pleasure to be derived from them is not always measured by their expensiveness.

For all practical purposes a boat costing about \$100 will be found satisfactory. If one is inclined to be a trifle luxurious he may easily make it \$150. There is, of course, no actual limit as to what may be seen in this

direction, and houseboats worth from \$2,000 to \$5,000 are by no means uncommon. In the expensive craft the items of engine and machinery make up a considerable part of the cost. All the furniture necessary may be procured for \$100. When one realizes how many persons there are who pay double this amount for the rental of a stuffy and inconvenient cottage at a summer resort it cannot fail to argue forcibly for the ownership of one of these homely and homelike boats.

There is no other form of recreation comparable with the freedom and independence of life on a houseboat. The discipline of houseboating has many advantages over the man who seeks the woods or mountains at the approach of the heated term. A comfortable habitation, with a tight roof and a comfortable bed, is always at

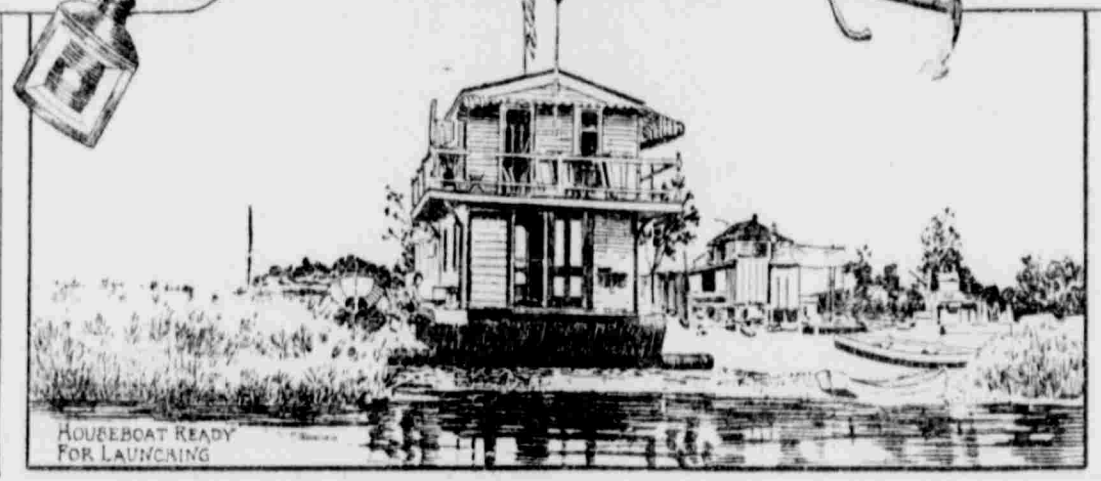
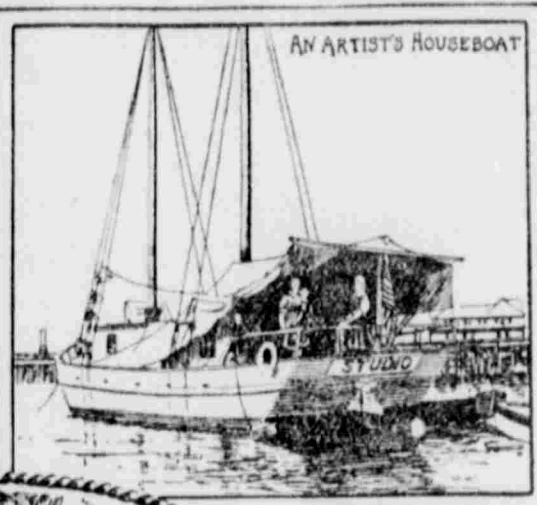
hand. Plenty of supplies can be carried without extra labor or expense. In these days the average American dweller in cities is so accustomed to certain conveniences that he misses them when he goes outside the bounds of civilization. On the houseboat he may provide against this deprivation and remain in unfrequented places as long as he desires.

Some of the most interesting waters in America are inaccessible to the yacht, be it steam or sailing. The long, shallow bays and lagoons which indent the southern coasts and rivers are practically unknown to all but fishermen with their flat bottomed punts. The yachtsman has long cast an envious eye upon the labyrinth of bays, in-

lets and bayous whose waters are shadowed by primeval foliage. He feels perfectly sure that these waters are full of fish, the banks invite exploration, but his eye and his chart assure him that the water is too shallow to approach nearer.

It is in such a situation that the skipper of a houseboat is proud of his craft. He can sail on any water that will float driftwood. He concerns himself but little over the changing of the tides. If the receding waters leave him stranded on a mud bank he has only to wait for their return. In the meantime he may dig clams, pursue the playful crab or write a chapter in his journal.

It is only within the last few years that houseboating has become popular in America. That it has had a far greater popularity in England is due to



several causes. The fashion was borrowed more than a century ago from the Asiatic countries now under British rule. The Thames is peculiarly fitted for the sport. This great stream, winding for miles through a densely populated countryside, is lined to the water's edge on both sides with the beautiful homes of England's leisure class. Towns and villages occur at short intervals, and every one is at home on the water and experienced in all branches of the craft.

The river itself is an ideal stream for boating. The current is slow and the banks are sloping and easily accessible. The Hudson has been mentioned as a coming rival, but it is scarcely possible. The latter stream has a swift

powerful tide, fresh winds and rocky banks and is bordered by railroads. The houseboat is seen at its best in Florida, but the fashion of camping out during the summer on northern lakes and rivers is a growing one. In the vicinity of New York city there are hundreds of miles of coast line available for houseboating. On the Jersey coast, particularly in the region of the Shrewsbury river, there is in summer a large fleet of these floating homes. This river, tidal and only a few miles in length, has many branches. The north branch, called the Navesink, is ideal for houseboating. Passengers on the steamers from New York to Long Branch see great numbers of these craft at different points along the shore or in among the islands after the end of Sandy Hook has been passed on the down trip.

Farther south in the waters of the Manassas and Shark rivers, Barnum bay, Toms river and many other suitable places, there are plenty of these comfortable floating homes in evidence. Along the shores of Long Island sound, both on the New York and Connecticut sides, there are houseboats of every degree and design. The St. Lawrence river, dotted plentifully as it is with islands, is also a favorite resort of houseboatmen. It is claimed that the houseboats of the Pacific coast are superior in point of construction and seagoing ability to any others in America. In the middle west, where the waters are sheltered, the fashion prevails largely. Many very elaborate boats are anchored in beautiful Lake Minnetonka, in Minnesota.

As a rule, however, the American houseboat is far less complete in its equipment than the English. When an Englishman has acquired a competency he retires from business and devotes the remainder of his life to making himself comfortable. The Thames houseboat lends itself admirably to the fulfillment of this laudable ambition. He spends his summers in this care free manner without a single trip to town or a thought of business. The American is quite different. Although he possesses more than enough to last him as long as he can possibly live he is not content to say farewell to the hurly burly; he must even keep in touch with his office while he is supposed to be enjoying his vacation. So he prefers a fast yacht which will take him to the city speedily. More than likely, he transforms the yacht's cabin into a business office, with a stenographer and secretary close at hand.

WILLIS OSBORNE.

WONDERS OF THE SCIENTIFIC WORLD

The electron, as defined by Prof. Lodge, is an electrical conception that has been applied to matter. It is a minute "charge"—the smallest possible—of negative electricity, and its properties, unlike those of the atom, are always the same. It is a particle smaller than the atom, which was long regarded as the smallest division of an element. Each atom of matter must normally contain at least one electron, and it may lose this or take on at least one more, without great change. With one or more electrons less than the normal, the atom becomes positively charged, or a positive ion; while an atom with one or more electrons in excess is a negative ion.

Some years ago the addition of moisture to furnace-heated air was found by Dr. H. J. Barnes of Boston to make a room comfortable at a temperature several degrees lower. In his recent investigation in southeastern Nebraska, G. A. Loveland has shown that the air of a house of 14,000 cubic

feet should receive from 20 to 40 quarts of water daily, and that this evaporation does not increase the relative humidity by more than 10 per cent. The humidity indoors should not exceed about 40 per cent, otherwise there will be troublesome condensation on the windows.

A new incandescent light uses ordinary petroleum without a wick, and a tube only one-eighth of an inch outside supplies the oil, which is vaporized and mixed with air before being burned in the mantle. The light is claimed to be softer and more diffusive than any other. One gallon of oil is sufficient for a 1,000 candle-power lamp for fifteen hours, and enables a person to read at a distance of 50 to 60 yards.

While the transmutation of elements at will is still a dream, the alkali metals have given J. J. Thomson a suggestion of control of the change. Emission from these metals in light has been long known, and he has now pro-

ved that they give off slow electrons, or Beta rays, even in darkness, and that the process is greatly influenced by light, heat and chemical forces.

These act as detonators, splitting up atoms which have become unstable. This atomic breaking up is thought to be going on in all matter, with the setting free of enormous energy, and it is calculated that if the action extends throughout the earth, the emission by every atom of an electron once in a thousand million years would account for the earth's internal heat. The atomic modification may explain the "fatigue" of platinum and other substances after long incandescence.

The degree to which solids slowly intermingle is one of the recent surprising discoveries. A New Zealand teacher mentions the dark patches which appear opposite the steel winding-stems on the inside of silver watch-cases 40 or 50 years old, tests showing that these patches are iron, which has vaporized, dissolved in the silver, and diffused into the solid metal. Still more remarkable is an instance of the penetration of carbon into porcelain. Fresh pencil marks are easily removed from an old porcelain writing tablet, but

some notes written 40 years ago have sunk into the tablet to considerable depth and cannot be erased.

In a simple German method for copying manuscripts or printed matter, the object is placed face upward on a table, and a mirror is arranged above it at an angle of 45 degrees. The reflection is focused in the camera in the usual way. A smooth-surface bromide or negative paper is used instead of a glass plate, and the picture shows white letters on a dark background. With proper exposure and development, a positive print is unnecessary, the characters being as legible as black on white.

The extremely sensitive galvanometer devised a short time ago by Herr Einthoven, a German electrician, consists of a silvered quartz fiber stretched between the poles of a strong electromagnet, the passage of the faintest current moving this fiber in the direction of the lines of the magnetic field. The movement can be measured directly by a microscope or recorded by photography. The new instrument will measure the millionth of an ampere, and a suggested use is for studying the

electric currents of the human nerves. Muscular contractions of the heart had been already shown to vary the electric resistance of this organ. It is now claimed that electric waves corresponding to the beating of the heart have been photographed, the electric phenomena continually altering; and it is predicted that we may be able to record the state of a person's health or the phases of hysteria of other nervous disorders, or to plot the walking and fretfulness of a peevish child.

Made voiceless by the cutting out of his larynx in an operation for cancer, an ingenious Viennese has fitted a rubber tube with vocal chords, and by means of this novel speaking apparatus, inserted in his throat, he is said to be able to produce a high falsetto voice.

Magnetized places—spots attracting iron like the lodestone—are often noticed in volcanic rocks. They have been ascribed by Folgerhalter to lightning, but he knew of no magnetized rocks that had been tested before the lightning struck. An instance has now been described. Two investigators had been testing rocks near Mount Etna

when, during a September night, lightning fused a telephone wire from which an uninsulated earth wire ran along a basaltic wall, which had previously shown scarcely a trace of magnetism. Next morning the stones of the wall were strongly magnetic for five inches on both sides of the wire, the polarity indicating that the current passed upward.

For raising sunken vessels, also for operating floating docks, Pierre Hurry, a Frenchman, proposes using calcium carbide in cans placed in the vessel or in attached floats. Electrically exploded caps would break open the cans, setting the carbide free, and generating a great volume of acetylene to force out the water.

The need of physical training in schools emphasized by the results of recent medical examination in Scotland, only a little more than half of 600 children of Aberdeen proving to be sound in health and only 171 in 600 in Edinburgh. The Swedish system of Ling is approved. In this gymnastics are classified and arranged to suit the varied individual needs, and, in addition to giving bodily develop-

ment, the exercise is expected to teach courage, obedience, alertness, decision, self-confidence and presence of mind.

HOW TO BREAK UP A COLD

It may be a surprise to many to learn that a severe cold can be completely broken up in one or two days' time. To do this, however, prompt action is necessary. The first symptoms of a cold are a dry, loud cough, a profuse watery discharge from the nose, and a thin, white coating on the tongue. When Chamberlain's cough remedy is taken every hour on the first appearance of these symptoms, it counteracts the effect of the cold and restores the system to a healthy condition within a day or two. For sale by all druggists.

EXCURSION TO OGDEN

June 10th

Via Oregon Short Line. Use any train up to 4:05 p. m.

JUNE 9TH AT OGDEN.

United Commercial Travelers.

BORN STEEL RANGES



We are the exclusive agents for the States of Utah and Idaho of the world's famous BORN STEEL PLATE RANGES, and our complete stock offers you the latest in modern range construction.

Just a little down—\$10.00—and \$1.25 per week, will secure for you one of these modern ranges, an investment that will make mother and wife contented for the rest of their days.

No home is complete without a Born Range. For 20 years they have been considered the acme of range perfection.

The strong points that make Born Steel Ranges the most desirable are: Patent removable oven bottoms that do not warp.

Balanced oven doors with patent unbreakable malleable iron hinges—no springs.

Double steel plate bodies, interlarded with asbestos.

Cast back flues that will not burn out or rust through.

Heavy cast iron tops that stand the heat and strain.

Large drop feed doors for wood and coal.

Martin Brass Bed.



The Veritas Martin Brass Bed, complete with mattress and springs. \$1.50 cash and 50c a week. The rich pattern here illustrated—genuine Veritas Martin brass finish, warranted permanent and durable—built thoroughly solid, fancy scroll spindle, strongly reinforced throughout—the tubing, tiling and chills are very heavy and the flat deck knobs are of brass, complete with woven wire spring of guaranteed construction, and a heavy 40-pound cotton top mattress—special offering this week \$20.00 \$1.50 cash and 50c a week.

YOU USE MUCH LESS ICE WHEN YOU USE

A Gurney Refrigerator

A refrigerator constructed under the Gurney system has an advantage over all others in the matter of economy of ice. The reason for this is obvious. In addition to the fact that the Gurney is made in the best possible manner, and packed with mineral wool (the value of which is too well understood to need any comment), in the Gurney system the ice is not permitted to touch and refrigerate the sidewalls of the refrigerator, but refrigerates instead the air that surrounds the ice compartment on all sides.

In the Gurney system the condensation necessary to produce dry air is largely deposited on the side walls of the galvanized ice compartments, there by leaving the ice dry.

In buying a refrigerator, do not overlook the importance of economy of ice. Whether you buy ice by the pound or the season, you buy it to use, and not to secure a prompt soft water supply.

No. 1.—Made of hard wood in golden finish; outside dimensions 20 inches wide by 20 inches deep by 14 1/2 inches high; weight 152 pounds, and has an estimated ice capacity of 51 pounds; provision chamber 13 1/2 x 13 1/2 inches; ice chamber measures 19 1/2 x 10 1/2 x 9 1/2 inches; has two adjustable sliding shelves and is zinc lined. Price.....

No. 60.—Made of hardwood, in golden finish, outside dimensions 25 inches wide by 17 1/2 inches deep by 49 inches high; weight 115 pounds, and has an estimated ice capacity of 24 pounds; provision chamber measures 17 x 12 1/2 x 16 inches; ice chamber measures 14 1/2 x 13 1/2 x 9 1/2 inches; has two adjustable sliding shelves; zinc lined. Price.....

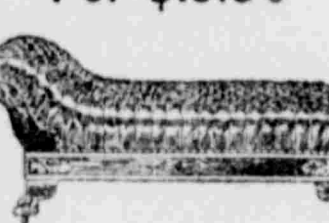
No. 8.—Made of hardwood, in golden finish; outside dimensions 24 inches wide by 19 1/2 inches deep by 47 inches high; weight 135 pounds, and has an estimated ice capacity of 51 pounds; provision chamber 15 1/2 x 17 1/2 inches; ice chamber measures 15 1/2 x 16 1/2 x 9 1/2 inches; has two adjustable sliding shelves and is zinc lined. Price.....

No. 2.—Made of hardwood, in golden finish; outside dimensions 23 inches wide by 22 inches deep by 46 inches high; weight 179 pounds, and has an estimated ice capacity of 100 pounds; provision chamber measures 25 1/2 x 16 1/2 x 12 1/2 inches; ice chamber measures 21 1/2 x 12 1/2 x 11 inches; has two adjustable sliding shelves and is zinc lined. Price.....

A handsome wedding gift will be presented with all home outfits selected at Madsen's.



This \$25.00 Velour Couch For \$15.50

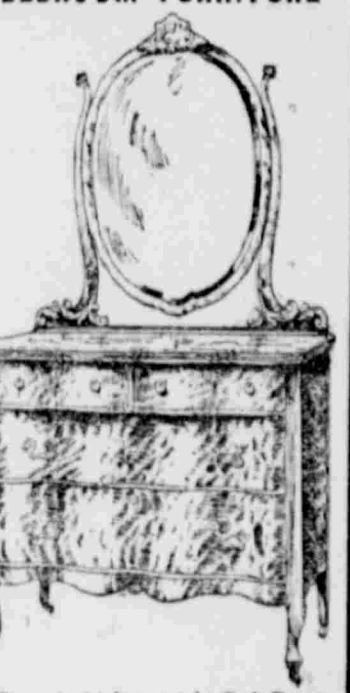


\$1.50 Down and 50 cts. a Week.

The very best Couch ever shown in Salt Lake at this price—covered with the very finest velour—guaranteed to wear equally as well as leather. The frames are of rich golden oak, claw feet, handsomely carved—upholstered on best steel springs—elegantly tufted; \$25 value; this week at Madsen's, very special for.....

\$15.00

BEDROOM FURNITURE



There is higher grade Bed Room Furniture than that of which the Dresser, Chest and Dressing Table pictured herewith are examples, but we know of none to compare with it for the money. We have a large showing; your inspection is cordially invited.

Golden Oak, Bird's Eye Maple or Mahogany Dresser, having shaped top 22 1/2 x 44 in. Beveled French plate mirror measures 36 x 30 in. and is mounted on shaped standards. Base contains two large drawers and two small ones, all having serpentine front and mounted with fancy brass handles. Dresser has French shaped legs. \$27.50 Price.....

\$1.50 cash, 15c a week.

This solid oak, golden oak finished Extension Table, exactly as here illustrated, is 42 x 42 inches in size when closed and extends to 8 feet when open. 2-inch high; very slightly and serviceable; worth \$7.75 when at Madsen's, special for.....

\$1.50 cash and 50c a week.

P. W. Madsen's Furniture & Carpet Store

Nos. 51 to 57 E. First South Street.