Float Boat





Fishin'



Boatin'







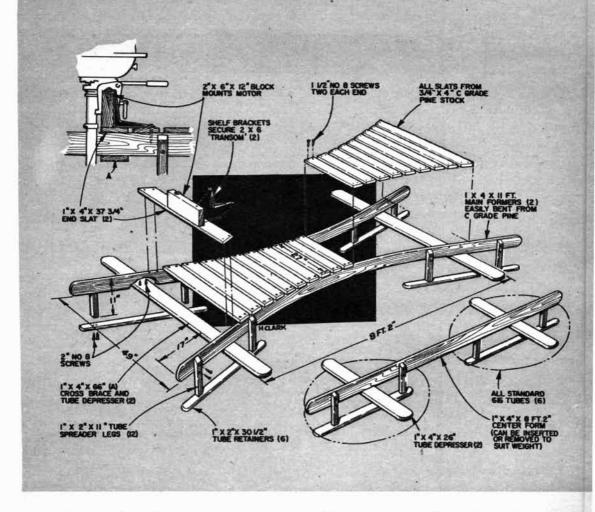
By C. C. Springfield

J. E. DAVIS, a Huntsville, Texas, insurance man, wanted to put a boat on the small lake behind his home. However, building a boat takes time and effort and he was reluctant to begin. Looking about, he saw four discarded inner tubes and some spare 1x4 lumber. He decided on a float.

The first float, about 3 ft. wide, looked like a ladder with inner tubes attached to frames at each corner. It floated like a chip but wasn't stable. Mr. Davis tried again, this time giving the "ladder" a wasp waist and a 5-ft. spread at each end. Loaded with two passengers, it performed well, but four made it sit down and become sluggish. To correct this, an additional piece of framework and two inner tubes were added. This worked like a charm.

Now Mr. Davis decided that he would like to go places on his float. He added a bracket and hung on a 3-hp motor. To really test it out, he brought the float boat to the Gulf of Mexico. It was so successful in calm and rough water and people were so interested that he applied for a patent and is now producing his creation for the market. If you can't wait to buy one, you can build your own easily by following the drawing on the opposite page. •

Mechanix Illustrated



Center section fits between cross braces and slats, is held in place by two cleats.

The float boat weighs about 60 lbs. It's easily lifted to rack on car by one man.

