

Racing Boats Run for New Record

One of Michigan's favorite autumn travel attractions this year does some traveling itself—and at almost unbelievable speeds.

At a county's Hubbard Lake, the jet-powered boat *Miss Stars and Stripes II* has been making test runs in preparation for an assault on the world water speed record.

The fascination of speed and daring draws autumn vacationers and weekend tourists to Hubbard Lake, 30 miles southwest of Al-

pena, whenever the three-ton hydroplane is in action, tearing down the nine-mile-long body of water.

TO DATE, the 31-foot aluminum craft has been clocked unofficially at speeds of about 200 m.p.h. The world record, held by Donald Campbell of England in his jet boat *Bluebird*, is 200.85 m.p.h.

Robert B. Evans of Grosse Pointe and Plymouth, owner of *Miss Stars and Stripes*, and Les Staudacher of Kawkawlin feel this challenging effort.

Michigan has more water area than any other state and we lead the nation with more than 430,000 registered water craft. It's fitting that a boat built in Michigan and owned and piloted by Michiganders should seek the world record on the waters of this state," he said.

Staudacher, the 50-year-old builder and pilot of *Miss Stars and Stripes*, has been in the controls throughout the tests as the thundering hydroplane has edged progressively closer to the magic 200 m.p.h. mark.

ON DAYS when the waters of Hubbard Lake are placid and unruffled the test crew is up before dawn, fueling the red, white and blue three-pointed and making the final adjustments that precede launching. Then, with Staudacher on hand, the delicate job of lowering the boat into the launching area is completed.

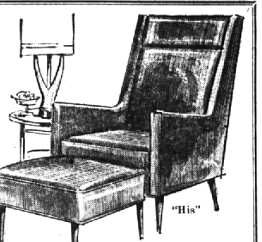
Every detail of the boat's structure has been checked with special care. For every crewman knows that when Staudacher advances the throttle he is venturing into a complex world of stresses and forces where there is little margin for error.

Seventh Graders To Participate In Math Study

All seventh grade Birmingham public school students will be involved in a nation-wide five year study of mathematical abilities. The study is sponsored by the School Mathematics Study Group (SMSG), directed by Dr. E. G. Begle of Stanford University. Dr. Leonard S. Cohen is project coordinator, assisting Dr. Begle in invitation to participate was extended to Birmingham as a result of the district's decision to adopt materials based on it.

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B-D November 1, 1962 THE BIRMINGHAM (MICH.) ECCENTRIC

The Birmingham Eccentric Features

NATURE NOW By Lydia King Freese
Special Writer for The Birmingham Eccentric

Cobwebs, Indoors And Out, Remind Us of the Spider

On late autumn jaunts afield the inquisitive traveler will see spider webs spread out on shrubs, trees or grass. Often they will be decorated with dew-drops sparkling in the late sun.

Spiders are frequently mistaken for insects. But they, together with such well known creatures as daddy long legs, scorpions, mites, ticks and king crabs belong to a group called the Arachnids.

There are some 1500 species of spiders described in 40 families. The fossil record shows that they date back to the Coal Age some 350 million years ago. Many species are recorded in fossils from the Tertiary period of 60 millions of years ago.

At this time a heavy pine forest grew in East Prussia on the shores of the Baltic sea and spiders were imprisoned in its amber made from pine resins. These may be seen today in any major Natural History museum.

The wolf spider captures its prey by pursuing it. Jumping spiders can move side-ways and backward as well as forward, while they hunt for and spring on their victims.

Crab spiders lie in wait resting upon flowers colored like themselves and so camouflaged they pounce upon any pollinating insect which appears.

NOW AS WE approach the first frosts, the common house spider and his web become the lane of many a housewife. Her aversion to it among the most interesting of all animals usually arises from ignorance of its habits and manners.

Most are harmless. Only one species in our range, the black widow, is sometimes fatal to man. It occurs rarely in the state places and old buildings and is marked with a bright red cross on the underside of its abdomen.

SPIDERS ARE easily distinguished from insects. They have four instead of three pairs of legs. The head and thorax are fused into one making two instead of three body divisions. Spiders usually have eight single eyes while insects have hundreds of organs arranged in two compound masses. Spiders do not have wings or antennae.

Weaving is a very precocious adventure among spiders and often ends in the female eating the male who is the smaller and weaker of the two.

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Plans to create a new concept in an open stage theater, to be used as a performance center for advanced students, have been announced by Wayne State University.

The theatre, to be known as the Classic Theatre, is scheduled to be built in a new building, with "Shakespeare 400," a season of repertory commemorating the 400th anniversary of the birth of Shakespeare.

The theatre will be located within a newly acquired auditorium at Cass and Hancock on the campus. The plan is for an ultimate theatre of 550 seats with a flexible open stage.

Based on the Greek and Elizabethan concept of a platform jutting forward into the audience.

THE PRESENT construction is designed as a transition theatre, only a permanent design being prepared by Michigan architect, Alden Dow.

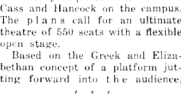
The structure will permit experiment and testing of the stage in actual performance before the final structure is completed in November and be completed by the fall of 1963.

The intimate open stage form is being adopted as the best environment for much of the classic repertory which was not written for the modern proscenium stage. It is also hoped that it will help further the development of this classic theatre form, which has met with great success in such theatres as the Stratford, Ontario, Festival Theatre and the less expensive Frank Lloyd Wright theatre in Dallas, and is being used in the new Tyrone Guthrie Theatre in Minneapolis.

THE THEATRE will be set up as a performance center for advanced students, supplementing the work already being done by the University Theatre, which will continue its regular program at the former Bonstelle theatre. The Classic Theatre is intended to help fill the gap between university theatre experience and professional work by providing a place for young actors to work and improve their craft after they no longer have the university's necessarily limited university theatre experience.

The enlarged theatre program will remain under the direction of Professor Leonard Lee, present University Theatre director, who will be assisted in the Classic Theatre by Professor Richard D. Spear, associate director and designer.

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Mrs. Freese

veloped of the Classic Theatre program.

THE FORMATION of the first acting troupe will begin immediately.

Thirty acting fellowships and grants-in-aid are being made available to outstanding young actors from colleges and universities throughout the country.

Using the facilities of the American Educational Theatre Association to reach qualified students, the theatre will first screen applicants by means of recorded auditions and the evaluations of other directors. Final selection will be made on the basis of interviews with the students at the center throughout the country.

The students chosen will be able to pursue advanced degrees while acting in the company.

THIS YEAR for the first time in postal history there is a new stamp available, produced strictly for greeting card use. It has a holly design, two candles and suggests the holiday motif. These stamps will be available approximately Nov. 1.

"Again we suggest that the greatest care be exercised in wrapping, tying or securing packages, and that all mail is addressed to the post office to which you wish your parcels," said postal officials.

AVAILABLE in the lobby of the post office will be labels to place on greeting cards. It is suggested you secure your cards and label them (Local-Birmingham) or (Out of State) as the case may be. This assists us in expediting your mail.

"Office hours will be expanded during the Christmas season; however, at this time the exact hours are not determined; they will be published at a later date. The Annex will be open this year as an additional station where parcels may be mailed a d stamps produced."

WHEN THE desk and chair are delivered Saturday they will not only lift the whole face of this spot into respectability, but undoubtedly the new set will mean more thinking's such a simple thing.

"Look at these two deep drawers on each side, darling," I said to the man who had to be sold on the idea.

"No longer will it be necessary to pile up this stuff standing on top of the shelves," (Whenever company was expected this embarrassment was simply and quickly taken care of by merely draping green napkins over the mountains of clippings, notes, pads and paper.)

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During the first six months of 1962, General Motors employed an average of 935,225 men and women throughout the world, and payrolls totaled a record \$1,936 million. In the U. S. alone, the average monthly payroll averaged 343,688, compared with 294,332 in the corresponding period of 1961, and weekly earnings averaged \$137.43 compared to \$122.22.

MAIL NOW for Overseas, Post Office Suggests

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"Included in your mail planning, consider mailing those parcels and greeting cards to remote states such as California as early as possible to eliminate last minute bottlenecks and delays," the post office officials said.

The Post Office Department increases all facilities to handle the holiday mail increase in mail volume at Christmas-time however last mailing can complete services.

ENGLISHMAN John Cobb brought the jet into the picture and sped 206.89 m.p.h. one way through the trap but was killed on the return when the boat's Crusader, disintegrated.

But in 1955 Donald Campbell set up the world record on the waters of Michigan's Hubbard Lake.

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WSU Plans for Open Stage Theater, Repertory company

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THE COMMEMORATIVE opening season, "Shakespeare 400," will be presented as a cooperative program with the Detroit Academy.

The repertoire will consist of four plays chosen from the following: "Julius Caesar," "Romeo and Juliet," "Anthony and Cleopatra," "Henry IV, Part I," "The Merry Wives of Windsor," "All's Well That Ends Well."

When the late H. C. L. Jackson was writing his delightful nightly column for one of our papers, he used to relate — every now and then — how his damn dog would do their best to wean him away from his Christmas, beloved bathrobe.

(Each Christmas after admiring and enjoying the new practical desk, plus chair to match, will be delivered and placed in the corner of this tiny den.

It has'nt been lamented for so long a decade that this wobbly, seven dollar typewriter stand was absolutely courting disaster every time the typewriter was set down toward the edge. Unless the eye were keen (to lug it back before it tumbled), the user could find himself facing a typewriter protruding on the floor. (Yes, this has been lamented many times.)

AS FOR THE kitchen chair, its seat exposed hunks of cotton a long time ago but these were covered quite nicely with an old cushion. On top of the lumpy chair and cushion was draped, quite artistically, a folded up red luncheon cloth — long enough to cover the table.

It takes no wisdom at all to deduct that these two old pieces must be carried down to the Furniture Cemetery next to the furniture room without any remorse.

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"Look at these two deep drawers on each side, darling," I said to the man who had to be sold on the idea.

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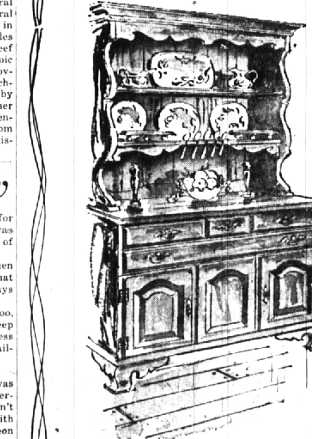
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"Look dear salesman; he was a jewel."

YES, IT'S going to be wonderful to sit on a chair which isn't lumpy and which isn't draped with a wrinkled red Christmas luncheon cloth. It's going to be uplifting to place the typewriter on top of a nice, wide, smooth desk top and still have plenty of room for pads of paper and maybe a book without anything being crowded or falling off onto the floor.

With this set of stuff standing on top of the shelves, this faithful old typewriter will probably be so delighted with its environment that it will show its gratitude by simply and quickly taking care of by merely draping green napkins over the mountains of clippings, notes, pads and paper.

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