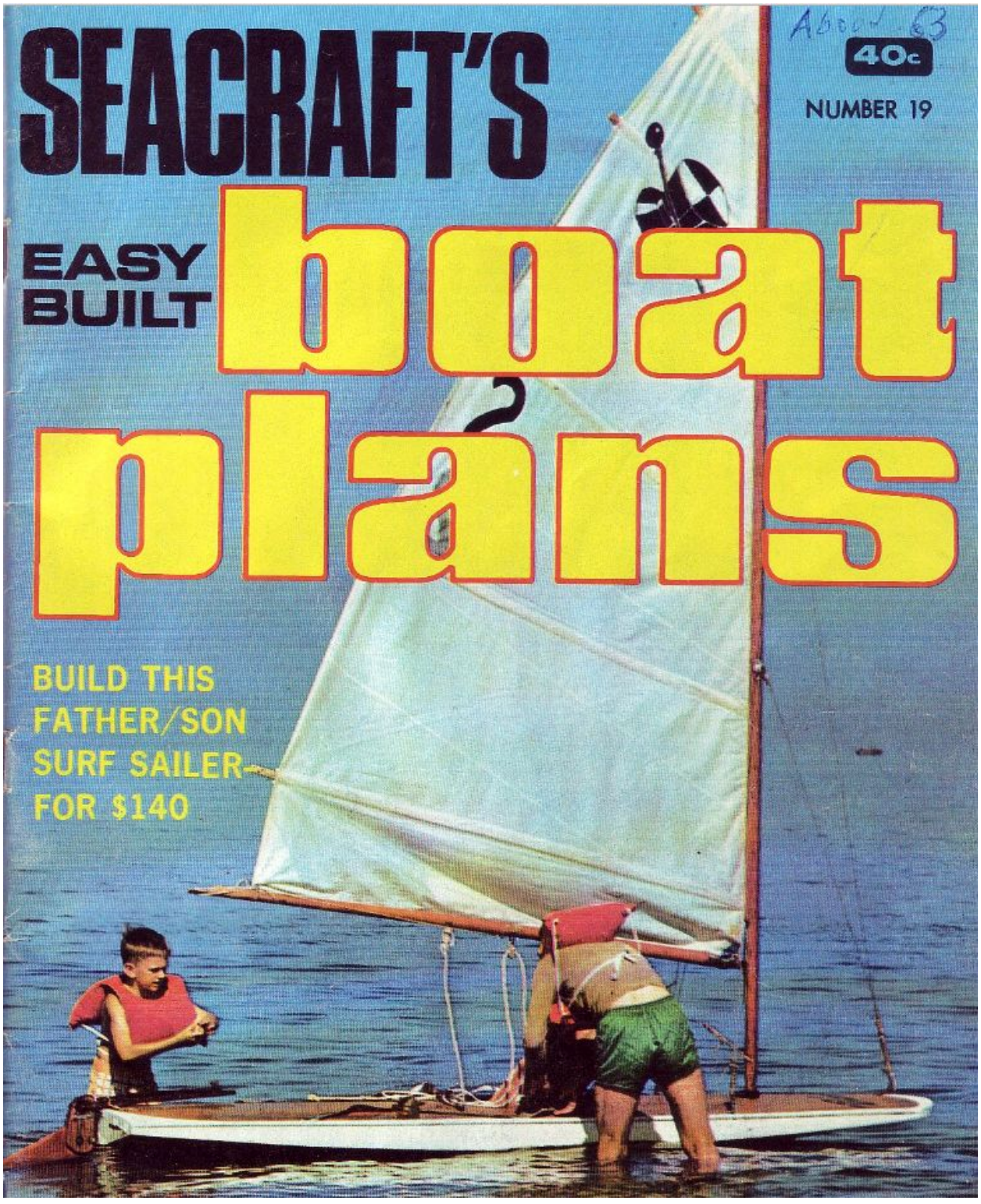


Australian Sailfish Plans

The **Australian Sailfish** was a **scow** version of Alcort American Sailfish. Like the American Sailfish it was a sit-on-top design but the Australian's went with a higher marconi performance rig with full battens. Also, like the American Sailfish, it was designed to be quickly built out of plywood by amateurs.

A quick history…..

- In 1958, the first two Australian Sailfish were designed and built by two sailors, Bruce Scott with Sailfish #1 *Little Osprey*, and Jack Carroll with Sailfish #2 *Debonoir.*
- A class association was formed in 1963.
- Over 780 sets of plans were sold.

This PDF file contains images from the original plans. In building the Sailfish, frames were set up on the center deck beam and keelson and not attached to a mold. Unfortunately the frame dimensions are not given in the normal X,Y coordinate plane but are linear dimensions along planked edges (the designers expected you to have a set of full size plans at hand). This makes it best, before you start building, to sketch up the sections small scale or build a small model.

All dimensions are in English. You will have to do your own metric conversions.

The deck is cambered with the following curves…..

Frame 1 and Frame 6 = 1 inch or 25 mm.
Frames 2, 3, 4, 5 - 1 1/16 inch or 27 mm

CLASS RESTRICTIONS

HULL MUST BE BUILT STRICTLY TO PLAN.
Gunwales not to exceed 1 in. either side of boat.
Minimum weight — 63 lb.
There must be no lift in the deck at all.

MAST:
Made of wood or aluminium and not taller than 12 ft 6 in. No taper.

BOOM:
Made of wood or aluminium, and not longer than 7 ft 6 in. and not deeper than 3 ins.

RIGGING:
Optional, but with no hyfield lever control for a jumper stay. There must be a minimum of three stays to the mast with the hound fitting at a minimum height of 6 ft 6 in. above the deck.

SAIL:
(Mainsail only). Not to be more than 36 square feet, to be measured as per plan, but can be smaller. Not more than three battens and no loose foot.

FITTINGS:
Optional, but no cam cleats, hyfield levers and roller-reefing.

HIKING DEVICES:
Swing straps only. No planks or trapezes.

CENTRE PLATE:
Can be of the dagger or swing type and to be made of wood only (not balsa). Shape optional within specifications and not bigger than 3 ft x 1 ft x $\frac{3}{4}$ in.

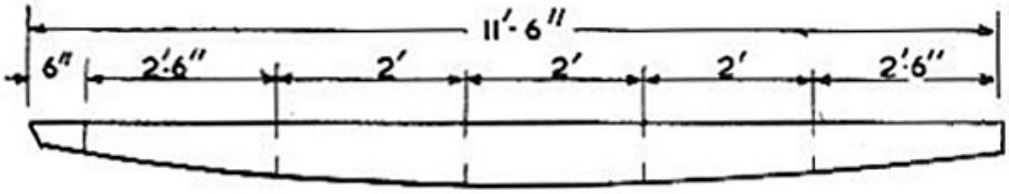
RUDDER BLADE:
Shape optional and not bigger than 26$\frac{1}{2}$ in. x 6 in., $\frac{1}{2}$ in. minimum width of timber, or $\frac{1}{4}$ in. minimum width of aluminium.

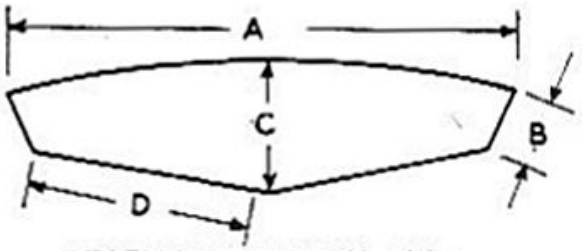
TIMBER LIST

SUGGESTED TIMBERS: Oregon, meranti or similar light timber. All timbers are to dressed sizes. No minus tolerances are allowed on timber sizes.

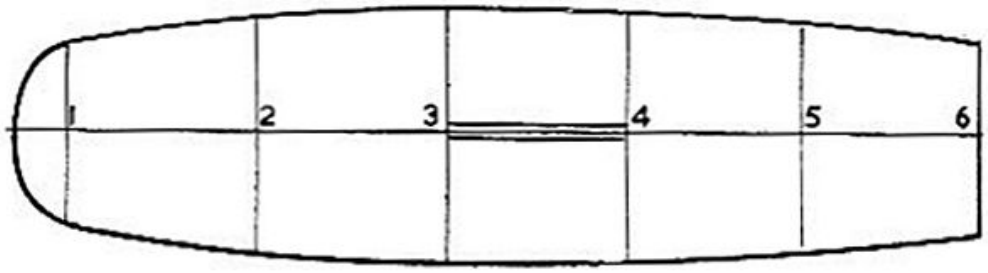
1 off 4 in. x $\frac{1}{2}$ in. 12 ft deck strongback
1 off 3 in. x $\frac{3}{4}$ in. 12 ft keel
2 off 6 in. x $\frac{1}{2}$ in. 12 ft sides
1 off 6 in. x $\frac{1}{2}$ in. 6 ft rudder blade and transom
2 off 10 in. x $\frac{1}{2}$ in. 2 ft centreplate case
2 off 1 in. x 1 in. 1 ft centreplate case
2 off $\frac{1}{2}$ in. x $\frac{1}{2}$ in. 12 ft gunwales
9 off $\frac{1}{2}$ in. x $\frac{1}{2}$ in. 10 ft stringers and supporting blocks
1 off $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. x 1 in. 3 ft tiller
1 off $\frac{3}{4}$ in. x $\frac{3}{4}$ in. 2 ft tiller extension
1 off 6 in. x $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. 2 ft noseblock
1 off 12 in. x $\frac{3}{4}$ in. 3 ft centreplate
2 off $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. x 1 in. 13 ft mast
2 off 2 in. x $\frac{3}{4}$ in. 7 ft 6 in. boom
1 sheet 6 ft x 3 ft x $\frac{1}{4}$ in. marine plywood for frames and rudder-stock
2 sheets 11 ft x 9 in. x $\frac{3}{16}$ in. marine plywood for deck and bottom

HULL DIMENSIONS





SECTION THROUGH HULL



		A	B	C	D
DIMENSIONS AT FRAME	1	1'-9 1/2"	1 1/2"	3 7/8"	10 3/4"
	2	2'-5"	3 7/8"	7 13/16"	14 1/2"
	3	2'-9 1/2"	5 1/16"	9 1/2"	16 3/4"
	4	2'-10 7/8"	5 1/16"	9 1/2"	17 3/8"
	5	2'-9 1/2"	4"	8 5/8"	16 3/4"
	6	2'-3 5/8"	2 1/16"	5 7/8"	13 7/8"

THESE DIMENSIONS INCLUDE THE SIDES BOTTOM AND DECK

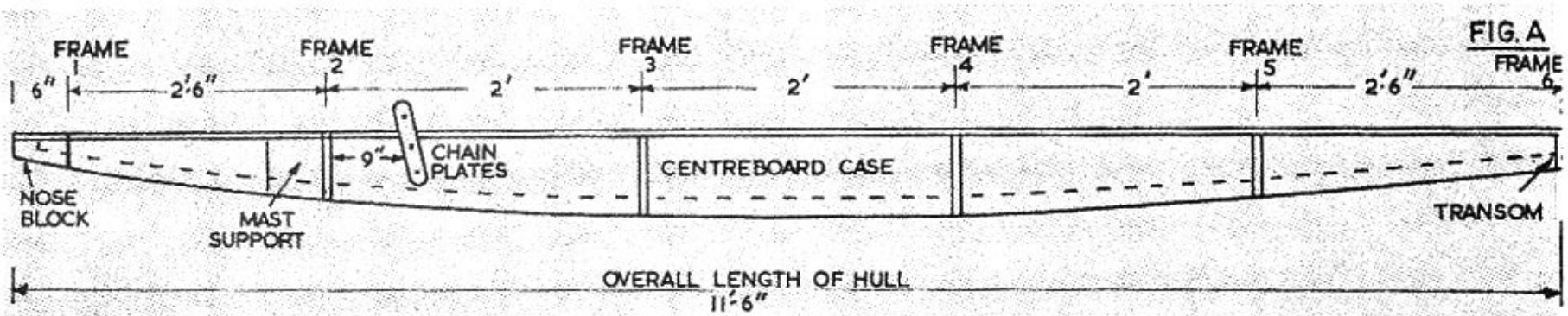
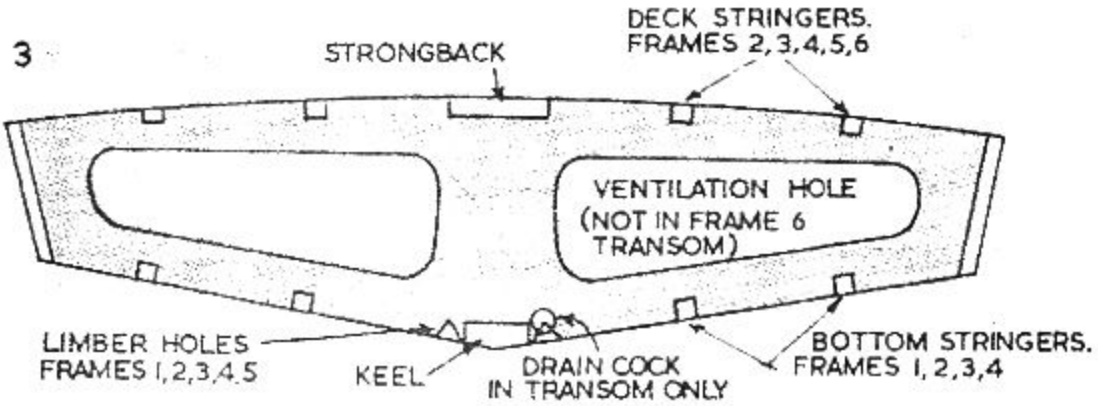


FIG. A

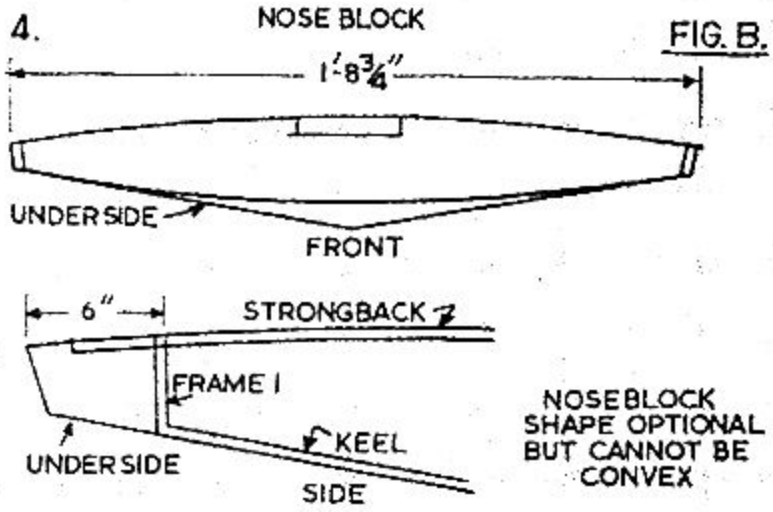
1. SIDE VIEW OF HULL SHOWING POSITIONS OF FRAMES IN RELATION TO STRONGBACK, TRANSOM, NOSE BLOCK & PLATE CASE

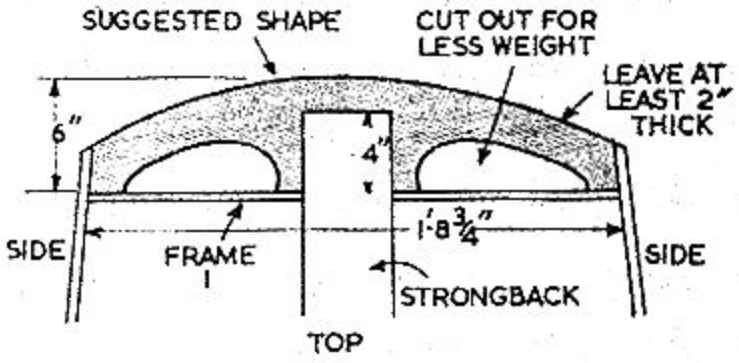
3



FRAME SHOWING CUT OUT SECTIONS

4.





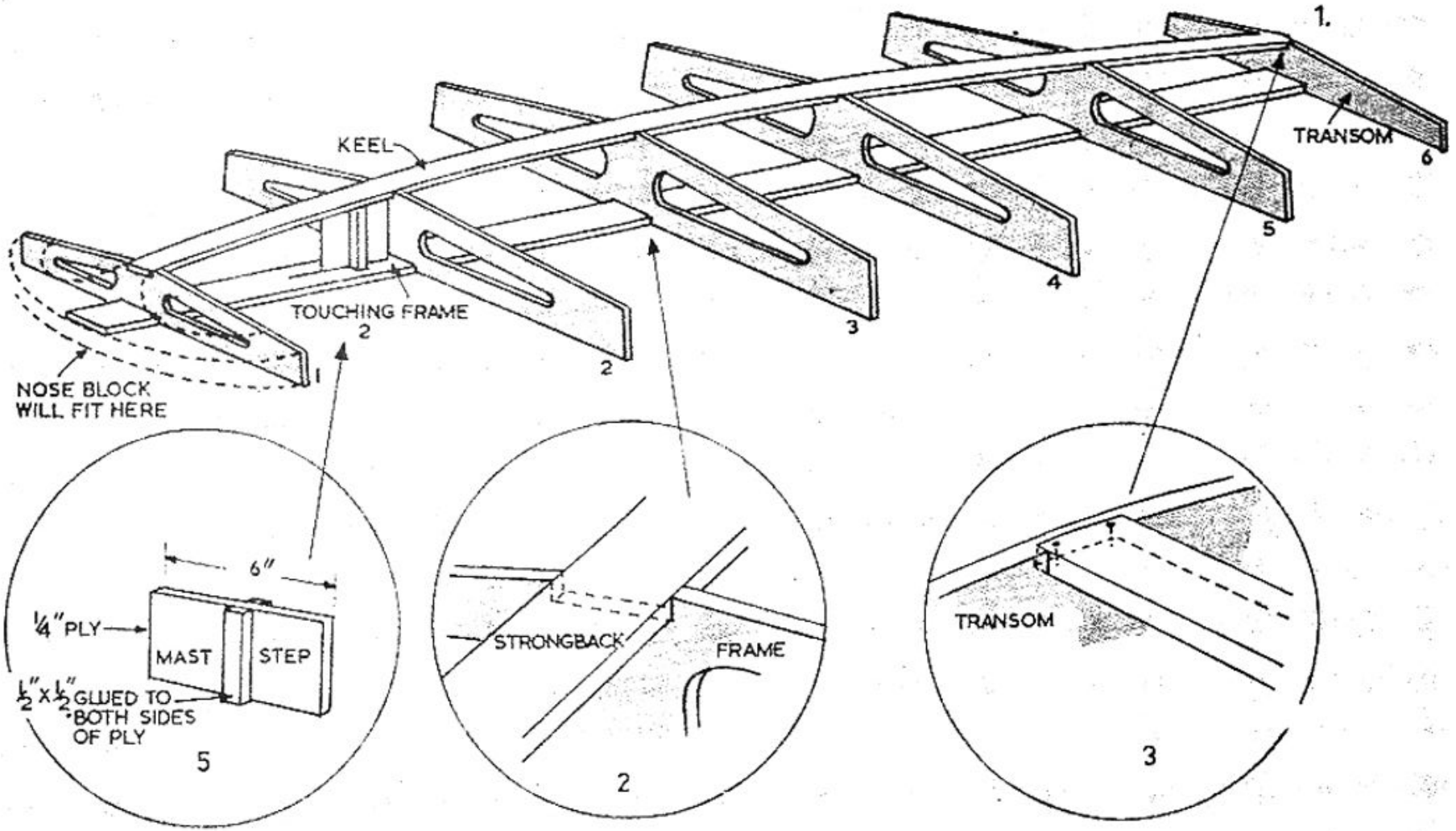
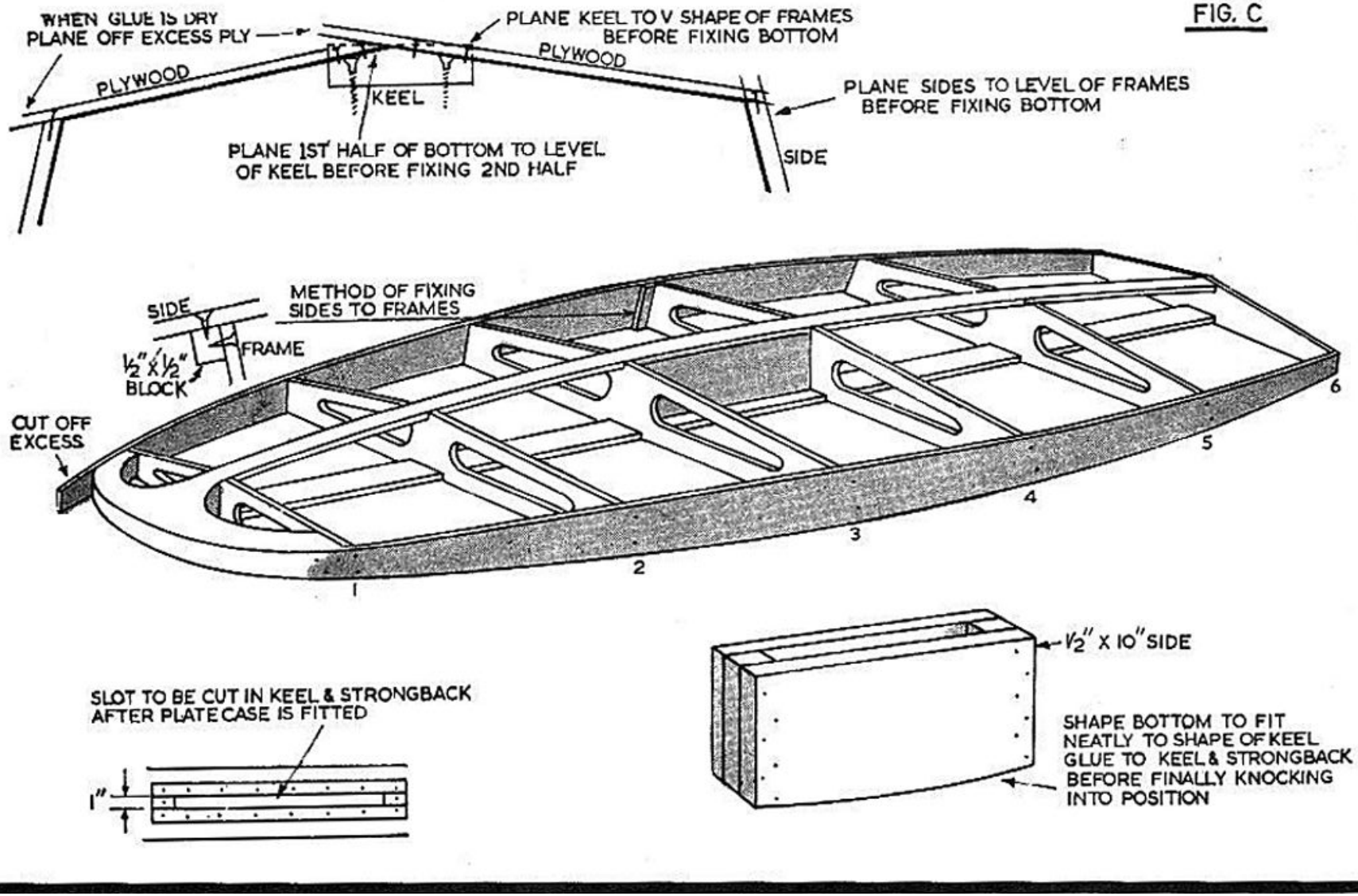
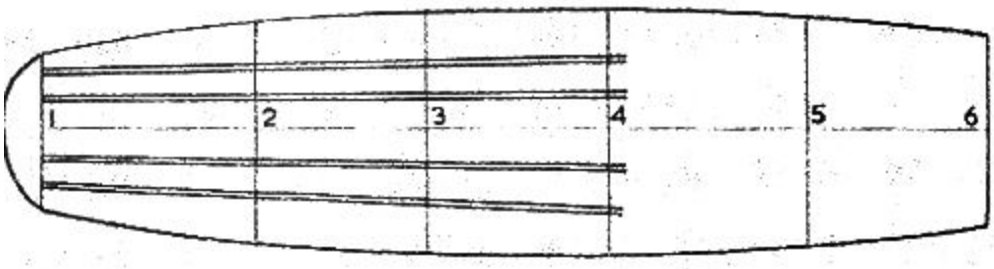

1.
KEEL
TRANSOM
6
5
4
3
2
1
TOUCHING FRAME
2
NOSE BLOCK
WILL FIT HERE
6"
¼" PLY
MAST
STEP
½" x ½" GLUED TO BOTH SIDES OF PLY
5
STRONGBACK
FRAME
2
TRANSOM
3

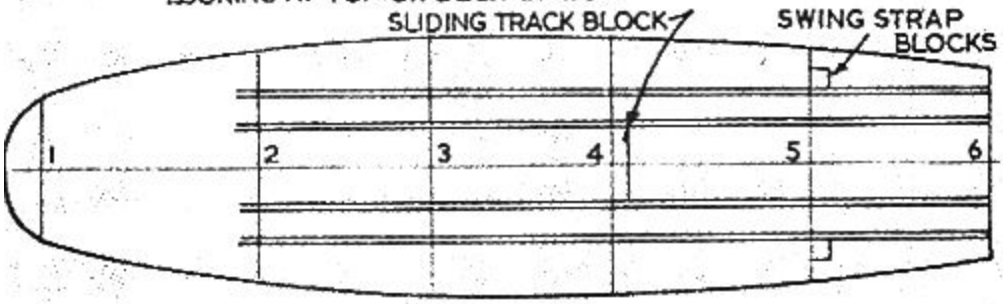
FIG. C


WHEN GLUE IS DRY
PLANE OFF EXCESS PLY
PLYWOOD
PLANE KEEL TO V SHAPE OF FRAMES
BEFORE FIXING BOTTOM
PLYWOOD
KEEL
PLANE SIDES TO LEVEL OF FRAMES
BEFORE FIXING BOTTOM
PLANE 1ST HALF OF BOTTOM TO LEVEL
OF KEEL BEFORE FIXING 2ND HALF
SIDE
METHOD OF FIXING
SIDES TO FRAMES
SIDE
FRAME
½" x ½"
BLOCK
CUT OFF
EXCESS
1
2
3
4
5
6
½" X 10" SIDE
SHAPE BOTTOM TO FIT
NEATLY TO SHAPE OF KEEL
GLUE TO KEEL & STRONGBACK
BEFORE FINALLY KNOCKING
INTO POSITION
SLOT TO BE CUT IN KEEL & STRONGBACK
AFTER PLATE CASE IS FITTED
1"

2. POSITION OF STRINGERS LOOKING AT BOTTOM OF BOAT



LOOKING AT TOP OR DECK OF BOAT



MATERIALS LIST

(Marine Plywood)

Sides and bottom 3 pcs. $\frac{1}{4}$" x 8' x 4' (use scrap to cover seats, make floor boards).

Transom 1 pc. $\frac{3}{8}$" x 42" x 20".

Centre board, centre board case, and rudder 1 pc $\frac{3}{8}$" x 4' x 3'.

Other Timber:
(oregon, maple, etc)

Chines	2 pcs. $1\frac{5}{8}$" x $\frac{3}{4}$" x 10'
Keelson	1 pc. $3\frac{3}{4}$" x $\frac{3}{4}$" x 9'
Keel (outside)	1 pc. 2" x $\frac{3}{4}$" x 9'
Clamps	2 pcs. $1\frac{1}{2}$" x $\frac{3}{4}$" x 12'
Seat risers	2 pcs. $1\frac{1}{2}$" x $\frac{3}{4}$" x 12'
Ribs (2 per pc.)	5 pcs. $1\frac{1}{4}$" x $\frac{3}{4}$" x 4'
Transom frame	1 pc. 3" x $\frac{3}{4}$" x 10' 1 pc. 8" x $\frac{3}{4}$" x 1'
Stem	1 pc. 8" x $1\frac{3}{4}$" x 3'
Mouldings	2 pcs. $1\frac{1}{4}$" x $\frac{3}{4}$" x 12'
Skeg	1 pc. 4" x $\frac{3}{4}$" x 3'
Seats	1 pc. 12" x $\frac{3}{4}$" x 12'. $\frac{5}{8}$" exterior plywood may be substituted
Mast	2 pcs. $2\frac{3}{8}$"x$1\frac{3}{16}$"x15' spruce or oregon 2 pcs. $1\frac{3}{16}$"x$\frac{3}{4}$"x15' spruce or oregon

Boom — 2 pcs. $1\frac{5}{8}$" x $1\frac{3}{16}$" x 9' spruce or oregon.

Tiller, king posts, bed logs, centre board head — 1 pc. 3" x $\frac{3}{4}$" x 7'0" ash.

Mast step	1 pc. 3" x $1\frac{1}{2}$" x 10" ash
Form	1 pc. 2" x 10" x 10'
Mould frame	Sides 1 pc. $3\frac{3}{4}$" x $\frac{3}{4}$" x 8' Bottoms 2 pcs. 6' x 2" x 8'

4 gross 1" No 8 flathead screws

$\frac{1}{2}$ gross $\frac{3}{4}$" No 8 flathead screws (for fastening plywood joints)

4 dozen $1\frac{1}{2}$" No 8 flathead screws

1 dozen $1\frac{1}{4}$" No 8 flathead screws

1 dozen 2" No 8 flathead screws

2 $\frac{1}{4}$" x $4\frac{1}{2}$" carriage bolts

8 $\frac{3}{16}$" x $3\frac{1}{2}$" metal threads

$\frac{1}{2}$ lb 1" grooved nails

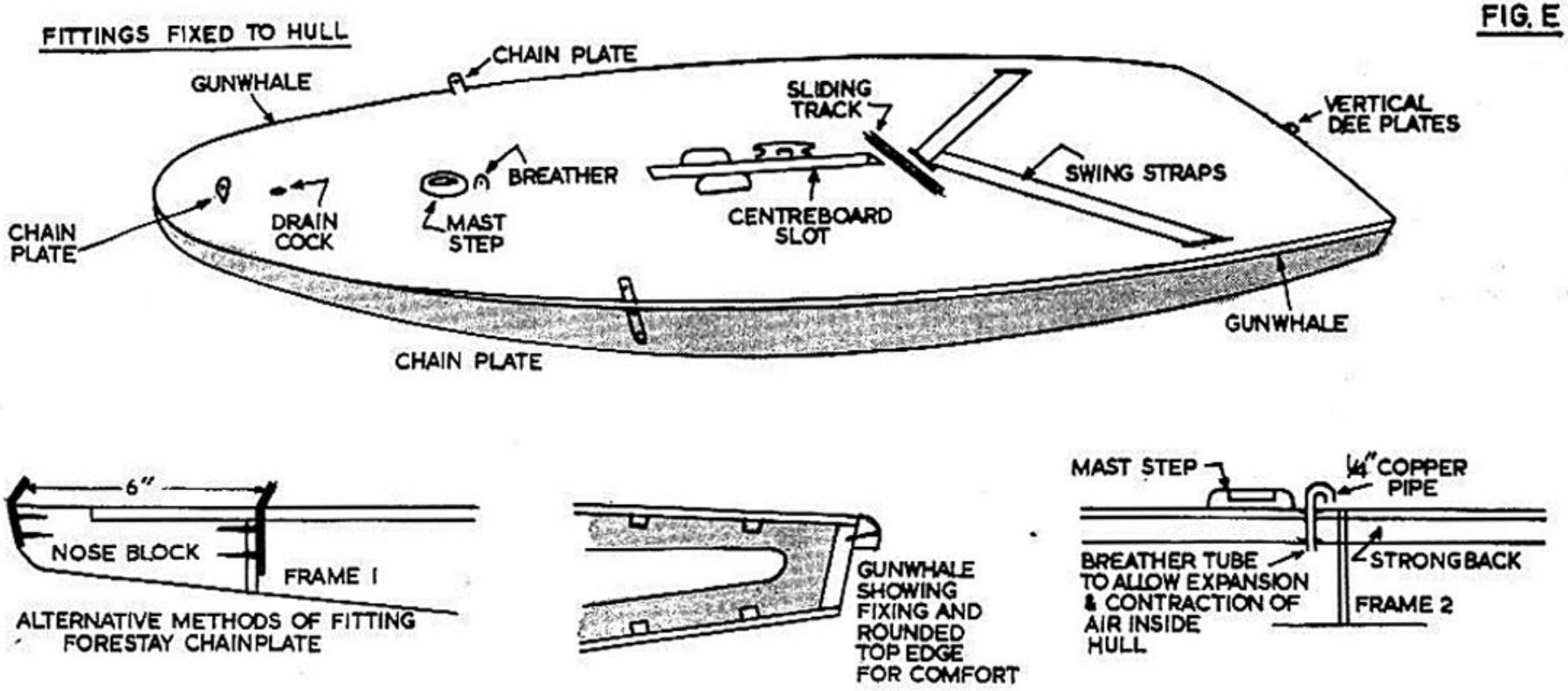
1 quart resorcinol glue

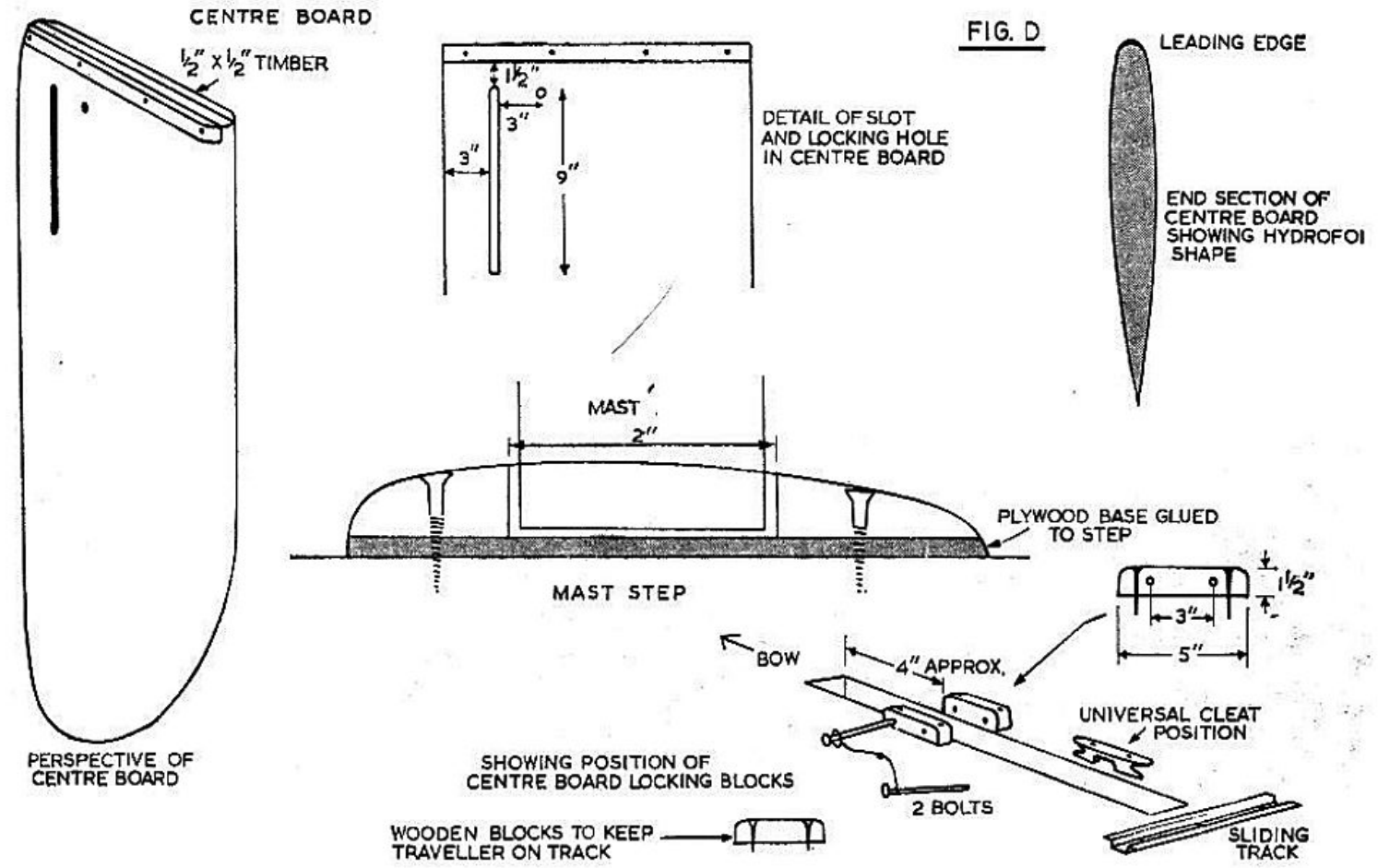
1 gallon paint or varnish

Fittings:

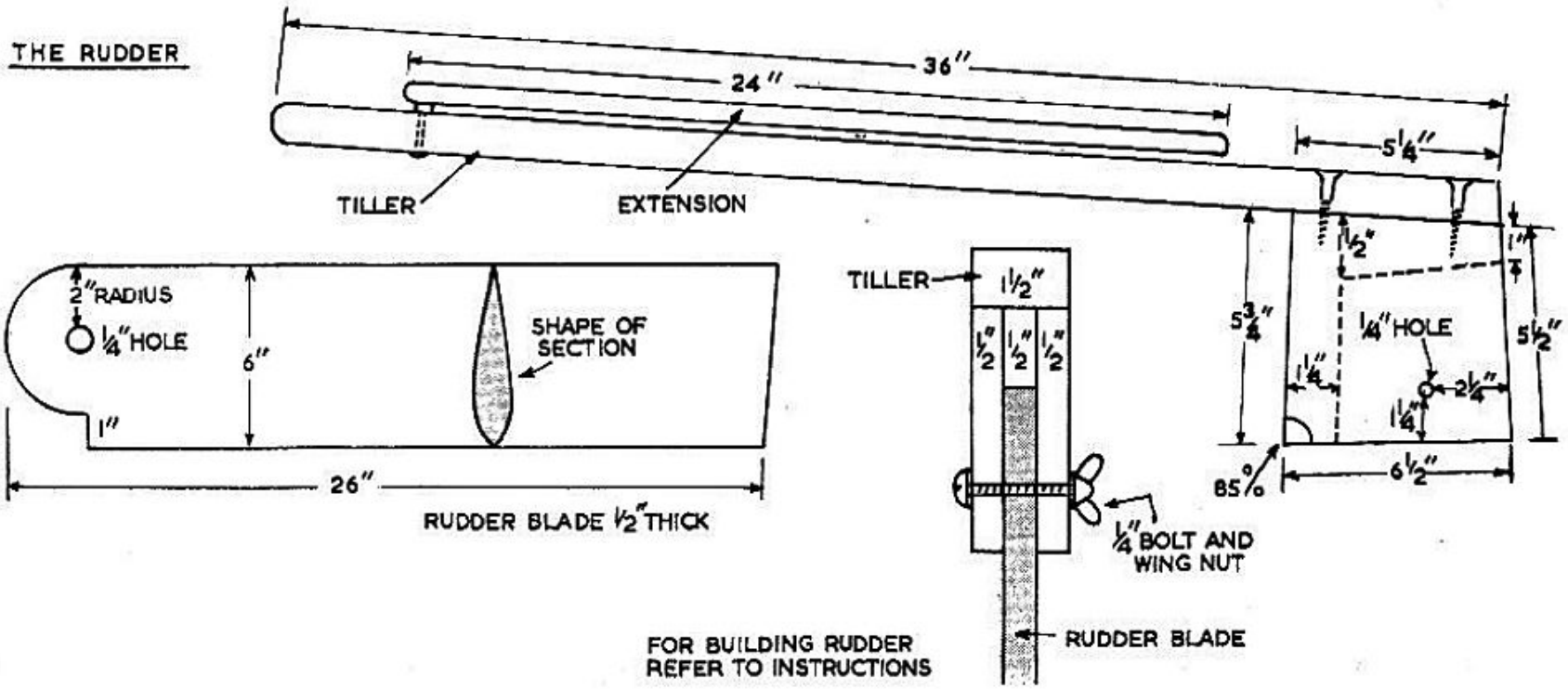
1 pr oarlock 1 bow plate 2 lifting handles

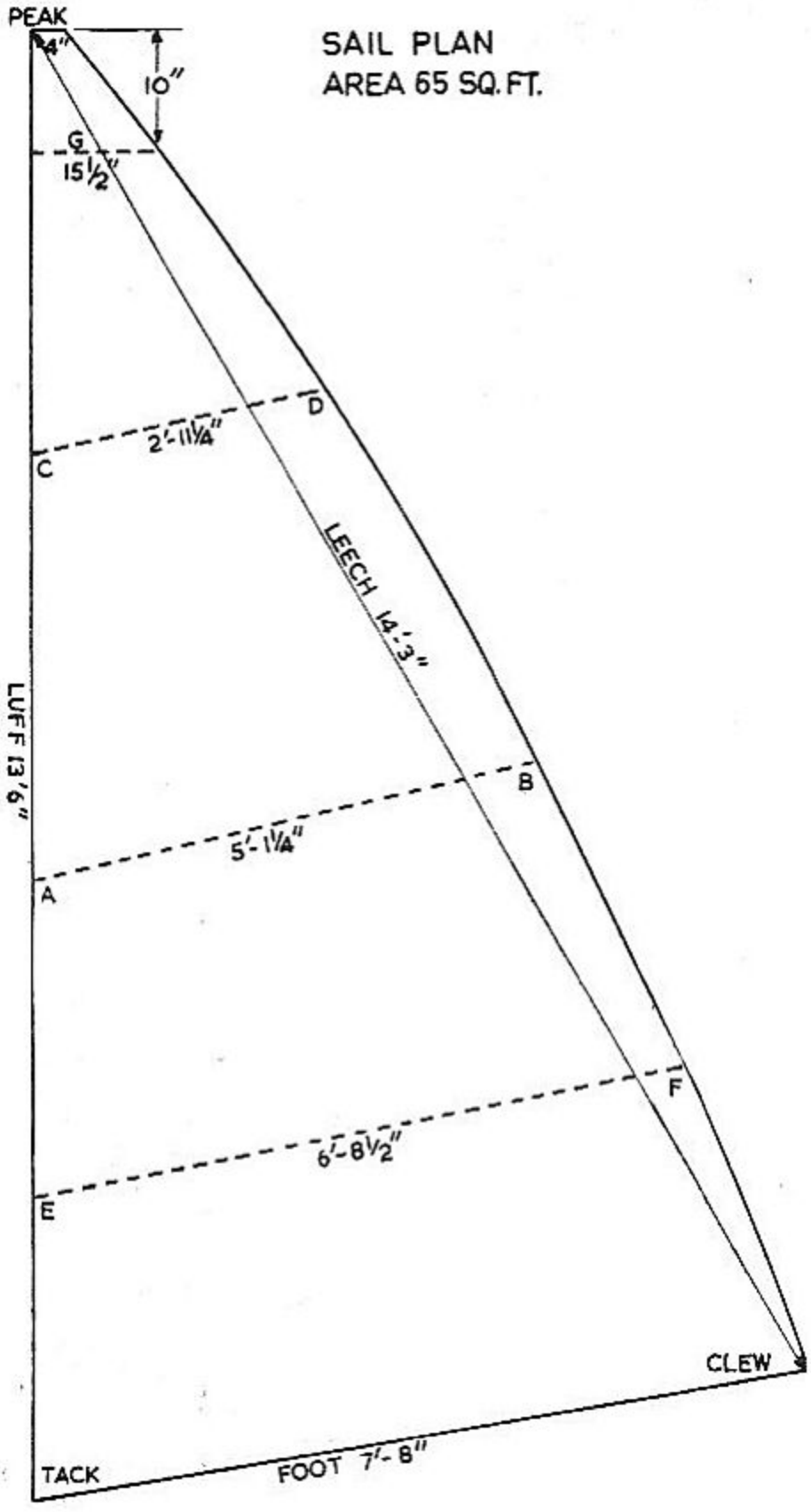
FIG. E


FITTINGS FIXED TO HULL
CHAIN PLATE
GUNWHALE
SLIDING TRACK
VERTICAL DEE PLATES
BREATHER
SWING STRAPS
CHAIN PLATE
DRAIN COCK
MAST STEP
CENTREBOARD SLOT
GUNWHALE
CHAIN PLATE
6"
NOSE BLOCK
FRAME 1
ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF FITTING FORESTAY CHAINPLATE
GUNWHALE SHOWING FIXING AND ROUNDED TOP EDGE FOR COMFORT
MAST STEP
¼" COPPER PIPE
BREATHER TUBE TO ALLOW EXPANSION & CONTRACTION OF AIR INSIDE HULL
STRONGBACK
FRAME 2


CENTRE BOARD
½" x ½" TIMBER
PERSPECTIVE OF CENTRE BOARD
1½"
3"
3"
9"
DETAIL OF SLOT AND LOCKING HOLE IN CENTRE BOARD
FIG. D
LEADING EDGE
END SECTION OF CENTRE BOARD SHOWING HYDROFOI SHAPE
MAST
2"
PLYWOOD BASE GLUED TO STEP
MAST STEP
1½"
3"
5"
BOW
4" APPROX.
UNIVERSAL CLEAT POSITION
SHOWING POSITION OF CENTRE BOARD LOCKING BLOCKS
2 BOLTS
WOODEN BLOCKS TO KEEP TRAVELLER ON TRACK
SLIDING TRACK

THE RUDDER


36"
24"
5¼"
TILLER
EXTENSION
2" RADIUS
¼" HOLE
6"
1"
SHAPE OF SECTION
26"
RUDDER BLADE ½" THICK
TILLER
1½"
½"
1"
½"
1"
½"
5¾"
85°
1½"
1"
5½"
¼" HOLE
1¼"
2¼"
1¼"
6½"
¼" BOLT AND WING NUT
RUDDER BLADE
FOR BUILDING RUDDER REFER TO INSTRUCTIONS



SAIL PLAN
AREA 65 SQ. FT.


Nomair