

# HARLEM BOATING CLINGS TO PAST

But Only Three Yacht Clubs  
Remain on Stream Once a  
Centre of Activity.

## ISHAM Y. C. IS LISTED

Has Splendid Setting at Spuyten  
Duyvil Creek—Rowing, Scul-  
ling Groups Busy.

Once a centre of yachting activity in New York, the now oily banks of the Harlem River are lined only sparsely with small boat clubs, the sole relics of a glamorous past. Where once the finest of pleasure-craft cruised and raced, tugs and barges now ply their daily course.

The expansion of the city, the subsequent littering of the Harlem, and the gradual transformation of the stream into a ship canal connecting the East River with the Hudson, account for its desertion as a yachting centre.

There are only three genuine yacht clubs left on the Harlem and of these only one, the Isham Park Yacht Club, is out of the district of factories.

### Has Sequestered Cove.

Situated on a privately owned island in a sequestered cove on the south side of Spuyten Duyvil Creek a short distance below the Columbia University boathouse, and sheltered by the wooded eminence of Isham Park, this little club has a setting of isolated beauty almost unbelievable within the city limits.

A flotilla of thirty boats, ranging from 20 feet to the 50-foot Aquila of Commodore Fred Jensen and the similarly roomy Sport of Captain Charles Werner, is harbored in the shallow cove.

Founded eight years ago, the club has only thirty-five members but there is almost a per capita average of one boat to a member, indicating the extent of the organization's interest in yachting.

The next evidence that yachting still exists on the Harlem is offered in Robinson's Boathouse in Sherman Creek, near the juncture of the Speedway with Dyckman Street. Twenty small craft are moored there, preparing for Summer cruising. This is a favorite Winter base for owners of small craft who have no yacht club affiliation.

On the river proper a short distance east of Sherman Creek is the Val-Ray Boat Club, founded in 1911. Although this club has sixty-five members, there are only eight or nine boats in its fleet.

### Catherine the Largest Boat!

The largest boat in the club is the Catherine, a 40-foot cruiser owned by John Olsen. Commodore Patrick Loughran has mapped an attractive Summer program of Sunday outings, dances and chowder parties.

Beneath the protecting lee of the sea wall along the Speedway lies the Atalanta Boat Club. Founded as a rowing club in 1847, it is the second oldest of New York's boating organizations, but only in the past fifteen or twenty years has it been classified as a yachting organization.

There are eight boats in its slips or tied at its dock, dominated by the 38-foot Elsimore of Commodore William Moran. Membership has been increasing in the last year or so.

On the north shore of the Harlem River below University Heights are two of the largest yacht-building plants in New York, the Consolidated Shipbuilding Corporation and the New York Yacht, Launch and Engine Corporation.

### Canoeing Clubs Along River.

Here and there along the river are a number of boating and canoeing clubs. These, however, disclaim all interest in yachting, and take great pride in their traditional rowing and sculling. As Max

Hirsch of the Nonpareil Boat Club and a prominent figure in the New York Rowing Association, put it, "Human power is still the ideal form of marine locomotion for us."

The Nonpareil Boat Club is this year celebrating its sixtieth anniversary. The Lone Star, Union, Nassau, Viking and Metropolitan are the other outstanding boat clubs which remain steadfast to rowing and sculling.

## Out of the Mail Bag.

### Motor Boat Editor:

Our public library here takes the Sunday edition of THE NEW YORK TIMES, and from its pages I conceived the idea of writing for the following information. I would like to know where one might obtain at a reasonable price the complete plans and patterns (full size) to build a small sail boat, possibly 15 feet long, which would draw a minimum amount of water. These must be reliable, that an amateur could build and rig it successfully, more especially the rigging. H. J. JAKOBE.

Bonne Terre, Mo.

Many of the boat yards have branch departments for supplying patterns. Among the firms which specialize in knock-down parts for boats, some of which also will supply designs and patterns, are Brooks Boat Company, Inc., Saginaw West Side, Mich.; J. B. Welch, Inc., 3,209 North Forty-first Street, Milwaukee, Wis.; Santa Rosa Boat Works, Milton, Fla., and Bay City Boats, 1,478 Adams Street, Bay City, Mich. The Mead Gliders, 12 South Market Street, Chicago, specialize in knock-down sailing ki-yaks. For designs and descriptions in non-technical language you would obtain much valuable information from the book "Thirty Easy-to-Build Sail Boats," sold by Motor Boating, Fifty-seventh Street at Eighth Avenue, New York City. If you plan to equip your boat with an outboard motor, you can obtain information and catalogues from Evinrude-Elto, Johnson, Caille or Cross Gear and Engine Company, dealers.