

“Kamp-ous” Trailer

“Kamp-ous” Trailer
by Leo G. Davis

Popular Home Craft
June 1946

"Kamp-ous" Trailer

FOR REFERENCE ONLY, NOT TO BE USED TO BUILD A TRAILER.

The magazine cover features a central photograph of a young girl in a blue dress and white shoes standing next to a stone wishing well. She is holding a wooden bucket and a small card. The well is built with rough-hewn stones and has a wooden frame with a rope bucket hanging from it. The background shows a garden with various plants and a white house.

Popular
HOME CRAFT

Home Improvement
Home Workshop

JUNE 1946
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This Attractive Wishing Well Is Easy To Build
Also Plans in this Issue for
OUTDOOR LOUNGE SET • "KAMP-OUS" TRAILER and many others

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By LEO G. DAVIS



DO YOU like to travel by car? But do you worry about where you are to sleep at night? Did you ever drive half the night looking for a cabin, and then bunk beside the road, only to be driven into the rear seat by the rain? How do you like setting up a tent after dark or cooking among mosquitoes and in bad weather?

That's what I thought! Me too! However, I have solved all these troubles by merely cross-breeding the little camp trailer onto the larger house trailer, and christened it a "Kamp-ous."

In this six-by-six "Kamp-ous" we have all the necessities for two people to cook, eat and sleep in perfect comfort. Equipped and provisioned for the road, it weighs well under 1,000 pounds.

Here is the general plan. There is a bunk 6 feet long by 2 feet wide across each end . . . same size as army cots. Between the bunks, opposite the door there is a cupboard, the door of which swings down to form the table. There is room for 2 large drawers between the wheels, under the rear bunk, and larger storage space under the front

bunk, as well as 2 storage units below the cupboard, one of which could well be insulated as an icebox. There is also a medicine cabinet with mirror door similar to that in your bathroom.

Now let's try putting it all together. We offer no details on the chassis, except that plans provide for 6 x 16" tires, with the axle centered just 15 inches from rear of the frame. Springs on such a light trailer toss things about and cause more trouble than without springs. About 10 pounds of

air in the tires is sufficient to absorb the shock of modern highways.

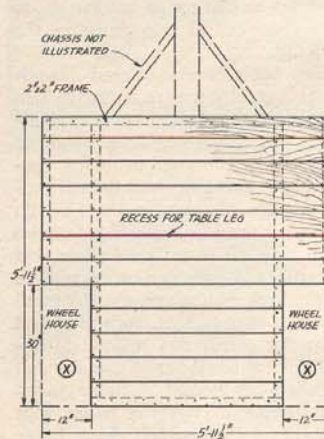
Fig. 1 shows the frame which must be exactly $\frac{1}{2}$ " short of 6' wide. This is so your 6-foot end-roof panels will overlap the sidewalls exactly. The exact length of the body is not so important. A single 12-penny nail at each joint is sufficient to hold it together until the floor boards are secured. However, a full sheet of your plywood may be tacked underneath the frame, to serve as a giant square. If this base frame is not square the body will be "warped" accordingly.

Floor boards should be drilled for these large screws. But the $\frac{3}{4}$ " screws may be started with the hammer. All screws should be staggered as shown in Fig. 1 so as not to split the 2-by-2 frame work. A brace-and-bit screwdriver is most practical.

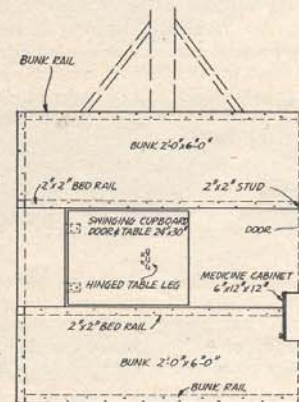
The 16-foot bats should be soaked

BILL OF MATERIALS

- 9 sheets of quarter-inch waterproof plywood 6'x4'.
- 8 pieces 1"x6" flooring 6' long . . . main floor section.
- 4 pieces 1"x6" flooring 4' long . . . between the wheels.
- 23 pieces good grade 2"x2"x6" . . . for framework.
- 3 white-pine bats $\frac{1}{2}$ "x3", 16 ft. long . . . for bows or hoops.
- 1 piece $\frac{3}{4}$ " plywood 24"x36" for cupboard-door-table-top.
- 2 pieces 2"x1"x8" for screendoor frame, etc.
- 1 piece 1"x12"x4" for heavy cupboard shelves.
- 1 piece 1"x16"x8" for table leg medicine chest, etc.
- 8' of window stop for shelf cleats, screen strips, etc.
- 1 wooden-framed mirror about 10"x12".
- 1 "T" hinge for table leg.
- 1 pr. "T" hinges for cupboard door.
- 1 heavy cupboard latch.
- 2 pr. 2-inch square hinges for door and door panel.
- 1 pr. small butt hinges for medicine cabinet.
- 1 screen-door lock with two-way knob.
- 1 small door bolt to lock yourself in at night.
- Screen wire 16"x60", for door panel, windows, and ventilators.
- 8 doz. screws one-and-one-half inches long . . . for floor.
- 7 gross $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch screws for all plywood.
- 4 doz. $\frac{1}{2}$ " screws for shelf cleats.
- 4 three-inch "L" angle irons, for anchoring bows to floor.
- 12 one-inch "L" angle irons for joints without studs.
- 1 six-inch shelf bracket, for bunk rail at the door.
- 2 doz. small stove bolts.
- 2 pounds 6-penny box nails . . . for bows.
- 2 quarts boiled linseed oil.
- 2 quarts aluminum paint or auto enamel.
- 1 pt. black enamel . . . for striping rear of trailer for safety.
- 2 pounds 12-penny nails (box).
- 2 overhead closet hooks.



1 FLOOR-SECTIONS "X" WILL LATER BE CUT AWAY



2 BUILT-IN ARRANGEMENT

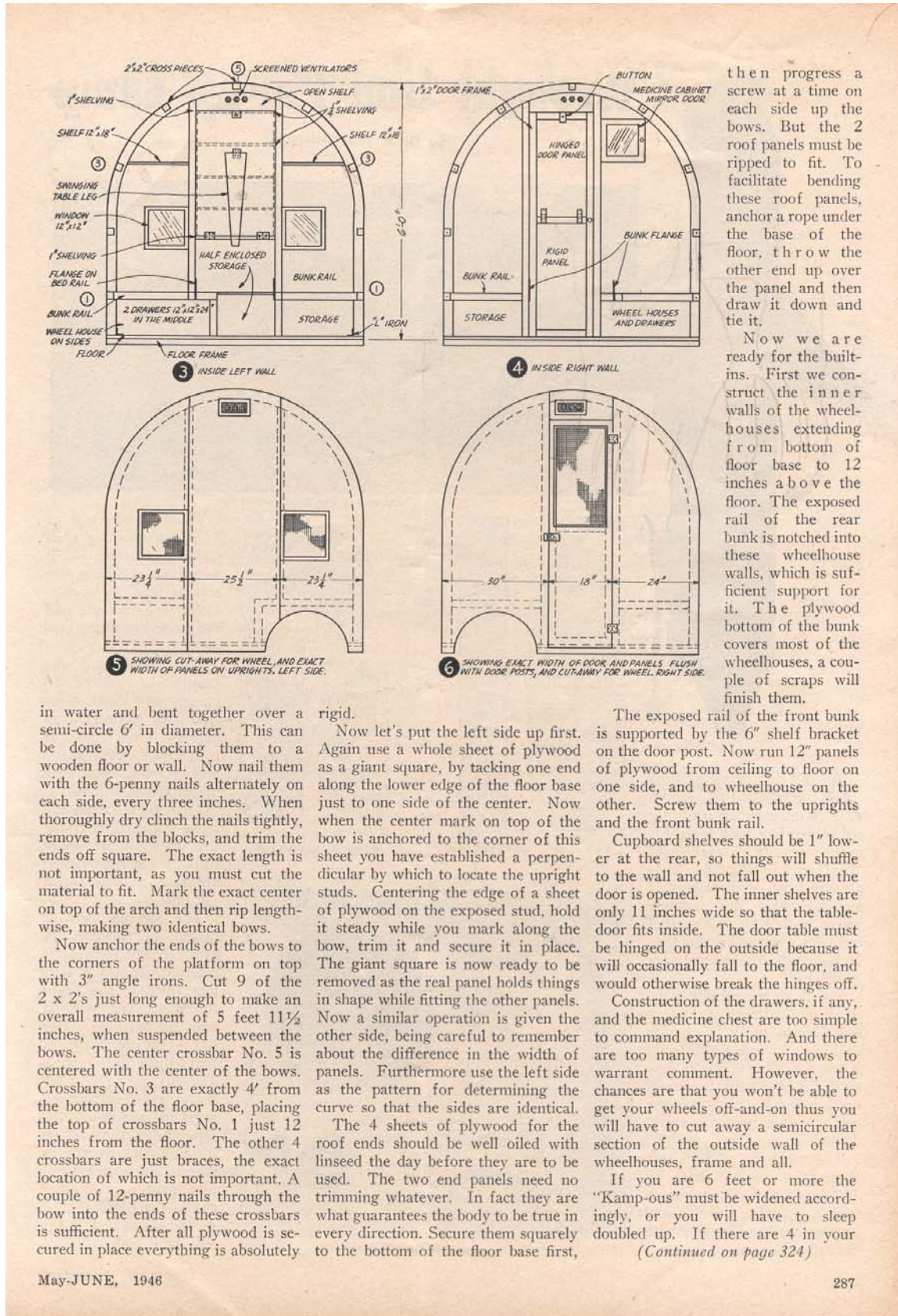
POPULAR HOMECRAFT

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then progress a screw at a time on each side up the bows. But the 2 roof panels must be ripped to fit. To facilitate bending these roof panels, anchor a rope under the base of the floor, throw the other end up over the panel and then draw it down and tie it.

Now we are ready for the built-ins. First we construct the inner walls of the wheel-houses extending from bottom of floor base to 12 inches above the floor. The exposed rail of the rear bunk is notched into these wheelhouse walls, which is sufficient support for it. The plywood bottom of the bunk covers most of the wheelhouses, a couple of scraps will finish them.

in water and bent together over a semi-circle 6' in diameter. This can be done by blocking them to a wooden floor or wall. Now nail them with the 6-penny nails alternately on each side, every three inches. When thoroughly dry clinch the nails tightly, remove from the blocks, and trim the ends off square. The exact length is not important, as you must cut the material to fit. Mark the exact center on top of the arch and then rip lengthwise, making two identical bows.

Now anchor the ends of the bows to the corners of the platform on top with 3" angle irons. Cut 9 of the 2 x 2's just long enough to make an overall measurement of 5 feet 11 1/2 inches, when suspended between the bows. The center crossbar No. 5 is centered with the center of the bows. Crossbars No. 3 are exactly 4' from the bottom of the floor base, placing the top of crossbars No. 1 just 12 inches from the floor. The other 4 crossbars are just braces, the exact location of which is not important. A couple of 12-penny nails through the bow into the ends of these crossbars is sufficient. After all plywood is secured in place everything is absolutely

rigid.

Now let's put the left side up first. Again use a whole sheet of plywood as a giant square, by tacking one end along the lower edge of the floor base just to one side of the center. Now when the center mark on top of the bow is anchored to the corner of this sheet you have established a perpendicular by which to locate the upright studs. Centering the edge of a sheet of plywood on the exposed stud, hold it steady while you mark along the bow, trim it and secure it in place. The giant square is now ready to be removed as the real panel holds things in shape while fitting the other panels. Now a similar operation is given the other side, being careful to remember about the difference in the width of panels. Furthermore use the left side as the pattern for determining the curve so that the sides are identical.

The 4 sheets of plywood for the roof ends should be well oiled with linseed the day before they are to be used. The two end panels need no trimming whatever. In fact they are what guarantees the body to be true in every direction. Secure them squarely to the bottom of the floor base first,

The exposed rail of the front bunk is supported by the 6" shelf bracket on the door post. Now run 12" panels of plywood from ceiling to floor on one side, and to wheelhouse on the other. Screw them to the uprights and the front bunk rail.

Cupboard shelves should be 1" lower at the rear, so things will shuffle to the wall and not fall out when the door is opened. The inner shelves are only 11 inches wide so that the table-door fits inside. The door table must be hinged on the outside because it will occasionally fall to the floor, and would otherwise break the hinges off.

Construction of the drawers, if any, and the medicine chest are too simple to command explanation. And there are too many types of windows to warrant comment. However, the chances are that you won't be able to get your wheels off-and-on thus you will have to cut away a semicircular section of the outside wall of the wheelhouses, frame and all.

If you are 6 feet or more the "Kamp-ous" must be widened accordingly, or you will have to sleep doubled up. If there are 4 in your
(Continued on page 324)

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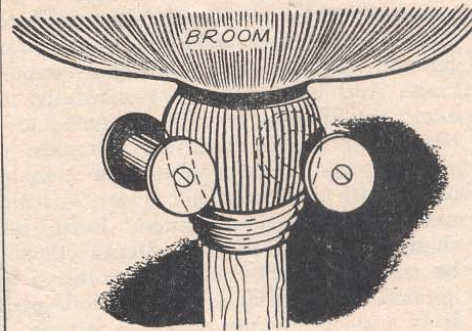
127-129 Clement St. San Francisco (18), Calif.

324

HANDY BROOM HOLDER

By S. M. Carpenter

A handy broom holder can be made with empty thread spools. Screw the spools far enough apart to hold the neck of the broom. Do not screw them solidly into the wall so that they will revolve when the broom handle is inserted, thus giving free running action and smoother results.



"Kamp-ous Trailer"

(Continued from page 287)

partly the bunks may be made 3' wide making an 8-foot "Kamp-ous." If you want more living space, make it 4' between the bunks, then you have room for a stove shelf beside the door and a clothes closet beside the cupboard. But this is getting away from the "midget" idea. However, the axle should remain as near the door as possible in order to improve the balance.

If 24" innerspring mattresses are not available, the cushions from your old davenport make comfortable substitutes. Innerspring mattresses from regular 36" twin beds fit the three-foot bunks. A wire strung close to the ceiling will serve as an indoor clothesline. Coffee cans screwed to the wall make good soap-dishes, etc. A nail here and there, and some overhead hooks come in handy at night.

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