# LITTLE FELLOW

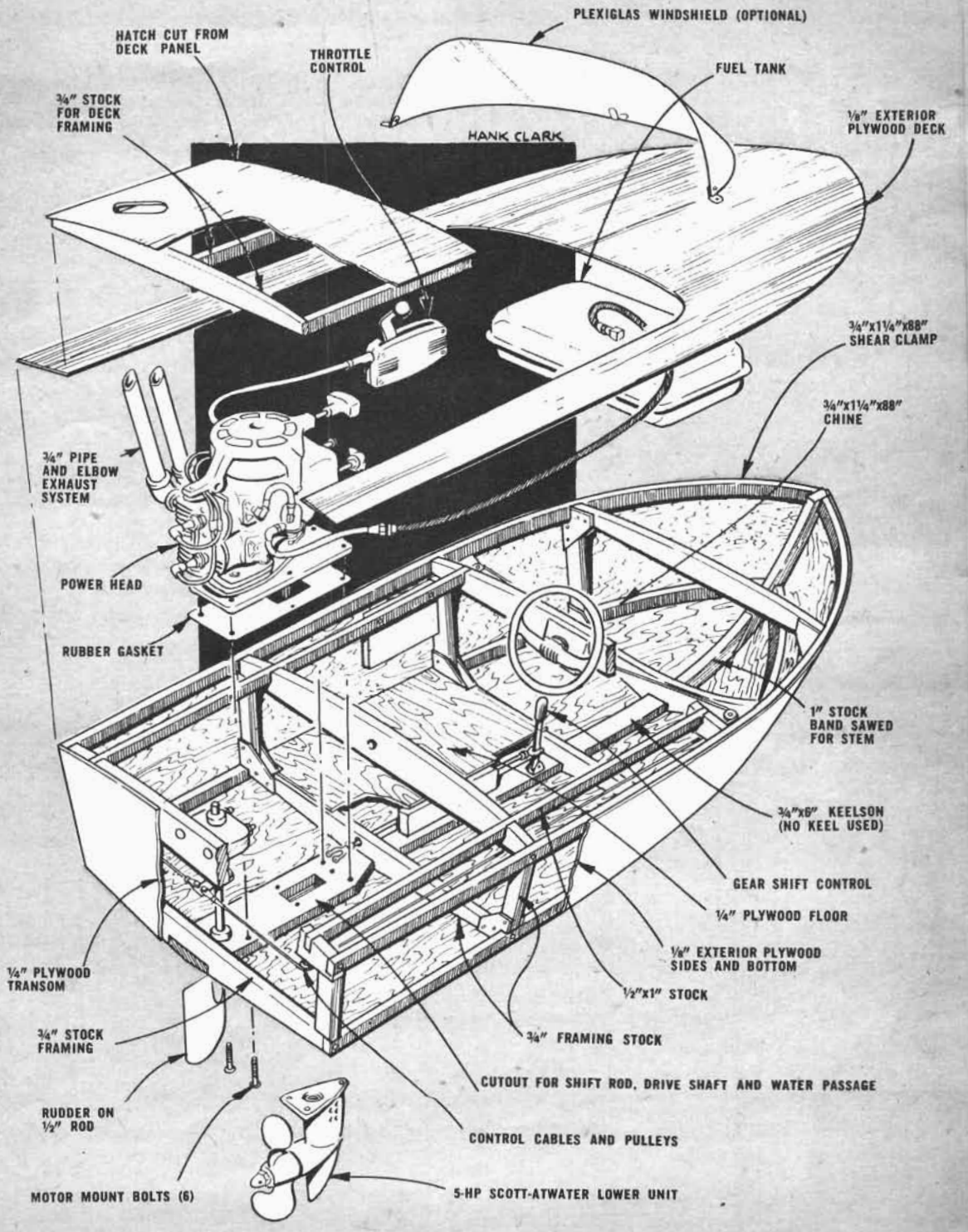
By Bob Ruskauff

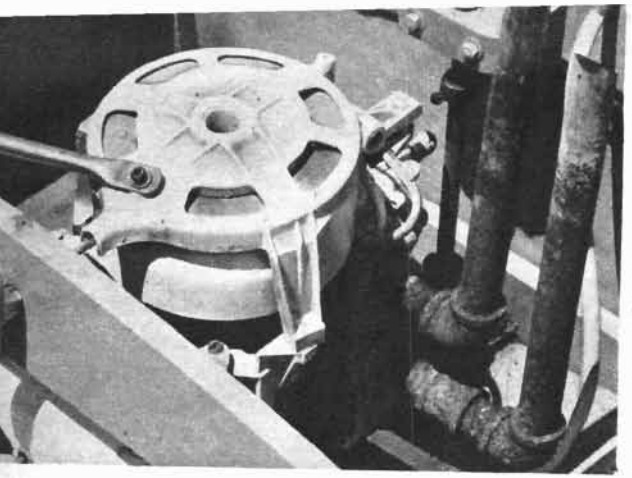
*Just the size for little guys, this midget inboard has an outboard for a power plant.*

FUTURE SKIPPER surv[illegible] trols. This model has 7½ hp engi[illegible] will drive it along at a speed of 30 mph.

GOT a little fellow who yearns to skipper his own craft? Then take a cue from Bob Brakensiek, a Californian who designed and built a pint-size inboard for his nine-year-old son. He was so successful that other dads went to work and now small salts as young as seven are veterans at the wheel. Furthermore, professional builders became interested and Fellows and Stewart, Inc., P. O. Box 157, Wilmington, Calif., has gone into production.

Little Fellow is only 78 inches long, has a beam of 36 inches and weighs about 125 pounds. For power, Bob Brakensiek's original model had a 7½-hp engine which


PLEXIGLAS WINDSHIELD (OPTIONAL)
HATCH CUT FROM DECK PANEL
THROTTLE CONTROL
FUEL TANK
¾" STOCK FOR DECK FRAMING
⅛" EXTERIOR PLYWOOD DECK
HANK CLARK
¾"x1¼"x88" SHEAR CLAMP
¾"x1¼"x88" CHINE
¾" PIPE AND ELBOW EXHAUST SYSTEM
POWER HEAD
RUBBER GASKET
1" STOCK BAND SAWED FOR STEM
¾"x6" KEELSON (NO KEEL USED)
GEAR SHIFT CONTROL
¼" PLYWOOD FLOOR
⅛" EXTERIOR PLYWOOD SIDES AND BOTTOM
¼" PLYWOOD TRANSOM
½"x1" STOCK
¾" STOCK FRAMING
¾" FRAMING STOCK
CUTOUT FOR SHIFT ROD, DRIVE SHAFT AND WATER PASSAGE
RUDDER ON ½" ROD
CONTROL CABLES AND PULLEYS
MOTOR MOUNT BOLTS (6)
5-HP SCOTT-ATWATER LOWER UNIT

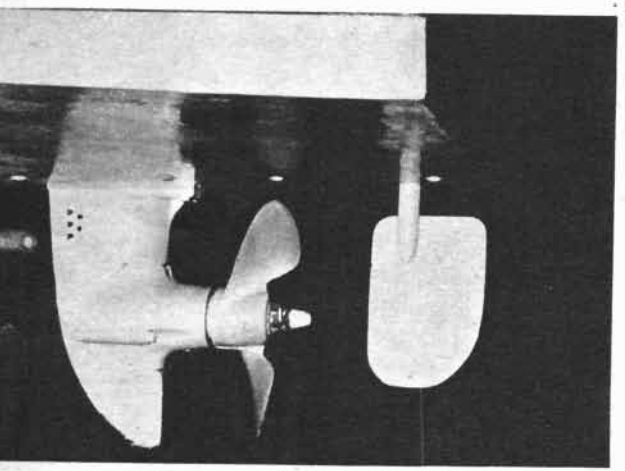


**COOLING WATER** exits through hose curling around exhaust pipe and passing through hole near top of transom.

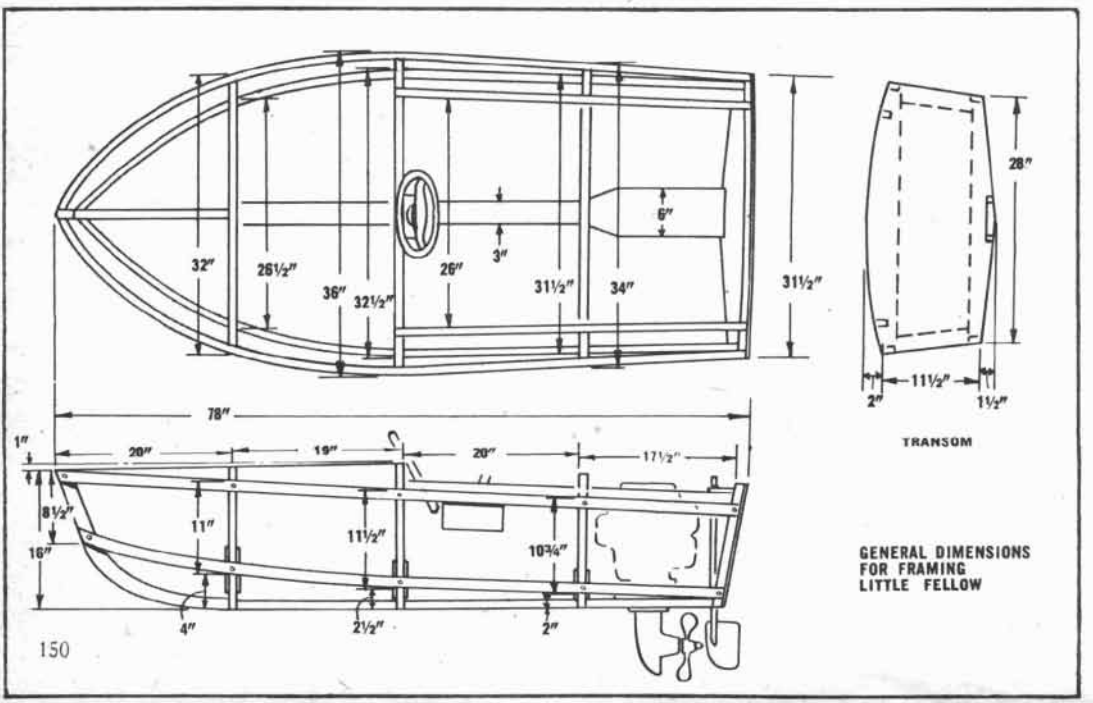
drove it along at 30 mph. However, it was later decided that a cut-down 5-hp Scott-Atwater outboard would be ample, giving a speed of 25 mph. Since the load is light, this engine will turn up to its peak of 4200 rpm, but it is wise to adjust the throttle so that continuous operating revolutions will be somewhat less.

As shown in the drawing, the engine is stationary. A rudder is used for steering. Parts of the rudder assembly can be fabricated or the whole assembly can be bought from marine supply houses. This would include the shaft, tiller arm, collar and port with stuffing box.

The lower unit of the engine is mounted flush against a wooden pad which is beveled to fit the V of the hull. It is secured with two bolts and a machine screw which pass [*Continued on page* 165]



**WATER INTAKE** is redesigned since the original intake is in that part of the housing which is eliminated.




GENERAL DIMENSIONS FOR FRAMING LITTLE FELLOW

[*Continued from page 150*]


through the keelson and a plate on which the powerhead is mounted. The boat does not have a keel.

Since the engine is shortened by removing part of the drive shaft, gear shift rod, water passage and lower housing, a new water intake must be provided in the lower unit. Thus holes are drilled as shown in the last photograph. Up above, the water is carried off through a hose which passes through the transom. Engine exhaust is carried off through a flange, elbow and pipe arrangement which passes through the deck.

Hook-up of the throttle control is conventional and the 3½-gallon gas tank is stowed forward of the cockpit. A simple solid control is rigged to operate the gear shift from the front of the cockpit. Note also that the starter cord is passed through the deck beam so that it may be pulled from the cockpit.

The original Little Fellow was planked with ¼-inch exterior plywood. However, it was subsequently decided that this made the boat too heavy and ⅛-inch plywood was substituted. This is amply strong and bends easily to the boat's contours without cracking. It is further strengthened by the application of a single layer of Fiberglas. For flotation, plastic foam material is secured in the bow.

Is the boat safe and seaworthy? Well, Bob Brakensiek's young son, Mike, drove Little Fellow from Avalon on Catalina Island to Los Angeles harbor light on the mainland—and did it through choppy water. We don't recommend the Catalina Channel but the small fry can have lots of fun without trying to test out Little Fellow —that's been done. •