# Letters and Correspondence

#### Applauding Mr. Loomis

Editor, "YACHTING":

T IS seldom that I am so forward as to break into print, due not only to my natural modesty, but because of my fear that I will be called an Englishman of the type which is always "writing to the Times," or some other newspaper. But, Mr. Editor, I am asking your indulgence this time, and overcoming my natural modesty, for I feel such an overpowering urge to aid and abet Mr. Alfred F. Loomis in his fight for a simple measurement rule that I crave enough space in your valued magazine to add a few unimpeachable arguments to those which Mr. Loomis

The rule which Mr. Loomis advocates so strongly is as follows: Mean of the overall length plus the waterline length. Old-timers will immediately recall what has become known as the Seawanhaka Rule, successfully used many years ago. To be sure, Mr. Loomis' rule neglects sail area completely, whereas sail area was an important factor in the Seawanhaka Rule. A strong point in favor of Mr. Loomis. The simpler the better.

How did the old Seawanhaka Rule work out? Of course, you, Mr. Editor, being an old-timer at the game, will recall perfectly how marvelous this rule was. The long-ended, flat-ended scows were triumphant. Suppose they did pound and thrash a bit in a head sea? Suppose they leaked? Suppose, even, that they were racked and ruined after a few years of racing? They beat the normal, dry, seaworthy boats with very little trouble — they beat them so badly that it took Nat Herreshoff himself to devise a rule — the Universal Rule — under which they rated so high that the normal boats could beat them, which the latter did. So, of course, people began to build normal boats to beat normal boats. Which is a shame in more ways than one, for the boatbuilders lost a lot of business, inasmuch as they were accustomed to replace the "floating sidewalks" every year or two, whereas many of the normal boats which followed are not only still afloat, but are giving great pleasure to their owners as cruising boats instead of being burned up for firewood as were their pred-ecessors. The trick of thrashing, banging and bailing your way to windward in a breeze was soon forgotten, for the new boats refused to pound, bang, or leak. What a pity!

Indeed, the New Rochelle Y.C. has done a brave deed in

returning to an old, simple formula, which worked so well in the race which Mr. Loomis depicted so clearly. And there were other races, too — excuse me, Mr. Loomis, but this same club promoted a race some two years ago, under the same rule. What were the results? Why, even better than one could hope for. Out of twelve starters, eleven craft — e-leven, count 'em — were scored as absolutely even. Really, it is a matter of record, remarkable though it may appear. The twelfth boat won, because she completed the course — the other eleven failed to finish at all, so all were scored the same - D. N. F. Could there be a better example of how excellently a simple rule worked out?

Not one second's difference between eleven boats!

Attacking the problem from the opposite angle, let us see how badly a complicated formula may work out in long distance racing. Take the 1932 Bermuda Race. In the good old days, back in 1923, the wise committee, unattached to any club, ran the race under a rule simpler, even, than the New Rochelle rule. The boats were rated merely on overall length. No measuring of waterlines, or sail area. Carry any sails you want, sheet them any old place. What happened? Why, John Alden won the race in the 47-foot overall schooner Malabar IV, another Alden schooner was third, and — well I forget just who came in next, but I seem to remember that there were about eight schooners designed by Alden in the race, and that all finished in the first half of the fleet. And not more than two days separated the first boat from the last. The results of this race were so unsatisfactory that the same rule was used again in 1924, except that the time allowance was changed a bit, in order to give the

Alden schooners a better chance.

So far, so good. But now the picture changes. The Cruising Club of America, formed by an enthusiastic body of real cruising men to promote cruising, assumes control of the Bermuda

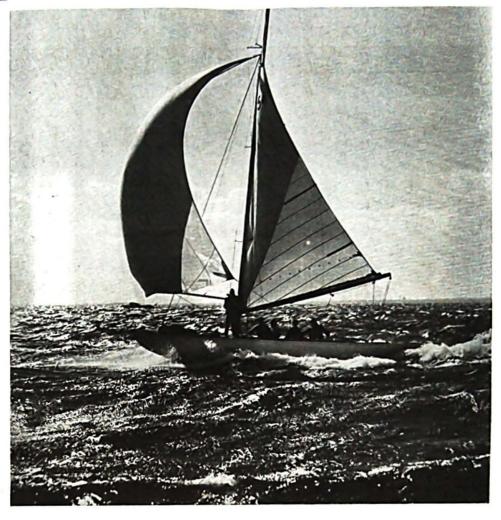
Race. Being cruising men, used to simple, go-as-you please cruising, they appoint a committee of charter members of the club, and this committee immediately scraps the simple overall length rule, and substitutes a complicated formula which neither they, nor Professor Einstein, could possibly understand, and which sent several measurers to sanitariums. Of course, the rule was ridiculous in its conception, and worse in its application and results. I do not recall just what the formula was. But no matter. No one could understand it anyway. But some of its objects were, to favor a boat of real, seagoing form and moderate rig, encourage freeboard, penalize the type of long flat overhangs which were so popular in the nineties, give the slow schooners and ketches a chance against the faster cutter-rigged craft, and so on. Of course, Mr. Editor, you and I know how ridiculous such ideas were — and are. And what were the results of races run under this complicated and ridiculous rule? My memory fails me as to the exact results of several races, but I happen to have a copy of your excellent magazine for August, 1932, at hand, in which there is a splendid account of the race to Bermuda that year, with a complete summary. I find that even the terrible rule could not prevent the cutter Highland Light from leading the fleet across the line and establishing an all-time record for the course for boats of the size allowed in the race. But the rule soon showed how unfair it was, when the corrected time showed John Alden's gaff-headed schooner Malabar X the victor by 3 minutes and 16 seconds over Grenadier, another schooner with jib-headed rig. Almost two hours separated the winner from the sixth boat, Brilliant. Teragram, taking fourth place, was 2 minutes 17 seconds ahead of *Highland Light*, and the latter beat *Brilliant* by 1 minute and 38 seconds. There were other huge gaps; in Class B, the third boat was only 46 minutes ahead of the sixth boat. These broad margins, in a race of over 600 nautical miles, are, of course, preposterous, and show quite clearly that a complicated formula is an uncalled-for encumbrance which can result only in discouraging entries for the 1934 event. No gaff-headed schooner should ever beat a jib-headed cutter - and she would not have done so had the simple "overall" measurement rule been used.

Mr. Loomis will doubtless be delighted to hear that the Cruising Club is seriously considering the adoption of another of those delightfully complicated rules which produce such disastrous results. Little is known about the rule as yet, nor just who is responsible for it, though rumor has it that Messrs. Bavier, Crane and Stephens are on the Rules Committee, and that, though not on the Committee, John Alden's advice was sought on numerous debatable points. It is said that, among other changes from the previous rule, rig allowances have been altered so that schooners will rate higher than in the last six Bermuda races. Even the uninitiated will see the Alden influence here - no longer will the schooners show the way, as the Alden-designed Malabars did in 1923, 1926 and 1932, not to mention other ocean races of lesser importance than the Bermuda event. The fine, seagoing cruising cutters, with snug, jibheaded mainsails easily handled in any weather by a man and a - such as Highland Light - will come into their own.

Why they insist on fostering these complicated rules is beyond my limited comprehension. Why not adopt the simple rule advocated by Mr. Loomis? There are a few of the old "scows" rotting away in out-of-the-way scrap heaps which might be resurrected and made reasonably watertight, or tight enough to suit a crew of old men, such as made that 200-a-day in Brilliant which Mr. Loomis wrote about. They would stand an excellent chance of winning, and relegating to the class of "also rans" the many fine, able, rugged craft which have been designed and built since the adoption of the senseless, baseless, and nefarious mass of complications under which the boats have been so poorly handicapped in recent years.

Would you be so kind as to let me know Mr. Loomis's adpossible, shake the hand of so brilliant a crusader for the Simple Rule.

Your obedient servant, BALDERDASH



BobKat 11, Robert B. Meyer's three-year old 6 meter which scored a sweep in the Seawanhaka Cup match, revels in this kind of going

# Six Meter Sloops Swamp Clyde Invaders

Photographs by Rosenfeld

THE completion of the international 6 meter matches held off Oyster Bay, September 25 to October 7, left unbroken the string of victories which American sixes have scored over the international rule sloops of the Solent and the Clyde since 1928. Scoring a clean sweep in the team race for the British-American Trophy, and putting on a similar performance in the match races for the famous Seawanhaka Cup, American 6 meter sloops emulated the example of our valiant J class representative which shortly before had successfully turned back the British invasion in quest of the historic America's Cup.

The Seawanhaka Cup, incidentally, can very properly be mentioned in the same breath with the ugly old ewer, as it is the oldest small boat trophy actively contested for today, and since it was originally donated in 1895 has been raced for twenty-two times. Unlike the America's Cup this prize has seldom rested for long in any club's vaults, having changed hands more often than any other

trophy that comes to mind.

The British-American Trophy is a much younger prize, having been established for team racing in 1920. A peculiar feature of its deed of gift is that matches can

be held for it solely between England and the Uni States, and regardless of the winners, the contests held alternately in British and American waters. I prize has been won outright twice, once by each count The recent battle of Oyster Bay, under the auspices the Seawanhaka-Corinthian Yacht Club, involved third trophy which has been offered to date. Both Seawanhaka Cup and the British American Trop matches are decided by three out of five races.

The invaders this year were all from the Clyde, resenting the Royal Northern Yacht Club. The Soteam was composed of William Russell's Kyla, J. H. Clark's Vorsa (sailed by J. H. Hume, Jr.), R. Teacher's Melita and A. S. L. Young's Saskia II. this group Kyla was picked for the attempt to collar Seawanhaka Cup which Nancy brought home from

Clyde in 1932.

In the American team were R. B. Meyer's Bobk's the Sparkman & Stephens-designed six which starre the Solent clean-up two years ago; Paul V. Shields' Luders-designed and built Challenge; Clarence L. Sm. Anis (ex-Totem) also Luders-designed and built; Briggs Cunningham's Lucie, from Sparkman & Steph

board. BobKat II, which led the fleet home twice in the British-American Trophy team races, was selected to defend the Seawanhaka Cup, which she did very easily. In the team races Challenge put on probably the most consistent performance, securing second place in all three races, which is a good record for a new boat tuned hurriedly and late in the season.

The team race series, beginning on September 25, started off just like the America's Cup races, with the first contest being declared off because of no wind. Challenge was leading at the weather mark of the windward and leeward course, with Kyla next, followed by Bob-

Kat II and the rest of the fleet.

The following day the contest began anew. In moderate airs, a windward and leeward course with six mile legs was sailed twice around. The yachts reached the line closely bunched. Saskia was over too soon and came back. The yachts paired off immediately, a member of the American team covering every one of the Clyde sailors. At the windward mark the order was: Anis. Challenge, BobKat and Lucie with Kyla leading the invaders. Except for BobKat passing Challenge on the second hack to windward there was little shift in the order throughout the rest of the contest. Challenge climbed into second place on the run home. The order of finish was: Anis, Challenge, BobKat, Lucie, Kyla, Saskia, Melita and Vorsa—a clean sweep for the defenders. The second race was sailed twice around over a triangular course in a spanking southerly of eighteen miles strength. Melita won the start, on the port tack, and covered Challenge while the remainder of the American team covered all the invaders. BobKat broke through and took the lead at the first mark, followed by Challenge, Vorsa and Lucie. Several shifts of position took place on the second round, both sides playing team tactics with a vengeance, but only Vorsa broke through at the finish in third place to save another four-boat sweep on the part of the Seawanhaka contingent. The order of finish was: BobKat, Challenge, Vorsa, Anis, Lucie, Kyla, Melita and Saskia.

The third race, slated for September 28, was called off because of lack of wind, at the start of the second

round. The Clyde yachts, showing superior drifting ability, were leading, with Kyla, Melita and Anis heading the fleet.

Next day dawned with a 25 mile southwesterly booming across the Sound, kicking up a nasty sea which prevented the committee boat from anchoring in open water. They got under the lee of the land and signaled a leeward and windward course. Challenge and Vorsa led at the start. After the fleet straightened out their spinnakers BobKat had surged to the fore, a position she never lost. The first round saw BobKat, Challenge, Lucie and



Kyla, new Mylne six, sailed by William Russell of the Royal Northern Yacht Club, was fast but was outmaneuvered. Miss Judy Russell, daughter of the skipper, did all the light sail handling

BobKat carrying Kyla to weather of the buoy at the start of the first match race



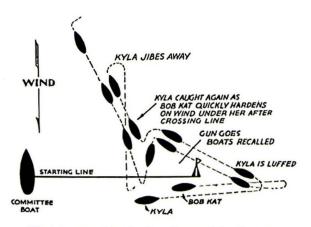
Start of the first leam of for the British-Amer Trophy. Left to right are: Saskia, Anis, Manager, Vorsa, Challen, Lucie and BobKa:

Kyla leading. This order was maintained to the finish, with Saskia, Anis, Vorsa and Melita bringing up the rear. Better light sail handling and better team tactics told the story, throughout the series in which the Seawanhaka contingent scored by 743/4 points as opposed to 34 for the Clyde team.

### The Seawanhaka Cup

The Seawanhaka Cup series, run immediately after the completion of the British-American Trophy team match, was a more decisive sweep than its predecessor. BobKat II, ably sailed by Bob Meyer and his expert crew of lightning light-sail handlers, scored a clean-cut victory over Kyla, best of the Clyde team. An ability to handle a parachute spinnaker with despatch and make it do business even with the wind pretty well forward had much to do with BobKat's outstanding performance.

As in the case of the British-American series, the first race for the Seawanhaka Cup, slated for October 2, had to be called off because of the breeze dying. BobKat was leading Kyla by a good margin when the race was declared off. October 3 saw even less wind and no race was started. On the following day a good breeze prevailed over the windward and leeward course but Kyla, though smart up wind, didn't have a chance to try conclusions with BobKat because of a "squeeze play" by Meyer at the start. BobKat and Kyla went away from



What happened in the first Seawanhaka Cup race

the line before the gun on the port tack. BobKat length ahead, gybed, and Kyla turned to windward. Setting her abeam and to weather of Meyer. Meyer lufter Kyla past the buoy and both went up wind for some time after the gun. Then Meyer ducked down and crossed the line, hardening on the wind in time to meet the Clycapacht swinging down. Meyer again carried Kyla off and the latter finally gybed away to get to the line. By the time she got across Meyer had a lead of an eighth of a mile. The rest was a parade.

In the second match, held over a triangular course in a strong easterly, Kyla hit the line slightly ahead of BobKat. She had a big Genoa and BobKat an intermediate headsail. The smaller canvas was more suitable to the blustery weather and BobKat held higher. At the first mark BobKat had the lead which she maintained throughout the double circuit. More generous use of a parachute by Meyer and too much reliance on a General for the reaching legs by Kyla increased the defender blead all the way around.

With two races safely tucked away, BobKat worked out a good lead in the third and final contest, and the played safe, not even using a spinnaker on the second home over the windward and leeward course. The rate was sailed in hard weather—a thirty mile northwester that fairly drowned the crews. Both boats came to the line under working jibs and reefed mains, Kyla winning the start, with BobKat on her weather quarter. On the beat to the first mark Kyla flopped over to cross Bob-Kat's bow. She had some difficulty with her gear and did not complete the maneuver. BobKat gained at this time. At the weather mark Kyla hit a flaw that knocked her in the way of the mark. She had to take an exten hitch to get clear and BobKat made more money on this mishap. Getting her spinnaker in near the end of the first run home capped the thing for Kyla. The halliard jammed, the sail took charge and whipped itself to pieces Kyla finally had to come head to the wind to clear the mess. Meyer by this time had a ten minute lead and he added one more during the second run home.

Though BobKat did get the best of the breaks throughout the match her win was thoroughly deserved. She was better prepared and better handled.

The Clyde contingent had good boats, for the most part, but it would seem that yachtsmen on the other side do not take their racing quite seriously enough.

## News from Yachting Centers

### Sound Waves

By LEE SCUPPERS

guard of racing men keen to improve the speed and efficiency of their boats, have equipped them with all manner of winches for hoisting and trimming sails and setting up backstays; they have played an important part in developing the versatility of the Genoa jib; they have been leaders in the design and use of that nightmare of all kites, the parachute spinnaker.

They have, in a word, acquired a not undeserved reputation for enterprise and eagerness to modernize. They have made their boats faster and easier to handle; made them veritable models of modernity. They are the best customers of such famed gadgeteers as Porthole Pete Chamberlain, an old shellback who lies awake nights devising things of metal, wood and hemp to lure dollars from the pockets of boat owners whose sales resistance is no match for the persuasive tongue and inventive genius of Le Bon Pierre.

We have, it seems, made our boats as up to date, if not more so, than ultra-modern penthouses. But we have overlooked what in this post-repeal era amounts to the most important piece of a racing yacht's auxiliary equipment—a bar.

This glaring deficiency in the

layouts of our smaller racing boats was brought home to us in the recent British-American Cup series at Oyster Bay by Skipper William Russell of the Clyde Six-Metre Kyla. No truer Scot ever breathed the fragrance of purple heather, or thrilled to the skirl of bagpipes. Hence it is not surprising that he has gone Long Island skippers and designers one better in racing boat equipment.

On the under side of the deck between the steering cockpit and forward working space of Kyla is fitted a small, compact, well-stocked bar. Save on light days, when the afternoon grows long and weary, the bar remains closed until the race ends. But Captain Russell is authority for the statement that within thirty seconds after the finish of a contest his crew is raising full glasses parched lips and crying: "Cheerio!"

ful of

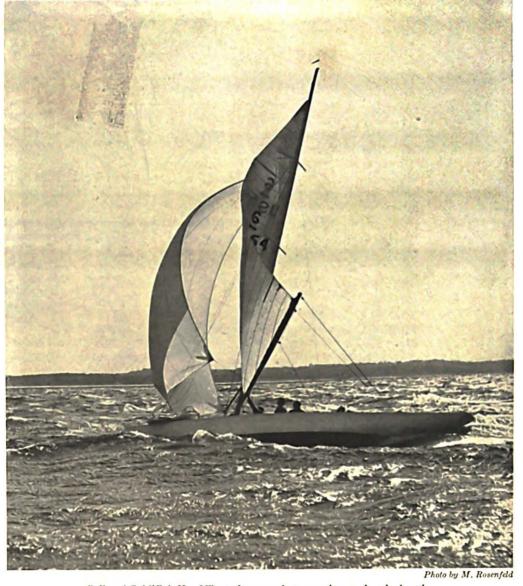
ONGISLANDSOUND yachts- bowed to our team. The others I men, always in the van- had no bars and got nowhere. Kyla had a bar and annoyed the Americans in every race. You may draw your own conclusions.

> In a rough sort of way the bar idea has been tried out on Sound Six-Metres and lesser craft with more or less success, but the fact remains that it took a Scotsman to develop it to the ultimate. Back in the prohibition days Billy Luders had a Six-Metre called *Tolem* that was the liveliest light weather boat in the class and one of the smartest handled. Luders is a strong be-liever in the ancient seafaring custom of doling out tots of rum to the foremast hands, particularly in bad weather or after prolonged, wearying session with sheets and halliards on a light, fluky day. Members of the 1931 Larchmont regatta com-mittee never will forget the picture *Tolem* used to present to their jaded eyes as she sped across the finish line far ahead of other aspirants for the Race Week championship. On weather deck were arrayed jugs and bottles, obviously containing the requisites for the cup that cheers.

But Totem's bar was of the most primitive sort. Paper cups and old glassware were stowed on shelves under the deck, mixed up with marline, shackles, spare line and old sneakers. Bottles of ginger ale reposed in the bilges in lieu of an icebox. Jugs and other vital containers were stowed for safety's sake in sail bags. Mr. Russell would have sneered at such landlubberliness.

M'sieu Gene Kelly, commodore of the Royal Bombay Cycling Club, has been visiting these parts this summer, observ-ing the various international events as yachting expert for the Royal Colonist and Daily Gazette of Hamilton, Bermuda, his win-ter domicile. M'sieu Kelly, a pioneering Star boat sailor himself, informs this department that before he finishes his misinforms this department sionary work in the Onion Patch there will be a fleet of half a dozen Stars sailing on Hamilton Harbor.

H. Martyn ("Slim") Baker, It is significant to all save the who resigned as commodore of disciples of Josephus Daniels the Frostbite Yacht Club last that Kyla was the most success- winter to go cruising where there yla was the most success- winter to go cruising where there the British Sixes that was no frost, apparently has



Roll and Go! "Bob-Kat II" sets her parachute on a breezy day during the Seawanhaka Cup series off Oyster Bay

# The Seawanhaka Cup Remains at Home

"Bob-Kat II," the American Defender, Takes Three Straight Races from "Kyla"

NWO DAYS after the British-American Cup series had run its brief course off Oyster Bay, Scottish-American Six-Metre rivalry was resumed in the same waters with the sailing of the twenty-second match for the Seawanhaka Corinthian Yacht Club International Challenge Cup.

This oldest of international small boat trophies (it was first raced for in 1895) brought together Robert B. Meyer's Bob-Kat II, as the Seawanhaka defender, and William Russell's Kyla, as challenger for the Royal Northern Yacht Club on the Clyde.

It required six days to complete the match. For a time it appeared that the weather would win. The first two days proved nothing except that Long Island Sound is the most perverse of all our bodies of racing water. On the first day, Bob-Kat and Kyla used up three and a quarter of the four hours allotted for the race in covering half of the 12-mile course. The second day was so flat that no attempt was made even to start the yachts.

Thursday and Friday were blessed with fresh easterly breezes and, in going that could not have suited her better, Bob-Kat won each of these starts by a minute and thirteen seconds. Saturday saw another race succumbing to the time limit. But it is always a feast or a famine on the Sound. Sunday it blew 25 to 30 miles an hour from the northwest and the boats took a fearful dusting. Kyla suffered a number of minor mishaps and these contributed to the margin of 10 minutes 51 seconds by which Bob-Kat won.

That gave the defender the series with three straight victories and assured for another year at least the presence in the Seawanhaka trophy chest of the big silver vase J. Seward Johnson's Jill brought back from Scotland in

The committee that picked Bob-Kat, outstanding member of the United States team that had beaten the Scots three straight the week before for the British-American Cup, must have been clairvoyant. Bob-Kat has shown a tendency to do her best in heavy going. The days on which the completed races were sailed found breezes varying between fifteen and thirty miles an hour and as much sea as one ever finds in the Sound under ordinary circumstances.

Kyla obviously is a good boat, particularly to windward, but Meyer got better starts in the races that counted and his crew of Bob Reybine, Briggs Cunningham, Rod Stephens, Clarence Smith and Arthur Knapp (the latter subbing for Smith in the last race) did a perfect job of setting and trimming light sails. In each of his victories, Meyer got the jump on Russell and then retained his advantage the rest of

As a matter of fact the first race was won and lost at the start. With less than a minute to go to the windward start of a six-mile windward and leeward race, to be sailed twice around, Meyer found himself almost dead under Russell's lee as they headed for the buoy end of the line. Meyer was having none of this, so he hardened up and carried the Scot to windward of the mark and held on even after the gun had

At just the right time, Meyer bore off, crossed the line in the proper direction and then came up under Russell again so quickly that Kyla had to sail away from the line once more. Bob-Kat carried Kyla up wind for nearly a minute before the Scot tacked, slacked sheets and ran back to the line. By the time he got sheeted down on the wind, Russell was a good eighth of a mile to leeward of the defender. Kyla outsailed Bob-Kat on both of the three-mile climbs

up the breeze in a nasty slop of sea, but was unable to overcome the defender's superior work to leeward and the handicap imposed by Meyer's grand demonstration of the desirability — sometimes — of the "safe leeward position." Bob-Kat's elapsed time for the twelve miles was 2:10:27 and

Kyla's 2:11:40.

The second race was sailed in somewhat more boisterous conditions, but Kyla carried a good-sized Genoa jib while Bob-Kat's was of intermediate proportions. Kyla was a bit early for the start and Bob-Kat was on her weather quarter at the gun. They had a close race all the way up wind with Bob-Kat pointing higher and footing nearly as fast as Kyla, whose head seemed to be pulled off somewhat by the larger Genoa.

At the weather mark Bob-Kat was only 14 seconds ahead and on the spinnaker run to the second mark there seemed to be no material change. It looked as though this were going to be a bang up race, but at the lee mark Kyla doused her kite and set a Genoa jib for the reach back to the starting point. Bob-Kat's agile crew jibbed their big spinnaker over standing, boomed it out to port and pulled away from the challenger until at the end of the first triangle she had a 52-second lead. That was that.

Bob-Kat set a large Genoa for the second beat. It appeared to set better than Kyla's and she added a few seconds to her lead and went on to improve it slightly on the next two legs, winning again by a minute and thirteen seconds. The elapsed times were Bob-Kat, 1:55:57; Kyla, 1:57:10.

Even under reefed mainsails and small jibs, the boats had their lee rails buried and the weather sides of their keels nearly level with the tumbling water during their windward work in the last race. This, too, might have been close had it not been for a series of misfortunes to the challenger.

Bob-Kat again had the edge of the start. Kyla drove off hard while Bob-Kat ate up into the hard puffs as they stood on a long board along the Long Island shore. Kyla appeared to be going well and when she came about might have been able to cross Bob-Kat. But apparently something went awry with the Scot's gear because Russell had to flop her back onto the starboard tack. By this time Bob-Kat had drawn up nearly abeam and from then all the way out to the mark, Bob-Kat was on top.

Here Kyla got another bad break. A sudden shift in the breeze nearly put her onto the mark. Russell had to take an extra hitch to get around and meanwhile Bob-Kat had gone roaring down wind. A jib was necessary halfway to the lee mark. Bob-Kat executed it neatly. Kyla's spinnaker halliard became foul aloft and, in attempting to clear it, the crew somehow got the kite caught on a spreader and it ripped in half, streaming out to leeward from the masthead like a bedsheet.

Eventually it was necessary for Russell to come up into the wind and cut the spinnaker away. By the time everything was straightened out, Bob-Kat was nine minutes ahead and at the finish the margin was 10:51. The elapsed times were: Bob-Kat, 2:16:12; Kyla, 2:27:03.

Thus ended another straight-race victory for an American Six-Metre, swelling to seventeen the number of consecutive races the British Sixes have lost to Long Island Sound boats since 1930.

## American "Sixes" Still Supreme

EVERETT B. MORRIS

FANYTHING can be certain in the very uncertain sport of yachting, this much can be recorded as incontrovertible fact — American Six-Metres have it all over their British classmates.

The idea that we were definitely on our way in the development of these smart little racing machines began to take form in 1930 when the United States "Sixes" won four straight races from Great Britain's team in the British-American Cup match at Oyster Bay. It gained strength when the American quartet took another four in a row on the Solent two years later and retired the cup from circulation.

In September, in the week following the America's Cup series at Newport, the "Sixes" had it out again off Oyster Bay, this time for a new trophy—a handsome scale model, in silver, of a Six-Metre yacht. The result was the same. The series was sailed on a best three out of five basis and the Americans won three races in succession in a wide variety of conditions—light weather, moderate breezes and fresh winds, smooth water and rough. In the first race the Long Island Sound "Sixes" finished one, two, three and four. In the second they were one, two, four and five. In the last they were one, two, three and six. Out of a possible 78¾ points, the Americans scored 74¾ in the three contests. No British boat ever got above third place.

The American team was composed of one new boat, the Luders-designed *Challenge*, owned by Paul Shields and sailed by his brother, Cornelius; two units of the quartet that sailed on the Solent in 1932, Robert B. Meyer's *Bob-Kat II*, a Sparkman & Stephens boat, and the Cranedesigned *Lucie*, owned by Briggs S. Cunningham; and a four-year-old boat that could not make the team in 1930, Clarence Smith's *Anis*, which used to be Billy Luders' light weather ghost, *Totem*.

The British team, all from the Clyde fleet of the Royal Northern Yacht Club, included one old boat, the snubnosed Vorsa, and three new craft, Kyla, Saskia II and Melita.

Taking into consideration the exigencies of team racing, perhaps it is significant that Bob-Kat won two of the three races and Anis the other. Challenge, which showed herself to be a grand all-round performer, was second on every occasion. Kyla, sailed by William Russell with Kenneth Trimingham, of Bermuda, as chief sheet trimmer, was the outstanding Scottish boat. She had a fifth place in the first race, a sixth in the second (in which Vorsa was third) and a fourth in the last start. She appeared to be generally faster, more weatherly and better handled than her teammates. Then, too, she was the only boat in the fleet fitted with a bar. That might have had something to do with her performance. Whether the idea of fitting this accessory between her steering and forward cockpits was that of Mylne, her designer, or of Russell, her owner, does not matter. The fact remains that it was the one thing in which the Scottish craft were superior to our own.

Actually five starts were made in the series off Oyster Bay, but two races were not completed because of the absence of breeze. In the first one, the Americans had the edge when the race was called off before half the 12-mile windward and leeward course had been sailed. In the resail of this event, the Americans finished in the top four places in an easterly breeze that was ten knots at the start and half of that at the finish.



"Bob-Kat II" not only made the high score in the team races for the British-American Trophy, but won three straight in the contest for the Seawanhaka Cup

Anis, improved this year by added lead and a lower rig, went to windward like a witch on both the three-mile beats of the twice around course and led the procession throughout. The three other American boats finished in a bunch within a minute and a half of the leader. Kyla, the best of the Britons, was nearly two minutes astern of the last United States entry. Vorsa, the tail-ender, was ten minutes behind Anis.

The next race was by far the closest and most interesting of the series. Team tactics were stressed to the utmost and the big spectator fleet, shepherded by Navy and Coast Guard vessels in the manner of an America's Cup show, witnessed some keen sailing. The course was triangular, twice around, and the wind was a true southerly of about fourteen miles' strength.

Bob-Kat and Challenge paced the fleet all the way, but all manner of duels developed for the lesser places. Vorsa, well sailed by J. H. Hume, Jr., saved third place by less than a length from Anis; Lucie barely staved off Kyla's attempt to get through her on the last leg, and Melita and Saskia were seventh and eighth, respectively. Melita had been fifth once but threw that place away by luffing Lucie 'way out on the reaching leg in a vain attempt to let Kyla and Saskia move up.

There was only five minutes between the winner and the last boat and the impression grew that with another five-knot breeze the Scottish team would be dangerous indeed. This, however, proved to be a fallacy. After another abandoned race, due to a calm in which the Britishers outdrifted

the Americans surprisingly, the third race was sailed in a dripping wet southerly of well over twenty miles' velocity that kicked up a nasty jump of sea in Long Island Sound.

The course was three miles to leeward and return, twice around, and the down-wind start precipitated some fantastic and spectacular maneuvers. Booms and spinnaker poles alternately dipped into the seas and shot skyward. Avoiding unpremeditated jibes was something of a trick, a trick which not everyone was able to perform. Fortunately, though, no masts or spreaders were carried away and the boats were still intact, if somewhat shaken, by the time they completed the breakneck run to the first mark.

Bob-Kat, on which the sail handling evoked no end of superlatives from the watchers, flattened on the wind first. Vorsa and Saskia got to the mark before Challenge and Lucie, but got into difficulties from which they did not extricate themselves until the American boats had established themselves in second and third places. Kyla and Melita came next, and Anis, which had made a poor start and then gone all to pieces near the end of the run, was last.

In a breeze of wind and lop of sea, it was expected that the Scottish boats would begin to "walk," but only Kyla showed any disposition to do as well on the wind as the Americans. Consequently, at the end of the first round Bob-Kal, Challenge and Lucie were still leading, with Kyla, Saskia, Vorsa, Melita and Anis strung out astern. Bob-Kat had carried a small Genoa up-wind and Challenge and Lucie had done well with larger headsails.

The wind lightened to about 16 miles for the second round. No changes of importance took place, however. The leaders remained leaders, although Kyla might have caught Lucie had she not parted a jib halliard and then badly overstood the finish on the last leg. Anis passed Melita, which was carrying a reef, and Vorsa, and thus partially redeemed her earlier dismal showing. Bob-Kat sailed the first six miles in less than fifty minutes — marvelous speed for a Six-Metre — and covered the whole course in an hour and thirty-seven minutes. Challenge was a minute slower, Lucie more than two minutes astern and Kyla just under three minutes out of first place.

(Continued on page 87)



"Kyla," the best of the Scottish Six-Metre team that raced off Oyster Bay, was defeated by "Bob-Kat II" in the Seawanhaka Cup match races

Scottish and American Six-Metre yachts sailed an interesting series of races. Here are "Saskia II," "Anis" and "Kyla" leading the procession across the starting line



### American "Sixes" Still Supreme

(Continued from page 43)

For all of its one-sidedness, it was a pleasant and interesting series, devoid of protests (although there were at least two occasions — one on each side — when claims of fouls might well have been made) and replete with the spirit of good fellowship which international events are supposed to foster, but so rarely do.

A brief summary of the boats' performances:

American —

Bob-Kat II, R. B. Meyer: two firsts, one third, 22½ points.

Challenge, Cornelius Shields: three seconds, 21 points.

Lucie, Briggs S. Cunningham: one third, one fourth, one fifth, 15 points.

Anis, Clarence L. Smith: one first, one fourth, one sixth, 16¼ points.

British —

Kyla, William Russell: one fourth, one fifth, one sixth, 12 points.

Vorsa, J. H. Hume, Jr.: one third, one seventh, one eighth; 9 points.

Saskia II, A. S. L. Young: one fifth, one sixth, one eighth, 8 points.

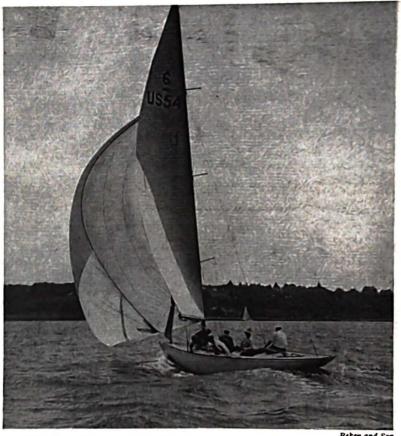
Melita, R. M. Teacher: two sevenths, one eighth, 5 points.

Race results —

First, U. S. 26¼, G. B. 10; second, U. S. 24¼, G. B. 12; third, U. S. 24¼, G. B. 12.

· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·			
N.V	Y. C. 30-Foot Clas		Starts %
14. 1.	Starts		Juno 9 .366
Oriole	14	.727	
Alera Variant	14 15	.666 .636	Wee Scot Class
		.030	Nandi 11 .982   Wee Migs 9 .789
0	Netre Class—O. D.		Wee Budlet 9 .727
Valkyrie	13 11	.850	Ruth 9 .519
Roulette Jigtime	9	.622	Snipe Class
	6-Metre Class		Tyro 12 .830   La Pelile 12 .791
Lucie	11	.788	Imo 6 .759
Silroc	îî	.676	Marlen 7 .662
Erne	.7	.676	Armade 11 .564   Taeping 6 .391
Jill Swallow	11 8	.663	
Sprig	9	.589	Handicap Class
Meteor Anis	10 10	.538 .511	Division 2
Bob Kat II	12	.486	Gamecock         11         .741           Tien Hoa         13         .544
Jack	9	.483	Paumonok 4 .385
Challenge Mars	8 7	.449	Hawk 6 .273
		. 202	Handicap Class Division "A," 1, 3
	nter-Club Class		and 4, Pequot Indian Class and Dinghy Classes "A" and "B" did not qualify.
Kenboy Aileen	16 15	.896 .778	and D and not quality.
Blue Streak	13	.758	+ + +
Nancy	17	.755	Now Lander Occur
Susan Bozo	21 12	.722 .672	New London Opens
Alberta	19	.624	Frostbite Season
Jester	18	. 581	N Saturday, October 13th,
Scram Gull	11 10	.509	the Frostbiters pried off
Grey Fox	13	.483	the lid of their 1934-35 season,
Ariel Picaroon	13 17	.463 .437	as guests of the Thames Yacht
Vision Jr.	12	.402	Club. With a twenty-knot breeze
Opal II	13	.391	out of the northwest, New Lon-
Wild Cat Wahini	10 13	.337	don harbor was in a fit mood for
" untitt		.217	In the first race five "A"
	Victory Class		In the first race five "A"   boats and three "B" boats
Black Jack Reveille	13 15	.810 .768	faced the starter. But they had
Flapper	16	.730	something else again to face
Avanti	11	.687	once they were given the "go."
Gopher Naviator	13 10	.588	That is why two "A" boats re-
Blue Jacket	12	.474	turned to moorings in tow,
Nike	15	.419	while no "B" boats finished at
Whisper	14	.286	all, one of them being beached.
	Atlantic Class		The "A" boats to finish were
Marianna	12	.776	Vodka, Mothball and Kerchoo, in
Nereid	12 16	.752	the order given. That was all for
Bobkat Salty	12	.686 .638	Saturday. But Sunday brought perfect conditions.
Ranee	9	.636	The "B" boat races developed
Dione	13 17	.631 $.630$	into an all-day's nip-and-tuck
Hera Frolic	14	.610	battle between Jade and Mae
Patty	17	.608	West. The former finally eked
Petrel	12	.608	out a win by means of a sail-off
Rumour Clown	14 12	.589 .507	after having been all-even with
Dawnell	16	.435	Mae at the end of the regular
New Deal	20	.424	schedule. Sunday's summary fol-
Orza	12	.253	lows:
	Star Class		"A" Boats
Jubilee	15	.841	Boat Owner Points
Nereid II	11	.820	Liza, Rowe 47
Lazy Bones Grey Flash	9 12	.757 .734	Kerchoo, Harrison 42
Pearl III	11	.722	Vodka, Hart 37 Twinkle, Erdman 35
Lure	14	.668	Mothball, Dodge 34
Themis II Jay	13 13	606	Mothball, Dodge       34         Tadpole, Alvord       27         Banchee II, Devlin       22         Snowflake, Hubbard       7
Sunny -	9	.594	
Shucks .	12	.535	Jade, Smith Mae West, Hill 42
Alpha II Orion	10	470	Bingle, Townsend 28
Ghost	13 14		Ice Pick II, Hall 23 Beta, Moody 17
Luba	16	.379	HAROLD A. PRESTON.
and a	. [		

11/2



"Bob-Kat II" successfully defended the Seawanhaka Cup, beating the Scottish "Kyla" in three straight races



### Sound Waves

#### By LEE SCUPPERS

T SEEMS that Philip J. Roosevelt, the Old Man of Oyster Bay wants to build a new boat. And because he nurtures such at idea there is every likelihood that there will be a new one-designacing class at the neighboring Seawanhaka Corinthian and Cold

Spring Harbor clubs next season.

That may strike you as being pretty far-fetched and cause you to inquire in all pertinence: "Why, just because Phil has the new boat itch, should a new class pop into being?" Such a question merely reveals that you are not very well acquainted with the Roosevelt who sailed the Six-Metre (or should I say Six-and-one-half-Metre?) Swallow last summer, when he was not serving as bilgeboy on Spun Yarn's cerulean hued Hot Cha.

He has all the enthusiasm, suavity, argumentative ability and persistence of a life insurance salesman and none of this pest's less attractive attributes. He is thoroughly hipped on the idea of a new, moderate-sized, one-design racing machine and if you are so careless as to allow him to expound to you at any length the whys and wherefores of such a class, the next thing you know he has you

infected with the bug.

A number of Oyster Bay yachtsmen, it appears, fell into his clutches and discovered, before they could escape, that they had agreed to build one of the Roosevelt boats. Such is the power of

the man.

He concluded, after seeing what happened to the alleged S-Metre boats built for the British-American Cup series, that could write a better rule, or no worse, himself. Whereupon drew up a measurement rule for what he calls a Five-Metre Character of the turned it over to numerous builders and designers and aster that reflects the eagerness of these gentlemen for possible profits Now the various designs are being studied by a committee many of Seawanhaka and Cold Spring racing men. The next the you know the new Rooseveltian yachts (they most certainly not be called "Nude Eels") will be giving the Herreshoff "Seawanhaka and Cold Spring racing men."

Incidentally, here is a tip. Keep your weather eye on the Sewanhaka and Cold Spring situation. A merger of these organizations, which have virtually duplicate membership, is not beyond

the realm of possibility.

### Yachting Notes and Comments

#### An Englishman Looks at the British-American and Seawanhaka Six-Metre Races

THE RESULTS, both in the case of the British-American Cup series and of the match for the Seawanhaka Cup, must have been almost as disappointing to Long Island Sound yachtsmen as they were to their Scottish opponents. In sporting matches of this sort one always hopes for keen and close competition and a win for the better team or representative yacht by a reasonably narrow margin, with luck playing only a small part in the game. In this year's events, three straight races settled the matter in each match, luck played no part in the results, which could never for a moment have been in doubt and, in the case of the team races at least, the superiority of the winners was so marked that much of the interest which naturally attaches to such contests was lost before the match was half over. Disappointment must have been all the more keenly felt because the British team had a far better opportunity than the scratch team of 1932 to fit themselves to make a keen fight for the Cup, and yet failed so definitely to do so.

A somewhat curious feature of this year's British-American Cup Races is that, while the winning American team was composed of one new and three old boats, the British team was made up of one old and three new craft. One is almost forced to the opinion that no progress has been made in the design of "Sixes" in either country — especially in view of the fact that several new craft were built in America but evidently were not equal to the old boats which were selected to represent that country. Apart from the superiority of American design in this class, it is also obvious that the personnel of the winning team showed to greater advantage both individually and in team work. It is greatly to be hoped that, when the American team visits the Clyde in 1936, they will meet with a stiffer opposition than has been the case this year and in 1932 on the Solent.

### The Royal Corinthian Five-Metre Class

When, in the autumn of 1933, the Royal Corinthian Yacht Club decided to adopt a Five-Metre Class, it was hoped that, in spite of the lack of interest which had been shown in the national small classes promoted in the previous spring, it would find sufficient backing to be got under way during the summer. This hope was based on the fact that, before the scheme proposed by the Flag Officers was brought before the members of the club for their approval, it had been submitted for criticism to Charles Nicholson and also to several of the foremost designers in different countries. This being favorable, the club established the class, and it was thought that the measurement formula and tables of limits and scantlings adopted would tend to produce a fast, light and relatively inexpensive type of boat of healthy design. The formula was one of over twenty years' standing, and the method of measurement was based, in principle, on American practice as found in the Universal Rule, — that is to say, the load water line, or "established" load water line plane, and quarter beam length are measured and marked in exactly the same way as by the Universal Rule. spects, however, the four boats vary only very slitheir displacement and sail area are practically there the similarity ends, as in each case the designinterpreted the requirements of the rule in an entire ent direction.

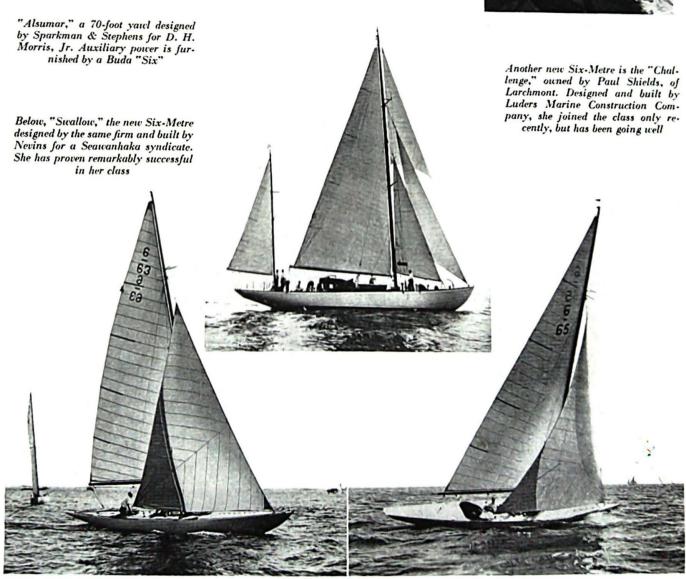
Blackie, the first boat to be built, to the design Daniels, the leading British designer of model yas pretty little craft of about 18 feet on l.w.l. and, I th a beam of about 5 feet 9 inches, of the fin and s which has proved to be so successful in model yas has moderate length overhangs forward and aft, w round ends. Norma, the second boat, from the John Anker, is a very different type, being a shade l the load water line, flatter in her angles of profile and aft, and definitely fuller in her ends. I do not kr beam she has, but it appears to be about 6 fee definitely the fullest boat of the four in her ends a very long actual sailing length. The third boat, Pi work of that clever young designer, J. Laurent Gile essentially from the first two in that she is abou 10 inches on l.w.l. and has very sharp ends, which the short quarter beam length demanded by the fo balance the greater length on l.w.l. Her beam is mately 5 feet, 6 inches. Mutt, the last of the four, signed by Charles Nicholson. She is one of the most little boats I have ever had the good fortune to see was certainly the favorite with the leading critics ham-on-Crouch. Her l.w.l. is, I am told, slightly feet, and her beam a little more than 6 feet. She moderately full overhangs at each end, giving an natural finish to her buttocks and diagonals. The her above-water profile are not as flat as those of and her forward and after sections are not nearl; The arrangement of her keel and rudder differs for thing I have seen before, in that the after part of he fin keel forms the rudder, the stock of which is so far in the boat that the helmsman has to sit amidsh arrangement does not appeal to me, personally, bu ence has taught me to be slow to criticize things strange, and has driven home the unpleasant fa after a certain age, one's outlook becomes limited a mental attitude less capable of adjustment to new

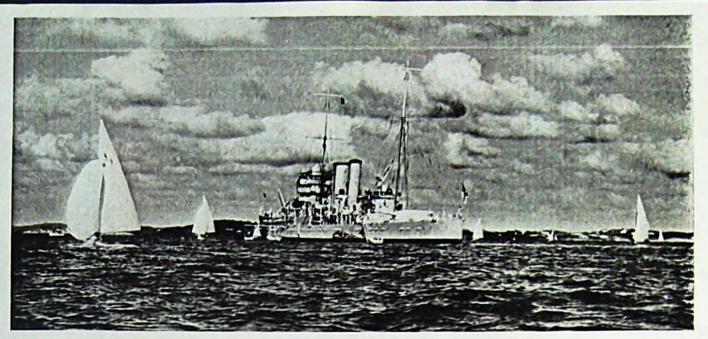
Of the capabilities of the four boats it is prob early to say much, as the last pair only turned u Burnham Week. Blackie appeared to be at her best ing to windward, but she seemed to be somewhat than the others on all round sailing. She is fitte "Burgess" boom, and on more than one occasion I foot of the mainsail taking its position on the wea of the boom! Norma is stiff and very fast off the also quite good to windward and, in their preser think she is probably the fastest all round boat of Pinkus is the smartest light weather boat and v winded under these conditions, but inclined to be a fresh breeze. Mutt is probably the best boat to v and is also fast dead before the wind, but from wh of her during Burnham Week I should say that shyet shown her best form.

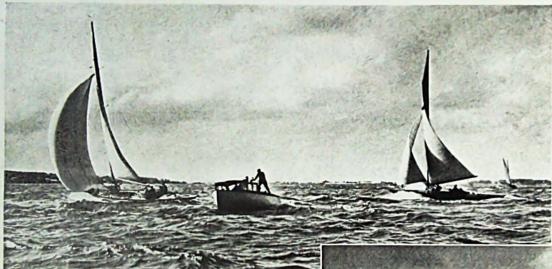
M. HECKSTALL

+ + +

### Starting Their First Season



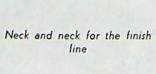


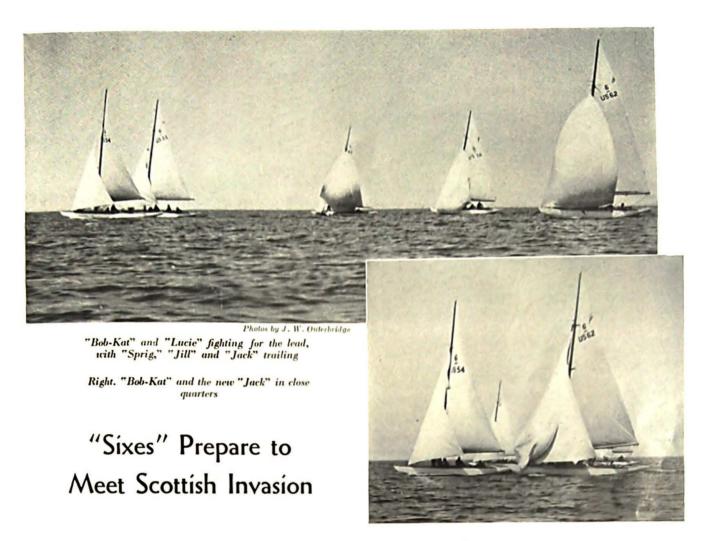


Six-Metre yachts during the recent international races passing the British cruiser "York"

> Photos by M. Rosenfeld

When a spinnaker is a hand-ful. Six-Metres "Lucie" (left) and "Viking"







HE International Six-Metre team match, which takes place off Oyster Bay the latter part of September, ranks second in importance only to the America's Cup races, and promises to be as close and interesting an event as the numerous matches held previously both here

and abroad. Inasmuch as the second British-American Trophy was won outright by the American team of "Sixes" which journeyed to the Solent two years ago, the present contest will be for the first leg on a new British-American Trophy, three wins being necessary for permanent possession.

The challenging craft this year will all be Scottish "Sixes," hailing from the famous Clyde. The make-up of the team is unknown as yet, but four new boats were built during the past winter, and as the Clyde fleet already included many fast "Sixes," the United States team is sure to meet with the keenest kind of competition.

Preparations are well under way to meet the Scottish invasion. We still have Bob-Kat, Lucie and Jill, members of the victorious American team of 1932. Then there are Anis (ex-Totem), Sprig, Meteor, Comet, Cherokee and Mars, all of which have a lot of go in them. And last but not least, we have four brand new boats, built under the slightly changed measurement rule, so that it looks as though the competition for a place on the American team might be almost as interesting and close as the final team matches.

Many of our existing boats have already made alter-

ations to rig or ballast, in accordance with the new rules, and several more will undoubtedly follow in their footsteps after some preliminary tryouts. The changed rules usually allow old boats a small increase in sail area, or an additional amount of ballast, or, perhaps, a little of both. Anis, for instance, has added lead to her keel, and the former Sound champion, heretofore a light weather boat, now stands up to her work in quite a breeze.

In the early racing, Jill, Lucie, Cherokee, and Bob-Kat have shown that they will take a lot of beating, Jill having won the Philip J. Roosevelt Trophy for a series of early-season races held off Oyster Bay, with the others right on her heels. Jack, the new boat designed by Sparkman & Stephens for J. Seward Johnson, has yet to find herself, but alterations being made are expected to inject a lot of life into her. The other three new craft have not been under sail long enough for us to form an opinion as to their capabilities.

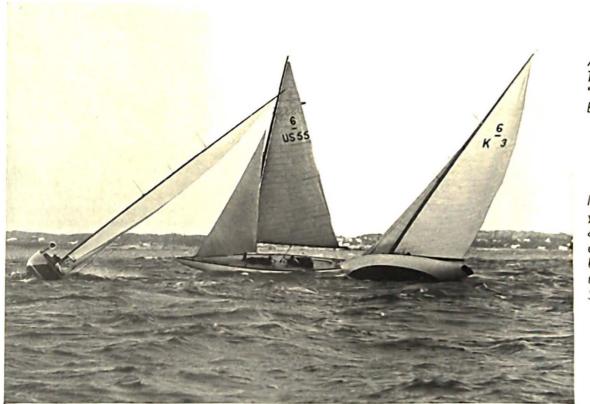
Below is a list of Six-Metre boats on the East Coast which will be in commission this year, all of which are eligible for the American team:

Jack. Designed by Sparkman & Stephens for J. Seward Johnson. Built 1934.

Erne. Designed by her owner, Herman Whiton. Built 1934.

Swallow. Designed by Sparkman & Stephens for a syndicate of Seawanhaka Corinthian Y.C. members. Built 1934.

(Continued on page 94)



Approaching Squall. Taken from yacht "Cheerio," off Bimini, Bahamas, by Dr. R. C. Williams

In a Tough Spot. The yacht on the port tack actually put her helm up and went astern of boat on starboard tack. Taken during the Six-Metre races at Bermuda in May

M. Rosenfeld

#### "Sixes" Prepare to Meet Scottish Invasion

(Continued from page 49)

Challenge. Designed by Luders Marine Construction Co. for Paul Shields. Built 1934.

Lucie. Designed by Clinton H. Crane, owned by Briggs S. Cunningham, Built 1931.

Jill. Designed by Sparkman & Stephens. Chartered

to C. F. Havemeyer. Built 1931. Bob-Kat. Designed by Sparkman & Stephens. Owned by

Robert B. Meyer. Built 1931.

Anis, ex-Totem. Designed by Luders Marine Construction Co. Owned by Clarence L. Smith, Jr. Built 1930.

Sprig. Designed by Clinton H. Crane. Owned by Henry

S. Morgan, Built 1930.

Meteor. Designed by Sparkman & Stephens. Owned by Horace Havemeyer. Built 1930.

Silroc, ex-Comet. Designed by Sparkman & Stephens. Owned by Newell P. Weed. Built 1930.

Cherokee. Designed by Sparkman & Stephens. Owned by Herman F. Whiton. Built 1930.

Mars. Designed by Clinton H. Crane. Owned by Lewis G. Young. Built 1930.

According to reports from the other side, the team from the Clyde will probably be made up of the four new boats, Melita, Saskia II, Kyla and Volga, though Vorsa may replace Volga. Melita, owned by R. M. Teacher, is a Fife boat, as is A. S. L. Young's Saskia II. Kyla was designed by Alfred Mylne and owned by William Russell. Volga, owned by Robert Clark, is also a Mylne boat. As his son, J. H. M. Clark, is to be one of the Clyde helmsmen, he may bring over his own Vorsa.

No official selection has been announced at this writing but so far the new boats seem to have been having the best of the racing, though Vorsa has been no mean

competitor.

The date for the match has been set tentatively for September 25th, the Seawanhaka Corinthian Y. C., under whose auspices the races will be held, reserving the right to set the final date in accordance with the date of the finish of the America's Cup match.



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