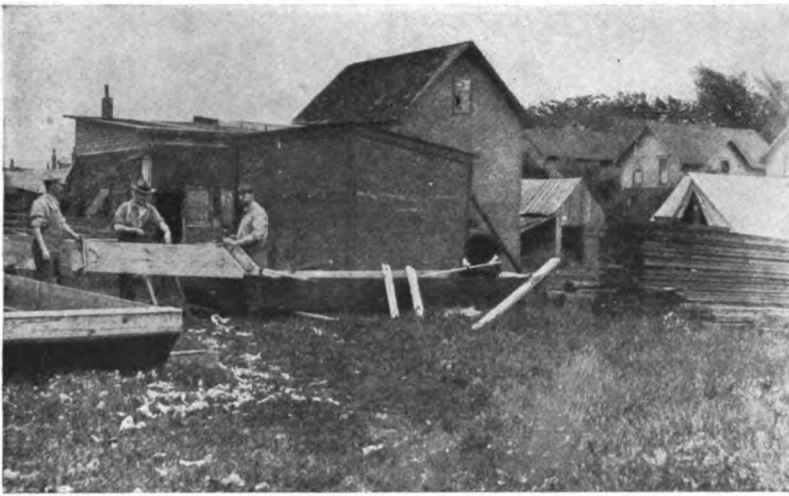


36



The combination lumber yard and sawmill at Sayre, Pa., where the boat was made



Washing clothes from the deck of the boat before the tent had been tied on

A FLOATING CAMP AT A DOLLAR A DAY

By F. H. CARPENTER

Photographs by the author

THE original plan was conceived by four Rochester High School teachers and carried out to the letter by them without a single obstacle to mar the pleasure of the trip. The outing lasted twenty-five days and cost each man \$22. The equipment consisted of a tent measuring 9 x 12 ft., which one of the party owned; a small gasoline stove, and a few cheap cooking utensils. Each man carried a cheap trunk in which he had blankets, one rubber and one woolen. In addition to these he carried a shaving outfit and a change of clothing.

The party went to Sayre, Pa., and pitched the tent in a lumber yard a few hundred feet from the



Receiving a tow from some kind neighbors

The cost of the lumber and cutting was \$21, and it took them three days to put the boats together. The boats were then dragged to the river and allowed to soak up for one day, during which time the frame-work was put up to hold the tent. Common stove bolts and large screw-eyes were found to be very handy in stiffening the frame and fastening on the tent.

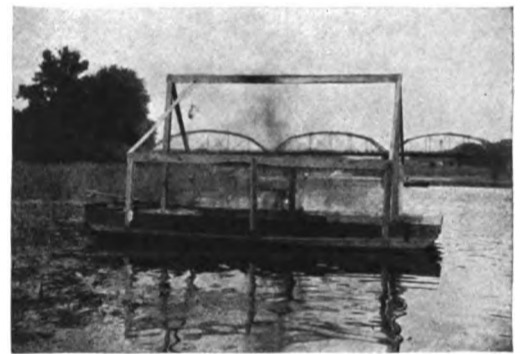
In addition to the boat each man made a collapsible cot, so that it would not be necessary to lie on the floor. With the tent drawn tightly down to the sides of the boat, and the trunks placed in a row through the centre, there was plenty of room for four to move around comfortably.

The boat was steered from the rear by means



The table found awaiting the travelers in the little grove where they spent a week

banks of the Susquehanna River. The plan was to build two large, flat pontoons and bolt them together; then set up the tent on top of them, and float down stream at the pleasure of the current. At the mill, which was located in the lumber yard, they made arrangements to have the wood for the boats sawed to their proper lengths, and with hammers and nails the crude boats were put together. One mistake was made, however, in that they used matched boards for the bottom, thinking that they would hold water better than the planed edge, but they found that the leakage through them was such that a double floor was necessary.



The houseboat was pulled ashore and set on fire after all canvas had been removed



Waiting along shore for one of the camping party to return from the village post-office with the mail and latest newspapers



Pulling ashore in preparation for a meal. Most of the provisions were purchased from farmers, whose visits helped to enliven the trip