BUILD THIS SAILING SURFBOARD

Planing along close to the water on this sailing surfboard will give you the thrill of a lifetime

By HI SIBLEY

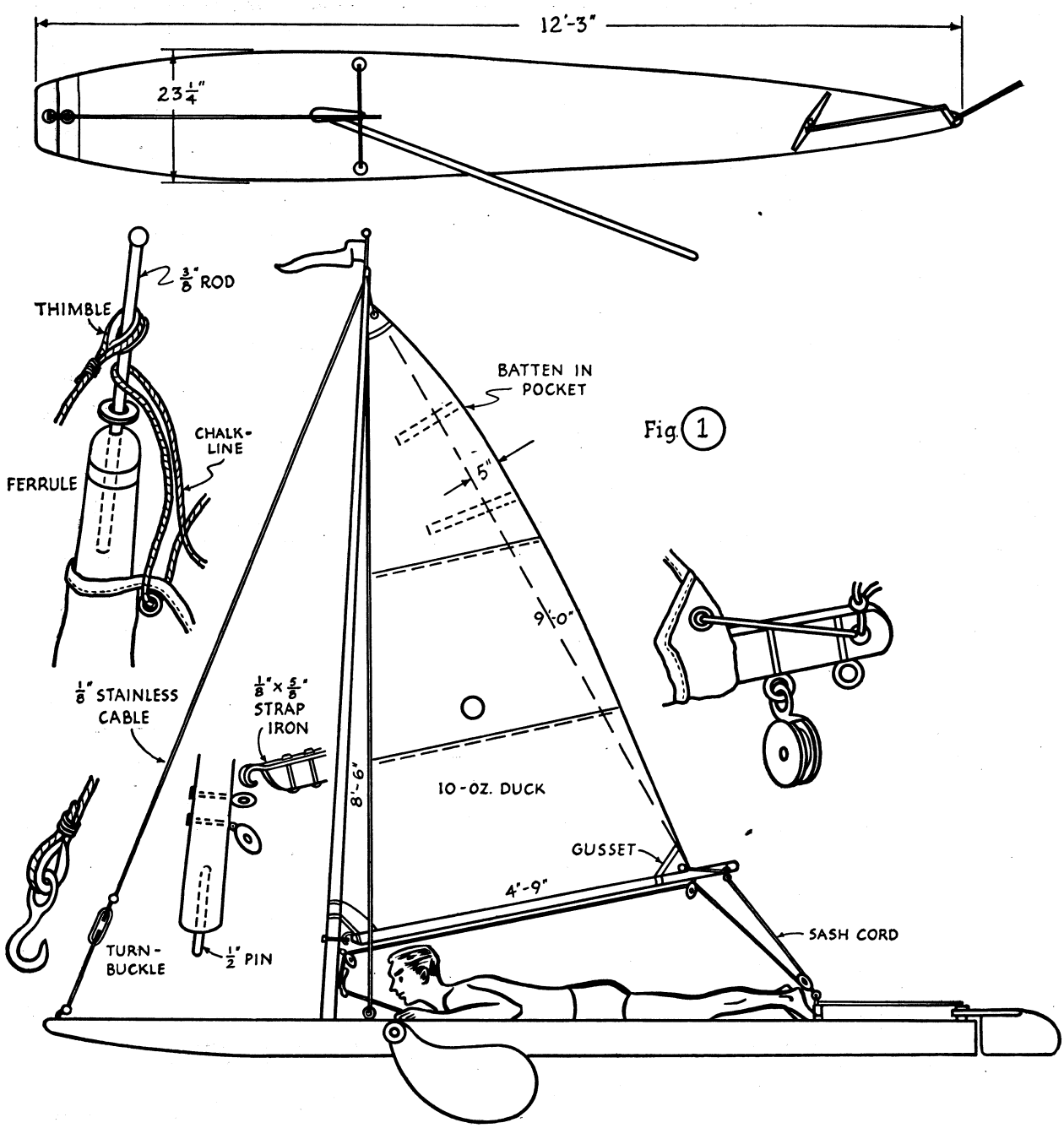


Fig. 1

HERE is a board that you can use for both surf riding and sailing. When the mast and rudder unit are removed the deck is absolutely clean.

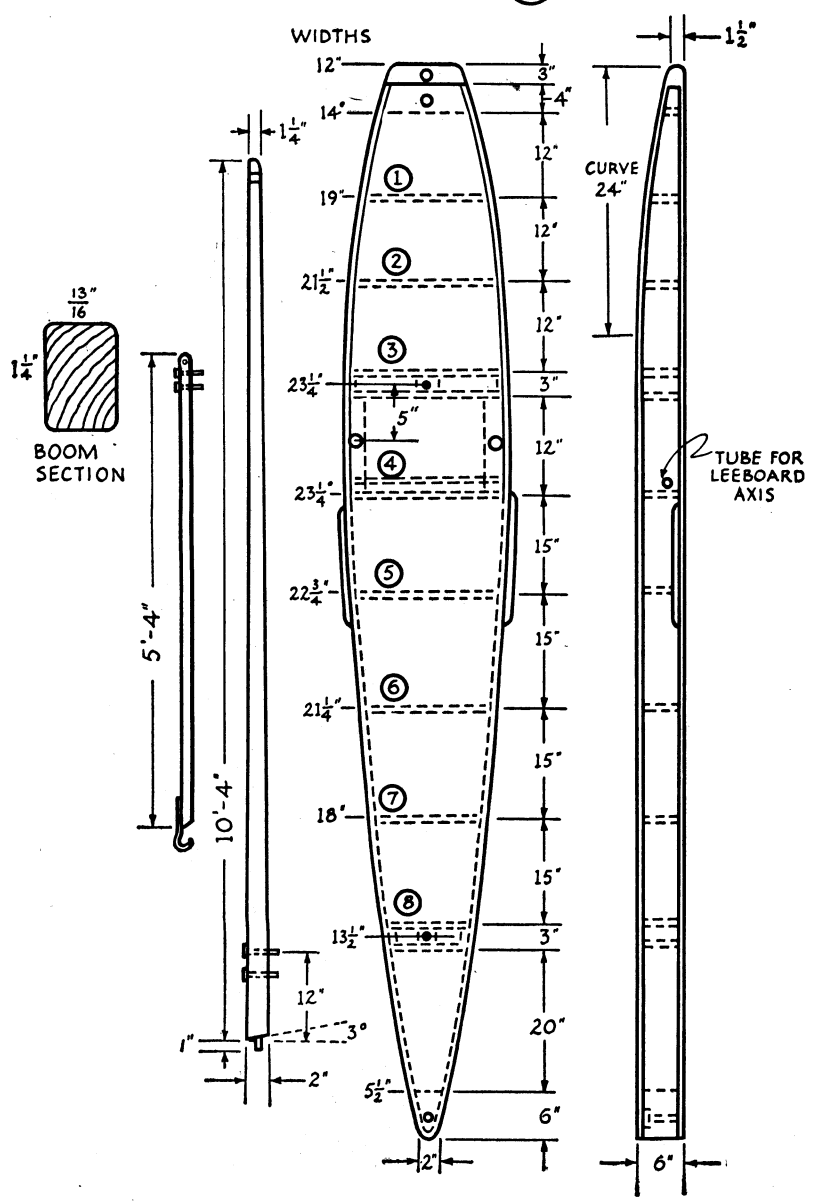
To remove the sailing gear is a matter of minutes. Just loosen the turnbuckle on the forestay, lift out the hook, tilt the mast back slightly, and take up the two side hooks. Next unscrew the bolt which serves as a pivot for the steering bar, and also the rudder post. A pin through the hub of one leeboard permits withdrawing the tube serving as pivot. All the gear can be stowed in small space.

Even with leeboards and rudder in place, you can slide the board up on the beach without damage, as in the profile view, Fig. 1. Here also is the deck plan and dimensions of the sail. The sail is drawn taut by cords through grommets at peak and foot. Mast and boom slip into wide hems in the canvas.

Dimensions between bulkheads and widths at each station are given in Fig. 2, together with mast and boom.

Dimensions for laying out the hull of Hi Sibley's surfboard design. It will be best to lay this down full size. The thwartship dimensions as well as bulkhead frame spacings are given. Board is planked with plywood.

Fig. 2



Both mast and boom should preferably be of straight-grained spruce. But if that's not available, use pine or fir.

First make the noseblock, Fig. 3. This is shaped from a single white pine block, or from two or three pieces glued together with grain running fore-and-aft. Bore for forward eye bolt and drain pipe. This pipe has a small hole in cap to equalize air pressure. Make tailblock next, as in Fig. 4.

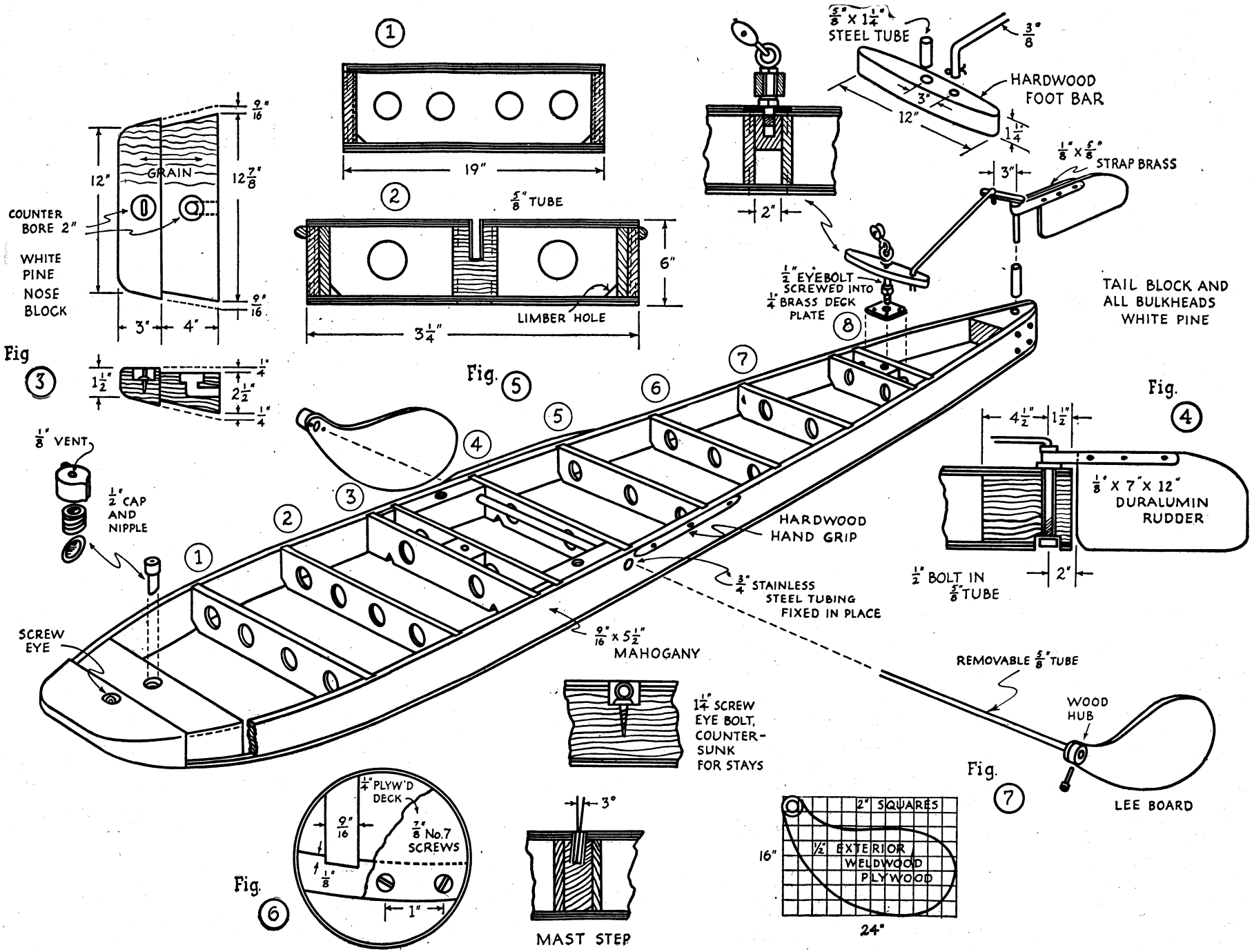
Now lay out the deck outlines on a panel of exterior or marine grade plywood, ¼"x2'x12'. Mark the widths at the several stations, and trace the curve with a straight-grained spruce or fir batten ¾"x¾"x146". This will insure a natural curve and may vary slightly from the dimensions given. Saw along the traced lines, allowing 1/16" or so for trimming later.

Now cut the mahogany side members, slotting them ⅛" deep for the bulkheads. Screw the deck plywood temporarily to the noseblock and tailblock, and screw the side members to the noseblock. And placing bulkheads 3 and 4 in position, bend side members around and screw to tailblock. The other bulkheads may now be installed, and deck screwed to side members temporarily to hold in place, with say four screws each side. There should be no screws through deck or bottom into *bulkheads,* except at the mast step, and through metal plate at footbar axis. Before doing any assembly, and after assuring yourself that all surfaces are flush, apply marine glue to the raw wood.

Limber holes for drainage are provided at the corners of each bulkhead, as in Fig. 5, cross-sectional views. When the bulkheads are installed to your satisfaction, turn the board over and screw on the bottom permanently, as in Fig. 6. Deck may now be removed for final work on the inside, such as putting in the fixed tube into which the leeboard axis turns, and short pieces of tubing for mast step and rudder pivots.

Cut leeboards from ½" plywood. Provide hubs, and secure to axis with removable pins or bolts. After a thorough sanding, apply several coats of spar varnish, working it well into the exposed edges of the plywood. Of course you let it dry and sand lightly between coats. All hardware should be brass or galvanized.

See plans on next page.


1
19"
2
5/8" TUBE
6"
3 1/4"
LIMBER HOLE
9/16"
12"
GRAIN
12 7/8"
COUNTER BORE 2"
WHITE PINE NOSE BLOCK
3"
4"
Fig 3
1 1/2"
2 1/2"
1/4"
1/4"
5/8" X 1 1/4" STEEL TUBE
3/8"
HARDWOOD FOOT BAR
3"
12"
1 1/4"
1/8" X 5/8" STRAP BRASS
3"
2"
1/2" EYEBOLT SCREWED INTO 1/4" BRASS DECK PLATE
8
TAIL BLOCK AND ALL BULKHEADS WHITE PINE
Fig. 5
7
6
5
4
3
2
1
1/8" VENT
1/2" CAP AND NIPPLE
SCREW EYE
HARDWOOD HAND GRIP
3/4" STAINLESS STEEL TUBING FIXED IN PLACE
9/16" X 5 1/2" MAHOGANY
Fig. 4
4 1/2"
1 1/2"
1/8" X 7" X 12" DURALUMIN RUDDER
1/2" BOLT IN 5/8" TUBE
2"
REMOVABLE 5/8" TUBE
WOOD HUB
LEE BOARD
Fig. 7
1 1/4" SCREW EYE BOLT, COUNTER-SUNK FOR STAYS
1/4" PLYW'D DECK
9/16"
7/8" No.7 SCREWS
1 1/8"
1"
Fig. 6
3"
MAST STEP
2" SQUARES
16"
1/2" EXTERIOR WELDWOOD PLYWOOD
24"