

Offshore News

Continued

new tome is meatier though coincidentally easier to work through, even as a cover-to-cover read rather than as a reference book. Again it is amply illustrated with photographs and drawings, and is very well up-to-date with the most recent developments.

For the more practical man who likes to do things with his hands, or even just wants to know something about yacht construction, the Gougeon Brothers' work is very refreshing. For those who are not familiar with the name the Gougeons put a lot of study into epoxies and have come up with their own construction system which is sold as the Wood Epoxy Saturation Technique — the WEST system which is so frequently found. However, the book cannot be described even as a soft sell because it contains invaluable, honest information that would be of use to anyone building a boat of whatever medium. There are extremely useful tips on lofting, fitting out, installing deck gear that apply to most forms of construction, but of course as far as cold moulding, and the WEST system in general is concerned, it is exceptionally useful.

Aero-Hydrodynamics Of Sailing is by C. A. Marchaj and is published by Adlard Coles Limited at £25.00 — Adlard Coles Limited is at 29 Frogmore, St Albans, Herts.

The Gougeon Brothers On Boat Building is published by an American firm, Pendell Publishing, but is available in UK from WEST Systems, York Road, Cowes.

PASAB, The Penzance Sailing Club's annual race from Penzance around the Scillies and back for yachts and multihulls over 20ft loa has, this year, been brought forward to June 20th.

This event, the brainchild of Brian Saunders, owner of 'Smiling Tree' the first UK boat in the 1979 Mini Transat and Colin Harrison, is short enough, at approximately 100 miles, to be not too demanding for crews yet presents navigators and skippers with considerable challenge. It has been adopted by the Western Channel Offshore Racing Association as their 1980 Topsail trophy event and is attracting considerable interest from MOCRA — it was won in 1978 by the successful AZAB trimaran 'Mary Jane Louise'. However, in 1979 it was

won by a local boat builder in an Elizabethan 33.

With the start time at around 2000 competitors should be at the Scillies and back along the Channel coast of the Penwith peninsula during daylight.

The skipper of the first boat home will be awarded the Manzi trophy, a representation of the Penwith peninsula and the Isles of Scilly in sheet silver on a Cornish slate base with the track and principal marks engraved in the base. In addition there are nine other trophies for various classes, including a special trophy for multihulls. Further details from race secretary Mary Wales, Blue Seas, Gwavas Road, Newlyn, Penzance.



Ron Holland's design office is as busy as ever, the main project taking shape there being Jim Kilroy's new Maxi Rater 'Kialoa IV'. The mould frames have been set up at Gary Carlin's Kiwi Boats and moulding of the hull should be underway this month. The construction laminate uses Kevlar 49 reinforcement and Baftek balsa core.

At Admiral's Cup level Holland has a great number of designs taking shape. A 40ft update of 'Imp' and 'Regardless' is the smallest, moving up through a 42ft Two Tonner, a 42-footer, 43-footer, 44-footer, 46-footer to a top rating 51-footer. We do not know how many of each of these are being built but it gives the New Zealand designer a remarkable spread through the range.

Stepping down in size, he also has a fistful of One Tonners building for this year's series in Naples. Graham Walker's 'Indulgence' showed herself to be about the fastest One Tonner last year, without actually winning the event, and this has sparked off great interest in Holland at this level. Mike Swerdlow, the owner of the Holland Admiral's Cupper 'Aries', is having one new boat which will be sailed by the nucleus of 'Indulgence's' crew — Lowell North, Tim Stearn and Butch Dalrymple-Smith. Under Lowell North's influence Ron Holland has drawn a heavier displacement boat than 'Indulgence' in order to cram more sail on for the Naples series. The boat is being built in Spain by Garriga, as also is another Holland One Tonner developed more directly from 'Indulgence'. The latter will be sailed by American ace John Kolius who made the Holland Mini Tonner 'Honeymoon' go very fast last year. Both will have fractional rigs, as also will two Holland One Tonners built by Polaris of Italy.

With the Three-Quarter Ton being scheduled for Spain in 1981 Holland is receiving a lot of interest from that country and Cobo Hermanos is currently building two Three-Quarter Tonners to his design. They are developments of

'Vitres', a wood boat beautifully built by the Webb brothers' Racing Yacht Systems for Swede Ulf Wikman.

At Half Ton Ron Holland has three boats, two built in Finland with Kevlar reinforcement and one in Italy of wood. All three are expected to be competing in the 1980 series in Sandhamn.

At production boat level he has a number of highly successful boats. Jeanneau of France, one of Europe's largest boatbuilders, is building thirty a month of his Rush 31 design, to all outward appearances at least a development of 'Silver Jubilee'. Several Kevlar-reinforced works boats will compete in the Half Ton Cup and the L'Aurore Single-handed race, an extremely important competition in the French calendar.

Another firm beginning to build Holland boats in great numbers is Nao-glass of Spain, with the Puma 27, to be followed by the Puma 22 which is currently at the design stage. And, in Taiwan, the Ta Chiao Brothers' Yacht Building Company is currently tooling up a 52ft fast cruiser.

An interesting piece of news is that the New York Yacht Club has adopted the Nicholson 345 as its new club yacht, to the great credit of Camper and Nicholson. On the non-rated racing front Holland, like many other designers, has attempted a J24-beater. Called the Bombardier 7.6 it is a high performance weekend cruiser which is being built in Canada. The production schedule is designed to produce 80 boats for Canada and the north-eastern parts of the USA this year.

Finally, at the time of going to press Ron Holland was expecting to conclude a contract with a major American builder to design a range of production boats between 28ft and 36ft for the home market.



More than three yachts have expressed interest in competing in the Sardinia Cup so the RORC has announced selection trials. To be held in June the series will comprise the fourth Solent Points race on June 7th, the RORC Seine Bay race on June 13th, the Round the Island race on June 21st, and the Morgan Cup on June 27th.



In the previous issue we wrote that a monohull which foundered while trying to beat the 'Atlantic's' record was the old Mull-designed 'La Forza del Destino'. We now understand that she was in fact the Yves-Marie Tanton-designed 'Desperado' but have no further reliable details.