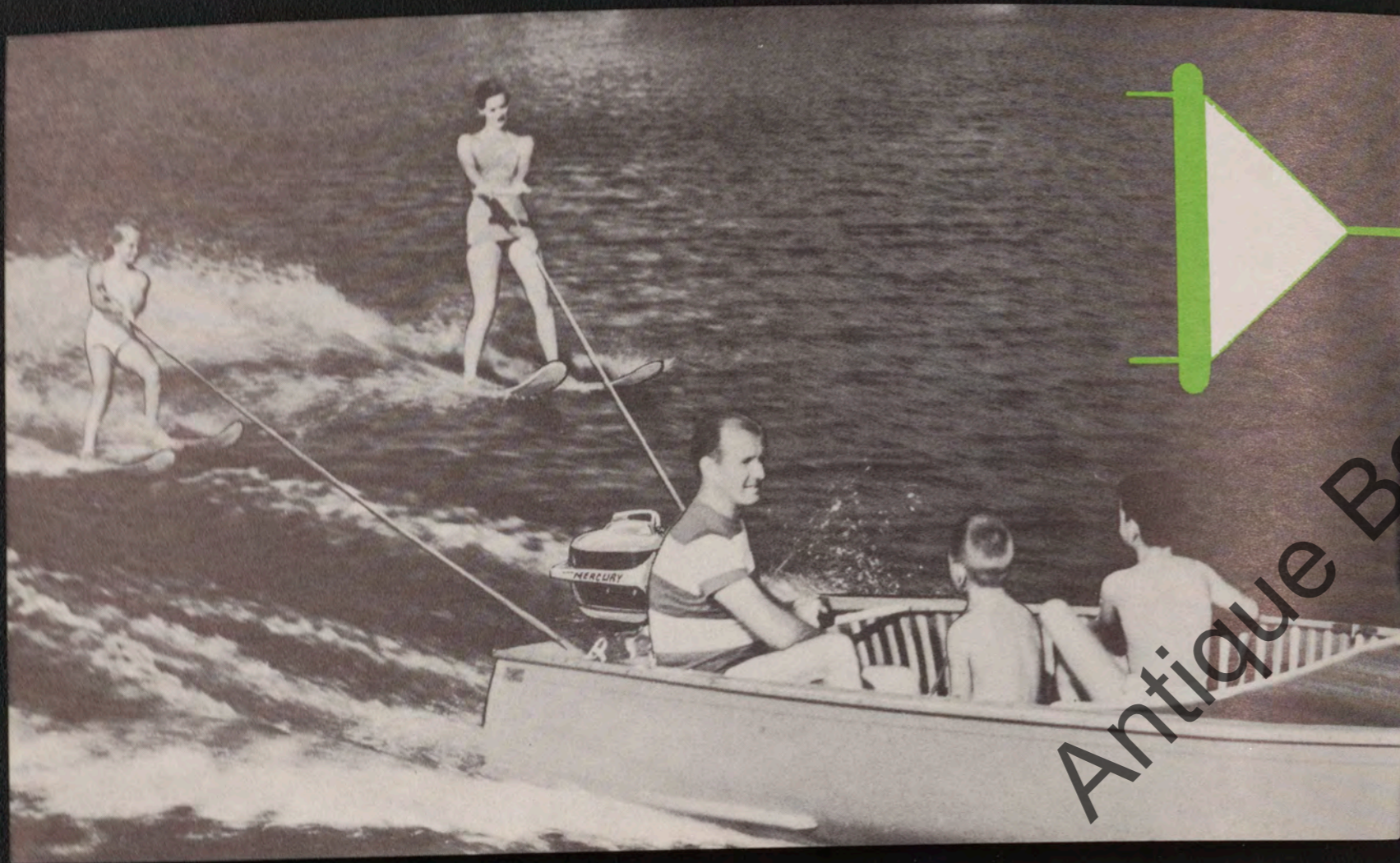


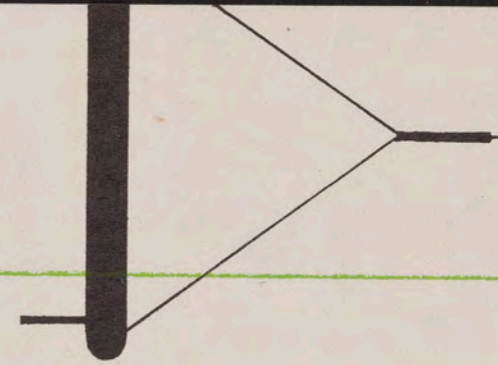
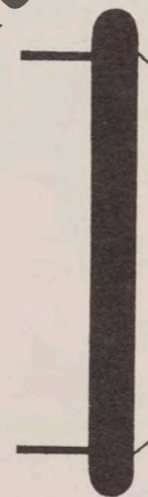
Antique Boat Museum

**How to
water ski
with an
outboard
by**

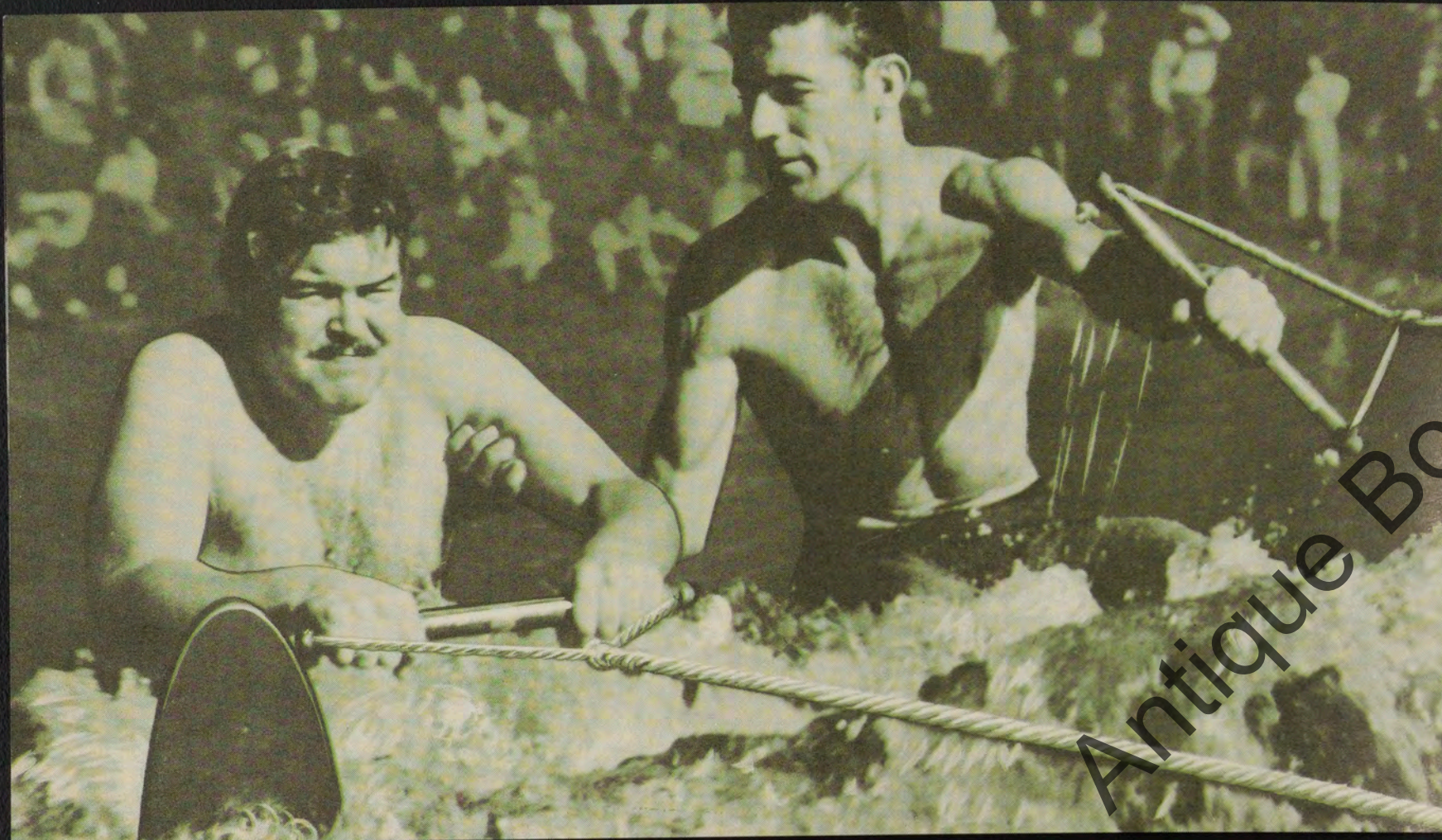
Tom Moor



Antique Boat Museum



KIEKHAEFER
MERCURY
OUTBOARD MOTORS



Foreword

Water skiing is for people — for Mom, for Pop and for all the kids that are off the bottle and on spinach.

That's something I never realized until I tried it myself at the ski-happiest spot in America, Florida Cypress Gardens. They talked me into it, that first day, and it took a lot of heaving and hauling to get me waterborne. (I was more — shall we say — stout, in those days!)

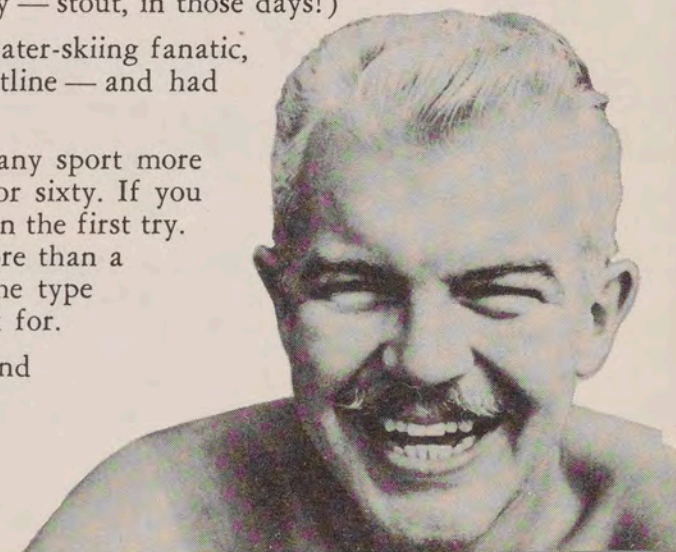
But the thrill of that first ride was all it took to make me a water-skiing fanatic, Grade A-1. Since then, I've trimmed 14 inches off my waistline — and had more fun than ever before in my life!

It's easy to water ski — even if you've never participated in any sport more demanding than hop scotch or mibs . . . whether you're six or sixty. If you study the following pages carefully, you should be able to ski on the first try. And it's not expensive. Skis and a tow rope don't cost any more than a good tennis racket, for example; and modern outboards of the type illustrated herein have all the power and speed you could ask for.

Water skiing is America's most fascinating new sport — and it's for you! Try it!

Yours for fun,

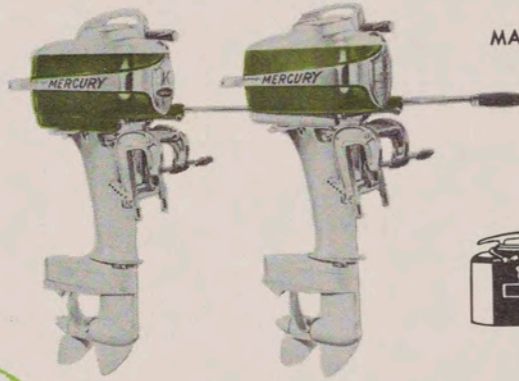
Tom Moor



this is
what it takes . . .

*your
equipment*

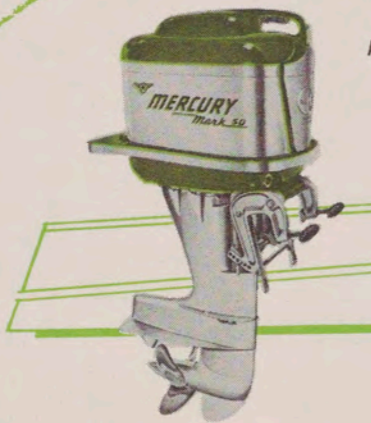
MARK 15



MARK 20



MARK 50



THE SKIS

You'll find inexpensive water skis available in varying sizes and types to meet your requirements, as determined by consulting your sporting goods dealer. The skis illustrated are typical, with length and width planned for maximum planing surface for easy starts and skiing stability.

THE TOW ROPE

There are many sizes and grades of ropes which are suitable for water skiing. Though linen is probably the best, you'll get along perfectly satisfactorily with any 25 to 50 foot length of good quality 1/4-inch manila rope.

THE BOAT

You won't need any specially designed or constructed boat for water skiing, for the average runabout or streamlined fishing hull will serve adequately. It's a good idea to have remote throttle and steering controls, but they're not required equipment.

THE MOTOR

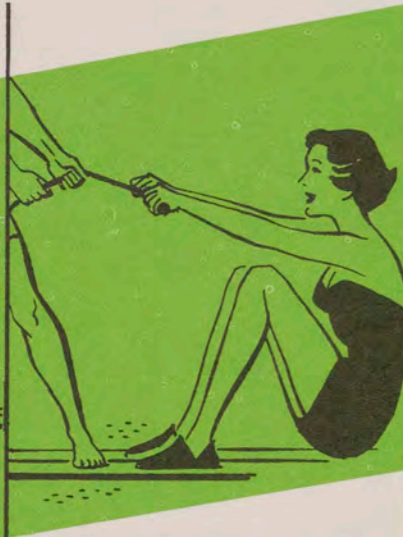
The need for costly inboard motors in water skiing has been eliminated by the increased power, range and performance of some outboard motors. The Mercury Mark 15, Mark 20 and Mark 50 models (with 10, 16 and 40 horsepower respectively) will pull water skiers at thrilling speeds. For extra performance, the use of a low pitch propeller is recommended. Your Mercury dealer will be glad to advise you.

your first lesson

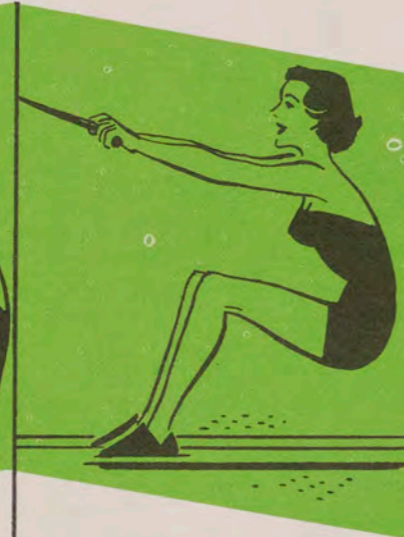
a dry run on the beach



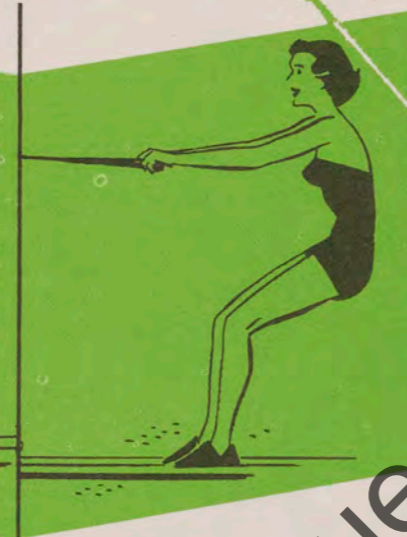
You can practice proper beginning form and get the feel of rope pull by working with a partner on the beach. Place skis 6 to 9 inches apart on beach, push feet into bindings as far as possible and pull up heel pieces.



Now sit back on the skis with chest drawn up against upper legs and have your partner brace one foot on your skis as he begins to exert pull on the tow rope.



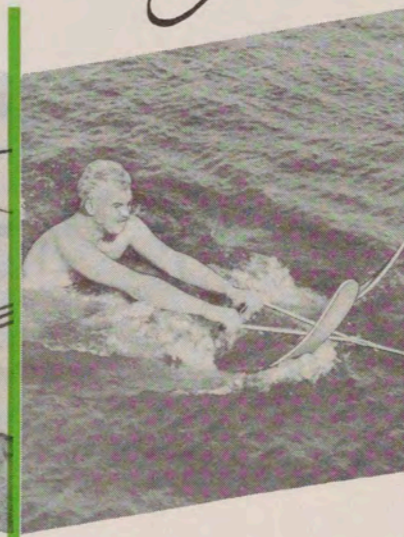
Your partner does all the work as you come up out of sitting position, letting your ankles act as a fulcrum for the rest of your body as you move into skiing position. Keep your knees bent and elbows straight.



Be sure you keep your weight evenly balanced on both skis, knees bent and elbows straight, as illustrated for correct beginning position. You should practice this exercise a number of times before attempting a trial run.



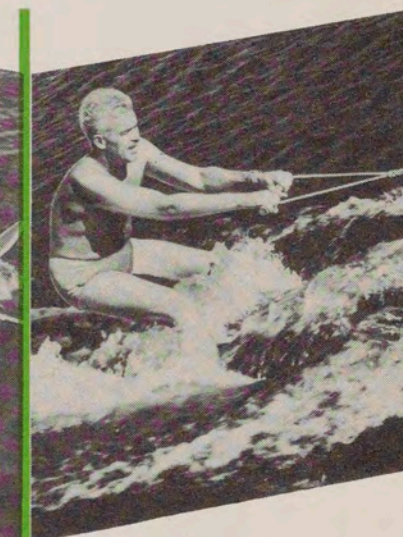
For a deep water take-off, assume the sitting position you've already practiced on dry land. Steady yourself with the tow bar and raise your ski tips above water.



At your signal, your boat operator should drive forward, giving you a fast, even pull. Water pressure will force your skis up, but hold them straight — and remember to let the motor do the work of pulling you up.



Your skis will have an inclination to wobble as you continue to come up out of the water, but you'll find it isn't too difficult to keep them straight. Remember to keep your elbows straight and knees bent.



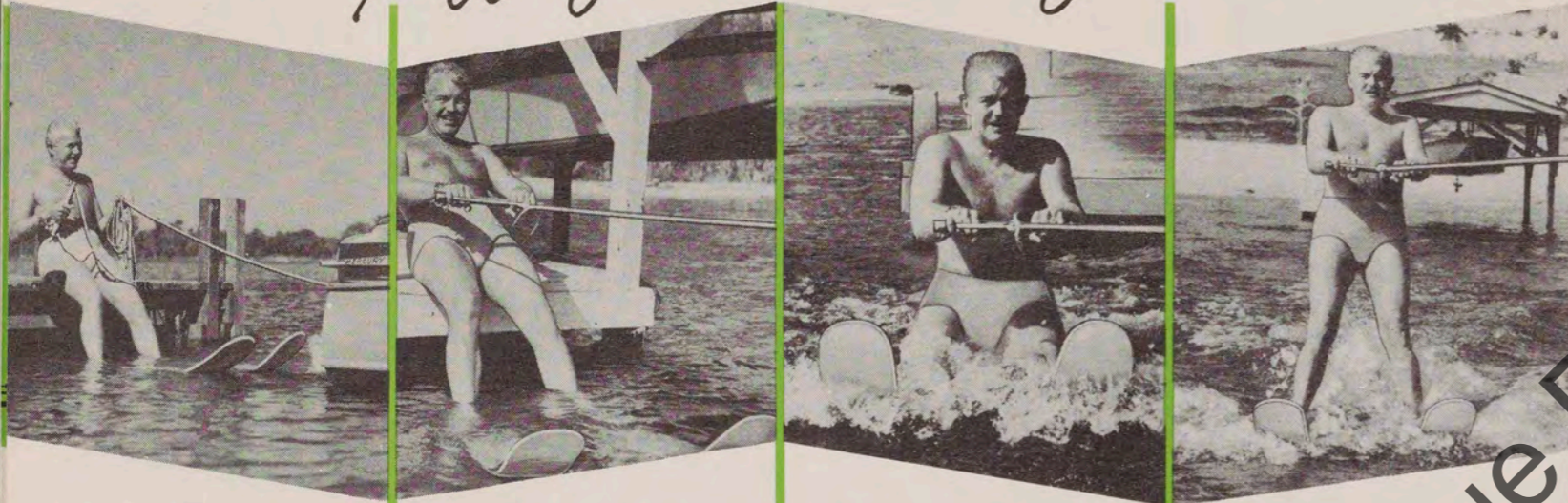
The skis will automatically assume a straight position as you reach a speed of 15 to 20 mph . . . but it's still important to keep your knees bent to aid you in maintaining your balance and to provide a cushion against the slight shock of the waves.

as easy as it looks!



Antique Boat Museum

taking off from dock or float



Sit on the edge of the dock with the heels of your skis in the water underneath the dock, toes out of the water. Keep a firm grip on the tow bar, with the tow rope passing between the skis and 10 or more feet of slack coiled next to you on the dock.

Face the tow boat, which should start accelerating before all slack is gone. At the moment the rope tightens, transfer your weight to the skis and hold your arms straight, ready for the pull.

This is it! You're either riding or swimming in a second or two. Not leaning back and bracing your legs for the pull may result in being jerked out of the skis. Pulling up on the tow bar too much may prevent your being able to correct your balance later.

And now you're off! Get up into a good skiing stance as soon as possible — knees slightly bent, back straight, arms straight to relieve the pulling strain.



landing



left turn



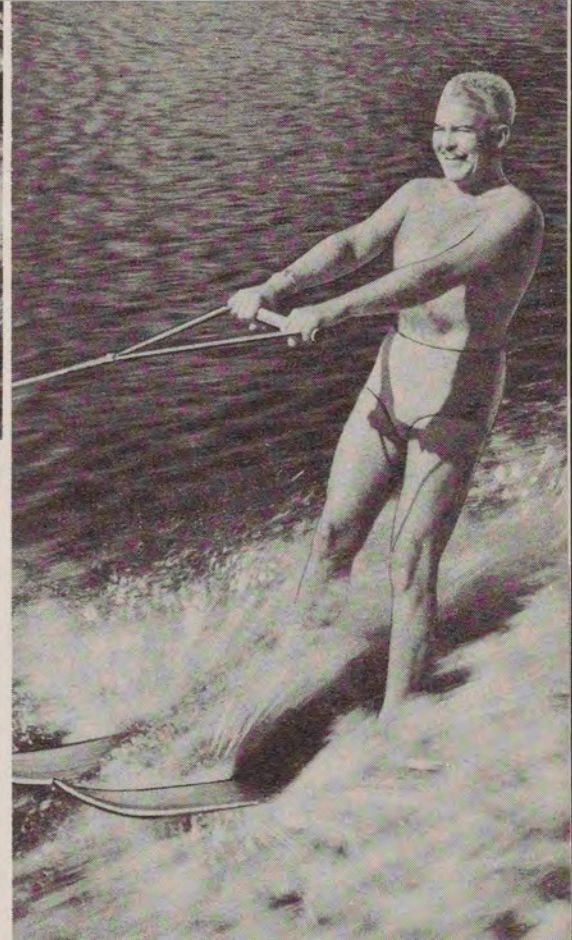
crossing wake

FUNDAMENTALS

Once you've passed the starting and straight riding stage, you can really begin to acquire the finer points of the water skiing art . . . and only you can say how fast you'll progress. But the next item is that of practicing turns — within the wake of the boat at first.

Steering is mostly a matter of applying a little pressure with one leg or the other. To go right, just relax the knees and push with your left leg, turning your body to the right. To go left, merely shift your weight and push slightly with your right leg.

Next, you'll want to learn how to cross the wake. Get ready — by pulling to the left, inside the wake. Get set — by making a right turn. And *go* — right on through the wake, taking the shock of hitting the wave through your bent knees. To return, just pull out to the side about twenty feet or so and reverse the procedure.



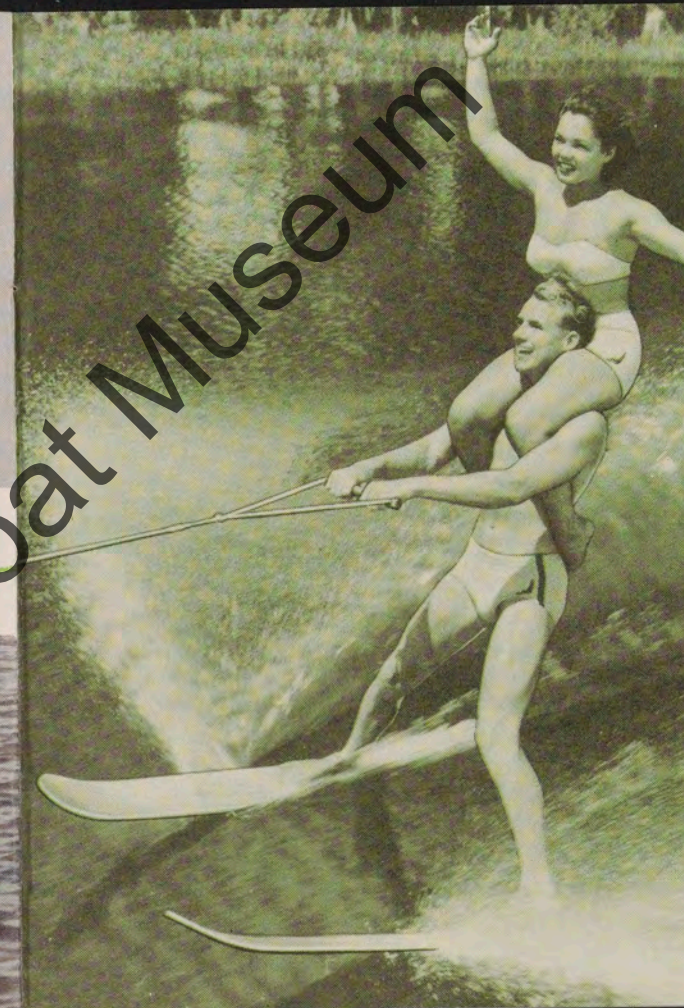
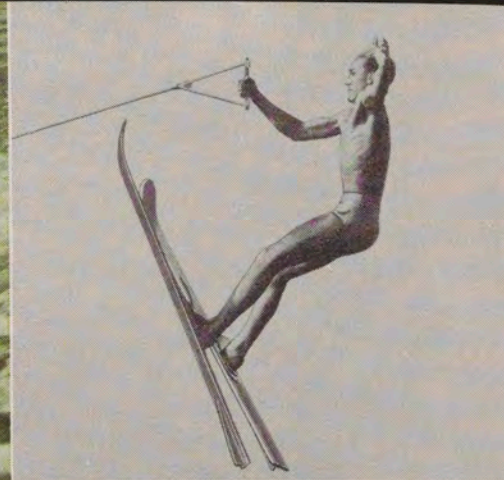
normal skiing position

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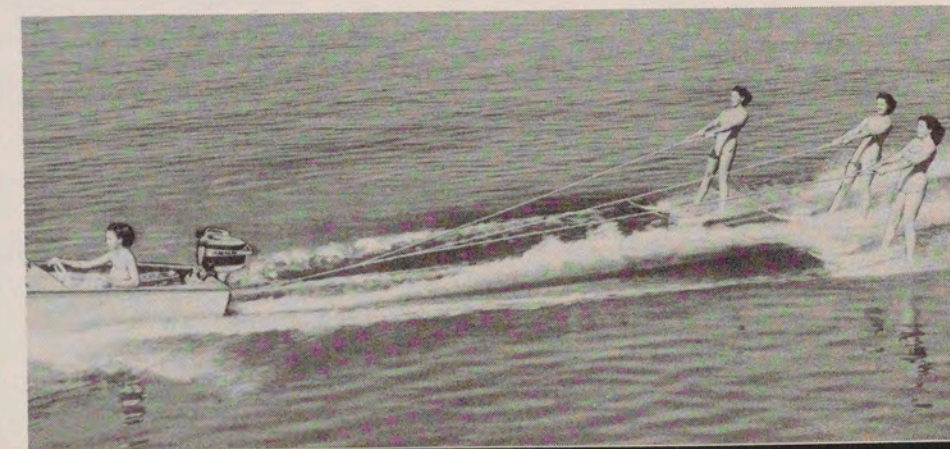
full speed ahead

With the fundamentals under your belt, you're ready for bigger and better adventures with your water skis. Single-ski riding is a basic part of water skiing, not only for competition but for the variety of tricks it affords. Jumping is both spectacular and popular — and is actually less difficult than many other maneuvers such as the slalom or tournament trick riding.



two for the show...

Some of the more complicated tricks and maneuvers require a partner. Outboards recommended for pulling two or more skiers with power enough for multiple skier take-offs and flashing running speeds are the Mercury Mark 20 and the Mercury Mark 50. These motors pack all the punch necessary to give you the tops in water skiing thrills.



tips to the Chauffeur

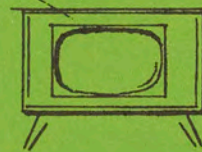
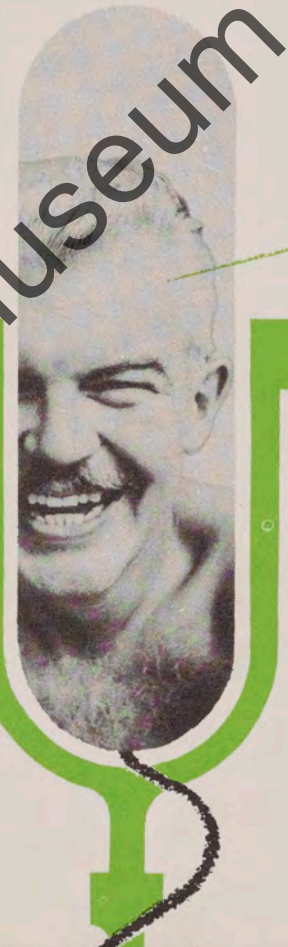
1. When starting, wait for your skier's signal — ski tips above water or a nod of the head.
2. Take off with a fast, smooth, steady pull.
3. Sharp turns mean dunked skiers. Keep yours above water with gradual, wide turns.
4. Steer clear of other boats and floating obstacles.
5. As a safety precaution, always shut off the motor when taking a fallen skier aboard.
6. To recover a skier for a deep water start, idle past him, then turn his way at a 45° angle so the tow rope will come to him.



about Tom Moore

The genial master of ceremonies of Mutual Broadcasting System's popular "Ladies Fair", Tom Moore has been a radio and television star for many years. His first big radio show was "Ladies Be Seated" and he became a familiar voice to millions as emcee of Morgan Beatty's nightly news roundup.

His present radio show is heard nationally over 558 stations of the Mutual network. He broadcasts for six months of the year from Chicago, and for the other six months from the Florida Citrus Building at Winter Haven, Fla. This enables Tom to indulge his enthusiasm for water skiing the year round. He takes part in the daily water ski shows held at Cypress Gardens, was guest star of the water ski show at the Chicago Railroad Fair in 1949 and 1950, and has participated in the Senior Men's Division of the All-American Water Ski Tournament.



take a tip
from the experts

Tom Moore, famous radio and television personality and accomplished water skier, and Willa McGuire, World Champion water ski title holder, from Cypress Gardens, Florida. Willa is the holder of the World Women's Water Ski Championship and was six times winner of the U. S. National Water Ski Title. She was three times winner of the Dixie Tournament and two times winner of the All-American. She was until last year the Canadian Women's Champion. Tom and Willa both pick Mercury for tops in water skiing.

