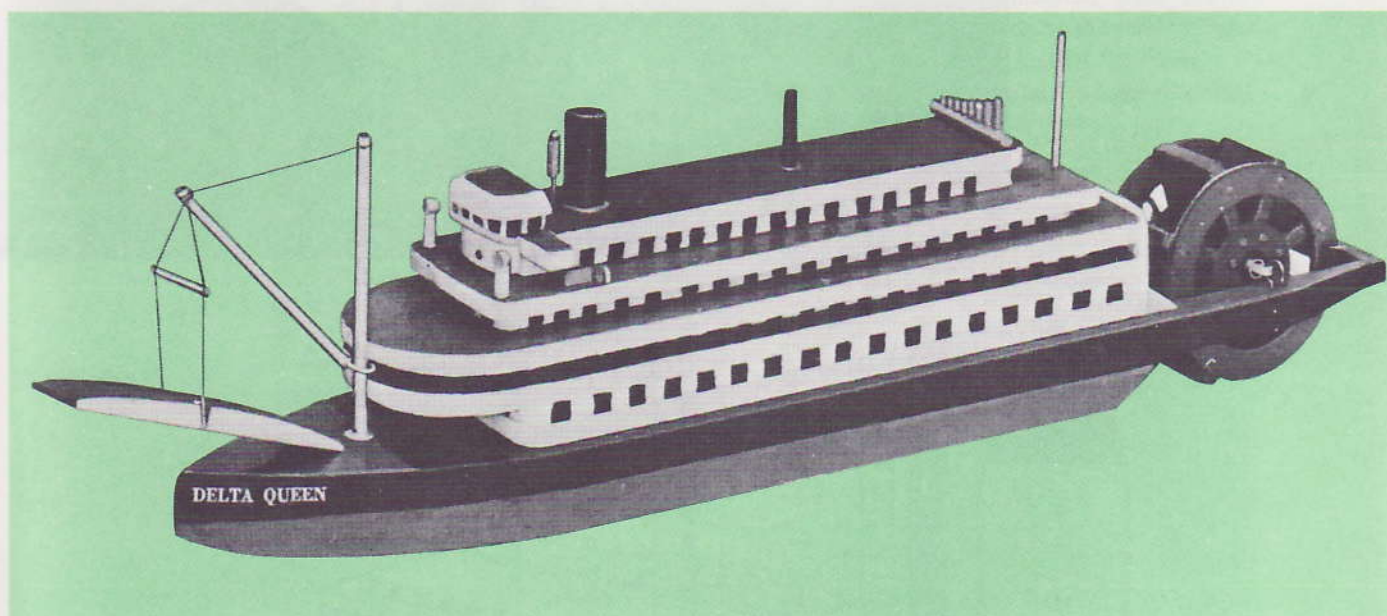


# Model the queen of the rivers

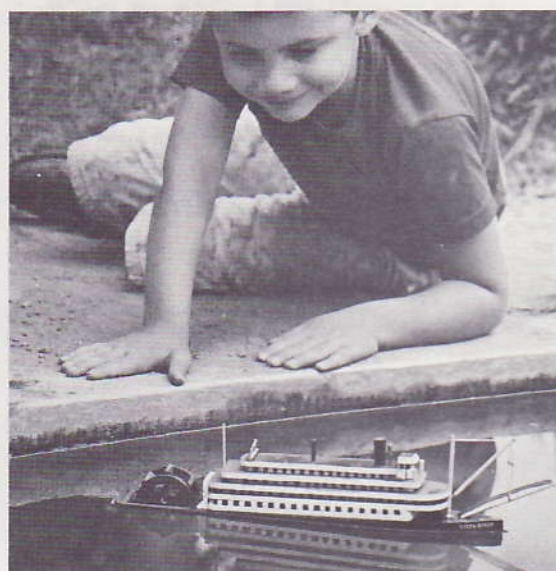
■ THIS 13-IN. MODEL of the huge old queen of the rivers should delight any junior river pilot. Its small paddle wheel turns just like the 24-ft. original, but instead of being driven by steam, it's powered by a rubber band. Complete even to the tiny steam pipes of the calliope, this model can be cut, assembled and painted in an evening or two. The main part of the hull, lift 1, is made from a cedar fence picket, so that a minimum of shaping is necessary.

The last of the Mississippi overnight passenger steamboats, this 285-ft. stern-wheeler carried vacationers on leisurely 10-mph cruises. Here's an easy-to-build model of it

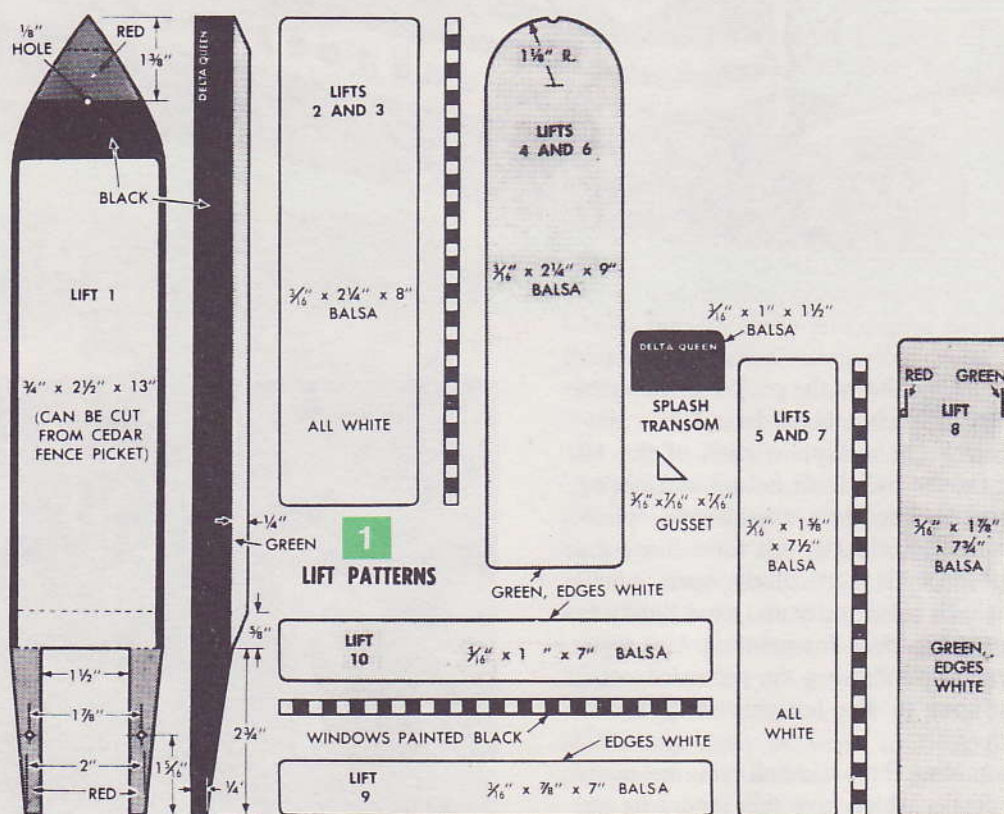


You can obtain balsa of the proper thicknesses at most model or hobby shops. In order to simplify the project, cut and paint each of the 10 lifts making up the hull itself before assembling the boat, Fig. 1. The stern gussets and splash transom also are installed at this time. Since the end grain of balsa is particularly open, you'll have to fill it with wood putty and sand lightly to achieve a smooth surface for painting. Use regular model enamel, following the indicated color scheme, and put in the lettering with a fine artists' brush.

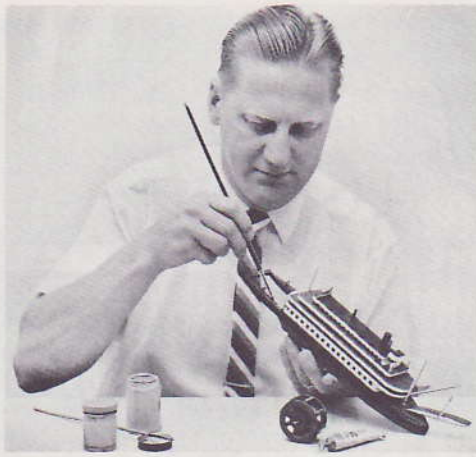
After assembling the basic hull, you are ready to add the details which give this model its authentic appearance, Fig. 3. Make the calliope by gluing different lengths of  $\frac{1}{16}$ -in. dowel to a short length of  $\frac{1}{8}$ -in. dowel and mounting this assembly near the after end of lift 10. Give the calliope











a coat of metallic paint before mounting.

Both the galley chimney and whistle are pieces of  $\frac{1}{8}$ -in. dowel, while the stack is a  $\frac{3}{4}$ -in. length of  $\frac{7}{16}$ -in. dowel. Color the stack and chimney black, but use metallic paint on the whistle. The ship's bell mounted on lift 6 is simply the pendant from a lighting-fixture pull chain. Assemble the mast, boom and landing stage as shown, and after painting, mount this unit on the fore deck. The bridge, pilot house, searchlights and running lights go on next. Finally, glue the flagstaff in place.

The paddle wheel, Figs 2 and 4, consists of 8 paddle buckets mounted around a brass tube and held in place by two rubber washers on each side. The rubber band passes through the tube and is secured with a pin inserted when assembling the wheel. Slip the ends of the rubber band over two screw eyes on the legs of the stern.

See also: boat model; hydroplane models; rotor ship model; sailboat model; submarine model.

