

IN THE WORLD OF YACHTING



LORNA WHITTELEY

LORNA WHITTELEY needs no introduction to yachtsmen, particularly to those who have followed her across the finish line so many times that it would be embarrassing to make a count. The unusual success of her yachting career can, perhaps, be accounted for in two ways; she has the natural ability of a helmsman and she started sailing almost as soon as she could walk. She has been at it unceasingly ever since. Her success is an outstanding example of what the junior movement can accomplish.

At the early age of six Lorna was sailing in competition in an Indian Harbor knockabout, and at eight she was "skipping" a 17-foot knockabout successfully. When she became old enough to sail in the Long Island Sound Midget Championship, at twelve, she was made a member of the Indian Harbor Midget crew. After three years' experience with the Midgets, she became a member of the junior crew for three more years. At fifteen she first represented Indian Harbor in the National Women's Championships, which she won, as she did three times thereafter. This year she was runner-up to the Edgartown women's crew.

Lorna's experience has by no means been limited to small boats. When in her 'teens she was sailing in the metre classes, and in 1931 she won, as skipper, the Ten-Metre series during the N.Y.Y.C. Cruise. At one time or another she has won races in Stars, Atlantics, Interclubs, and about everything that floats, including Frostbite dinghies. And in addition, she was at the wheel of the Cup contender "Vantie" this year when the big sloop beat "Weetamoe" on Long Island Sound.

Lorna Whittlesey completed this past season with colors flying higher than ever when she won the hard-fought Interclub series against some of the best racing skippers in the country. Apparently, in the field of yachting, as in all other fields, there is no denying the women.