DESIGN by SPARKMAN and STEPHENS

## SWAN 43 #1973

The shape of things to come

SLOWLY BUT SURELY, after the first extravagances of design and construction lavished on ocean racing yachts for the world's major international events like the Admiral's Cup and One Ton Cup series we are beginning to achieve a certain amount of stability.

In the One Ton Cup it is now reasonable to expect to achieve success with, say, a basically standard Tina design. If it is the Half Ton Cup that takes your fancy then there are several competitive standard designs, often in glass fibre, which will suit the task.

However, until very recently the Admiral's Cup has been notoriously a breeding ground for hybrid one-off creations involving phenomenal building

For 1969 all this seems to be changing. Several firms are now putting their eggs in one basket to offer standard Admiral's Cup size yachts at more reasonable prices. One such firm is Hurrell and Johnson whose successful Swan 36 has prompted them to commission the Swan 43 from Sparkman and Stephens. Built in glass fibre, in Finland, they will be receiving the first boats at about £17,000 each early next season.

A Stephens design always makes an interesting study although unfortunately we never get to see the lines plan. However, we can read between the lines to some extent. First impressions are of a hull with ample beam and more free-board than of late. A boat for ocean racing in Europe is not normally endowed with such a fine broad stern but under the new International Rating Rule this is evidently to be encouraged.

In a yacht of this size a good racing/ cruising accommodation plan is attainable, complete with navigator's flatlet and only occasional berths in the fo'c's'le.

The Swan 43 is a powerful handsome yacht and it will be interesting to watch her fortunes compared with those of the other new "standard" Admiral's Cup boats from Camper and Nicholsons and Russell Anstey, the Nicholson 43 and Rancher 41.



L.O.A. .. 43-0 ft — 13-12m L.W.L. .. 31-0 ft — 9-45m Beam .. 11-66ft — 3-55m Draft .. 7-00ft — 2-13m Sail Area 807 sq ft — 75 sq m

