

How to Build the



ALA



BY
CRIS BRUCH

NOT THIS,



BUT THIS.

Last year, 7,716 people in Seattle and King County asked for a temporary place to sleep. Sixty percent were turned away. Each night hundreds of people in Seattle are unable to find emergency shelter. Many of them are single women with children who have become homeless due to family violence and abuse. In King County 34,606 households have been identified as at risk of becoming homeless due to overcrowded substandard housing or paying more than 30% of income to rent. It's one of our society's significant failures to have ignored this rapidly growing population.

This project modestly submits a solution to the problem of the homeless. For less than the price of a weeks shelter those poor souls with no place to go can acquire this personal popup camper. Now, when they're told to "move on", we'll know they'll be sleeping dry and warm. And they'll take up half the space of an average auto with the two person version. The family camper will

comfortably sleep four, tho its added weight is a consideration in a hilly city like Seattle.

Home ala Cart is a boon to American municipalities that want to demolish single room occupancy hotels to make room for important new commercial development. I would propose that the equivalent of trailer parks be established for the thousands of personal popups that will no doubt soon be seen in all of America's greatest cities. The minimum amount of space needed for two people to set up housekeeping with the model shown, a mere 50 square feet, would make it possible for 1000 people to inhabit a small grocery store parking lot. The perimeter could be fenced and attractively landscaped to give privacy to the new homeowners.

In addition to freeing up urban land badly needed for development, the personal popup promises a new beginning

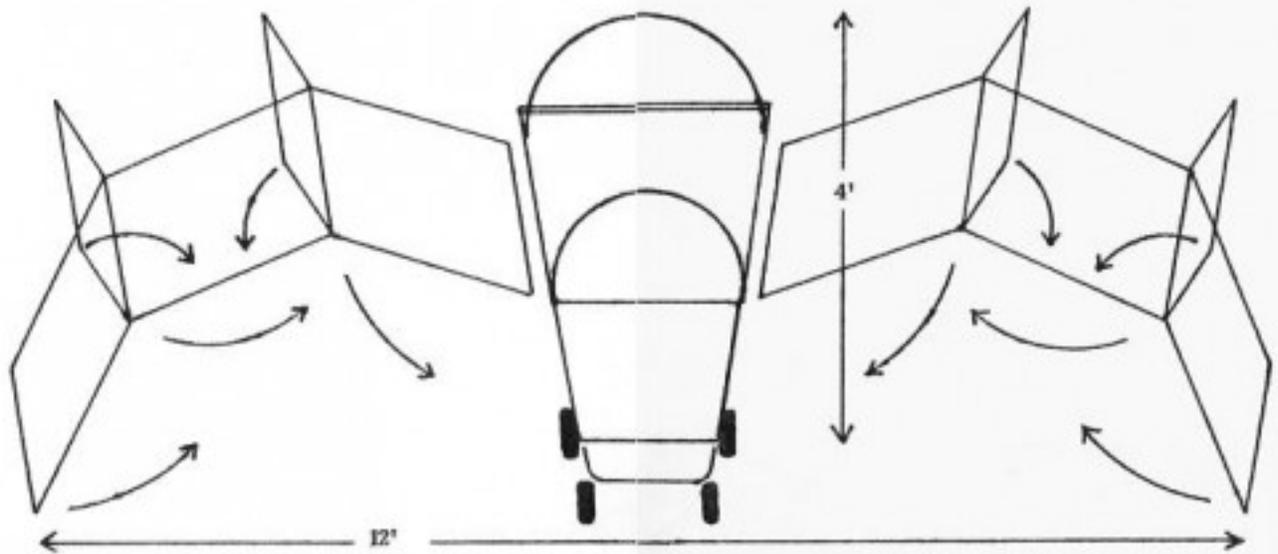
for the homeless. By putting their hands firmly on their bootstraps, giving them a place in America's mobile society, they will be allowed to participate in the domestic pleasures we take for granted. The personal camper is ideally suited to the lifestyle of the homeless. It allows them the mobility that all Americans prize and is easily set up in a variety of terrain.

In a recent survey researchers discovered that owners of personal popups liked the convenience of having all their household equipment with them. They could get off the beaten track without having to prove their pioneer spirit the hard way. Women in particular liked the cleanliness and protection of camping out in the **Home ala Cart**. The economy minded homeless will appreciate the cost cutting aspects of the personal popup as much as its comfort and efficiency. One of the greatest expenses of homelessness is eating out. The **Home ala Cart** can hold a portable stove, a cooler, and a chemical toilet,

helping cut food expenses to a minimum. In the more isolated urban areas where there are no restaurants, this kind of camping equipment is a necessity.

I submit that whether dealing with the chronic or the newly homeless, the personal popup camper promises a revolution, and a humane solution to providing shelter.







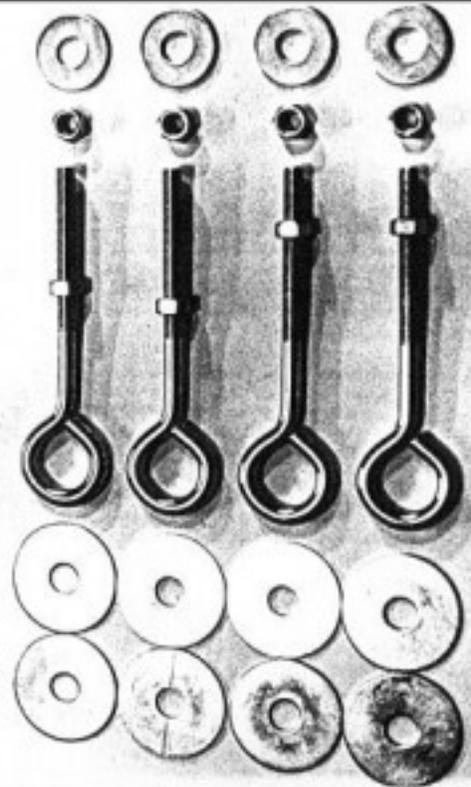
the folding chaise lounges that lock into position form the framework



make sure it works



cut off all the webbing



this is the hardware you need, plus 100' of wire and two 20" bicycle wheels



here's the completed frame- from here
cover it with whatever you can find

First Report from Out There

It was a windy, damp day when I took the **Home ala Cart** out for a test run. I went to the Prairie Market as their parking lot is usually empty. The little camper is a breeze to push tho it balks in mud and gravel. Some hi-flotation tires might be a good investment. Arriving at the campsite I looked around for a spot with good drainage. In the 5 minutes it took to set up the camper I realized that with the stiff wind I really needed some kind of an anchor. The personal popup took off across the parking lot while I was out scavenging firewood. The lack of some kind of park brake is the only serious flaw in the design. The **Home ala Cart** is not spacious, but it is very warm and exceptionally portable. It's sturdily constructed and should hold up to many years of urban camping.



Anywhere you go your home goes too, off the beaten track with a convenient kitchen and a soft bed at day's end





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