Waters, Both Rapid And Smooth Mark State's Canoeing Avenues

By LEM MESSEE Outdoors Writer

The healing solace of a canoe slipping silently along a wilderness stream is less than an hour's drive from any home in Michigan, be the home in Detroit's inner city or at the tip of the Keweenaw Peninsula.

'Canoeing in Michigan can be as wild, wooly and remote as the Ontonagon River in the far western Upper Peninsula or as placid as the Huron and Clinton Rivers which ring Detroit. according to an article published last month in The Automobile Club of Michigan's Motor News magazine.

No matter where you cance, the article states, "it offers a chance to shed the tensions of modern life at little expense." You don't even have to buy a canoe to get started. Many streams can be negotiated by the rankest amateur in a canoe rented at liveries right on the streams.

Among the most popular streams with liveries easily accessible to anyone in the Detroit area or anywhere in southeast Michigan are the Huron and Clinton rivers. The 120 mile - Huron - Clinton system has many miles of stream running wild and free through uninhabited country.

Liveries on the Huron River are

located (1) just west of Wixom Rd in the Proud Lake State Recreation Area: (2) at the dam on the south end of Kent Lake; and (3) above the Argo Pond Dam between Pontiac Trail and N. Main Street in Ann Arbor.

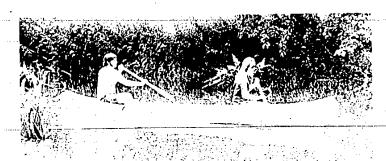
An unexpected surprise is a chance to see wildlife -- deer, muskrats. beaver and even mink -- as well as a dazzling variety of birds -- ducks. geese, herons and dozens of species of lesser birds.

In the northern part of the Lower Peninsula, popular streams with liveries are the Au Sable and its south branch and the Pere Marquette, Pine and Manistee Rivers.

Rentals range-from-\$1-to-\$2-anhour for short trips and \$6 and \$8 for the whole day. In addition, arrange-. ments can be made for an extra charge at most liveries for a pickup. should you end your trip away from the livery.

It is emphasized that children can paddle canoes in perfect safety the first time out on rivers such as the Huron and Clinton, whose currents are so gentle they can easily be canoed both upstream and downstream in most places.

Standard-sized canoes can carry one non-paddling adult passenger or up to four very small children in the middle section. All canoe passengers



TRANQUIL WATERS are the pleasure of this young couple who paddle a cance on a peaceful day.

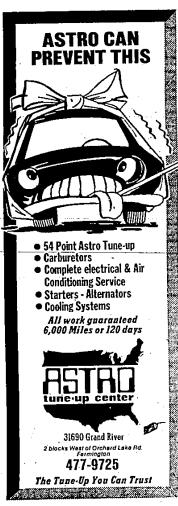
are required by law to have life preservers -- the seat-cushion type for adults and the jacket type for children.

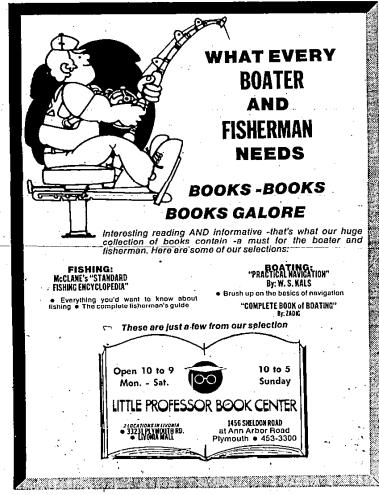
Anything taken aboard that might be ruined by water should be kept in closed plastic bags except when in actual use and all cargo should be tied down so items won't float away should you tip. There is no real danger that adults or life-jacket-equipped children will drown if you do tip over, none of Michigan's streams is that deep.

Clothing should be lightweight and sturdy, and tennis shoes or moccasins should be worn. Hobbailed boots or

even hard-soled shoes which could damage the cance and make it difficult to get in and out of the canoe should be avoided.

For a set of detailed charts, available free, of both the Huron and Clinton rivers showing portages, dams, cange liveries, campgrounds and even stores and restaurants near the streams, write the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, 600 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, 48226, or call 961-5865, and a set of the Huron-Clinton canoe maps will be sent to







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