

Take refuge from the heat in cruisers, in-boards, light-weights

As people suffer through yet another heat wave the lucky ones can take refuge in the fact that come the weekend they can head up north and launch their boats.

Al Riggs of Al's Marina in Acton says, "business has been pretty good since the weather got good and hot."

Mr. Riggs sells both inboard and outboard power boats ranging in size from 19 feet to 22 feet. He says although this doesn't appear to be much of a difference in range of size, once different depths and widths are taken into consideration, the differences are evident.

The typical cottager interested in buying a power boat should think of one in the 15-ft. to 18-ft. range, said Mr. Riggs. "This size boat allows for cruising, water skiing, fishing, just about everything," he said.

Mr. Riggs said the bigger the body of water and the rougher it is, the larger the boat should be. The boat's purpose is another consideration people should account for when thinking of buying a boat, he said. He pointed out that fishermen usually buy aluminum boats. Its light weight makes this type of boat easily transported. As well, the fisherman doesn't require much power, Mr. Riggs said.

He qualified this advice saying the type of fishing dictates the appropriate boat. For example, those participating in the Lake Ontario salmon hunt currently going on require a boat no less than 18 ft. in size.

Mr. Riggs also outlined the advantages of an inboard boat compared to an outboard. The inboard is more economically to run, and because it has an automotive engine, maintenance costs are cheaper. The inboard boat's disadvantage is that it is more expensive, he said.

Like cars, boats can come with many options including radio, C.B. radio, cooking facilities, stove, toilet facilities, television, and stereo, Mr. Riggs said.



For many people summer is synonymous with boating fun. Al Riggs of Al's Marina in Acton sits at the helm of the many power cruisers he sells to the avid boating enthusiasts. (Herald photo)

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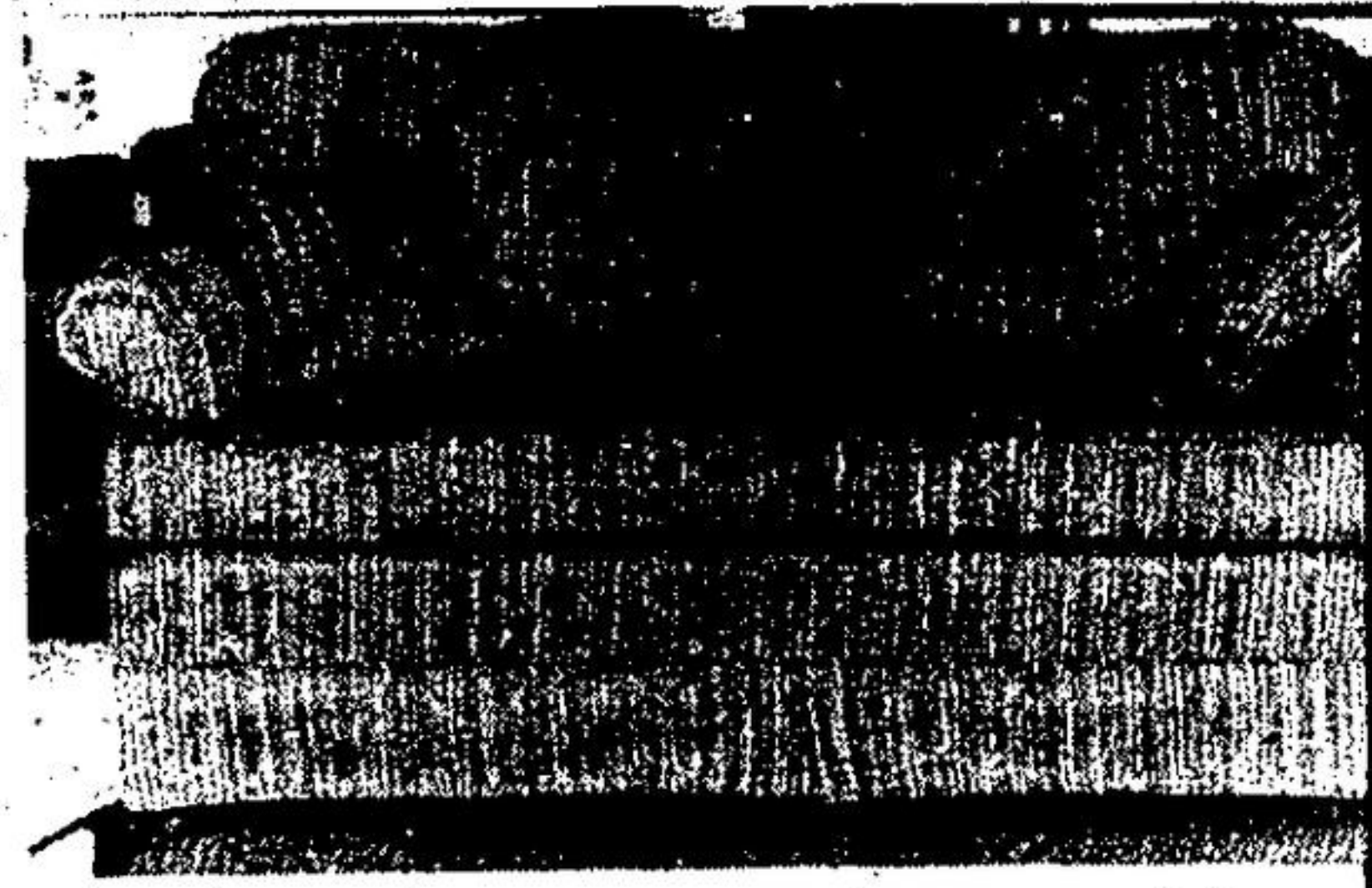
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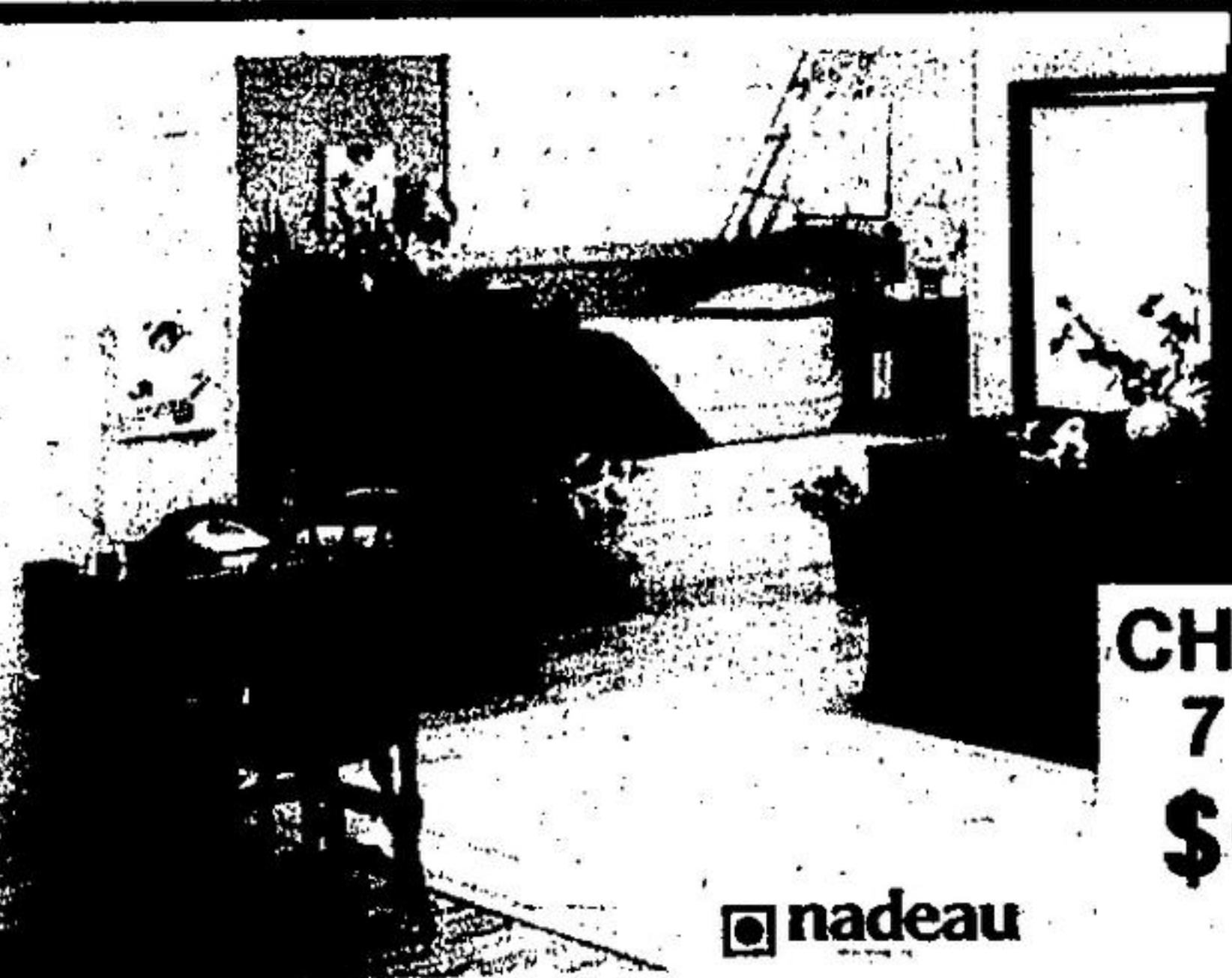


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