



Turner converted a 1978 19-ft. cargo van into a motorhome with all the comforts of home.

“LOOKS LIKE IT CAME FROM THE FACTORY”

Motorhome Built Out Of Cargo Van

Old cargo vans can be converted into low-cost motorhomes, says Ross Turner, Branbon, Manitoba, who converted a 1978 van into a sleek-looking motorhome.

Turner paid \$1,000 for the 19-ft. long van. He laid out a floor plan inside the van, using chalk and tape to draw on a floor where the bathroom, kitchen, refrigerator, etc., would be and then drew the windows on the walls. He recorded all the measurements and then used an air chisel to remove the sheet metal from the van's steel frame. To make room for bunk beds above the cab, he cut off the cab roof as well as the front part of the box, then welded a new frame—made from sq. steel tubing—to the existing box frame.

He then covered the outside of the entire truck with sheets of 3/8-in. thick plywood, screwing the sheets to the metal framework, then stapled aluminum siding designed for a motor home onto the plywood. He also installed motorhome windows and doors.

Inside, he fastened 1 1/2-in. thick fiberglass insulation to the walls and screwed 3/4-in. thick, 2-in. wide plywood strips to the studs so he could nail on wood paneling. He used 2 by 2 wood boards to build a sub floor, which he also insulated. Then he covered it with



He paid \$1,000 for the cargo van before the conversion.

particle board and linoleum. He built his own kitchen cupboards.

“I saved a lot of money and it looks like it was factory built,” says Turner. “It sleeps four people. A ‘chesterfield’ could be pulled out to sleep two and a bunk above the driver slept two. It has a shower and toilet, propane-powered hot water tank, 30-gal. fresh water tank and 40-gal. grey water tank, gas stove with three burners, an oven, and refrigerator.”

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Ross Turner, 51 Balmoral Bay, Branbon, Manitoba, Canada R7A 6C4 (ph 204 726-5587).

“FLIES” 8 FT. ABOVE THE GROUND IN FRONT OF GAS STATION

“Crap Duster” Built From Old Manure Spreader

FARM SHOW reader B.E. White, El Dorado, Kan., recently wrote to tell us about a unique farm “sculpture” he’d seen at a gas station in Carthage, Mo.

We followed up and discovered that the “Crap Duster” was conceived by local artist Lowell Davis and built by MCA Construction, owner of the station.

“It’s very detailed, including gauges in the cockpit and a joystick for the ‘pilot,’” says Dave Trumbore of MCA.

The 12-ft. long, 5-ft. wide “bi-plane” was made from an old steel-wheeled manure spreader. It’s fitted with 20-ft. wings made of sq. tubing covered in barn tin. The tail is made out of sq. tubing covered in light gauge flat metal and is complete with a “coonskin cap” tail on top. It’s “powered” by a 4-stroke engine out of an old welder.

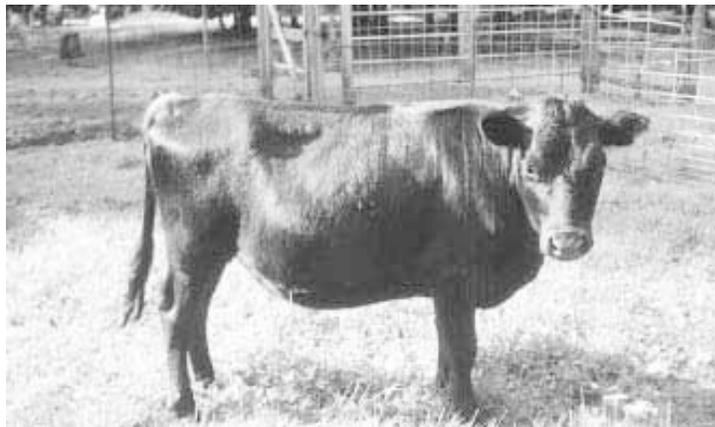
The “pilot” is a full-size mannequin Davis sculpted a face for. The mannequin is cov-



“Bi-plane” is equipped with 20. ft. wings made of tubing covered in barn tin.

ered in lacquer to preserve it.

The plane, which took about two months to build, is painted Deere green and yellow. It was mounted onto an 8 ft. pole sunk in



Belfair cattle stand just 36 to 40 in. tall and have the overall appearance of a Jersey.

DUAL PURPOSE BREED IS HALF JERSEY, HALF DEXTER

“Belfair” Miniature Cattle

“It’s one of the first dual purpose miniature cattle breeds developed in the U.S.,” says Robert Mock, Rochester, Wash., about the Belfair miniature cattle that he owns and breeds.

Miniature Belfair cattle were developed by Tracy Teed of Conway, Wash., using a mix of 50 percent Jersey and 50 percent Dexter. The cattle stand just 36 to 40 in. tall and have the overall appearance of a small Jersey. Mock says the cattle are ideal for small acreage farmers who want a small family milk cow that can also produce a good-tasting beef calf.

“They have a great disposition, with no signs of aggression in the bulls,” says Mock. “People like them for their milk which has a high butterfat content. The cows produce 2 to 3 gallons of milk per day which is just enough for many families. They don’t need a lot of feed or barn space. Another advantage is that they adapt readily to being tethered, which saves small farmers the expense of fencing.”

The cattle come in black, many different shades of brown, and occasionally pinto or

splashed with white. Most calves have a bit of white on the tail tips or stars on the forehead.

Cows calve easily and have good udder conformation for ease in milking, which Mock says is an advantage over other small dairy breeds. Bull calves beef up at an early age and bring premium prices at about 4 months of age.

Calves are sold either on the bottle or at weaning age of 2 1/2 to 3 months. “At this age they can be easily shipped by air in large plastic dog crates,” notes Mock. B o t h sexes are horned. Calves may be purchased horned or dehorned.

According to Mock, bull calves are finding a market as steers for matched miniature oxen teams. “They’re easy to match in size and color. Also, they’re just about perfect for petting zoos.”

The cattle have been accepted for registration with the Miniature Cattle Breeds Registry.

Contact: FARM SHOW Followup, Robert Mock, Box 942, Rochester, Wash. 98579 (ph 360 273-7789).

*If you think you are beaten, you are;
If you think you dare not, you don't;
If you'd like to win, but think you can't;
It's almost a cinch you won't.*

*If you think you'll lose, you've lost,
For out in the world you find
Success begins with a fellow's will...
It's all in the state of mind.*

*If you think you're outclassed you are;
You've got to think high to rise;
You've got to be sure of yourself before
You can ever win the prize.*

*Many a race is lost,
Before ever a step is run,
And many a coward fails,
Before ever his work's begun.*

*Think big and your deeds will grow;
think small and you'll fall behind;
think that you can and you will...
It's all in the state of mind*

*Life's battles don't always go
to the stronger or faster man;
but sooner or later the man who wins
is the fellow who thinks he can*

Author Unknown