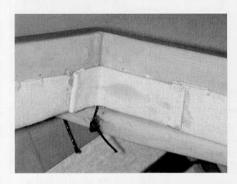


Left: As the needle passes through the hole in the coaming, it passes over the folded canvas, then through the canvas from the inside. Then the needle is pushed through the canvas from the coaming side so that the thread running from stitch to stitch lies between the canvas and the coaming. The needle then goes into the next hole and the thread is drawn tight. The angled holes hide the thread on the outside so that it is not subject to wear.

to tie the coaming down. In the aft corners of the cockpit, and in the center front, drill a hole angled to go through both the cockpit coaming and deck beam. Tie together with seine twine. Glue (contact cement) or sew patches around the aft corners and at the center forward seam.

Shrinking and Painting the Canvas

Spray the canvas top and bottom with water, soaking through the fabric. As it dries, the canvas will shrink and become taut. Working outdoors, and using a respirator, apply one coat of clear butyrate



A glued-in patch tidies up the corner.



The author takes his new East Arctic kayak out for a test run, using a Mackenzie Delta paddle.

