

## TRAINS, BOATS, AND TRAILORS.

The architect <sup>says</sup> ~~thinks~~ that "trailers", excuse me, "mobile homes are the greatest."

The distaste with which people generally regard the trailer manifests a cultural bigotry. Why is the concept of a mobile home so repulsive? Perhaps the refusal of the trailer to commit itself to one place contradicts one's sense of what a house should be. The freedom of having no roots, of having no special place to ~~belong~~ where one belongs is responsible for some of the anti-trailer sentiment. But it is ~~minor compared with the basic reason.~~ cannot be entirely responsible, because people react to Levittowns ~~in the~~ with the same <sup>sneer</sup> ~~sentiments~~ they used to condemn trailers, and the "little boxes" are not free to move. The limitation of living space might be used to explain one's repulsion for both the trailer and the Levittown dwellings. But this element in itself does not offend. People love to stay on yachts, or travel across country in a train, where the space is equally limited. To utilize all the space, to leave no wasted space as in Le Corbusier's urban apartments, is regarded as an admirable achievement. But most people would still be appalled at the suggestion that they ~~live~~ should live in the same space in a mobile home. The exploitation of technology is praised constantly for its production of those bright shiny steel columns, ~~and~~ but the technological mass production of uniform dwelling units often seems to suggest totalitarianism. ~~Why~~ People say that they are cheap ticky tacky construction, but the thing that really repulses them is that they all look just the ~~same~~ same.

Since one cannot blame the mobility, or the limitation of living space, or the use of technology's materials or methods, one might conclude that the offensiveness of trailers (and Levittowns) lies in the ~~concept of~~ involves the issue of individualism. The popular anti-trailer sentiment stems from the individual's fear of being absorbed by the faceless masses, the fear that one would be unable to maintain his individuality or separateness in the realms of the trailer park.