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introduction



When you are ninety and losing your sight, it is obvious you are on your last tack! With this knowledge in mind I asked my publishers if they would be interested in a collection of my cartoons while I could still see to do it. They said yes and this is it.

I drew my first cartoon for a wall newspaper in a German prisoner-of-war camp and, as it wasn't a very funny place to be, I think cartooning must have been inherent in my makeup. I absconded to the Russians and it was only after the war ended that a grant from a grateful government got me into an art school. Student days over, I bought a boat before I bought a car. I had arrived.

These cartoons have appeared all over the world. The French had me sail in French waters to get specific French ideas and as I was on expenses this was a fantastic job and I enjoyed myself so much that I returned the francs I had been given and never spent. This is still remembered in their office.

In America I sailed at the invitation of the Sailing Club of the Chesapeake. It was only much later when my book of American cartoons was published that I realised with sincere regret that I had been laughing at them instead of with them.

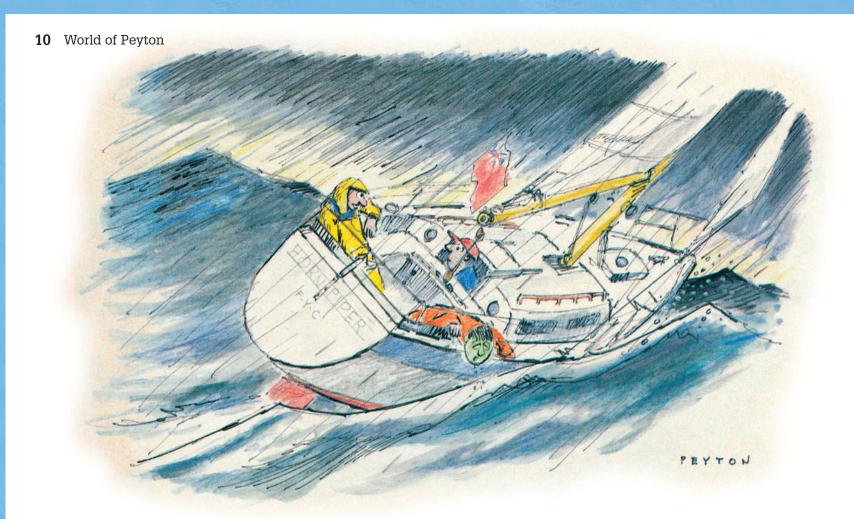
The Dutch, the Germans, the Japanese and most others (except the Scandinavians, who wanted nothing based on tides) took the ideas as they came. Many were drawn in black and white in the days before marinas, before GPS, when GRP was a twinkle in a chemist's eye, and when electronics had not been downloaded. Only the sailing is the same.

PEYTON

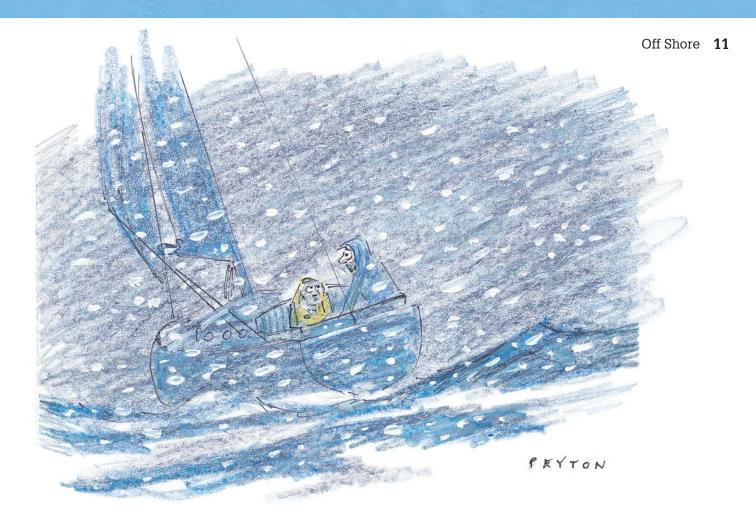




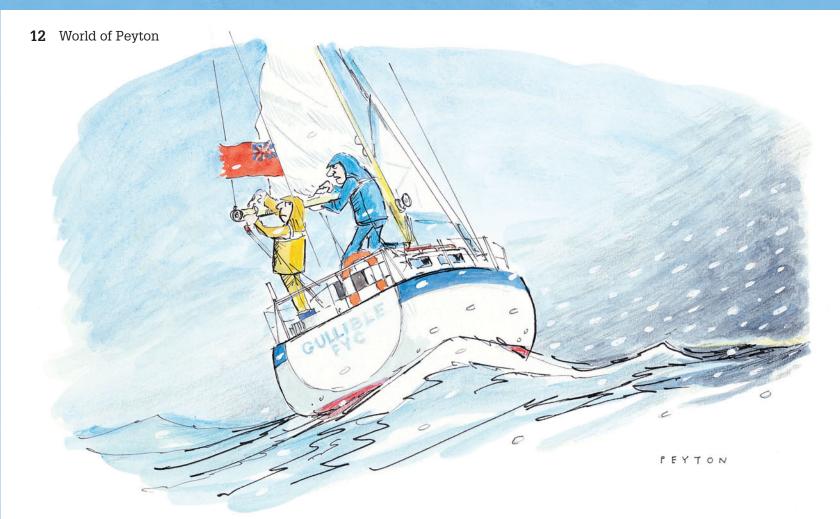
CHAPTER, OFF SHORE



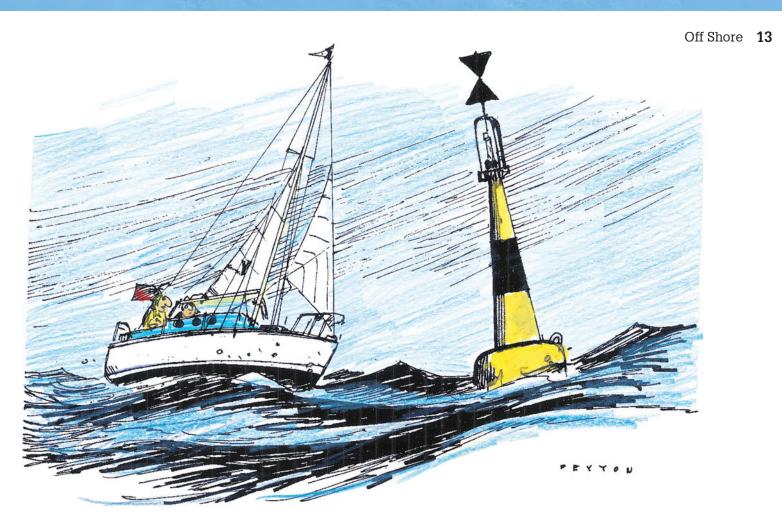
'Sometimes it's difficult to believe this is considered quality time.'



'Sometimes, Mike, sailing is only a little bit better than work.'



'I'll bet the bonehead who wrote the piece on the joys of winter sailing isn't out.'



'If the topmark is like an egg cup leave it to the East, or if it's like a wine glass leave it to the West...'



'Do you ever miss the old days when we had to steer and navigate and wear oilskins and go on deck to reef and swing a lea...'



'I often think that the people who design oilskins haven't got bladders.'



'I told you we wouldn't be the only ones out.'



'Do you ever think sailing's a bit overrated?'



'I admit it's unusual, but he's not in trouble.'