



Floating world of the Urus

BOUNTIFUL AND BUOYANT, totora reeds from Lake Titicaca's shallows supply the Urus with material for homes and boats. Reeds even provide the "ground" these fisherfolk walk on, since they live on floating islands (above). As bottom layers rot, the Indians spread new layers on top.

Like the Aymaras, the Urus use totora (below). Norwegians learned the art from the Vikings who crossed the Atlantic with papyrus. Aymaras from Lake Titicaca construct a sea-island (see the January 1971 issue).

