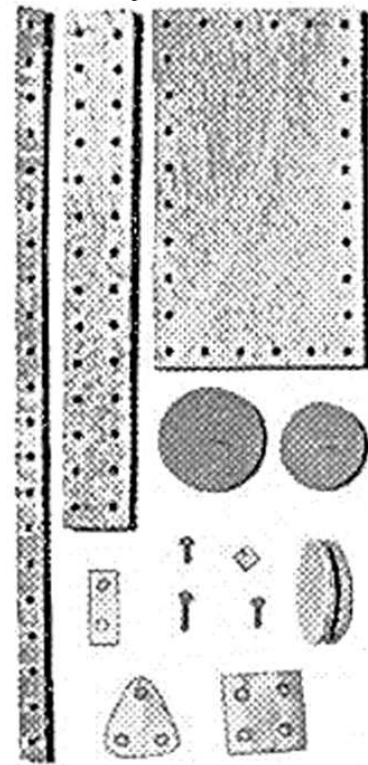
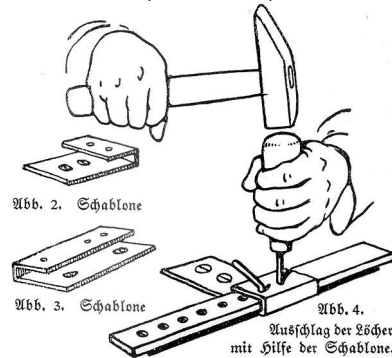
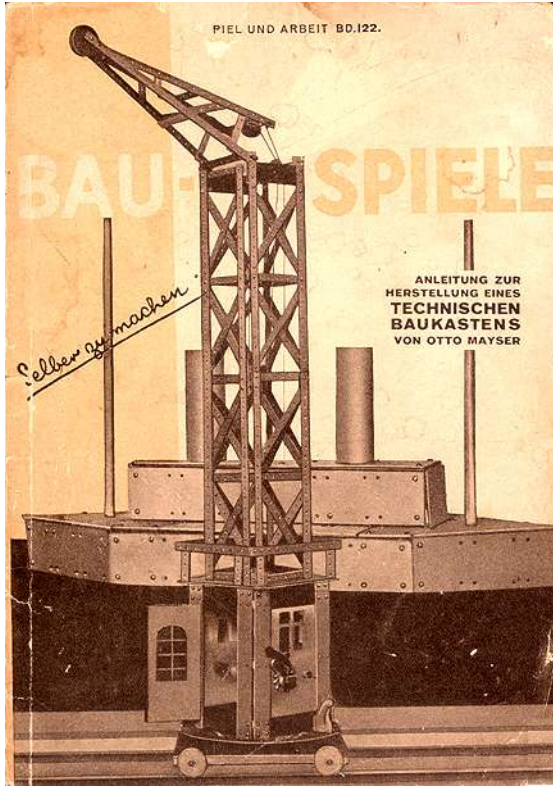


BAUSPIELE The book *Making Tin Can Toys* mentioned in 33/973 wasn't the first of its type. Thomas Morzinck has kindly sent copies of the pages in a German book called *Bauspiele* (Building Play) which describes how to make models using Strips & Plates from 3mm plywood, with Brackets etc from old tin cans, and all joined together by 1/8"N&B. It appeared in 1931 as No.122 in a series of *Spiel und Arbeit* (Play & Work) 'DIY' books/manuals from the publishers Otto-Maier-Verlag (Ravensburger nowadays). The first of these was published in 1903 and the series continued until the 1960s by which time there were over 250 titles covering almost every kind of toy, e.g, boats, aeroplanes, a loom, model railways, electricity, & radios.

Bauspiele was written by Otto Mayser, a pewterer by trade, and has 20 A5 pages plus two A2 sheets of full-size patterns. The cover is shown right. The parts were to be made using simple tools, a hammer, tenon saw, tin snips, file, etc, plus jigs and a 4mm punch for making the holes in both the wooden & metal parts. Strips and rectangular Plates were to be sawn from ply sheet using a simple jig made from wooden strips overlaying a base board. The jigs for the holes are shown below, one (Abb.2 & 4) for making a series of equispaced holes at 15mm pitch, as in the Crane framework on the cover; and one (Abb.3) for holes at alternate pitches of about 11 & 39mm (scaled from the full-size patterns), as in the Ship behind the Crane. These jigs were to be made from 2mm thick steel and if this presented a problem it was suggested that a locksmith would make them for 'a few pennies'.

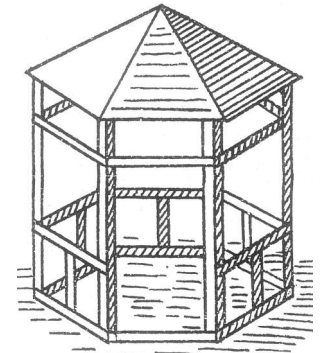


BAUSPIELE: S1



various frameworks were given, & also details of more advanced parts including a 16-tooth Ratchet Wheel, a Pawl, and a Roller Bearing.

All this is dealt with at some length and then photos of 8 models are given with some notes about them. They include several simple buildings, the Summerhouse below for example; a quite



elaborate Castle; the Crane on the cover; and the 24cm Ø Water Wheel driving a

Mechanical Hammer at the bottom of the page.

One A2 Sheet shows the sawing jig full-size, plus parts, some full-size, from the Summerhouse and Waterwheel/Hammer. On the other sheet the parts for the Church below, many full-size. It is 42cm high and is in concept similar to the Castle but covers a smaller area. The parts are in the form of numerous panels so designed that they are a reasonable size & all cutouts start from an outer edge. Hence the horizontal split in the panels around the window in the end wall of the Church, right.

Many of the parts in the 'mechanical' models have 15mm pitch holes whereas in the others the majority have the alternate pitches, as in the Church. Presumably this was thought to improve the appearance of the models, but it means of course that the parts cannot easily be used later with the 15mm type. Given alternate pitches, it is not clear

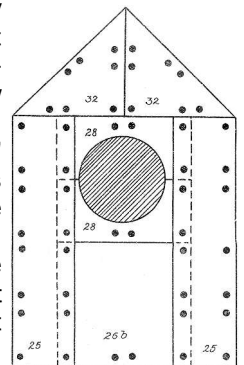
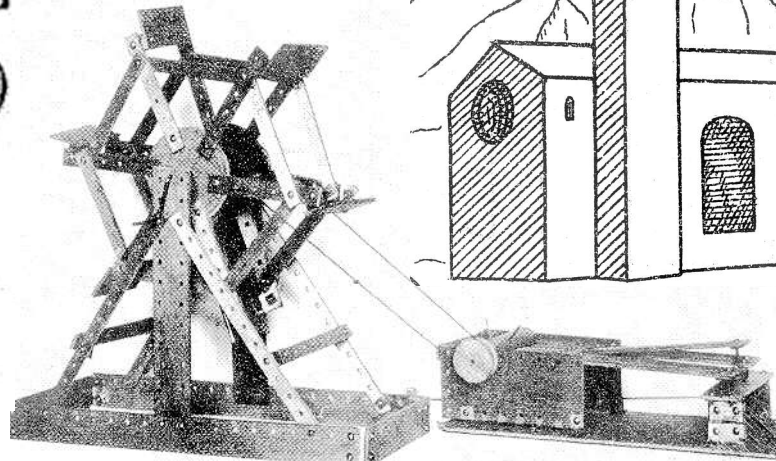
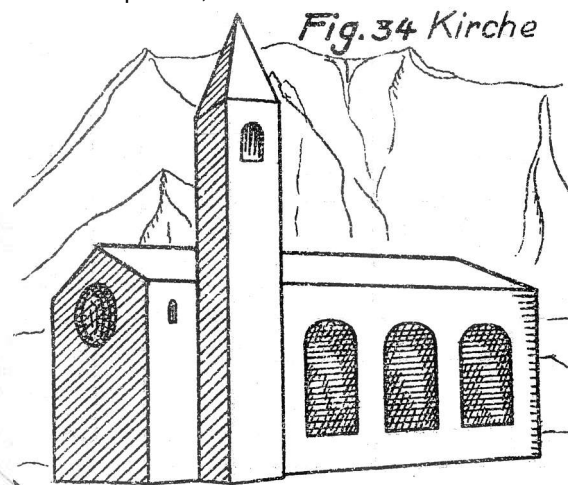


Fig.34 Kirche



why multiples of the 'standard' 15mm pitch were not chosen.