

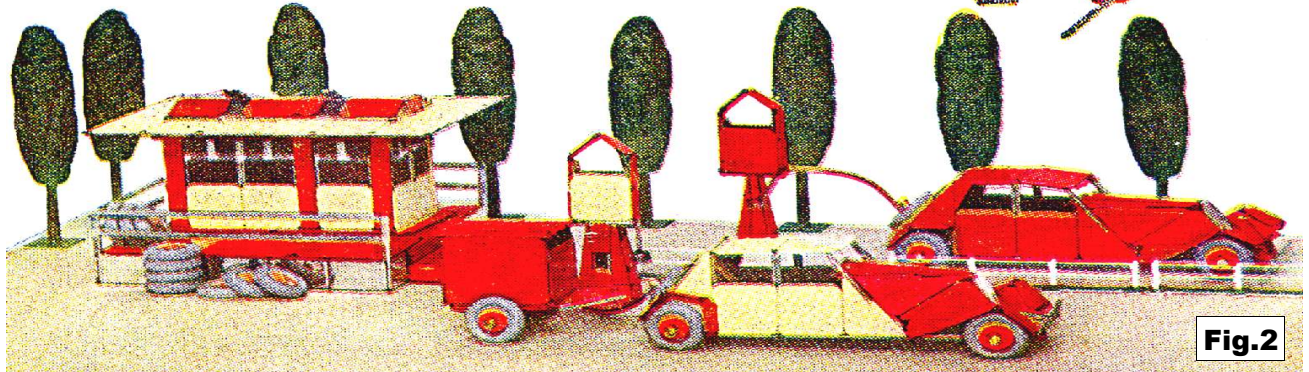
VULCAIN in Colour A 1934 B&W ad for this (presumably) clip together French system was shown in 18/500 and now Jean-Pierre Guibert has kindly sent scans of 3 more pieces of 1934 'paper'.

One is a letter, dated November 1934, from the company, Société "Édifice", A. Méricant & Fils, Avenue de Châtillon, 29, Paris (14^e). It draws the Cher Client's attention to the 1934 Tarif and in particular to new introductions: L'ÉDIFICE – MODERNE, a coloured version of the company's well known wood & card building toy, & to VULCAIN, a new metal system with Plates in different colours, which it was claimed, allows the most faithful expression of elegance & realism. Further, the easiest & fastest 'invisible' assembly of the Plates was promised, without N&B, and within the capability of young children.

The second is a 1934 price list which lists the sets in OSN 15 except the Boîte Luxe No.3, but has in addition 3 Mécanisation outfits (at Frs 15 each) called Pneus et Access-

oires, Poulies, & Plaques perforées. Jean-Pierre has another Price List, also dated 1934, which has just the OSN 15 sets.

The third is a leaflet in colour introducing L'ÉDIFICE – MODERNE and VULCAIN. The 2 pictures for the latter are shown below; the text repeats the claims in the Letter. The roadside trees & fencing in Fig.2 would be parts from the L'ÉDIFICE range of accessories.



VULCAIN: S1

OSN 48/1472

Snippet. New System: GIRDER & PANEL BUILDING SET

Panels in Girder frameworks are used to make buildings for use with S-scale (3/16" to the foot) American Flyer model trains. Two sets were offered on Ebay before Xmas by a seller from Kansas City called THESPREEKC. His website, americanflyerexpress.com offers custom made trackside accessories. It was said that the sets were a limited run but that more would be produced if the demand was there. The system's name is taken, perforce, from the case below, even if it is something of a mouthful. It has no mention of the maker.



FIG.1

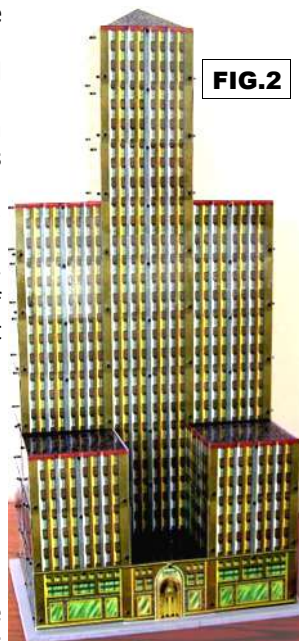


FIG.2



FIG.3

The system caught my eye because at a glance the Panels looked like the 1930s ERECTOR Architectural Panels. In fact they were the inspiration, along with black plastic Girders based on the KENNER parts. Actual ERECTOR Panels were copied, reduced in size to 3/4*2 1/8", and laminated. New Panels were also created, for the pitched roofs for instance, and the models sit on wooden Bases.

Two sets were available, one for the Skyscraper in Fig.2, 22" tall & 10" wide. The other had parts for the group of models in Fig.3, with 132 Girders, 64 Panels, 3 Bases, plus 4 Flat & 3 Hip Roofs. The centre block is 10" wide & 8 3/4" tall.

Each set had an 8-page model leaflet based on the original

ERECTOR instructions and headed ERECTOR (in its original branded typeface) ARCHITECTURAL CONSTRUCTION.

The sets were offered on Ebay until mid-January at \$125 each, with some unsold at that point. Later a set for 2 buildings similar to the centre block in Fig.3 was offered and reached \$61. In April there was a set at \$50 (in a white cardboard box) to make 4 small buildings, each the size of the end models in Fig.3. They are in a similar style too except the one right with the different Window & Door Panels, and the advertisement.

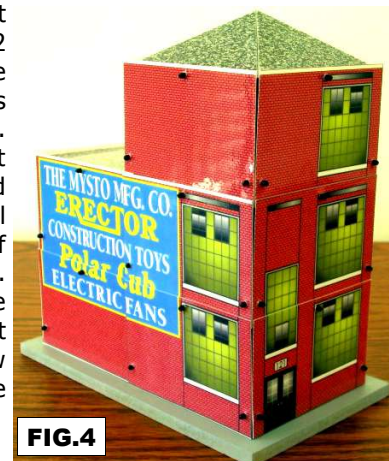


FIG.4

GIRDER & PANEL BUILDING SET: S1

OSN 48/1472