

GENIATUS This simple 1920s system is mentioned in *Baukästen* but with no details. What follows is based on an example of the smallest set, No.930, probably substantially complete, kindly lent by David Hobson. It came from France and although its manual is in German, inside the lid is a label in French, probably stuck over a German original. The basic parts are 4.6mm Ø wooden Rods that push into 8 types of Union, all formed from sheet metal.

COUNTRY Germany.

MAKER Gustav Tietze AG, Leipzig (from *Baukästen*).

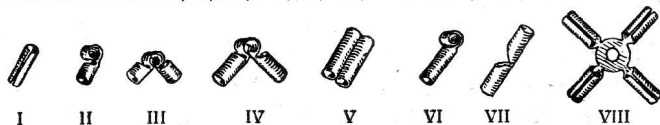
HISTORY *Baukästen* gives a date of 1925 and the PR of a label inside the lid is 'Franz. 1000. 4. 23'.



SETS The No.930 is in a box 195*141*20mm with the lid above. Below the sets as listed in the Manual with the parts

GENIATUS-BAUSPIELE werden in folgend. Ausführungen geliefert:
 No. 930 . Stck. G.M. **1.50** | No. 934 . . Stck. G.M. **4.-**
 No. 932 . Stck. G.M. **2.50** | No. 938 . . Stck. G.M. **5.-**

Rundholz in Längen von 50 cm . . . per Meter 5 ♂
 Verbinder No. I, II, III, IV, V, VI, VII . . je 25 Stück 10 ♂



Verbinder No. VIII je 25 Stück 20 ♂
 Gummischnur je 25 cm 5 ♂

underneath.

Right the 932 outfit as shown on the cover of the Manual.

PARTS In the list of the parts found in the No.930 set that follows, the quantities are shown in curly brackets. They would be sufficient to make all the No.930 manual models except that 6x 3cm Rods would be needed, and 1x 9.5cm.

The **Rods** are hardwood dowels, 4.6mm Ø, with square ends, and are 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,10,12,18cm long {6,2,17,2,4,4,21,8,8,4}. Rods 1,6,5,14,22,24cm long are shown in models for the larger sets, and from the Panel above, extra Rod was available in 50cm lengths.

Of the 8 types of **Union** in the Panel, only Types I, II, & III are in the No.930 {6,57,24}. All are rolled from blanks

pressed from thin, prepainted steel sheet, grey on one side and black on the other. #I is 16mm long, #II, and the arms of #III, are 11½mm long o/a.

Outfit 938 also contains round section **Rubber Strip** (Gummischnur) and it can be seen used for wheel rims, and the curved elements in some of the models shown below.

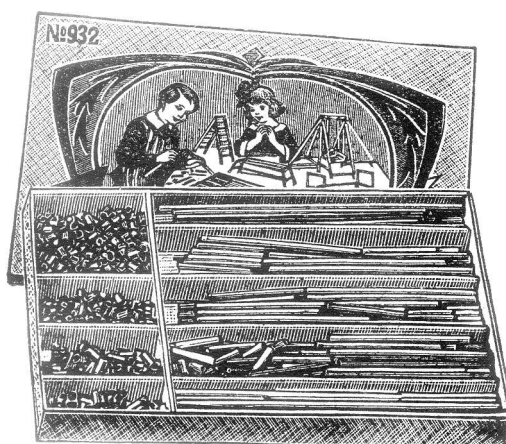
MANUAL Printed in B&W, it has 16 pages, including covers, 135*192mm. The front is shown right. The 25 models included are numbered but not named; there is one line drawing for each and the lengths of the Rods are shown for the simpler ones. The models for the different sets are as follows. Set 930; No.1 on p4, Chair; to No.7 on p6, Bed (these can be seen on the lid left. Set 932: No.8 on p7, Settee; to No.12 on p10, House. Set 934: No.13 on p10, House; to No.16 on p12, Wind Wheel. Set 938: No.17 on p13, Rocking Cot; to No.25 on p16, Monoplane.

As well as the Manual, the Set contained a Sheet 186*131mm, printed in blue on both sides. On one is '930' and models 1, 3 & 4 from the Manual; on the other are Nos.6 & 7. None of the models are numbered. An 18cm 'Zentimeter' scale is printed along the bottom of both sides.

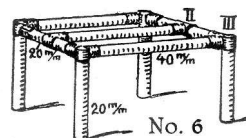
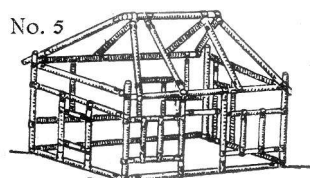
The 930 models are all item of furniture except for one small House, No.5 below. Later models are more varied and as well as those mentioned above, and those below, include a Swing, a Roundabout, a Windmill, and various Carts & Handcarts. All the models below are the original size, but the drawings of many of the simpler models, especially the furniture items, are much larger.

REMARKS The Unions are quite robust and Rods are held firmly in them. Putting them in is a little difficult and would be easier if their ends had a slight taper. The Rubber Strip is an interesting, simple way of making curved shapes, and (rather lumpy?) wheel rims.

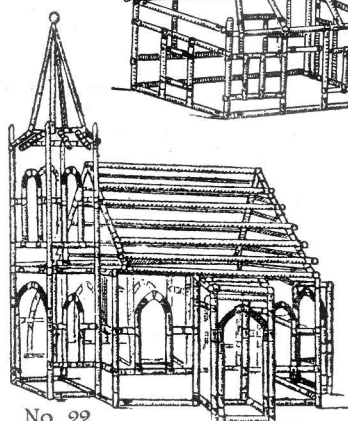
Two other systems with wooden Rods that push into Unions come to mind, FRAMUS (see 27/787) in 1919, and ALCON after WW2 (9/224 & 19/555), but both used match-stick diameter Rods. More of a size was the perhaps earlier MOKO'S SIMPLEX (24/685 & 25/746) but it had tubular metal Rods.



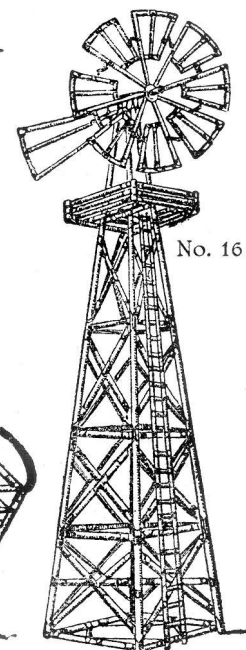
No. 5



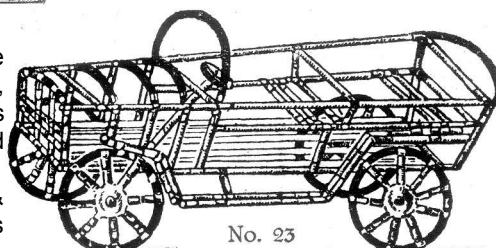
No. 6



No. 22



No. 16



No. 23