

N&B are packed in small brown packets in the ELGIN but in the ACO they're in small Elastoplast First Aid Dressings packets with the date 1945 on them. No doubt surplus from WW2.

- There were no tools in either Set and no obvious place for them.

I've been able to photocopy the ELGIN parts for an Extra MCS Sheet, also the box lid for ACO. MCS gives no date for ELGIN but suggests 1954 as the start of ACO. Unless there's evidence for it I would have thought mid to late 40s

might be more likely: the Elastoplast date doesn't prove anything but I think such packaging, while quite acceptable just after the war, would have looked out of place by 1950, in what was, if the price was originally 18/6, a not inexpensive toy. Also Alclad was widely used in the aircraft industry during the war and there was a lot about just afterwards when orders for aircraft were cut overnight. What better use for it than to make toys, for a market which hadn't seen new ones for years, and would pay a high price for anything that looked something like the part.

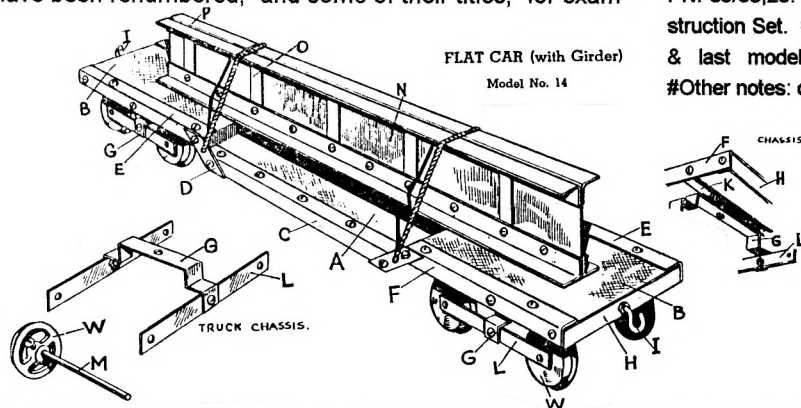
**JUNEERO MADE IN CANADA** Richard Symonds sent a copy of a JUNEERO 40 page Instruction Book which has along the bottom of its cover 'Manufactured by THE STEELMASTER COMPANY LIMITED, Vancouver, Canada'; and on the back cover the address is given: 950 S. W. Marine Drive, Vancouver, B. C. Inside there is a reference to the JUNEERO 'Master Model Construction Set', that is said to be useful to adults in the home etc, as well as to boys for model making. The Tool looks identical to the UK one although the purchaser had to mount it on its Base with the Screws provided. A Patent No.411968 is shown under a picture of it.

No Set Contents are given but there is a List of Parts, 20 in all, and each is illustrated. No surprises, Strip, Angle, Sheet, Rod, N&B, Pulleys, Tires, Springs (assorted), Snips, Tap, Scroll Tool. etc. They have different PN's but all look like standard JUNEERO except perhaps the Spanner, below, which I don't recall as a UK pattern. No gears are included.

⑪ 1—Spanner



There are 22 models shown, each with a line drawing of the completed model and sometimes details of it, plus, for all but the simplest, dimensioned blue prints of the individual parts. They range from a Menu Card Holder to a Travelling Gantry Crane, and all are UK designs although again they have been renumbered, and some of their titles, for exam-



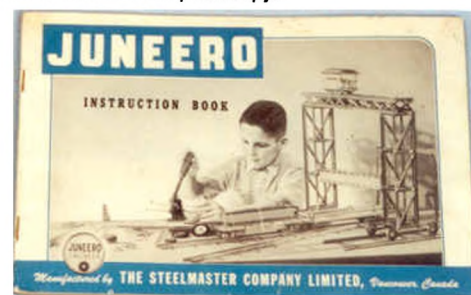
ple that of the model shown below, have been changed too. None of the models are road vehicles and Tires are not used in any of them.

No dates are given but the Tool is the modified pattern that was introduced in 1940, and there is no mention of the XAKTO Gauge that was included in UK outfits from 1948. (For details see 8/176, 9/216) Early postwar seems the most likely period, perhaps before the range of gears was introduced in the UK.

The JUNEERO ENGINEER'S CLUB OF CANADA is mentioned twice in the manual and for 25c you received a badge and news of contests and new designs. It is said that 'Juneero Clubs exist in Great Britain and other parts of the world and are an ever-ending [sic] source of pleasure and enjoyment to the members bringing together young and old alike in a bond of inventive creative effort.

This Canadian JUNEERO seems to me to deserve more than a footnote in MCS, so I've called it JUNEERO (2) and Extra MCS Sheets give all known details.

**SUMMARY OF MANUAL.** #Name: JUNEERO. #Details of maker: The Steelmaster Company Limited, 950 S. W. Marine Drive, Vancouver, B.C., Canada. #Dates &/or Ref Nos: None. #Page size: 227x148mm deep. #No of pages: 40 inc covers. No page numbers. #Language: English. #Printing: Line drawings of models and blue-prints of their parts. #Page Nos of Parts List/Illustrations & highest PN: 39/38,20. #No Set Contents. #Sets covered: Master Model Construction Set. #No of models: 22. #Name, Model No, Page No of first & last model: TICKET HOLDERS,1,8; FERRIS WHEEL,22,36. #Other notes: details above taken from a photocopy.



**MYSTERY PART No.19** Richard Symonds wrote that the Strips with the alternate round and square holes (10/259) were reported in various lengths by the British Columbia M.C. in 1982, and a 5-hole one was illustrated. Since then he sent a photo of all the different parts of this type that he has - there are 3, 5, 7, 9, 11 and 27-hole Strips; 5 and 11h A/G; 2x5x2 and 2x1x2 DAS; and Perf Plates, 5x7 and 5x11h. The illustration is of a 3h Strip he kindly enclosed.



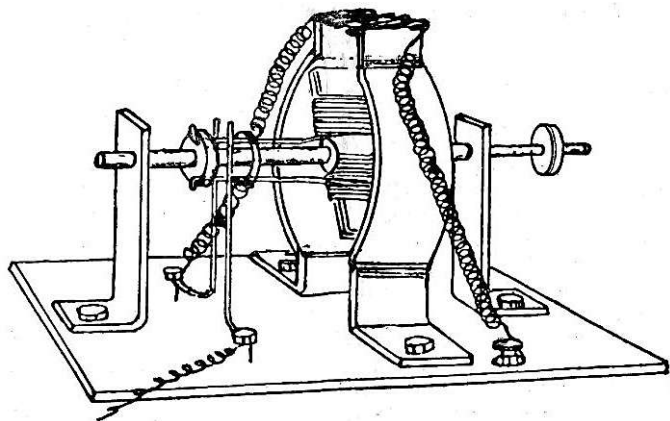
**MYSTERY PART No.20** The 4x1½" Plate with one ½" flange (10/259). Don Redmond solved this one with a copy of a page from an AMB manual which showed the part: it replaced their Flanged Sector Plate in about 1915. More

details are given on p279.

**MYSTERY PART No.23** A red painted aluminium Flanged Plate 1.0"x2.0", with square cornered flanges, .6" deep, on the short sides. There are no holes in the top surface but 2 of 4.5mm dia, at 12.7mm pitch, in each flange. A longer 8-hole version is also known, ie 2x4". With the Plates were three 8-hole unpainted aluminium Strips which look as if they might belong. However their holes are 4.7mm and they are of thinner metal, .035" against .040". They vary between 2 and 15 thou over ½" in width and have near fully rounded ends. Don Redmond sent these parts; Richard Symonds also has one of 2h length and wrote that both the 2 and 8h were described in a 1983 List from British Columbia Meccano Club.



5. **INNOR** Jean-Pierre Guibert kindly sent a copy of a new page recently added to his *Encyclopédie*. It gives details of a French set from the 1950s with 10 different parts to construct the simple 4-9v Electric Motor below. It is referred to in the



Instructions as the MOTEUR INNOR, but nothing is known of the maker. The base is the lid of the cardboard box (13\*8\*1.3cm), which has a plan view drawing of the Motor on it, but no name, and is perforated with holes to suit the parts. The Shaft is 2mm Ø reducing to 1.5mm at one end. The discs for the commutator are cardboard, the pulley brass, as also the 2mm Ø N&B. The Rotor had to be wound with 34 turns on each arm, & the Stator with 50. The paperwork in the Set consisted of a sheet printed on both sides with detailed building instructions and 2 other sheets, one with extra advice, the other about series & other motors, a permanent set-up for the Motor, and making a strobe disc to mount on the Motor.

**INNOR: S1**

[48/1453]

6. **MASTERBUILDER** In the account of this early post-WW2 UK system in 38/1135 it was mentioned that the meaning of the 'K.W.' in the name of the MASTERBUILDER company wasn't known. The answer is Kathleen Waddell, the wife of the Wardlaw Walter Waddell, the man who designed the system.

This information from Robin Waddell, Walter's son, who played with MASTERBUILDER as a small child in the 1946-50 period, and has recently been in touch. He added that Walter and his brother Alexander (Sandy) were joint owners of K.W. Products, the company based in Mountsorrel, just outside Loughborough, responsible for MASTERBUILDER.

And Robin wrote something of Walter's history. He combined considerable technical ability with a capacity for hard work, and he had a varied career. As an apprentice with Ruston & Hornsby in Lincoln he looked after the agricultural machinery, steam engines, etc which the company showed at fairs & exhibitions, and later, in the mid-1930s, he was sent to Trinidad as a support engineer for the equipment that Rustons had sold out there. Back in England he was involved in designing the tracks for the Centurion tank towards the end of WW2, and after the war he worked full-time for several companies as well as his involvement with MASTERBUILDER. Some years after that period he started another business, a direct mail bureau, initially called Miss Kay Blunt after his wife's maiden name, and later Powertyping. It used paper-tape technology to integrate addresses, letter text and personalised text inserts from three separate tape readers connected to

Flexowriter automatic typewriters - an awesome sight in operation. The letters were then signed with a genuine fountain pen by another automatic gadget.

**MASTERBUILDER: S3**

[48/1453]

7. **TRIX** Timothy Edwards passed on the address, [www.trix-metaal.nl/Index.htm](http://www.trix-metaal.nl/Index.htm) an excellent site with many photos of sets, motors, manuals, brochures, etc from Germany, France and several other countries.

**TRIX: S7**

[48/1453]

8. **'NEW' SYSTEMS** Jeannot Buteux/Constructorama wrote that it was hoped in due course to send some/more information about systems such as BOMISA, IMBRICA, MÉTAL-LUX, K.DO, STRUCTEX etc.

**New OS Names: S2**

[48/1453]

9. **Snippet: Canadian JUNEERO** A manual was described in 11/283 and now the set below, a 'Model A', has been seen on Canadian Ebay. It was said to have been produced from 1940 to 1948 by Steelmaster of Vancouver, and to have a British-made Tool plus aluminium & steel parts. The box is 18\*12\*2 1/2" and a sheet pasted inside the lid shows the 6 operations that the Tool can perform. The parts visible in the box include



a pair of Shears to the right of the 4 small brass Pulleys, a Die above the Tool's wooden Base, & to the right of the Tool's red handle, the Span'driver shown in OSN 11. Under the Manual is Sheet material with a Corrugated Sheet on top. There is no sign of the larger Pulleys & Flanged Wheels needed for some of the Manual models. But the ready availability of extra parts was stressed on the inside of the lid and in the Manual.

**JUNEERO [2]: S1**

[48/1453]

**SMALL AD Wanted** A manual, or a copy of one, for the German ELECTRIC Synchronos Uhr (Clock). Please contact Urs Flammer at [urs.flammer@gmail.com](mailto:urs.flammer@gmail.com).

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