

it, probably a little earlier, is shown on p219 of Baukästen.

**The parts.** The new ones are the 1\*9\*1h DAS, the green Road Wheel of about 35mm Ø, the 5\*11h Flanged Plate, the 7\*9h Flanged Plate, and the 3\*5h Perforated Plate from

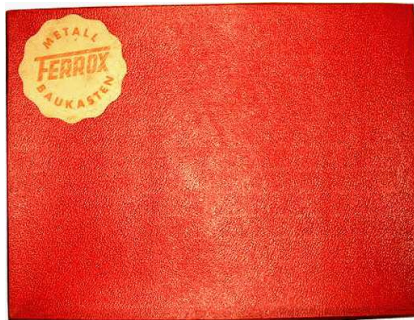


Fig 3b

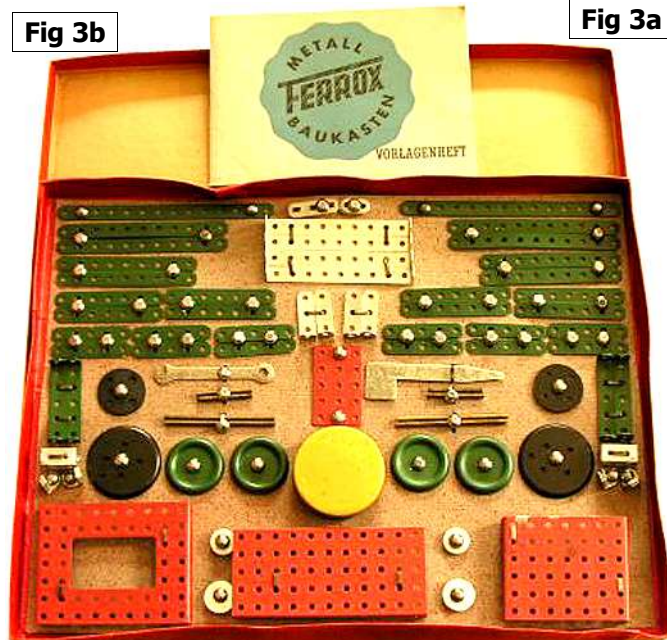


Fig 3a

its centre. Also the Spanner & Screwdriver mentioned earlier.

There are changes to a few parts. The 'extra' hole in the larger Flanged Disc is much nearer the rim (the part scales at 55mm Ø). The 3h Strip, top centre, may have slotted holes. The Screwed Rods scale at 74 & 37mm.

The parts no longer in the Set are the 1\*3\*1h & 1\*12\*1h DAS, and the 6\*9h Perforated Plate. They could be in a larger set of course, if there was one.

**Other sets.** The 103 is exactly as the Fig 3 set except that its Screwdriver is a MECCANO wire type.

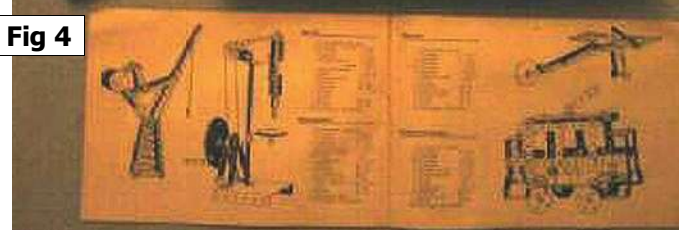
The 101 is similar to the set in Fig.4 except that it has a red

3\*5h Plate in the centre between the pairs of Small Flanged Discs, a normal red 6\*7h Flanged Plate below the right pair instead of the 2 Flanged Plates with slotted holes, a Large Flanged Disc below the 3\*5h Plate, and a wire Screwdriver. The Baukästen set is identical except that it has the L-shaped Screwdriver. In both the space under the left pair of Small Flanged Discs is empty but perhaps held a small box for the N&B etc.

The unusual Plates in the outfit below have not been seen in any other FERROX set, so could be 'foreigners', but I don't recall seeing them in any other system. They are flanged on their 7h sides, and look to be the equivalent of about 6 holes wide. The black circular box bottom left is presumably for the small parts. The only other point of interest is the wooden-handled Screwdriver.



Fig 4



**Manuals** 3 of the Phase 3 sets seen have a manual cover shown with them, all like the one in Fig 3b, but no further details are available. There were though certainly several editions of the manual during the life of FERROX - a page from a Phase 2 manual has the Monoplane in Fig 4 together with a Lorry with Ladder, and a page from another manual has said Lorry plus a small Loco.

FERROX: S2

OSN 36/1090

**Snippet: 'New' System: KA-KA-HA** The lid label, below, of this rather oddly named set, presumably German, shows a number of interesting looking models, but little detail can be seen. I think the model in the foreground is a Lorry and the one beyond the Boat, a Mobile Crane. The parts in the box



KA-KA-HA: S1



OSN 36/1090



**METABA** An Ebay snippet about a No.1 set from this small German system appeared in 42/1273 It was in a cardboard box but now Jean-Pierre Guibert has kindly sent details of his set, also a No.1, but in a wooden box. Especially welcome this because some of the 'guesses' in OSN 42 were wrong, particularly the hole pitch.

**Name:** METABA is no doubt derived from METALLBAUKASTEN.

**Maker:** 'P. Spier, Oberingenieur, Mag.-Bergedorf, Grasweg 11' is on the bottom of the box and could be the maker or distributor. Since 1938 Bergedorf has been part of Hamburg and is known as Hamburg-Bergedorf (was 'Mag.' on the box actually 'Hag'? If so it could be an abbreviation of Hamburg). Grasweg was the street but it seems not to exist today.

**Date:** not known but from the name on its bottom, the box may be after 1938 (the Ebay vendor of this Set mentioned the 1920s; late 1930s or early 1940s was suggested on Ebay for the parts in OSN 42).

**References:** none.



**FIG.1**

**The PARTS** Fig.1 shows the 11 different parts in the Set.

**FIG.2**

**Holes** are typically 3.15mm Ø at 10mm pitch.

**Thread** M3.

**Material/Finish** Plain steel.

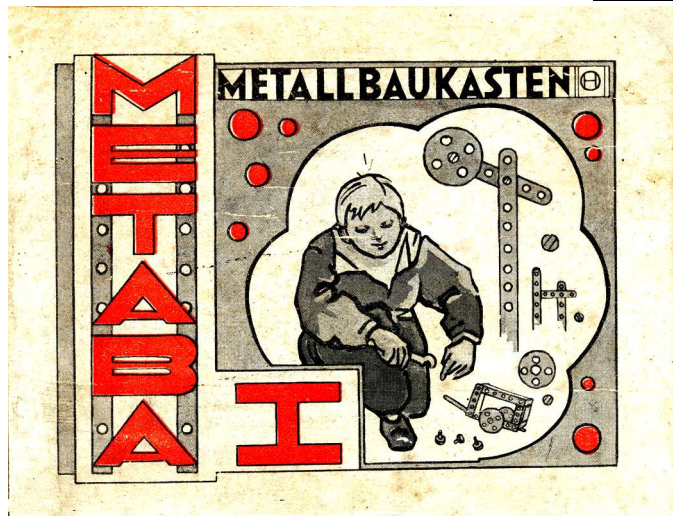
**Details** The **Strips** are 1mm thick and 9.5mm wide. The **Pulley Disc** is 25mm Ø. The **Axle** is 3.1mm Ø & 85mm long, with the ends threaded. The **Bolt** is 10mm long.

**The SET** The box (Fig.2 & 3) has a sliding lid and measures 20\*25\*3.8cm. Fig.4 shows the lid label with a 4h Wheel Disc and a boy with slightly unusual clothing.

**FIG.4**



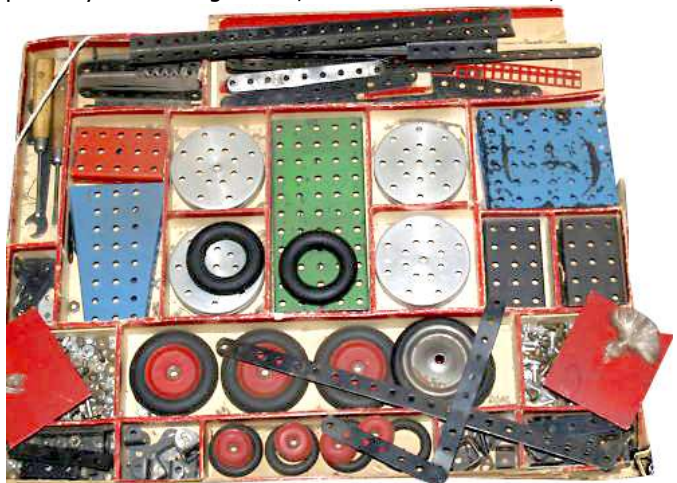
**FIG.3**



OSN 43/1317

METABA: S3

**Snippet. Another KA-KA-HA Outfit** This example seen on Ebay gives a better idea of the system than the one in 36/1090. The lid is as before except that the label is much cleaner and the background colour is a pale orange. The box is probably a little larger with, as can be seen below, somewhat



different partitioning.

A few observations about the parts. • The **Strips** that can be seen are 7, 11, & 21h long, and the **A/Gs**, 21h, & 5h probably. • The **Flanged Plates** are: 11\*5h, 7\*6h (blue),

5\*3h (black), & the 8h long Sector Plate. There is also a 5\*3h **Girder Bracket** (red, above the Sector Plate). • The red **Pulleys** with Rubber Rings look genuine; the nickel one looks out of place but there were nickel ones in the OSN 36 set. The 2 loose fat Rubber Rings are no doubt foreigners. • No bosses can be seen, no Axles or Screwed Rods either. • There is an unusual red part top right in the box which looks rather like a long narrow **Windmill Sail** at least 14h long with a rectangular slot opposite each hole. • The **Nuts** are hexagonal and match the Spanner's jaws; the **Bolts** are cheeseheaded.

Right the manual that was with the set. It was said to have 23 pages and a PR on the back of 'Satz und Druk IV/10/06 Satke/Halle W 335 1000 4009/51'. Satke is probably the name of the printer and Halle the town.



There are 2 towns called Halle in Germany, one (Halle, Westfalen) near Bielefeld, and one (Halle, Saale) 30km east of Leipzig in what was East Germany. It seems likely that the 'W' after Halle indicates Westfalen but the only result of a Google search was a G.Satke, printer, in a 1950 directory, at 26,28 Große Steinstraße, in Halle, Saale. If there is a date in the PR then '335' is one possibility, but 1951 is perhaps more likely.

OSN 43/1317

KA-KA-HA: S2



**KA-KA-HA** Something on this rare early 1950s East German system was given in 36/1090 and, with a few details, in 43/1317. Now thanks to Urs Flammer, a much fuller account based on his set & two manuals. (Urs confirmed that KA-KA-HA was from East Germany, the 'W' in the 1951 manual's PR in OSN 43 was a red herring because there is a 'P' instead in the 1952 manual to be described.) There is nothing to indicate the set size but as with appear it may be a No.2, and for convenience I'll called it so. Figs.1 & 2 show the lid, open box, & the different parts in it (with the N&B inset at a larger scale). It contains more parts than would be expected.

**The PARTS** Holes are 4.2mm at 12.8mm pitch. The thread is M4. The parts in the inventory given in the manuals are as follows, with my names, comments as needed, & quantities in curly brackets: • 12,9,7,5,3h **Strips** (11h Strips are shown in some manual models and are called up in some of their Parts Lists) {6,4,4,8,6} • 12,5h **A/Gs** (in Fig.2 a 5h is overlaid on the right end of the 12h) {4,4} • **Brackets**, Angle, Flat, & Double {8,8,3} • **Loose Pulleys**, Large & Small {4,4} • **Double Bent Strip** {3} • 1\*3,5\*1h **DAS** {4,4} • **Spanner** {2} • **Screwdriver** {1} (missing but 2 with wooden handles are shown in OSN 43) • **Nut** {60} • **Bolt** {50} • **Flanged Plates**, Large & Small {1,2} (the Large is 5\*11h with slotted holes in the flanges; the 3 Small in the set are 7\*5,6h & 5\*3h, all with round flange holes) • **Screwed Rods**, 90,60,25mm {2,2,1} • **Rectangular Plate** {1} (Missing and it is something of a mystery. Its size is unclear in the manual models, but possibly 3\*7h or 5\*5h. However its German name is Rechteckplatte but Platten (Plates) of these sizes are called up in some of the larger models as well as a Rechteckplatte.).

Other parts which are used in the No.2 manual models are • **Rubber Ring** for the Small Pulley {4} • **Flanged Disc Pulley** {2} (unlike the other part it is made of Dural).

Parts used in the larger manual models are • **Rubber Ring** for the Large Pulley (as in the Set), **21h Strip & A/G**. • **Plates** 5\*5h, 5\*7h, & 3\*7h.

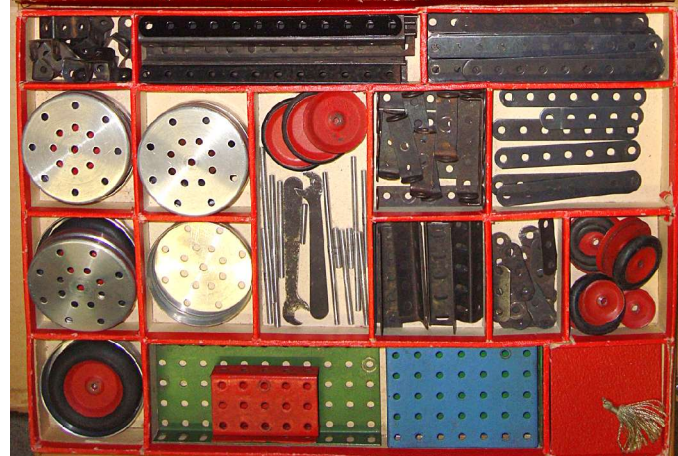
As well as a 21h Strip & 21h A/G the OSN 43 set contained an 8h long **Flanged Sector Plate**, credible because it matched the 7\*6h Flanged Plate in colour. And looking at that set again the part described as a Girder Bracket is almost certainly a 5\*3h Flanged Plate.

**The MANUALS** The 1950 (from its PR) manual has 16 coloured pages including covers, 21\*14¼cm. The front is shown in Fig.3. p2 (=C2) has the inventory and the first 3 of 29 models – they go from Leiter (Ladder) to Windmühle on p14. p15 has a farewell message, and p16 is blank except for the PR: Setz und Druck: H(20) Buchdruckerei G. Satke, Halle 29428 30 9 50 1500. There is one large drawing of each model and a Parts List for all but the first 13 – the latter small, simple models labelled Abb.1-13 with their names on p4. The rest of the models, a good selection, are a little larger and though quite simple mechanically, generally look the part. All the models can be made (more or less) from the inventory parts and the 2 'other parts' above. No mention is made anywhere of there being more than one, unidentified set. One of the smaller and 2 of the larger models are shown on the right side of Fig.5. (For greater clarity all the Fig.5 models have had their background colour removed.)

The 1952 version has 24 pages of the same size, with pink covers and beige inside pages. Fig.4 is the front cover. p2 has the inventory, identical to the 1950 one, and a Parts List for the Rennwagen on the cover. The next 29 models on pp3-15 are as before but the first 13 are not in the same order. Then there are 8 slightly larger models. 6 are marked as needing Set 2 & 2a and the other 2 would also need both sets (one, an Electric Truck, has no name or Parts List). The 8 models go from Traktor 1 on p16 to Fahrstuhl (Lift) on p23. The models



a



b

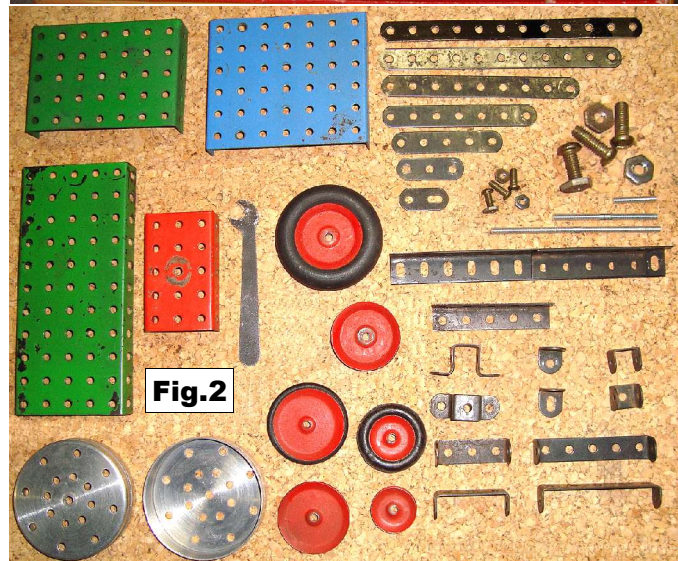


Fig.2

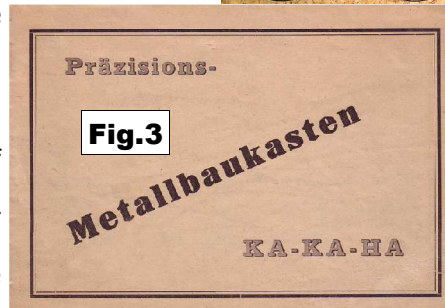


Fig.3

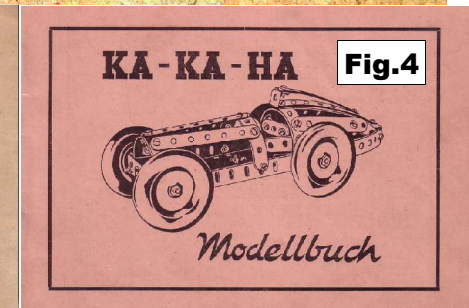
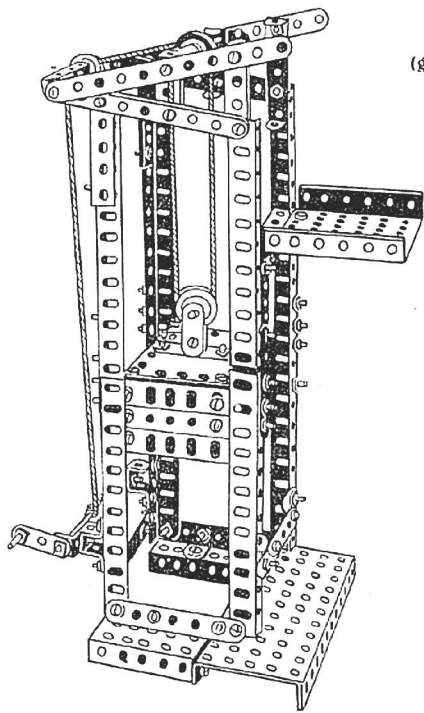


Fig.4

include the 3 in Fig.5, 2 Tractors, a Crane, and a Mechanical Fretsaw. P24 has the same farewell message, a recommendation for Sets 2a & 3a, and the PR: Setz und Druck: IV/10/6 Buchdruckerei G. Satke, Halle P 335 500 31494/52.

**The SETS** That the larger models in the '1952' manual need Sets 2 & 2a points to the smaller ones needing only Set 2 – hence the notion that Urs' set is a No.2. It might of course be an early unnumbered set, or a No.3, assuming such a set existed, but both possibilities are less likely because the PR for

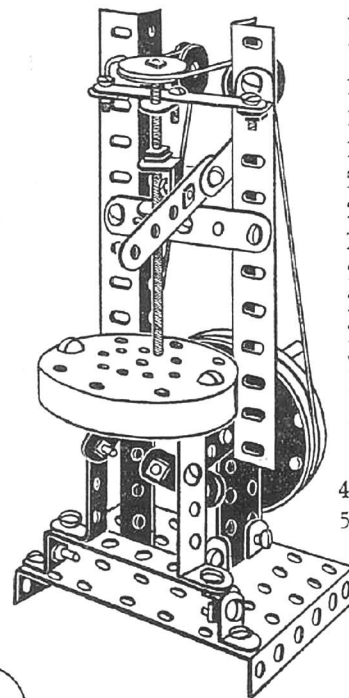




## Fahrstuhl

(gebaut mit den Kästen 2 und 2a)

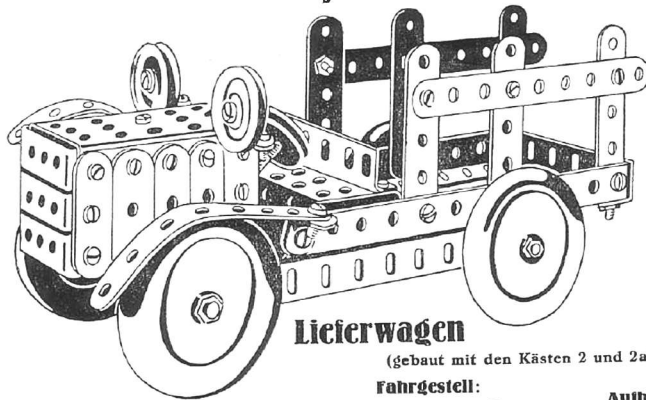
- |                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| 1 große Grundplatte   |            |
| 2 kleine Grundplatten |            |
| 1 Rechteckplatte      |            |
| 2 Winkelleisten       | 21 Loch    |
| 4 „                   | 12 „       |
| 3 „                   | 5 „        |
| 2 Leisten             | 11 „       |
| 2 „                   | 9 „        |
| 4 „                   | 7 „        |
| 5 „                   | 5 „        |
| 2 „                   | 3 „        |
| 2 Winkelbänder        | 7 Loch     |
| 4 „                   | 5 „        |
| 1 Doppelwinkel        |            |
| 2 Achsen              | 90 mm      |
| 1 „                   | 60 mm      |
| 1 „                   | 25 mm      |
| 6 Laschen             |            |
| 8 Verbindungswinkel   |            |
| 3 kleine Räder        |            |
| 2 Platten             | 5 x 7 Loch |
| 2 „                   | 5 x 3 „    |
| 2 Lagerböcke          |            |



## Bohrmaschine

- |                      |         |
|----------------------|---------|
| 1 Rechteckplatte     |         |
| 1 kleine Grundplatte |         |
| 1 Doppelwinkel       |         |
| 5 Verbindungswinkel  |         |
| 2 Duralräder         |         |
| 3 kleine Räder       |         |
| 2 Winkelleisten      | 12 Loch |
| 3 Winkelbänder       | 7 „     |
| 3 Leisten            | 5 „     |
| 3 „                  | 3 „     |
| 1 Achse              | 60 mm   |
| 1 „                  | 90 „    |
| 1 „                  | 25 „    |
| 40 Schrauben         |         |
| 56 Muttern           |         |

Fig.5



## Lieferwagen

(gebaut mit den Kästen 2 und 2a)

### Fahrgestell:

- |                        |
|------------------------|
| 4 große Räder m. Gummi |
| 2 lange Achsen         |
| 1 große Grundplatte    |

### Motor:

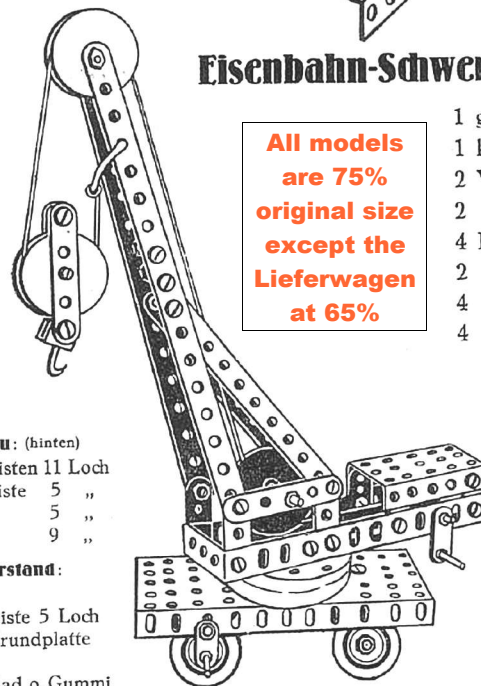
- |                         |
|-------------------------|
| 1 kleine Grundplatte    |
| 8 Leisten 3 Loch        |
| 2 „ 7 „                 |
| 5 Winkel                |
| 4 Winkelbänder 5 Loch   |
| 2 kleine Räder          |
| 45 Schrauben 57 Muttern |

### Aufbau: (hinten)

- |                         |
|-------------------------|
| 2 Winkelleisten 11 Loch |
| 1 Winkelleiste 5 „      |
| 6 Leisten 5 „           |
| 2 „ 9 „                 |

### Führerstand:

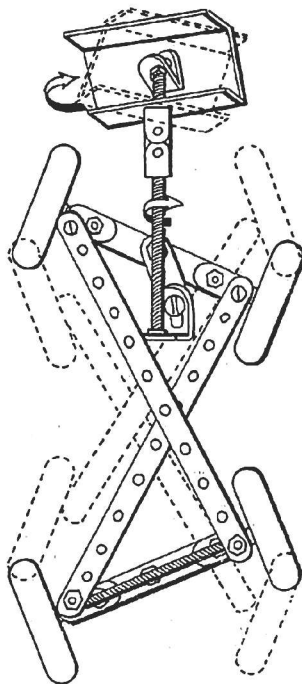
- |                        |
|------------------------|
| 2 Winkel               |
| 1 Winkelleiste 5 Loch  |
| 1 kleine Grundplatte   |
| 1 Achse                |
| 1 kleines Rad o. Gummi |



## Eisenbahn-Schwenkkran

All models  
are 75%  
original size  
except the  
Lieferwagen  
at 65%

- |                        |
|------------------------|
| 1 große Grundplatte    |
| 1 kleine „             |
| 2 Winkelbänder 12 Loch |
| 2 „ 5 „                |
| 4 Leisten 11 „         |
| 2 „ 9 „                |
| 4 „ 5 „                |
| 4 „ 3 „                |
| 7 Laschen              |
| 1 Doppelwinkel         |
| 4 kleine Räder         |
| 3 große „              |
| 1 Duralrad             |
| 2 Achsen 90 mm         |
| 2 „ 60 mm              |
| 1 „ 25 mm              |
| 32 Schrauben           |
| 54 Muttern             |



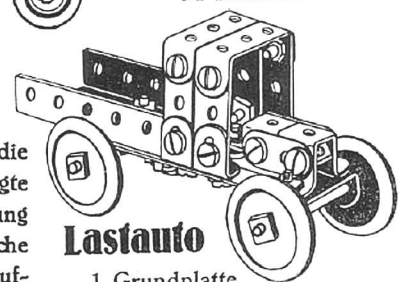
## Elektrokarren mit Vierrad-Lenkung

(lt. nebenstehender Skizze) (gebaut mit den Kästen 2 und 2a)

Die Übertragung der Drehbewegung der Längsachse auf die Radachse erfolgt durch eine, am Ende der Längsachse befestigte Lasche mit Winkel, der in seinem Schlitz bei der Drehbewegung eine Schraube mitbewegt. Diese Schraube ist an einer Lasche befestigt, die starr in der Mitte der Radachse rechtwinklig aufgeschraubt ist.

### Erforderliche Teile:

- |                          |                       |                     |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 1 Rechteckplatte         | 2 Achsen 90 mm        | 8 Verbindungswinkel |
| 3 kleine Grundplatten    | 4 Winkelbänder 5 Loch | 3 Laschen           |
| 2 Platten 7 x 5 Loch     | 2 Leisten 11 Loch     | 4 große Räder       |
| 1 Platte 5 x 5 „ 4 „     | 7 „                   | 1 kleines Rad       |
| 2 Winkelleisten 12 „ 1 „ | 5 „                   |                     |
| 3 „ 5 „ 2 „              | 3 „                   |                     |



## Lastauto

- |                        |
|------------------------|
| 1 Grundplatte          |
| 2 Leisten 7 Loch       |
| 4 „ 3 „                |
| 4 Verbindungswinkel    |
| 2 Laschen 20 Schrauben |
| 1 Lagerbock 28 Muttern |
| 1 Doppelwinkel         |
| 4 Winkelbänder         |
| 2 Achsen               |
| 4 Räder mit Gummi      |

Urs' lid label gives it a date of 1952, and although his set has the large Rubber Rings & extra Flanged Disc Pulleys, it has no 21h parts and none of the Plates used in the 2+2a models. Also the box of the Ebay set in OSN 43 is larger than Urs' and so might be a No.3, or a No.4.

The No.2 box measures 270\*390\*25mm and the maker is

shown in small print along the bottom of the lid label: Phönix-Produktiv – Genossenschaft, GmbH, Halle/S.

From the manual models the parts in the Set 2a included 4 Large Rubber Rings, and 2 each of the 3\*7 & 5\*5h Plates, and of the 21h Strip & A/G.