

nection between LYNX and BILDICO, but why make the holes bigger? My only thought is that it was finally decided that it was better to have them compatible with MECCANO. I wonder whether the M&S set ever had the larger hole parts, and, more likely, whether the standard BILDICO sets ever had standard LYNX parts. It's probably not significant but there is a difference between the range of sets, 0 to 3, mentioned on the back of the No.1 Model Sheet and the 1-4 in the Napier ad. One firm connection between the No.1 set and the ad are the box lids, which both have a label nearly as big as the lid, and have the same dock scene except that the No.1 has the number of the outfit in a black blob under the crane's boom.

LONE STAR The 30 parts in the system are better made and better finished than LYNX or BILDICO. As with both types of BILDICO, LYNX part names are used for similar types of part, but although a few parts are almost identical, there are many that are not. Compared with LYNX, Strips, Plates, and Brackets are made of noticeably thinner steel. The parts are as follows (those asterisked are illustrated):

- Green 21,11,9h Strips (the 9h is .9mm thick), a 1*3*1 DAS, 21 & 11h A/Gs, and a 7*5h Flanged Plate, which is nearly the same size as the LYNX one but with round holes in its 4 flanges.

- Red 4 & 5h Strips, a Bell Crank and an Angled Bell Crank*, a 3h long Girder Bracket with all round holes*, 3h wide Perforated Plates, 3,5 & 7h long, and a Slotted Wheel, which is exactly like the LYNX part except that it is steel and the boss, aluminium like the LYNX, is 10.0mm Ø instead of 9.8mm. The Plates are .45mm thick; the Strips and Bell Cranks about .75mm, and slightly wider than 1/2", up to 13.0mm.

- Red, green, or grey metallic 1*1h Angle Brackets with round holes in both arms.

- Black rubber push-on Wheels, 1 3/4" Ø, with a heavy V tread, and CRESCENT ENGLAND moulded around the sides of the 'tyre'. A 1 1/2mm aluminium Pulley with an 8.5mm Ø boss*, and a black rubber Tyre* to fit it, which I haven't seen. Also unseen are 4" & 1 1/2" Axles, a Crank Handle*, a Spring Clip, and a flat Hook* which looks very like the BILDICO one.

- The thread is 5BA and the N&B are nickel plated steel. The neat 5.5mm Ø RH Bolts are, like LYNX, 1/4, 1/2 & 1" long, and the Nuts are square and 6.2mm A/F, though hex are also shown in the manual. Bosses are double tapped. The Spandriver* is 70mm long.

- The ends of the red Strips and Brackets, and the corners of the Flanged Plate are fully radiused; the other parts are semi-radiused to varying degrees. The holes in the Flanged Plate and Slotted Wheel are similar in size to LYNX but those in other parts are much larger at 4.2mm. Axles are probably no greater in diameter than LYNX, and would therefore be very sloppy in the Strips. The bore of bosses is similar to LYNX.

There were 4 sets, 00-2, and the contents are given in MCS. The No.4 had about 50 N&B, 16 Strips, and 4 A/Gs, and the main parts are shown in 2 layers attached to cards, with those ear-shaped cutouts in the top one again.

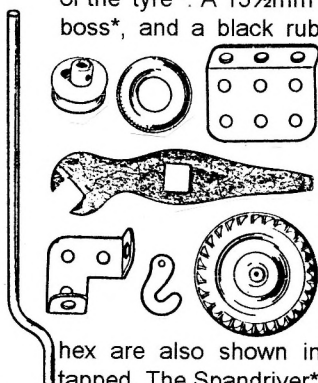
There aren't many models in the manual but they are reasonable for the size of the system, with a rather more mechanical flavour to them than most - one of the No.4 models fires match sticks, and another is an Aircraft on the end of a rotating arm which carries a bomb released by a trigger. It is shown here to give an idea, together with a 00 Crane showing the Wheel and Hook. None of the models

look like any from the Lynx manuals. The label on the set lids and the manual cover are similar with the main feature a large Bridge. All the Strips in its framework are shown green and the Flanged Plates red.

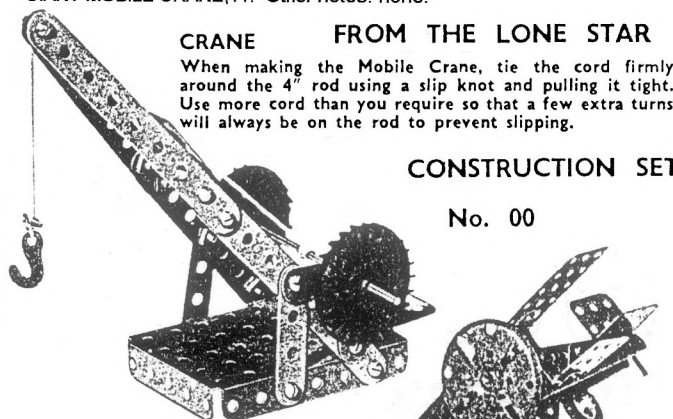
The manufacturer's initials D.C.M.T. in MCS stand for Die Casting Machine Tools Ltd., of 152 Green Lanes, Palmers Green, London. In the Oct. 1955 G&T it was announced that a new factory at Hatfield had been opened to allow increased production of Lone Star Products, and among the toys shown was a No.2 LONE STAR Set.

MANUAL SUMMARY •Name: THE LONE STAR CONSTRUCTION Kit •Details of maker: A D.C.M.T. Product. •Dates &/or Ref Nos: none

•Page size: 201*131mm deep. •No. of pages: 12 inc covers, not numbered. •Language: English. •Printing: photos of models; coloured cover, red/green on blue/yellow ground. •Page No. of Parts List & highest PN: 16,30. •Page Nos. of Set Contents & highest PN: 3+16,30. •Sets covered: 00,0,1,2. •No. of models for each set: 6,6,4,4. •Name, Page No. of first & last model of each set [no Models Nos.]: 00: WORKING SIGNAL,4; DELIVERY MOTOR SCOOTER,5. 0: GARAGE TURNTABLE HOIST,6; OLD CROCK CAR,7. 1: CRANK OPERATED TRIP HAMMER,8; ELEVATING CAR RAMP,9. 2: TRACTOR EXCAVATOR,10; GIANT MOBILE CRANE,11. •Other notes: none.



CRANE FROM THE LONE STAR
When making the Mobile Crane, tie the cord firmly around the 4" rod using a slip knot and pulling it tight. Use more cord than you require so that a few extra turns will always be on the rod to prevent slipping.



CONSTRUCTION SET

No. 00



FROM THE LONE STAR

CONSTRUCTION SET

No. 2

REMOTE CONTROL DIVE BOMBER

The base of this model is constructed separately and is made by bolting two 11-hole strips across the edges of the base plate. The 1 1/2" rod is held in an upright position by the two V pulleys fixed each side of the plate. The arm and trigger mechanism pivots from a slotted wheel on two 5-hole angle brackets. The releasing mechanism consists of a bolt constructed from a 5-hole angle strip and two 2-hole brackets. The 4" rod passes through this and through the Plane. The cord is attached to the rod with a spring clip. This bolt also passes through the small bomb constructed of two 5-hole strips and a 5-hole angle strip. The plane can take off and land by manipulation of the trigger arm and when the trigger is pressed the bolt releases the bomb.

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