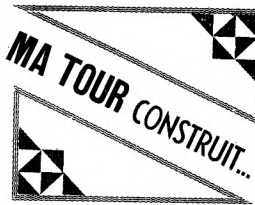


MA TOUR CONSTRUIT The name of this 1930s French system was mentioned in 17/491 and now some details are available. The illustrations below are from the Model Sheet, 48*32cm, folded into 3, and printed on one side only. The parts in the models bring STANDARD L.R. (SLR in future) to mind, however Jeannot wrote that they don't have the indentations for locking parts at right angles, which was an important (patented) feature of SLR, and there are many less parts, no Gears for example. The maker of MA TOUR isn't known.

Parts The Sheet doesn't show the 40 individual parts but their names are given in the Set Contents, and many of them can just about be seen in the models. As with SLR the lengths of the main parts are in multiples of 5cm, and the holes (4mm Ø) are mostly at alternate pitches of 40 & 10mm in the Strips & A/Gs. What can be said of the parts follows:

Strips & A/Gs are 5,10,15, & 25cm long with holes as above except that the 5cm Strip has a hole at each end & one in the centre. The 4 holes in the Curved Strip look to be equispaced (unlike SLR), and 4 seem to make a circle of 8cm pcd. Then the chord between adjacent hole centres



would be 20mm.

Joining parts are an A/B; a flat connector, perhaps a Flat Bracket (as at the left end of the wind vane atop the Windmill maybe); a small Triangular Plate (as on the right end of the vane, and as the side of the Crane's pulley block, though both might be made from two smaller, triangular plates); and a deep Double Bracket, as in the middle of the Lorry's front axle.

Plates are a 5*5cm with corner & centre holes (see the Barrow), and Infill Plates, 5, 10 & 15cm long, made of bare aluminium, with embossed circles in each 5cm 'bay', corner holes, and top & bottom edge holes between the bays.

Pulleys: 12, 28, & 45mm Ø Fast, and 12 & 28mm Loose. All bosses, a **Collar**, & a **Rod Coupling** are fitted with Grub Screws. A **Tyre** for the 28mm Pulleys was supplied.

Axle Rods are listed at 20,40,60,120, & 200mm long, also a Crank Handle (see the Crane).

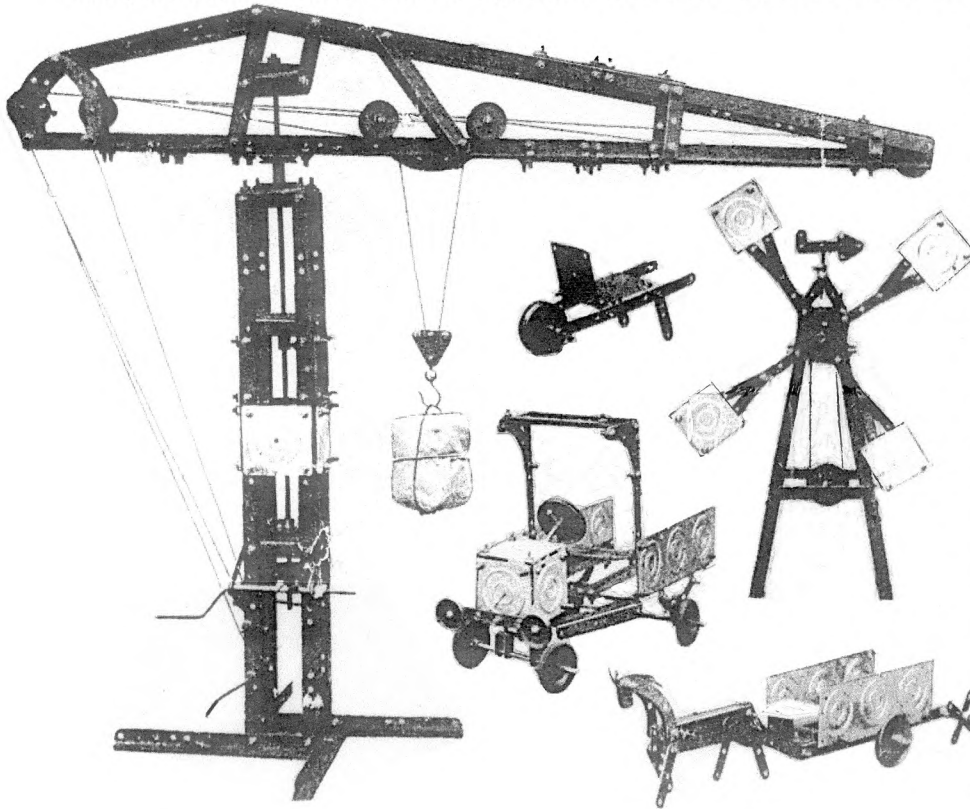
Other parts are a loaded Crane Hook; Cord with black & orange strands; a Screwed Rod '- Cy 40'; a Nut; 10 & 15mm Bolts (the 10mm is so long that there's a note saying that the heads must be on the inside of A/Gs); and a Span'driver.

The parts are quite 'solid'. Most of the steel ones are polished but with a roughish, grenailé (granulated) finish. Exceptions are the red painted 28mm Pulleys, and the smooth polished steel N&B, Axles, & Screwed Rods.

The sets are Nos.1 & 2 with 247/385 pieces including 24/38 Strips, 14/18 A/Gs, 8/13 Plates, 8/16 Pulleys, 4 Tyres, & 66/110 N&B. The No.1 has all the different parts except the longest Strip, A/G, & Axle, and the 45mm Pulley.

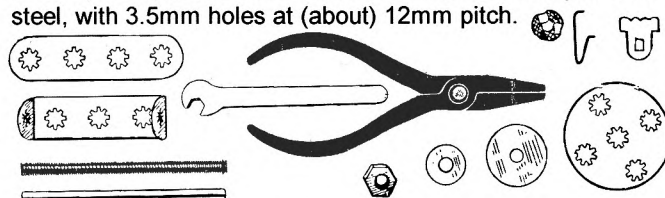
14 quite fair **models** are shown on the Model Sheet, with one photo of each (those opposite are full-size), and it is explained that they are 'only examples, because it is certain that models designed and constructed by yourself will give much more satisfaction than ones simply copied'.

Finally Jeannot pointed out that the **name** MA TOUR CONSTRUIT is strange because it means 'my tower builds', or '... is building', whereas if it were CONSTRUITE it would mean 'my built tower', that is, a tower I built. There's no Tower at all on the Model Sheet.



'New' System, MONT' VITE The French patent for this small system with 8-point star-shaped holes, No.736852, was described in 13/363. The name was registered on May 24, 1932, 15 days after the application for the patent was made, and it went on sale in that year, made by the patentee, Amédée Sagnier, of 111 rue Ledru-Rollin, Saint-Maur, near Paris. It isn't known how long it lasted.

The Parts There were 2 sets and all the different types of part in the No.1, as shown on the Model Sheet, are illustrated below, except the 6 & 8h Strips. Some extra parts in the No.2 can be seen in the models overleaf: an 11h Strip, an A/B, Cord, & a Hook. So 23 in total and all are polished steel, with 3.5mm holes at (about) 12mm pitch.



"MONT' VITE"

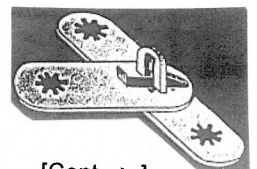
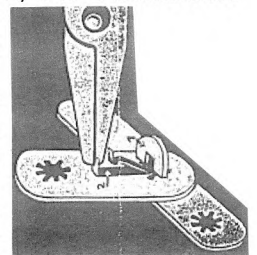
The parts are held together by the flat T-Clips, in 3 lengths, to accommodate 2, 3 or 4 thicknesses

of metal. The T-Clip is held in place by a Clip Spring, pushed home (right) while held in the Pliers.

The part to the left of the T-Clip is an Axle Stop, with 3 springy arms as in the patent, and it can be seen holding Rods in place in the Crane.

The Discs scale at 28, 16 & 10mm Ø and the Axle Rod & Screwed Rod are both 87mm long. The latter is used as an axle in the models and I'm not clear why the smooth Rod is needed. Without it the Axle Stop wouldn't be needed either.

The Spanner scales at 79mm long, and the Pliers at 115mm.



[Cont. >]