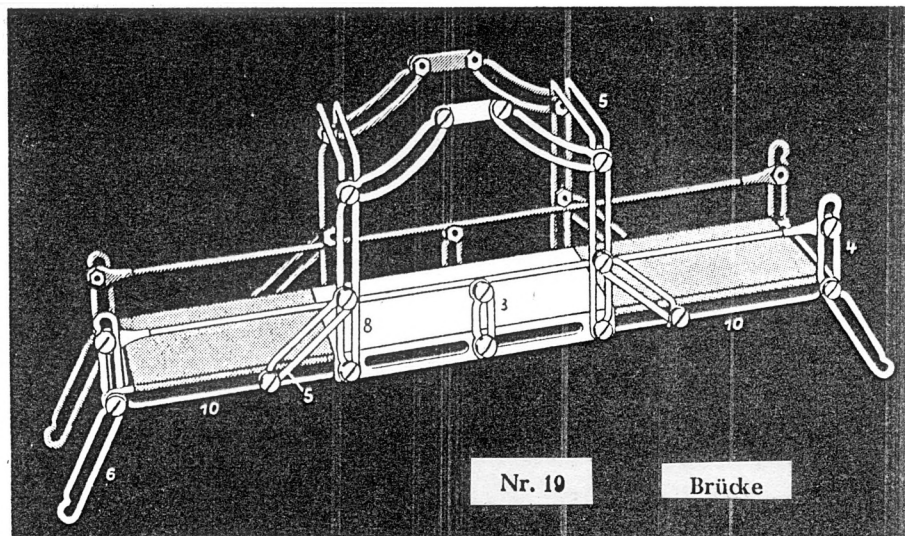


STABA. This is about the STABA with the unique Strips made of an 'outline' of wire, see the model (x.5) below; these are the 'fluted building sticks' mentioned in the Australian ad in MCS. It's called STABA (1) in MCS/FB and STABA (2) in /NZ. The FB version shows excellent illustrations of all the parts and also the contents of Sets 00 to 4. Recently Harry Fell showed me a manual for Set 1 and some parts which had come with the manual. They appear to be earlier than those in MCS/FB because the Flanged Plate, #90, has no perforations in the top surface. The PN's too are different, and only the 35 parts needed for Set 1 are listed. The contents of Set 1 in MCS are basically the same as in Harry's manual but there are a few extra parts and more Nuts and Bolts; and the Pulleys 22/40K and 24, and the Fixing Fish, #68, are new parts not listed in the earlier manual.



Bauteile:

2 STABA-BAU-Stäbe	3 cm
4 STABA-BAU-Stäbe	4 cm
4 STABA-BAU-Stäbe	5 cm
4 STABA-BAU-Stäbe	6 cm

4 STABA-BAU-Stäbe	8 cm
4 STABA-BAU-Stäbe	10 cm
4 STABA-Bogen-Elemente	5 cm
4 STABA-Doppel-Winkel	5 cm
2 Große Laschen	
1 Grundplatte	

4 Verbindungshülsen	
24 Normalschrauben	
8 Kurze Schrauben	
32 Muttern	
2 STABA-BASTEL-Stäbe	
2 Metall-Folien	

A few notes on the parts using the MCS Part Numbers:

- The short Strips 1/20 and 1/30 are made from .074" dia wire; all others use a rectangular section, typically .083 deep x .068" wide. Both sides have serrations, about 1/2mm apart, normal to the length, as shown in MCS. The exception is the Curved Strip, #6/50, which contrary to the illustration in MCS is smooth, and is shown thus in the No 1 manual. The Strips are 8-9mm wide and the ends of the wire are butt jointed and welded together. The lengths quoted in the Parts List are overall.
- The only use shown for the long length of the rectangular wire, #9, is as hand rails for the Bridge and the ends simply push into the Connecting Pieces, #59.
- The hole spacing varies from part to part, the 3 holes in the flanges of the Flanged Plate are 45mm apart; those in the Links 65/21, 65/30, called Fishes in the MCS List, are about 12 and 21 1/2mm respectively; and in the 35mm dia Bush Wheel, #20, they are 12.5mm from the centre hole. The shorter Link, and the Angle Bracket formed from it, is 7.5mm wide; the longer ones are 8.2mm.
- The Rods 15/60, 15/80 have about 8mm of thread at each end, and in between the diameter is 3.48mm.
- All threads are M4 and the Collar and the Bush Wheel, the only bossed part, are single tapped. Their bores are 4.06mm. Holes in the various parts are either 4.1 or 4.3mm.
- All parts are nickel plated except the Flanged Plate, which is painted red, and the following that have a black metallic finish: Brackets 11/11,16; 13/15; 65/21,30; Long Bar 9; Bush Wheel 20 (brass boss); Washers 58. The 'Stops' 60 and the Tyres 130/2221 are of black rubber. The Tyres are about 28mm dia when fitted to their 21mm Pulleys, #22/21.
- The hexagonal Nuts measure 7.1mm A/F; as in MCS the various lengths of Bolts have different heads, those in the parts seen are Round, 6.8mm dia for the short 6mm length; 8.1mm Domed Cheese for those 10mm long; and 7.0mm flat Cheese for 20mm.
- Many of the models in the manual show Metal Foil (Metall-Folien) used as a covering material, cut to size from the sheets supplied in the outfit, and with the ends bent round the Strips to hold it in place. None was with these parts but in the manual the Foil is said to be coloured and can be bent by hand, so it could be anodised aluminium.

SUMMARY OF MANUAL. #Name: STABA. #Details of maker: STABA G.m.b.H., GELSENKIRCHEN. #Dates &/or Ref Nos: Wichelhoven-Druck, IserhoIn (on p20). #Page size: 206x146mm deep. #No of pages: 20 plus covers (pp1,20 unnumbered). #Language: German. #Printing: Blue on cream. Models are line drawings, cream on blue background. Covers light green. FC has black printing except STABA and I in red. #Page Nos of Parts List & highest PN: 5-7,35. #Page Nos of Set Contents & highest PN: 5,35. #Sets covered: #1. #No of models for each set: 20. #Name, Model No, Page No of first & last model of each set: Tisch,1,3; Lastwagen,20,18. #Other notes: None.



AMENDMENTS TO MCS (as necessary, depending on version). HOLE DIAMETER: 4.1 and 4.3mm. HOLE SPACING: Varies. PARTS: 83. COLOUR: Nickel plated Strips, red Flanged Plate, small parts black metallic. NUTS: 195 in Set 4. MANUFACTURER: STABA G.m.b.H., GELSENKIRCHEN. Germany.
AMENDMENTS TO INDEX IN OSN 6: dST: 4.1*.

ITEMS FROM LETTERS

1. On **STEELBUILDER** (20/562) David Lawrence has recently acquired a No.1 Set and wrote 'What I hadn't realized, because the manual doesn't mention it, is that the Strip's doubled edge has a pip on the inside at one end, so that you have to press it to snap it in.'

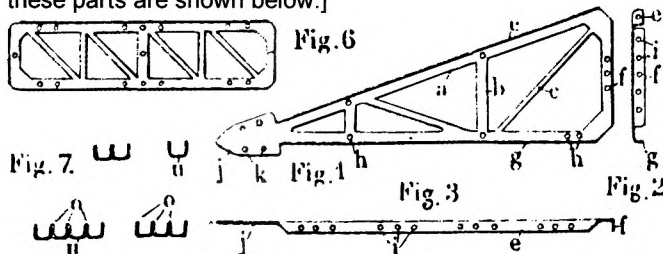
2. From Kendrick Bisset on the **Flanged Sector Plates in U.S. MECCANO** outfits, 'From what I have been able to gather the single row of holes version was used through at least 1927. I have seen two 1928 outfits with the three row variety, and they are shown clearly in contemporary illustrations. BUT later outfits reverted to the single row version. They are in my 1929 #20 & #30 outfits, and in the subsequent New Haven GILBERT-MECCANO outfits. [The history of the sets was given in 12/317.] Is it possible that Elizabeth was making the single row type, and had the tooling? Then when the new version came out [in the UK in 1927] perhaps they were made in England and shipped over until new tooling could be put in place - but this plan was interrupted when Gilbert bought U.S. Meccano?'

3. D. Courdoux wrote that production of **TEMSI** stopped for good in May 1999, and that in future no **MÄRKLIN** spares will be sold, only one or two 'theme' sets. Also that there is a question mark over **STOKYS** because letters to them remain unanswered.

4. Thomas Morzinck wrote that there was a good picture of a **STABA** set on the German ebay site. That's the STABA with the 'outline' Strips, see 8/194. The Set was a No.00 and the contents seem to correspond to those in MCS. The box is red and has 'STABA Constructor' on the lid; the manual doesn't seem to have a proper cover - the front page has just 'STABA' at the top, with '00' in the top right corner, and text underneath. The parts look like those described in OSN 8 except that the 21mm Pulleys are red instead of nickel.

On the **Korbuly patents** (see 22/623), the date of the Austrian one (with gearwheels, connecting rods, etc.) was 1st Nov. 1901 [thus predating Hornby's patent by nearly a month], & the German patent was granted on 14th Jan. '02.

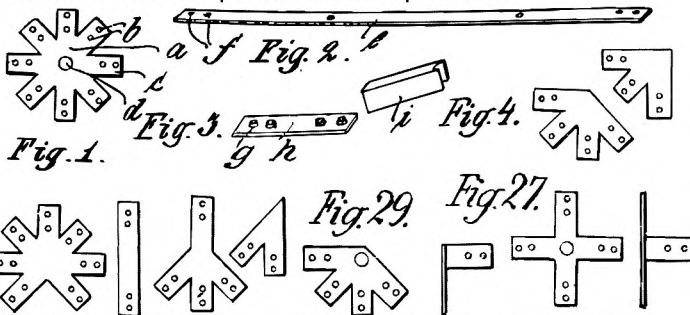
5. From Jeannot Buteux. • The French **CHARPENTO** patent (see 21/617) was No.589377 and a Roger Marie-Joseph Biard applied for it on 2 Feb. 1924. It was acquired by CIJ, who also produced a set for Citroën, and it bore the CITROËN name. Standard CHARPENTO parts were used but painted red & green, and various Garages could be made from the Set. It is extremely rare. [The Patent shows Trusses similar to CHARPENTO but an additional one with a spade end (Figs.1-3) is included, and the Beams have a different pattern of bracing (Fig.6). Various Wire Staples (Fig.7) were also proposed as an alternative to N&B. All these parts are shown below.]



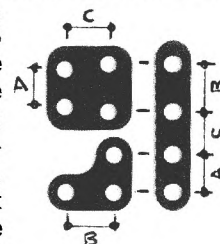
• **EIFFEL** parts (see 19/491) are red & green. • **CLIFFIX** (see 21/596) was patented in France in 1945. • On **STANDARD L.R.** (21/590), the French patent was not quite the same as the UK one. And the order in which the different coloured parts appeared still isn't known. • The name **PETIT GÉANT** (Little Giant, see 21/603) was used for a French system in the 1950s, but it had parts to make a variety of spring & electric motors. • On **MÉCANIC** (21/603), in each large set was a Plate in the bottom of the box, painted matt black, which could be used as a base for various models. It has now been established that its predecessor, **ÉCÉPÉ** (see 12/314) was marketed from 1913.

• The **Black Country Miniature** parts (21/619) really are small, a MECCA-MINI Strip will pass through a hole in a MECCANO Strip, and a BCM Strip will pass through a MECCA-MINI hole. • The contents of **Graham's patents** 125890 & 138824 (see 14/372) are all in one French patent, No. 520081, which was applied for in July, 1920.

Jeannot also sent a copy of a **Danish Richter Patent** Nr.20642, dated 1915. The original German version was from 1913. 28 parts are illustrated in the Danish one, including Figs.1-4, 27 & 29 below. The unlabeled 6 parts below are examples of the other 22 parts - they are like Fig.1 but without the centre hole and with various combinations of from 2 to 7 arms. I can't see how the parts hold together but the idea of hubs with strips attached is similar in principle to **IMPERATOR/ANCHOR ENGINEER** (see 17/486). As far as I know these parts were never produced.



6. From David Hobson. • Snooks's Toy Shop in Bath has a new stock of **CONSTRUCTION** sets: Nos 15, 20, 65, 67, & 77 (at £45,25,7,7,40). Nos.15 & 65 seem to be as described in 14/383 & 22/622 respectively. The others are: No.20 with 365 parts to make space models; No.67 with 214 parts for small space ships; and No.77 (460 parts) for various solar-powered models, and marked as 'new'. Another item is a Parts Pack '**C113 Adapterplatte**', price £3.99. It contains 8 each of the 3 parts right (50% full-size), and they are meant to allow 1/2" pitch parts to be used with those having the 10mm CONSTRUCTION spacing. The dimensions A, B, C are respectively 10, 12.7, & 11.5mm. The latter would be about half the width of 2 Strips, one 1/2" wide & one 10mm. On p151 of *Baukästen* it is said that these parts were introduced in 1998 'to put more pressure on the MECCANO system in the marketplace' [My free translation]. • On the 'Matchbox' set **CLOU** (see 6/130, 13/345), Werner Sticht kindly provided a translation of a note about it in a March 1932 German toy magazine. It was made by Gebr. Schmid and had recently been introduced. The Discs which push on the wooden Rods were made from pressed sawdust; and the Set sold for 25 Pfennigs.



7. From Tony Press. • A copy of the front cover of a **MONTEX** model leaflet in Dutch, PR 7/632/12(IP), which Alex de Jong had put on the Spanner network. A Spanish system called MONTEX was described in 11/296, but in this case it is one of the names that was used for **BRITISH MODEL BUILDER**. The MONTEX cover of this type in MCS has the same layout as the Dutch one, with the 2 boys & Derrick Crane at the top, but it is in Spanish. MONTEX was no doubt a name that could be used in many different markets, and so perhaps leaflets in other languages were produced. Incidentally it may not be clear in all copies of MCS, but the MONTEX Leaflet there has a PR of 13/1035/2, and its price is in 'Argentina pts.'


• News of a 'new' system called **BIG-JOY**. It was a pre-war Australian made copy of **TRIX**. The parts seen seem to be nickel or chrome plated, but are rather inaccurately punched and have a somewhat ragged finish.

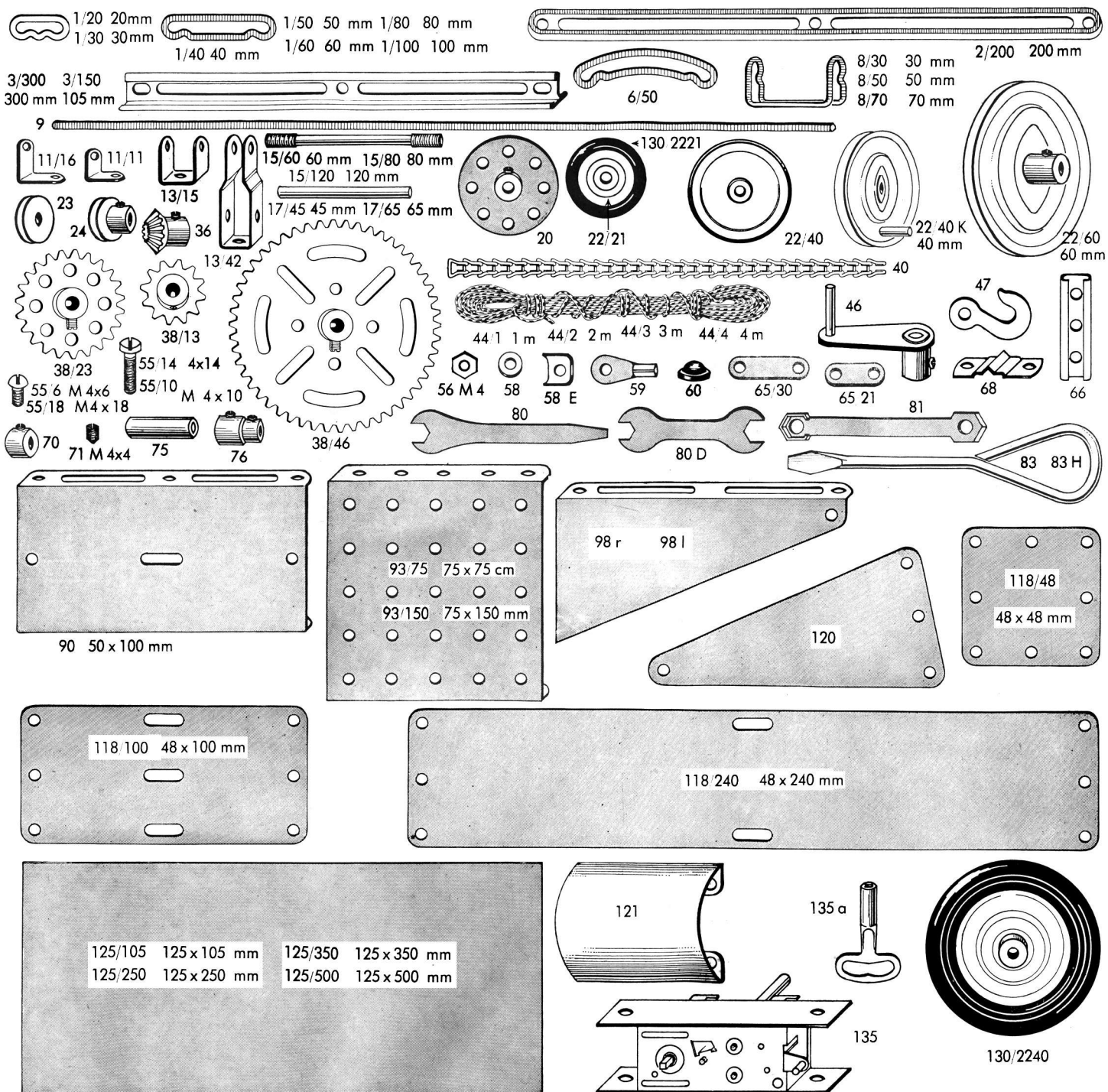
• 2 photos, courtesy Jack Little, of a made-up **GEOBRA** model (see 19/552, 22/631), and the set's box. The parts look to be as already described and are the same colours. The box is shown at the top of the next column, and is red with: *Geobra* in a circle top right; some parts in the panel

STABA This is about the West German STABA with the unique 'outline' Strips, see 8/194. It is based on the manual & remaining parts from the largest, No.4, set, kindly lent by David Hobson; another similar manual but an overseas edition; a few other parts in a lot to hand; & various Ebay photos. STABA was made from 1949 to 1954 by Staba GmbH, principal Heinrich Hülter, of Gelsenkirchen & Iserlohn (near Essen & Dortmund respectively).

The PARTS Below the parts from the Manual, usually at about half their actual size. Where a part is in more than one size only the smallest is shown but with the other PNs near it. **Dimensions.** In many cases the parts' main dimension(s) in millimetres is given after the first part of the PN and/or after the complete PN. They are also in the Set Contents on the facing page. **Finish.** The Plates and most Pulleys are painted; the other parts are nicked, including those which were black in OSN 8. **Holes** are mostly 4.1mm, with a few up to 4.3mm, but 4.8mm in the Flanged Plate #93/75. The pitch in the Flanged Plates & a few other parts is 15.0mm or multiples thereof, but otherwise it varies and is 19mm across the Flat

Plates. The holes in the #3/150 & 3/300 T-Girders don't quite line up despite their end holes being slightly elongated. The **thread** is M4. **Bosses** are 10mm o.d., single-tapped, bore 4.1mm, and have the same finish as the parts they are on.

The parts are well made and are listed below with notes where appropriate. In many case the details are as in OSN 8 but where of special interest they are repeated here. • **Strips #1** are as OSN 8, serrated except for the 20 & 30mm lengths. It is said in the Manual that the Strips can be angled & bent as required but some force is needed & a sharp bend would be difficult without a vice. • **#2**, not seen but appears to have shallow flanged edges. • **T-Girders #3**: 11mm deep, 7½mm wide. The section is made by folding a ½mm thick blank as  left. • **Curved Strip #6** is not serrated. • **DAS #8** are made from Strips. • Serrated **Bar #9**: not seen but probably similar to the OSN 8 part. It is to be bent as required, according to the manual. • **A/Bs #11**: about 11*11 & 16*16mm o/a, and 7.5 & 8.2mm wide. • **D/Bs #13. #13/15** is about 15*15*15mm o/a, & 8.2mm wide. **#13/42** has not been seen but is no doubt 42mm high. • **Thread-ended**



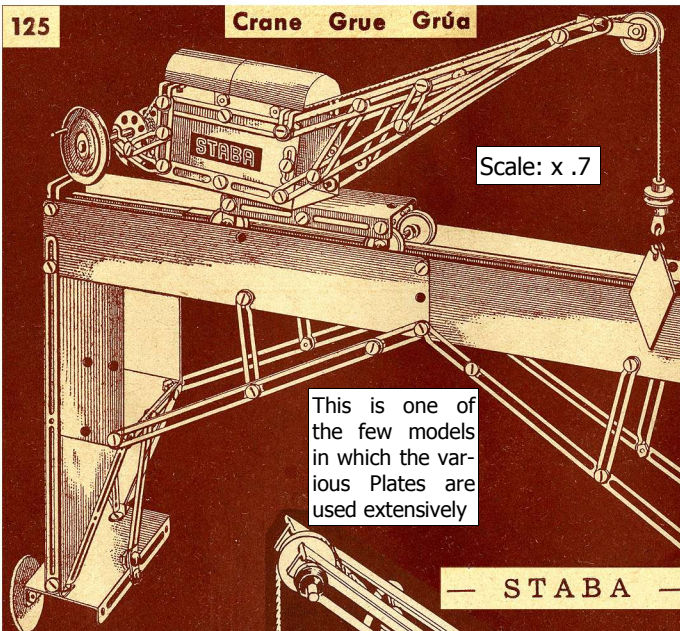
No.	Construction Element	Measures	Pieces in the STABA Boxes						No.	Construction Element	Measures	Pieces in the STABA Boxes					
			00	0	1	2	3	4				00	0	1	2	3	4
1/20	Construction Bar	20 mm	—	—	2	2	4	6	55/6	Screw	M 4 x 6 mm	2	2	12	12	12	30
1/30	dito	30 "	2	2	4	6	8	12	55/10	dito	M 4 x 10 "	17	27	32	67	85	155
1/40	dito	40 "	2	2	4	6	10	20	55/14	dito	M 4 x 14 "	—	3	4	8	10	21
1/50	dito	50 "	—	4	4	10	10	16	55/18	dito	M 4 x 18 "	4	10	10	10	21	24
1/60	dito	60 "	2	2	4	6	28	30	56	Nut		18	36	49	86	110	195
1/80	dito	80 "	2	2	6	8	14	20	58	Washer		—	—	8	8	10	20
1/100	dito	100 "	2	4	4	8	16	30	58E	Washer, cornered		4	4	6	10	12	20
2/200	dito	200 "	—	—	—	—	2	8	59	Connecting Piece		2	2	4	6	8	20
3/150 T-Iron		150 "	—	—	—	—	—	4	60	Socket of gum		4	6	6	12	15	15
3/300	dito	300 "	—	—	—	—	—	8	65/21	Fish with 2 holes	21 mm	—	2	2	4	6	20
6/50	Curved Bar	50 "	2	2	4	6	8	8	65/30	dito 2 dito	30 "	—	—	2	4	6	10
8/30	Double Angle	30 "	2	3	3	6	12	16	66	dito 3 dito		—	—	—	—	2	6
8/50	dito	50 "	1	2	4	6	6	8	68	Fixing Fish		—	1	1	2	4	25
8/70	dito	70 "	—	—	—	2	4	6	70	Adjusting Ring		—	2	2	4	6	14
9	Construction Bar	295 "	—	1	2	2	4	6	71	Set Screw		—	4	6	8	22	32
11/11	Angle		—	2	3	6	10	25	75	Shaft Clutch with thread		—	—	1	1	1	4
11/16	dito		2	4	4	6	9	20	76	dito with Set screw		—	—	—	—	1	1
13/15	Fork		1	1	2	3	4	6	80	Screw Key		1	1	1	1	1	1
13/42	dito		—	—	—	—	—	2	80D	Double Screw Key		—	—	1	1	1	1
15/60	Shaft with thread	60 "	1	1	1	2	4	4	81	Nut holder		—	1	1	1	1	1
15/80	dito	80 "	—	1	1	1	3	4	83	Screw Driver		—	1	1	1	1	1
15/120	dito	120 "	—	—	—	—	—	2	83H	dito with wooden handle		—	—	—	—	1	1
17/45	Shaft without thread	45 "	—	—	—	—	2	2	90	Lobe Plate	50 x 100 mm	—	1	1	2	3	4
17/65	dito	65 "	—	—	—	—	—	2	93/75	dito	75 x 75 "	—	—	—	—	—	2
20	Disk wheel with holes		—	—	1	1	2	2	93/150	dito	75 x 150 "	—	—	—	—	1	1
22/21	Groove wheel without Set Screw		2	4	4	8	8	8	98r	dito triangular (right)		—	—	—	—	—	2
22/40	dito with Set Screw		—	—	—	—	4	6	98l	dito (left)		—	—	—	—	—	2
22/40K	dito		—	1	1	1	1	1	118/48	Construction Plate	48 x 48 mm	—	—	—	—	2	4
22/60	dito		—	—	—	—	—	1	118/100	dito	48 x 100 "	—	—	—	—	2	4
22/60K	dito		—	—	—	—	—	1	118/240	dito	48 x 240 "	—	—	—	—	2	8
23	dito small without Screw	16 mm	—	—	—	—	2	2	120	Construction Plate triangular		—	—	—	—	2	4
24	dito small with Screw	15 "	—	1	2	2	2	2	121	Construction Piece, half-round		—	—	—	—	—	2
36	Bevel wheel with set screw		—	—	—	—	—	2	125/105	Metal foil	125 x 105 mm	2	2	3	4	2	6
38/12	Chain wheel	12 teeth	—	—	—	—	1	1	125/250	dito	125 x 250 "	—	—	—	—	—	—
38/23	dito	23 "	—	—	—	—	1	1	125/350	dito	125 x 350 "	—	—	—	—	2	—
38/46	dito	46 "	—	—	—	—	1	1	125/500	dito	125 x 500 "	—	—	—	—	—	2
40	Driving Chain	1 m	—	—	—	—	1	1	130/2221	Rubber Tyre		2	4	4	8	8	8
44/1	Driving Cord	1 m	1	1	—	—	—	—	130/2240	dito		—	—	—	—	4	6
44/2	dito	2 m	—	—	1	1	—	—	135	Elastic Force Motor		—	—	—	1	1	1
44/3	dito	3 m	—	—	—	—	1	—	135a	Key		—	—	—	1	1	1
44/4	dito	4 m	—	—	—	—	—	1	140	Catalogue 00-1		—	—	1	—	—	—
46	Cranked Handle		—	—	—	—	—	1	140a	dito 00-4		—	—	—	1	1	1
47	Crane Hook		—	—	—	—	1	1	Total Pieces:			78	149	219	362	550	972

Rods #15, as OSN 8. • **Axle Rods #17**: 3.98mm Ø & square ended. • **Bush Wheel #20**, 35mm Ø. • **Pulleys #22-24**. Loose Pulley **#22/21**: 21mm Ø & 5½mm wide. **#22/40**: 40½mm Ø & 5mm wide. **#22/40K** is similar but has a 10mm long, 3mm Ø winding pin riveted on. **#22/60**: 61mm Ø & 5mm wide. **#22/60K** hasn't been seen but would have a similar pin to #22/40K (the #22/40 & 22/60 discs have holes for the pin but are assembled with them staggered). **#23**: 16mm Ø & 6mm wide. **#24**: not seen but is listed as 15mm Ø. **Finish**: all are nicked except: /21 & /40 are also red; /40K is red; & /60 is light blue. • **Bevel #36**: not seen. • **Sprocket Wheels #38**: the /xx gives the number of teeth. **/46** is 72mm o.d., & **/23** is 37½mm. **/13** not seen. • **Chain**: brass plated with a pitch of 4.8mm. • **Cord #44**: two strand red & white twist. • **Handle Crank #46**: 3mm pin at 35mm offset. • **Hook #47**: not seen. • **Bolts #55**: as OSN 8 - there are also some longer with round heads but their lengths don't match those in the PL. • **Nut #56**: as OSN 8. • **Washer #58**: 10mm o.d. • **Clamp #58E**: 10*8mm, used to clamp other parts to Strips. • **Connector #59**: used to hold the Bar #9, 22mm long o/a. • **Axle Stop #60**: black rubber, 10mm Ø. • **Links #65**: see OSN 8. The A/Bs are made from them. • **Link #66**: 35mm long with holes at 10mm pitch. The use of this parts isn't clear but the 8.2mm wide Link & Brackets are a sliding fit in it. • **Rod Clamp #68**: the hole pitch is about 21½mm, the same as the Link #65/30. There were 3 different types in the No.4, one 9mm wide, one 11½mm, & one 11½mm with tiny turned down tabs at 3 of the corners. Any of them could be used to clamp Rods #15 & 17 to a suitable part.

The reason for the tabbed corners isn't clear, base to base the 9mm part fits between the tabs but the squarish 'bearing' thus formed is about 6mm 'diameter', & in any case two of the flat based parts would serve equally as well (or badly). • **Collar #70**: 10mm Ø & 6mm wide. • **Grub Screw #71**: either 4mm long with a blunt end or 5mm with a point. • **Threaded Coupling #75**: 7mm Ø & 23mm long (the OSN 8 part was 24mm). Bored right through but only about 7mm at each end threaded. • **Coupling #76**: 8 & 10mm Ø, 13mm long. The reason for the different diameters isn't understood. • **Span'driver #80**: 69mm long. • **Spanner #80D**: not seen. • **Nut Carrier #81**: 70mm long with one end angled upwards a little. • **Screwdrivers #83 & 83H**: not seen. • **Flanged Plate #90**: blue. • **Flanged Plates #93. /75**: 5*5h, dark red. **/150**: 5*10h, not seen. • **Flanged Triangular Plates #98r & 98l**: 100*50mm. Handed. Light green. Flanged on all sides. The 50mm flange has a hole at each end; both long sides are as the 100mm flange shown but with an additional centre hole. • **Plates #118**: .45 - .50mm thick & moderately flexible. **/48** is yellow & **/100** light blue. There was one more than the nominal eight **/240** in the No.4 set, all light red on one side, 2 light red & 7 brown on the other. All had 3 centre slots as #118/100 • **Triangular Plate #120**: a light green isosceles triangle, 100*50mm, & .55mm thick. • **Half-Round Plate #121**: 50mm wide & 37mm across with a hole at the corner of each flange, pitch 42mm. A pair bolted together would give a 'cylinder' about 37*40mm. A potentially useful part but the hole spacing makes it difficult to use - it is in only one manual model as a cab roof. • **Metal Foil #125**:

125

Crane Grue Grúa



Scale: x .7

This is one of the few models in which the various Plates are used extensively

— STABA —

124

Dreging machine

Drague

Draga

Little use is made of the Bevel #36 & the Sprockets #38 in the Manual models.

Scale: x .7

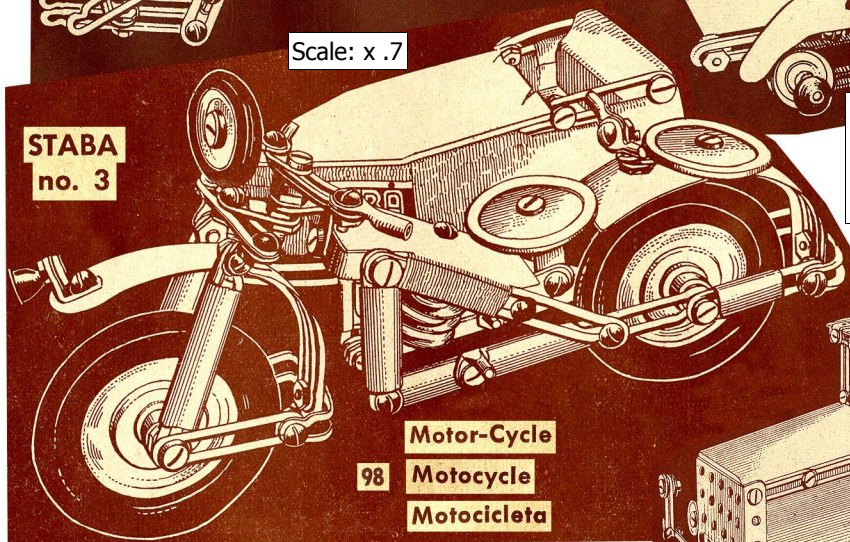
Models constructed with STABA no. 4

Modèles construits avec STABA no. 4

Modelos construidos con STABA no. 4

Scale: x .7

STABA no. 3



Motor-Cycle

98

Motocycle

Motocicleta

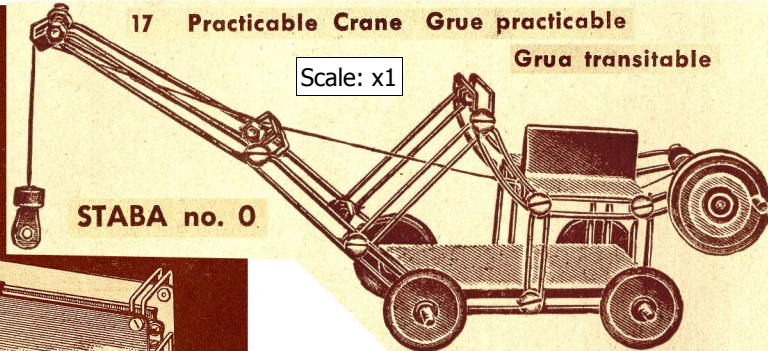
The Metal Foil is attached by bending the edges around the sides of the Strips, etc. The Manual suggests that to reduce wastage a paper pattern should be made first.

17 Practicable Crane Grue practicable

Grúa transitable

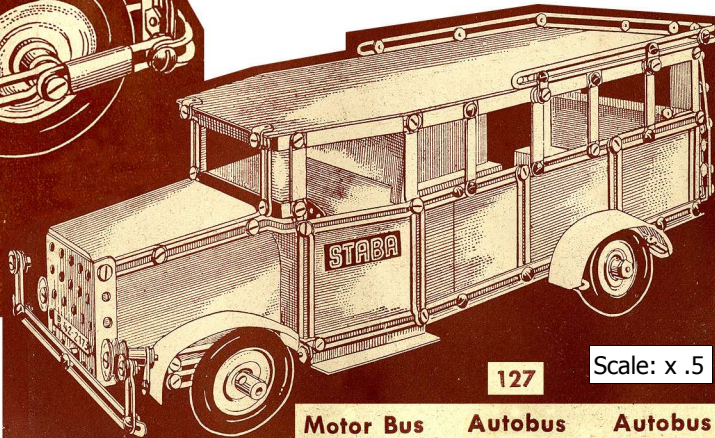
Scale: x1

STABA no. 0



The Strips seem a good idea and produce light looking structures. They are easy to use but many of the other parts are not, with too few holes at different pitches. There are other design 'defects', the sub-standard size pin fitted to the Handle Crank #46 & Pulley #22/40K for instance. Even the attractive looking T-Girder does not allow Strips to be easily attached at right-angles to the vertical web. The Metal Foil is used to improve the appearance of many of the models but it isn't known how satisfactory it was in practice, and often it wouldn't be reusable.

The only manual model fitted with the Spring Motor is the Digger above. But does it drive the tracks or the bucket arm? The large gear looks too thick to be the Sprocket #38/46.



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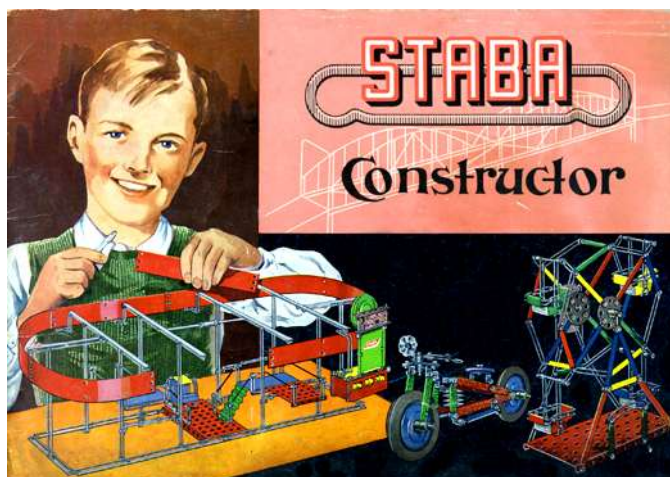
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Motor Bus Autobus Autobus

not seen. • **Rubber Tyres #130.** Black. /2221, 27½mm o.d., fits Pulley 22/21 and those in the lot have '<OPEL> 2518769' moulded into one wall. /2240, 63½mm o.d., fits Pulley 22/40 & has '6.' on one wall. • **Spring Motor #135 & Key #135a:** not seen.

The No.4 SET MANUAL The example with the No.4 parts

is in German; the overseas edition is in English, French & Spanish. First the German version. It has 40 cream A4 page printed in brown, plus covers. The front is shown in the next column. p1 is the title page, p2 a list of contents, p3 an introduction, pp4-8 the illustrated parts, pp9-10 general building instructions, pp11-38 models, p39 an index of the models,



& p40 the contents of sets 00-4. Cover C2 is blank, & C3 lists 7 accessory sets, each with a colour code & each containing a selection of extra parts: Nr.1 'Gelb' (Strips); Nr.2 'Blau' (longer Strips); Nr.3 'Orange' (DAS); Nr.4 'Schwarz' (N&B, Clamps #58E, & a Collar); Nr.5 'Grün' (4x 21mm Pulleys & Tyres); Nr.6 'Rot' (Metal Foil); Nr.7 'Lila' (Axle Stops, a Flanged Plate #9, & a Span'driver). C4 has the B&W photo of the No.4 outfit shown in the next column.

The models for the various sets are as follows, with the English names from the overseas edition in square brackets. **Nr.00:** 9 models from 1 Schlitten [Sledge] on p11 to 9 Bank mit Tisch [Bank (= Bench) with Table] on p11. **Nr.0:** 23 models: 11 Hocker [Stool], p12, to 23 Bank [Bank], p14. **Nr.1:** 18 models: 41 Sessel [Settle], p15, to 58 Windmühle [Wind-Mill], p21. **Nr.2:** 3 models: 66 Signalbrücke [Signal Bridge], p22, to 68 Lastwagen [Lorry], p23. **Nr.3:** 8 models: 91 Motorrad [Motor-Cycle], p24, to 98 Motorrad mit Beiwagen [Motor-Cycle (with Sidecar)], p28. **Nr.4:** 10 models: 120 Drehbank [Lathe], p29, to 129 Russenrad II [Merry-Go-Round (actually a Big Wheel)], p38. The Nr.1 models include all in the OSN 8 manual. There is one large drawing for each model, but no instructions, and only a few of the smaller ones have a list of the parts needed. The models are simple mechanically and often the one drawing is adequate, but for some the extensive use of Metal Foil hides details of the basic structure. Overall there is a good range and a few of them are shown left.

The Overseas Edition is very similar and the models are identical (though the first page of Nr.1 models is marked for Set 3). There are 4 extra pages - 2 for the 3 language Intro on pp9-12, p43 has details of the 7 Accessory Sets, & p44 is blank. So is C3. The model index has been omitted.

OTHER SETS & MANUALS seen on Ebay. The No.4 manual above was most likely from the latter end of STABA's life. It isn't known if all parts were included from the outset (but probably not judging from the different PNs in the OSN 8 manual) or if all the sets were available. The only known changes to the parts, apart from their colour, are the extra holes & slot in the top of the Flanged Plate #90, & these provide a possible way of tracing the changes to the packaging as follows.

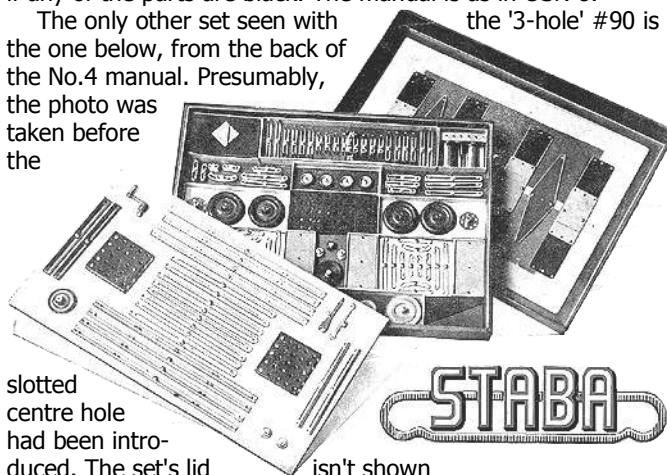
The earliest sets seen are two identical No.1's with parts like those in OSN 8, that's to say with certain of the small ones black, & a red Flanged Plate like #90 but with no holes in its top. The lid from one of the sets is atop the next column. The Strips & Wheels are attached to 4 red cards & the small parts are in a box with a label like the 'STABA 1' on the lid. Only one of the sets had a manual & its cover was the one in OSN 8.

Next sets in which the top of the #90 has a hole at each end & one in the centre (rather than a slot). A No.0 has a red lid with a white label that just has the STABA over a Strip logo on it, and a small white '0' label in the bottom right corner. The packaging is similar to the earlier No.1's, and the Flanged Plate is still red. The front of a model leaflet shown with this set is identical to another Ebay item, a long sheet folded into 3 to give 6 sides 15*21cm. The front panel has an introduction under the STABA/Strip logo, signed 'STABA G.m.b.H. Werk Iserlohn' (the OSN 8 manual's Intro was signed 'STABA



G.m.b.H. GELSEN KIRCHEN', the German 'No.4' has 'Euer STABA-Werk', the overseas edition has no signature.) The other 2 panels on that side have the set contents & a list of the 7 extra parts sets, as already described. The other side has 10 models, from a Stool to a Mobile Crane. None of them are in the OSN 8 manual but all except 2 are shown for Set 0 in the No.4 manual. A No.1 has a brown lid as on the early sets but its label is completely different. It nearly covers the lid and is the same as the No.4 manual cover except for the top right panel. Its top half is blue with the logo on it & a small '1' at the right edge. The lower half is red with 'METALL | STAB Bastel Kasten' on it. The box is 9*12½". The layout of the parts is as before but the '3 hole' Flanged Plate is blue. It can't be seen if any of the parts are black. The manual is as in OSN 8.

The only other set seen with the one below, from the back of the No.4 manual. Presumably, the photo was taken before the



slotted centre hole had been introduced. The set's lid isn't shown

All the other sets seen have a blue #90 with a slotted centre hole. All have red lids & none have any black parts.

A set larger than the No.1's has the 'STAB Bastel Kasten' label and its manual has an identical cover but without the set number. Another example was said to have 44 A4 pages. The box is partitioned for the parts. The 21mm Pulleys are red & a larger Pulley looks blue.

All sets & manuals after this have the STABA logo but with 'Constructor' under it, as on the No.4 manual. Lid labels are just the pink corner of the manual's cover. A No.00 has a label which nearly covers the lid & has '00' in a gold diamond in the top right corner. The parts are attached to a red card and it has red Pulleys. The remains of a set which includes some parts which were only in the No.4 are in a deep box with at least 2, and probably 3 layers of parts. Many are still attached to red cards. The lid is missing but the manual cover is identical to the No.4.

Finally a set with a partitioned box and the same label but with no indication of the set number. A leaflet with it is headed **STABA ELECTRIC-KASTEN** & one of the models on it is a fair sized Crane. Not much of the box's contents can be seen but they include a Coil, a red 5*5h Flanged Plate like #93/75, a bank of at least 4 copper-coloured Wiper Arms, a Morse Key, & a black box that could be a Transformer. Perhaps the parts could be used with models from the constructional sets.