

rest of the sheets run up to 267 but in no apparent order, save that models for the smaller sets are probably on sheets outside those with the larger ones. The largest appear on the 4 sheets in the middle of the manual, and the centre opening pages (there are no page numbers) show models 252-257. No indication is given of the set needed for any of the models.

YOUNG ENGINEER [1]/LE JEUNE INGÉNIUER: S1 [32/941]

8. Two similar UK **CONSTRUCTO** sets were described in 25/740 and now Jacques Pitrat has send notes and a photo (below) of one he has found. It is virtually identical, with the same manual, but it is complete with N&B, in the two little green boxes, and with the Brackets, Axles & Tools, in a plastic bag between one of the pairs of Flanged Sector Plates in the centre section of the box. The N&B boxes have UMAKIT on them, which confirms that the two systems came from the same manufacturer. As before there is no Set No. on the box but Jacques points out that one can build all the Set 4 manual models with the parts in the Outfit, and on the contrary, there are not enough Strips & Flexible Plates for those from Set 5. For instance, some require 9x5h Flexible Plates and there are none in the Set. One curious thing is that there are 6 Flanged Sector Plates (against 4 in the OSN 25 sets), and that no more than two are used in any of the manual models.



Another similar set has been seen on Ebay. It is far from complete but it does include at least three 5*9h Flexible Plates as well as examples of the sizes in Jacques' set. No balloon type Road Wheels can be seen but instead the 5 Pulleys fitted with Tyres left. The 3 smaller ones are about the diameter of those in one of the OSN 25 sets but their 1" Pulleys looks like the 6-hole type shown in 19/539. The larger ones scale at 2" Ø overall, or a little less, and have rather deeper Tyres fitted to larger Pulleys, similar in style to the 1" but with more holes, probably 8. Again there are 2 green boxes - the printing on them that can't be read but the main name doesn't look like UMAKIT, and is the right length for CONSTRUCTO. So was this a larger and perhaps later set than any of the 'No.4s'?

CONSTRUCTO [2]: S1 [32/941]

9. **Snippet - WERNER'S Metallbaukasten** This system was mentioned in 17/477 as being like TRIX and dating from soon after WW2. The Ebay picture heading the the next column shows parts that indeed look identical to TRIX and if the orangey look to a few of them is rust, then they are no doubt made of steel.

The words under the name on the box lid are 'Nr.1 Grundkasten Made in Germany'. The parts may be like Trix



but what of the models? I don't remember the Tractor on the lid as a TRIX model.

WERNER'S Metallbaukasten: S1 [32/941]

10. **'New' System: MACHINO.** I have a note that this was an Indian system, and that a No.0 set had red & green parts strung to a backing card. I can't trace who sent me this information, so apologies to whoever it was.

MACHINO: S1 [32/941]

11 **Snippet – New System: STABILUS** Just one set with this name was offered for Xmas 2003 by www.Blechspielzeugladen.de to make the 17cm high Xmas Tree on the left. It is still available from the same site, price €12.50. At first I thought of the BRAL model (29/857) but from the dimensions given, 12cm across the diagonal of the lowest square, the hole pitch must be about 10mm. The parts could easily be from Eitech or Polylong though not all the Brackets can be seen. The Bolts look to be crossheaded. And I'm not sure what the part at the very top is.



STABILUS: S1 [32/941]

SMALL ADS [32/941]

For Sale Repro parts for the **PRIMUS Motor Chassis**, #161-2,167,210-5,214. Please contact R. Green, 21 Groveland Rd, Speen, Newbury, Berkshire, RG14 1ST; skyspot46@aol.com.

For Sale from the Editor – prices below include postage to UK/Europe & surface anywhere/by air elsewhere:

Index for OSN 1-30, 20 A4 sides, £2.30/2.90/3.80.

MCS Database, updated edition in 2 parts, 56 A4 sides in all, £6.50/7.00/7.60

OSN Subscription Rates The price per Issue, including postage, at Printed Paper Rate where available, is £5.50 for UK; £6.50 by air to Europe & surface anywhere; £7.50 by air outside Europe. **Back Issues** For the zones above : OSN 1: £1/£1.30/£1.50; OSN 2,3: £2.30/£2.70/ £2.90 each; OSN 4-27: £3.60/£4.10/£4.50 each; OSN 28 on (in colour): £6/£7/£8. (All colour & some B&W issues are on loose sheets.)

Payments Please make cheques etc payable to P.A.Knowles. Remittances must be in Pounds Sterling (GBP) or, as cash, in Euros or US Dollars (at £1=€1.50= \$1.80). Payments from overseas may also be made using PayPal.

Small Ads Short ads are free to subscribers; insertion guaranteed in OSN 33 if received by the end of July (but repeats may not always be possible, please ask).

OSN – Your Credit Balance:

was	after OSN 31
was	after your remittance of
is	after this Issue

Please send at least £ _____ if you wish to receive the next Issue.

of the 24t Gears – unless of course the Set's inventory was changed at some stage (there are all three of the 24t's in the other Ebay sets).

The only literature with the Ebay sets was a single sheet with one of them. The one side that was shown is identical to a sheet to hand and has the photo of the open set (Fig.3) and lid (as Fig.2 but without the yellow 'Z' circle), together with 2 models to show the use of the Fig.5 parts. One, right, is a simple hand driven Conveyor Belt using the 3 Rollers in the Set. There is no indication of how the Belting is to be joined. The second model (Fig.10) uses 10 of the Buckets and is driven by the MEKANIK 5-speed, 6 volt Geared Motor. Neither model uses any of the Z parts. Both, and the other models on this page, are two-thirds their original size.

On the back of the Sheet are the models in Figs.8 & 9, without title or explanation. Presumably they are meant to

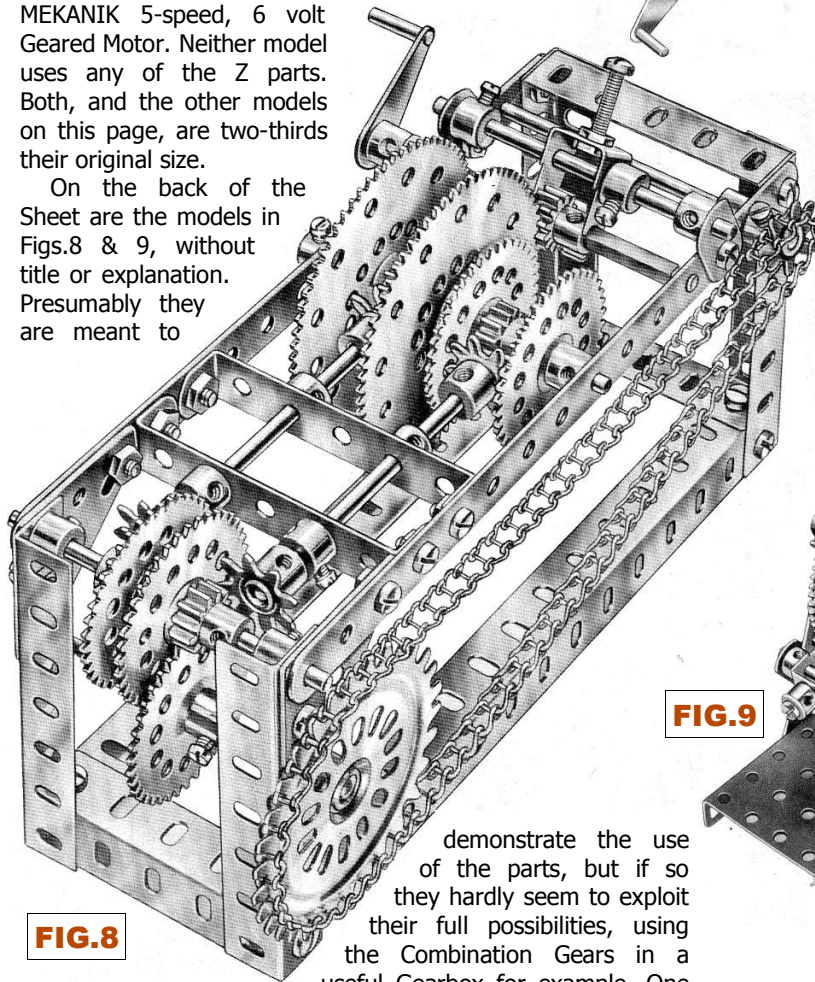


FIG.8

demonstrate the use of the parts, but if so they hardly seem to exploit their full possibilities, using the Combination Gears in a useful Gearbox for example. One feature shown are right-angle drives with the smallest Sprocket, R8, meshing with the 12h ring of holes in the 40 & 66t Gears, and in the 14 slotted holes in the 30t Sprocket. Incidentally, no less than 5 each of the 8t Sprockets & 40t Gears are used in the Fig.10 model, which meant buying 4 extra of the Sprockets, and, unless one had the largest

FIG.7

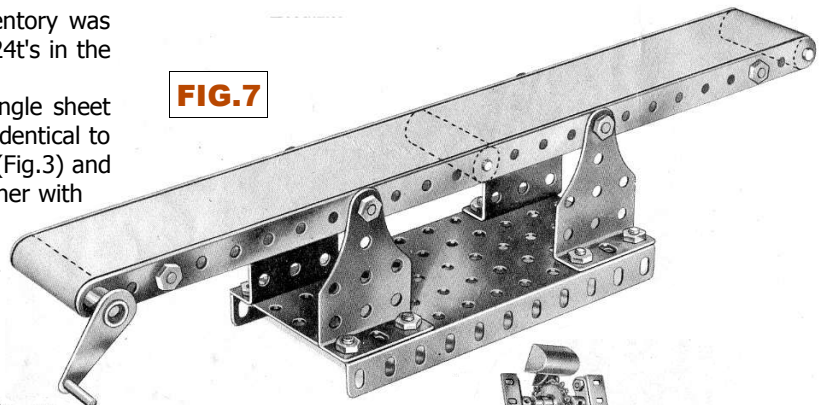


FIG.9

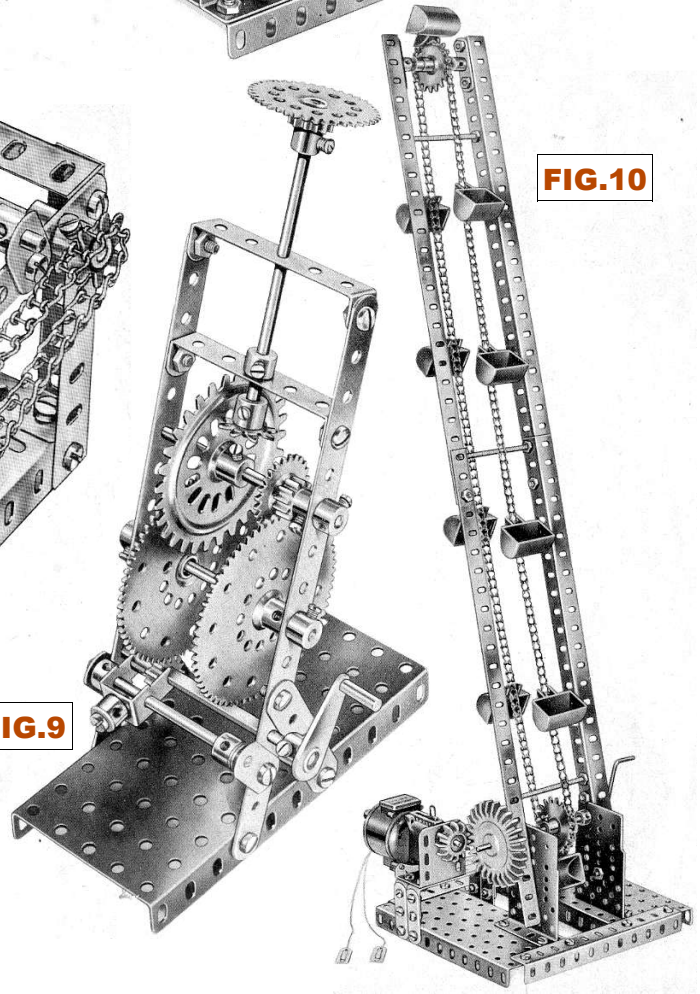


FIG.10

standard outfit (Nr.24), 2 extra 40t Gears. Given this it seems unlikely that the Sheet was intended as a model leaflet, and so it may have been a flyer. In that case some models needing only the parts in the Z plus those in a medium size standard set would have been well worthwhile.

MEKANIK [1]: S2

OSN 43/1296

Snippet. STABILUS The model from the only set then available in this small German system (which uses Eitech/Polylong type parts) was shown in 32/941. Since then the range has increased to 8 sets and they can be seen on the same site as before: www.Blechspielzeugladen.de. They are priced at between €1.50 (for a Tool Set containing a red-handled Screwdriver and a Spanner with a moulded plastic nut carrier around the ring end) and €15 (for the 143 part Xmas Tree in OSN 32), but most sets cost €5 and have 28–57 parts. One of them makes the Rocking Horse right but each of the others is a fair example of an aero or vehicle 'simplicity' model.

The Xmas Tree set is packed in a cardboard box; the

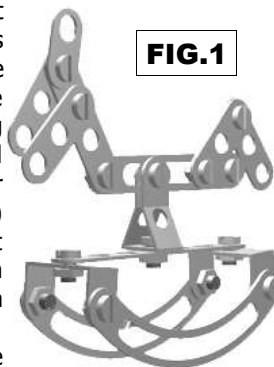


FIG.1

Rocking Horse in a 'PE Beutel' (polyethylene bag?); the others in a tin, 9.5* 6*2cm, as in the Ebay photo below. Unfortunately the top of the lid isn't shown anywhere.



FIG.2

STABILUS: S1

OSN 43/1296