

Snippet. 'New' System: TECNO MECCANICO

Another Italian system from the 1950s, these notes are from the Ebay photos of a manual. It has 24 pages, 31*19cm. Below, its front cover and Fig.2 right is the set shown on the back cover.



Fig.1

No.4 model.

I don't recognise any of the models here as being from any other system, and they seem to show some originality.



Fig.2

66 parts are listed in Fig.3, a fair selection including 5 Gears (#230 is a Contrate). Nearly all the parts look like MECCANO, the exceptions are the Tools, the 5*7h Flanged Plate with its long sides flanged, and the Trunnions with holes instead of cutouts. The 8h Wheel disc looks like the prewar PN 217a. The Flexible Plates have no slotted holes, Meccano added them in 1953. There is no indication of the parts actual size.

There were outfits Nos.1-8 plus **Fig.3** linking sets 1a-7a. From Fig.3 the contents of Set 1 are quite similar to Liverpool's 1950s No.0 though the latter did include 2 each of the Tyre & Curved Strip.

Of the model pages shown in the Ebay ad, two are as in Figs.4 & 5 with photos and the parts numbered as in Fig.3. But the third (Fig.6) is quite different with the shaded line drawing instead of a photo, & a different numbering system for the parts: most as MECCANO but a few are not, nor are they as in Fig.3.

The models in Fig.5 are for Set 3 and the one on the right is a Mowing Machine with the cutting blade oscillated by a Crankshaft

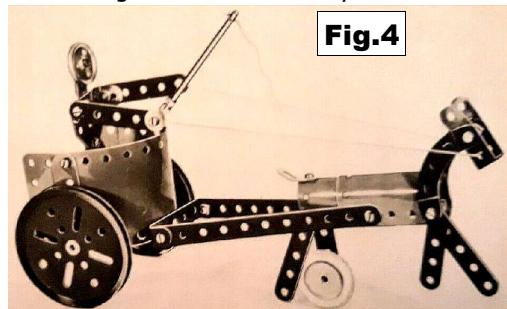


Fig.4

which is rotated by a friction drive from the starboard rear wheel. (The Crankshaft is included in all the sets except the No.1.) The blade arm is raised & lowered by the Crank Handle. The third model page shows the Roman Chariot in Fig.4, a

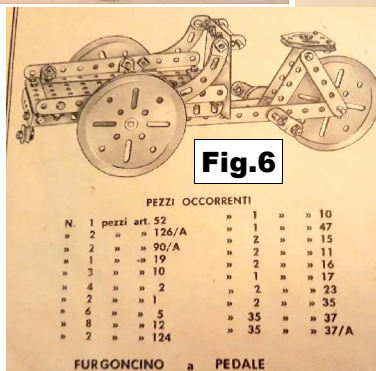


Fig.6

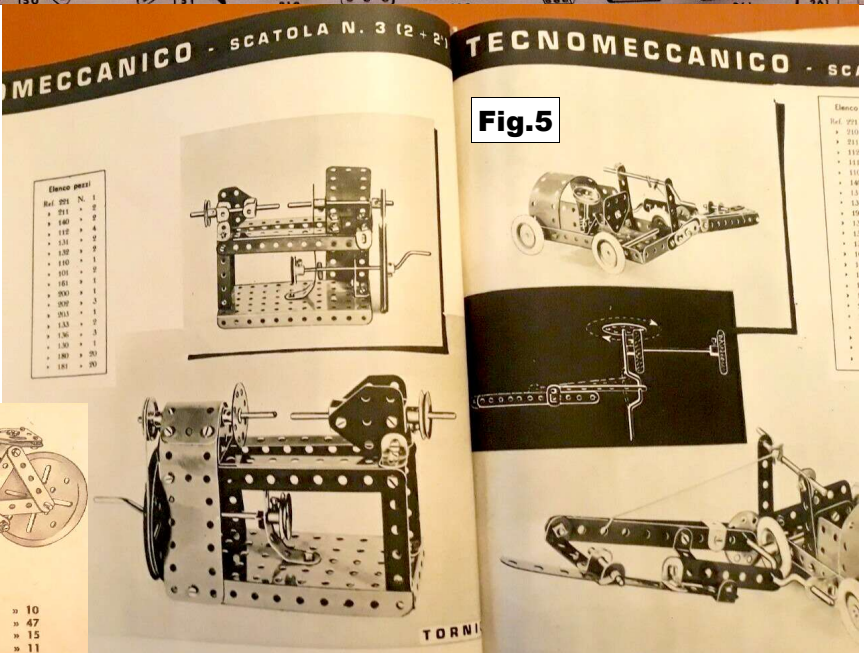
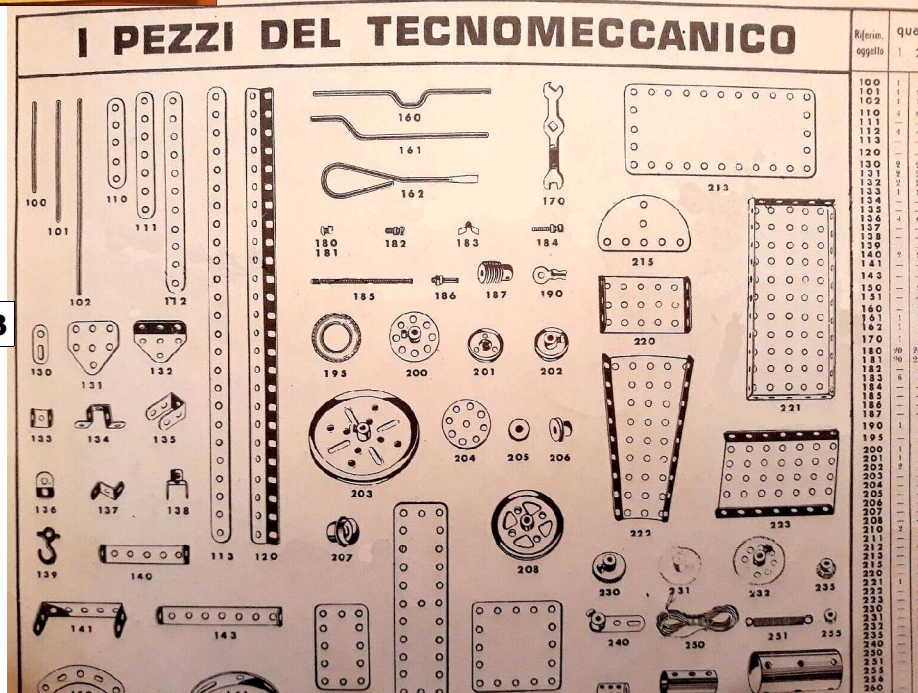


Fig.5

The manual's PR (not shown here) includes a date, 16-7-54, and 'Castelfranco Veneto', a town in Northern Italy, 40km NW of Venice. So perhaps that was also where TECNO MECCANICO was made but nothing is known of the maker except for the 'PM' logo in Fig.1.