

And he has spotted another link between Stanley and Morecraft. The friction drive unit of the MORECRAFT Variable Speed Motor (11/290), looks identical to that in the STANLO Universal Motor shown in MCS (p7a,b of /FB). It runs in STANLO Plates rather than in MORECRAFT Flanged Plates and its 110v motor is totally enclosed. Parts for the STANLO Motor Unit could be bought separately and

the driven unit is described as a 'Leather Disc and Pulley'. Finally: 'That Aeroscope AMB model [11/300] must use very strong cord; there's no counterweight.'

CORRECTION In the last line of the SUMMARY OF MANUAL in 7/153, EC21 should read EC23. My thanks to David Hobson for pointing this out.

TRIX MADE IN THE U.S.A. Kendrick Bisset kindly sent details of an X-ACTO TRIX Abridged Engineering Manual, which with a few changes is identical to the UK version summarised at the end. The front cover still has Printed in England on it and the only change is to the top banner:

x-acto TRIX system

The back cover has an ad for X-ACTO hobby knives instead of Trix bicycle accessories, but as well lists all the Units and Sets available under the heading,

Now made in the U.S.A.

and with the slogan, START ENGINEERING WITH A CAPITAL OF FIFTY CENTS - BUY AS YOU SAVE - ALWAYS COMPLETE YET NEVER FINISHED. At the bottom of the page: X-ACTO CRESCENT PRODUCTS CO., INC., 440 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, 16, N.W.

3 Sets are listed, • #702, Elementrix, Units A and B in display cardboard box (\$1.25), • #703, Units A,B,C,D,F in fitted wooden chest (\$3.95), • #704, Presentation Set in large fitted wooden chest. Contains 2 Units each A,B,D; 1 Unit C,F,G; Trix Motor and large engineering manual. (\$10.95). Kendrick wrote that he had seen a TRIX Set in a wooden cabinet belonging to George Wetzel, which has the X-ACTO name on decals both on the front and inside.

Units A - D, F and G are listed as 'Refills' and cost between \$0.50 for the A and B, and \$1.25 for G. A note underneath says 'An Electrical Unit E to come'.

Inside the only change is the deletion of references to the Trix Information Bureau. No change has been made to the

page giving details of Unit E, and 'Lorry' is still used in the title of two models despite being an unusual word in America.

There's nothing in the Manual to indicate its age, not even a print code on the back cover as in the UK version. The only possible clue is that Unit E wasn't yet available, but that may have been because production of the parts hadn't yet started in the U.S.

SUMMARY OF MANUAL. #Name: TRIX Abridged Engineering Manual. #Details of maker: only the address of the TRIX Information Bureau is given: 11 Old Burlington St., W.1 (the original address, 21 Regent Street, London, W.1, has been blocked out). #Dates &/or Ref Nos: T.L. IV R.P.495100/25 on back cover. #Page size: 215x140mm deep. #No of pages: 48 inc covers. #Language: English. #Printing: B&W with photos of models white on black. #Page Nos. of Parts List & highest PN: 3,W16 (for Units A,B); 27,V35 (for Units C,D). #Page No. of Set Contents & highest PN:

27,V35 (Units C,D only). #Sets covered: Elementrix (Units A+B), but later models need extra Units. #No. of models: 40 +10 needing extra Units. #Name, Model No, Page No of first &

last model: 90° ANGLE,1,6; REVOLUTION COUNTER,44,19 (for A+B). STAMPING MILL,21; FUNICULAR RAILWAY, 38 (for more Units). #Other notes: pictures and brief details of 4 larger models are given at the end.



EXTRA MCS SHEETS The Sheets listed below are available at 15p per Sheet plus postage. That makes £6.45 + post for all 43 Sheets.

MCS Amendments, List No.2 [1 Sheet]

AJUSTO: X1.2/4,4a,5,7 [2 Sheets]

BUILDER BOY: X1.1,2,3/4/6,5 [2 Sheets]

COZZONE: X1.1,7 [1 Sheet]

ÉCÉPÉ: X1.1,2,4 [2 Sheets]

JUNIOR MECHANIC: X1.1,3/4/6,4a,5 [2 Sheets]

KINEMA: X1.1,2,3/4,3/4a/5,5a [3 Sheets]

LITTLE GENIUS: X1.1,2,3/4/6,4a,5,a [3 Sheets]

MABA: X1.1,2,4,5 [2 Sheets]

MÉCANIC [2]: X1.3a/4a - d,7 [3 Sheets]

MEK-STRUCT: X1.1,2,3/6,4,a,5,7 [4 Sheets]

METAL BUILDER: X1.1,2,3/4/6,5 [2 Sheets]

METEOR: X1.1,2,3/4 - c,5,6,a,7 [5 Sheets]

METEOR ELEKTRO: X1.1,5,a,7 [2 Sheets]

MODELIT (PHASE 2): X1.1,2,3,4,5,a,6,7 [4 Sheets]

THE EMPIRE EDUCATIONAL KIT: X1.3/4/6,3a [1 Sheet]

THE ENGINEER: X1.1,2,3/4,4a,5 [3 Sheets]

TUPO: X1.1,2 [1 Sheet]

ACCOUNTS Dear Subscriber,

Your remittance of _____ received with thanks.

Your credit balance after deduction for this Issue and

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES For 1995 (OSN 12 and 13), including postage, at Printed Paper Rate where appropriate: UK £6; airmail to Europe and surface mail anywhere, £7; airmail outside Europe, £8. **BACK NUMBERS** For the zones above: OSN 1: £1/£1.30/£1.50; OSN 2,3: £2.30/£2.70/£2.90 each; OSN 4-11: £3.60/£4.10/£4.50 each.

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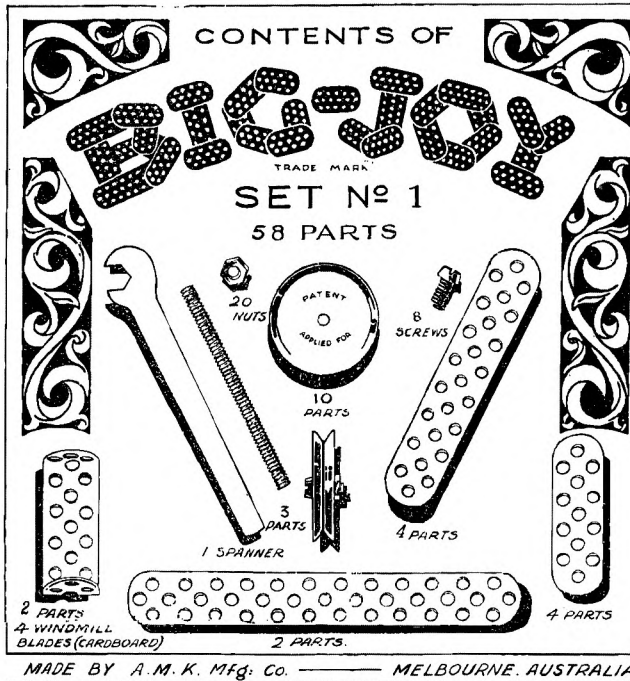
BIG-JOY The name of this prewar Australian TRIX copy was mentioned in 23/682, and now Tony Press has very kindly sent a photocopy of a Model Sheet for 'Set No.1', and a photo of the restored parts from such a set, both courtesy Jack Little. The panel opposite, from one side of the Sheet, shows the trade mark, and has 'Patent Applied For' within the Pulley Disc. Also, at the bottom, the manufacturer in Melbourne. Nothing is known of sets other than the No.1.

The Parts All but 3 of the parts are shown opposite. With one or two exceptions all look like TRIX - Strips with 5, 9, & 13 holes along the centre line; a DAS made from a 7h Strip; an 8h Wheel Disc; a Threaded Rod about 55mm long; and a Span'driver, though to the original TRIX pattern with no holes along the handle.

The parts that are different are the Pulley Disc (in the Panel) of about 30mm Ø; the card Windmill Blades which scale at 1½*2½"; and a Rubber Ring to fit the made-up pulley. Bolts are cheeseheaded, shown with a taper in the Panel, and the Nuts hexagonal, perhaps a little larger than in TRIX.

The Contents of one standard of the No.1 Set are given in the Panel. It is equivalent to a TRIX Unit A except that it has no Washers (10 or 16mm), & the 10 Pulley Discs replace 4 Wheel Discs.

The contents of what is no doubt a latter version are listed at the bottom of the reverse side of the Sheet: 64 parts in all with 2 fewer Pulley Discs, but plus 4 each

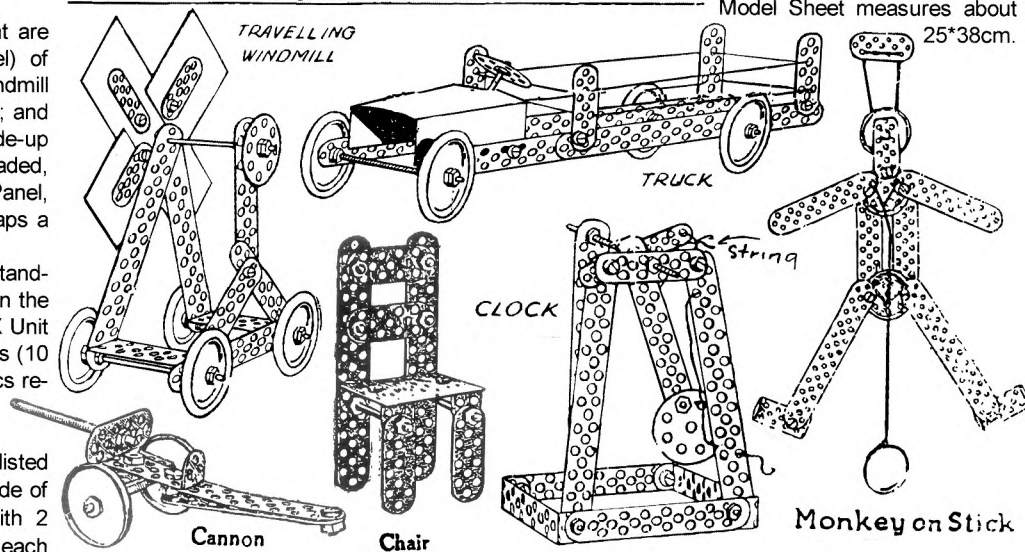


Wheel Discs & Rubber Rings.

The Set is said on the Model Sheet to be packed in a handsome presentation box.

Models Some look familiar but not all. 7 are on the 'reverse' side of the Sheet under the heading 'MORE BIG-JOY No.1 MODELS', and all but one are vehicles running on the Rubber Rings. Only 4 of the 23 models on the 'Panel' side have wheels and none tyres. Wheel Discs are used in only 5 models, & 2 of them are on the Panel side. Card is used in few models, perhaps in some cases the Windmill Blades. Several models need more N&B than are in the Set. The models below are some of the larger ones, & show the various parts.

The printed area of the Model Sheet measures about 25*38cm.

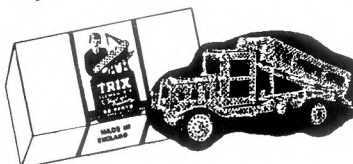
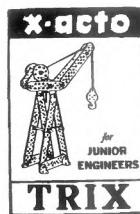


TRIX in the U.S.A. David Hobson kindly sent details of material he has received from Rodney Nebocal, via Anton Calleia, and it's now possible to put an approximate date to the X-ACTO TRIX System, see 12/331.

First though, before X-ACTO, TRIX sets were advertised in Trix Train brochures for 1946, 1947 & 1948, as being available from the New York store, Polk's Hobbies Inc. 6 items were listed, Units A,B,C,D at 60,60,65,95c respectively; an Elementrix Set at \$1.25, & a Motor Trix Set at \$8.50. Made in England can be seen on an Elementrix set in the ad (right).

The X-ACTO ads are from a 1950 X-ACTO catalogue and show Units A & B at 50c each; C & F (2 of each Tyres) at 75c; D at \$1; E (Electrical) & G (Gears) at \$1.25. Unit G is illustrated below and the box has 'REFILL UNIT G' on it, the term used for the Units in the OSN 12 Manual.

3 of the Sets listed are those described in OSN 12 (Nos.702-704). No.702 is shown centre right and the description of it includes, '98 pieces highly polished steel fully visible, set on adhesive tape and readily re-moved and replaced'. 4 other sets were also available. First, No.702X at \$3.50, with 2 each of Units A & B, 1 each



of C & D, and the 48-page Manual. Next the largest set, No.706 at \$25, with 590 parts including 72" of Chain, 2 small & 2 large Tyres, a Motor, and the 116-page Engineering Manual, in a 'portable chest'. Then at \$3 a Tray (No.700) 'containing one each of all parts, beautifully displayed, together with Built Up Crane'. This was presumably for dealers and as well as the individual parts, illustrations of the Units, except E, are included, which show all the parts in each, as in pp3/4,a of TRIX (1) in MCS. Finally an ELEKTRIX Set, below, No.711 at £3.50, containing an A, a B, & 2x E Units, plus a special manual. The ad speaks of 'The new Unit "E" here introduced for the first time in America'. The Trix man logo on the sheet with this Set is shown above (top left), with the Crane logo used on all the other X-ACTO material to its right.

