

'New' System: AUTO-MÉCA

News of this French system thanks to Jean-Pierre Guibert who sent the Ebay details of a set in a recent lot, plus other photos from Google and one of his friends. The Set has parts to make the one model shown on the lid below. Nothing is known of



the **Fig.1** manufacturer, nor of any other sets which could be from the same stable. And there is nothing to indicate AUTO-MÉCA's date but Jean-Pierre wrote that it might have existed before WW2 and would certainly have been from the 1930s or 1940s.

The BOX The words along the bottom of the lid label are 'Marque et modèle déposés - PARIS'. The partitions in the box's base (Fig.3) are as in another (empty) box except that along the bottom the latter has a narrow bay at each end and its righthand one is divided across into three.

The PARTS are made of aluminium and are shown on the instruction sheet inside the lid (Fig.2). Most can be seen in the open box and Fig.6, but the 3 nose parts in 'Fig.IV' of Fig.3 are missing from the Set. Also the parts in the green box in Fig.6 are probably alien - one of them looks to be the Riveting Tool from MAC ET NICK (see 17/472).

The MODEL The Chassis is 20cm long and the model about 30cm o/a. The front Axle is pivoted on the Chassis to give steering but is not connected to the Steering Wheel. As can be seen in Fig.6 Split Pins are used to locate several parts.

Apart from this Set, two built-up models are known and are

Fig.4

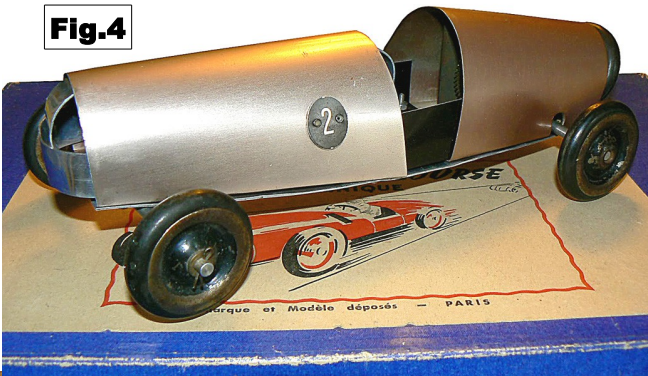


Fig.5

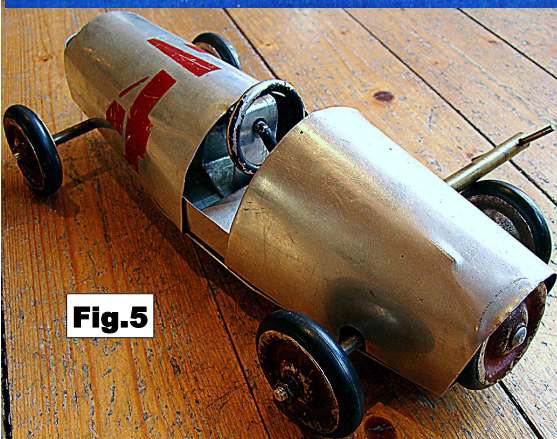


Fig.2

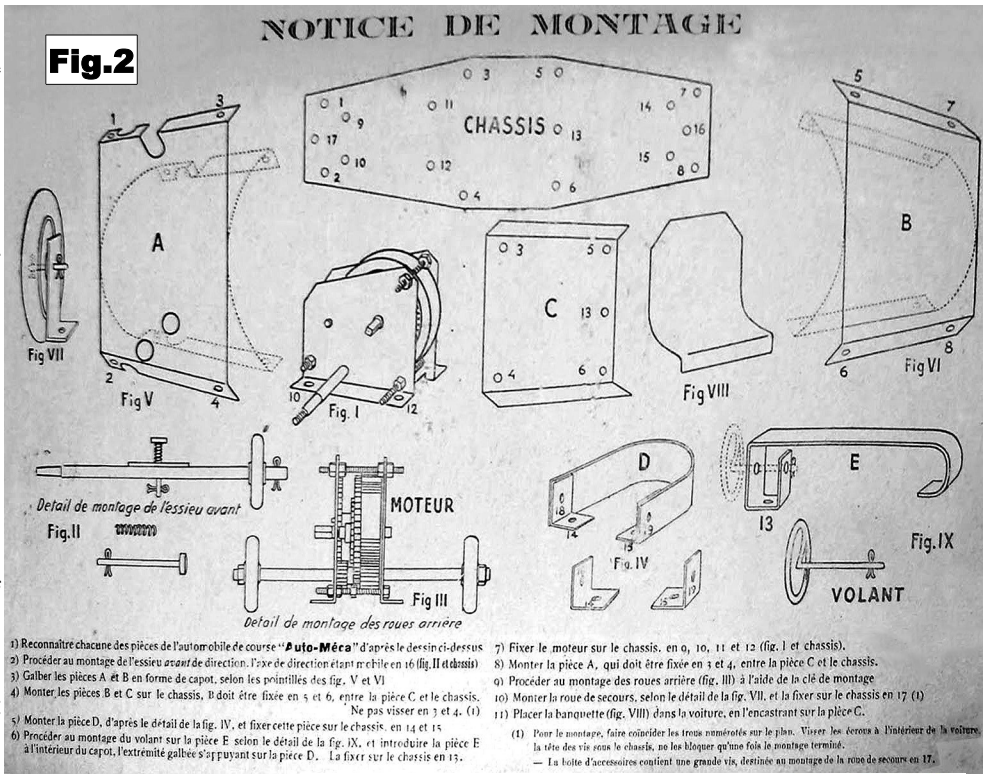
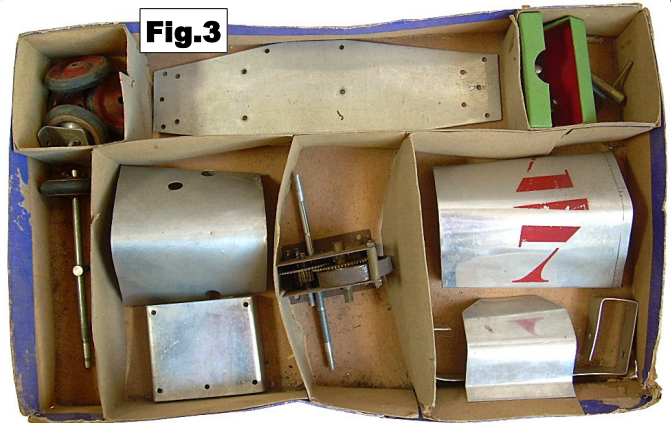


Fig.3



shown in Figs.4 & 5. The 'No.2' is missing its Seat & Steering Wheel. Otherwise they are the same except for the colour of the Wheels & the number on the Bonnet.

Minor Variations in the sets are the different types of numbering on the Bonnets, and for the 'No.2' set, slightly improved building instructions (as in Fig.2) with some changes to the order of assembly, and most noticeably, 3 lines instead of 2 at '(1)' at the end. So this set would no doubt have been later than those with the red numbered Bonnets.

Fig.6

