

7. The sizes given in 15/420 for **ASSEMBLO & STANLO** basic square Plates seem to be wrong. In fact on measuring some parts known to be genuine the two are very nearly the same size. The distances A, B, C, D (Rod centres, free edges, tab width, large gap) in the diagram below are 72, 66¾, 7¼, 13½mm for ASSEMBLO, & 72½, 67, 7½, 13mm for STANLO. All the ASS parts seen have (like SLO, see 16/444) a split tab on each side to grip the Rod. The cutout in the large rectangular part (#17 for both) is 52¼*16½-17mm for ASS & 52½*16¼-16½ for SLO. In the parts to hand the corners of the centre cutouts in the ASS Plates are not square as shown in MCS, but angled, like SLO.

Details of some of the **ASSEMBLO Wheels** can also now be given. All seen are zinc die castings with the name around the centre. The Loose Pulley #200 is 24½mm o.d. & about 4¾mm wide. The Flanged Wheel #201 is 28mm o.d., with the tread tapering to 21mm Ø. The Road Wheel #204 has a 41mm Ø hub, with a tapering central boss in the recessed back face. Two types of tyre are known, both 62mm Ø o.d. One is hard black rubber with tread around the flat top as in MCS; the other is a slightly soft dark grey rubber with no tread and a near circular section, a fat rubber ring in fact. Neither have the name on the sidewall as in MCS.

The dimensions A-D for **DINKY BUILDER** are 63, 58¾, 6½, 11½mm, for both pre & postwar parts. The prewar ones do not have the split tabs, but grip is provided by Split Rods (made from semi-circular section rod doubled over & bowed out, as right). D B **Road Wheels** are 39½mm o.d. & are made from 2 pieces like the MECCANO part, but instead of a boss a rubber insert is trapped between them & grips the axle. On mine the metal wheel actually rotates around the rubber insert but whether this was intended I don't know. Probably the rubber has shrunk with time.

Does anyone have details of the ASSEMBLO-like parts from the Italian **FALCO** system (see 26/758)? [30/877]

ASSEMBLO: S1, STANLO: S1 DINKY BUILDER: S1

8. Paul Goodman wrote that Märklin have commissioned Metallus to produce a special edition **MÄRKLIN METALL Excavator Set**. It will cost €750 & will be sold in Germany from May/June this year, to celebrate '90 years of metal construction systems'. [Presumably the 90 years since the firm started to make MECCANO under licence. Right, a rather fuzzy photo from the Märklin web site. A letter in the latest CQ says that the N&B will be M4, and that orders must be placed by 30th May.]



MÄRKLIN: S1

[30/877]

9. On **Pocket ERECTOR** sets, Tim Edwards wrote that he has one with a box like the top ('Gilbert') one in OSN 13/342. Its model leaflet is copyright 1975, and the set contents are

the same as those of the 'Gabriel' set except that the 3*9h Plates are made of blue plastic. Also on rereading OSN 13, the date in the first line should have been 'Early in the 1980s'

ERECTOR [4a]: S1

[30/877]

10. David Hobson sent a French ad for ERECTOR, said to be from 1925. The outfits listed are 3 JOUETS A ROUE sets (Gilbert Wheel Toy, see 8/198) at Frs. 49,80,125, to make 8,12,21 different toys; 7 Erector sets at Frs. 12,24,30,49,70, 125,175, with an electric motor in the last 3; and 4 Electrical sets at Frs. 20,45,65,80. A photo of each type is given and the old, wide Girders are shown in the Erector one. There are also photos of a Tele [Morse] Set, a Phono Set, a Chemistry Outfit, an Air-Kraft Set, & a Wireless Outfit. Those are the names on the lids, all in English, and the rest of the wording that can be seen in the photos is in English too. The address given for 'vente en gros' (wholesale sales) is 24, rue de Liège (sic), Paris.

ERECTOR [2b]: S1

[30/877]

WEB SITES

[30/877]

- <http://edwards.web.users.btopenworld.com/meccano.htm>
- Tim Edwards has added full details of his **MCS MECCANO CD**.
- **Stokys** are now at www.Stokys.ch. Sets & packs of parts can be ordered from the site.

QUERIES

[30/877]

Query 29 On the colour of STABIL Cord, Werner Sticht wrote 'that blue/white Cord (two coloured strands twisted together) was used in the 1950s & 60s - 'I remember it very well from my first STABIL set that I got in 1957. Plain white Cord was used in sets from the 20s and 30s.'

SMALL ADS

[30/877]

Wanted OTHER SYSTEMS INSTRUCTION MANUALS, or good photocopies - either • to buy; • or exchange photocopies (EZY-BILT, BUZ (inc NZ), & BETTAFIT manuals available, also some STEEL TEC, MEK-STRUCT, & CONSTRUCTION); • or exchange original EZY-BILT 1-5 & 6-8 manuals for other original manuals. Please send details & prices to Mr Vern Ellis, P.O. Box 3277, Alice Springs, Northern Territory, Australia 0871. Tel: 0889538282. Email: vern.ellis@switch.com.au. Also **to swop**: a 2 model CONSTRUCTION 663 set.

For Sale KLIPTIKO No. 6 in original wooden box, nearly complete. The box veneer is a little chipped, but the label, which is inside the lid, is perfect. It portrays a small boy playing with Kliptiko, dressed in a green woollen jumper, knee-length grey socks, and short grey trousers. Most parts have a bit of rust. No manual. About £80. Please contact Mrs. C. E. Hutchinson: email: paradise1000@skegness60.fsnet.co.uk, or at 13 Holme House Road, Cornholme, Todmorden, OL14 8LD.

For Sale ERECTOR parts & metal set boxes. Details from Ivor Ellard, 44 Well Lane, Galleywood, Chelmsford, Essex, CM2 8QZ. Tel: 01245 269830. Email: ellard@nildram.co.uk.

For Sale CD VERSION of MCS - MECCANO VOLUME

Price including postage for the CD: UK - £5.50; Europe - £6.00 (10 Euros); Rest of World - £6.50 (US\$15, Aus\$20). Send cash in UK£, Euros, US/Aus\$, or UK£ cheques drawn on a UK bank, to Mr. T Edwards, 5 Burnside Road, Largs, Ayrshire, KA30 9BX, Scotland, Great Britain. Email - timothy.edwards1@btinternet.com. Please see the ad in 28/847 for details of the CD, or visit <http://edwards.web.users.btopenworld.com/meccano.htm>.

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