

Fig.7

REMARKS MÄDLER'S sets could be compared with the 1921 MECCANO sets, they have almost the same number of different parts. If we count the number of Strips, including the Fishplates for MECCANO, Sets 5 & 6 had 125 & 256, while Set 25 had 176. Furthermore, Sets 5 & 6 had 9 & 16 Gears, while Set 25 had 12. Therefore, Set 25 could be placed in the middle between the 1921 MECCANO Sets 5 & 6.

MÄDLER parts were well made, and most of them are still in a very good condition, although a few have patches of rust.

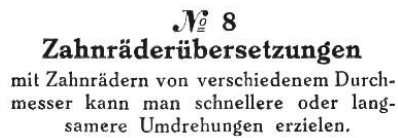


Fig.8



Fig.9

The Gears are at least as good as similar MECCANO or MÄRKLIN parts of the same period. Boxes are sturdy, with many compartments. This system owes much to MECCANO and to MÄRKLIN, though we cannot completely exclude that MÄRKLIN owes much to MÄDLER! This possibility cannot be ruled out as long as we do not know exactly when this system was made. It lasted long enough to have new parts and sets added to the initial ones, and, probably, to have the finish changed from nickel to black. It is curious that the sets of this good quality system are so rare, neither Baukästen, nor Eisenzeit even mention it.

MADLER'S: S4

OSN 40/1214

Snippets. 'New' Systems: DELTA & ERECTO The sets shown here, the DELTA No.1 (Fig.1) & No.2 (Fig.2), and the ERECTO No.2 (Fig.3), were sold on German Ebay by the same seller. It was said of them that some of the parts were brass. The box dimensions given were 38*20cm for the DELTA No.2 and 38*19cm for the ERECTO No.2. The lid of the DELTA No.2 is the same as the No.1 except that the No.1 label is replaced by a circular '2' label (as on the red small parts box in the Set). Similarly the manual cover has no No.1 label, and no No.2 label either, but perhaps it had fallen off. The wording on the ERECTO lid and manual cover is in English.

As well as the manual covers one page of models was shown for each Set. But it was the same page for each set and was from a STABIL manual, headed 'Modelle Nr.1-128 gebaut mit Walther's "STABIL" Baukasten Nr.49'.

It's hard to know what to make of the parts. The 5*11h Flanged Plate has a MÄRKLIN look to it, but the Flat Trunnion in Fig.2 looks like MECCANO. The Flanged Sector could be the early pattern from either. Not all the parts may be original of course but the flat 'brass' parts in Fig.1 may well be, and also the 5h Ø part (Flanged Disc Pulley or Wheel?).

If the STABIL manual page is from one or more of the manuals it is no doubt a pointer to these sets having been hastily put together in Germany very soon after WW2 using whatever was to hand. The DELTA sets could have been aimed at the German market while the English on the ERECTO lid & cover, and the name itself, may have been to tempt unwary Americans! The partitioning in the DELTA & ERECTO No.2 sets is formed using the same elements but arranged in a very slightly different way.

Fig.2



Fig.1



Fig.3



DELTA: S1. ERECTO [2]: S1

OSN 40/1214