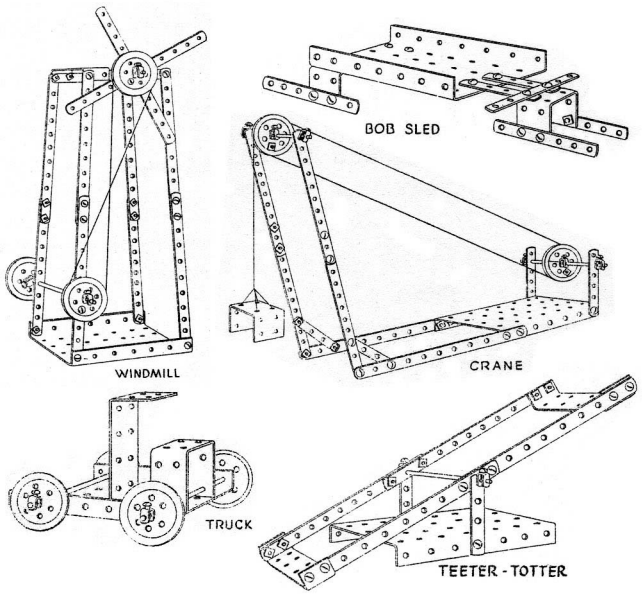

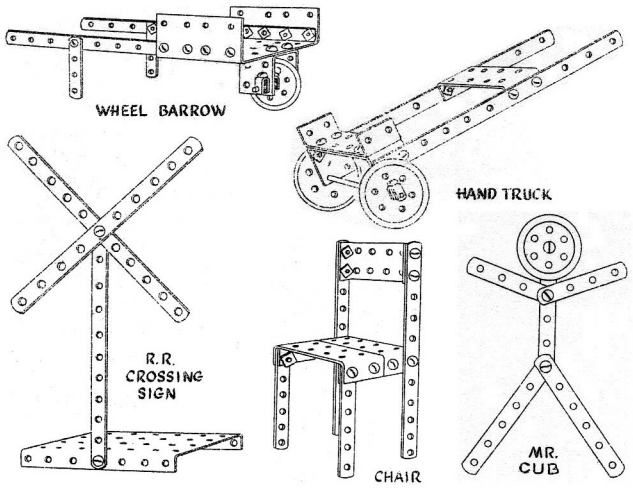

similarities between it & CUB, and the differences. First of all both had many (unusual) parts in common, many models in common, and both were made in St. Pauls. The models on the SKY box have 6h CUB-like Pulley Discs, Axles, & Collars, but none of these parts are used on the Model Sheet models, and none of them were found in the two known SKY sets. The wheeled models on the SKY Sheet are fitted with the Rubber Wheels found in the Sets seen, running on Bolts. Said Wheels are represented by black discs, and in the models common to both systems they have been achieved by blacking in the CUB Pulley Discs (without attempting to show the thickness of the Rubber Wheel) and erasing the CUB Axles & Collars. The drawings of the models without wheels common to both systems are identical. The SKY models not on the CUB Sheets use the 2*6h Plate not in the CUB set. The Intro on both Sheets starts 'Hi Fellows'.

Those then are the facts. My guess is that CUB came first, and SKY followed, perhaps after Playcraft had gone out of business, or sold on the copyright of their Model Sheet to Ames Mfg. (the SKY firm), or even had transformed itself into Ames. From the models on the SKY box it seems that it was initially intended to use the 6-hole Discs as wheels, but at some point it was decided to change to the Rubber Wheels, presumably too late to change the box. The new SKY models like the Steam Shovel & Snow Plow (see MCS) were no doubt worthwhile additions, but by deleting the Pulley Discs interesting models such as the Crane & Windmill (above) had to be dropped.

CUB BUILDER: S2 **OSN 28/838**

SNIPPET: 'New' System: GLORIA A photo of a small set from this German system is shown to the right. The '1' on the lid & manual cover perhaps indicates that there were other sets. The maker was a company called Hermidag; it isn't listed in *Baukästen*.

No dimensions are available but the parts look as if the holes might be 4mm at 10mm pitch, or possibly slightly larger holes, or a slightly shorter pitch. The parts that can be seen in the photo are:

- Strips with 4,5,6,7,9,11,13,15,21,25 holes.
- 1*4*1, 1*5*1, 1*6*1, & 1*7*1 DAS.
- A part, perhaps an A/G, with square corners & 7 crosswise slotted holes.
- What are probably Bossed Pulleys of about 3 & 4¼h Ø.
- What looks like a 4h Bush Wheel.
- Axles & a Crank Handle.
- Collars, some of which, at least, have short spigots at one end, and so may be unpeened bosses.
- CH Bolts & large hex Nuts. A 1h Ø Washer, & larger ones of 1¾h Ø.
- A short wire Screwdriver with triangular handle.
- What may be a 1?*2h Bracket to the right of the top of the Screwdriver's handle. No other small parts are evident, perhaps they are in the paper bag above.

No Plates of any sort can be seen.

GLORIA: S1 **OSN 28/839**

plicated, the Tipping Wagon in Fig.7 for example, followed by a Swing and a Seesaw. There is a large drawing & list of parts for each – the models here are ⅔ their original size.

REMARKS Some of the parts are unusual and there were one or two nice touches in their design. For example the Bolts 'B' to carry the Pulleys which obviate

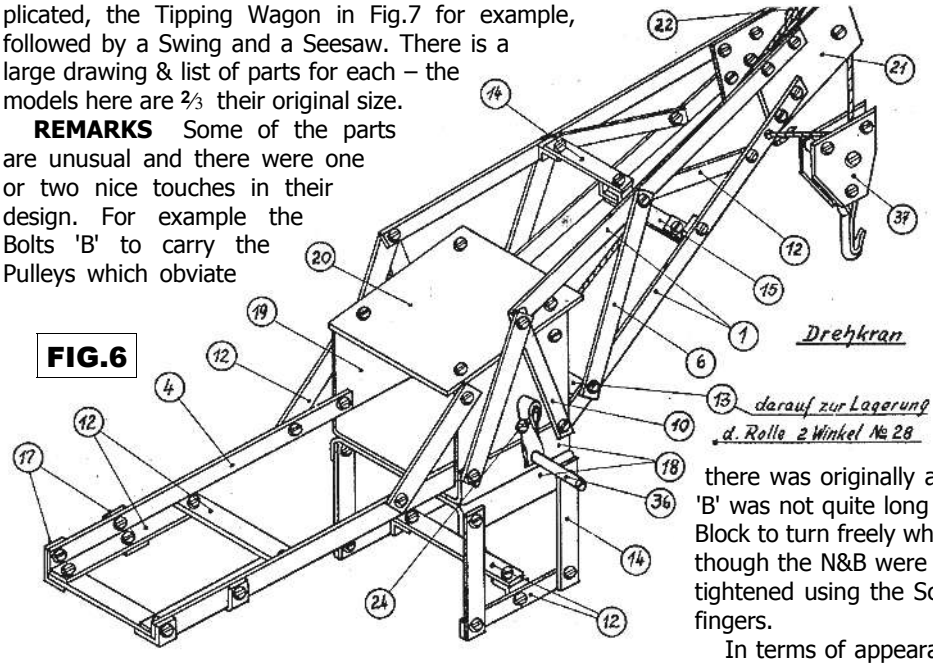

FIG.6

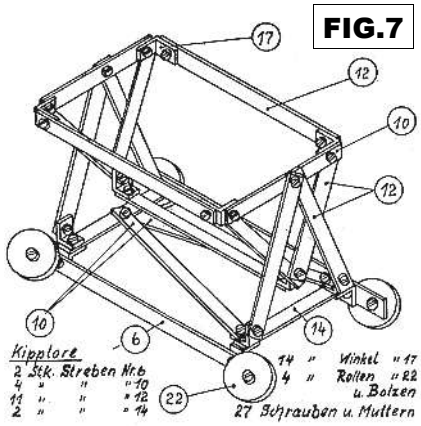

FIG.7

the need for lock nutting, and are sized to give minimal side play. Also the hole through the centre of the Winding Shaft for the Cord. Taking tolerances into account the 6mm hole pitch just allows two Nuts or Bolt heads in adjacent holes.

I made the Crane, though slightly simplified because of the parts missing from the Set. The parts are reasonably accurately made and fitted together well despite the difference in the pitch of the holes and slots. The only difficulties were a) how to join the jib head and allow the Pulley there to run freely – perhaps there was originally a longer Bolt in the Set; and b) the Bolt 'B' was not quite long enough to allow the Pulley in the Pulley Block to turn freely when its Nut was fully tightened. Otherwise though the N&B were a joy to use because they could be fully tightened using the Screwdriver and holding the Nut with the fingers.

In terms of appearance the completed model suffered from the jib being too wide at the cab end and the Jib Head Plates looking rather clumsy. In both cases it would have been difficult to make improvements without using appreciably more parts and without adding some extra holes to the Flanged Plate.

Finally my thanks to Thomas Morzinck for help with the German in the Manual.

More on GLORIA Ebay photos of a GLORIA 1 set from this small German system were shown in 28/839. Now thanks to Jan Ringnalda more information is to hand from a set, again a No.1, which he was able to examine, courtesy of its owner, Erik Beek.

The packaging is the same as the OSN 28 example, and the parts too, but their holes are 2.9mm Ø at 6.0mm pitch, and are thus much smaller than the 4 & 10mm mooted as possible earlier. The parts found in the Set are listed below, with explanatory notes as necessary to supplement the OSN 28 account. All the sheet metal parts are .88mm thick.

Strips: 8,8,8,6,12,5,10,6,10,10,8 of 25,21,15,13,11,10,8,7, 6,5,4h. 1 **A/G** (below), 7h long with arms 6.9*8.3mm (2 were in a set seen on Ebay). **DAS**: 2,6,4,8 of 1*4,5,6,7*1h. 1 **Single Bent Strip** (right), 19.3mm long o/a (the possible 1*2h A/B in OSN 28). 1 **Bush Wheel**, with a 19.3mm Ø, 4h disc, & a 6.5mm Ø boss. **Pulleys**: 1,2,14 of 25.6, 18.6, 10.5mm Ø. The 10.5mm has no boss & looks to be zinc. **Collars**, 5mm long: 3,4 of 6.5, 5.9mm Ø, the latter with a 4.6mm Ø spigot, 1.4mm deep. **Spacers**, 5.9mm Ø: 3 each of 2.5 & 2.7mm wide. **Axles**, 2.0mm Ø: 1 each 150,52.5,31.3mm long. 2 **Crank Handles**, 45mm long o/a. **N&B**, M2: 40,6,3 Bolts, 5,10,12mm long; 55 Nuts, 6mm A/F.

Of the 5 sets seen on Ebay (all No.1), 4 have the model leaflet shown in OSN 28. It is a single folded sheet with the inside below. The leaflet in the remaining set also consists of a single sheet, but much larger and folded to give a landscape format, and then folded into three to fit into the box. Its cover design is the same as the lid label; Fig.3 is the Ebay photo of its inner face.

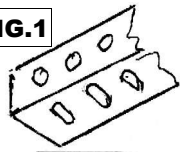

FIG.1

FIG.2

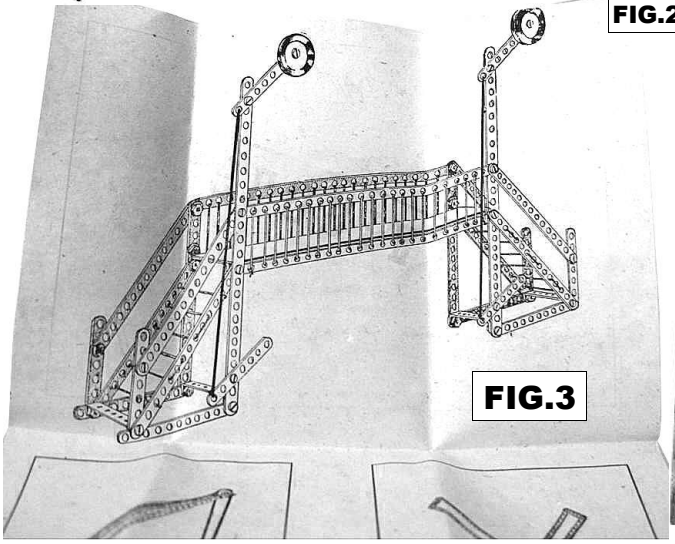

FIG.3

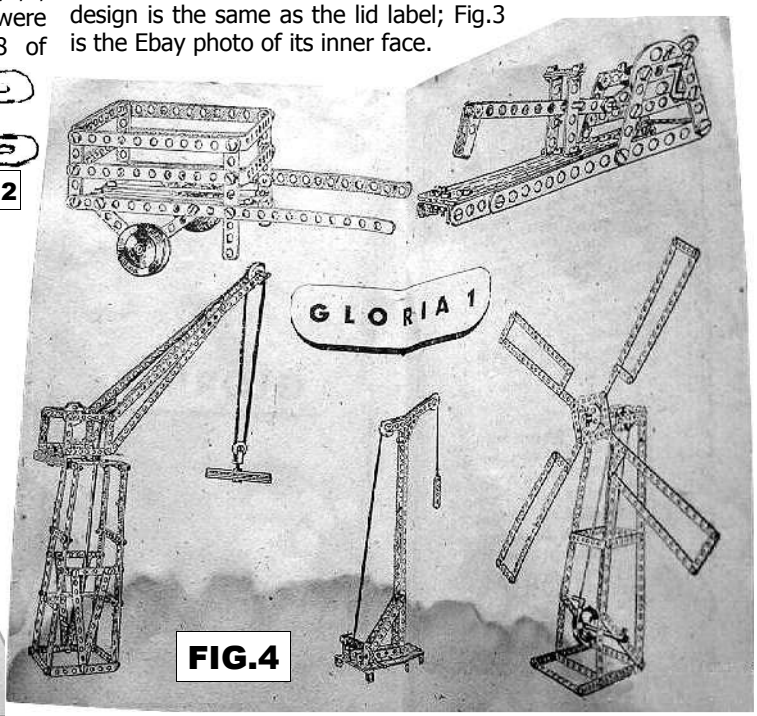

FIG.4

5. **Snippet. 'New' System: KRÜGER'S Maschinenbau+ kasten** The Ebay photos below show the lid and 2 layers of parts. All that was said of the set was that the parts are aluminium.

FIG.1

A Google translation of the slogan on the lid is 'For the young Mechanic & Mechanical Engineer or how to become one'. The bottom right panel gives the firm's address as 2 Blumenstrasse, Magdeburg SO. Magdeburg is 120km SWS of Berlin and was in the DDR, if that is relevant – there is no indication of date.

FIG.2

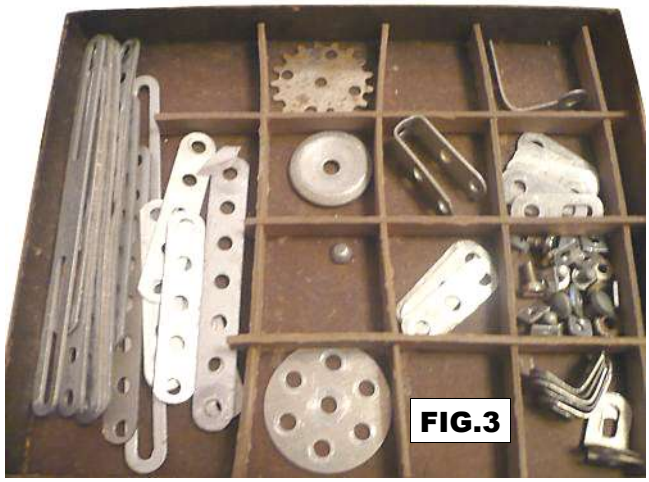

FIG.3

The only parts which may not be entirely clear are: the plate Gear with probably 17 teeth; probable 10h Strips and Slotted Strips of the same length but with no holes between the 4 'hole' span slots at each end; a wire Handle Crank in the top right corner above; the N&B, with some square Nuts, some hexagonal, and cheeseheaded Bolts. None can be seen but presumably Screwed Rods were used as axles. There is nothing to indicate the hole size or pitch.

KRÜGER: S1 [44/1325]

6. **GLORIA** Jean-Pierre Guibert has sent details of his No.1 set, and included the photo below which shows each of the parts except the 1*4*1h DAS. The details correspond closely to the photo in 28/839 & the notes in 43/1316, but with the following differences & additions. The box measures 160*95* 21mm and the manual (as Fig.4 in OSN 43) 150*85mm after folding. Its back page has text extolling GLORIA's virtues. The parts are nickelled. Holes are 3mm and the Axles are 2.8mm Ø. The thread is 2.5mm Ø with a pitch of .45mm. Nuts are hexagonal; the Bolts have cheeseheads which scale at 4½mm Ø. Jean-Pierre noted that the holes' pitch and thread size are the same as MIGNON (see 10/262).

GLORIA: S3 [44/1325]

7. **Snippet. New System: MECHANICAL.** This No.1 set seen on Ebay has the lid below. Its contents, with 92 parts, look to be the same as the Indian MECHANIX No.1 (Basic set, see 24/712) and the layout of the parts in the box is identical. The manual was not shown in the Ebay ad but it contains 10 models so is not the Model Sheet in OSN 24. Other No.1 MECHANIX sets on Ebay have a 10 model manual with the Racing Car on the lid above on the cover, so the MECHANICAL item may well be similar.

MECHANICAL: S1 [44/1325]

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Another GLORIA Set This set, from Ebay, is like the one shown in 28/839. It appears to be unused with the various sizes of Strips & DAS bolted together, but the contents differ slightly from those given in 43/1316.

The Parts Before going to the contents a few points about the parts to add to those in the Issues above and in 44/1325. Holes are mostly 3.0mm with a few 2.9mm. Strip parts are between 6.0 & 6.1mm wide. The 18mm Pulley is 3mm wide over its vee; the 25mm, 5½mm. Bosses are aluminium, 6.4mm o.d., 3.0mm bore, & single-tapped. The larger diameter Collar, see OSN 43, has the spigot and is aluminium – it is the part used for the boss. The Axles are 2.8mm Ø, and the 2 sizes in the Set are 50 & 70mm long. The N&B do not run on the current M2.5 thread and given their actual diameter of 2.5mm (as in OSN 43) they are most likely the earlier 2.6mm standard (see 7/168), as in MIGNON. The Nuts are rather irregularly hexagonal, 6.1 to 6.2mm A/F. The Bolts' cheeseheads are 4.1 to 4.2mm Ø. Most parts are nicely nickelled but the 6h Strips and some of the 4h are a darker dull grey. The small zinc Loose Pulleys are slightly corroded.

Set Contents As in OSN 43 except as follows, with the OSN 43 quantities in square brackets: 19[12]x 11h Strips but no[5] 10h, 10[8]x 5h; 2[1] A/Gs; no[2] 4h DAS; 1[2]x 18½mm Pulley; 3[7] Collars, all the boss type; no 3 or 15cm Axles [1,1] but 1[0]x 7cm; 1[2] 45mm Crank Handle plus 1[0]95mm (as in OSN 44); 10 [6] Spacers; Bolts: 47 (plus 6 for the Collars & bosses), 9,3[40,6,3]x 5.10,12mm u/h; 55[51] Nuts.

Some of the differences would certainly be packing errors, the single 18mm Pulley for example, with 2 needed for the Hand Cart shown in OSN 43.

For the other discrepancies it may have been that certain parts were not available, the 10h Strip for instance, and the models in the model leaflet could easily be made using substitute parts. In the case of the 4h DAS, it is needed for the upright pillars in the Trip Hammer in OSN 43 but 5h DAS could be used instead.

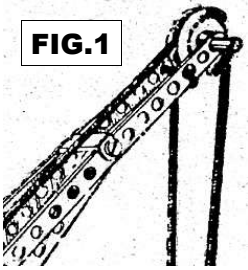
FIG.1

On the other hand now that an actual model leaflet is to hand it can seems that two parts are used in the OSN 43 Elevated Jib Crane which haven't been seen in any of the sets known so far. The sides of the jib are joined 8 holes from the top by what looks like a rather wide D/B (as right), and the vertical Crank Handle which passes down the centre of the tower would need to be over 14cm long. If the 95mm Handle were used instead the bottom bearing would need to be raised accordingly – possible but not easy to do neatly. For the jib, omitting the D/B would mean the sides were held together only at the base and at the top by the Axle for the jib head Pulley. The latter would not really be satisfactory even if Collars, not shown, were added at each of the Axle's ends.

Using the Parts GLORIA is somewhat unusual in having a large number of Strips but no brackets, and no parts with less than 6 holes other than the 4 & 5h Strips. I thought the Leaflet models uninspiring and that a more ambitious model could be attempted. In the end I decided on one of my favourite types, a Multi-Jib Crane. There were some problems. First, many more N&B would be needed, plus a few washers: the answer, commercial M2.5 items. Secondly, 7 DAS or D/B of various widths were needed, and a few 2- & 3-hole Strips. These were made by cutting/bending some home-made replica strips – there were actually enough original parts for this purpose but I am something of a purist in OS matters and after experimenting on one Strip I baulked at 'mutilating' any more. In fact the originals, like the replica parts, are made of quite soft steel and could be bent easily across their holes, or between them if held in a Mole grip and hammered over. And they could even be straightened out again without any risk of breakage. Finally, 4 extra collars were needed (there would have been enough in the OSN 43 set). Above the finished model, it has the same luffing geometry as the MUSALA model mentioned in 44/1350. A cord brake controls the luffing motion while the load is prevents from dropping by the Crank Handle's handle engaging one of two Bolt shanks when pushed inwards.

Apart from assembly being somewhat fiddly (forceps are virtually essential), the main difficulty, one usual at this scale, was that the N&B interfered with one another in corners unless one Bolt pointed outwards. Otherwise the only poor feature was the oversize bores in the Pulleys & Bush Wheel.

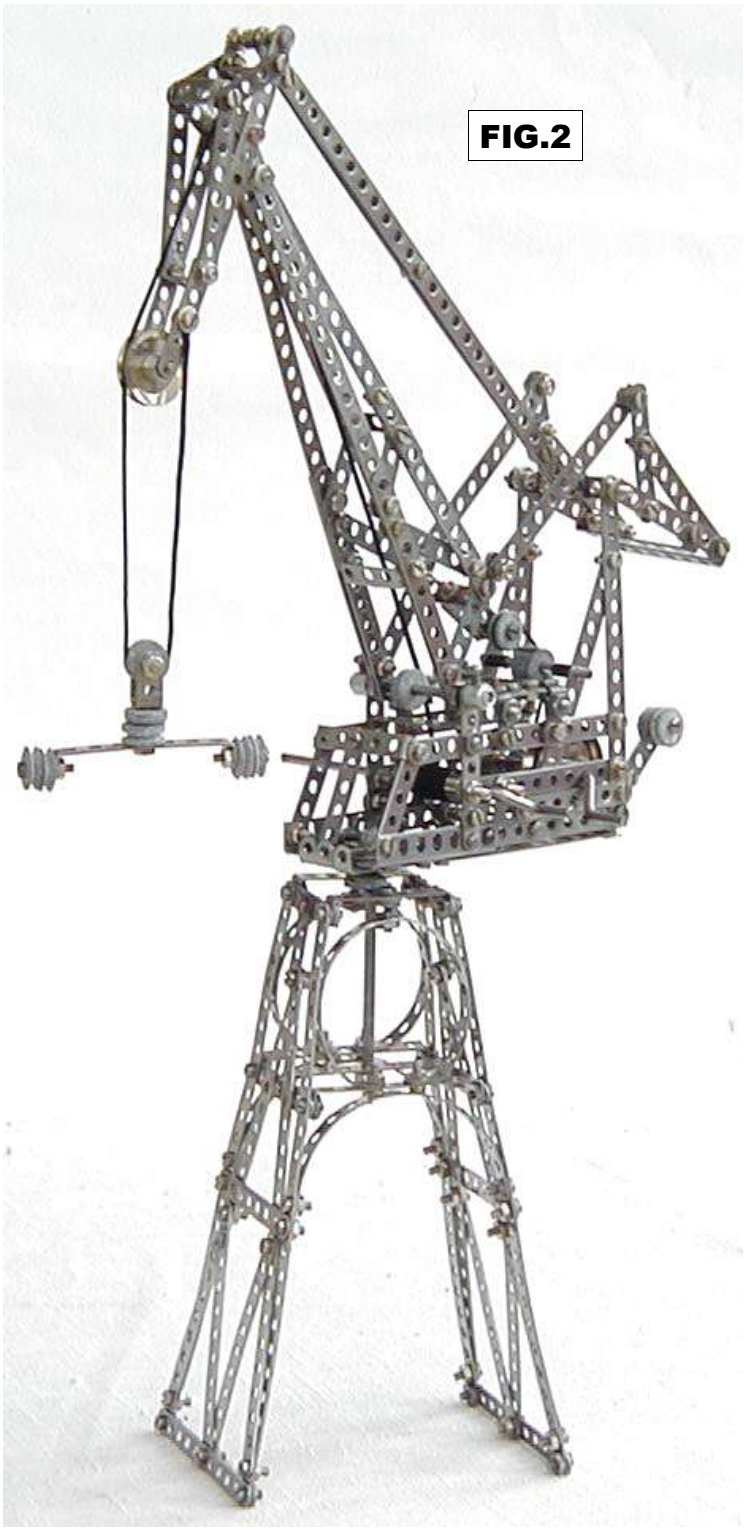
FIG.2