

NEW FACTS - KLIPTIKO MCS does not include details of the Contents of Sets, the Table below ($\frac{1}{2}$ scale) was contributed by Geoff Wright and came from a manual with 20/B.P. and 9/32 on the back cover. Note the Set 0 which is not just a smaller version of Set 1, also the unnumbered Screws and Nuts, what were they used for?

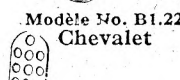
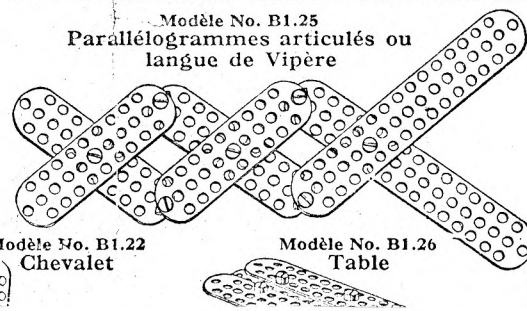
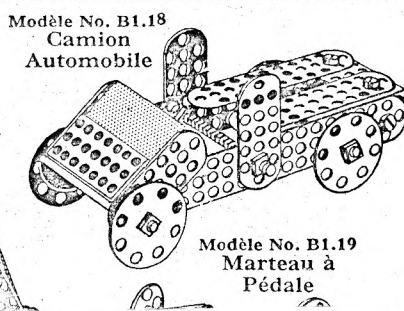
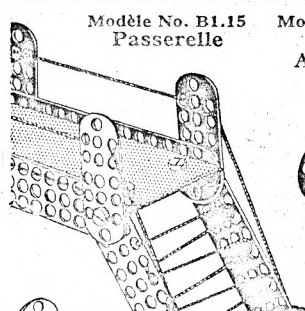
CONTENTS OF SETS.

	No.	KLIPTIKO SETS.						ACCESSORY SETS.					
		1	2	3	4	5	6	0	1A	2A	3A	4A	5A
No. 1. 4 in. Clips ..	29	56	68	118	172	222	6	27	12	50	54	50	
No. 2. Half Clips ..				4	4	6	4			4		2	
No. 3. 2 in. Tubes ..		6	6	10	16	24	2	6		4	6	8	
No. 4. 4 in. Tubes ..	4	6	6	6	12	18	2	2			6	6	
No. 5. 6½ in. Tubes ..	10	10	10	20	20	24	2			10		4	
No. 6. 10 in. Tubes ..		8	8	12	24	46		8		4	12	22	
No. 7. 6 in. Bent Tubes ..				12	12	12				12			
No. 8. 10 in. Bent Tubes ..					12	12					12		
No. 9. 1½ in. Wheels ..	4	5	5	5	5	8	4	1				3	
No. 10. 3½ in. Wheels ..			4	4	4	4			4				
No. 11. Buckets ..			12	20	30	32			12	8	10	2	
No. 12. Hopper ..			1	1	1	1			1				
No. 13. Hooks ..	1	1	1	1	1	4						3	
No. 16. Hub Caps ..	4	4	4	4	24	24	4				20		
Screws and Nuts ..				2	2	2				2			
Cord ..	1	1	1	1	1	1							
Cables, 4 ft. ..						2						2	
Total number of pieces ..	53	97	126	220	340	442	24	44	29	94	120	102	

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INGENIEUR FRANCAIS This set is not I think mentioned in MCS, and all I have on it are 2 photocopied pages from a manual, given to me many years ago by M. Damotte of Central-Train. They are identical to the equivalent pages of the BRITISH MODEL BUILDER Outfit No 1 leaflet, apart from the language of course, and the Model Nos are the same. Parts of the two pages are reproduced below.

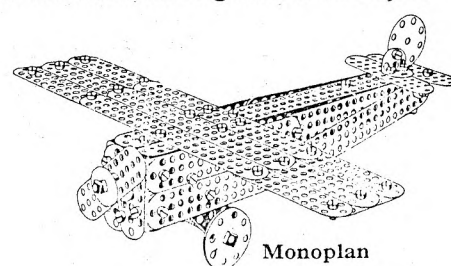
Ces Modèles sont faits avec la Boîte Ingénieur Français No. 1.



COMPLETEZ VOS BOÎTES !

Jeunes gens ! Examinez attentivement les beaux super-modèles reproduits sur cette page. Ils sont tous construits avec des pièces Ingénieur Français et chacune de ces pièces représente un véritable petit chef-d'œuvre de mécanique. Vous serez certainement désireux de monter de beaux et attrayants modèles, semblables à ceux qui figurent ici ; vous serez à même de le faire, en complétant la Boîte que vous possédez déjà. Il suffit pour cela de faire l'acquisition de la Boîte No. 1 ou No. 2. Plus vous aurez de pièces, plus grandes et intéressantes seront vos possibilités de construction. L'Ingénieur Français est un passe-temps qui vous procurera des moments de vrai et inoubliable plaisir.

Un Choix de Modèles Ingénieur Français



ITEMS FROM LETTERS

1. On the subject of MÄRKLIN Zusatzkasten (OSN 5 p99), Georges Spinnier wrote that they were introduced in 1919.
2. In OSN 5 p101, I asked what might be the purpose of the Screws and Nuts included in the larger KLIPTIKO sets. Roger Baker wrote that they were used to bolt the WHEEL #9, which is a pulley, to the large Wheel 10, so that for example, the spokes of a Big Wheel can be attached to a 10, with a cord drive onto the 9. Further points:
 - INGENIEUR FRANCAIS, illustrated on p101 of OSN 5, looks very much like X series MECCANO.
 - CONSTRUMENTS. Enclosed is a photocopy of the Hamley's advert from the Feb 1934 Meccano Magazine showing 4 models together with a boxed set, presumably a No 100. Note that only 3 sets are listed (10, 20, 100) but it may have been that they were the only ones stocked by the shop.
3. Derek Strickland sent details of the parts he now has available, primarily intended for use with MECCANO. Those associated with his 3/8" dia Axles have been reviewed in CQ, some of the others (they'll turn up as Mystery Parts one day) are: Coupling, 3/8" bore x 1/2" long; Gear Ring, 132 external teeth; 38t Gear Wheel, 1/8" face, single tapped, solid brass; Dredger Bucket, the description of it makes it sound like the AMI LAC part; Spring Buffer, solid brass, similar to MECCANO original; Cone Pulley, solid brass, 3/8" dia boss; Worm Housing, equivalent to MÄrklin #11720, BRAL 215; Wide Double Bent Strip, equivalent to MÄRKLIN 10047.
4. George Wetzel sent his new sales list of nearly 100 items, virtually all of them sets. Quite a few are ERECTOR but there are many others including 'building block' and 'architectural' sets. From the rest new names to me were:
 - #2 Gilbert clock set, 1925, sold under KLAX TOY label. Makes an operating pendulum clock using ERECTOR gears, rods and chain.
 - Various '100 TOYS IN ONE' sets from #1 1/2 to 6 1/2. [I'm not sure whether these are ERECTOR under a different name]
 - BUILDER BOY, #1, by Norwood Co., Chicago. 1949. Boltless metal construction set.
 - TECHNICAL TRAINER, metal construction set made by Tucker Toys, N.Y. 1940's.
 - LANKY LINKS, late metal and plastic ERECTOR variation. 1961. Simple linking 'girders' and nuts and bolts.
 - CLIP CRAFT. Metal construction set, postwar, Yonkers, New York. Small tube box. Boltless aluminium rods and clip fasteners.
 - Marx 'Matchbox' Construction Set, 1930's. 2 1/4 x 1 1/2 x 3/4".

George's address is 221 Hickory Street, Park Forest, Illinois 60466. USA.

5. Some remarks from Don Redmond:
 - YUN'II or YUNYI? (OSN 5 p97). It all depends on which system of transliteration is used. [Since it is readily available to readers, and for uniformity, I suggest that the one in OSN 4 p70, contributed by Don, should be the 'OS standard']
 - There is an error in OSN 5 p82, the longest STOKYS parts have 78 holes and not 80.
 - On BAUFIX etc, BATIFIX is the literal translation into French of BAUFIX (bâtir=bauen=to build, houses, etc). I assume they are identical? CREME ECLIPSE is the name of a household polish, and no doubt was given away as premiums. All the details including packaging, colour, etc are the same as BAUFIX. [BATIFIX is not in (my copy of) MCS; I have a photocopy of the lid of a set (from Harry Mariën) which shows an Aeroplane similar to but not exactly the same as the BAUFIX one in MCS. The parts in this set are identical to some I have, and which I had assumed to be BAUFIX, though I have never seen a BAUFIX set. But since making the comparison I've acquired other similar parts from several sources and there are some differences in hole size between them. Of the Strips 11 have end holes of about .140" dia, and in 15 they are between .145 and .150. The large holes in 2 Discs are .140", in 2 they are .150, in 12, .160 and in 2, .165. Some of the larger ones may have been drilled out but most looked genuine.]
 - At least one shop of a [Canadian] hobby chain (Leisure World) had WISDOM sets 0 to 5 at Christmas, the #5 was \$21.99 (£11). The nuts and bolts are nicely finished, though the nuts are rather thick. The thread seems to be M4, I suspect they are plated after cutting, an M4 tap is tight in the nuts.

MEKANIK [1] The parts are illustrated in MCS and the Pinion #Z18 is interesting because it has a square section bore and slides on the special Rods AV6 or AV9 (6, 9cm long), which have normal ends but a raised square section centre portion. There is a Double Fork X13 to move the Pinion along the Rod. I suppose that these parts are intended for use in gearboxes, the name of each part is prefaced by Schalt and one meaning of the verb Schalten is 'to change gear'. As far as I know no other system has this feature; has anyone any first hand knowledge of these parts?

The manual gives a positive date with 'Copyright 1937' on p2; there is also a printing reference of T.839L. From the aircraft mentioned I would have guessed that the set might have dated from earlier in the 1930s. It is also stated on p2 that German, English, French, Dutch, Italian, Swedish and Spanish versions of the manual are available. Despite all the models having open cockpits no pilot was provided to add a finishing touch.

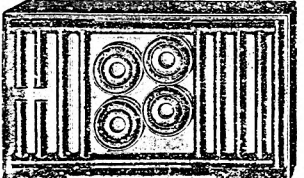
Extra MCS Sheets contain • illustrations of all the parts, • a Parts List and Set Contents, • the full manual cover, • various other extracts from the manual.

AMENDMENTS TO INDEX IN OSN 6: NAME: DUX AEROPLANE. TYPE: AS. CY: GG.

KLIPTIKO. In the Set Contents given in 5/101 the No.0 is listed with the 'A' linking outfits under Accessory Sets, and now thanks to Geoff Wright, that small mystery is explained. In a small Manual he showed me there is an illustration of it (below, x.7) with its raison d'être. Also, below, a list of the complete (presumably) range of Sets available, taken from the same source. Whether it was the intention to confuse possible purchasers I don't know but in case it helps Models 1-7 were shown in the Manual for Set No.1, 8-10 for No.2, and 11-12 and 13-17 for Nos.3 and 4. No models were shown for Sets 03, 3½, or 3A. There is nothing to date this Manual but it may be fairly early since some play is made of Patents including a U.S. one said to be of May 5th 1914.

One of those quoted is English Patent No.9628/13, and Malcolm Hanson tells me that he has details of this and that there was an earlier relevant Patent in 1909; both were granted to a Henry Charles Harrison. MCS/NZ gives the date of introduction of KLIPTIKO as 1911; the earliest reference I have to sets on sale is in the 1913 Au Bonne Marché catalogue where 3 Sets were shown. At about that time a UK trade list also shows 3 Sets, but neither gives Numbers for the sets. In a 1925 Dutch toy catalogue from Harry Mariën, Sets 1-6 are listed, plus Accessory Sets 1a-5a and 0. So it may have been that originally there were no 'accessory' sets, then the complicated series below grew up, followed by rationalisation into linking sets plus the #0.

While talking of KLIPTIKO, MCS gives the finish as nickel (/NZ) and black (/FB); another scheme I saw recently in a Set, was brass Tubes with the Hopper parts red one side and brass on the other.

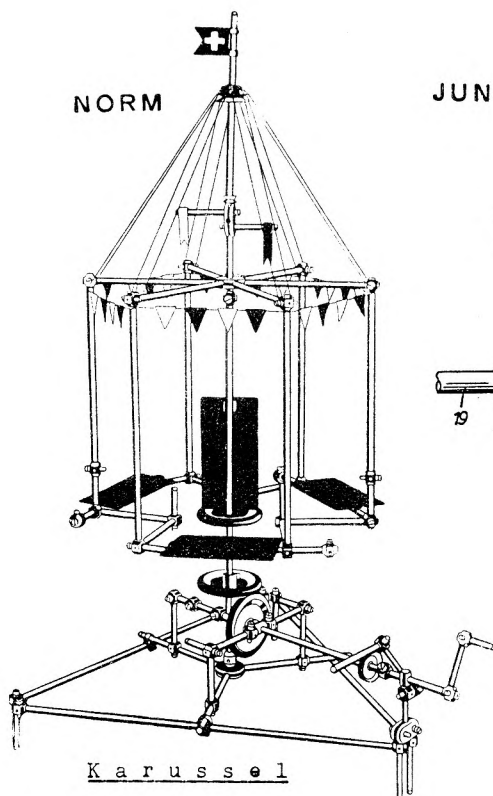
Complete Sets.	Combinations of Sets and Accessory Sets.	ACCESSORY SETS. No. 0.
No. 1 .. 2 .. 03 .. 3 .. 3½ .. 3A .. 4	No. 0 is useful to any Set. No. 01 added to No. 2 will build all Models from No. 1 to No. 10, and Sandwheel No. 16, also Models Nos. 17 and 19. No. 02 added to No. 1 will build Models Nos.1 to 7, and Models Nos. 16, 17 and 19. No. 02 added to No. 2 will build all Models mentioned above, also Models No. 18 and many others. No. 03A added to No. 3 will build Models Nos. 1 to 12, Sandwheels Nos. 16 and 22, also Roundabout No. 23. No. 04 added to No. 4 will build Models Nos. 1 to 15, also Sandwheels Nos. 16 and 22, Passenger Wheel No. 24, Roundabout No. 23.	Containing everything necessary to mount the Cranes and other structures on Wheels, and to facilitate the erection of working models requiring pulleys, etc.
Accessory Sets. No. 0 .. 01 .. 02 .. 03A .. 04		

MCS DATABASE In OSN 6/122 I gave some details of a Database that I had produced with the aim of having a concise record of some of the more useful facts about all the various OS, and in a form that could easily be reprinted following the incorporation of amendments. At that time I had a preliminary version and since then I've entered new information as it has come to hand, including the data in Frank Beadle's MCS Part 5. There are still many gaps in it but that will I expect always be the case, and so I have now produced the first proper version which is available for £4, UK, and £4.50 overseas, including postage.

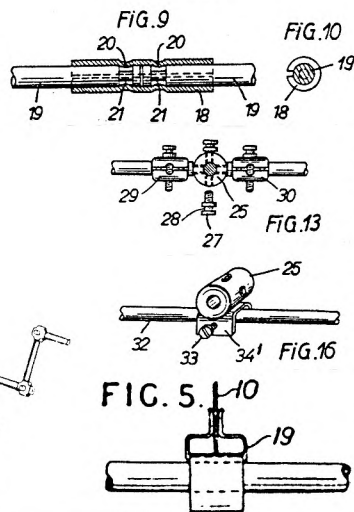
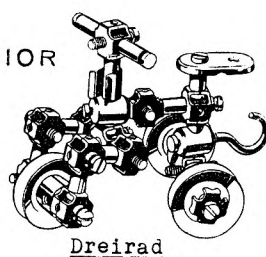
It runs to 14 A4 pages and its layout and the information in it is essentially that described in OSN 6, except that now all three classifications, alphabetical, by Country and by Type, are included in the one document, as well as the notes on the contents, and the lists of the abbreviations used. However to keep it to a manageable size only the 10 most important facts are shown for each system in the Country and Type listings - reference to the main alphabetical list is needed for the others, and for the Comments given for each system.

To avoid any misunderstanding I must make clear the the Database contains very little information that can't be found in MCS or OSN, and of that most will appear in future Newsletters. It's just a question of whether it's worth having it classified, and all in one place.

Finally let me thank Don Redmond for his most valuable help in tracking down errors and omissions in the preliminary version, and for his suggestions on improving the layout to make it easier to use.



JUNIOR



Rods and 6 Plates.

Both the PLUS manual and the 6-page Leaflet are A4 size. The models in the Leaflet are a Tower, 2 Cranes, 2 Luggage Trucks, and the 3-Wheeler and Carousel shown opposite. The Manual's cover (on the facing page) shows the 2 boys with several models - a Motorcycle, a Funicular Railway, a Level Crossing Gate with Signal, and a Tower similar to the one in the Leaflet.

The Patents, Nos. 673362 & 673457, are in the name of W. Kobler, a Swiss citizen of Huttenstrasse 42, Zürich, and were both dated October 27, 1948. No Convention Date is given. The first covers the rods, clamps and bearings, and one of the claims is that the method of clamping allows the axis of all the rods to lie in the same plane. Several types of clamp in the Patent weren't produced but most of them were only minor variants of those already illustrated. The one exception, although it isn't really a clamp, is the slit tube, Figs. 9 & 10 opposite, to join two rods in line. The only bearings in the Patent are shown in Figs. 13 & 16 (opposite): the first evolved into the 4-sided Bearing and the second, with the bearing attached to a clamp in some unspecified way, wasn't proceeded with.

The second Patent is to do with the clips and shows the types already described plus the one to hold plates, shown in Fig. 5 opposite.

It isn't known how long KOBLER lasted but the Complete Specification for the Patent wasn't published until June 1952.

Correction At the top of p411 in OSN 15, Al Sternagle's address (for details of his *ERECTOR PARTS ILLUSTRATED*) was given incorrectly; it should have read: RD#2, Box 400, Hollidaysburg, PA 16648, U.S.A.

ITEMS FROM LETTERS

1. From David Hobson: • He came across ads in the *Boy's Own* of February and December 1921 for the **PA-DI-CA-CO** Gear Set that was included in MCS Part 5. Both are similar in style to the one in MCS but also include the words 'Something quite new'. and mention that they are for use with mechanical construction outfits. [I saw some of the gears recently courtesy of Geoff. Wright and the odd thing is that the Gear and Pinion meshed at centres of about .93", well short of the 1" MECCANO spacing. The measured DP was 39.5 for the 25t Pinion and 39.9 for the 50t Gear. Their bore was a tight fit on a MECCANO Axle and the bosses were single-tapped 8BA with roundheaded brass Set Screws. They are cleanly cast from a zinc alloy with integral bosses, and are all marked with the name and PN. Bosses have a slight taper from about .35" Ø to about .37". MCS shows 2 similar Mitre Pinions, 1G and 1H, and it's not clear how they differ - there was a 1H among the ones I saw and the only noticeable thing was that the boss wasn't tapped.] David wondered if the gears had been produced during the Great War for a particular purpose and the surplus were being sold off.

• Also in the December 1921 *Boy's Own* was a **KLIPTIKO** ad and the list of sets offered was the same as that given in 10/249, with the 7 complete sets 1-4, and the 5 Accessory Sets 0-04.

• **YUNOST'** sets were on sale in Moscow in the early 1990s and the parts in a set bought then are all steel except for the aluminium Flanged Plate.

• Among some early **ERECTOR** parts were a few **P31 Clips**, a little known part that only lasted for a few years after **ERECTOR** was introduced in 1913. It was intended to act as a Spring Clip but the ones found don't grip an Axle very well because they are a U shape in section with no waist, and are made from ordinary soft steel. They are 1/4" wide and 5/16" deep overall, with large radii at the ends of the wings. The illustration opposite came from a 1915 manual.

U

P31

The Clips were in a **No.1 Set**, from about 1915 and the label on the lid has the normal large Railway Bridge and 2 boys, but the man on the left is not the one illustrated in *Greenberg*. He is an older figure with a bald head, bow tie, pipe, and his right hand is in his jacket pocket. It's a UK set with LONDON, ENG. inserted between the MYSTO MFG. CO. and NEW HAVEN, CONN., U.S.A. lines, so perhaps this was an export or UK peculiar label.

A **Part 1 Manual** that was probably with the Set, is interesting because it sheds some new light on how Gilbert sold his products here at that time. On the front cover is: THE MYSTO MFG. CO., NEW HAVEN, CONN., U.S.A., with underneath 22 HAMSELL STREET, LONDON, E.C., ENGLAND. Inside a 'Revised Prices for 1916' label has been stuck in, and another on the back cover, that shows the range of sets, has on it: BEDINGTON, LIDIATT & CO., Ltd., 2, New Zealand Avenue, BARBICAN, LONDON, E.C. | DISTRIBUTORS FOR The A.C.GILBERT Company, New Haven, Conn., U.S.A.

• There's a **Toy Museum** beneath Brighton Station (55 Trafalgar St., Tel. 01273 749494) which has MECCANO, MCS, and building sets on display. David mentioned specifically some 20 including an **ERECTOR** Hudson loco, and I've picked out the following new points.

A boxed set of **SPEDICON**, a name new to me. A Crane has been made up from the parts - aluminium Tubes or Rods with internally tapped ends, held together with Studs and N&B, and blue aluminium Plates. The names on the manual are Williamson-Pinney Ltd., & Chertsey Industries, both of Avenue Chambers, Bloomsbury, London WC1.

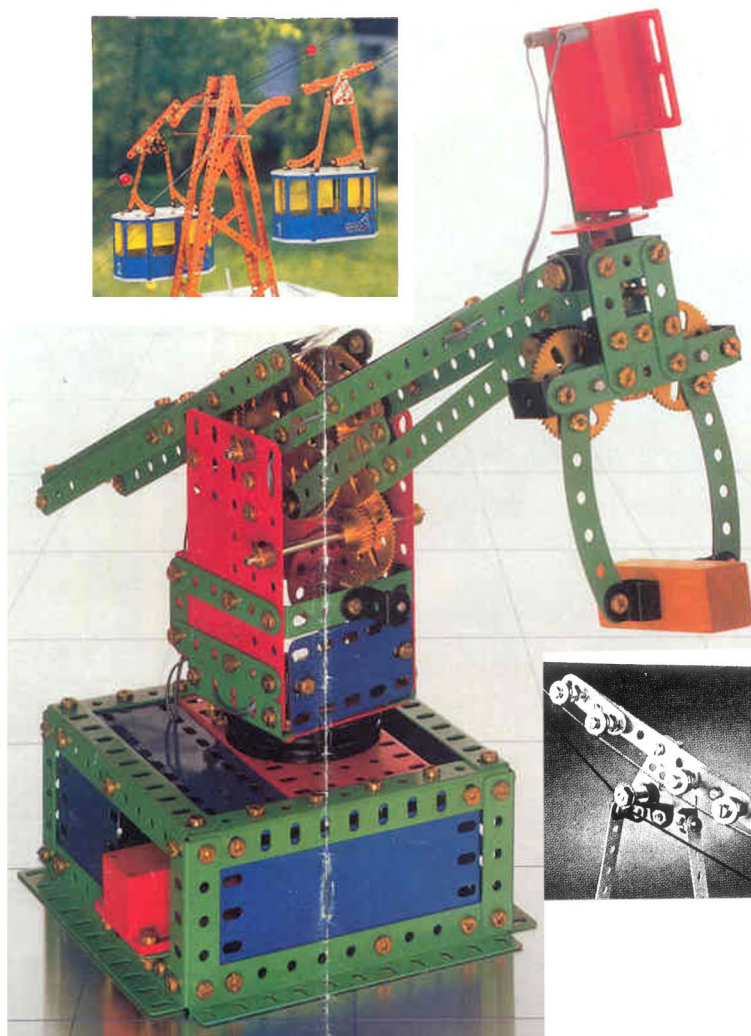
A **DAN DARE** small rocket with the windows on the nose-cone printed on in black/dull yellow, instead of embossed in the metal.

Some information on **PREMIER** from the manager of the Museum. It was made for Christie & Jay Ltd., the company named on the manual cover in MCS, by Morris Products, Jubilee Works, 39 Albion St., Dunstable. They started up in 1955 making stove enamel goods and kitchen toys, and the manual shown in MCS is believed to date from 1960. It had been thought that **PREMIER** was much earlier than that, even prewar.

2. Josep Bernal sent a copy of a 28 page manual for the Spanish Electrical Sets **ELECTROMECCANO** Nos.1 & 2.

disappointing for a set that cost so much, though it does contain 4 motors (albeit 6v).'

• 'I also have the **Cable Car Set** and it makes up into a very attractive model that works quite well, and follows real practice in some respects, with steel cable, well articulated pulleys that move nicely over the saddle on the intermediate tower, etc.' [The Robot Set, #1007 was mentioned in 2/16, and the Cable Car, #1057, from the mid-1980s, in 10/266. In neither case was there an illustration but the ones below



will give an idea. The Car is made from special parts, and the body is shown blue with a white roof, and yellow tinted

windows; all the Strips and Girders are orange.

7. From Don Redmond. • The **EZY-BILT** Contrate is distinctive with a very rounded edge ($\frac{1}{8}$ " rad.) and the teeth actually cut into the curvature. It is nickel with a brass boss.

• On **DÖCO** (15/413), it was displayed in a 1920 Canadian Centre for Architecture exhibition at Montréal, and the catalogue describes it as 'a wood and metal system; split-pin rivet assembly; includes design book; box 10.5*37*24.9cm; parts: bars 24.7*0.8cm, clamps 0.8cm, discs 6.8cm; punch press 8*34.3*13.9cm.'

• The **STRUCTO** Worm (see 15/424) is a rather crude looking item of the same alloy (zinc?) as the Gears, and with noticeable flash and mold marks. The teeth look rather chewed but it has probably had much use.

• In a mixed lot, a yellow plastic Wheel, with a square-section rubber Tire, 1.5" o.d., marked **BILDIT**. That's a new name but was it a constructional system? The bore appears to have been drilled out to about $\frac{3}{16}$ ".

8. From Jeannot Buteux. • The French patent for **SPEDICON** (see 17/470) is No.923760, and it was granted in 1947.

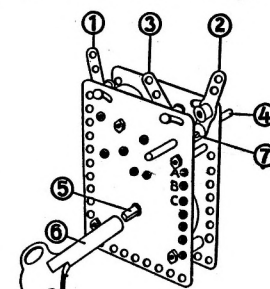
• **MAC et NICK** (17/472) was also patented, by a M.Cosneau in 1948, No.936145. [No equivalent UK patent is known.]

• Manuals in French have turned up for **STRUCTATOR** and **KLIPTIKO**.

• A **PYGMÉE** (16/448) set has been found for the first time: it's in a metal box and includes a complete manual.

9. Following the notes on the **MÄRKLIN** Chassis in 17/482, Josep Bernal sent a photocopy of a 4-page Leaflet in French (Refs: Ta 07 33 m & F. M446) showing the parts in the Nr.1105L **Motor Truck Body** Set, and how to assemble them onto the Chassis. The details of the parts have been included in an Extra MCS Sheet.

10. Thomas Keel sent a photocopy of the Instruction Leaflet, in German, for the **MIGNON C/W Motor** Nr. 250 (right), which was described in 10/262. The holes A,B,C in the side-plates allow a 12t Pinion on the output shaft, 4, to mesh with the other 3 Gears in the system, or their positions can be reversed for higher speeds.



Nr. 1 = Schnell- und Langsamgang
Nr. 2 = Abstellhebel
Nr. 3 = Vor- und Rückwärtsgang
Nr. 4 = Arbeitswelle
Nr. 5 = Aufzugschraube
Nr. 6 = Aufzugsschlüssel
Nr. 7 = Arbeitswellenrad mit Gewindestift.

EXTRA MCS SHEETS The Sheets listed here are available at 15p per Sheet plus postage. That makes £4.65 for all 31 Sheets.

MCS Amendments, List No.6 [1]

AKRON: X1.1,2/6,5,5a [2]

ENGINEERO: X1.2,4,5,6 [2]

E.Z.: X1.1,2,4,5 [2]

FAC: X1.1, [1]

FAC [a]: X1.3/4,3a/4a,5 [2]

FAC [b]: X1.6,6a [1]

FAC [c]: X1.2,3,4-4l,5-5b,5c/6,6a,6b [9]

INSTRUCTO: X1.1,2,4,5 [2]

KONSTUKTOR [10]: X1.1,2,4,5 [2]

KONSTUKTOR-MEKHANIKA [2]: X1.1,4/6,4a/6a/7,5 [2]

KONSTUKTOR SHKOL'NIK: X1.1,2,4/6,4a/6a,5 [3]

MAKUMAL: X1.1,5 [1]

MÄRKLIN: X2.3a/4b,5 [1]

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5. On **KONSTRUKTOR K.115** (19/530), Michael Denny pointed out that the town of Brest is now part of Belarus, rather than Russia, and that the Éavod in the maker's name should read Zavod (meaning factory or works).

6. From David Hobson. • Another **CONSTRUCTION JEEP** set has been seen, with similar packaging to the one described in 17/469. However it was marked with a KK (see 14/373) in an oval, and in a larger oval, **MARUSAN TOYS \ SAN \ JAPAN**. Also the Flanged Plate was the large, rounded corner type, painted red. The N&B were nickel and the Bolts roundheaded, but the Nuts were hexagonal.

• On **MAKE-AND-KNOW** (see 19/555), there was also a plastic version, a poor quality copy of the original, 1956, **PLASTIC MECCANO**. A leaflet shows models for Sets A, B & C, and has on it, 'Manufactured by Ravindra Plastic Works (India)'; on a Set A box is, 'Sindhvani Toys & Games'.

7. From Don Redmond wrote of a **TECHMASTER** No.50 set corresponding to the one described in 14/391. The N&B appear to be commercial items; the round heads of the Bolts are 5.3mm Ø, and the Nuts 8mm A/F.

8. Kendrick Bisset wrote that he had learnt about some other systems through auction items on the internet. A site called **ebay.com** has a listing site specifically for 'Erector' sets, and OS show up there periodically.

• One such is the **#150 POW'R HOUSE Ferris Wheel** Kit mentioned in 19/552, and it is clearly very similar to the 'mystery' model in *Canadian Meccanotes*. A picture of the set below shows dark coloured Braced Side Supports, spaced apart at the bottom by a red Base with steps pressed into one side. Yellow Radial Arms bolt onto 6-arm Hubs, probably grey plated, and support blue Rim Segments, cranked at each end, 6 to a side. The Rims are channel section; the Arms may be similar or angle girders.



The Base is not shown in the *Meccanotes* model. The 6 Chairs are variously red, blue & yellow, each with a decal of an animal on the back rest - a giraffe, elephant, lion, bear, seal & hippo. No drive can be seen but a **Motor** construction set was available. The illustration gives no indication of size. The box lid has the model, in different colours, against a fairground scene. **POW'R HOUSE** sets were made by Kelmar Corporation, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, & a **Sky Ride** set has also been mentioned.

• Another item is a **1943 BILD-A-SET** outfit, with thick paper parts held together with wooden pegs. It is suggested that these materials were used because metal was not available during the war. Some notes on a BILD-A-SET manual cover appeared in 15/426. Bild-A-Set also made a large number of rather nice card buildings.

• Kendrick also sent a list of **screw threads** from a 1924 S.W.Card Mfg. Co. Tap & Die Catalog. So far as 60° U.S. threads go, the sizes over and above those in 7/169 & 16/459, are the US Std: 3/32" x 50 tpi, 1/8" x 32, 1/4" x 27, & 1/2" x 28. New 60° metric ones are 2mm Ø x .45mm pitch, & 2.5 x .45, though compared to OSN 7, most French threads are listed as International (IFS), and vice-versa. Kendrick listed the smaller threads as well, down to 1/16" and the US #0 diameter, if anyone would like details.

• Finally he mentioned that Marx Trains have produced a system called **TIN TOWN**, which is very similar to the 1920s BILT-E-Z (see 14/378). It is being sold (at train shows) as a collectible, not a toy, because of the sharp edges and toy safety requirements.

9. From Jacques Pitrat. • The Wetzel web site (see 19/552) no longer exists, and other 'unknown' metal sets listed were: #510 **MAGNETICKS** (Magnetic Constr., Ohio, 1949); #5804 **CABLE CAR BUILDER** (Schuco, Germany, 1954); #1 **MICKEY MOUSE** Assembly Set (California, 1947); and #1A **MAGNETIC CONSTR. TOYS** (Goodtoy Prod., England, 1915). A lid from a **KUKO** set, by VEB Ankerwerk Schmalkalden, was also shown.

Another interesting site is <http://www.chem.sunysb.edu/msl/LEGO/>; it's mainly Lego but there are also pages on **AMERICAN MODEL BUILDER**, **STANLO**, & **STEEL BUILDER**.

A #2 **KLIPTIKO** set has a 32 page manual in Dutch, but nothing in Dutch on the lid. The 'importeur voor Nederland' was W.L.M.Weimar of Rotterdam, possibly the same as 'Weimar frères' who were the Meccano 'agents généraux' in the French 1910 & 1911 manuals. [From copies Jacques sent, the manual cover is similar to the UK one that has a large (Eiffel) Tower on the left, and the Contents, for Sets 1-6 & 0-5A, are as p6 of MCS.]

EXTRA MCS SHEETS The Sheets below are available at 15p per Sheet plus postage. That makes £2.85+post for all 19 Sheets.

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AUTOMAT[a]: X1.3/4 - 3m/4m [7]

ESCHO: X1.1,2,3,5 [2]

FIX: X2.5a/6,5b [1]

KONSTRUKTOR [11]: X1.1,2,3/4/5/6,3a/4a/6a,5a,5b [3]

KONSTRUKTÖREN: X1.1,2,3/4/6 [2]

REX: X1.1,2 [1]

STEELBUILDER: X1.2a,3a,5a,7a [2]

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KLIPTIKO This was a simple UK system based on tubular parts which pushed or clipped together. It was aimed at younger children but large structures were shown for the larger sets and it was popular enough to survive for over a quarter of a century. It often brings forth fond reminiscences from ageing Meccanomen. These notes are an attempt to follow the changes that occurred over the years. They were mainly in the manuals, the colour of the parts & the packaging – the full range of parts was available right from the start, or very soon after, and there were no subsequent changes. Most of what will be presented has been taken from material kindly supplied by David Hobson, or from Ebay photos.

The Patent This was No.9628 in the name of Henry Charles Harrison of 'Stoneleigh', Mayfield Road, Moseley, Birmingham. The application date was 24th April 1913 and it was accepted on 14th Aug. 1913. The parts shown are the straight Tubes & the Clip, and they look like the parts actually produced (see Fig.1).

There was also an American patent, No.1095858, dated May 5th, 1914, and a German D.R.G.M, No.562192.

Earlier, in 1909, Harrison had taken out Patent No.3291 which covered similar parts but with square section Tubes, and the Clip had flat end tongues that could either be springy or of soft metal which could be wrapped around another part.

History It is thought that KLIPTIKO was introduced in 1913, or possibly for Xmas 1912. It was made by William Bailey; later, by 1925, William Bailey (Birmingham) Ltd. The initial address was 213-215 Brearley St., Birmingham. By 1921 it had changed to Victoria Works, Weaman St., Birmingham, and in a 1925 ad Oak Works, Weaman St. was given. But Victoria Works was used again in 1926. In the late 1920s an additional factory was opened for KLIPTIKO & WENBRIK production and a 1929 ad gives the company's address as Edward Works, Weaman St. The firm ceased to manufacture toys in 1934 and production & marketing passed to Kliptiko Ltd., Candlewick House, 116/126 Canon St., London EC4. The last known ad for KLIPTIKO was from June 1939 but a small set called SNAPSTICKS with parts similar in style to KLIPTIKO was advertised by a different company in 1948.

The Parts Fig.1 was taken from a 1920s manual. It is possible that the parts needed for the larger Sand Wheels (the Hopper & Curved Tubes) may not have been introduced until 1914. All the parts are shown except a 4ft Cable and a Screw & Nut – parts which were never illustrated. The Cable is a length of very strong spring cord, $\frac{3}{8}$ " in diameter which was used to simulate a Suspension Bridge cable, as in Fig.7. It is nominally 48" long but the two in one set were 51 & 61". A Screw seen in a No.6 set is $\frac{1}{8}$ " BSW cheeseheaded, plain steel, & 1" u/h; its Nut, brassed steel, is square, 6.4mm A/F. The Hook in the Set is made of 1.7mm dull zinc wire, and is 1" long o/a. The Curved Tubes are 6" to a circle.

The Tubes & Clips are rolled tubes and are $\frac{3}{8}$ " Ø. Tubes are joined in-line by pushing each Tube into the slit of the other and twisting until one Tube is completely inside the other. A Tube is joined to a Clip in-line by simply pushing the Tube into a Clip's open end. The Wheels, the small one is actually a pulley, run on the Tubes There is no way of making them fast but a Hub Cap in the end of a Tube prevents them running off.

The Years to the Mid-1920s

The first ad known was in a Bonne Marché catalogue, said to be for the New Year 1913, and there was a similar one a year later. 3 sets were listed with 42, 108 & 214 parts, different

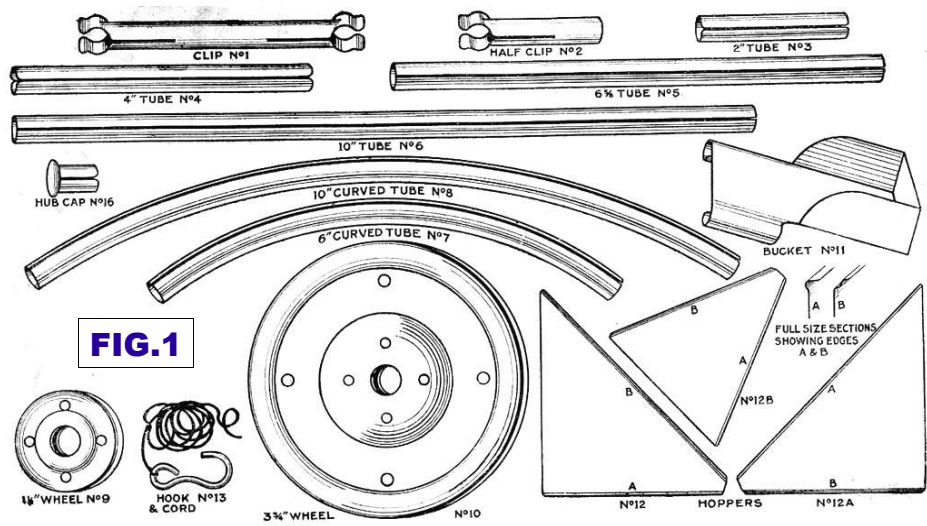


FIG.1

quantities to those in the only known, later, Set Contents. A Gamage's 1913 catalogue listed Sets 1-4 sets at 10½d, 2/4½, 4/11, & 9/11 but with no other details. A piece in a July 1914 trade magazine says that a new set had been added, to retail at 7/6. It was said to include 4 Wheels and be capable of over 50 models including a Sand Wheel about 32" high. The full



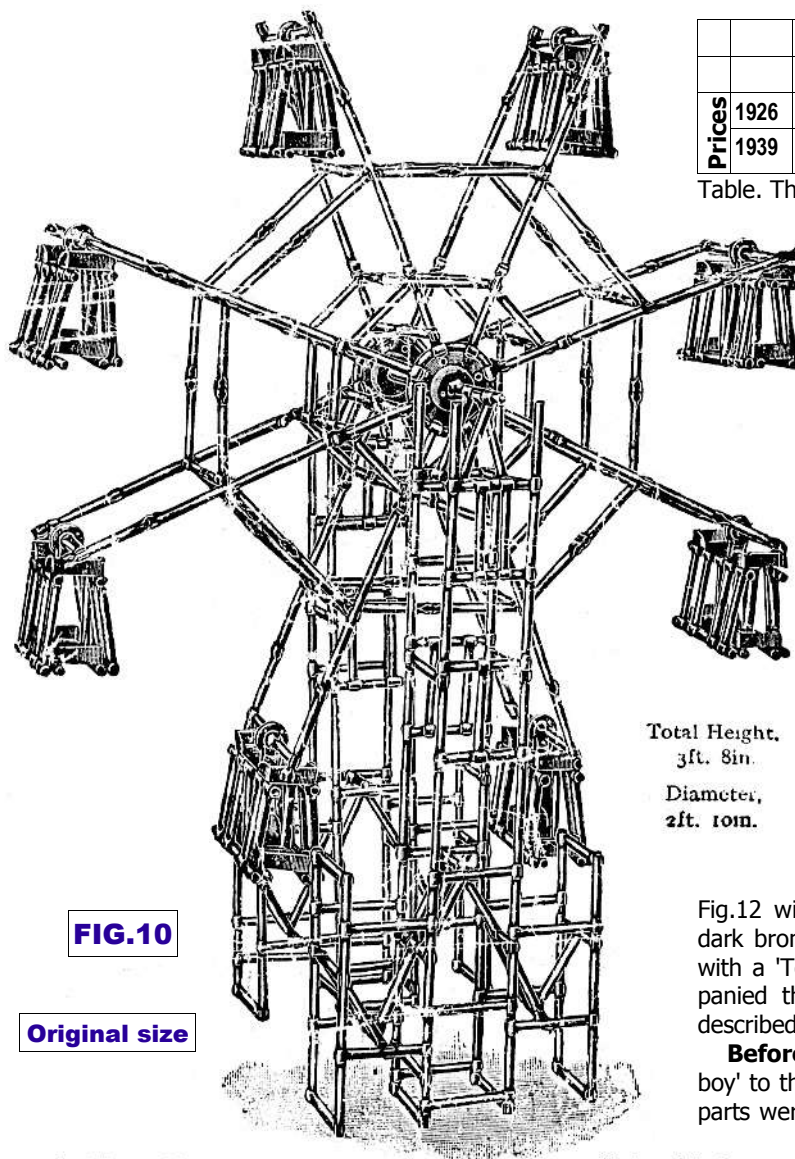
FIG.2



FIG.3



FIG.4



Total Height,
3ft. 8in.
Diameter,
2ft. 10in.

MODEL No. 24.

PASSENGER WHEEL.

Built with Set
No. 4 and Set
No. 04.

An imposing and stately Revolving model, which, though quite easy to build embodies the very best principles of Mechanics. When connected with a Band and driven by the Great Sand Wheel gives a grand example of Machinery in Motion.

even for Dad.

Among the models are 4 Cranes, 2 Roundabouts, 3 Sand Wheels, & 4 Bridges but no motor vehicles or aeroplanes. The only wheeled models are horse-drawn, 2 Vans & a Wagon.

From the Mid-1920s to World War 2

The main changes in this period were to the set structure by the mid 1920s; to the lid label at the same time or possibly earlier, with another change a little later, and again in the mid 1930s; to the finish of the parts with some red in 1929, and multi-coloured in 1939; and to the manuals with a different cover when the new range of sets was introduced, another sometime in the early 1930s, and the introduction of blueprints & a mini-manual in 1939.

1926? The New Sets The last ad which mentioned the old set structure was in Dec. 1921, the first to mention the new range, though without any claim that it was new, was in March 1926. There were Sets 1-6 plus a Set 6 in a presentation cabinet; Accessory Sets were a No.0 and linking outfits 1A-5A. Fig.11 shows the prices of the sets in 1926 and they stayed the same until the changes which were made in 1939. For convenience, the 1939 prices are also included in the

		Set Nos.							Accessory Set Nos.						
		1	2	3	4	5	6	6 *	0	1A	2A	3A	4A	5A	
Prices	1926	2/6	5/-	7/6	12/6	17/6	25/-	30/-	1/-	3/-	3/-	5/6	5/6	8/-	
	1939	2/6	5/-	7/6	10/6	21/-	--	30/-	--	3/-	3/-	3/6	11/6	9/6	

Table. The **Set Contents** were given in 5/101, and apart from Set 0, all the outfits were progressive. Aside from Tubes & Clips the No.1 included 4 Pulleys, & 4 Hub Caps; the 1A a fifth Pulley; the 2A a Hopper, 12 Buckets & 4 Wheels; the 3A, 12x 6" Curved Tubes, 8 Buckets, and 2 Screws & Nuts; the 4A, 12x 10" Curved Tubes, 10 Buckets & 20 Hub Caps; and the 5A, 3 Pulleys, 2 Buckets, 2 Cables, & 3 Hooks. The No.1 contained 29 Clips & 14 tubes; the No.6 228 & 136! The Set 0 contents were 10 Clips, 6 Tubes, 4 Pulleys, & 4 Hub Caps. Since it was classed as an Accessory Set I suppose no models were shown for it and perhaps its main purpose was to attract pocket money. In passing no mention is made in any of the literature of parts being available individually. **Boxes** Sets 1-5 are shown in the manual of the time as partitioned with a single layer of parts. Set 6's presentation cabinet measured about 43*30*12cm, and was made of a light wood, varnished, with the label inside the lid and just the name in black on top. The parts in both it and its cardboard counterpart were in the bottom of the box and in a tray. The cardboard **box lids** were grey and most remained so until 1939, but with an occasional brownish example. The **lid label** was at first as in Fig.12 with a 'green (jumped) boy'. The parts remained a dark bronze shade, sometimes almost black. A **new manual** with a 'Tower' cover (Fig.18) and many more models accompanied the new sets. Two editions are known and will be described later.

Before 1929, A New Label The change from the 'green boy' to the 'orange boy' (Fig.13) was sometime before the red parts were introduced in 1929. I wonder why the change was made.

1929, Coloured Parts were introduced in a May 1929 ad. The Pulley, Wheel, & the Curved Tubes were nicely painted red; the Hopper & the Bucket were red outside and brassed inside. The other parts remained as before although they tended to be a lighter shade as the years went on, from almost black to almost as light as brass in some cases late on. It seems though that there could be variation across the parts in a single set. Much was made in the ad introducing the coloured parts of the joy of seeing them in a Sand Wheel spinning round but for the purchasers of Sets 1 & 2 the only red parts were the Pulleys. The ad also spoke of a Forth Bridge with 'interlaced coloured cantilevers' but it's hard to imagine it without some of the other parts in colour.

1930? A New Manual Initially the Tower manual continued to be used with the coloured sets but at some stage a new manual with a full-colour 'Toyscape' cover (Fig.19), full of KLIPTIKO models, was introduced. It was certainly in use when the new label (see below) was introduced and it has been seen with several Ebay sets which have the Orange Boy label & red parts. One Toyscape manual has a PR of '30/B.P. 8/30' and that could indicate that the change was as early as 1930. (None of the known Tower manuals has a PR.)

1931 The K.K.K. Perhaps declining sales in the depression years prompted a trade ad in September announcing 'The most original sales creating scheme ever devised'— a national advertising campaign was promised to 'tell the story' of the new wheeze, the K.K.K. The initials were commonly known to stand for Ku Klux Klan, a name which had appeal for youngsters even if their parents may well have disapproved of the



FIG.12

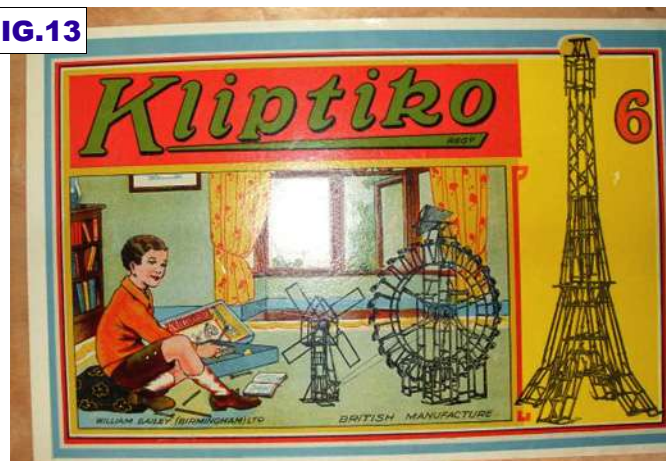


FIG.13



FIG.14

organisation. But in this case K.K.K. stood for Klipitiko Klan, and anyone with a KLIPITIKO set could join the Klan and receive a badge & a diploma, plus the names of 3 other Klan members to write to. Your rank in the Klan depended on the size of your set and various prizes were offered. One, unspecified, if you sent details of a model good enough to be published, and one depending on the number of points you had gained by getting others to join – 1 if they had a No.1 set and going up to 10 for

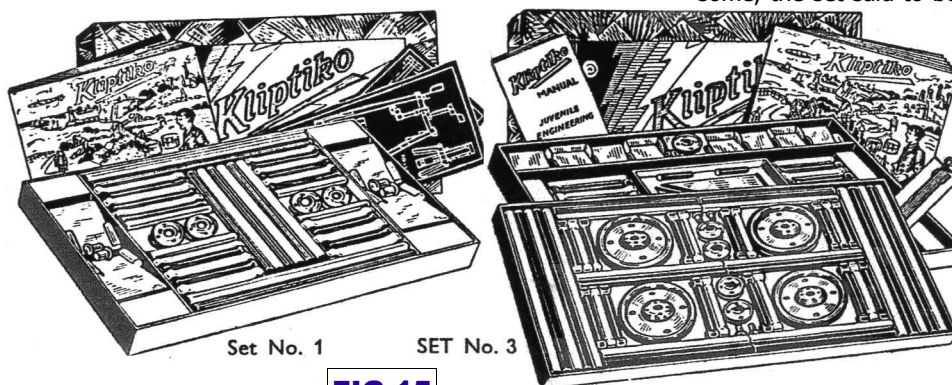


FIG.15

a No.6. These prizes depended on how many points had been accrued – they ranged from a pocket torch for 5 points to a Brownie wireless set for 50. In an ad after Xmas the K.K.K. was described as a 'sweeping success' and it continued to be advertised regularly until Sept. 1932 – but thereafter nothing is known of it.

1934? A New Label This was the 'Sunray' design (Fig.14). It isn't sure when it was introduced but it could have been when, or soon after the change of ownership in 1934.

1939 New Coloured Parts, Lids, Blueprints, & a Juvenile Manual These were announced/shown in a June 1939, ad and all but the colours can be seen in the 2 sets illustrated in it (Fig.15). The **range of sets** remained the same except that the No.0 and the cardboard boxed No.6 were no longer listed. The prices of Sets 4 & 5 changed a little (Fig.11) but it isn't known if there were any changes to the set contents of any of the sets (I wonder about the Set 1 in Fig.15 because the 2 Buckets at each end of the box were not in the earlier set). In an example of the Juvenile Engineering manual to hand (described later, it is shown in Set 3 of Fig.15) the range of sets is given twice as 1 to 5, so it seems that the No.6 was dropped before production ceased during WW2, possibly because of wartime shortages. **The parts** in the only set seen show the Clips painted green, the two longer Tubes yellow, and the shorter one bronzed. Some of the Clips were also bronzed. But shorter yellow Tubes have been seen in loose lots of parts. The red parts remained the same except that the inside of the Bucket, & possibly the Hopper, was yellow. **The lids** had the same Sunray label but were covered in a patterned paper which can be seen in Fig.15. Fig.17 shows the corner of an actual lid with a torn label. To me the pattern detracts from the impact of the label and when I first saw this lid, before I'd seen the ad, I assumed it was covered in cheap wrapping paper used as a wartime expedient. **Manuals** Each set in Fig.15 has a Toyscape manual and 2 Blueprints can be seen by Set 1. On the right in the Set 3 illustration is the small Juvenile Engineering manual already mentioned. All these will be described later.

I found the **Table** below helpful when I got lost in, or confused by, all of the above.

FIG.16

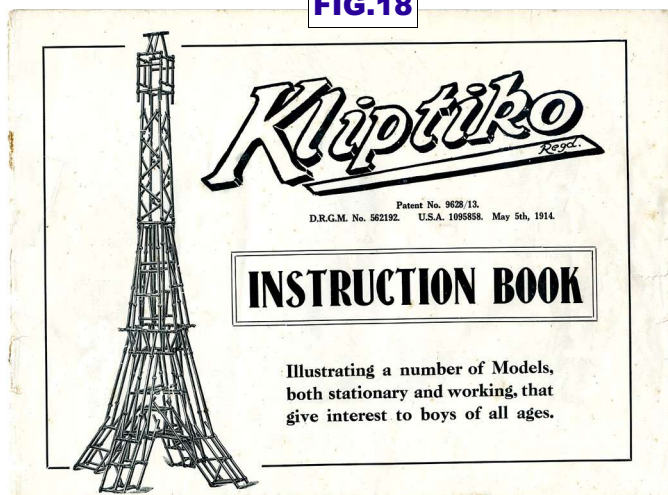
Label	Green Boy	Orange Boy	Sunray		
Lid	Grey or sometimes brownish				Patterned
Parts	Bronze	Bronze	Some Red	Some Red	Multicoloured
Man'l	Tower prob	Tower	Tower	Toyscape	Toyscape+Blue-*
Date:	1926 (or 1920+)	1929	1930?	1934?	1939 *prints+Juvenile

The LATER MANUALS

All except the Juvenile edition. The pages are about 250*185mm and their numbering includes the covers. With time the various editions had more pages, and more models – from 24 pre-WW1 to 36 for the first known Tower manual, and to 55 in the Toyscape one. Very few models were dropped but their order and numbering were often changed, so too for some, the set said to be needed. An important innovation was the inclusion of a Parts Required list for each model. All the manuals to be described have the maker William Bailey (Birmingham) Ltd on the back

FIG.17



FIG.18**FIG.19**

cover, and thus ought to date from before the change of maker in 1934. There are certainly other editions and two others with different PRs have been reported, both earlier than the Toyscape manual to be described.

The first 4 pages of all the manuals after the outside cover are the same with: photos of Sets 1-6 on p2 (the lid labels are the Green Boy type and never changed); a list of sets on p3 with prices and which models could be made with which set; the Illustrated Parts on p4; and building Instructions on p5. The last two pages are also the same with the Set Contents on the inside cover, and 14 (extra) small models on the back cover.

Tower Manual (1) It has 32 pages, with the cover shown in Fig.18. p6 has small illustrations of 12 of the 36 manual models. The latter comprise: Set 1: 1. SWING on p7 to 7. LUGGAGE BARROW on p9; Set 2: 8. BI-PLANE on p9 to 13. CHAIR on p10; Set 3: 14. DELIVERY WAGON on p11 to 19. A STRONG RELIABLE FURNITURE VAN on p13; Set 4: 20. MEDIUM SAND-WHEEL on p14 to 23. REVOLVING CRANE ON WHEELS (as Fig.26) on p17; Set 5: 24. TRAVELLER CRANE on p18 to 26. LARGE SAND-WHEEL on p20; Set 6: 27. TOWER BRIDGE, with Automatic Elevating Roadway on p21 to 36. TOWER (as in Fig.18) on p30.

Among the new models were two novelties for the smaller sets: one, a See-saw with a teddy bear riding one end and a stuffed toy animal the other; two, Performing Gymnasts – 2 jointed card figures (to be made by the builder and attached to Pulleys) with a pulley drive which caused them to perform at either end of a framework. A fair Set 2 Bi-plane was one concession to the 20th century, the other a Tramcar. The latter, and most of the other new models were for Set 6 and included 2 Windmills, a Pit-Head Gear, a Double Elevating Bridge (the drawbridge type), the Crane in Fig.26, and 2 fairground models, a (helter-) Skelter & a Flying Boats (Fig.27). The only major model dropped was the Passenger Wheel, and it never appeared again, or any big wheel model.

Tower Manual (2) It has 36 pages, with the same cover and same p6. The models are: Set 1: 1. SWING on p7 to 7. LUGGAGE BARROW on p9; Set 2: 8. BI-PLANE on p9 to 14. SHIP on p11; Set 3: 15. TELPHER LINE on p11 to 23. STAGE COACH on p14; Set 4: 24. SAND-WHEEL on p15 to 29. ROUNDABOUT on p18; Set 5: 30. SUSPENSION BRIDGE on p19 to 32. LARGE SAND-WHEEL on p21; Set 6: 33. TOWER BRIDGE, with Automatic Elevating Roadway on p22 to 48. MOTOR TIP WAGON on p33. p34 has an ad for the linking sets.

The only new model for Sets 1 & 2 was a Ship for the No.2, but new for Set 3 were another Ship, a Stage Coach and a Racing Car (Fig.22). Apart from a (rather odd) No.6 Aeroplane (Fig.29), most of the new models for the larger sets were modern vehicles of one sort or another: a No.4 Ambulance, and for the No.6: a Motor Lorry, a Fire escape, a Motor Bus, a Motor Tip Wagon, and a Pullman Car.

Toyscape Manual It has 40 pages, with the cover in Fig.19. The models are: Set 1: 1. SWING on p6 to 8. AEROPLANE on p8; Set 2: 9. BI-PLANE on p8 to 18. REVOLVING CRANE on p11; Set 3: 19. GOODS ELEVATOR on p11 to 26. MOTOR LORRY on p15 (Fig.21); Set 4: 27. SAND-WHEEL on p16 to 33. TRICYCLE on p19; Set 5: 34. TRAVELLER CRANE on p20 to 40. a Roundabout but unnamed on p25 (Fig.20); Set 6: 41. FLYING BOATS on p26 to 55. TOWER on p37. p38 has an ad for the linking sets. p40, the back cover, has the PR 15/B.P. 9/34.

The only new model for Set 1 is a strange looking Aeroplane; for Set 2 another Gymnast who performs when the model is pulled along, and a tidy looking Revolving Crane. New for Set 3, another Ship, a 12 Bucket Water Wheel (with a rotor like the small Sand Wheel), and a very fair Motor Lorry (Fig.21); for Set 4, only a reasonable Tricycle; for Set 5 the unnamed Roundabout with an attractive decorative top facade (Fig.20); and for Set 6 a fairly attractive Clock Tower.

Other Manuals It seems very probable that there was a manual, yet to be seen, for the sets available, possibly three, when the system was launched.

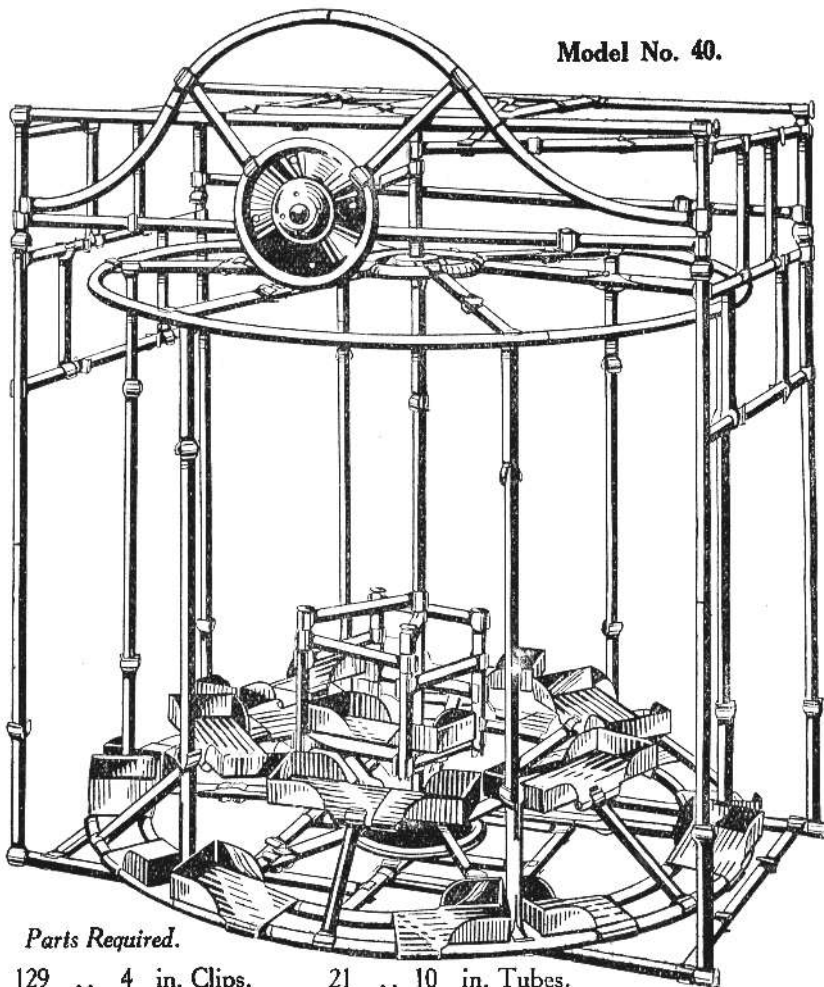
Two other Toyscape manuals have been reported, one of 40 pages with 55 models and a PR of 30/B.P. 8/30; the second with a PR of 20/B.P. 9/32.

A 36 page Dutch Tower manual was mentioned in 20/587 and it is now known that it matches the Tower (2) edition above. A French manual was mentioned in 18/523 but with no details.

The Juvenile Manual & Blueprints An example of this manual, with some inside pages missing, and 6 double-sided Blueprints came with a mix of loose coloured & bronzed parts, the remains of a No.3 set. At the time I thought that the manual was probably a wartime or early postwar expedient when paper was in short supply. But as shown in Fig.15, it and the Blueprints were introduced before WW2.

The **Manual** has 32 pages, 90*153mm, plus covers. The front is as in Fig.15 plus 'For Boys from 4 to 10 years of age' across the bottom. The other covers are blank. pp1-2 have an introduction with mention that 'Kiptiko parts are sold in outfits numbered 1 to 5', and that linking sets allow a No.1 to be built up into a No.5. Some of the parts are illustrated on pp3-6 (but not all that would be in a No.5) together with how to join them. pp7-12 & 23-26 are missing – on the remaining pages are models from Bedstead to Pullman Car. They have no Model Nos., nor Parts Lists, and include manual models (some with minor changes from those in the manuals proper) plus some from the small models on the back cover of said manuals. They are a mix of large & small models in no particular order, with no indication of which set is needed for any of them. Some of the models are Set 6 models in the regular manuals and would need many more parts than in Set 5. Some of the models refer to 'blue prints' followed by a number from 101 to 114 (they are not in sequence and so there could be more on the missing pages).

The **Blueprints** to hand are Nos.101-112 with one model



Model No. 40.

FIG.23

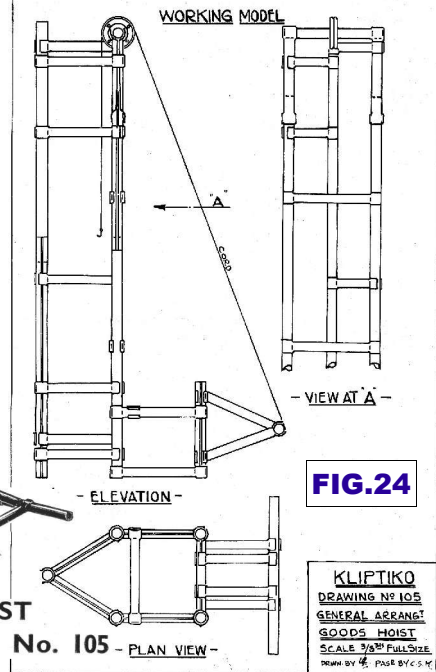
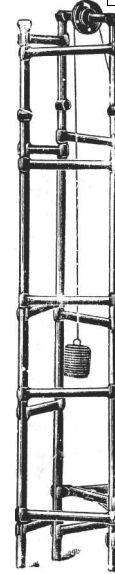


FIG.24

GOODS HOIST

See blue print No. 105 - PLAN VIEW -

Original size

KLIPTIKO
DRAWING NO 105
GENERAL ARRANGEMENT
GOODS HOIST
SCALE 3/8" FULL SIZE
DRAWN BY G. PAGE BY C.S.M.

Parts Required.

129 .. 4 in. Clips.	21 .. 10 in. Tubes.
3 .. Half Clips.	10 .. 6 in. Bent Tubes.
12 .. 2 in. Tubes.	12 .. 10 in. Bent Tubes.
12 .. 4 in. Tubes.	1 .. 1 1/2 in. Wheel.
19 .. 6 5/8 in. Tubes.	26 .. Buckets.

FIG.20

Original size

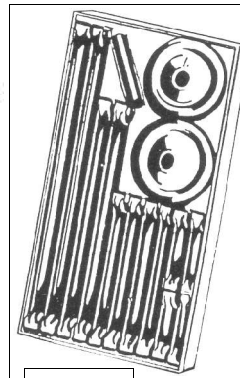


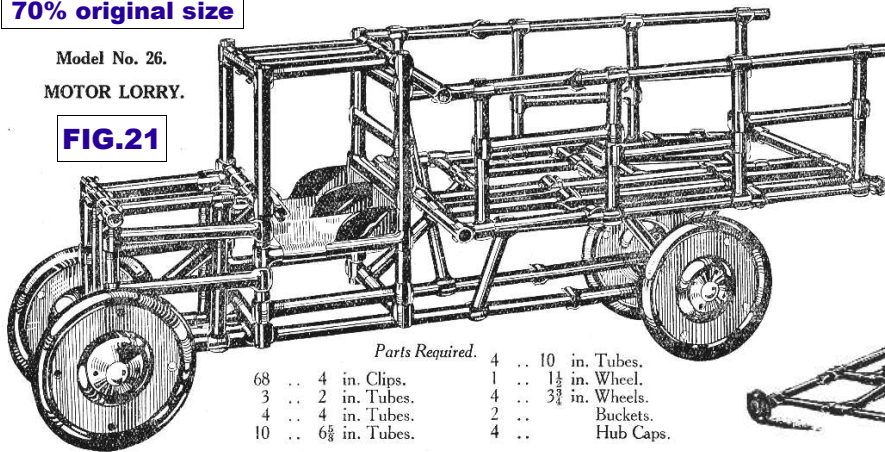
FIG.25

70% original size

Model No. 26.

MOTOR LORRY.

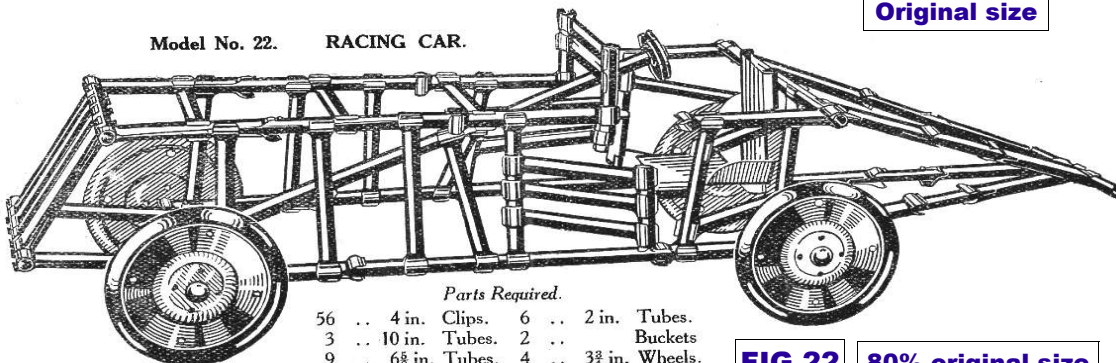
FIG.21



Parts Required.

68 .. 4 in. Clips.	4 .. 10 in. Tubes.
3 .. 2 in. Tubes.	1 .. 1 1/2 in. Wheel.
4 .. 4 in. Tubes.	4 .. 3 3/4 in. Wheels.
10 .. 6 5/8 in. Tubes.	2 .. Buckets.
	4 .. Hub Caps.

Model No. 22. RACING CAR.



Parts Required.

56 .. 4 in. Clips.	6 .. 2 in. Tubes.
3 .. 10 in. Tubes.	2 .. Buckets
9 .. 6 5/8 in. Tubes.	4 .. 3 3/4 in. Wheels.
2 .. 4 in. Tubes.	4 .. Hub Caps.

FIG.22

80% original size

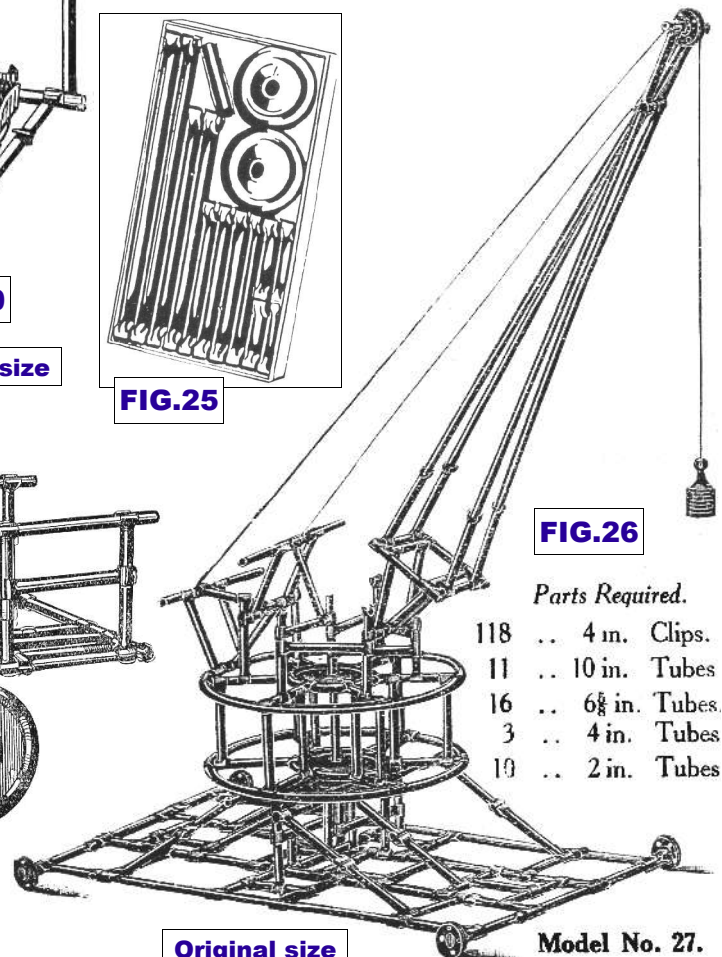


FIG.26

Parts Required.

118 .. 4 in. Clips.
11 .. 10 in. Tubes
16 .. 6 5/8 in. Tubes.
3 .. 4 in. Tubes
19 .. 2 in. Tubes

Model No. 27.
REVOLVING CRANE
ON WHEELS.

12 .. 6 in. Bent Tubes
2 .. 3 3/4 in. Wheels.
5 .. 1 1/2 in. Wheels.
4 .. Hub Caps.
1 .. Hook.
1 .. Cord.

on each side of the 6 sheets. They are 277*155mm except that 111-112 is double-sized. The models are shown as engineering drawings with, usually, 2 or more views in first angle

Parts Required.

149	4 in.	Clips.
31	10 in.	Tubes.
18	6 5/8 in.	Tubes.
14	4 in.	Tubes.

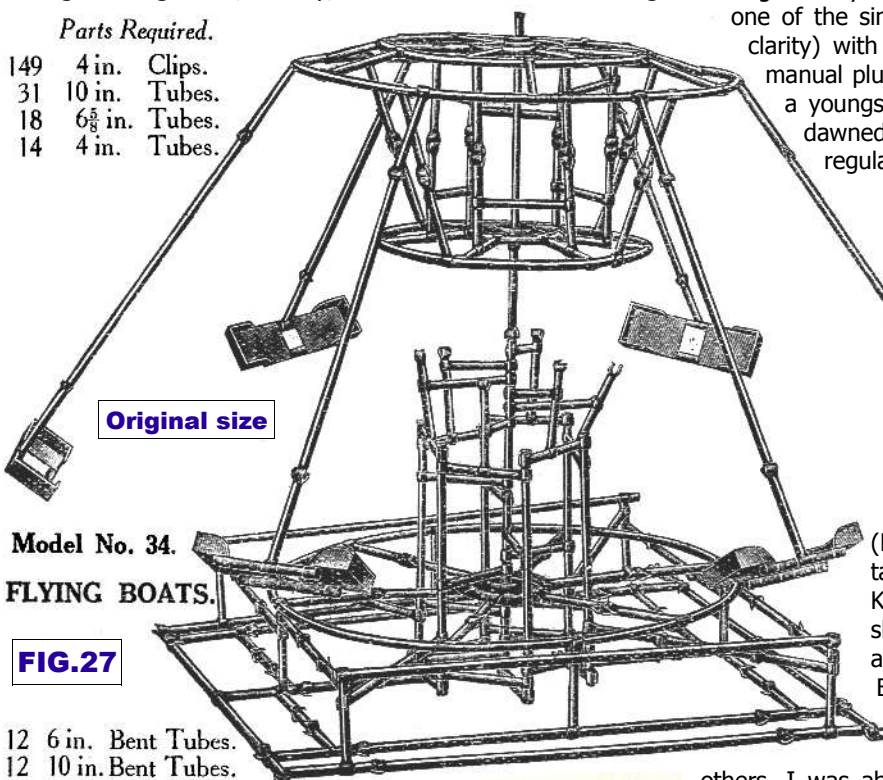


FIG.27

12	6 in.	Bent Tubes.
12	10 in.	Bent Tubes.
3	3 3/4 in.	Wheels.
1	1 1/2 in.	Wheel.
12		Buckets.



FIG.28

projection, plus sectional views as needed, all to a scale of 3/8 or 1/4 full-size. They are quite well done but what would an average 4-10 year old make of them? Fig.24 is an example of one of the simpler models (as a B&W negative for better clarity) with the Manual version alongside. The Juvenile manual plus Blueprints would not be nearly as useful to a youngster as the regular manual, and perhaps this dawned on someone late in the day and hence the regular manuals with the 1939 sets (Fig.15).

After WW2

As far as is known KLIPTIKO was not reintroduced after the war, so perhaps prewar sales had declined to the point where it was not felt worthwhile, especially if the tooling and/or stocks had been destroyed by bombing. However something of KLIPTIKO may have lived on for a little while. An ad in January 1948 from Champion Products Ltd., 190 Ashted Row, Birmingham 7 shows a set (Fig.25) called **SNAPSTICKS**, at 5/11+2/-tax. The structural parts in it look similar to KLIPTIKO but the Clips are in 4 lengths with a short Tube to perhaps join them and provide an axle. Ashted Row is about a mile from Bailey's Weaman Street.

Using the Parts

With the remaining No.3 parts, plus a few others, I was able to make the small Sand Wheel left. The framework built up really quickly and this aspect of KLIPTIKO would have been an attractive feature for the young builder. It was adequately rigid but could be knocked out of shape fairly easily. It was equally easy to knock it back into shape but adding two diagonal cross braces was worthwhile. As would often be the case this bracing needed Half Clips and I was surprised to see that there were none in Sets 1-3, and only 6 in Set 6. The wheel too was quickly built and reasonably easy to true up. It ran without problem, and rather impressively, until I tired of refilling the Hopper. There was no way of locating the wheel sideways within the framework but it stayed centred once the stream of sand was turning it.

I also made a simple Crane and that too was successful except that there was no way of making a ratchet or brake for the winding spindle, or of making a satisfactory winding handle. So to prevent the load running away the fork ends of the Clips which provided the bearings for the winding spindle had to grip it fairly tightly and then it was quite difficult to turn. In some models a winding handle is made using a Clip on the spindle and a Tube in its other end. I tried this but it was too large for my small model and in any case the fork ends tended to slip. Some care was needed in both models to bend the Clip ends to give an appropriate level of grip.



FIG.30

PS I forgot to include the only photo to hand of a linking set. It is from the red parts/Tower manual period.

75% original size

Model No. 44. AEROPLANE.

150	..	4 in.	Clips.			
2	..		Half Clips.	5	..	Buckets.
20	..	6 $\frac{5}{8}$ in.	Tubes.	3	..	3 $\frac{3}{4}$ in. Wheels.
18	..	10 in.	Tubes.	3	..	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. Wheels.

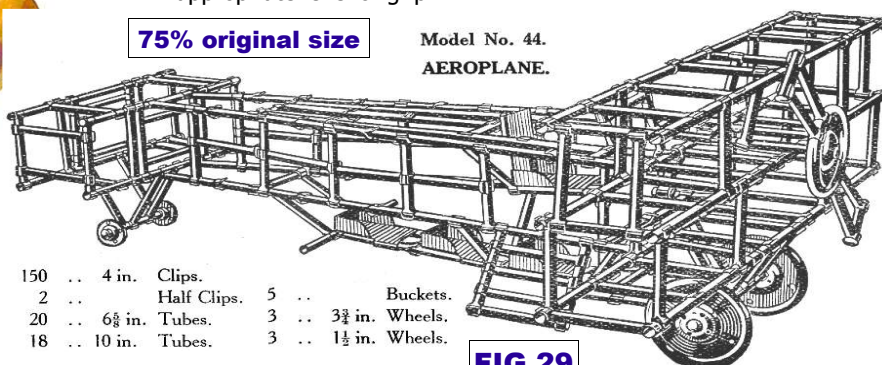


FIG.29