

'New' System: KONSTRUKTOR Another small Russian system with 43 parts, but some of them are a little unusual. Richard Symonds kindly sent photos & photocopies of a small No.2 set (5 models) with manual, a larger one (33 models) without a manual, & a Motor. This was an Ebay lot & another at about the same time included a manual for the larger set.

The **set boxes** are shown below & though the labels look very different it is thought that they are from the same factory. In the first place the parts in both sets are shown in the Manual, and also a silhouette version of the archer logo on the lid of the small set can just be seen on the side of the large box, and on the red shirt of 'Handsome Harry' (Richard's description) on its lid. This solid version is also on the back of the Manual, and is shown among the models on the next page.

The **manufacturer** is given on the lid of the small box as the Progress Works in Michuinsk, a town I haven't been able to find on a map and all Google says of it is that it has an Agricultural College. Also on this label is 'OCT 17-882-81': OCT implies a reference of some sort and the numbers might indicate an early 1980s date.

In both **sets** the parts are inside a white expanded foam tray – the small one has a similar foam lid with label, while the larger one is provided with a cardboard lid. The overall dimensions of the two are $11\frac{1}{8} \times 8\frac{1}{2}$ " & $12\frac{1}{4} \times 8\frac{1}{4} \times 2$ ".

The word after No.2 on the label of the small set seems to be made up of '(bi)cycle/motor/construction set' but the models in the manual don't really reflect either theme.

The hole pitch is 10mm & apart from their holes being shown rather oversize, most of **the parts** look like their illustrations in the Manual shown right. Differences are noted below, along with a few dimensions, all scaled.

The metal parts are steel with a metallic grey finish, perhaps dull BZP, and many show a degree of iridescence. Plastic parts are black, but in other sets some wheels look grey or translucent white.

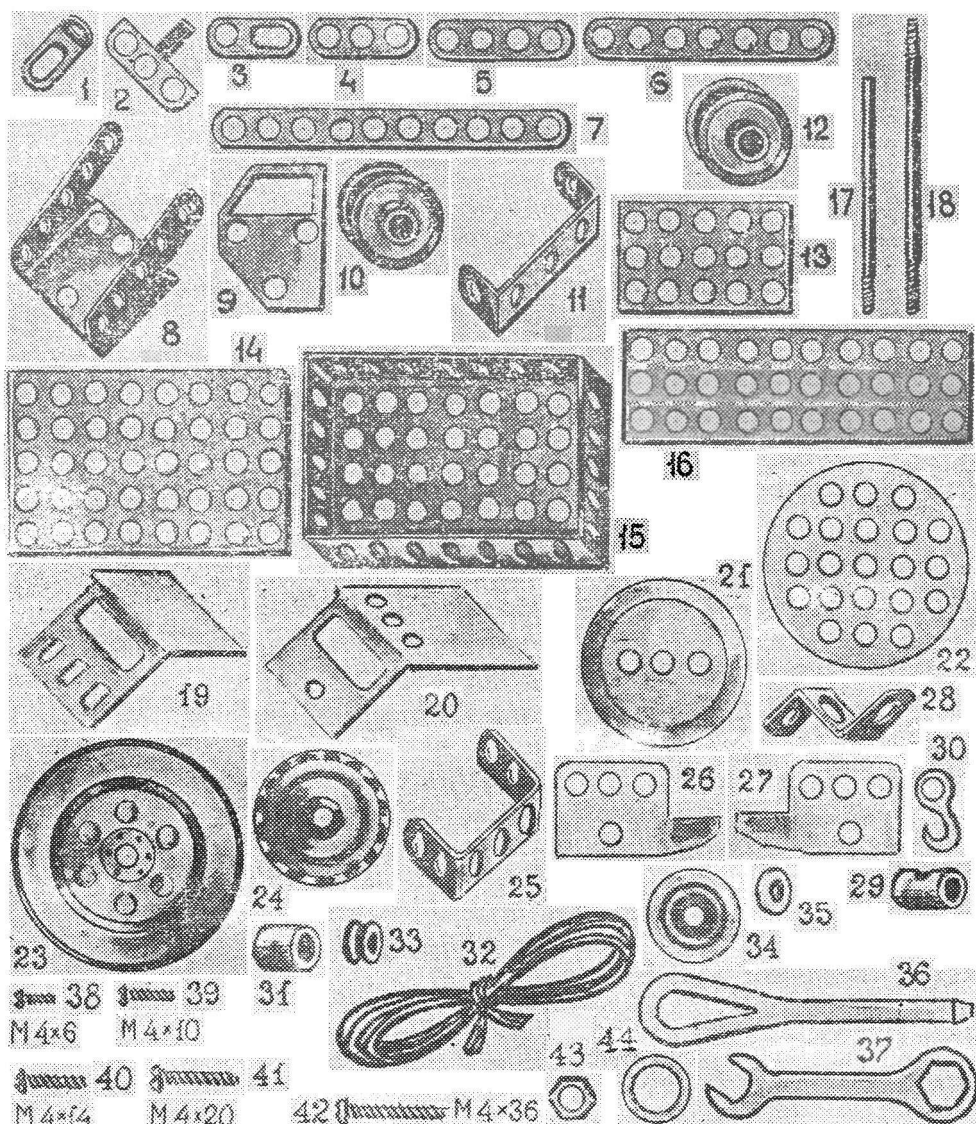
Details • #2 has a narrow lug angled upwards.

• The **plastic parts**. #10 & 12 are Pulleys of about 20mm Ø, and #10 looks to have an integral boss with RH set screw, probably a standard Bolt #38. #24, 30mm Ø, is a Road Wheel, & #23, 75mm Ø, likewise probably, though it's possible it has a

Leading Particulars

Name	KONSTRUKTOR	Country	Russia
Maker	Progress Works, Michuinsk.		
History	Perhaps early 1980s.		
Hole dia.	4mm.	Hole pitch	10mm.
Sets	No.2 (5 models) & and one larger (33 models).		
Material/Finish	Steel with discoloured finish (BZP?); black plastic Wheels & Pulleys.		
Boss	probably integral plastic tapped M4.		
Fixings	M4 hex Nut & RH Bolts (6,10,14,20,36mm long), all bright looking.		
Axles	Rods with Screwed Ends.		
Motor	Perhaps a small, plastic-cased electric, Type P-1.		
DP	No Gears known.		

pulley groove. #29 is a blackish Collar, plastic or metal, again with a #38 as set screw. Its wall thickness is greater than shown and it's probably not as wide. #31 is a Spacer. #33 is a 10mm Loose Pulley. #34 & 35 are small Wheels of 20 & 10mm Ø and can be seen as the seat & under the handlebars of the Trike shown later. #44 looks like a black O-ring and though illustrated in the Manual it is not included in the Parts List.



• The lugs of the **DAS** #11 are longer than shown. • It can't be seen for sure if the holes in the flanges of the 5*8h **Flanged Plate** #15 are elongated, but probably not. • The **Axles** #17 & 18 are 50 & 60mm long including their screwed ends. • #20 is

40mm wide; #19 is nearer 35mm. • #21 is 40mm o.d. and in the Manual it looks like a Pulley Disc but in some photos it appears more like a Flanged Disc. • The tapered lugs on the handed parts #26 & 27 are angled upwards. • The Hook #30 is 18mm long o/a. • The Cord #32 is white. • The Screwdriver #36 & Spanner #37 are 100 & 75mm long o/a, and at the ring end of the latter the outer edges are trimmed off parallel to the longitudinal axis. • There is a Washer in Richard's photo but it isn't anywhere in the Manual • The Motor is shown right, and its box, but there is nothing to prove that it is part of the system.

The contents of the No.2 Set are 10x#1; 3x #3; 4x #4; 6x #5; 2x #6; 2x #7; 1x #8; 5x #11; 1x #12; 2x #13; 1x #15; 1x #19; 4x #24; 2x #25; 4x #28; 4x #31; 2x #33; 1x #34; 2x #35; 1x #36; 2x #37; 25x #38; 3x #39; 2x #40; 4x #41; 2x #42; 38x #43.

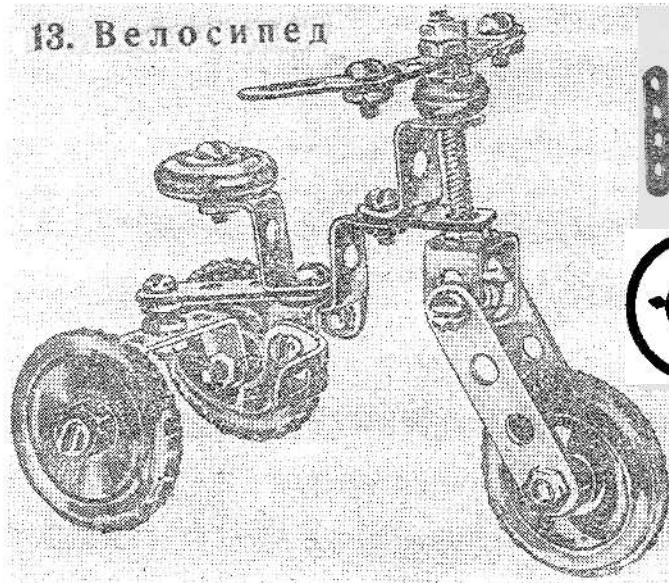
The No.2 manual is all in Russian and including covers it has 12 unnumbered pages, about 230*150mm - the front cover (p1) is shown far right. p2 has a list of all 43 PNs but names & quantities are only given for those in the No.2 outfit. p3 in an Intro, p4-5 show the parts,



& 6-10 the 5 models, one to a page, with one large illustration of each plus a parts list. The first is No.3 on p6, a 2-Wheel Luggage Barrow, followed by No.4, a Wheelbarrow, No.13 shown bottom left, No.15 as on the cover, and No.18, bottom right, on p10. (The Parts Lists shown are my versions to save space.) After the models is the back cover, plain on the inside, and with the



logo & 'ОСТ 17-882-81' on the back. The cover of the manual for the larger set is as above but with '33 models', in Russian, in red, in the bottom right corner. It would be interesting to see the models in it.



Parts for No.18: 10,2,1,2,2,5,2,1,1,4,2,2,21,2,4,1,34 of #1,4,5,7,11,12,13,15,19,24,25,35,38,39,41,42,43.

Parts for No.13: 6,3,2,3,1,3,3,1,1,1,7,3,1,2,1,19 of #1,3,4,5,11,24,28,33,34,35,38,39,40,41,42,43.

KONSTRUKTOR [15]: S2

OSN 30/904

'New' System: JIFFY BUILDER Actually 'SUPER JIFFY BUILDER | MINATURE MECHANICS | ALUMINUM CONSTRUCTION SET' on the canister label (right), and if you think you've seen a similar label before think GIRDER BILT (and see 17/467). It has a canister identical in size, with an identical label except that JIFFY is green where G B is blue, and on JIFFY the words around the top & bottom are 'JIFFY MIXER CORP. | 1060 WASHINGTON AVENUE | BRONX 56. N. Y.' No model leaflet was with the set to hand, but the models on the label are the same for both sets.

The parts are mostly like those in the OSN 17 G B set but notes on differences follow, together with the quantities found, probably the remains of 2 or 3 sets.

- 16,23,57 of 16,8,4h Strips, but some of the 4 & 8h have probably been cut from longer ones. Several have sharp nibs on their ends like the OSN 17 parts.
- 48 A/B
- 8 dull red Wheels like those in 19/555.



• 3 Spanners, again the OSN 18 type, with a dull black chemical finish. On all, the tip of the round end has been ground down a little and will just enter the slot in the Bolts.

• N&B. Leaving aside a single Nut, these are steel with a 4-48 thread and so differ from any seen before in G B or BOYCRAFT (in 27/785). The 48 hex Nuts, 4.7mm A/F & 1.6mm thick, have a dull grey finish. They are the same size as the OSN 17 parts and thus do not fit the Spanner.

Bolts. 19 of one type, 11mm u/h, have the same finish as the Nuts, and a 4.9mm Ø round head. The remaining 25 Bolts, 7mm u/h, are nicked and have a flattened round head 5.1mm Ø. The 11mm Bolt is not quite long enough to allow a Wheel to rotate on it when it is locknuttled to a Strip.

The single Nut, 5.7mm A/F, fits the Spanner. It is nicked brass, 1.8mm thick; its thread has not been identified but it is similar in diameter to the other N&B.

JIFFY BUILDER: S1

OSN 30/904