## 26

## OTHER SYSTEMS NEWSLETTER

**OSN 26** 

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Editor Tony Knowles

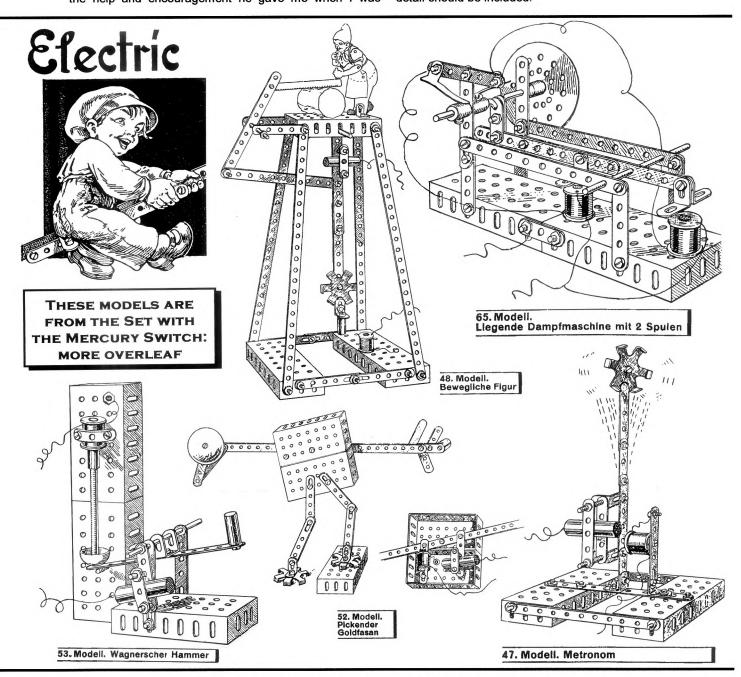
7 Potters Way Laverstock Salisbury SP1 1PY England

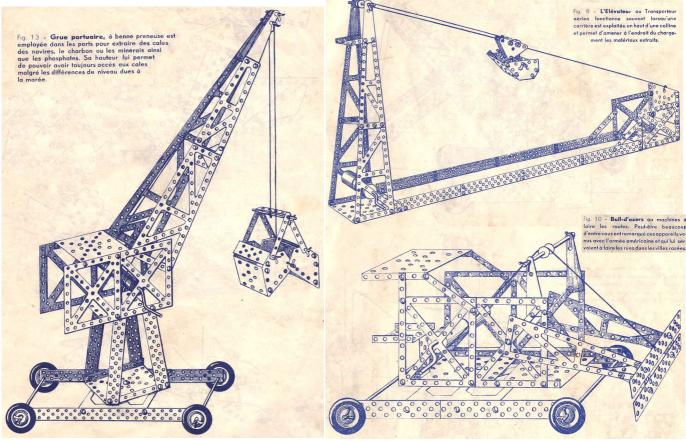
E-mail: Tony.Knowles@OSNL.freeserve.co.uk

**EDITORIAL** I'm very sad to have to write that Frank Beadle died in February. He had not enjoyed good health for several years but maintained his many interests, including 'Other Systems', until quite recently. He will be remembered among us for his yeoman work, with Don Blakeborough, in collecting together the material for Metal Construction Systems, Parts 1 to 5 — a mammoth achievement - and for continuing to make copies of them available to newcomers to our pastime. And personally, I shall remember him for his engaging personality, and for the help and encouragement he gave me when I was

starting this Newsletter.

A number of readers have asked for more on the non-MECCANO parts now being produced around the world by various companies & individuals. There are quite a few such sources, including some which don't last very long, and many pages would be needed to give full details. To test reactions, some brief notes on 5 suppliers appear on pages 776-7 of this Issue. Comments would be welcome on whether space should be given to this aspect in future, and if so which suppliers are of interest, and how much detail should be included.





hole through it for the Cord to be tied on.

**The Manual** It is 218\*154mm deep and has 16 pages including the covers. The front is generally similar to the lid but with a yellow/fawn background. Also the 'better world' words are omitted, and the JUGA logo is at the top with Le Monteur (The Builder) above it, and 'Les Compagnons ... ' underneath. There is no description of the parts inside, nor the set Jacques. JUGA was made at the end of 1947 by Jules Gauvry contents, and there are no building instructions or lists of the parts required for the models. It can be seen though from the 3 models shown above (25-35% of the original area, and the creator's name. Jacques added that he was living in Saintposition of the text changed) that building them should be fairly straightforward. Apart from one 16cm Axle the main parts found in the Set would be sufficient to make any of the manual models but 2 extra Inner Jib Frames would be needed

for the tower of the model featured on the box lid & manual cover. Two of the actual parts differ from the way they are shown in the manual: the Outer Jib Frame does not have the 2 triangular cutouts at its narrow end, and the top of the 5\*5cm Flanged Plate has 18 instead of 10 holes.

**Postscript** from Jeannot Buteux/Constructorama via of Saint-Romain le Puy, a small town near Saint-Etienne, and the name of the system comes from the first letters of its Etienne at that time and though very interested in metal construction systems, doesn't remember ever seeing a JUGA set in a toy shop.

JUGA: S2 OSN 36/1094

**Snippet: German MERKUR** A box label from this system was shown in 27/794 and since then 3 sets have been seen on Ebay. All are in red boxes with the blue OSN 27 label, and all have the same pattern of partitioning. One of the boxes is shown right with its manual. As can be seen the Strips, Brackets, etc are black, the Flanged Plates yellow, and the circular parts red. The second set has the same colour scheme though the red parts look to be a distinctly lighter shade. They are also lighter in the third set and the Flanged Plates are blue. The Strips etc in this set look silver but that may well be a trick of the light.

Among the parts that can be seen in the three sets are 5,7,11,25h Strips; 3h Strip but with no

centre hole; 2h Strip with concave sides that looks like a cycle chain part; Curved Slotted Strip about 4h long; 25h A/G; 1\*7\*1h DAS with the outer holes on the top slotted; 5\*11h



Flanged Plate with again the outer top holes slotted; A/B; Double Bent Strip; D/B; 2h deep D/B. The red parts have tapped bosses and the Axles look silver.

**Snippet. 'New' French System: PUNCH** 

The set shown here was offered on the French Ebay, and it clearly AVIADYP (see 35/1051) under a different name. Thank

you to David Hobson for alerting me to it.

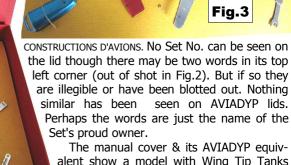
The parts in the Set match those of the No.1 outfit in what was called Phase 2 in OSN 35. Apart from the name etc (and the purple stain on the lid) the lid label & manual cover shown right are the same as their AVIADYP counterparts in OSN 35 (Figs.25,23). Also the two models shown from the manual on Ebay, Chasseur à Réaction & Chasseur "Météore", (Jet & Propeller Fighters) are in the OSN 35 manual.

Phase 2 sets vary in their lid labels & in the arrangement of the parts of the backing cards. The Punch set has the later label used on all Phase 3

sets, but in having the main wing parts on both cards, is typical of the Phase 1 outfits.

**PUNCH: S1** 

The words to the left of PUNCH on the lid label are



The manual cover & its AVIADYP equivalent show a model with Wing Tip Tanks but these were not in this Set nor in any known Phase 2 sets. It is perhaps worth

noting that the AVIADYP version of the manual was actually from a Phase 3 set in OSN 35 which did include said Tanks.

OSN 51/1570

More on the German MERKUR

A little about this system was given in 36/1094 and now Urs Flammer has kindly sent photos of his set, and the front of a manual seen on Ebay.

There is no indication of the Set's designation but the Manual cover (below) has Größe 1 (Size 1) on it, and in other Ebay offerings this cover is shown with sets whose boxes are identical to Urs'.

**The maker** on the cover is Fritz Hochstrate, Im Hölken 3a, Wüppertal-Nächstebreck (hence the FHW on the

Vorlagenhelt

MERKUR

METALLBAUKASTEN

METALLWARENFABRIK FRITZ HOCHSTRATE

Wüppertal-Nächstebreck

Fig.1



lid (see 27/794, it is shown in colour the OSN website, click on OSN 27), Telefon 57640.

The Set's box is light brown, 37\* 27\*2½cm, with the label above. Left, its base, partitioned as before. But unlike previous sets seen the parts are nickel plated and can be seen much more clearly.

Fig.2 Parts that have not been

mentioned before are: • a 3h Strip (left, as well as the one without a centre hole, and with one of its end holes slotted); • a Bush Wheel; • 2h Ø Pulleys; • hexagon Nuts & cheeseheaded Bolts; • 3 Collars or Spacers (above the packet of N&B); • the 'Pointer' part immediately above

them in the next bay up (a Pawl conceivably if there were Gears, but 3 can be seen in the OSN 36 set); • Axles about 45, 90, & 110mm long; • a Spanner & a Screwdriver. • Also a Crank Handle is used in the model on the cover.

Urs wrote that holes are 3.4mm Ø at 13mm pitch, Axles are 3.2mm Ø, and the thread is M3.

MERKUR [2]: S2 OSN 51/1570

More on the GLUCK Zeppelin. Since 50/1521 two identical models have been seen on Ebay, each complete except for its Nose Cone. Fig.1 shows the Cabin complete with Wheels, and the loose parts in Fig.2 include 2 more Wheels which could be fitted to the lower Fin, and 2 Bombs. The Leaflet with the models is as before but is clearer and in the instructions the Wheels are referred to as No.15, called Motor in the Illustrated Parts. Also the No.12 Handle is to be fitted outside the Nose Cone on the Bolt which holds the Cone in place — presumably to represent a mooring point. The Bombs can be bolted to the lugs under the Cabin instead of Wheels,





or, using the Bolts which join the body sections, wherever there is space for

them. The dimensions of one of the models were given as  $15\frac{1}{2}$ " long (without the Nose Cone) &  $3\frac{3}{4}$ " wide.

GLUCK: S4 OSN 51/1570