



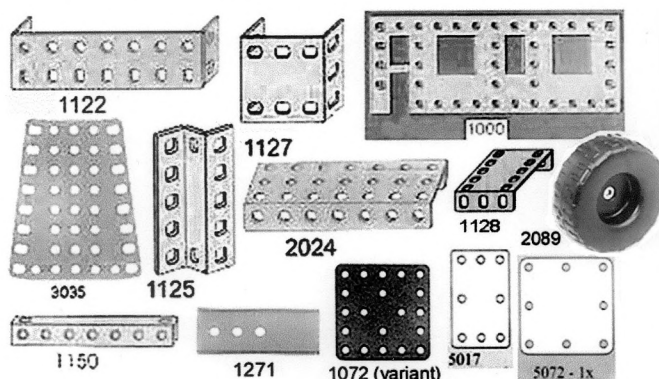
pages plus covers. The Motor on the cover above is virtually identical to the one from the Elektro set in Fig. 1B of 9/210. On p2 are a list of the 88 experiments in the manual, and they follow a 6 page Introduction. The 13 on electrostatics start on p10; the 17 on current electricity on p18; the 13 on magnetism on p27; the 25 on electro-magnetism on p34; the 11 on electrical machines on p47; the 3 on electrical measuring instruments on p54; and the 6 on electro-chemistry on p56. The Illustrated Parts/Set Contents are on pp60-63. p64 has brief biographical notes on 27 scientists, and there are portraits of 16 of them on the inside covers. For each experiment there is a photo, with a circuit diagram sometimes, and always a fairly lengthy note of (no doubt) explanation. It all looks quite serious.

The box lid is similar to the manual cover but has a red 'CROSS' label top left with some parts underneath it.

The **E2 Elektronic Set** uses the same mounting board but the wire ends of the standard resistors, capacitors, etc are looped and bolted to black plastic Component Blocks, with the same Bolts holding the Blocks to the Plate. The Blocks are connected together by Strips, or Cables with circular tagged ends. The parts include 2 Transistors, a Thermistor, and an Earphone. The 56 page manual is the same size as the Electrical one, and its cover is again similar to the box lid - with a boy setting up an experiment and another watching him. The 60 experiments inside are presented in a similar way, though with more circuit diagrams and less photos. It looks good, serious stuff, and I think I'll leave it at that.

Neither the E1 or E2 sets are listed on any of the foreign sites but since they are in the Czech/English brochure perhaps English language instructions exist. One known example of the old ELEKTRO sets has a manual in Czech plus a booklet with 'MANUAL OF INSTRUCTIONS FOR MERKUR ELEKTRO ELECTRICAL CONSTRUCTIONAL SETS' on its plain white cover. It is thought that it contains an English version of the Czech text in the Manual.

**The new parts** are shown below. The 5\*13h pierced Side Plate, #1000, for the Coach is yellow. The Flanged Plates are: #1128 3\*5h; #2024, 3\*7h; #1122, 2\*7h; #1127, 3\*3h. #3035 is a flat version of the Flanged Sector Plate



#2035. The Plates #5017 & #5072 are Transparent Plates with only the holes shown. The 2 parts in the centre at the bottom are from the Army Set: the first is in fact an existing part, the Pole Piece #1271 in the E1 Set; the 5\*5h Plate with the diamond of 4 holes in the middle is shown on the bottom of the box as the #1072 fully Perforated Plate. That leaves the 5h long Z-Girder, #1125, and the 7h long 1\*1\*1h Channel Girder, #1150, with only the end holes on the top face.

Other parts which may be new are: a Compression Spring, #1094, as used in the suspension of the 1.1 models; #2050, a Spacer, probably plastic, of about the size of the Collar; a 1\*2\*1h DAS, #4031; and a couple of Tyres - one is the #2089 Wheel used on the 1.1 models, it is probably the one illustrated in 21/613; and the other is #3089, a larger Tyre for the 26mm Pulley, used on the back wheels of the 010 Race Car.

An innovation for 2002 is a change to **Allen-headed Bolts**, though as yet they are not in all sets (they were shown prematurely in the Illustrated Parts of many of the 2001 small sets). All found to date have a smart black finish, with matching Nuts. In some sets the various lengths of Bolts have different heads and both an Allen Key & Screwdriver are provided.

In passing, the Large & Small **Pawls** (#1071 & 1070) are found left- & right-handed, and where appropriate pairs are often packed in sets.

All the **ELEKTRO E1** parts will be shown in MCS.

**Parts Packs** The Dutch site lists 13 of these, Nos. nd101 to nd113: Strips & A/Gs; Strips & Plates; Curved Strips; Wheels (?Pulleys); Gears; Tyres & ?Rims; Flanged & Angled Plates; N&B; 25h Strips' 25h A/Gs; Small Plastic Plates; Large Plastic Plates; Rubber Caterpillar Tracks. They vary in price from €2.50 for the Small Plastic Plates, to €14.50 for the Gears.

**An oddity** Over the normal black '6' in a red box, on the side of one of two No.6 sets seen, was a black '6' on a white sticker, and under it a white printed '11' in the red box. Both lids were otherwise as expected. A mistake or a new numbering scheme that never happened?

**'New' System: MECHANIK** The Nr.100 set (below), no doubt German, is said to be 50 years old. The box is red with most of the lid covered by a label. The name in blue is suspended from a large Crane set against a pink and white background. The right hand panel is red with Nr.100 on it, and a logo which seems to be the letters KU with the K's top oblique in the form of a crane's jib. Along the bottom in a blue panel is MECHANIK METALL-SPIELWAREN (Mechanix Metal Toys). But the X in MECHANIK might (just) be a stylised K.



The parts that can be seen are: • Strips with 3-11h, 3 & 5h long DAS, Brackets, 2h+ Ø Loose Pulleys with 4 face holes, and what may be an 8h Wheel Disc. All these parts look as if they could be aluminium. • 2h Ø Fast Pulleys, & an 8h Bush Wheel, both with a brass look. 2 of the Pulleys are fitted with black Tyres, or fat Rings. • Square Nuts and CH Bolts. A Spanner with a ring opening at one end & hex jaws at the other.

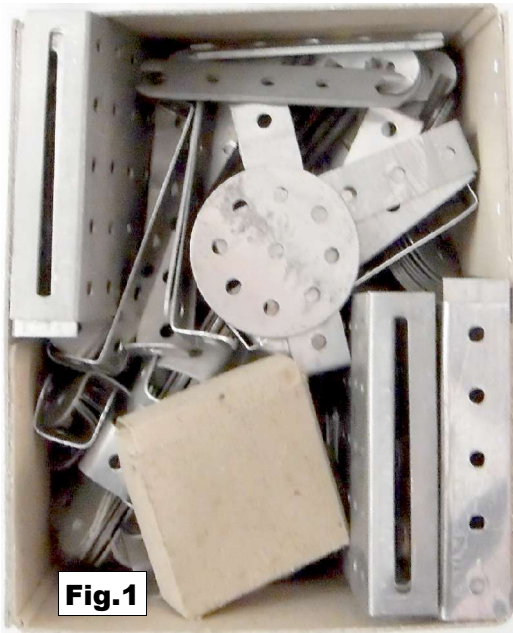


**Snippet. 'New' System:**

**REHBURGER** The photos here are from an Ebay lot, and all that was said of it was that the box wasn't original. Fig.2 shows a manual cover for a REHBURGER (the name comes from the logo) Set 1, and Fig.3 a sheet (a flyer?) headed 'Build with Miniature Engineering'. It seems to show models which could be made from the next larger set, a No.1.

From a photo not shown here the length of the side of the cover is about 8 times the hole pitch of the parts.

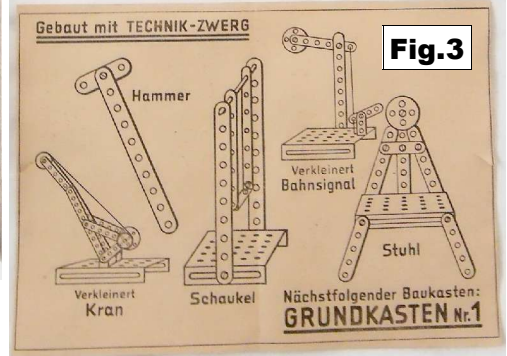
Apart from the 5\*5h Flanged Plates in Fig.1, with a long slotted hole in at least one flange, and from Fig.3 both, the other parts that can be seen are an 8h Wheel Disc; 1\*5\*1h DAS; Strips with only an end visible; several D/Bs; 2 Spanners (at the top) made from 5h Strips with hexagonal openings at each end; some Axle Rods (not Screwed Rods as far as can be seen); & possibly some smaller Wheel Discs above the bottom right slotted flange. There is also the 5h 'flange', bottom right, of what might be an A/G or even a different Flanged Plate. One has the impression that there are many more parts in the box than would have been in a Set No.1



**Fig.1**



**Fig.2**



**Fig.3**

The company's name in the logo is Rehbürger Spielwaren, and there is a town called Rehburg some 40km to the east of Hanover.

**OSN 51/1579**

**REHBURGER: S1**

**More on MECHANIK** An Ebay Snip of this small German system was given in 27/793 and now Albrecht Heinisch has kindly provided, via Urs Flammer, details of his Set 100 (the OSN 27 size outfit, the only size known).

The box measures 316\*167\*22mm and the lid is as shown in OSN 27 (it is 'MECHANIK' in the bottom line). Right, a better view of the logo. The inside of the box is red; the partitions are missing but they are probably as in OSN 27: 3 similar Nr.100 sets have been seen on Ebay, all with the same lid, and the same partitions; 2 are red inside; one is green.

The parts found in Albrecht's set are: 5,8,10,11,8,9x 2,3,5,7,9,11h Strips, 10\*1mm in section; 6x A/B; 8,6x 1\*5,3\*1h DAS; 4x 8h Wheel Discs (see Fig.2), about 28mm o.d.; 4x 30mm Pulleys (Fig.3, the discs are joined by tabs punched out of one and pushed through the other); 3,1x Screwed Rods, about 80, 60mm long; CH Bolts, about 3 & 8mm u/h (Fig.4); Hex Nuts 7mm A/F (those in OSN 27 & one other Ebay set were square); the Hooks in Fig.4 (I suspect the LH one, it looks familiar

but I can't place it). There are none of the OSN 27 brass parts and none were present in any of the other Ebay sets.

Threaded parts are steel, the rest aluminium. All holes are round, 4.2mm, at 10mm pitch. The thread is M4. The ends of all the strip parts look to be fully rounded.

3 of the Ebay sets have the manual below, and Fig.7 is a page from it. The models could certainly be made from the types of part in Albrecht's outfit.



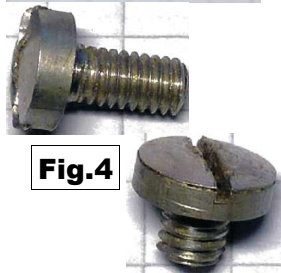
**Fig.1**



**Fig.2**



**Fig.3**



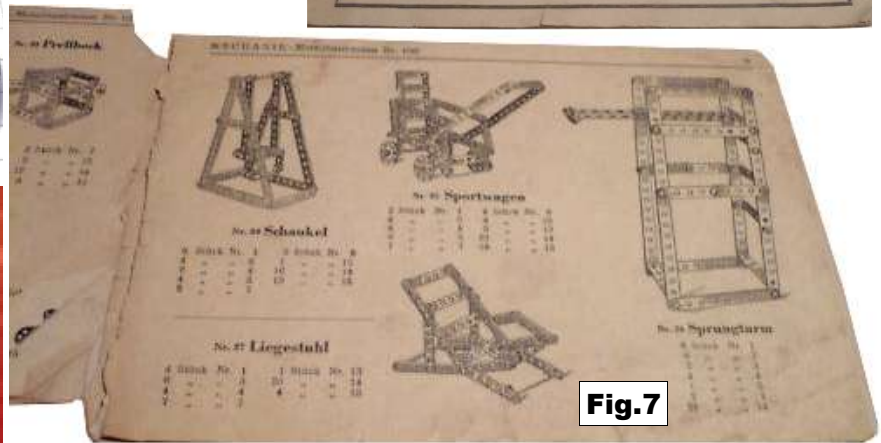
**Fig.4**



**Fig.5**



**Fig.6**



**Fig.7**