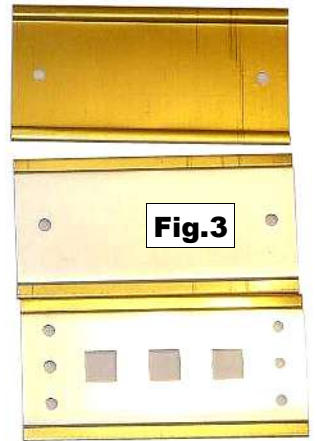


Snippet. A 'New' Norwegian System: MEKANIKER'N

The set shown here was seen on Tradera, the Swedish auction site. It was said that it probably came from Norway, and this is borne out by the text on the lid – Mekaniker means Mechanic in Swedish, Danish, and Norwegian but Byggesett (around the '4') is only a Norwegian word, meaning Set. I haven't been able to find the meaning of the apostrophe N ('N) after MEKANIKER, beyond a suggestion that it possibly denotes 'The' before the word it's added to.



There were 6 of the plain Plates **Fig.1** in the Set, plus 2 of the Window Plates, and the latter, with at least some of the other Plates, together with the Wheels, Axles with threaded ends, and deep DAS, could have been used in a Railway Coach similar to the one on the lid. But in that case missing parts would have included, among others, those for the ends of the Coach, and some A/Bs or their equivalents.

The 2 lengths of long-slotted Strips in the box may not be original parts because the Bolts (and Axles) look too large to pass through their slots. And what of the 'matching' narrow unperforated strips? **Fig.2**



The other models on the lid look to have conventional Strips etc, apart perhaps for the Lorry's bonnet. Perhaps such parts are missing from this Set or were in other sets, and Set 4 had only parts for a Coach.

MEKANIKER'N: S1

OSN 51/1550

Snippets. The GAKKEN Metal Kits & Metal Dinos.

Let's start with the Dinos. Following the mention in 50/1516 of the Metal Dino sets seen on US Ebay, Jean-Pierre Guibert wrote of 7 Metal Dino sets produced by the Japanese Gakken company. Gakken it is recalled, made the MECHAMO animal models, and the earlier, simpler MECHANIMAL sets (see 34/1011 & 4/66), both quite different in concept from the present models.



Hornet, a Mantis, a Stag Beetle, a Grasshopper, a Tarantula, and a Butterfly.

Adverts for 3 of these sets, the Mantis, Scorpion, and Rhino Beetle, have also been seen with a different style of lid. All three of them show two views of the model, as below for the Mantis.

The 7 Gakken sets were in fact the original Dino outfits, and the 3 TRONICO & US Ebay sets are repackaged versions of the Gakken ones. The 4 models over & above those named in OSN 50 are Parasurolophus, Spinosaurus, Anomalocaris, and Pteranodon. Above the Gakken Spinosaurus box.

The METAL KIT Series These date from around 2006 and were earlier than the Dinos. They were all insect models and were made in the same way as the Dinos with some soft aluminium parts, but were rather simpler, and about 10 or 12cm long. A Scorpion box is shown above right (Fig.2) and others in the Series were a Rhino Beetle, a Tarantula, a Giant



METAL KIT/DINO: S1

OSN 51/1550