

**Snippet. 'New' System: MLADÝ STAVITEL** The name means Young Builder and in the Ebay ad this Czech system was said to be from the 1940s. The name at the top of the logo on the lid right is REMY, and the name stamped on the packet in Fig.1 below looks like ING. OTTO BONDY.

The parts are a little unusual in having the MECCANO X rather than the TRIX pattern of holes. Otherwise the pictures speak for themselves: the Set is a No.1 and 8 different parts can be seen, 3 Strips, a DAS, a Wheel Disc, 2 sizes of Washer, and a Span'driver.

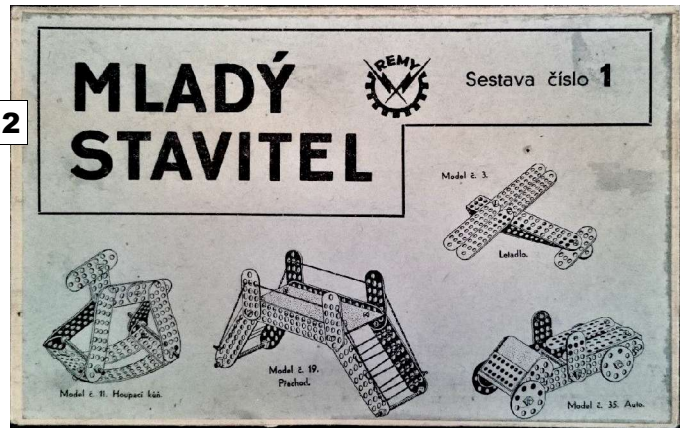
Most of the models here look like direct copies from the 'X' No.1 manual, but I couldn't spot a few of the MLADÝ models.

**Fig.1**

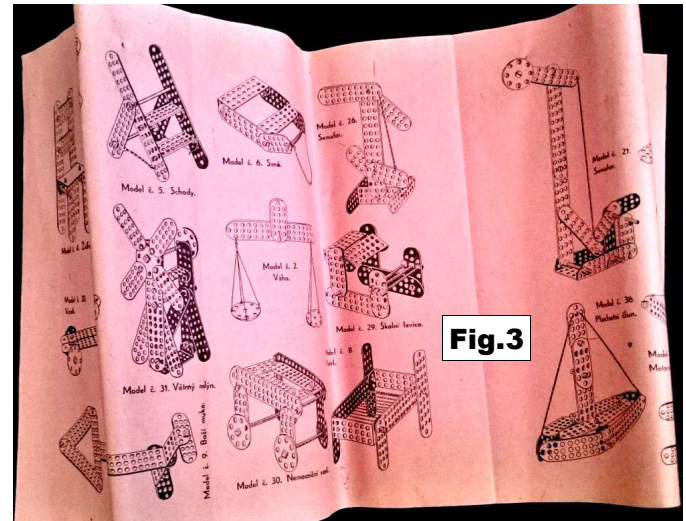


The Monoplane in Fig.2 for instance and the Railway Signal in Fig.3. Also the Windmill (Fig.3) is a BRITISH MODEL BUILDER model while the X1 version incorporates the 'X' C/W Motor.

All the parts look exactly like MECCANO X and, given the origin of many of the models, the content of the Set may be



**Fig.2**



**Fig.3**

that of the X1 outfit. If so that would mean that the packet would contain N&B, A/Bs, and Screwed Rods. Oddly though I couldn't actually see any A/Bs in the models shown here.

**MLADÝ STAVITEL: S1**

**OSN 54/1648**

**Snippet. A MACHINO Set** This Indian set was recently offered on UK Ebay. Its name was mentioned in 32/941, together with one or two notes about it. They are borne out by the present No.0 set shown here.

Why Indian? On the lid in the label's top right corner, is a swastika, in India a symbol of divinity & spirituality. Also there is some Indian looking script on the edge of the small parts box in Fig.2.

The Set's box was said to be 25\*18cm and under the swastika is 'INTELLIGENT PASTIME FOR THE BRILLIANT BOY. The text under the name reads 'MECHANICAL & ELECTRICAL. BUILDS

SCORES OF MODELS FROM A CHAIR TO BRIDGES, CARS, SHIPS, ENGINES, CRANES, ETC.'

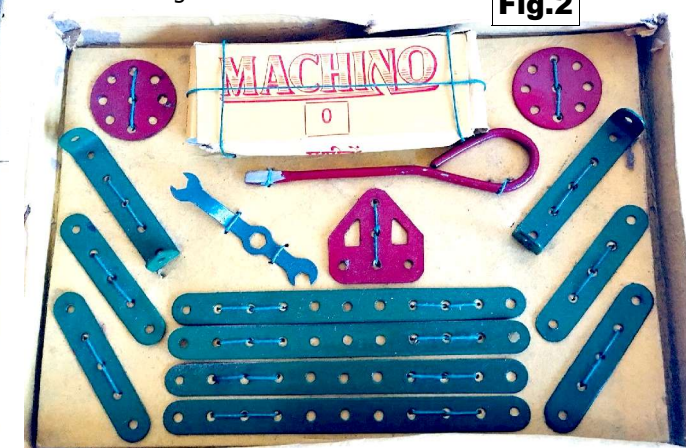
The Crane on the lid helps with MACHINO's date. It is a very, very close copy of the MECCANO No.3 model which first appeared in 1962. So MACHINO almost certainly dates from after that year.

The parts also look like MECCANO and scaling from the box's dimensions the holes are 1/2" pitch but at 4.0 mm, slightly smaller than MECCANO. If these figures are right MACHINO was typical of most Indian 'pre-M4 thread' systems except that the holes are slightly smaller. I wonder what the thread was. Most likely 5/32"BSW, as with most of this period's systems, but MAXHINA (see 11/286) & PLANO (see 10/258), both launched in the 1960s used 1/8"BSW, but they though had smaller holes again.

**Fig.1**



**Fig.2**



**MACHINO: S1**

**OSN 54/1648**