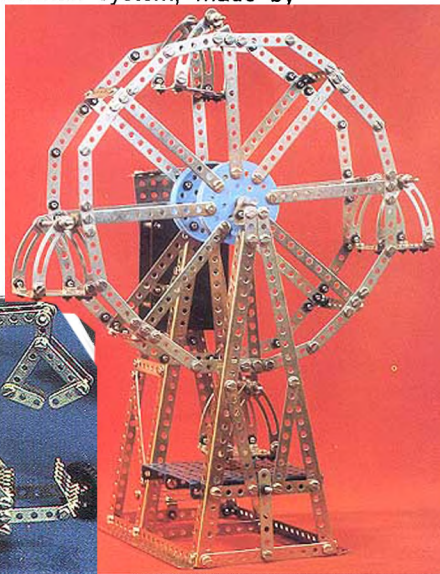
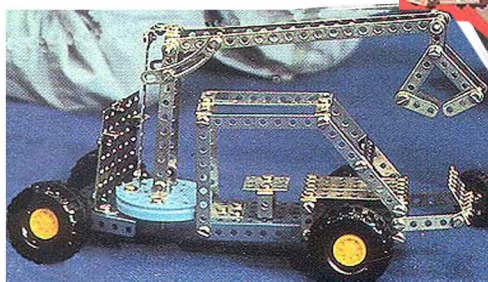


PITT EZ gives the dates as 1948 into the 1950s; MCS has the end point as 1965. The Flanged Plate was blue and the Pulleys red. The Spanner shown in MCS has 'Pitt' on it but one found in an unused set has DUX - both systems were made by Markes.

PLASTICON Another East German system, made by VEB Plasticart at Annaberg-Buchholz. The date it was introduced isn't known but the boy on the manual cover looks later than the 50s; it continued until around 1987. A B&W copy

plasticon
Bauanleitung



of the manual cover is all that's available but it shows several models and is for Sets GB1, GB2, EMB3, & EMB4. VEB Plasticart also made BURGSTÄDTER (12/324) and nearly all the parts in the models look like BURGSTÄDTER ones, including the Slotted Curved Strip that can be seen in the Big Wheel above. Its hub is probably the large Flanged Disc Pulley that's used in the Grab model, and again it appears similar to the BURGSTÄDTER one. The large Road Wheels look rather like the plastic CONSTRUCTION type with the push-in hub.

RECORD Another small set from sometime in the period 1945 to the early 50s. A photo of a box lid is shown in EZ but with no details. The logo on the lid has a 'W' in it and perhaps an 'R'.

ROBO EZ says the maker of this little set isn't known but the logo is 'EFFEM'. The set was also known as BAUKERL ROBO and dates from the 1950s. The models (see MCS) are made from wooden Blocks and 4mm diameter Rods held together with 'J' Clamps. MCS also includes the Spanish system EL INGENIERO MECANICO which appears to be identical, and is said to date from 1940.

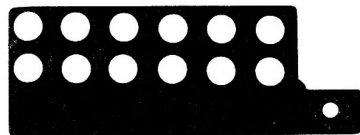
SACHSENMEISTER This East German system had small parts with 3.3mm Ø holes at 7.5mm spacing. Some were bare aluminium and some steel with a metallic black finish. There was also a theme set with special parts to make Tractors/Trailers. From EZ. The system was made from 1948 to at least 1955 by Sachsenmeister Metalbau Kurt Müller of Markneukirchen/Vogtland. The Nr.1 Outfit allowed various electric and steam powered models to be built, and the theme set models are described as attractive in red, green and silver.

SATURN A system from the early 1950s with brown, nickel and bare aluminium parts. The pitch of the holes is 12.0mm, their diameter 4.1mm. The lid of a (quite small) No.2 Set is shown in EZ and I can see that the model on it has 4 wheels. No other details are available.

SCHEFFLERS This system was mentioned in the piece on BURGSTÄDTER in 12/324 and EZ confirms that BUR followed on from SCHEFFLERS. The start date was probably 1955 and the original maker, Artur Scheffler of Burg-

städt/Sachsen. The change of name occurred when the company became VEB Metallspielwaren Burgstädt around 1960. In a set the Strips and the like are black, small parts including Pulleys nickel, the 5h Ø MÄRKLIN-style Pulleys red, 5*11 Flanged Plates blue and Flanged Sector Plates green. The hole spacing is said to be 'ca. 12.8mm'.

SCHWERKA Another small system in EZ from the early post-WW2 years. It was packed in a small wooden box and the parts were bare aluminium. By chance I recently came across a very similar set to the one shown in EZ, in a box 11*8*1" with wooden sides and partitions, and the bottom and sliding lid made of cardboard. The latter is orange with a boy and a Crane on it, and METALL-BAUKASTEN NR.1 plus MECHANICAL CONSTRUCTION BOX NO.1. Among the various parts in it were a few Strips that are probably original. They are bare aluminium and have 4.1mm holes at 12.7mm pitch. One is a MÄRKLIN-style 5h slotted Curved Strip and it can be seen in the Crane on the lid, along with some 20 other parts including Strips up to 15h long, a MÄRKLIN pattern 5*11h Flanged Plate, and a similar Plate but only 7 holes long. Among the other parts found in the box were 3 black Windmill Sails which look just like the STRUCTOMODE ones in MCS except that the fillet in the inside corner is convex instead of concave. Their length overall is 95mm, width 35mm, and the large holes are about 7½mm Ø. If anyone has a Canadian one I'd be interested to know if it matches.



SICO EZ lists this as a set from Keim & Co. of Nürnberg, first made in 1932, but with no other details.

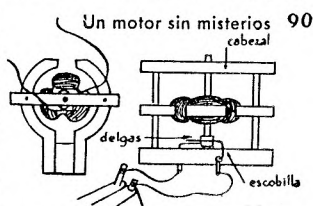
SIEMENS A system from 1933 with wooden and nicked steel pieces. The only information available is that there were about 78 different parts and the hole spacing was 50.0mm.

SONNEBERGER EZ fills in some of the details missing from MCS. This system was first made by Schoenfeld & Boetsch of Sonneberg in 1948. From 1955 it was produced by VEB Injecta Steinach, and then from 1971 by VEB (K) Metallwaren Schmerbach. The end date isn't known. The hole spacing is 10.0mm and the Axles and Threaded Rods are 4mm Ø. Apart from the pieces in MCS, Sprockets and Chain came later. The parts were made of anodised aluminium and in the sets shown most have their natural colour, but some Strips are red or yellow, A/Gs are light blue, and some Plates yellow. Jeannot mentioned white and gold coloured parts as well, and that the holes are generally 4.1mm Ø but some are larger with in one case, 4.1 and 5mm holes in the same Strip.

SPRANGER This was a system with 24 steel and 16 wooden parts. The former were plated with nickel or tin; Pulleys were of wood with brass plated steel bosses. The holes were 3.9mm Ø at 12.0mm pitch. EZ gives the manufacturer as Gustav Spranger of Klingenthal/Sachsen and the dates as from about 1933 to about 1955.

STABA This is the East German one described in 8/195 and EZ gives some more details. Production was started in 1948 by the Gebr. Ehrlicher of Erfurt: subsequently the company became successively, H.H.Ehrlicher in 1949, Otto Hörseljaun (1953/54), and Karl Teuteberg in 1955. STABA

A fair range of experiments are shown, with permanent and electromagnets, bulbs and resistors, made up cells, and an electric motor. A No.3 Outfit is mentioned, to be ready shortly. Although certain specialised parts have to be assembled for the experiments, this isn't exactly a constructional system I think, so I won't go into more detail here. A box, from the manual cover, and one experiment are shown opposite. There's no indication of date except that it is said to be a toy of the atomic age. There's nothing on the manufacturer either - MECANO is included in the name of the small Spanish system MICRO-MECANO "GUINA" but there's nothing else to link the two.



Josep also sent a copy of the 12 page manual of another Spanish set, made by the well known firm Payá in 1962, called **CONSTRUCCIONES ELECTRONICAS**. It falls into the same broad category with electronic parts (transistors, capacitors, a coil, etc.) wired together on a chassis using special spring connectors. Details of 7 different simple morse and radio (I think) transmitters and receivers are given.

3. Ted Van Klink mentioned that there is a good, albeit slightly pricey, supplier of **TEMSI** in Toronto.

4. Sven-Ulrich Glage from Hamburg sent a list of his sets and the following names were new to me: - **DER JUNGE BAUMEISTER**; **EIFEL** (seems to be a Danish system of MECCANO or MÄRKLIN style, with the name on the Brackets); **FERMO** (German, the models are mostly built of triangular plates); **GA** (German, very simple with unusual parts); **GORDON** (most parts including Strips and Plates are brass plated, possibly an early East German system); **HERSA** (simple system, of small scale, made in Berlin immediately after WW2); **HW MAS-BAUKASTEN** (from the DDR firm that made DER JUNGE KONSTRUKTEUR); **LEICHTMETALL-KONSTRUKTIONS-BAUKASTEN** (aluminium parts similar to MÄRKLIN); **METABA** (German); **PICO ELEKTRIK** (looks like a 1970/80s version of ELEKTRO in MCS); **STUDIO ELEKTRIK**; **SV INGENØR**. He hopes to send more details in due course.

Other points: • On **AWS** (11/294), a later version of the set was sold with an updated manual containing additional models, and included in the set as new parts were 4 rubber Tyres. As far as is known none of the parts were coloured but there was an AWS clockwork motor which isn't mentioned in the manuals. • A **CONSTRUCTION JEEP** set that is different to the one in MCS and 14/373 - it is complete with a nice little tinplate Jeep, and the parts to build a Trailer and other models differ. It was made in Japan by Daiya. • An **INVENTRIX** outfit that was made in Germany in 1947/48 and has a clear resemblance to the Liverpool INVENTRIX in MCS. • A postwar **KONSTRUKTION** set which seems to be an earlier version of the system in MCS [and that in turn is thought to be earlier than the set described in 8/181]. • A **METALLO** set that seems to be pre-WW2 and Danish perhaps. It may be a 'new' system. • There was a German version of the **PHILIPS ME 1200** set described in MCS. • Two 1930s model plans for **HELLER MECHANIKUS** (15/415) are for model sailplanes made of aluminium that could really fly!

5. Photocopying tubular containers is always a problem and Kendrick Bisset has tried rolling the tube along to keep it above the moving light during copying. Rubber bands were put at either end to minimise slipping. The example he sent, of a GIRDER BILT tube, is very good indeed.

6. Don Redmond sent a note about research that he and

John Wapshott had done into the history of the Canadian **CASTLE BUILDER** system. The firm who made it, Castle Manufacturing Co. of Toronto, and its manager, Percy V. Jermyn, are listed in the city directory for 1917-18, but not before or after. A Jermyn family lived in Mimico, then a Toronto suburb, both before and after those years. The company's address was 69 Richmond St. East in 1917 and then at 80 Duchess St. As a working hypothesis Don suggests that Percy enlisted in 1914, was invalided home and founded the business in 1917, and died of Spanish influenza late in 1918 or early 1919, whereupon the business ceased. The resemblance to certain U.S. systems of the time has still to be explained.

Don also wrote that a MECCANO enthusiast of his acquaintance saw a metal construction set in a carton marked **BARUM CHEZ** (or similar) in an antique shop in Marmora (north of Kingston, Canada). It had gone when Don rang but was apparently made in Eastern Europe and had E984 on the box. Contents may have included 2x2" & 4x1½" Pulleys with Tires, 4 Rubber Tracks, Plates, N&B, and a small manual. Don wonders if it was repackaged MERKUR.

7. Dennis Snowdon mentioned that he bought a new **No.0 ERECTOR Set**, just like the one shown in 15/411, with 1" Pulleys and the FO Plate, etc, from a shop in Stanhope in 1943 or 1944. It cost 2/6, the amount he got from a local lady for digging her garden. He later swapped it for some MECCANO parts and now wishes he hadn't.

8. A friend of Tony Matthewman has pointed out that the text in the MCS pages for **RODOPI** is not Russian but may be Bulgarian. Could well be because a map shows some Rodopi mountains in the south of Bulgaria, and though I couldn't find Bratsighovo, the manufacturer's town in MCS, there are several names thereabouts that end in 'ovo'.

9. Last year Richard Bartlett found some sets called **MECHANIC** on sale in Malta, and they are probably akin to WISDOM (see 10/238), though some of the colours of the parts are different, with air force blue Strips and white (plastic) Flexible Plates. The Flanged Plates are still metallic red. 3 sets were available, and the largest included the special Cab with the motor built into the lower part, as in the WISDOM No.6 outfit. [Roger Baker has also reported sets on sale in Kuwait for the equivalent of £4 up to £15.]

Richard has also found the remains of what was probably a **SCHEFFLERS** set (see 12/324). There was no box and as would be expected the manual didn't have a name on it. However its cover, Illustrated Parts, and Set Contents agree exactly with those in MCS/FB, and the maker, VEB Metallspielwaren of 9112 Burgstädt, is the same too. Another clue is the Windmill Sail which is parallel rather than the later tapered one shown in OSN 12. The 7 sets available are shown on the back cover and though they retain the unusual SCHEFFLERS set numbering, their prices are identical with those for the Sets 1-7 in the BURGSTÄDTER manual described in OSN 12 (and included in MCS pt.5). So that would seem to put its date at near the point the name changed, although prices may not have changed as quickly in East Germany as they did in the West. The manual's PR of KE 51 76 III-8-9 690 might indicate a date of the 51st week of 1976. That at least puts it earlier than either of the 2 possible analogous dates from the BURGSTÄDTER manual.

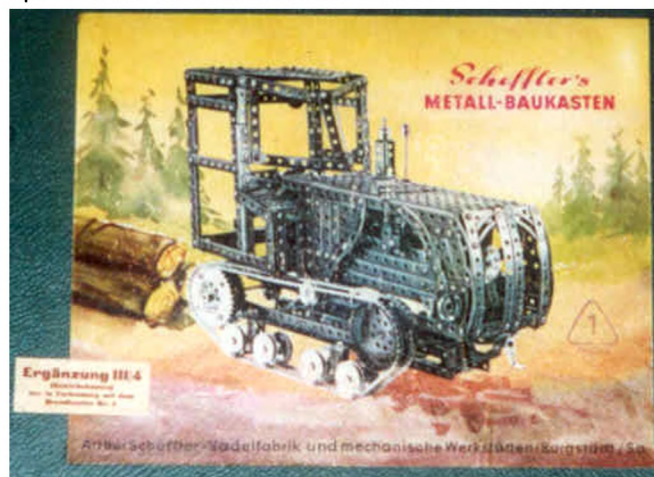
The major parts in the set have a dark grey, nearly black finish with a sheen to it, except that the Flanged Plates are dark blue and the 5h Ø MÄRKLIN-type (metal) Pulley is a dark red.

10. To add to what was in 15/424, Kendrick Bisset sent the following notes on the **STRUCTO** parts in his #2, 2A and 3 sets. • The A/Gs have round holes in one flange and 4.7*7.6mm slotted holes in the other. • Wagon Wheels are 1½" Ø, and have a very smooth tread, ⅜" wide. The ones in the #2 set have 6 spokes and are painted black; the others

SCHEFFLERS to BURGSTÄDTER Chris Freeman kindly sent photos and some details of 3 sets that he had obtained as one lot. They have much in common with each other, and with BURGSTÄDTER, but one has the name SCHEFFLERS METALL-BAUKASTEN on the box lid & manual, while the other two, have only METALL-BAUKASTEN. (In both systems the name occurs with & without the hyphen.) SCHEFFLERS & BURGSTÄDTER are mentioned in *Eisenzeit* & *Baukästen* but not, as far as I can see, plain METALL-BAUKASTEN.

SCHEFFLERS A few details of this system were given in 15/418, and Chris confirmed that the hole spacing is 12.8mm. What appear to be early sets are shown in MCS/NZ, and their lids labels carry the name but no picture of any sort. The range of parts at that time looks to have been the same as later on, likewise the outfits, with standard sets Nos.1, 2 & 3, linking sets 1/2 & 2/3, and an add-on set with gears, III/4. (Later the linking sets are usually listed as I/2 & II/3.) The III/4 is said to be newly introduced. Tafel 66 in *Eisenzeit* shows SCH sets in red, light green, dark green & yellow boxes but no details are given and the only lid that can be seen is like the one described below.

Chris's set is a III/4, and the label on its lid is shown below. Both it & the manual with the set (described below), carry the name and address of the maker. Inside the manual, and on its cover, are photos of the sets, and their layouts have been changed somewhat from the MCS/NZ ones. The Set Contents has a blank column headed Nr.4 but whether this was a set that had come & gone, or whether it was one that it was hoped to introduce, isn't known. There is no mention of a set with a Motor but one is shown in EZ, Tafel 66: the Motor looks like the one in the BUR No.7, see 12/325, but the parts that can be seen don't entirely correspond to the contents of the BUR outfit.



The III/4 is packed in a dark green box, white inside with red partitions. The label is in full colour except that the coloured parts in the system are all shown grey. The actual colours are mostly similar to those in the BUR sets described in 12/324 & 18/507. Thus most parts are dark grey, with nickel Bush Wheel & Sprockets, and brown plastic Gears, though they look a medium shade rather than the dark BUR colour. The main difference is the green Flanged Plates in SCHEFFLERS.

A SCH No.3 Set in a red box is shown in EZ, and the parts are housed in recesses in a yellow plastic tray. This was no doubt a later SCH packaging because the same type was used in the M-B sets to be described.

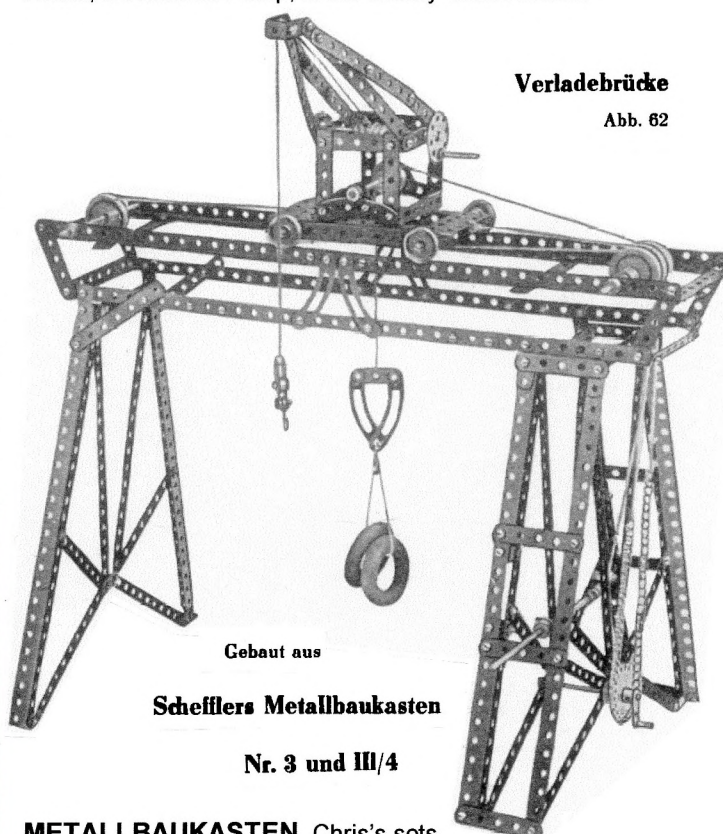
SUMMARY OF MANUAL •Name: Schefflers METALLBAUKASTEN
•Details of maker: ARTHUR SCHEFFLER, BURGSTÄDTER IN SACHSEN
•Dates &/or Ref Nos: PR: VEB DBH, Werk II Frankenberg III-10-6 K 889-66 12,5T •Page size: 210*147mm deep. •No. of pages: 64+covers.
•Language: German. •Printing: B&W ½-tones with blue band on cover.
•Page Nos. of Parts List & highest PN: 59-62,56. •Page Nos. of Set Contents & highest PN: 63-64,57. •Sets covered: 1,2,3,3+III/4. •No. of models for each set: 11,5,5,14. •Name, Model No., Page No. of first & last model of each set: 1: TISCH,1,6; HAMMERWERK,11,13.

2: ARMBRUST,12,14;
Dampfmaschine,16,18.
3: Bogenbrücke,18,20;
GESCHÜTZ,29,27. 3+III/4:
BRIEFWAAGE,50,37;
SCHIFFSCHAUKEL,72,56

•Other notes: • The Model Nos. above are Figure Nos. (Abb.) & the 'missing' ones show details from the models. • Abb.

33-49 (pp30-36) are standard constructions & pulley/gear drives.

The manual is much more comprehensive than the BUR one of OSN 12. A number of 3+III/4 models are included but none are very large since the 2 sets boast only 160 Bolts between them. Some of the better models are a skeletal Helicopter (with a Cord drive to the tail rotor), a Big Wheel, a Windmill Pump, & the Gantry Crane below.



METALLBAUKASTEN Chris's sets

are a Nr.1 & a Nr.2, and each has the same manual. They are packed in red boxes but the whole of the top of the lid is printed in colour with a similar picture to the SCH label opposite. The only text is METALL-BAUKASTEN Nr.1 (or 2) in black in place of the red *Schefflers*' METALL-BAUKASTEN. The manual is very similar to the SCH one, and the cover is shown in the SCHEFFLERS entry of MCS/FB. (Taken I suspect from an M-B manual.) On it 'Bauanleitung für' (building instructions for) replaces 'Schefflers', & the photos of the sets have been updated. Inside there is no longer any reference to Scheffler and on the inside cover is the new maker, 'VEB METALLSPIELWAREN 9112 BURGSTÄDT'. The PR is 'III-8-9 KI 654 73 1502'. In the Set Contents the blank No.4 column is replaced by one for a Motor set (Elektro-mech Mbk), with the same parts as the BUR No.7.

The rest of the Set Contents are as for SCH, but as already mentioned the layout of the parts in the boxes is different and they fit into yellow plastic trays. The M-B parts look identical to SCH except that treaded Tyres replace the Rubber Rings and the Flanged Plates are blue. The 5h Ø Flanged Disc Pulleys are a darkish red, as in the EZ SCH No.3. The Curved Strips look to be dark grey.

A No.3 M-B set is shown on p124 of EZ (called wrongly I think, a THALE STAHLBAU TECHNIK set) and its tray is white or light grey. Also the Flanged Disc Wheels in it are plastic and a lighter red. (The outer ring of 16 face holes in

KNIRPS & STABIL Set 46 & 48 Manuals Werner Sticht has kindly passed on some information supplied to him by Jürgen Kahlfeldt. First about a **KNIRPS Nr.1** manual, dated March 1932, not previously known, and very probably the first edition. It is a single sheet printed in black, and folded into 6 to give A5-size portrait format. At the top of the front is a boy with 3 models, as on the 1966 Nr.48 shown below, with the name underneath, and some text including assurances that KNIRPS parts could be used with STABIL. No parts list is provided but it is said that the contents are shown on the envelope the set was packed in. The contents were given provisionally in 11/272 but from the models it seems that there were 4x 5h Strips, 16 Nuts, 8 Bolts, and the Screwed Rods would need to be 55mm long. Also in the Set, a Spanner & a Crank Pin. The latter has never been seen but is sub-standard in diameter to fit the small holes in the Wheel Discs. It can be seen in the models, as in the Crane below, but it isn't clear how it is held in place. Such a Pin,



with a flange near one end, is used in ULOX (see 10/253) with the flange clamped between 2 Discs, but in the KNIRPS models only one Disc can be seen. The 93 models shown start with the numerals 0-9 and all the alphabet except 'J' (Das Knirps-ABC). After these, the first is Nr.36 Leiter & the last Nr.93 Segelboot. Also on the back are 3 slightly larger models, 101-103, which need more than one Set.

A **KNIRPS Nr.2 / STABIL Nr.46** manual from March 1932 is also known, and again it is likely to be the first edition. Once more it is a sheet folded to A5 size, but this time with 8 'pages'. The front has the same illustration as the No.1 and the title is 'Instructions & Models for 'Knirps-Baukasten Nr.2 u. Stabil-Baukasten Nr.46'. In the text underneath it is explained that the only difference between the two Sets is that there are 4 Tyres in the Nr.46. 131 models are shown starting with the Knirps-ABC (but smaller letters than the Nr.1 ones), followed by Nr.26 Fußtritt to Nr.131 Segelschlitten.

The KNIRPS Nr.2 / STABIL Nr.46 manual in its final form was issued in October 1932. The cover, now in landscape, has a large inset of 2 boys, a train on a Bridge, a Flying Boat, & a Tower Crane (it is shown on KNIRPS: X1.2 in MCS). It was printed in black on paper of different colours in different years - blue in 1935 & 1936, and green in 1939 are known. 150 models are illustrated, starting, after the Knirps-ABC, with Nr.26 Barren, and finishing with Nr.150 Eisenbahnkran (shown in 11/273).

Finally the **Set Nr.48** manuals. The models were never changed from the time the Set was introduced in 1931, but the ads on the back cover varied and 4 different front covers, all A5 landscape, were used. The first was similar to the 1966 one below but was printed in B&W. An example of the Danish edition dated May 1931 is known. The second, at the top of the next column, was in full colour, with the boy wearing a red top, the Bridge against a yellow backdrop, and various small models on the blue floor. It was probably used only in 1932 and the example known is from October of that year. After that the first design was used: up until WW2 the illustrations were printed in brown & the text in red, but postwar both were brown. All



these manuals have 16 pages including covers, and the models go from Nr.48/1 Gabel on p2 to Nr.48/205 Stichtsäge on p15.

More SCHEFFLERS & METALLBAUKASTEN Dates

After the account of these two systems in 23/662, Clive Weston kindly lent me two manuals. The first was a **SCHEFFLERS**, probably from 1962 (PR III-10-6 Ke 60-62 13000), and it is very similar to the 1966 one in OSN 23. The size & number of pages, parts, set contents, & models are identical although the text has mostly been reset. The covers are the same colour but are of thicker, with a light, embossed pattern, and **METALLBAUKASTEN** under *Schefflers* has a hyphen (cf top right of 23/662). The scatter of loose parts has been slightly rearranged too, but the big difference is that the sets are the early ones, as in the MCS/NZ.

Photos of all the old-style sets are also shown inside, & opposite is the label from a 1/2 linking outfit. If the dates assumed are right, the lid label & packaging changed between 1962 & 1966.

The PR of the second manual, a **METALLBAUKASTEN** one, indicates a 1974 date, & so it is within the OSN 23 range of dates. As would be expected the models are as in the SCHEFFLERS manual, with the same text, reset, & photos of all the M-B sets except the Elektro-mechanischer. No doubt its inside pages are identical, or virtually so, to those in the OSN 23 Freeman one. However the covers of the two are not identical though they have the same PR (III-8-9 KI 654 73 1502 on C3) - the coloured band across Clive's is turquoise instead of blue, and there are other small changes. Also there's a second PR, III-8-9 KI 61/74 2476, on 'p63' (it's not numbered), so the inside is apparently a year later than the covers.

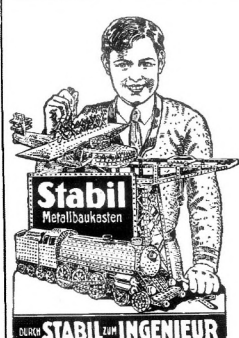
In passing the front cover looks identical to the one in the SCHEFFLERS entry in MCS/FB, and the 'p63' with its PR can also be seen in the /FB SCHEFFLERS, on p6.



SMALL ADS

For Sale: **CONSTRUCTION:** Sets C07 (two), C12, C13, C14, plus spares (mainly gears) and 1 motor. **ERECTOR:** Fair quantity in original red metal boxes (2) plus genuine Erector motor. **TRIX:** Modest quantity with several motors. More details from Bill Charleson, tel: 01924 493413, or email: charlesonb@aol.com. (Space needed! so open to any reasonable offers.)

Building Toys List. Update of 1997 database now listing brief details of 900+ building/construction toys, mostly not covered in MCS/OSN. UK £3.50; Europe £4/\$6; elsewhere £4.50/\$7, including postage. Overseas payments in either UK currency, U.S. dollar bills, or into Editor's PayPal account (please see Editorial, p 717). David Hobson, 'Woodington', Edford Green, Holcombe, Bath, BA3 5DB, England.



STABIL

Metallbaukasten

*Fabrik technischer
Beschäftigungsspiele*

Walther & Co.

BERLIN-NEUKÖLLN

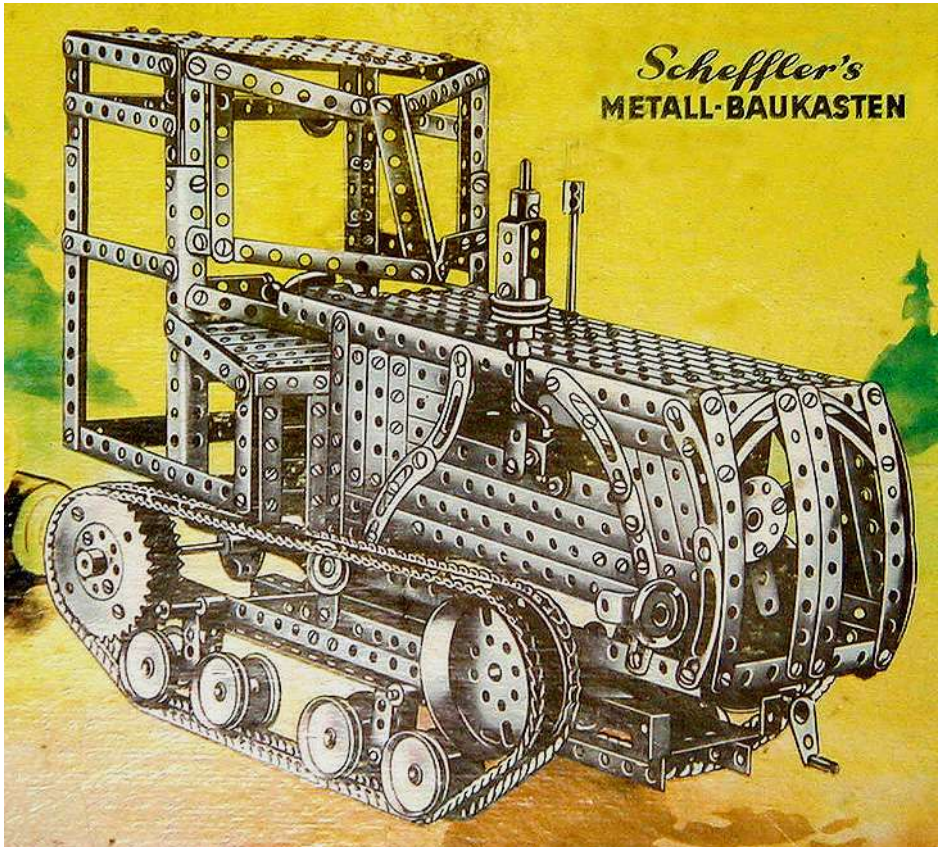
Vorlagen
zum
Baukasten
48

The SCHEFFLERS Traktor

As explained in 23/622 this is the model shown on the lids of later SCHEFFLERS sets, and also their METALLBAUKASTEN successors. The model can't be made with any of the outfits and no instructions are given for it in the manuals. Nor had I seen a PL for it until Richard Gilbert kindly showed me his set with said list inside the lid. The PR under it is III 27 41 Ke G 225/67, so probably from 1967. None of the other two SCHEFFLERS, & several METALLBAUKASTEN lids to hand have either the PL or a PR.

The photo of the model on the lid is shown right and the parts in it follow, using 'Meccano' names.

• 4,4,8x #0a,b,c; 25,19,11h A/Gs. • 2, 20,23,40,68,36,8x #2,3,4,5,6,7,8; 19, 11,9,7,5,3,2h Strips. • 3x #9a; Double Bent Strip. • 10x #10; 3h high Double Bracket. • 6x #11; Reversed A/B. • 12x #12; Double Bracket. 9x #13; 1* 5*1h DAS. • 12x #14; Curved Strip. • 8,1,1,2,4x #18,19,21,22a,22c; 30, 50,110,130,180mm Axles. • 1x #23; Crank Handle. • 6x #26; 14mm Pulley. • 14x #27; 14mm Loose Pulley. • 6x #28; Bush Wheel. • 6x #29; 64mm Flanged Disc Pulley, (similar to MÄRKLIN #67). • 8x #30; 22½mm Pulley. • 16x #31; 29mm Pulley. • 1x #32; Screwdriver. • 1x #33; Spanner. • 433x #34; Bolt. • 59x #35; A/B. • 27x #36; Collar. • 3x #37; Coupling. • 436x #38; Nut. • 60x #39; Grub Screw. • 8x #42; 3*7h Perf. Plate. • 2x #44; 3*3h Perf. Plate. • 6x #45; Triangular Plate (M#77). • 4x



#47; Right Angle Rod & Strip Connector (M#212a but with a 2h long arm). • 1x #48; Handle Crank (like MÄRKLIN #44, the model's starting handle). • 4x #49; 35t Sprocket. • 8x #51; Sprocket Chain (not seen; the pitch of STOKYS Ladder Chain is very slightly too small). • 1,4x #55a,b; Thread-ended Rods, 75,37mm.

OSN 36/1077

SCHEFFLERS: S1

Snippet: GESCHA

The name of this small German system was mentioned in 17/477 & Baukästen, p304, says that it was made in 1959 by Gebr. Schmid of Stein, near Nürnberg. Also that the parts were zinc plated metal plus coloured wooden Rods, and plastic Discs. The Ebay item consisted of 8 identical No.1 sets in boxes like the one right. In each a plastic bag with the parts loose inside it, and also a sheet with all the parts shown on it, and no doubt some models as well. Far

right the top of one of the sheets at 'A'; a complete bag upside down in the base of the box at 'B'; and parts of two more bags at 'C' & 'D' to show the various parts. From all the sets the following parts have been identified. Strips with TRIX pattern holes but without every other hole in the outer rows. There are 2 each with 7 & 9 holes (along the centre row), 4 most probably, with 5 holes, and 4 with 3 holes. 2 DAS. 2, perhaps 4 of 8h Wheel Discs, and 1 Large Washer (see 'D') but perhaps 2. About 12 of the yellow Rods, and 24 red 'Washers' on the circular ring. No doubt they are a push fit on the Rods so that the latter could be used as both axles and structural members.



Brass looking N&B, probably 12 of each. 1 Span'driver (in 'D'), but possibly 2. No A/Bs were seen.

Assuming that it does have 4 Discs, the Set is broadly equivalent to the basic TRIX outfit. The main difference is of course the use of the Rods & Washers instead of 3 Screwed Rods and some 12 extra Nuts for them. Clearly a way of cutting costs, and to some extent adding a little extra versatility.

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