



'New' System: STRUCTEERO David Hobson obtained 3 unused No.0 sets of this small system recently and these notes are based on one of them that David kindly passed on to me. There is no mention of the country of origin anywhere, nor a maker, nor a date, but the sets were offered on the UK Ebay and from their very poor quality, they were most likely produced soon after WW2 in someone's backyard shed.

The **box** is plain cardboard and measures 20*15½*2½cm. The label, above, is 154*103mm.

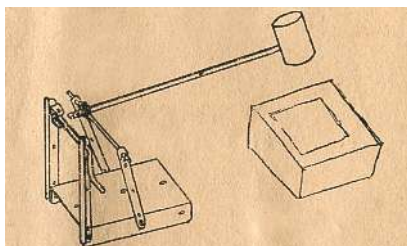
The **parts**, below, are all attached to the backing card,



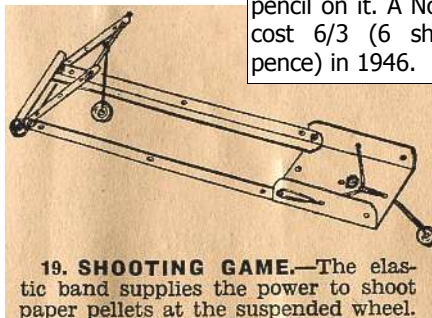
mostly by black cotton. The 6 Bolts were in the transparent packet, but one is shown in the bottom right corner (the Nuts were missing from this Set). **Holes** are generally 3.0mm Ø but 3.2mm in the Plate. Their **pitch** varies depending on the part, but for most 'pairs of holes' it is about ¾". The **thread** is 6BA. The **paint finish** is reasonable on the Plate but the red paint looks to have been splodged on with a brush in in a very dusty atmosphere. Some details of the parts follow.

The **A/Gs** are about ¼*¼" in section and are 3 & 6" long.

3 of the 4 have no holes in one flange but one of the 3" has two, one at the end & one 2" along - they are not needed for



22. MECHANICAL HAMMER.—For Set No. 0 the handle is supported by the flats and the hammer arm by the short angles. Two small angles are bolted to the handle and the whole arranged so that these angles hit the end of the hammer arm when the handle is turned. The hammer head may consist of a thread bobbin.

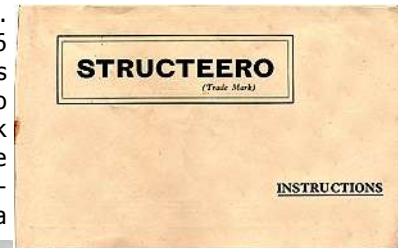


19. SHOOTING GAME.—The elastic band supplies the power to shoot paper pellets at the suspended wheel.

any of the manual models. The end holes in the 3" are at ⅝" pitch. The **Strip** is 2½" long & ¼" wide. The **Brackets** are also ¼" wide, but are made of tinplate. The **A/B** is about ⅜*⅜"; the **D/B** is ⅝" wide & 1" high, with just the base hole and one at the end of each arm. The **Flanged Plate** is 3" long & 2¼" wide, with ½" flanges. The holes are at 1¼" pitch. The **Disc** is ¾" Ø and made of aluminium, 1½mm thick. The **Pulley** (between the A/Bs) is wooden, ½" Ø, ⅜" wide, with a narrow, square section groove. The **Axles** are 1" & 3" long, and 2.35mm Ø (13swg). The **Crank Handle** is 2.50mm Ø (12swg), 3¾" long o/a, & the last ⅝" of the shank is tapped 6BA. The **N&B** are commercial items, steel with a dull light grey finish. The **Bolt** has a 4.8mm Ø CH and is ⅜" u/h. The **Nut** (one of David's) is hexagonal, 4.9mm A/F & 2.4mm thick. The **Screwdriver** is made from 2.50mm Ø wire and is 108mm long o/a. The **Cord** (below the bottom 1" Axle) is brown.

The **manual** has 8 pages including covers, 202*129mm. The front is shown right.

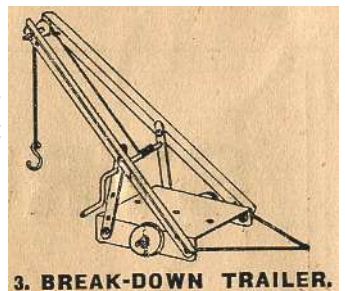
There is no Intro & pp 2-6 show 31 simple models from 1. BLACK-BOARD to 34. LETTER FILE. The back covers (pp7 & 8) are blank. There is a line drawing for each model and a



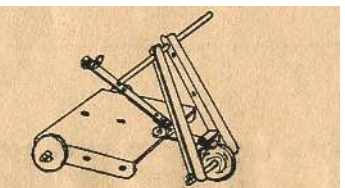
few words of explanation for most. Several of the models are similar to others but overall there is quite a good range including Scales, Railway Signals, Tables, a Chair, an Axe, a Puppet, & those shown full-size along the bottom of the page. Set 0 is referred to in the notes for some of the models but no other sets are mentioned, and all the models could be made with the parts in the Set (except that no Hook was included). How well some would work is open to question and, for instance, no mention is made of lock-nutting - if a part needs to turn its N&B is to be left loose. And it's not clear

how wheels are stopped from coming off Axles. A number of the models could be improved and made stronger with the parts in the Set if there had been a few more N&B. Improvements would be limited though by the strange pattern of holes in the parts. David made a larger model with his two sets and described STRUCTEERO as a strong contender for being the world's worst constructional toy.

PS The Set is British - I notice now that one lid apron has the prices '3/11 2/6' in pencil on it. A No.0 Meccano cost 6/3 (6 shillings & 3 pence) in 1946.



3. BREAK-DOWN TRAILER.



2. TRICYCLE.—Do not tighten the bolt at the fork to allow for steering. If thread is bound from one side of the handlebars to the other a stronger model will result.