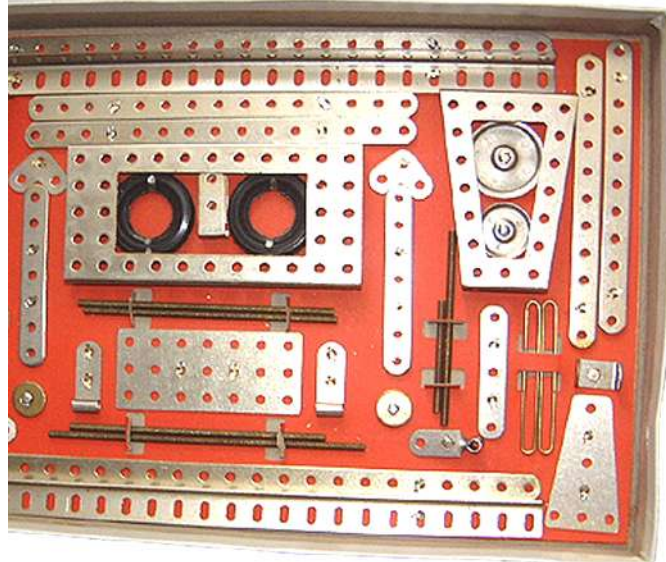


**EDITORIAL** Apologies if this issue is a little later than usual getting to you, and for any slippages in future Newsletters which may occur. My enthusiasm remains undimmed, but less gets done each day as the years roll on, and I am finding some difficulty in producing an issue every six months. No need to make any decisions at the moment but perhaps one day it may be necessary to increase the interval between issues, or change to OSN appearing irregularly as each issue is completed. I'll give details on the OSN web site if significant delays in future issues are likely to occur.

## Shorter NOTES, with thanks to all contributors.

1. On **TECO**, see 34/1027, Jacques Pitrat has the No.IV Ebay set and confirmed that it is very similar in content to a STABIL Nr.51, with a second main card of parts, as below (symmetrical left & right). All the parts on it look like STABIL except that the Pulleys have no face holes. There are 4 of each size of



Flexible Plastic Plates on the small card. The parts are well made except that the gold paint is flaking off the 14 & 28t metal Gears. As might be expected from a STABIL inspired system the holes are 4.2mm Ø at 12.5mm pitch, and the thread is 5/32" BSW. The hex Nuts though are a little larger than STABIL. No Trunnion of any sort was in the Set.

**TECO: S3** [35/1036]

2. Jacques also sent a reference to an excellent web site about **MIGNON**: [www.mignonbaukasten.de/](http://www.mignonbaukasten.de/). It has pictures of all the sets, manual pages, leaflets, etc, as well as a history of the system, and photos of many attractive non-manual models. I hope to include a brief summary of the history at a later date.

**MIGNON: S1** [35/1036]

3. Another web site worth mentioning, [www.merkur.co.uk](http://www.merkur.co.uk). The M8 set (see 21/613 & 27/790) is on sale there and full details of the set are shown, with excellent photos of the trays of parts, and all the pages of the manual including the illustrated set contents.

**MERKUR[1]: S4** [35/1036]

4. **Snippet. 'New' System: WIMA.** Below the Ebay photos



of this small German system, said to be incomplete. I'm not sure if the red mark on the boy's sleeve is a tear in the label or a 'blot'. Most of the parts look conventional: 5 & 11h Strips, DAS, Angle & Flat Brackets, a 5\*11h Flgd Plate, 2h Ø Pulleys, Axles, small hex Nuts, fillister Bolts, and a Spanner. There are 2 possible 'foreigners'. One, the two circular parts that look like ballraces, even if the Wheels of the Crane on the lid do seem to have some face holes. The other is the 'strip' whose end can be seen poking out aslant from below the end of the top 11h Strip in the photo. It looks to be flat on the bottom of the box and if so its holes are much nearer the edge than in the other Strips. Also 6 & 10h Strips can be seen on the lid but that may be artistic licence.

**WIMA: S1** [35/1036]

5. Don Redmond wrote that he has seen **MEKANIX** sets (see 34/1009) in Canada with the name DOLLARAMA (a chain of 'dollar stores') on them and a Montreal postcode H4P 1M2. Also China as the country of origin. The boxes are 16½\*11½\*2½cm and the inside packaging is similar to that of the OSN 34 sets.

**POLYLONG (MEKANIX): S8** [35/1036]

6. Also from Don, after a discussion with Kendrick Bisset. Tinplated Strips & Brackets, instead of nickel parts, may be found in **U.S. MECCANO** sets prior to the Elizabeth Meccano factory opening (and making tinplated parts) in 1922. They