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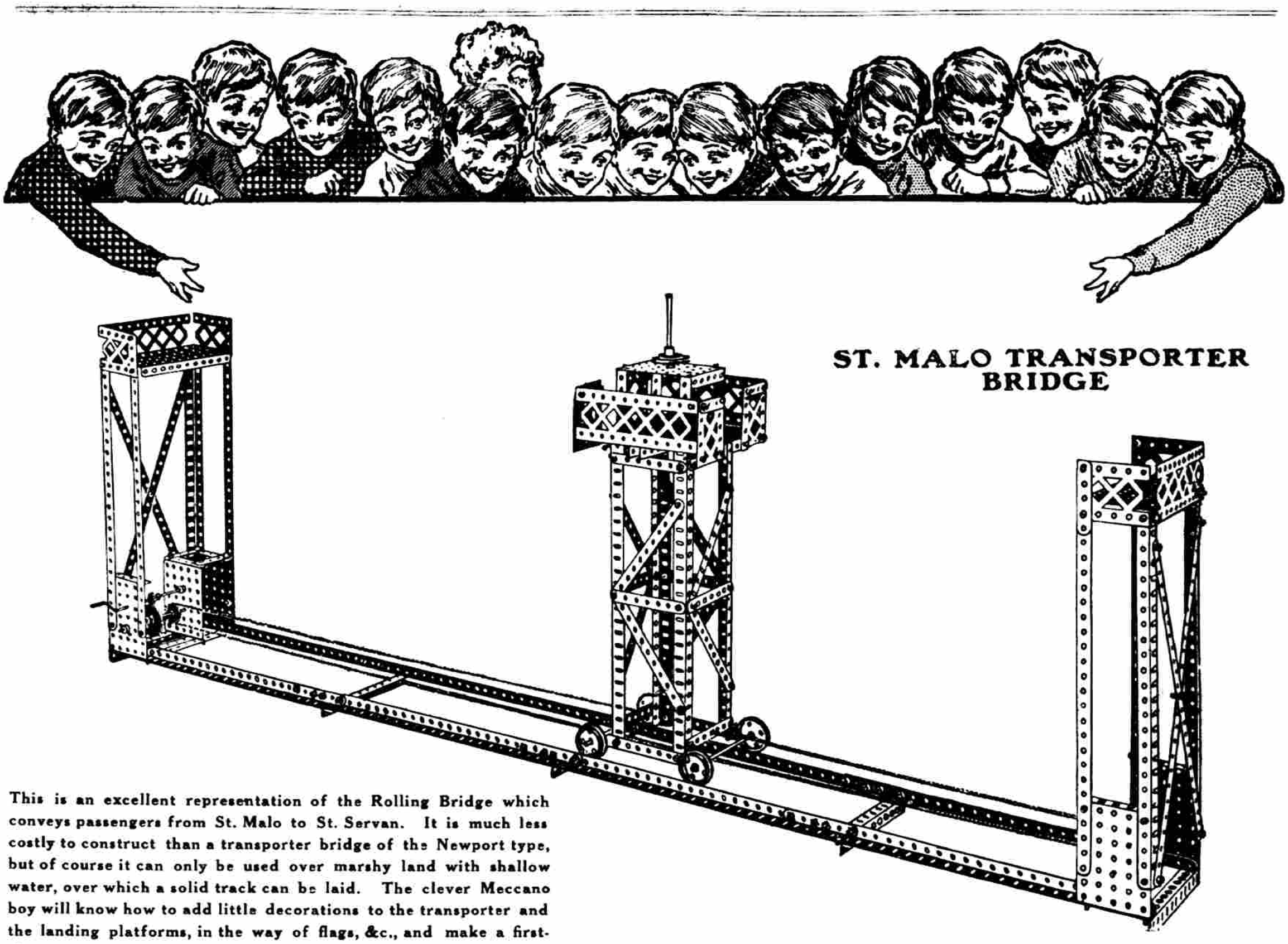
MECCANO MAGAZINE

TO HELP MECCANO BOYS TO HAVE MORE FUN THAN OTHER BOYS



ST. MALO TRANSPORTER BRIDGE

This is an excellent representation of the Rolling Bridge which conveys passengers from St. Malo to St. Servan. It is much less costly to construct than a transporter bridge of the Newport type, but of course it can only be used over marshy land with shallow water, over which a solid track can be laid. The clever Meccano boy will know how to add little decorations to the transporter and the landing platforms, in the way of flags, &c., and make a first-class toy of this fine model.

EDITORIAL.

Full Steam Ahead.

Since the Armistice our factory has been working night and day on Meccano, and many thousands of new and old Meccano boys have been made happy by being able to obtain their outfits. It has been a hard struggle to meet the remarkable demands which you boys have made on us, but by the time this number of the *M. M.* reaches you, our output will be so big that there need be no further waiting for any of you. Full steam ahead is our motto from now on.

The New £200 Prize Contest.

We are starting our Grand Meccano contest again, and you will find full particulars on the next page. Every Meccano boy should enter; there are hundreds of fine prizes, and any boy with a good idea for a new model should have no difficulty in gaining one of them. We want this to be the biggest and most successful contest we have ever run.

Meccano Clubs.

Judging from the enormous number of entries in our Essay Competition on "How I would run a Meccano Club," the interest in this movement is very great indeed. Meccano boys evidently feel that they are members of a great world-wide Brotherhood, and that some movement should be started to gather all their ideas and work together for the increased happiness and welfare of all clean-minded and intelligent boys in this country. We shall have more to say on this matter in our next issue.

New Meccano Parts and Clockwork Motors.

We are working hard to get the new Meccano parts ready, and we shall be able to let you have these very soon now. The necessary tools take a long time to make, as they have to be made with very great accuracy; but we shall soon be able to let you have all you need. We have also resumed work on the No. 1 Meccano Clockwork Motor, and before the winter months come on we shall be turning them out in good quantities.

The Editor

Meccano Essay Competition

"How I would Run a Meccano Club."

The response to this competition has been overwhelming and we have been unable to make the awards in time for this issue of the *Meccano Magazine*. All the entries are being very carefully considered, and in our next issue we shall publish a summary of the opinions of our readers as to how a Meccano Club should be formed. In the meantime any boy who has special views which he would like to submit to us should write without delay, as we are anxious that the Meccano Club idea should be a huge success.

We have received a great deal of correspondence from secretaries of Meccano Clubs in various towns, and we are greatly impressed with the enthusiasm with which many of these are run. We would single out for special mention Mr. Stuart H. Wilson, president of the Holy Trinity Meccano Club, with head-quarters at 29, Thornhill Road, Barnsbury, London, who runs his Club in a most successful manner, and who writes us excellent letters when reporting progress, which we should very much like to publish. We shall certainly tell you more of his doings in future numbers.

The Meccano Club in Glasgow, whose president is Mr. A. W. A. Dick-Cleland, has its own private Club Magazine, with a number of very capable contributors. We have also pleasure in commending the Methodist Magazine edited by Alfred Rolfe, an enthusiastic Meccano boy run for the benefit of Meccano boys

The Life Story of Meccano

By Frank Hornby.

(Continued.)

Meccano had now commenced to attract a good deal of attention throughout Great Britain. I received gratifying letters from boys and parents in every part of the country, and these gave me a great deal of pleasure and encouragement. In order to be quite sure that I was right in describing Meccano as Real Engineering for boys, I submitted outfits to the leading professors and engineering experts in England, and their replies furnished abundant proof that I was on safe and sure ground: that the principles of Meccano were true engineering principles, and that any boy who pursued the hobby enthusiastically and intelligently would inevitably acquire a sound knowledge of engineering and engineering terms.

You boys will have noticed that in all the Meccano manuals the instructions for building each model are couched in rather technical language; the reason for this is that correct engineering terms are used in every case. You may, with confidence, use any word or phrase employed in the Meccano Manual of Instructions in describing a model when talking with an engineer or a mechanic, and he will understand you perfectly.

I have no hesitation in saying that any boy who has built all the Meccano models in our Manual from the instructions which we provide for him, will be able to read intelligently and understand any work on engineering or a description of any engineering feat which he may come across. I attach the very greatest importance to this point of correct technical description of models, as it means so much to the serious boy whose future life will be associated with engineering matters.

As I said before, engineering professors began to take a good deal of notice of Meccano, and their recommendation and approval assisted me considerably. Things always move slowly in educational matters, and I knew that I could not hope that the authorities in this country would immediately install Meccano in all schools throughout the country for teaching mechanics and engineering, but occasionally I would hear of a more than usually progressive teacher discovering what a help Meccano was to him and using the parts for demonstrating mechanical movements to his students. Incidents of this kind proved a fine advertisement for the hobby amongst the boys, who invariably bought outfits for themselves to enjoy the fun of building at home.

Toy dealers began to find that the small quantities which they ordered quickly disappeared, with the result that their orders grew both in size and number.

I was adding more and more machinery all the time, and before I had been in my new premises two years another move was necessary. This time I thought I would do the thing thoroughly, and take premises which would be big enough for all time. Most of you boys will remember our address in West Derby Road, Liverpool, which, before I took it, was a motor car works. If you had seen the empty premises when I took them over you would have thought they were big enough to build railway engines in, and I can assure you that after all our machines and benches were installed there was enough uncovered floor space left over to give me a fright.

By this time I was manufacturing practically the whole of the Meccano parts in my own factory, and I began to introduce new machines and new methods of production, all with the object of improving the finish and efficiency of Meccano parts. Now that I had more space to work in I could do this with much greater rapidity, and so the result of these improvements became very apparent.

I abandoned the old tin containers, and Meccano outfits were now displayed in strong cartons with all the parts looking smart and orderly, in strong compartments. Up to now my strips had been made of tin with turn-over edges, but I gave this up altogether in favour of solid bright rolled steel strips heavily nickel-plated, a very great improvement indeed.

I also recognised that the key with which the wheels were fastened on the rods, whilst satisfactory in the main, was not sufficiently strong and rigid in a big working model, and I therefore introduced the set screw, and gradually utilised this same excellent principle for fastening all the wheels to the rods, so that gradually the key which I formerly manufactured by the million was superseded.

(To be continued.)

A Busy Meccano Club.

A New Grand Meccano Prize Competition

£200 in Prizes. 1st prize, £50 in cash

Now that conditions are getting a little nearer normal we are able to resume our big Contests, and we are again offering prizes to the value of £200 for the best Meccano models. The conditions will be the same as usual, and every boy who has a Meccano outfit has an equal chance of carrying away one of the big prizes.

Don't forget that more prizes are awarded to simple models than to complicated ones. Get your entry form without delay from your regular dealer, or from us if you have any trouble.

There are no entrance fees or restrictions of any kind. The entry form tells you just what to do. The competition closes on March 31st, 1920.

The closing date for the Colonies will be extended to May 31st, 1920.

ANY BOY CAN ENTER. MORE THAN 200 PRIZES.

"Can't be Bothered!"

By Wee Georgie Wood.

"Oh! I can't be bothered!" How many times have you said that, I wonder? I am afraid I have said this myself more times than I care to admit, but I have always found that in the long run it pays to "never put off till to-morrow what you can do to-day." Perhaps you had intended to go in for a Meccano Competition, then said to yourself "Oh, I am never lucky in anything like that, and I can't be bothered to enter!" The result is that you remain like that for ever because that "put-it-off" feeling has become part of you—in other words, you have formed a bad habit.

Habits, both good and bad, are always hard to shake off, and therefore it is always worth while forming good habits. I had a bad habit of reading every night until the small hours of the morning, but when mother noticed the habit she set to work to cure me. She said, "Georgie, every time you have not finished reading by bedtime, I shall keep a shilling out of your pocket money." After it had cost me four shillings I gave up reading late, and learned to go to sleep.

I have just been reading a lot recently about a habit which most American boys have formed which is called "the Meccano habit," and from all I hear it is enabling American boys to "get there." It is fine to think that it is a purely British toy which is making such a hit over there, and that they are endorsing the view which we British boys have formed of Meccano. As a matter of fact, the Meccano habit is the best mental tonic I know for anyone who suffers from "Can't-be-bothereditis." Perhaps by this time you think that I am something between a doctor and a lecturer. The fact is, I started out to write a funny article, but as I went along I felt a desire coming over me to have a little more serious chat with my Meccano boy friends.

Wee Georgie Wood

My Adventures in Meccanoland.

By "Spanner."

(Continued.)

After breakfast the boys pretended to show us where we had gone wrong in fixing up the bridge, and made some adjustments; but I don't think they made any improvements, because it worked perfectly any way. We played with it all kinds of ways for hours, and I don't believe it has been taken to pieces yet, because the boys wrote me a little time back to say that the Transporter was still going strong.

That first model was a great success, and the rest of my visit was spent in building others. I got badly bitten with the engineering microbe, and since then I have been busy giving Meccano Outfits to my boy pals and getting them started on this great mind training, brain building game. I have seen so many listless and moody boys converted into bright, happy, and clever boys solely through this hobby that I feel I want to pass on the good news to other boys through the *Meccano Magazine*.

When you get your Outfit, don't bother with the parts just at first, but take a careful look through the Manual of Instructions which you will find at the top of the box. This is a masterpiece, and I often wonder how many thousands of hours it took to complete, and how many clever brains were responsible for its amazing contents. A celebrated judge has called it "the key to a wonderful box of treasures," and I don't know of a better way of describing it.

First read what is said of Meccano on pages 2 and 3. That will give you a new line on the hobby and show you what an important and manly game it is. On pages 4 and 5 you will find illustrations of all the parts which make the system, with the correct engineering name for each one. You will have to refer to these pages a great deal later, and you will soon know all the names off by heart.

Then turn to pages 6 and 7. Here you have shown very clearly 14 different kinds of trucks. Didn't know there were so many kinds, did you? They all have their uses, in warehouses, in engineering shops, and railroad platforms. Now make one or two of them up with the parts of your Outfit, and see what a neat, handy, smooth-running toy each one is.

At the side of each illustrated model you will notice that there has been printed a list of the parts which are required to make it. Before beginning to build, take out just the exact number of parts you will need, and lay the remainder of your Outfit on one side. When you have finished the model, you will require no more parts and will have none left over, thus proving that you have made the model correctly.

When you are through with trucks turn over to pages 8 and 9, making any of the models which interest you, not omitting No. 19, which is a capital toy showing you how goods can easily be conveyed long distances by means of an Endless Rope Railway. Two boys can get a lot of fun conveying goods backwards and forwards across a room. Then there is the Telpher Span (Model No. 23), which shows you how goods are sometimes carried over hilly and difficult country. This method has been very largely used by our Allies, the Italians, to convey troops and munitions over the Alps to fight the Austrians. This is a great play model.

Pages 10 and 14 are full of cranes. Now of all the toys I know, I think a crane appeals to boys the most, and surely these pages ought to satisfy any boy. They are just full of fine cranes which any boy can build. And, talking of cranes, if any boy can master all those which are shown throughout this great book, he will be able to talk with the best engineer in the country on the subject. I have counted them, and there are 24 altogether, each one with a distinct purpose and use, and no two alike—Travelling, Swivelling, Overhead, Rotating, Locomotive, Radial, &c., &c.

It is most interesting and often most useful to know all about the building of cranes, and the advantages and peculiarities of various types. In fact, if you are going to be an engineer, as I know many of you are, you *must* know all about them, and the sooner you begin the better. The beauty of all these Meccano cranes is that they are mechanically correct, and they work and raise and lower big loads, just as the real cranes do.

On page 12 you are shown how you can build signals for your toy Railway system, fully working, on correct lines, and how to construct scales for weighing everything accurately. Then follow a whole lot of splendid models of aeroplanes, automobiles, wagons, and bridges, with an Anti-Aircraft Gun (No. 67) which you mustn't miss, and a Telegraphic Code Key (No. 75) excellent for practising and learning telegraphy with your friends, and a real Roulette Wheel (No. 77) with which you can have games.

(To be continued.)

Result of the Meccano Essay Competition

"What Meccano Has Done for Me"

We have had many hundreds of very excellent essays submitted in this competition, and it has been very difficult to make a selection. All the competitors have vied with each other in saying complimentary things about Meccano, and it has been a great pleasure to us to know that Meccano has relieved the sufferings of thousands of sick boys and girls, and given them occupation and enjoyment during days and nights which would otherwise have been tedious; how it has proved a friend to lonely boys in out-of-the-way places, and how it has united happy bands of boys in common bonds of interest and enjoyment; how, in countless instances, the hobby has helped and inspired boys who, through its fascinations, have decided to take up engineering and mechanics as a profession. We have been both surprised and gratified to receive so many entries from girls who pursue the Meccano hobby with pleasure and enjoyment, and a consolation prize of an Inventor's Outfit has been awarded to Miss Phyllis M. Alexander, whose essay will be read with keen interest by every Meccano boy and girl.

Outfits have been dispatched to the winning competitors, and we would like to give a word of special commendation to those competitors from whose essays we have printed extracts.

Prize Essay by Max F. Covill, 62, Rodwell Avenue, Weymouth, Dorset.

Master Covill attended the Convent High School for some years, and at the age of 13 he entered the Weymouth Engineering and Technical School, stimulated by the knowledge and inspiration which he had derived from building Meccano models. He is now 14 years of age, and he intends to take up engineering as a profession. We wish him the greatest success.

Few people, I think, owe more to Meccano than I do. It has decided my career, and this important decision was gained at the small cost of a Meccano Outfit No. 2.

I had this on my tenth birthday, and so much did it please me that I determined to become an engineer. This was, of course, first looked upon as a boyish whim, which would soon "blow over." But later, when my determination did not waver, my parents began to think about it.

Then an engineering and technical school was opened in my town. Meccano having awakened my zeal, I passed the entrance examination.

After a bit we came in our Science lessons to such things as levers, pulleys, and the inclined plane. Here again, Meccano was of infinite value to me, for I found models illustrating these and many other mechanical and scientific principles in my Meccano Manual, which is my favourite book.

All this time I was in my spare time building model after model with great enjoyment. I also regularly ordered the *Meccano Magazine*, in which I read with interest the praise which other boys training as engineers had for Meccano.

Meccano has also made a handy boy of me. Before I had Meccano I was quite useless—couldn't tell a nut from a bolt. Now I can do odd jobs about the house, and I am familiar with the parts of many machines. I am quite dexterous in fitting up Meccano models; my fingers have become accustomed to the little nuts and bolts, and are not "all thumbs" as they used to be.

Before I was given Meccano I used to moon about, complaining that I had nothing to do. Now, when I have time to spare, out come my Meccano outfits (for now I have three, and a fourth coming) and all is merry and bright.

If my career is a success, as I mean it to be, half the credit must go to my schoolmasters and instructors, but the other half must assuredly belong to that King of Toys—Meccano.

Max F. Covill.

Prize Essay by Phyllis M. Alexander, Christchurch Street, Ringwood.

Most people consider Meccano to be first and foremost for boys, so perhaps it might interest you to hear how I, a girl, spent so many happy hours "messing about," as my brothers termed it, with their Meccano outfit.

Their Meccano outfit was given them two years ago by an aunt, and naturally they were very enthusiastic over it. As I was a regular bookworm, Meccano did not interest me much, in fact I thought it then a rather overpraised toy. All my spare time I spent in reading. I read so much that my eyesight began to feel the strain. The doctor then said that for a time all reading must be given up. This was in the winter, and I hardly knew what to do with myself in my spare time. Everything seemed to go wrong, and I wandered about with a "physog like sour milk," as one of my brothers most elegantly expressed it. Then gradually I became interested in the boys' Meccano. In less than a week I became absorbed in it. We did have some fun then! We used to time ourselves seeing who could construct a certain model in the shortest time. It was rare fun. I found there was a real joy in constructing and making things for one's self. When once I had started on a model, I felt like staying to finish it, even if it took me all night, and no doubt I should have done so if mother hadn't sent me to bed punctually at nine. I may say that mother is very great on "Early to bed and early to rise, &c." After I had discovered the joys of Meccano I had no time to spend in being dull. You can imagine, too, how proud and happy I felt when I found that I could soon show the boys a thing or two about their own Meccano.

Model-making is such a complete change from reading that I often now turn to Meccano after a hard day's work.

After you have read this, perhaps you will see why I am grateful to Meccano for what it has done for me, for without it I am afraid I should have passed a rather miserable winter.

Phyllis M. Alexander.

The following are extracts from essays, which are specially commended:—

"Meccano has given me two winters of happy evenings. I believe my father has enjoyed it as much as I have done."—H. H. Thompson, Glasgow Road, Kilmarnock.

"Meccano has taught me to be thrifty. I have always got my Meccano money box."—A. E. Baker, 89, Kenilworth Avenue, Walthamstow.

"I soon found I had the one toy in the world that always contained something new and interesting."—Norah Gleed, 47, Killiser Avenue, Treatham Hill.

"It has made me popular amongst boys, because the first question they ask me is 'Have you got Meccano?'"—B. N. Giles, 19, Holywell, Oxford.

"Another thing Meccano has done for me is to make me more ambitious."—W. D. Russell, Mount Pleasant, Stornaway.

"Meccano has made many an enjoyable hour for me and it has taught me patience."—E. Fuller, Kenninghall, Thetford.

"Meccano has gained for me the name of being a clever boy. It has also made me popular, and made me many friends."—T. J. Handley, Royal Infirmary, Liverpool.

"Meccano is my best friend, because I never fall out with it."—L. Kaye, 64, Coldcotes Avenue, Leeds.

OUR MAIL BAG

The Editor has a little talk in this column with his Meccano boys. Whether he has space to reply to them all here or not, he is always glad to hear from them. He receives hundreds of letters each day and only those which deal with matters which are likely to interest other Meccano boys can be dealt with here.

Correspondents will help the Editor if they will write on one side of the paper only

F. Round, City Road, London.—We are very glad to hear that you have gradually added to your No. 0 so that you now possess a No. 5 outfit. Your suggestions for the *Meccano Magazine* are quite sound, but owing to restrictions and shortages there are difficulties in making a change just yet.

L. Lawrence, Barnes.—We will give your suggested new parts very careful consideration, also your neat design for a Meccano badge. We are very interested to know that you are also inventing for the Admiralty and for the Ministry of Munitions.

M. Atkinson, St. Leonards.—Your little girl must be a very clever girl indeed to win prizes for three years in succession with Meccano models. We hope her latest effort was successful.

Stanley Williams, Aberbeeg.—We are sorry you will be laid up so long, but you seem to be quite happy with Meccano. You will not have to wait long now for your Meccano Spring Motor. We are already at work on this valuable part of the system. You have our best wishes for a complete recovery.

E. J. Giles, Oxford.—"Compliments to the Editor, and if he has many correspondents like my son Basil, he must need a large heart and tons of patience. He is our only one at home and his one theme is Meccano." We have very many ardent correspondents all of whom stand very high in our affections, and it is no tax on our patience to read and reply to all their wonderful letters.

N, Allen, Crewe :—

"Said little Bill to little Will,
Things are a trifle warm oh!
Let's find a spot that is not too hot
Where we can play with Meccano."

You have the Gilbertian touch, N. A. Hope you made real butter with your Meccano churn, and dodged the coupons.

Max. F. Covill, Weymouth :—

"Boys and girls come out to play,
The moon doth shine as bright as day,
Leave your sorrow, and leave your woe,
And come to play with Meccano."

Quite a nice first effort, Max. Now that you have commenced to write to us we hope you will continue.

Stuart H. Wilson, Barnsbury.—You seem to run your Meccano Club on excellent lines, and you deserve great success. Your Club Magazine is very creditable indeed.

Jack Stevenson, Paisley :—

"There is a duty I don't like,
'Tis playing the piano;
I try to skip it every night
To play with my Meccano."

We hope this is not strictly true, Jack. We expect you are able to find time for both these pleasurable pursuits.

Alfréd Surridge, Smethwick.—Thanks for your excellent description of the Meccanoland Pantomime We saw it ourselves in Birmingham, and it was splendid. Hundreds of Meccano boys have written us to say how much they enjoyed it.

Ralph Fortescue Allen, South Kensington.—Your verses are very good, and we wish we had room enough to print them. We are glad you derive so much pleasure from Meccano. You are a lucky boy to have your mother and sister take such an interest.

R. H. Budden, Southsea :—

"Let those great big lathes keep turning.
Let them turn out much more stuff;
For I really know that I want more so
I haven't got enough.
I want some cranks and couplings,
And more parts I can't get.
Let those great big lathes keep turning round
Till all my wants are met."

Not a bad effort for a boy who has been run over and had infantile paralysis. We are very pleased to hear that you are as strong as ever again.

F. Lawrence, Blackwater.—We are pleased to know you are so interested in the idea of a Meccano Club, and we note that you would prefer the head-quarters to be at Liverpool. Thanks for your offer of a club room free of expense.

William T. E. Kemm, Wepener, South Africa.—Your model of the Victoria Falls Bridge is excellent, and judging from your photographs you have thrown it across the brook near your home in a workmanlike way. If you will send us a larger and clearer photo, giving a full view of the bridge and the surrounding landscape, we may be able to find a place for it in the *Meccano Magazine*.

John Lewis, Wynberg, South Africa.—We are not by any means forgetting that South Africa needs outfits and parts, and very soon we shall be able to send regular shipments. We are always glad to hear from you and we found your description of Camps Bay most interesting. Please give our regards to your father and brother.

Jas. Spence, Leith.—We are glad to welcome you as a new correspondent, and we hope to hear from you often. We can quite understand that the *Meccano Magazine* puzzles you a little. We publish it just as often as we can, but paper and labour shortages still worry us, and a little time must elapse before we can send it at regular intervals. Just now the prospects seem somewhat brighter.

Mrs. M. Kelsey, Mahlabatim, Zululand.—"I purchased for my little sonny a Meccano outfit for Xmas, and he is very enthusiastic indeed. His dad and I have to listen to Meccano morning, noon, and night. We reside right in the middle of Zululand, and a game like this to a boy away from other playmates is indeed a blessing."—Such letters as yours are a blessing to us, and they give us the keenest pleasure. Please ask your boy to write to us occasionally.

Percy Aston, Maritzburg, Natal.—"A little while ago dad had a piece of sterilising machinery to make, and the manager wanted to know what it would look like, so he made it with Meccano, and the men in the shop made it from the model."—We are always glad to hear of such incidents, which demonstrate the engineering utility and the accuracy of Meccano parts. You will see from this issue that a new Grand Meccano Competition has started. We look forward to receiving your entry.

F. Peacham, Bayswater.—You are on sound engineering lines in advocating the introduction of a rack in the Meccano system, and you will be pleased to know that this part is now being made in our factory, and will be ready very soon. Bevel gears will follow. We are glad to know that yourself and your brother are staunch supporters of Meccano, and that you consider it the "leading light and top dog of all boys' hobbies."

N. Humble, Nunthorpe :—

"The boy stood on the burning deck
Whence all but he had fled;
He was playing with Meccano,
And would not raise his head.
There came a burst of thunder,
The boy, oh! where was he?
He was up among the angels
With Meccano—R.I.P."

We knew, of course, that Meccano had penetrated to the uttermost ends of the earth, but we had not heard that Casabianca had retained so strong a hold on his outfit.

L. Baker, Maiden Bradley.—We will certainly make known to Meccano boys your warning that they "should not bolt their storage cabinets last thing at night for fear of indigestion."

Jack Burton, Erdington.—We are sorry you have been so ill, and we have hurried with this number of the *Meccano Magazine* so that you can read it and be cheered up. Send along your poem "Now the War is Over," also the raspberries when they are ready.

L. Parton, Wellington, N.Z.—We were very interested indeed in reading an account of your Meccano career, and we have heard from the manager of the N.Z. Meccano Agency of your Giant Big Wheel and its effective appearance, decorated with coloured electric lights.

F. W. Southern, Leicester.—We are glad to know that Meccano enabled you to perfect the principles of an invention for triangulated spring wheels for motor cycles. With you, we look forward to the day when Meccano will be used in all schools. Very many progressive teachers already appreciate its merits and make effective use of it.

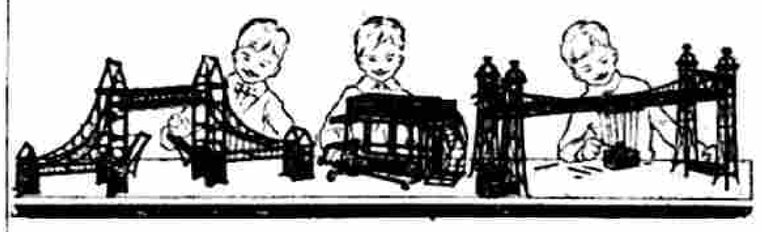
How to get the Meccano Magazine Regularly

Under the new Government regulations we are unable to send the "Meccano Magazine" to any one except those who directly apply to us for it. If, therefore, you wish to become a reader of the M.M. it will be necessary for you to forward to us a request for it to be sent to you regularly, accompanied by 2d. in stamps for postage on the next four issues. A double subscription of 4d. will, of course, ensure the next eight numbers being sent to you.

Meccano Manuals of Instructions

There are two Meccano Manuals of Instructions, and no Meccano boy is properly equipped unless he has them both. Book No. 1 is the regular manual which goes with the main Meccano outfits. It contains illustrations and full instructions for making 326 fine models; some of the models have been designed by our own staff of experts, and others are prize-winning models contributed by Meccano boys, from every country in the world. Price, 2s. 6d., or 2s. 9d. post free.

Meccano Manual, Book No. 2, has only just been published, and it contains illustrations and instructions for building 100 entirely new models, very many of them prize winners. It contains Tanks, Guns, Submarines, Searchlights, and other warlike models; also a new series of simple and intensely-interesting scientific experiments which any boy can make, and which impart a lot of useful knowledge. Price, 1s. 3d., or 1s. 5d. post free.



Prices of Meccano

No.				
0	Outfit with full instructions for building			6/-
1	do.	do.		10/-
2	do.	do.		20/-
3	do.	do.		30/-
4	do.	do.		50/-
5	do.	do.	(Carton)	70/-
5	do.	do.	(Wood)	100/-
6	do.	do.		180/-

No. 6 in well-finished cabinet with lock and key.

Accessory Outfits

No.							
0a	converting a	No. 0	into a	No. 1	..		5/-
1a	do.	do.	1	do.	2	..	11/-
2a	do.	do.	2	do.	3	..	12/-
3a	do.	do.	3	do.	4	..	22/-
4a	do.	do.	4	do.	5	..	17/6
5a	do.	do.	5	do.	6	(Carton)	65/-
5a	do.	do.	5	do.	6	(Wood)	95/-
Inventor's Outfit			...	...	...	...	10/-
Meccano Clockwork Motor			...	...	...	...	12/6

Each Meccano outfit is complete with all parts and tools necessary for building models. Full instructions are included and the youngest boy can commence to build at once without study. An accessory outfit may be purchased at any time, enabling bigger and more interesting models to be built Additional parts may also be purchased separately, at prices given in our published lists.

Remember that though boys play with Meccano for pleasure, and though they get more genuine fun from it than from any other toy, it also gives them a sound knowledge of engineering. Through playing with Meccano, many a bright boy has been started on a prosperous career in one of the most important and profitable professions—engineering and mechanics.

PUBLISHED BY MECCANO LTD.,
BINNS ROAD, LIVERPOOL.
Printed by Taylor, Garnett, Evans & Co., Ltd., Liverpool, Manchester, and London.

VOL. 1 No. 10. SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER, 1919.

MECCANO MAGAZINE

TO HELP MECCANO BOYS TO HAVE MORE FUN THAN OTHER BOYS

CLUB NIGHT. THE HAPPIEST NIGHT IN THE WEEK.

EDITORIAL.

Meccano Guild.

I hope that all you boys will carefully read our announcement of the founding of the Meccano Guild on the next page. This is a wonderful movement for boys, and each one of my readers must do his share towards making it a success.

Meccano Club Members.

The lot of a member of a Meccano club is destined to be a very happy one in future. He will have plenty of interesting work to do; he will be in close contact with a host of fine friends, and he will have plenty of chances of gaining distinction.

Individual Membership of the Guild.

If you are not a member of a Meccano club you may still join the Guild as an individual member; wear the Guild badge; live up to its principles; count on the friendship of all other Meccano boys, and share all the privileges of membership. There will be opportunities in the future for individual members to distinguish themselves and share in the awards and benefits of the Guild.

New Meccano Parts.

Let me specially call your attention to the new Meccano parts illustrated in the accompanying sheet. The design of each one has been carefully studied, and you will find that they will extend the scope of your Meccano outfit very considerably. Additional new parts are in preparation, and will be announced very shortly.

No Shortage of Meccano.

There is no shortage of any Meccano part or outfit now, and you should be able to get anything you require through your dealer without difficulty. You will find very great improvements in most of the parts.

The M.M. oftener in future.

Although there is still a great shortage of paper, I have every confidence that we shall be able to issue the Meccano Magazine oftener in the future. The next number will be specially interesting, as it will record the progress of the Meccano Guild movement, the success of which I feel is already assured. There will also be other new and interesting features.

The Editor

The Life Story of Meccano

By Frank Hornby.

(Continued.)

I now began to pay considerable attention to foreign markets, where Meccano was already meeting with an excellent reception. Agents were appointed in New York, and frequently during the year we sent over heavy shipments. Up to this point our continental business was worked through an agent in Rotterdam, but as he could not cover the whole of the ground we formed separate Meccano Companies in France and Germany. We sent our own trained men over to Paris and Berlin as managers, with the consequence that our continental trade began to increase very rapidly. American, French, and German boys followed the lead of the British boy and accepted Meccano as their winter indoor hobby. I used to pay visits to each of these countries once or twice in the year, and it was interesting to me to watch the English history of Meccano repeat itself in new countries, only, of course, as my goods were much now better finished and the system more highly developed, the progress was much more rapid. This increased foreign business complicated our work enormously of course. We had to print literature, manuals, showcards, and labels in several new languages, and we had to get language experts and men accustomed to export business around us to help. Even at that time we could truthfully say that there was not a civilised country in the whole wide world where Meccano had not penetrated and established itself. Boys wrote to me in all languages, from every quarter of the globe, praising Meccano, complimenting us on our models, suggesting new ones; all showing a desire to get into closer and more intimate touch with us. The boys in Australia and New Zealand were particularly keen on Meccano, and I have to thank them for much encouragement and many suggestions in those early days.

Gradually the whole of our new premises got filled up with new machines, and still the demand grew bigger and bigger. I began to see that moving from one set of premises to another was a waste of both time and money, and more serious still, a hindrance to the progress of Meccano Limited. I gave long and serious thought to the matter, and finally I decided that the only satisfactory way to meet the rapidly growing needs of my business was to buy a plot of land and erect my own building. This was a very serious step, but I had become so confident of the future of Meccano that I had no hesitation in taking it. Before very long I found that I could buy a very fine piece of land within easy reach of the city of Liverpool, handy for the docks and the principal railway stations, and large enough in my opinion to provide for many years' expansion at the same rate which I had already experienced. I purchased the land and the erection of an up-to-date factory was commenced without delay. I am sure you can imagine the satisfaction which this new move gave to me. I watched the building grow to completion with great pride, and it was a happy day for me when I saw two new and powerful engines installed and working all my old and many new machines, turning out Meccano parts under the brightest and healthiest conditions for all my workpeople.

(To be continued.)

The Meccano Guild

A Fellowship of Meccano Boys

More than a million boys in Great Britain derive their greatest indoor pleasure from Meccano. They form local Clubs amongst themselves for the discussion of Meccano topics, and for mutual help. Thousands of them write to us and ask us to put them in correspondence with other boys, and to help them to start Meccano Clubs where they can meet their Meccano chums. We feel that the time has come for the formation of one great fraternal organisation of which all Meccano boys should become members, and we have pleasure in announcing that we have completed our plans for bringing this about in such a way that even the most lonely boy shall be able to take his part and share the happiness.

The objects of the Meccano Guild are :

(*a*) To make every boy's life brighter and happier.

(*b*) To foster clean-mindedness, truthfulness, ambition, and initiative in boys.

(*c*) To encourage boys in the pursuit of their studies and hobbies, and especially in the development of their knowledge of mechanical and engineering principles.

This is surely an ambitious programme, and we can assure our Meccano boys that we shall use every endeavour to establish an organisation of boys, for boys, and conducted as much as possible by boys, which will have a profound effect for good on the lives of all who take part in it.

The Headquarters of the Guild will be at the offices of the Meccano Works in Liverpool. At the head, guiding, controlling, and taking a personal interest in every member, will be the President, and the holder of this office will be Mr. Frank Hornby, inventor of Meccano, and Chairman and Managing Director of Meccano Limited. Associated with the Guild will be Meccano Clubs all over the country, run by Club Leaders and other officials; and finally the great army of club members —thousands upon thousands of clean, busy, happy boys, each with a definite purpose, each a member of a great happy family.

Existing Meccano Clubs should at once apply for affiliation with the Meccano Guild, giving the following particulars :—

(1) Name of Club.
(2) Name and address of Club Leader.
(3) Number of members on roll.
(4) Address where club meetings are held.
(5) The last report and balance-sheet.

The Meccano Club Certificate

Where a club can show that it is a real live organisation a Certificate of Affiliation to the Guild will be granted, and the club will be allowed to avail itself of all the privileges of membership.

Every boy who is not yet a member of a Meccano club should apply for individual membership of the Guild, on the enclosed form.

The applicant must also enclose 7d. to cover the cost of the enamelled badge of membership, which he must undertake to wear on all occasions.

It is the intention of the Guild to render every assistance in the formation of local Meccano clubs, and to guide and help the Club Leaders and officials in the work of running them on successful lines. A set of suggested club rules, and a complete syllabus of a winter season's activities will be sent to the leader on application.

We have had several instances of existing boys' clubs wishing to start a Meccano section, devoting one evening a week to the hobby, and we have no objection to this, provided

such clubs apply for affiliation with the Meccano Guild, and conform to its regulations so far as their Meccano evening is concerned. Meccano boys who are already members of clubs, and who are desirous of having one evening each week devoted to Meccano, should either communicate with us, giving us the name and address of the secretary, or ask the secretary himself to write to us.

We shall be glad to give any assistance to boys desirous of forming separate Meccano clubs. The first necessity is, of course, a club-room to meet in, and this should be properly warmed and lighted. Often the church, chapel, or school authorities are only too glad to provide a suitable room, and where it is desired, to assist in the appointment of a Club Leader to guide and control the work of the members. Let us here say emphatically that the factor which will count most in the success of the club will be the enthusiasm and earnestness of the boys themselves, for no school or church authority can resist an appeal where the objects are so desirable and beneficent as those of the Meccano Guild, if the appeal is properly presented.

Write to headquarters if you have any difficulty; you will get all the help and encouragement you need.

Badges of Membership

Our illustration shows the Meccano Guild membership badge full size. It is beautifully enamelled in colours, and is intended to be worn on the lapel of the coat. The wearing of it will signify that its owner is a Meccano boy who owns a Meccano outfit, is a member of the great brotherhood of boys, has undertaken to live a clean, truthful, and upright life, and regards every other boy wearing a similar badge as his friend, without introduction or ceremony. Each member must wear this badge on all occasions, so that he may be at once recognised by other members.

Special Badges, Diplomas, and Awards, will be granted to members who display ability in connection with Guild and Club work, and your Club Leader will tell you how these may be gained.

Members of Meccano clubs will purchase their badges through their Club Leader.

How To Join The Guild

If you are already a member of a boys' club or organisation, approach your secretary and explain the whole matter to him, first finding out how many other members would like to have a Meccano night. Report fully to the Guild Headquarters saying just what you have done, and what help you need.

If yourself and a number of friends wish to form a separate Meccano club, first secure a room, preferably through your church, chapel, or school authorities, decide on a leader—who should be a teacher, a parent of one of the boys, or some one interested in boys' work—and then report fully to Guild Headquarters.

If you have not sufficient boy friends to form a club and are not a member of an existing club, you should apply for individual membership in the way we have already described.

When your Leader has been appointed, the Guild will provide him with printed notes and suggestions for club rules, and the conduct of meetings, a suggested syllabus covering the first season's work, and particulars of special awards to be worked for by members.

The Guild will not control the finances or the conduct of the club. This must be done by the members themselves through their club leader and officials. The amount of the subscription must be fixed by the club, and must be sufficient to cover the club expenses. Proper accounts and records must be kept by the treasurer and secretary. Where any irregularity is shown the Guild will have power to cancel the club's certificate of affiliation at once. In all club matters the officers of the Guild will at all times be ready to help and guide both leaders and members in their work.

Address your letters to "The Secretary, Meccano Guild, Binns Road, Liverpool." Make them as short, clear, and business-like as possible. One of the objects of the Guild is to foster initiative. This means that you must use your own brains, act vigorously and intelligently, get going, and then tell us clearly just how we can help. If you can make a useful suggestion off your own bat, do so. Get it into your head that you are helping us to make the Guild a success and the other Meccano boys to have a good time. There are wagon loads of enthusiasm ready waiting in the brains and hearts of Meccano boys in this country, and if we pool it all and put it behind the Meccano Guild, we are in for the happiest and brightest of times.

The Meccano Magazine will be the official organ of the Meccano Guild.

Result of the Meccano Essay Competition

How I would run a Meccano Club

The First Prize, a No. 2 outfit, has been awarded to MASTER STEPHEN J. C. WELLS, Caversham, Oxford.

Consolation prizes have been awarded to ROBERT EDEN, 32, Holland Road, Kimberley, South Africa; WALTER A. H. WATTS, 17, Harold Road, Leytonstone, E.11; and MAURICE RIXOM, 31, Lower Road, Port Sunlight, Cheshire,

each of whom has received a Water Motor.

The following are deserving of Special Mention :—

W. TREVOR JONES, 19, Spital Square, London, E.1.

HARRY CYRIL BUXTON, 21, Thirteenth Street, Horden Colliery, Durham.

S. G. WILLIAMS, 2, Wern Villas, Llwydcoed, Aberdare, Glamorgan.

The President's Message to Members of the Meccano Guild

The founding of the Meccano Guild is an event in the history of Meccano, Limited, which has given me the profoundest pleasure. There are more than a million Meccano boys in this country, and for a long time past it has been one of my dreams that this vast army of boys should feel that they know each other, should all become firm friends bonded together by common interest, common work, and common pleasure; that they should study and play together, encourage and help one another, and that they should grow up into useful, vigorous manhood, encouraged and fortified by the knowledge which they have gained by associating with other clever Meccano boys. This dream of mine has now become a reality, and in my first message to the Meccano Guild I want, if I may, to point out the way to a far-reaching success.

You will have read the objects of the Guild, and I hope you thoroughly understand their meaning. They have been carefully thought out, and every action of the Guild will be directed towards attaining them. I attach most importance to the second object, because if we attain that, everything else which we are trying for is sure. I have corresponded with thousands of Meccano boys, and I have a very high opinion of them. I believe they are clean minded, truthful, and ambitious; at all events, we want no other kind in the Meccano Guild, and before you join I want to know that you approve of its objects, and that by your work and example you will do all in your power to bring about their achievement. If you are a member of a Meccano Club you are going to benefit greatly by your association with other Meccano boys, but you must first make up your mind that you are not joining for what you can get but for what you can give. You must give all the personal work you can to carry on the Club. If you excel in anything—either in Meccano model building, or in any other hobby or work of any kind—you must be ready to explain your work to your Club, and help them to become efficient. If you are called upon, you must be ready to study up and read papers to your fellow members. You must take part in all competitions, attend all meetings and assist in all the work which the Club undertakes. This is a Guild of boys whose main object is to help all other boys, and you personally can give just as much help as any other member. Remember that every Meccano boy you meet is your friend, and that you can talk to him freely and trust him. He also has promised to live a clean and useful life, and has undertaken to do all in his power to achieve the objects of the Guild. Tell him what you have done and are doing for the Guild, listen carefully when he tells you what he is doing, and you will both benefit by the interchange of ideas.

The Guild Head-quarters is at the back of each Meccano Club, and each individual member, ready to render advice and assistance. We have some excellent plans for the advancement of the Guild and its objects in the future, but our main work just now is to establish Meccano Clubs in every town and get them all running smoothly.

With good wishes to every Meccano boy,

Yours sincerely,

F. Hornby

Managing Director, Meccano Ltd.

My Adventures in Meccanoland

BY "SPANNER."

(*Continued.*)

The models now begin to get bigger, more complicated and consequently more interesting. On page 13 there are two models that delight the hearts of all young boys—the Joy Wheel (35) and the Roundabout (37). Further on come more roundabouts (120 and 180), and on page 50 there are three fine swings. Why, if you built all the roundabouts, swings, joy-wheels and other machines for amusement that appear in this book, you could hold quite a holiday fair, and the Flying Machine (198), the Big Wheel (279), the big Joy Wheel (286), the Escalator (301), and the Helter Skelter (308) would do a tremendous trade.

During the war I saw the Royal Engineers on several occasions doing wonderful engineering feats, and I have always been interested in bridges and bridge building. The earlier models of Meccano Bridges are comparatively simple, though there is quite a lot of work in the Railway Foot Bridge (121), for instance. This, with the level Crossing Gates (155) helps very considerably in making a fine little railway station. Altogether there are 14 models of Bridges, the finest being the Tower Bridge (314) and the Transporter Bridge (325). The latter, slightly altered and built with the new braced girders (No. 397 in the No. 2 Manual) is my first favourite, for, as you know, it introduced me to the joys of Meccano.

In spite of the happiness which I know Meccano puts into thousands of young hearts, at times I feel inexpressibly sad and regretful. At night, after a full hard evening, building and discussing models with the boys, I go home, and drawing my easy chair up to the fire pull out my pipe and sit down to quiet reflection. There is but a glimmer of light from the gas and I half-sit, half-lie, with my legs stretched out to the fire's warm glow, the smoke rings slowly breaking and lazily curling upwards as I gradually slip into the land of waking dreams. I see myself a famous engineer building a giant railway across a continent, after fighting almost superhuman difficulties—now cutting through forests, now spanning yawning chasms, now traversing trackless wastes of yellow desert. I see my work completed and I return to dear old England to receive the nation's thanks, congratulations, and honours—but no, it is only a dream, and I am back again with reality, a simple worker with no hope of fame and greatness, "all my life might have been." If only I had those wonderful shining strips and nuts and bolts and wheels and cranks and spindles and girders when I was a boy, what a difference it would have made to my life; what hours of fun and enjoyment I would have had; what possibilities would have been opened up for me; what chance of greatness.

Boys! stick to Meccano; it is the finest game in the world. It gives you years of fun and happiness that every boy should have; it teaches you the principles of engineering without fag and drudgery; it opens up wonderful possibilities for your future, for it brings the whole world to your feet, and when you're a man and your little nephews and nieces ask you what was the happiest time of your life, you will say without a moment's hesitation—"Why, Meccano-time, of course."

A New Grand Meccano Prize Competition

£200 in Prizes. 1st prize, £50 in cash

Now that conditions are getting a little nearer normal we are able to resume our big Contests, and we are again offering prizes to the value of £200 for the best Meccano models. The conditions will be the same as usual, and every boy who has a Meccano outfit has an equal chance of carrying away one of the big prizes.

Don't forget that more prizes are awarded to simple models than to complicated ones. Get your entry form without delay from your regular dealer, or from us if you have any trouble.

There are no entrance fees or restrictions of any kind. The entry form tells you just what to do. The competition closes on March 31st, 1920.

The closing date for the Colonies will be extended to May 31st, 1920.

ANY BOY CAN ENTER. MORE THAN 200 PRIZES.

OUR MAIL BAG

The Editor has a little talk in this column with his Meccano boys. Whether he has space to reply to them all here or not, he is always glad to hear from them. He receives hundreds of letters each day and only those which deal with matters which are likely to interest other Meccano boys can be dealt with here.

Correspondents will help the Editor if they will write on one side of the paper only.

Fred Ingham, Bradford.—We hope that by now you are well again, and have had a good holiday. It is quite a good idea to take your outfit on holidays—rainy afternoons have no terrors for Meccano boys. Glad to hear the club is going on well; you should not delay registering with the Guild, for there's bound to be a tremendous rush.

Wm. T. E. Kemm, Wepener, South Africa.—We, too, are sorry that you have been unable to spend any time building models; still, as your younger brother is making such progress you may be obliged to *make* time, or suffer the consequences, for we know what young brothers are. Best of luck in the competition. Yes, we read about the rebels—another case of war nerves, we fear.

A. J. Mare, Golders Green.—"Do you know whether the new parts and the Meccano badges are begun on yet?" Yes, we do. The new parts should be obtainable at your store now, and the Meccano badges—well, the article about the Guild answers a lot of questions, doesn't it? Your suggestion is a very good one, but we are afraid it is not of sufficiently general use to justify its inclusion in Meccano. Try again.

R. Atkinson, Cartgate.—What an enthusiast you are! Anyhow that's the right spirit, and we hope you will find the announcement about the Meccano Guild doing all you wished to do. We don't know of any club secretary close to your address at the moment, but as soon as we do we shall let you know.

George S. McKellar, Kelso.—"I have an idea that if, when Vol. 1 is finished, the complete volume were issued in say cardboard or cloth covers, it would sell well. I'm sure I would like to have the volume bound in the Meccano style." This is not the first time the suggestion has been made. The matter is receiving careful consideration. We are glad you are going to "wake Kelso up"; you will do it most effectively through the club you are going to form, especially if you can get Mr. Stewart to act as club leader.

C. Ransom, King's Lynn.—The rack you mention has already been introduced, and should be obtainable at your dealers now. It will meet a long felt want among Meccano boys.

C. Osmond Kelly, Jamaica.—We don't mind a bit how much you criticise the *M.M.*, for good sound criticisms show us what boys want. You say, "some day I hope to send you some decent poetry to put in your magazine." Thanks, we shall be very pleased to publish it, so hurry up.

W. Jordan, Tooting.—"I thought you would like to inform your other Meccano boys . . . that by using 1in. pulley wheels with set screws and putting white rubber rings (such as umbrella rings) for tyres, the model looks perfect, and it is silent going along." Meccano boys, please note.

Bogie, Railway Mag.—Thanks for your interesting letter; your entries for the competition certainly sound good. Keep your spirits up about the club; you'll soon have more members than you'll know how to manage. Your P.S. "I feel as if you were a father to all us Meccano boys" makes us feel very proud.

Jack Worsley, Wigan, writes: "I beg to tell you that I am deeply interested in these Meccano clubs for Meccano boys . . . if you will be kind enough to write back as soon as possible and acquaint me with all the facts of the Meccano clubs, I will be satisfied." Perhaps after reading the announcement concerning the Meccano Guild, you will understand why we couldn't put it all in a letter—and there's lots more. We hope you'll have a successful club.

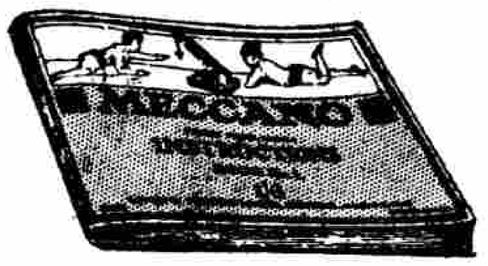
Stuart H. Wilson, Barnsbury.—The "Savings Bank," like every other feature of your club, appears to be a great success. We hope all the members are preparing for the coming season, for they will now have to maintain the honour of the premier club.

A large number of replies have been unavoidably held over until our next issue.

How to get the Meccano Magazine Regularly

Under the new Government regulations we are unable to send the "Meccano Magazine" to any one except those who directly apply to us for it. If, therefore, you wish to become a reader of the M.M. it will be necessary for you to forward to us a request for it to be sent to you regularly, accompanied by 2d. in stamps for postage on the next four issues. A double subscription of 4d. will, of course, ensure the next eight numbers being sent to you.

Meccano Manuals of Instructions



There are two Meccano Manuals of Instructions, and no Meccano boy is properly equipped unless he has them both. Book No. 1 is the regular manual which goes with the main Meccano outfits. It contains illustrations and full instructions for making 326 fine models; some of the models have been designed by our own staff of experts, and others are prize-winning models contributed by Meccano boys, from every country in the world. Price, 2s. 6d., or 2s. 9d. post free.

Meccano Manual, Book No. 2, has only just been published, and it contains illustrations and instructions for building 100 entirely new models, very many of them prize winners. It contains Tanks, Guns, Submarines, Searchlights, and other warlike models; also a new series of simple and intensely-interesting scientific experiments which any boy can make, and which impart a lot of useful knowledge. Price, 1s. 3d., or 1s. 5d. post free.

Prices of Meccano

No.				
0	Outfit with full instructions for building			6/-
1	do.	do.		10/-
2	do.	do.		20/-
3	do	do.		30/-
4	do.	do.		50/-
5	do.	do.	(Carton)	70/-
5	do.	do.	(Wood)	100/-
6	do.	do.		180/-

No. 6 in well-finished cabinet with lock and key.

Accessory Outfits

No.							
0a	converting a	No. 0	into a	No. 1	..		5/-
1a	do.	do.	1	do.	2	..	11/-
2a	do.	do.	2	do.	3	..	12/-
3a	do.	do.	3	do.	4	..	22/-
4a	do.	do.	4	do.	5	..	17/6
5a	do.	do.	5	do.	6	(Carton)	65/-
5a	do.	do.	5	do.	6	(Wood)	95/-
Inventor's Outfit							10/-
Meccano Clockwork Motor							12/6

Each Meccano outfit is complete with all parts and tools necessary for building models. Full instructions are included and the youngest boy can commence to build at once without study. An accessory outfit may be purchased at any time, enabling bigger and more interesting models to be built. Additional parts may also be purchased separately, at prices given in our published lists.

Remember that though boys play with Meccano for pleasure, and though they get more genuine fun from it than from any other toy, it also gives them a sound knowledge of engineering. Through playing with Meccano, many a bright boy has been started on a prosperous career in one of the most important and profitable professions—engineering and mechanics.

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Printed by Taylor, Garnett, Evans, & Co., Ltd., Liverpool, Manchester and London.

MECCANO INVENTORS' COMPETITION

1919—20.

ONE of the most excellent features of Meccano is the constant freshness and variety imparted to the hobby by the introduction of new engineering elements, and this is a line of progress which we shall always develop strongly. We have recently added a number of new parts to the system, and each one of them adds to the pleasure and interest of Meccano model building, and to the beauty and efficiency of the models themselves. Every Meccano boy should add them to his outfit because they will give him a lot of help. We are preparing a new Manual of Instructions containing models which will illustrate the usefulness of these new parts, but before this is issued we wish to encourage Meccano boys to think things out for themselves, and we are therefore offering valuable prizes for suggestions for the improvement of the models in the Meccano Manuals of Instructions, by the use of any of the following new parts.

No. 109. Face Plate.	No. 62a. Threaded Crank.	No. 52a. Flat Plates $5\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2}$ in.
,, 110. Rack Strip.	,, 108. Architrave.	,, 53a. ,, ,, $4\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$,,
,, 63a. Octagonal Coupling	,, 20a. Pulley Wheel, 2in.	,, 70. ,, ,, $5\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$,,
,, 63b. Strip Coupling.	,, 19b. Pulley Wheel, 3in.	,, 72. ,, ,, $2\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$,,
,, 64. Threaded Boss.	,, 80 & 81. Screwed Rod.	,, 7. Angle Girders, $24\frac{1}{2}$ in. long
	,, 90. Curved Strip.	,, 7a. ,, ,, $18\frac{1}{2}$ in. ,,

HOW TO COMPETE. Look carefully over the models in the No. 1 and No. 2 Manuals of Instructions, and decide how any of these could be improved by the use of any of the above new parts, then send to us a sketch or photograph of the alterations which you suggest, together with a short description.

First Prize—a	**No. 6**	**Meccano**	**Outfit**	....	**value**	**£9**	**0**	**0**
Second ,,	,, **5**	,,	,,	....	,,	**£5**	**0**	**0**
Third ,,	,, **5**	,,	,,	**(carton)**	,,	**£3**	**10**	**0**

Additional Prizes will be awarded to competitors whose entries shew special merit.

All entries for this competition should be addressed—

INVENTORS' COMPETITION,
MECCANO LIMITED,
BINNS ROAD,
LIVERPOOL.

Closing date, March 1st, 1920.

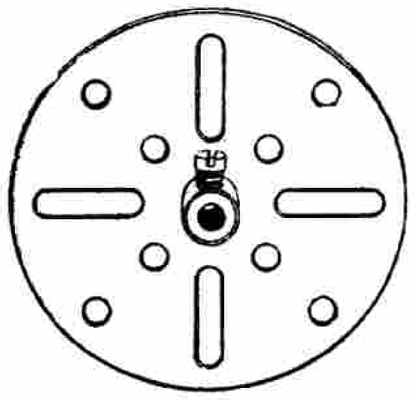
The judges will be Meccano Ltd., and the sole copyright of the photos, sketches or models which win prizes will be vested in the Company. Photographs or sketches will not be returned.

No special Form of Entry is required in this competition.

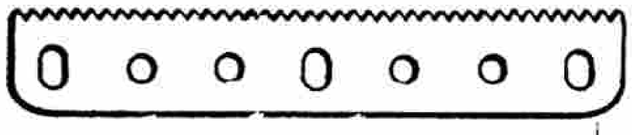
MECCANO LIMITED. **LIVERPOOL.**

919/35

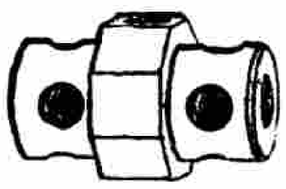
NEW MECCANO ACCESSORY PARTS



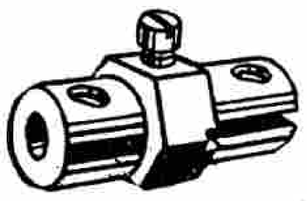
109. Face Plate, 2½in. diameter, used as a chuck for a lathe, centre boss for big wheel, etc. ... ... 6d. each.



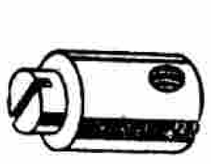
110. Rack Strip, 3½in. Cut to the pitch of Meccano gear wheels. Can be built up to any length ... 3d each



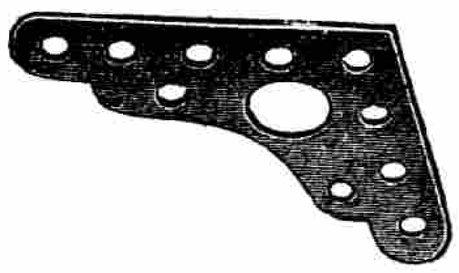
63a. Octagonal Coupling. Drilled and tapped in the same way as the regular Meccano coupling, with an extra tapped hole. Can be attached to Meccano strips on its flat faces, or may be used as the hub of a wheel. 9d. each.



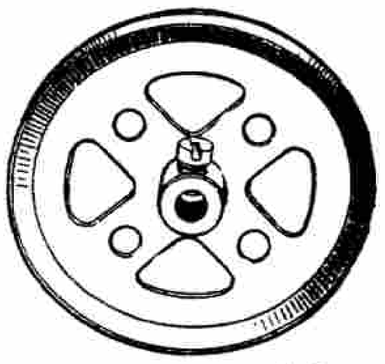
63b. Strip Coupling. Drilled, tapped and slotted. Forms a suitable connection between strips and rods. 9d. each.



64. Threaded Boss. To be used as a fixed nut for attaching to any Meccano part which requires to be engaged by a screwed rod ... 3d. each.



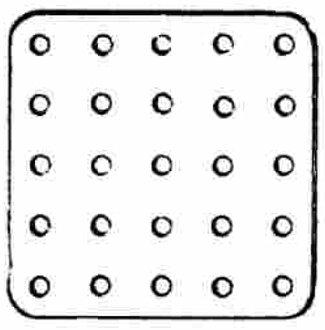
108. Architrave. May be used as a bracket for strengthening many of the models, also as a decorative piece for finishing off columns, towers, &c. ... 3d. each.



20a. Pulley Wheels, 2″ diameter, with centre boss and set screw ... ... 9d. each.
19b. Do. 3″ diam., 1/- each.

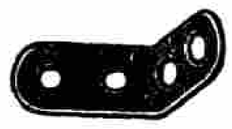
111. Bolt, ⅜″ ... 1d. each.

80. Screwed Rods, 5″ 6d. each.
81. Do. 2″ 3d. ,,

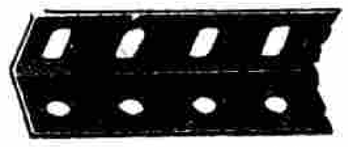


52a. Flat Plates, 5½″ × 3½″ 5d. each.
72. Do. 2½″ × 2½″ 3d. each.
70. Do. 5½″ × 2½″ 5d. each.
53a. Do. 4½″ × 2½″ 4d. each.

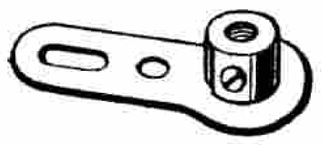
90. Curved Strips, 2½″ 1d. each.



12a. Angle Brackets, 1″ 2d. each.

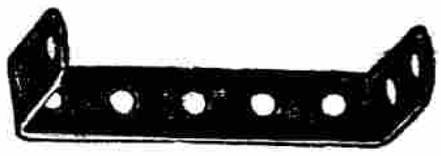


7. Angle Girders, 24½″ long 9d. each.
7a. Do. 18½″ long 7d. each.

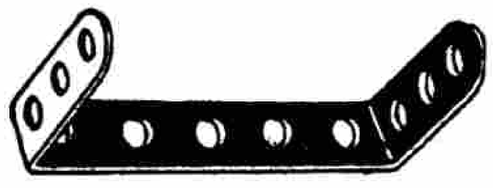


62a. Threaded Crank. Similar to the ordinary crank with the exception that the centre of the boss is threaded and there is also a threaded hole at right angles 6d. each.

60a. Double Angle Strip, 1½″ × ½″ 1d. each.
60. Do. 2½″ × ½″ 1½d. each.
60b. Do. 3½″ × ½″ 2d. each.
60c. Do. 5½″ × ½″ 3d. each.



46. Double Angle Strip, 2½″ × 1″ 3d. each.



112. DoubleAngleStrip, 2½″ × 1½″ 3d. each.

919/35

THE BLOCK ACCUMULATOR.

4 volts ... 6 ampere hours.

This is a new and excellent type of accumulator. We have subjected it to most severe tests, and we believe it to be most suitable for use with any type of toy electric motor. It is non-spillable, cannot be spoiled through not circuiting, and it will retain its charge for many months. Sulphating to any serious extent cannot occur, and if neglected or left in inexperienced hands, no serious harm can be done. Has remarkable recuperative powers, and will keep on working when nominally exhausted. A boon to any Meccano user who possesses a Meccano Electric Motor. Full instructions.

Price, 21/-

MECCANO, LTD., LIVERPOOL.

VOL. 1. No. 11. NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1919.

MECCANO MAGAZINE

TO HELP MECCANO BOYS TO HAVE MORE FUN THAN OTHER BOYS

EDITORIAL.

The Meccano Guild.

The announcement of this important boys' movement has met with all the success which I hoped for it, and I trust that all my readers will carefully study the Secretary's report on its progress. I want you all to share in the benefits and enjoyment which the Guild will give you. Every new recruit strengthens the movement, and hastens the day when the Meccano Guild will be one of the greatest powers for good in the land.

Meccano a National Hobby.

With rare exceptions all the boys in Great Britain now use Meccano, and look upon it as their greatest and best indoor recreation. It is firmly established as a national boys' hobby, and its strength grows from day to day. We have not yet reached the limit of progress, and there are rare times to come for all Meccano boys.

Meccanoland.

I do not want any of you boys to miss reading this fascinating book. It tells of the land "where dwell the happy boys," and it also contains an interview which one of these boys had with Mr. Frank Hornby, the Inventor of Meccano. If you have not had your copy send for it at once.

New Parts.

The new Meccano parts which have recently been introduced have broadened out the system enormously, and I strongly advise you to study them seriously. They mean new models, better models, new and delightful mechanical movements, and more fun. The Inventors' competition, particulars of which were sent with the last *Meccano Magazine*, offers a series of fine prizes for the use of these new parts, and I want to see as many entries as possible.

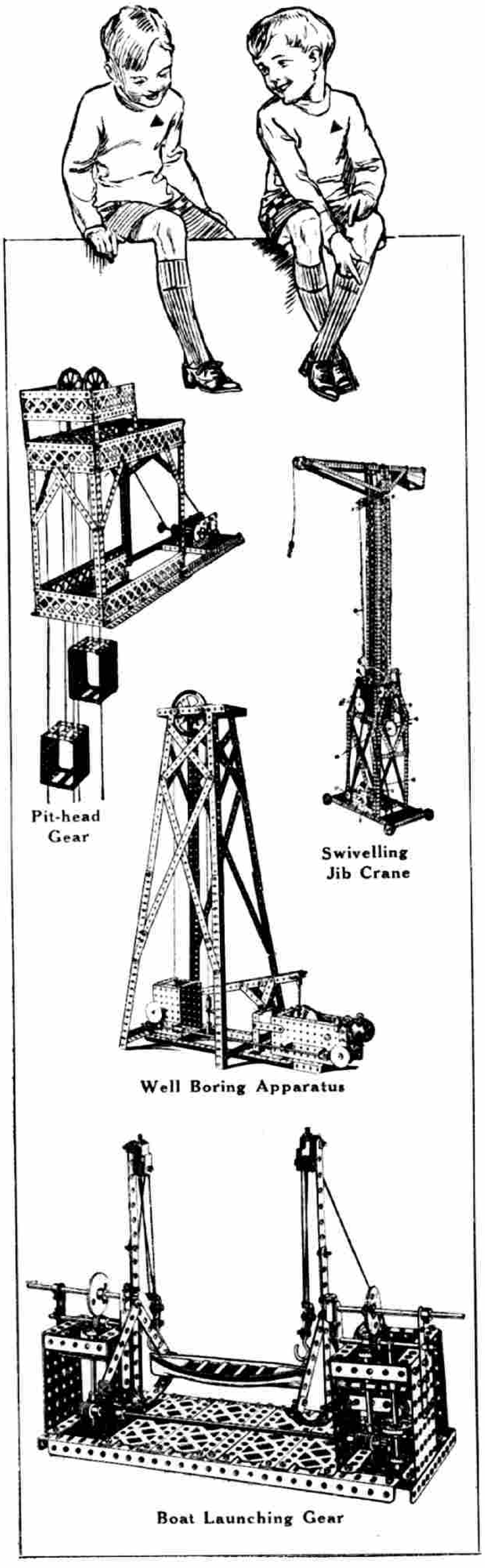
Our Grand £200 Competition.

Entries for our big Competition are coming in freely, and the demand for entry forms is much greater than we have ever experienced before. There are hundreds of prizes, and every ingenious Meccano boy should make a big effort to secure one.

Subscriptions for the Meccano Magazine.

The *Meccano Magazine* is only posted to subscribers, and each issue runs into scores of thousands. I notify each reader when his subscription has run out, and he should at once send in a renewal subscription in order to ensure receiving further numbers. A number of my readers have notified me of a change in their address without giving me the old address, and this often entails a long search through our records. Both the old and the new addresses should be given when any alteration is notified.

The Editor



The Life Story of Meccano

By Frank Hornby.

(*Continued.*)

As a rule, the transference of machines and plant from one factory to another is attended by almost complete cessation of work for a period and great dislocation of business, but in my case we were able to transfer from my old factory to the new one without stopping for a day. Two large new gas engines were first installed and completely new shafting and belting were set up right through the works. Then each lathe, press and other machine was carried over separately, fixed in its new position and started to work immediately. A great deal of hard work and careful organisation were necessary of course, but the whole removal was conducted without a hitch.

In my old building most of the big presses were set up on boarded floors underneath which were large cellars, and I assure you that when they were all at work the noise was terrific. In my new factory all the floors had been specially prepared with concrete beds to receive presses and other machines of a very heavy type, with the result that there was no vibration and very little noise when the workshops were in full swing.

Our offices and clerical staff were still in West Derby Road, but plans had been completed for a new building to be erected alongside the factory in Binns Road, which should include office accommodation, a fine model room, and a very large room with 25,000 sq. ft. of floor space, to be used for assembling and packing the completed Meccano outfits. The work was begun and pushed forward rapidly, but just before completion the great war broke out and naturally held us back to some extent. Most of you will remember the excitement of this period, and I always look back on that time with feelings of gratitude for the narrow escape which I had from an unpleasant experience. At the end of July I was in Berlin on a visit to the head office of the German Meccano Company, and I anticipated making rather a lengthy stay there. When the trouble broke out and things became so unsettled, I thought it best to get back to England, although I had no notion whatever that my own country could possibly be concerned in the trouble. When I reached home I found that war between this country and Germany had already been declared, and that by a great piece of good fortune I had travelled on the last train which left Berlin for Holland bearing English passengers. If I had delayed another few hours I should certainly have shared the fate of the thousands of unfortunate Englishmen who were afterwards interned in Germany under such trying conditions.

Shortly after my arrival home we were able to transfer over to our new premises, and we very quickly made ourselves at home. Our new great assembling rooms were soon going in full swing, and right throughout the works we settled down to produce Meccano under the happiest and best conditions.

(*To be continued.*)

The Meccano Guild

A Fellowship of Meccano Boys

In our last issue we announced the formation of a Meccano Guild, and it is now our happy privilege to report the progress which this great movement has made so far. That our announcement has received a great welcome from Meccano boys goes without saying, and the secretary and other officials of the Guild have since been hard at work dealing with the thousands of applications for membership, and cordial letters from boys, parents, and employers, giving their hearty approval to the movement and its objects, and promising support. Existing Meccano Clubs have become affiliated with the Guild, and new and sturdy Meccano Clubs are being formed in cities and towns in every part of the Kingdom. Both the Guild Badge and Certificate have been admired and approved of by all who have seen them, and soon they will be a familiar and welcome sight to those who live and move in the wonderful world of boys. In another column the secretary will tell you of the clubs which have already been established and affiliated with the Guild, and as far as space will permit, he will let you know what boys are doing in other centres to found successful clubs.

We want all members of the Guild to hold steadfastly in their minds the objects for which the Guild has been founded; they are as follows:—

(*a*) To make every boy's life brighter and happier.

(*b*) To foster clean-mindedness, truthfulness, ambition, and initiative in boys.

(*c*) To encourage boys in the pursuit of their studies and hobbies, and especially in the development of their knowledge of mechanical and engineering principles.

Those of you who have joined the Guild have approved of these objects and have promised on your honour to promote them by your own example, to be helpful to others, to be clean in thought and habit, and to be determined to learn and make progress. These are no empty phrases, boys; they mean much to you, and if you will faithfully live up to them you will inevitably grow to be sturdy, prosperous, and useful Britons.

Guild Notes by the Secretary

It gives me very great pleasure to talk to members of the Meccano Guild through the *Magazine*, and to tell them how I have enjoyed reading the thousands of letters which they have sent to me during the past few weeks. Although the task has been a big one, I have tried to reply to you all and to satisfy your thirst for information. You all wish to give your quota of help to the great movement, and I believe I have told you how you may do this. Those of you who are members of Meccano Clubs, and those who are busily engaged in forming new Clubs, are keen and enthusiastic, and I have no doubt whatever that, with a little guidance, your efforts will be crowned with success, even beyond your own hopes.

The following is a first list of Meccano Clubs which are being guided by adult club leaders, and have been granted certificates of affiliation with the Meccano Guild :—

Affiliated Clubs.

HOLY TRINITY .. .. *Leader*—Mr. S. H. Wilson, 29, Thornhill Road, Barnsbury.
Secretary—Master D. E. Stretton.
Club Address—Holy Trinity Parish Hall, Richmond Road, Barnsbury, London, N.1.

WALTHAM ABBEY .. *Leader*—Mr. S. Rogers, 3, Rue de St. Lawrence, Waltham Abbey.
Secretary—Master E. J. Carter, 5, Rue de St. Lawrence, Waltham Abbey.
Club Address—Church Room, Quarter Lane, Waltham Abbey.

GOSPORT .. .. *Leader*—Mr. J. Beane, 72, St. Edward's Road, Gosport.
Secretary—Master H. Beane, 72, St. Edward's Road, Gosport.
Club Address—Christ Church Institute, Gosport.

WATERFOOT .. .. *Leader*—Mr. R. Teasdale, Wales House, Waterfoot.
Secretary—Master J. W. Mawdsley, 334A, Edgeside Lane, Waterfoot.

WICKLOW .. .. *Leader*—Mr. R. Sheane, Church Hill, Wicklow.
Secretary—
Club Address—C/o Mr. R. Sheane, Church Hill, Wicklow.

ECKINGTON .. .. *Leader*—Mr. B. Bingham, 29, Peveril Road, Eckington, nr. Sheffield.
Secretary—Master B. Pybus, 17, Peveril Road, Eckington, nr. Sheffield.

WHITLEY AND MONKSEATON. *Leader*—Mr. G. W. Noble, 75, Eastbourne Gardens, Monkseaton.
Secretary—Mr. Wilfred Hope, 16, Queen's Road, Monkseaton.

GRIFFITHSTOWN .. *Leader*—Mr. H. Francis, 2, Park Street, Griffithstown.
Secretary—Master C. Jordan, 8, Windsor Road, Griffithstown.
Club Address—Congregational Church, Griffithstown.

SELWYN .. .. .. *Leader*—Mr. S. A. Adams, 4, Selwyn Avenue, Highams Park, London, E.4.
Secretary—Master A. Davies, 1, Coronation Villas, Handsworth Avenue, Highams Park, London, E.4.

SOUTH KIRKBY .. .. *Leader*—Mr. H. Foster, Manor View, White Apron Street, South Kirkby.
Secretary—Master S. Forrest, "Roseville," Mill Lane, South Kirkby.
Club Address—South Kirkby Wesleyan School.

YEADON .. .. *Leader*—Mr. W. F. Roberts, Secondary School, Yeadon.
Secretary—Master W. B. Yeadon, 33, Kirk Lane, Yeadon.

The following is a first list of Meccano Clubs in existence which will be affiliated with the Guild when formalities are completed, or when they come under the leadership of an adult as the case may be :—

ALDERSHOT .. .. Mr. A. J. Friend, 8, Church Road, Aldershot.
CHATTERIS .. .. Mr. W. Longland, 30, Huntingdon Road, Chatteris, Cambs.
LOZELLS (Birmingham) Master C. V. Wigley, 16, Leonard Road, Lozells, Birmingham.
SACRISTON .. .. Mr. A. J. Taylor, "Oliveville," Sacriston, Durham.
SHEFFIELD .. .. Mr. G. Angell, 298, South Road, Sheffield.
SUTTON-IN-ASH .. .. Mr. W. Firth, High Pavement and Portland Square, Sutton-in-Ash.
WORSLEY .. .. Mr. U. Skemp, Newlands, Egerton Park, Worsley.
BARNETBY .. .. Master H. Peart, 8, Victoria Road, Barnetby.
Master R. R. Ward, Laurel Villas, Victoria Road, Barnetby.
BEITH .. .. .. *Secretary*—Master R. Wood, 65, King's Road, Beith.
BLACKPOOL .. .. Master H. Cawthorne, 9, Beech Street, Blackpool.
BRENTWOOD .. .. *Secretary*—Master S. Bruty, 51, North Road Avenue, Brentwood.
BRIERFIELD (nr. Burnley) Master J. Clegg, 2, Chapel Street, Brierfield, Burnley.
"CATHAYS" .. .. Master C. H. McKnight, 12, Alexander Street, Cathays, Cardiff.
COATBRIDGE .. .. Master J. Ritchie, 47, Coathil Street, Whifflet, Coatbridge.
"DAISY HILL" (West Houghton) Master J. Platt, 24, Leigh Road, West Houghton, near Bolton.
DOUGLAS (I.O.M.) .. Master W. B. Hotchkiss, 12, Palace Terrace, Douglas, I.O.M.
"EASTWOOD" (Rotherham) Master C. E. Humphries, 52, Hatherley Road, Rotherham.
"ELLERSLIE" .. Master J. C. B. Thompson, "Ellerslie," Bichington, Barnstaple.
GLASGOW (Partick) .. *Secretary*—Master G. Hay, 28, Gardner Street, Partick, Glasgow.
GLASGOW .. .. Mr. R. R. Robb, 299, Dalmarnock Road, Glasgow.
GRIMSBY .. .. Master S. Young, New Road, Waltham, Grimsby, Lincs.
Master N. Duncombe, New Road, Waltham, Grimsby, Lincs.
HANDSWORTH (B'ham) *Secretary*—Master A. Sheldon, 113, Junction Rd., Handsworth, Birmingham
IRCHESTER .. .. Master R. Bagshaw, Townwell, Irchester.
KELSO .. .. .. Master G. S. McKellar, 20, Bowmont Street, Kelso.
"KELVINSIDE" .. *Secretary*—Master A. W. A. Dick-Cleland, 14, Hillhead Gardens, Glasgow.
LEAMINGTON .. .. Master G. Hare, 36, Willes Road, Leamington.
LISCARD .. .. Master H. Burden, 11, St. Mary's Avenue, Liscard.
LONDON (Goswell) .. Master A. FitzGibbon, 47, King's Square, Goswell Road, London, E.C.1.
"MORAY," (London) .. Master A. P. Moray, Longthorpe Lodge, 351, Goldhawk Road, W.6.
NANTWICH .. .. Master H. J. McLachlan, Willesden School, Nantwich, Cheshire.
NORTHWOOD .. .. Mr. R. H. Barnes, 24, The Pavement, Northwood, Middlesex.
PENCOED .. .. Master E. Lloyd, The Laurels, Pencoed, Glam.
"PHŒNIX" .. .. Master W. Wild, 97, Suthers Street, Werneth, Oldham.
PORTHCAWL .. .. Master H. Granville, "Ynysowen," Fenton Place, Porthcawl.
"ST. THOMAS," (Exeter) Master L. Palk, 6, Improvement Place, St. Thomas, Exeter.
"SPORTING SEVEN" .. Master F. Farley, 4, Carlton Terrace, Sydenham Park, Sydenham, S.E.
"STAPLECROSS" .. Master K. Hilder, Post Office, Staplecross, Sussex.
STOCKTON-ON-TEES .. Master W. Dixon, 27, Stanley Street, Norton, Stockton-on-Tees.
SUDBURY .. .. Master A. J. Taylor, 1, Riverside, Sudbury, Suffolk.
SWINTON .. .. Master J. Boiley, 66, Park Street, Swinton, Manchester.
Mr. Everley, 114, Station Road, Swinton.
"TAYSIDE" .. .. Master G. Pearson, 52, Seafield Road, Dundee.
"VICTORIA" .. .. Master G. Cooper, 6, Larches Street, Sparkbrook, Birmingham.
WOLVERHAMPTON .. Master S. Dark, 226, Lea Road, Wolverhampton.
YSTRADGYNLAIS .. Master H. Hunt, nr. Tawe Bakery, Station Road, Ystradgynlais.

The following is a first list of members of the Guild who are forming clubs. Each one has made substantial progress and will be glad to hear of members in his district who would like to join his club. If one of these boys lives near you do not hesitate to communicate with him. He is a bright enthusiastic Meccano boy just like yourself, and will be glad to have your help and co-operation :—

Members who are Forming Clubs.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS .. Master A. C. McGechan, 7, Hill Road, Barrow-in-Furness.
BIRMINGHAM .. .. Master J. Pridmore, 82, Holloway Head, Birmingham.
LEICESTER ("The United") Master A. M. Bentley, 91, Gipsy Road, Belgrave, Leicester.
BLACKPOOL .. .. Master J. Conway-Hughes, 1, Rutland Gate, Blackpool.
BLACKBURN .. .. Master H. Grimbaldston, 185, Walter Street, Blackburn.
CRAVEN ARMS .. .. Master W. H. Rogers, 18, Newington Terrace, Craven Arms.
CARLISLE .. .. Master C. Sadler, Donald's Court, Union Street, Carlisle.
BOOTLE .. .. .. Master P. H. Mulhearn, 43, Denbigh Street, Bootle.
CARDIFF .. .. .. Master L. Lovell, 60, Cardiff Road, Llandaff, Cardiff.
CANTON (Cardiff) .. Master H. Cook, 28, Romilly Road, Canton, Cardiff.
COLWICK VALE .. .. Master G. Scothern, 19, Park Terrace, Colwick Vale, Notts.
COTTENHAM PARK .. Master C. L. Betts, 49, Durham Road, Cottenham Park.
COXHOE .. .. .. Master F. Smith, Camborne House, Coxhoe, Durham.
DUBLIN .. .. .. Master E. Jackson, Redun Lodge, 188, Rathgar Road, Dublin.
Master J. L. Campion, 12, Mount Shannon Road, S.C. Road, Dublin.
DARLINGTON .. .. Master F. Sesman, 52, Cleveland Street, Albert Hill, Darlington.
DARWEN .. .. .. Master J. Duxbury, 37, Ablas Road, Darwen, Lancashire.
DEAL .. .. .. Master A. W. Lorena, The Hermitage, Upper Deal, Kent.
EPSOM .. .. .. Master S. Doran, 26, Hook Road, Epsom.
EDINBURGH .. .. Master W. Gillespie, 37, Warrenden Park Road, Edinburgh.
FOLKESTONE .. .. Master G. Haywood, 72, Morehall Avenue, Folkestone.
GT. MASSINGHAM .. Master G. H. Leverett, Post Office, Gt. Massingham, King's Lynn.
GATESHEAD .. .. Master E. Fisher, 154, Westbourne Avenue, Gateshead.
GLASGOW .. .. Master M. McFarlane, 58, Old Shettleston Road, Glasgow.
GOODWICK .. .. Master Patrick Duggan, 33, Harbour Village, Goodwick.
GT. YARMOUTH .. .. Master Thos. F. Drury, Camber Villa, 48, Northgate Street, Gt. Yarmouth
HULL .. .. .. Master H. Claxton, 23, Rosamund Street, Hessle Road, Hull.
Master L. T. Greensmith, 70, Clumber Street, Prince's Avenue, Hull.
Master F. Berry, 10, Vane Street, Spring Bank, Hull.
Mr. F. W. Doughty, 47/48, Saville Street, Hull.
HOWDEN .. .. Master P. Moore, Kilpin Pike, near Howden, East Yorks.
HECKMONDWIKE .. Master D. Clarke, St. James Cottage, Heckmondwike.
JARROW .. .. .. Master G. W. Stevens, Gordon House, Field Terrace, Jarrow.
LIVERPOOL .. .. Master H. Teggin, 64, Arnott Street, Walton, Liverpool.
LESBURY .. .. Master N. Gray, near Church, Longhoughton, Lesbury.
LEICESTER .. .. Master A. Whitehead, 16, Cedar Road, Leicester.
LARKHALL .. .. Master J. Campbell, 22, Hamilton Street, Larkhall, N.B.
LONDON .. .. Master R. W. Bradley, 326, Fore Street, Edmonton, N.9.
Master E. Giles, 38, Tonsley Road, Wandsworth, S.W.18.
Master H. J. Bicknell, 19, Smeaton Road, Southfields, S.W.18.
LONDON .. .. Master A. Chantrain, 6 Flat, 7 Block, Cranworth Gardens, Brixton Road, S.W.9.
Master A. Costantini, 37, Bath Road, Plumstead, S.E.18.
Master S. Beamish, 33, Shobden Road, Lordship Lane, Tottenham.
Master W. Booth, 16, Parma Crescent, Clapham Junction, S.W.11.
Master S. E. Witt, 31, Ampton Street, Gray's Inn Road, W.C.1.
Master J. D. Lambert, 1a, Bridge Road West, Battersea, S.W.11.
Master A. Savage, 141, Erlanger Road, New Cross, S.E.14.
Master L. Cale, 39, Llanover Road, Plumstead, S.E.18.
Master H. Bromley, 32, Uxbridge Road, West Ealing, W.13.
Master G. S. Abel, 135, King Henry's Road, Hampstead, N.W.3.
Master W. White, 3, Hampden Street, Harrow Road, W.2.
Master G. E. Burke, 16, Gilbey Road, Tooting, S.W.17.
Master L. Wass, 43, Quick Road, Chiswick, W.4.
Master K. Baker, 59, Holmdene Avenue, Herne Hill, S.E.24.
LOUGHOR .. .. Master R. Davies, Tramor Villa, Loughor.
LEICESTER .. .. Master H. Garlick, 21, Bellfields Street, Market Harborough.
MARSKE-BY-SEA .. Master J. Needham, 11, Victoria Terrace, Marske-by-Sea.
MIDDLESBROUGH .. Master C. J. Booth, 122, Borough Road, Middlesbrough.
MANCHESTER .. .. Master A. Whitwam, 64, Lancaster Road, Fallowfield, Manchester.
MANCHESTER (Pendleton) Master S. Nield, 6, Suffolk Street, Pendleton, Manchester.
NORWICH .. .. Master A. Stephenson, 36, Buxton Road, Norwich.
PARKESTON .. .. Master J. Sandy, Mafeking Villa, Parkeston.
PATRICROFT .. .. Master R. Wishart, 54, Cromwell Road, Patricroft, Manchester.
PONTLOTTYN .. .. Master H. Vernall, 34, Driffryn Street, Pontlottyn.
RAMSEY (I.O.M.) .. Master H. Lancaster, Miramar, Grove Mount, Ramsey, I.O.M.
RAMSEY (Huntingdon) .. Master E. A. Bull, "The Manse," 24, Blenheim Road, Ramsey, Hunts.
ROSYTH .. .. .. Y.M.C.A.
RUABON .. .. Master A. H. Squire, Bryn End, Ruabon.
SYMONDSBURY .. .. Master F. Ackerman, Ryeber Cottage, Symondsbury, Bridport.
THIRSK .. .. .. Master A. C. Wilkmen, 9, Melbourne Place, Sowerby, Thirsk.
TUNBRIDGE WELLS .. Master H. Weire, 48, Upper Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells.
WEDMORE .. .. Master E. Norman, Redhill, Wedmore, Somerset.
WORKINGTON .. .. Master R. Parlett, 13, Southey Street, Workington.
Mr. C. Hamilton, Fisher Street, Workington.
WEST BROMWICH .. Master W. French, 15, Coppice Street, West Bromwich.
WORCESTER .. .. Master R. J. Greenway, 173, Wylds Lane, Worcester.

FURTHER LISTS OF BOYS WHO ARE FORMING CLUBS WILL APPEAR IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF THE MAGAZINE.

These lists are by no means complete as I have compiled them within a week or two of the publication of the *Magazine* announcing the Guild, and some weeks before this number will be issued. New clubs are being formed and affiliated every day, and I shall be able to give a further list in the next issue of the *Magazine*.

Club leaders and club secretaries should keep in constant touch with me so that I may let them know our plans for assisting to make the club nights interesting and successful. All the difficulties which they encounter can be solved, and new ideas are coming along all the time for making the meetings of Meccano clubs enjoyable and helpful.

Let me here emphasize the necessity for securing the help of a responsible gentleman as club leader. A club run solely by boys may be started with the greatest enthusiasm, but there is always grave danger of it falling away for lack of just that guidance which an experienced adult can give. To have an adult leader adds strength and dignity to a club; he can naturally see further ahead than a boy, and he will make the meetings much more interesting, orderly, and enjoyable. He can obtain a club room for you, because he is in touch with business people, and others who have considerable influence. He can make the business side of the club run smoothly, for under his wise direction the little differences which frequently arise are quietly regulated. He can help to draw up the syllabus, ensure the orderly running of exhibitions, socials, concerts, &c., and can enlist the support and help of other gentlemen of influence. He may be a Church Minister, a Y.M.C.A. or Boy Scout official, a religious or educational official, or any gentleman interested in boys and boys' work, and you know how helpful a gentleman of this type can be. Do not hesitate to approach him, because he is bound to be interested and sympathise with the work you are undertaking. Let me know that you are approaching him and I will add my persuasion to yours.

I have endeavoured to reply to my thousands of correspondents by letter, but one or two questions have been asked frequently, and they will therefore be dealt with here. Perhaps the most frequent question of all is "Will you please let me know the name of the nearest Meccano club, and the name and address of the secretary?" Whenever it has been possible I have given the desired information, and all members should carefully watch the lists of names and addresses as they are published in the *Magazine*. It must be remembered, however, that the Guild has only been formed for one or two weeks as I write this, and that new clubs are being formed every day. All boys who are desirous of being attached to a club should make active enquiries amongst their friends and when a few of them have been got together who are willing to form a club I will then give them all the help I can by an announcement in the *Magazine* and by referring other boys to them. Every boy who writes to me is keen and eager, but it must be remembered that successful clubs are not the growth of a day but require to be carefully thought out and organised, and although the work is enjoyable beyond anything I know, it is still work, sometimes protracted work, and it has to be done.

A number of boys have written to ask me if it is permissible to wear any other badge along with the Meccano Guild badge. There is no reason whatever why this should not be done. Soldiers and sailors who have won more than one decoration are proud to wear all their badges of honour, whilst doctors and other professional men who gain university honours do not hesitate to use all the titles which indicate the successes which they have won. A Meccano badge indicates the type of boy you are, and the ideals which you have determined to live up to and it will bring you respect from anyone who sees it.

Where two or more brothers or a number of Meccano boys desire to join the Guild but have not got the necessary application forms, they may make application by letter enclosing a remittance to cover the cost of the badges. The proper forms will then be sent to them for signature. Membership will in no case be granted to any boy who does not fill in this form correctly and undertake to promote the objects of the Guild.

It has gratified me very much to receive so many applications for individual membership of the Guild from boys who live in lonely places, and who could not possibly be members of Meccano clubs. Each one is earnest in his desire to attach himself more closely to Meccano and to further the objects of the Guild. I do not wish any boy to feel deterred from joining up because his district is so small that a club is out of the question, or because he is prevented by any other circumstances from giving a night a week to club work. If he is a Meccano boy and has a Meccano outfit, he will add strength to our movement. He will feel in close touch with other Meccano boys; he will know that there are thousands of boys who will welcome him as a friend when they see him wearing the Meccano badge, and his own character will be benefited and strengthened by his adherence to the objects of the Guild. There are more than a million active Meccano boys in this country, and I want them all to feel on terms of equality with each other, to meet as friends, and to feel that they are members of a powerful brotherhood which is destined to prove a tower of strength to our nation.

The President's Message to Members of the Meccano Guild

I have been greatly touched by the prompt and enthusiastic response which Meccano boys have made to the announcement of the founding of the Meccano Guild. Cordial letters of approval have reached me from all parts of the Kingdom, and the warm hand of friendship has been extended to me from thousands of homes where boys have been made happy through their attachment with Meccano. The fellowship of Meccano boys has been founded under happy circumstances for the purpose of bringing together the cleverest, the straightest, and most ambitious boys in the country for mutual enjoyment and help. It is founded on high ideals, and we are all going to work earnestly and steadfastly to establish those ideals throughout the land.

Of the thousands of letters which have come to me recently, none have been more welcome than those which I have received from parents of Meccano boys. A mother in Edinburgh will probably not mind my quoting from a letter which she has sent to me. She says, "Allow me to express my appreciation of the noble work that you are carrying on among our boys. The objects of your Guild are admirable and are sure to prove of great benefit to the nation at large." Letters of this kind are a great encouragement, and they make me all the more determined that all the resources of myself and my Company shall be devoted to making our great new movement successful and maintaining the high ideals which we have set up.

Yours sincerely,

F. Hornby

A New Grand Meccano Prize Competition

£200 in Prizes. 1st Prize, £50 in cash

Now that conditions are getting a little nearer normal we are able to resume our big Contests, and we are again offering prizes to the value of £200 for the best Meccano models. The conditions will be the same as usual, and every boy who has a Meccano outfit has an equal chance of carrying away one of the big prizes.

Don't forget that more prizes are awarded to simple models than to complicated ones. Get your entry form without delay from your regular dealer, or from us if you have any trouble.

There are no entrance fees or restrictions of any kind. The entry form tells you just what to do. The competition closes on March 31st, 1920. The closing date for the Colonies will be extended to May 31st, 1920

ANY BOY CAN ENTER. MORE THAN 200 PRIZES

OUR MAIL BAG

The Editor has a little talk in this column with his Meccano boys. Whether he has space to reply to them all here or not, he is always glad to hear from them. He receives hundreds of letters each day and only those which deal with matters which are likely to interest other Meccano boys can be dealt with here.

Correspondents will help the Editor if they will write on one side of the paper only.

D. L. Webster, Well Hall.—Glad to have your interesting and novel letter. Your Meccano Stall was a good idea, well carried out. We wish we were nearer to you so that we might come to your Concert Party.

T. R. Lawrence, Narberth.—"Since I have had Meccano I have been a happier and brighter boy." From your letter we should say you were a very happy boy indeed. We will try to publish the *Meccano Magazine* oftener.

Winston Thomas, Burnham.—You appear to belong to a thorough going Meccano family and we are pleased to hear that you all get so much fun from the hobby. We hope to hear soon that Ernest has got his outfit.

Edwin Clarke, Pinhoe.—We are interested in hearing that you are now going to take up engineering as a profession, fortified by the knowledge you have gained from Meccano. Every Meccano boy will join us in wishing you all success. Thanks for suggested new parts, which will be carefully considered. You may send in as many models as you like for the Competition.

E. D. Gill, Kingston.—Thanks for cutting from "Daily Mail" mentioning Meccano as a preventative of nerve shock. Competition entry forms have been posted to you.

R. W. S. Parriss, Trowbridge.—"I made a model steam tractor the other day and a lady came in and remarked what a lovely aeroplane I had made. I am disgusted." A most disconcerting experience for you, R. W. S., but then there are some persons who wouldn't know a cabbage from a rose unless it had a label.

Leonard Wright, South Shields.—It would be a very long journey to bring your black kitten all the way to Liverpool, and much as we should like to see it performing its tricks, we think it will be safer at home.

Harold Mason:—

"This toy each boy does love most dear,
And always longs to have it near,
It's always charming as we say
And lo! a new one every day.
I speak of it as 'It,'
For every boy should know
That when we speak of 'It' in toys,
We mean our Meccano."

Your other verses are just as good and truthful, Harold, and we are sorry we have no room to print them.

S. R. Wilson, Goole.—We are sure it will give yourself and your friends pleasure to see your models exhibited in Mr. Thompson's windows, and we hope the Competition will be very successful. Thanks for suggestion and good wishes.

E. Hardy, Osgodby.—"You seem to make Meccano more interesting every time you send a magazine." We certainly try to, and there are many good things still to come. Sorry we cannot help you to secure back numbers of the *Meccano Magazine*.

T. A. Richardson, Oldham.—"Meccano gets better every day. The new parts are absolutely top hole." Meccano boys are making splendid use of the new parts, and the Inventors' Competition is already bringing in some fine suggestions.

Meccano Guild Members' Column

C. Jones, Farnborough.—"I have no chance of joining a Meccano Club as I live in a very lonely part; even the school I attend is five miles away." The Guild extends a warm welcome to lonely boys and will do all in its power to brighten their lives.

H. Alcock, Openshaw.—You should certainly wear your badge whether you are able to form a club or not. I wish you every success in your endeavours.

C. H. McKnight, Cardiff.—The Cathays Meccano Club is a very promising organisation which has my sincere good wishes. You did your friend a great kindness in inducing him to give up his faulty engineering system and take up Meccano. He evidently appreciates this.

C. B. Wood, Leeds.—Neither your age nor lack of time should prevent you from being a member of the Meccano Guild. You approve of its objects, and that is the main thing, and I look to older Meccano boys to set their younger brothers an example.

Roland H. Ward, Barnetby.—Very glad to hear that your club is starting on its career of usefulness and hope your exhibition in aid of your chapel will be successful. Let me know.

Rev. A. B. Grosvenor, Brightlingsea.—I am glad to have your tribute to Meccano, and I welcome you as a member of the Guild. If I can help you in your work amongst boys I hope you will write to me.

W. E. Gillespie.—You have my best wishes in forming your club. The main thing, of course, is to secure an adult club leader to help you.

Norman Boocock, Halifax.—I am quite sure that your Scoutmaster would make an excellent Club Leader, and I hope you will be successful in securing his help. I have written a special letter to him.

Frank Berry, Hull.—"The more you see and play with Meccano the better you like it. By jove, doesn't it improve, first one thing and then another, but the latest, 'The Meccano Guild,' will hit it right on the head this time. It's really fine." I have received letters without number in the same strain, but none more enthusiastic than yours, Frank. I am happy to welcome you as a member of the Guild.

L. Taylor, Manchester.—I was glad to hear from you again, and to know that your Meccano knowledge had proved so helpful to you during your connection with the R.A.F. You are just the kind of boy I want to see taking an active part in a Meccano Club. Let me know if I can help you.

L. T. Greensmith, Hull.—There is a very large number of Meccano boys in Hull, and you should have no difficulty in forming a successful club. F. W. Doughty, of 47, Saville Street, is taking a keen interest in the movement and would no doubt be able to help you.

H. Claxton, Hull.—See my reply to L. T. Greensmith. You have my best wishes.

A. Whitwam, Manchester.—Fourteen members is quite sufficient to commence with and you should be able to form a splendid club. The first essentials are an active Secretary and an adult Club Leader.

The Secretary.

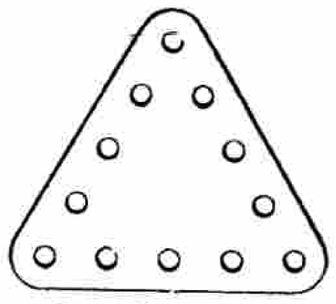
Inventor's Competition

We offer valuable prizes for suggestions for the improvement of any Meccano model by the application of the new Meccano Accessory parts recently introduced.

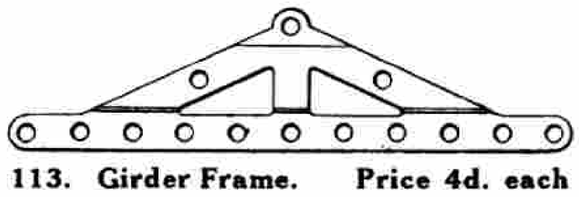
1st Prize—A No. 6 Meccano Outfit, value £9. 0s. 0d.
2nd Prize—A No. 5 Meccano Outfit, value £5. 0s. 0d.
3rd Prize—A No. 5 Meccano Outfit (Carton), value £3. 10s. 0d. Send for descriptive leaflet.

New Meccano Parts

31. Gear Wheel, 1", 40 teeth. Price 1/9 each



76. Triangle, 2½" Price 2d. each



113. Girder Frame. Price 4d. each

How to get the Meccano Magazine Regularly

Under the new Government regulations we are unable to send the "Meccano Magazine" to any one except those who directly apply to us for it. If, therefore, you wish to become a reader of the M.M. it will be necessary for you to forward to us a request for it to be sent to you regularly, accompanied by 2d. in stamps for postage on the next four issues. A double subscription of 4d. will, of course, ensure the next eight numbers being sent to you.

Prices of Meccano

No.				
0	Outfit with full instructions for building			6/-
1	do.	do.		10/-
2	do.	do.		20/-
3	do.	do.		30/-
4	do.	do.		50/-
5	do.	do.	(Carton)	70/-
5	do.	do.	(Wood)	100/-
6	do.	do.		180

No. 6 in well-finished cabinet with lock and key.

Accessory Outfits

No.							
0a	converting a	No. 0	into a	No. 1	..		5/-
1a	do.	do.	1	do.	2	..	11/-
2a	do.	do.	2	do.	3	..	12/-
3a	do.	do.	3	do.	4	..	22/-
4a	do.	do.	4	do.	5	.. .	17 6
5a	do.	do.	5	do.	6	(Carton)	56/-
5a	do.	do.	5	do.	6	(Wood)	95/-
Inventor's Outfit			...	...	...	...	10/-
Meccano Clockwork Motor			...	...	...		12 6

Each Meccano outfit is complete with all parts and tools necessary for building models. Full instructions are included and the youngest boy can commence to build at once without study. An accessory outfit may be purchased at any time, enabling bigger and more interesting models to be built Additional parts may also be purchased separately, at prices given in our published lists.

Remember that though boys play with Meccano for pleasure, and though they get more genuine fun from it than from any other toy, it also gives them a sound knowledge of engineering. Through playing with Meccano, many a bright boy has been started on a prosperous career in one of the most important and profitable professions—engineering and mechanics.

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