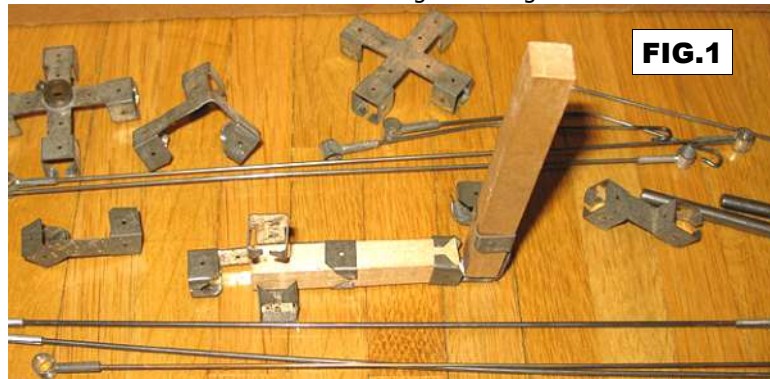


**Snippet. Another GECO OUTFIT** Something on an outfit from this German system, which relied on wooden Beams held with metal Connectors, was given in 37/1114. Since then a set, probably smaller, was offered on Ebay and a few more details can be seen in it. Also it was said that the Beams are 1cm square and up to 32cm long.

The set is in a plain cardboard box, 40\*12\*6.5cm, with no label. As shown it had a layer of parts in the bottom with 2 full width trays, about 33cm long, above. One is a little more than 1cm deep with no partitioning; the second nearer 2cm deep and partitioned into 8 bays in 2 rows of 4. There were no Wheels in the set but there would have been room for a card of parts above the trays.

Below a few of the parts including: • Various Connectors including: a 4-Way; a 4-Way with a tapped boss; a 3-Way; and two 2-Ways, one Reversed & one Angled. • The end of 2 Axles which look to be at least 4mm, and possibly as much as 5mm in diameter. • Wires with their ends either bushed or formed into a 'U'. From all the photos it can be seen that there are 3 lengths, one about 24cm long as in the foreground of Fig.1, the others one-half & one-third as long. The longest is bushed

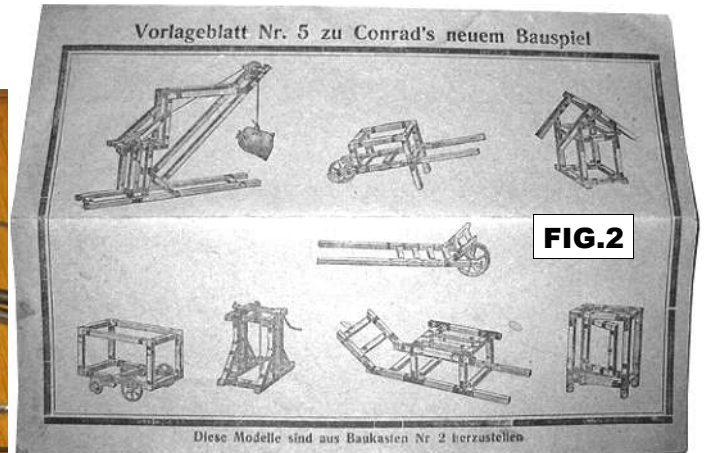


at both ends, the others at only one.

Other parts that can be seen in the various photos are a Collar similar to the boss, and at least 5 lengths of the Beam from about 2 to 32cm long, plus one of about 6cm with its ends cut at 45°.

The Ebay photos included 5 Model Sheets, Nr.1 to Nr.5, with models varying from simple on the Nr.1 to those for Set 2 on the Nr.5 below. These Sheets are in the same style as those mentioned in OSN 37 but whereas 2 of the present Sheets and all the 5 that could be seen in the OSN 37 photos are headed as being for the 'Geco-Bauspiel', the present Nr.3, 4, & 5 are for 'Conrad's neuem Bauspiel'. (Of the present Sheets the models on the Nr.1, 2 & 4 can be seen on 3 of the OSN 37 Sheets and arranged in the same way.)

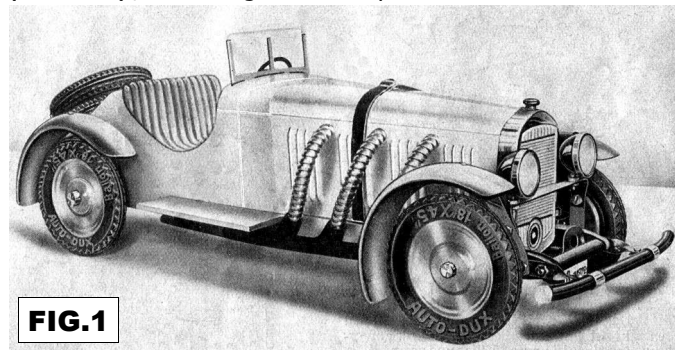
The present Ebay item was said to be 'Conrad's Geco' but the only indication that can be seen to justify this is on the Model Sheets and I wonder if the Set was in fact a CONRAD (mooted in OSN 37 as coming after GECO) and not a GECO.



OSN 43/1309

GECO: S2

**A DUX Auto Outfit** Jacques Pitrat sent copies of some pages from a DUX Aero manual copyright 1933, and one contained a list of sets including 3 under the heading 'Der Auto-DUX-Automobilbaukasten'. The first is 'Auto-DUX SSK. (Mod. 386)', and alongside is the photo below. The words on



the Tyres are 'AUTO-DUX Ballon 18"x45"'. Apparently SSK stands for Super Sport Kurz (Kurz = Short (wheelbase)). The set is said to have parts to build a 40cm long, 14cm wide, Sports or Racing Car.

The second set is a Spring Motor (Mod. 440) which is wound up from the front of the model and propels it for 50m. The third, called Fernlenkung, is an add-on set to give remote control of the steering from behind the model (probably by pulling on cords).

Google found the photos right: the first a model, missing some of its trim, sitting in the bottom of the set box, and the second an outfit. Another blurry photo of a lid shows the whole label and the Car is running on a race track. The purple box in the top right corner of the box could be the Remote Control outfit. Few, if any N&B can be seen in the model so how were the parts held together?



OSN 43/1309

DUX-AUTO: S1



## Snippet. More on the DUX Auto Set

Since the notes in 43/1309 an identical set, but with better photos, has been seen on Ebay. It was said to be complete except for the paper Number Plates, and to date from 1935. The box measures 52½\*37\*5cm & has the label right. Far right the corner of the box which was hidden in the OSN 43 photo.

**FIG.1**



**FIG.2**

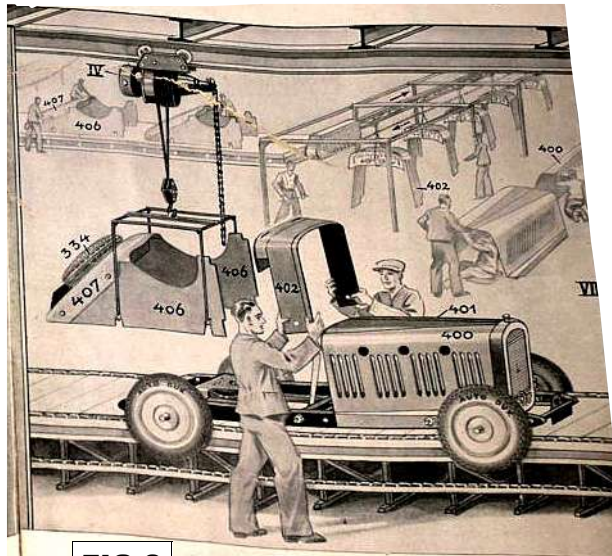


Under it the Spring Motor add-on outfit, as in the OSN 43 set, with its name in 7 languages. The Wery name in the corner was a toyshop in Strasbourg.

The instructions are in French and are on a long sheet folded concertina-fashion into 6 panels.

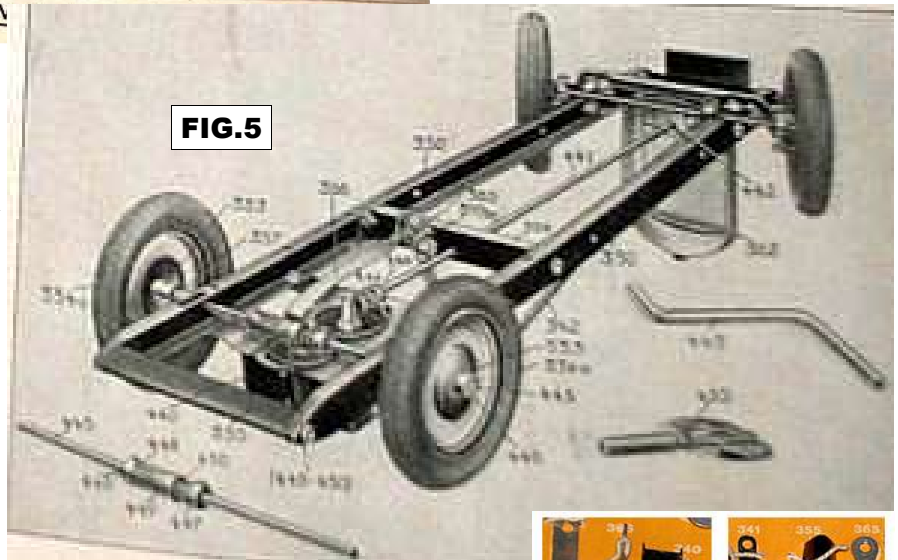
One side shows the car being assembled on a 'production line', with 6 stages from 'Montage du chassis' to 'Achèvement du montage' (Completion of assembly). All the parts are labelled with their PN's. The 4<sup>th</sup> stage, the start of adding the bodywork, is shown above (Fig.3).

**FIG.3**



The other side has an introduction on the two centre panels and written instructions for the 6 stages on the other four. The parts needed for each are listed & various photos illustrate the main features. Fig 5 right, is the one showing the installation of the Motor.

**FIG.5**



There follows some points of interest from the various illustrations and what I've been able to read of the text.

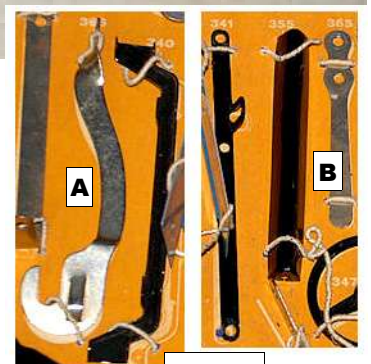
- The Motor set includes a Key plus a (large, black) Winding Handle, and the Motor can be wound on its underside with the Key or, from the front of the Car, by the Winding Handle. The latter turns a central Rod which runs along the chassis and a pinion at its other end engages with a contrate on the Motor's winding shaft.
- A contrate on the Motor's output shaft drives a pinion on the Back Axle. Only one of the Rear Wheels is driven.
- The Back Axle also includes a freewheel device to allow the Car to be pushed/pulled along, or run on after the Motor has run down.
- The Hand Brake Lever (Fig.6B) is mounted on a chassis cross member and it seems to carry a hooked Brake Arm (Fig.6A). It looks as if the hook may be around the Motor shaft and lock it in some way when the brake is applied – it is to be used when winding the Motor.
- Many of the parts must slide or click together: very few Bolts are listed and no Nuts, but some of the latter are certainly needed.
- The instructions are for the Sports Car model but at the end

of the written sections it is explained that a Racing Car can be built by omitting the Mudguards & various other 'trim' items.

Full details of incorporating the Motor set parts are given but there is only a brief mention of the remote steering, with nothing to indicate how it works. A photo shows a fairly thick cable emerging from the back of the model with a controller at the other end. The latter is held by a boy and possibly he is steering the Car by turning a 'steering wheel'. I wonder if a Bowden cable was used or perhaps there were 2 cords to give left & right steering.



**FIG.4**



**FIG.6**