

### 'New' System: STEEL CRAFT.

Another small English system, no doubt from soon after WW2. This account is largely based on details of a No.1 set kindly sent by David Hobson. It seems, apart from its Axles and N&B, to be complete but sadly has no manual.

**The Box** measures 32\*25\*3cm.

The lid is covered by red paper, badly faded in part (Fig.1), but the label has survived in all its glory (Fig.2). It has 'BIRMINGHAM ENGLAND' along its bottom edge.

Fig.3 shows the base with the parts on a black card, either strung or held by bifurcated paper clips. 'STEEL CRAFT FC/C EACH NET' is written on the underside of the card in black ink, probably a price code?

The missing Axles might have been strung with the Crank Handle, with the N&B perhaps in a box or packet which fitted on the Flanged Plate.

**The Parts** Apart from the brass Pulleys, all are steel, with the structural parts painted dark green. All holes are round. In the Strips they are 4.1mm Ø at ½" pitch, and are slightly rough on the underside. Bosses are brass, 9mm Ø, 9mm long, single tapped 5BA with brassed steel, cheeseheaded Set Screws, 6mm u/h.

The parts found are as follows with their quantities in curly brackets. **Strips** 24,9,6, 3h {2,2,4,4}. **A/G** 24h {2}. **DAS** 1\*5,3\*1h {4,2}. **A/B** {4}. **D/B** {2}. **Perforated Plate** 3\*8h {2}. **Flanged Plate** 5\*9h {1}. **Pulleys**, Fast, Loose, 28mm Ø {4,2}. **Bush Wheel**, 8h, 35mm Ø {1}. **Wheel Disc**, 8h, 35mm Ø, 6mm centre hole {1}. **Crank Handle**, nickel finish, a tight fit in Pulley bosses {1}. **Spanner**, nickel finish, jaws 8.2mm (.32") wide. {1}. **Screwdriver**, steel wire 2.8mm Ø, 3½" long, stem stamped 'TERRYS MADE IN ENGLAND' in tiny capitals {1}.

Slightly unusually sized parts are the 3\*8h Plate, and the 24h Strip & A/G, the latter with, like the Flanged Plate, square corners.



Fig.1



Fig.2

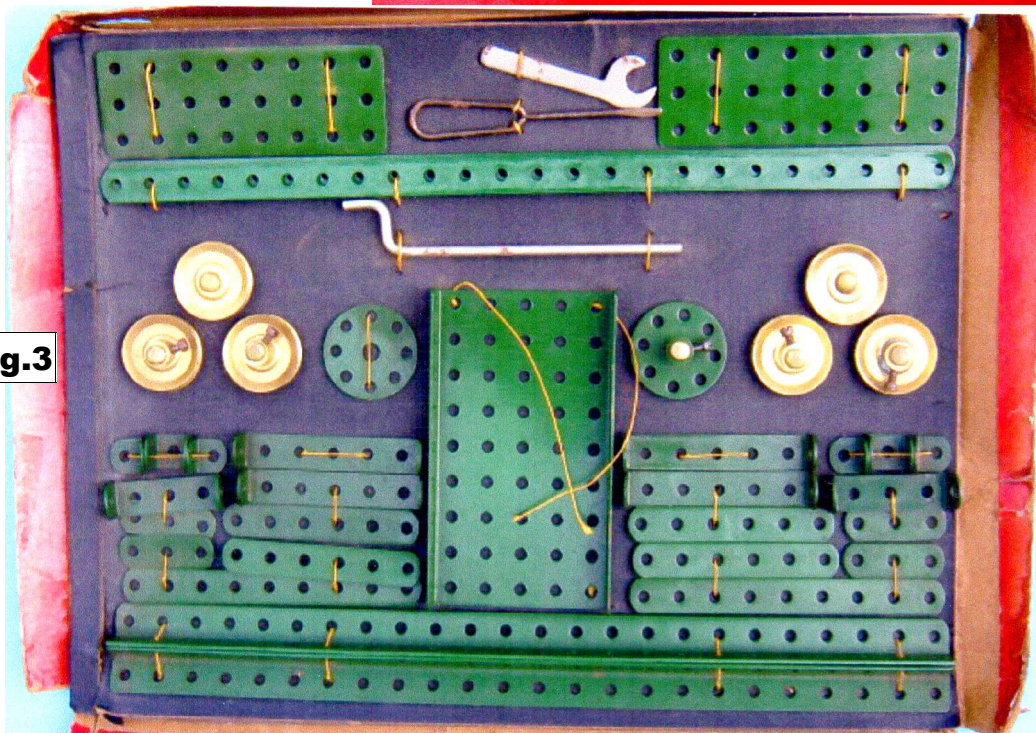


Fig.3

The Tools seem to be an unusual combination with a Screwdriver barely adequate for 5BA or ⅝" BSW, and a Spanner with jaws too wide for normal 'OS' nuts of either thread. However at the time the standard commercial ⅝" BSW nut was ⅝" A/F and the Spanner would have fitted that nicely.

### OSN 54/1651

### STEEL CRAFT: S1

**A Mystery Set** Fig.1 shows the open box and Fig.2 three of the smaller parts. The Set is thought to be German and may have originated in the Hamburg, Hanover region. The parts are cleanly made with 3.2mm Ø holes at 7.5mm pitch. All are aluminium including the M3 N&B. The Flanged Plates with their centre cutouts were clearly inspired by STABIL, but not the large and small Wheel Discs in the bottom left bay (with large Washers above the former). Thanks to Urs Flammer for the details.



Fig.2

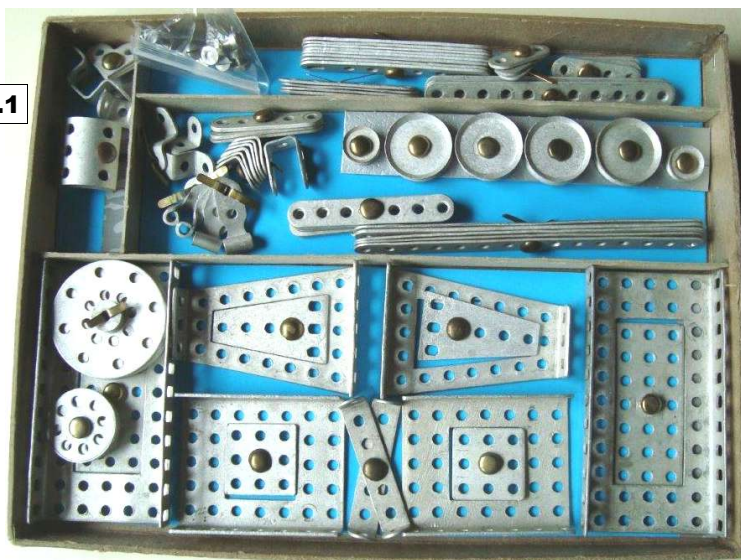


Fig.1

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