

The Hornby-Dublo Engine Shed Kit

By "The Engineer"

I KNOW that already many of you have the Hornby-Dublo Engine Shed on your layouts. Those who have not have almost certainly seen the Shed, or illustrations of it as built up from the kit of parts supplied. All of you, I am sure, will be interested to see how real and authentic it looks in actual use in the picture of it that appears on this page.

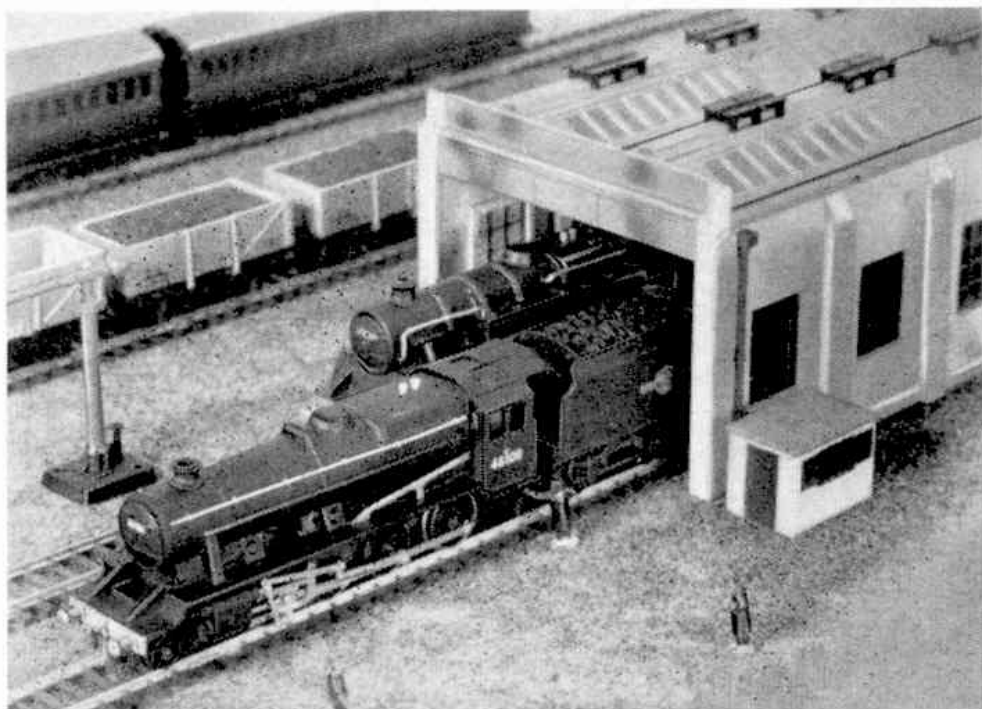
The introduction of a kit for home construction is a new development in Hornby-Dublo that is being widely welcomed—and one that is to be further extended. The Engine Shed assembled from the standard kit covers two roads, and as it is over 12 inches long it easily provides accommodation for two Pacific Locomotives and their Tenders. Smaller types can of course be got inside with room to spare.

There is little need for me to add to the very clear instructions that are printed inside the lid of the box in which the kit is bought, but there are just one or two things about which several enthusiasts have written to me. For instance, when fitting in the screws that secure the sides to the roof section you may think them too tight a fit in the special sockets in the roof. *They are not.* The point is that the sockets are in effect circular split nuts that are specially made so that they are expanded slightly as the threads of the screws make their way into them.

The result of course is a firm job. Do not attempt to ease the threads at all with any tool, or the whole purpose of these sockets will be upset and you will not have a nice rigid structure. If your Shed is dismantled and built up again on another occasion, you

will find the threads a little easier no doubt.

Another point concerns the slots in the "feet" that are formed inside the walls, near each end. These are intended to register with round-headed screws on your baseboard. The screws must be in position first, with their heads clear of the baseboard so that the sides can then be sprung



The two-road Engine Shed built up from the Hornby-Dublo Kit really looks the part on this layout. The Platelayers' Hut alongside helps to make everything look just right.

outward slightly to allow the slots to register with the screws, which will then hold the Shed properly in position. It is useless to attempt to place the Shed in position and then drive the screws home, because the roof will get in your way.

Engine Sheds should grow as the railway on which they are used is extended. So the Engine Shed Extension Kit also available allows for expanding the Shed itself to provide four roads. The design is ingenious, and the extension easy. One side of the Shed is removed, and a series of columns or stanchions provided in the Extension Kit put in its place to support the two sections of roof, after which the side taken away is put back in its new position as one side of the widened Shed. A realistic and commodious Motive Power Depot in miniature is the pleasing result.