

Sporting Meccano Models

Good Fun for Summer Model-building

ONE of the most jolly forms of Meccano model-building is the construction of simple figures depicting sportsmen in action, and the making of small models of this type is an ideal pastime for whiling away odd moments during the holiday period. The realistic models shown on this and the opposite page are typical examples, and they show that it is not necessary to use a large number of parts in order to obtain really fine results.

Every reader will be familiar with the various events that go to make up a school sports day programme,

particularly noticeable in the posing of the three runners, and the attitude of the starter also lends realism to the scene. His slightly leaning stance suggests that in thought he is ready to join in the race himself, so thoroughly is he throwing himself into his task.

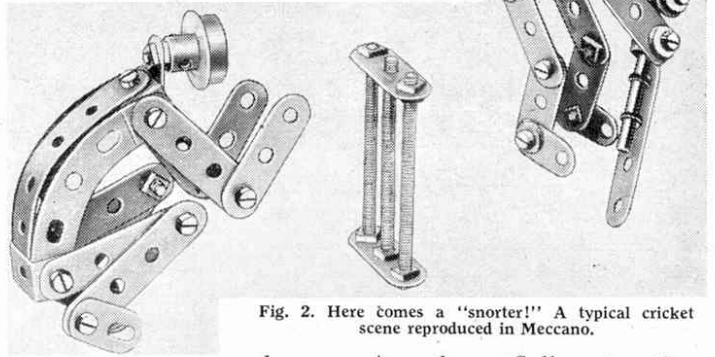


Fig. 2. Here comes a "snorter!" A typical cricket scene reproduced in Meccano.

by an Aeroplane Collar to the upraised arm.

Cricket provides wonderful scope for the Meccano caricaturist. What can be done is suggested by Fig. 2, which shows a rather nervous batsman waiting for the next onslaught of a really fast bowler. The presence, very close behind the stumps, of an efficient-looking wicket-keeper does not add much to the peace of mind of the batsman!

Both figures in this amusing scene are built of Curved Strips and Strips, with 2" and 1½" Strips to represent their legs. The expression on the face of the batsman is in no small way due to the positioning of the 1" loose Pulley that forms his head, and his rather apprehensive appearance is partly due to the use of a bolt head for his nose. The bat is a 2" Strip fixed to a 2" Rod by a Driving Band.

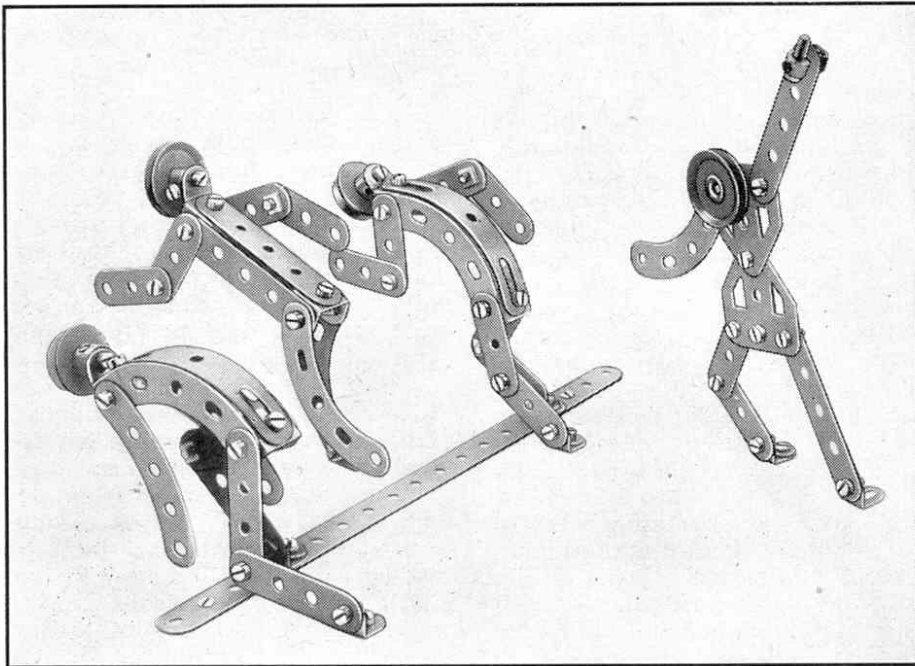


Fig. 1. "They're off!" Three Meccano sprinters get away to a good start.

and the many exciting events such as sack races, obstacle races, hurdling, sprinting and jumping present a wide variety of exciting incidents, all of which can readily be reproduced in Meccano. For example Fig. 1 shows the start of a race and from the keen and businesslike appearance of the figures it looks like being a very exciting one! It is not so much the construction of the figures that "makes" models of this kind, but the realistic positioning of the limbs and bodies so as to obtain the characteristic pose. This is par-

The figures are very simple to construct. The bodies of two of the runners are made from 2½" Curved Strips and Formed Slotted Strips, fixed together with Double Brackets, and the body of the third is made from 2½" Strips. Curved Strips and Strips form the arms and legs and are bolted in the required position. Heads are represented by 1" Pulleys and ¾" Flanged Wheels. The body of the starter is even easier to assemble. It consists of two Flat Trunnions and the limbs are Strips and Curved Strips. The gun is a ½" Bolt attached

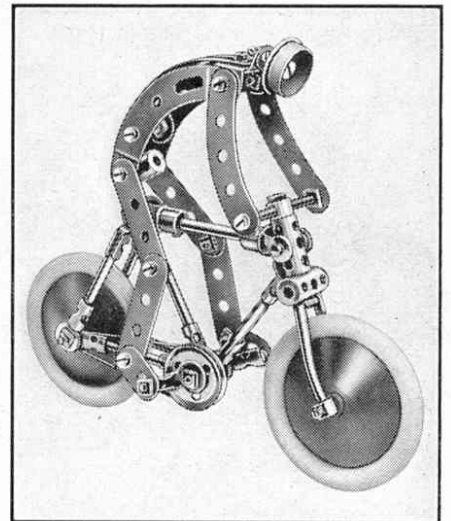


Fig. 3. A neat model of a cyclist. How it is constructed is described in this article.