

# Collecting Meccano Dinky Toys

## A New and Fascinating Hobby



THERE is a peculiar fascination about miniature reproductions of familiar things. We pay little attention to the normal full-sized objects to be seen every day in our streets and elsewhere, but a miniature reproduction of one of them immediately attracts our notice, and most of us feel a desire to possess it!

Some years ago a set of platform accessories—luggage and truck, milk cans and truck, seats, and automatic machines—was introduced with the object of making Hornby Station platforms more realistic. This proved immediately popular, but Hornby Railway owners were not satisfied. They demanded miniature railwaymen and passengers to give "life" to the platforms, and in response to this demand two further sets of figures were produced, one consisting of station staff and the other of typical passengers. Miniature train sets followed, each made up of a locomotive and two or three coaches or goods vehicles.

The requirements of railway enthusiasts were thus fairly well provided for, but nothing had been done for those whose interests lay in other directions. We were repeatedly asked for other miniatures, mainly of motor cars, aeroplanes and ships; and finally it was decided to introduce a comprehensive series of models under the general title of Dinky Toys. This series met with an enthusiastic welcome, and it has been rapidly extended until it now includes well over one hundred items, with many others in active preparation.

The Dinky Toys form the most attractive set of miniatures in existence. They are well designed and beautifully finished in colour, and they include the utmost amount of detail possible in such tiny reproductions. All of them form delightful ornaments for table or mantelpiece, especially if arranged in sets. In addition many of them can be used with striking effect in Hornby Railway layouts, to which they add a remarkable touch of realism. This is specially the case with layouts incorporating some of the Countryside Sections. Horses, cattle and sheep can be placed in the fields, and pedestrians and motor vehicles of various types distributed at suitable points along the roads. The effects that can be produced in this manner are quite extraordinary, and the general scheme can be varied almost indefinitely.

With a few exceptions all the Dinky Toys are arranged in sets, but every item can be purchased separately. One of these sets, or even a single model, forms an ideal Christmas present.

The train sets, of which there are four, have already been mentioned, Set No. 17 consists of a locomotive and tender, coach and guard's van, and Set No. 20 of a tank locomotive, two coaches and guard's van. For those who

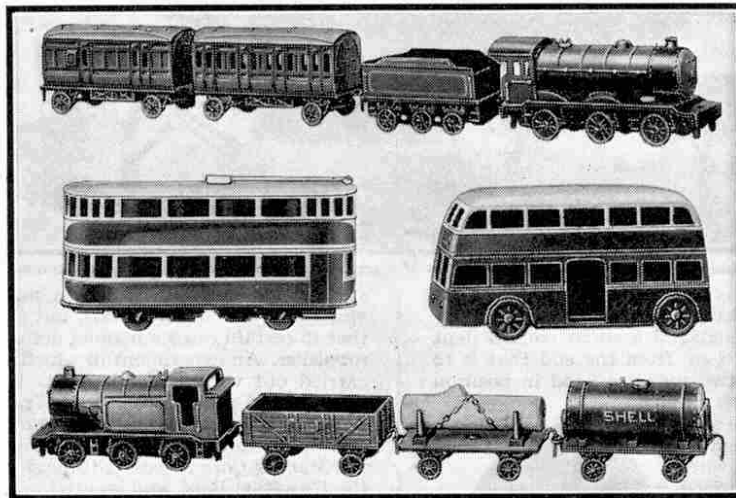
prefer goods trains there are Sets No. 18, consisting of a tank locomotive and three open wagons, and No. 19, comprising a tank locomotive, an open wagon, a petrol tank wagon and a lumber wagon. By purchasing additional coaches or wagons these trains can be increased to quite impressive proportions, and as all the items are to the same scale the trains can be rearranged and made up in any way desired.

Motor car enthusiasts are particularly well catered for. Set No. 24

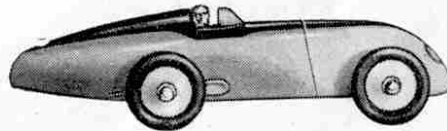
alone includes seven different types of up-to-date private cars, ranging from a sports two-seater to a handsome limousine, together with a splendid model of a typical ambulance. All these vehicles are fitted with rubber tyres and silver-plated radiators. Then there is Set No. 25, which provides an equally attractive collection of commercial vehicles. There are six of these, an open wagon, a flat truck, a covered van, a petrol tank wagon, a market gardener's van, and a tipping wagon that actually tips!

Another interesting model is the Racing Car (No. 23). This is a realistic little model of a typical modern speed car. It is fitted with rubber tyres and is obtainable in a variety of attractive colours. Even more striking is the "Airflow" Saloon (No. 32). This is an exceptionally handsome model, which demonstrates excellently the principles of streamlining. It is fitted with rubber tyres, silver-plated radiator and bumpers, and is obtainable in various colours. Still another very attractive vehicle is the "Holland Coachcraft" van (No. 31). This is a model of one of the most modernistic commercial vehicles now on the road.

Turning now to aeroplanes, we find six splendid models in Set No. 60. The largest of these is a realistic reproduction of an Imperial Airways liner, which gives a good idea of the massive proportions and handsome appearance of these machines. Smaller but equally



This illustration shows two of the Meccano Dinky Toy Train Sets, the Tramcar and the Motor Bus. The Racing Car, which is available in a variety of sporty colour schemes, is shown below.



attractive are the models of a D.H. "Leopard Moth," a Percival "Gull," a low wing monoplane, and a General "Monospar." Finally there is a delightful little model of a Cierva "Autogiro." This tiny model, with its revolving vanes, has proved exceptionally popular, which shows clearly not only the high quality of the model, but also the widespread interest that is now being taken in this type of aeroplane.

One of the outstanding events of 1934 was the launch of the giant Cunard White Star Liner "Queen Mary" on 26th September. This ship has attracted more attention than any other vessel built for many years, and therefore it is fitting that a special model should be included in the Dinky Toys series. This model (No. 52) is designed to a scale of 150 ft. to 1 in., and is nearly 7 in. in length. It contains a surprising amount of intricate detail work, particularly in the boat deck and the superstructure generally. It is finished in correct colours and shows how the real "Queen Mary" will appear when she is completed and ready for her maiden voyage in the early part of 1936. Then, everyone hopes, she will recover for Great Britain the much coveted "Blue Riband" of the Atlantic.

Set No. 51 includes six liners of world-wide fame. There is Nord-deutscher Lloyd "Europa," and the Italian liner "Rex," which at present holds the Atlantic record with a crossing between Gibraltar and New York made in four days 13 hours. Coming now to British ships, there is the C.P.R. "Empress of Britain," the P. & O. "Strathaird," the Furness Withy "Queen of Bermuda" and the Cunard White Star "Britannic."

All these ships are what are known as "waterline" models; that is to say, they represent the vessel as she appears in the water when loaded down to her normal level. It is impossible to convey in words any adequate impression of the daintiness of these models. They include every detail for which room could be found, and they are beautifully finished in correct colours.

All boys are interested in warships, and Set No. 50 provides a set of ships of the British

Navy ranging from

battleships to submarines. Heading the Set are the mighty battle cruiser "Hood" and the battleship "Nelson." Then there are three typical cruisers, "Effingham," "York" and "Delhi," and two destroyers of the "Broke" and "Amazon" classes respectively. Smallest of all are models of submarines of the "X" and "K" classes. All these warships are painted in battleship grey, with a dull matt finish that gives a strikingly realistic

appearance. Keen boys will appreciate the fact that the gun turrets on the cruisers and battleships, although so small, will actually swivel!

The Dinky Toy ships are just the thing for giving the finishing touches to models of harbours and docks. Large models of this nature are very popular just now with Meccano Clubs, and they look astonishingly realistic with one or two Dinky Toy liners at the quayside. The effect is enhanced by a small fleet of warships lying at anchor in the "roadstead."

From this necessarily brief survey it will be evident that the Meccano Dinky Toys provide all the material for a fascinating collecting hobby. The range of subjects is so great as to provide ample variety, and as many of the models can be obtained in several different colours, there is scope for an extensive collection of outstanding interest. The Dinky Toys that are now in preparation will be announced in the pages of the "M.M." immediately they are available, and collectors should keep a sharp look-out for details.

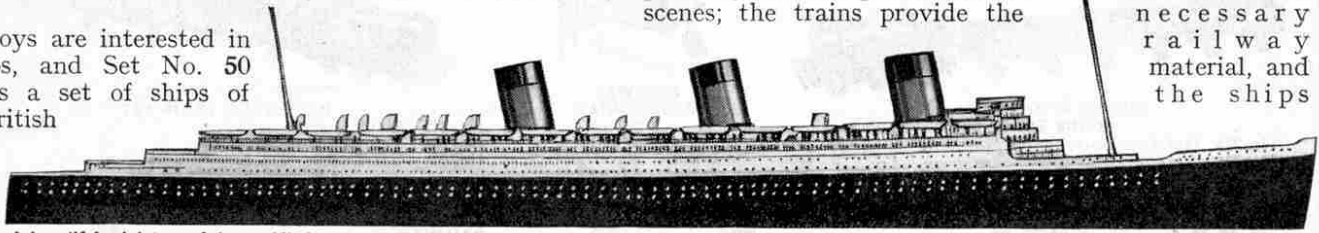
In next month's "M.M." we hope to include an article describing in detail how Meccano Dinky Toys can be put to use in the fascinating hobby of table-top photography.

This hobby consists of arranging on a table miniature scenes, composed of tiny models and scrap material of all kinds. These scenes are then

photographed, and the results appear as though they were quaint reproductions of real scenes. A great deal of the fun in this kind of photography lies in making use of the simplest of household articles to produce realistic effects, and in next month's article we shall describe some of the unlimited possibilities in this direction.

One difficulty in the past has been that the household material available has usually been seriously deficient in models small enough to be used for the purpose. This problem is now solved by the appearance of the Dinky Toys. The motor cars and wagons lend themselves perfectly to the production of realistic road scenes; the trains provide the

necessary railway material, and the ships



A beautiful miniature of the world's largest ship the Cunard White Star "Queen Mary" is included in the Dinky Toy Series, and a full size reproduction of the model is shown here. Dinky Toy motor vehicles and an Imperial Airways Liner are illustrated at the top of this page.

make it possible to produce harbour or coastal scenes in great detail. The aeroplanes, too, can be made to play an important part, and in the article special reference will be made to their employment.

No doubt keen and enthusiastic readers will discover other interesting uses for the Dinky Toys, and we should be glad to receive descriptions and if possible photographs of any such schemes.

# MECCANO

## DINKY TOYS

Toys of Quality

The Best that you can buy

### 150 Varieties

Meccano Dinky Toys are the most realistic and the most attractive models in miniature ever produced.

One of the most important additions recently made is the scale model of the Cunard-White Star Liner "Queen Mary" (Meccano Dinky Toys No. 52, see page 1000). This is a magnificent model of the world's largest liner.

Many of these toys are ideal for giving the finishing touch to your model railways. You must have railwaymen to deal with your trains, and passengers to travel in them; car attendants to look after the passengers, and engineers for the maintenance of the railway and its equipment. You want farmyard animals for limeside fields, and you should have at least one of the famous "Hall's Distemper" advertisements alongside your line.

Then there are the miniature train sets, rail car and various other types of motor vehicle. You can have hours of fun running these on the table or on the floor, arranging road and rail transport services from one point to another.

These splendid toys can all be purchased separately at the prices shown, or they can be obtained in complete sets. Ask your dealer to show you the complete range of Meccano Dinky Toys.



Meccano Dinky Toys No. 1

#### STATION STAFF

- No. 1a Station Master ... each 3d.
- No. 1b Guard ... " 3d.
- No. 1c Ticket Collector ... " 3d.
- No. 1d Driver ... " 3d.
- No. 1e Porter with bags ... " 3d.
- No. 1f Porter ... " 3d.

Price of complete set 1/6

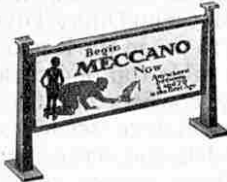


Meccano Dinky Toys No. 4

#### ENGINEERING STAFF

- No. 4a Electrician ... each 3d.
- No. 4b Fitters ... " 3d.
- No. 4c Storekeeper ... " 3d.
- No. 4d Greaser ... " 3d.
- No. 4e Engine Room Attendant ... " 3d.

Price of complete set 1/6



Meccano Dinky Toys No. 13

#### HALL'S DISTEMPER ADVERTISEMENT

This miniature of a well-known line-side advertisement is intended to be placed in the fields adjoining a model railway track. Price 9d.



Meccano Dinky Toys No. 6

#### SHEPHERD SET

- No. 6a Shepherd ... each 3d.
- No. 6b Dog ... " 2d.
- No. 2d Sheep ... " 2d.

Price of complete set 1/-



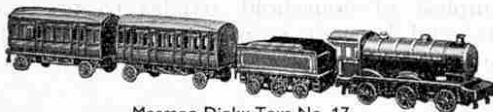
Meccano Dinky Toys No. 2

#### FARMYARD ANIMALS

- No. 2a Horse ... each 3 1/2d.
- No. 2b Cow ... " 3 1/2d.
- No. 2c Pig ... " 2d.
- No. 2d Sheep ... " 2d.

Price of complete set 1/6

**STATION OR FIELD HOARDING**  
This is a realistic accessory, suitable for model station platforms, or for fields adjacent to the railway track. Price 6d.



Meccano Dinky Toys No. 17

#### PASSENGER TRAIN SET

- No. 17a Locomotive ... each 9d.
- No. 17b Tender ... " 5d.
- No. 20a Coach ... " 7d.
- No. 20b Guard's Van ... " 7d.

Price of complete set 2/3

New items are constantly being added to the series of Meccano Dinky Toys, to increase the fun and fascination.



Meccano Dinky Toys No. 19

#### MIXED GOODS TRAIN SET

- No. 21a Tank Locomotive ... each 9d.
- No. 21b Wagon ... " 4d.
- No. 21d Petrol Tank Wagon ... " 6d.
- No. 21e Lumber Wagon ... " 5d.

Price of complete set 1/11



Meccano Dinky Toys No. 18

#### GOODS TRAIN SET

- No. 21a Tank Locomotive ... each 9d.
- No. 21b Wagons ... " 4d.

Price of complete set 1/9



RAILWAY ACCESSORIES No. 7

Watchman's Hut, Brazier, Shovel and Poker. Price 1/3



Meccano Dinky Toys No. 20

#### PASSENGER TRAIN SET

- No. 21a Tank Locomotive ... each 9d.
- No. 20a Coaches ... " 7d.
- No. 20b Guard's Van ... " 7d.

Price of complete set 2/6



RAILWAY ACCESSORIES No. 2

Milk Cans and Truck. Price per set 1/3



RAILWAY ACCESSORIES No. 3

Platform Machines, etc. Price 1/6

RAILWAY ACCESSORIES No. 4

This set comprises all the pieces that are contained in Railway Accessories Nos. 1, 2 and 3. Price 3/9



RAILWAY ACCESSORIES No. 1

Miniature Luggage and Truck. Price 1/-