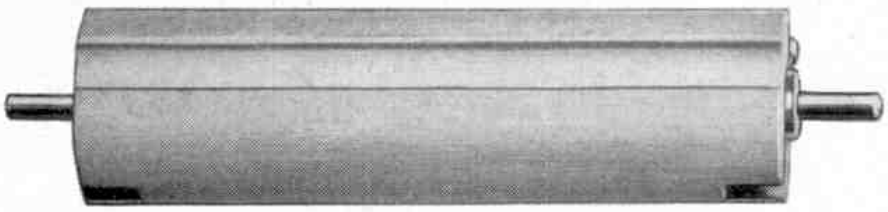
Good News

By "Spanner"

THIS month I have news that I am sure will be of interest to you all. It has now been found possible to re-introduce in the Meccano range several parts which, although very popular before the war, have not been available since 1940. You will now be able to obtain these parts from your usual Meccano Dealer. The names of the parts and their catalogue numbers are as follows: Heald for Loom (Part No. 101); Wood Roller (Part No. 106); Loaded Sack (Part No. 122); Ship's Funnel (Part No. 138); Triple Pulley Block (Part No. 153).

Each of the re-introduced parts is illustrated on these pages, and while their principal uses will be obvious to older readers, I think that younger model-builders may be glad of a few hints as to their purpose and uses in model-building.



The Wood Roller (Part No. 106), which has now been re-introduced to the Meccano System. The Heald for Looms (Part No. 101) is shown at the head of this page.

Heald for Loom (Part No. 101).

The Heald is made of thin, tough and springy steel wire, and although it is designed primarily for use in the construction of model weaving looms, it has several other uses that cannot be fulfilled by any other part in the System. It is 5½" long and has an "eye" at each end and one in the centre. The end "eyes" are for use in attaching the Heald to the heald frames in a loom, and the centre eye accommodates the warp thread.

Another important use for the Heald is in forming a tie for bracing various Meccano structures. It can also be used in a motor chassis as a means of connection between the hand brake lever and the brake mechanism on the rear wheels.

It is sometimes found necessary to reproduce a small bracing member or tie-rod, for which purpose ordinary Meccano Rods and Strips are too large and cumbersome. In such circumstances the Meccano Heald will be of great value. For example, it can be used to form mudguard stays for a motorcycle or the bracing wires for the wings and floats of model aeroplanes and flying boats. It is a simple matter to bend the Heald into the shape required, and it may easily be straightened again after use.

The Meccano Loaded Sack (Part No. 122).

Wood Roller (Part No. 106).

The Wood Roller consists of a wood barrel 1" in diameter and 3½" long, and is bored centrally to take a standard Meccano Rod. At each end it has a circular recess to accommodate a Meccano Collar or a wheel boss. There is also a slot to receive the set-screw inserted in the boss so that the Roller can be fixed to a Rod and turn when the Rod is rotated. A narrow groove is cut along the outside of the roller and I will explain the purpose of this later. The Wood Roller is supplied complete with two Collars secured to a 4½" Rod.

The Wood Roller makes an ideal winding drum for use in model cranes, pit-head gear and similar mechanisms in which Cords have to be wound in and paid out. The drum can be formed by adding a Bush Wheel at each end of the Roller in place of the Collars, the bosses of the Bush Wheels being inserted in the recesses at the ends of the Roller.

Another important use for the Wood Roller is in providing a "take-up" device to wind up the cloth as it is produced in a Meccano loom. When used for this purpose two Rollers are required. One is arranged so

Another popular re-introduced part is the Ship's Funnel (Part No. 138).

that it is free to turn in fixed bearings and is slowly rotated through gearing from the driving shaft of the loom. The other Roller is placed above and in contact with the first one, and is free to move vertically in two slides arranged at each end of the machine but is held under spring tension in light contact with the lower Roller. The cloth is attached to the driven roller by placing it under a Rod fitted in the groove provided in the Roller and held in place by elastic bands looped over its ends and the ends of the Roller spindle.

Miniature Loaded Sack (Part No. 122).

This is a special accessary that adds a most realistic touch to Meccano lorries, cranes, conveyors and other types of goods-handling machinery. It can also be used with good effect in connection with Hornby Railway goods trains. It is filled with sawdust and is provided with a small loop of wire by means of which a crane hook can be attached.

This useful accessory for model cranes is the Triple Pulley Block (Part No. 153).

Ship's Funnel (Part No. 138).

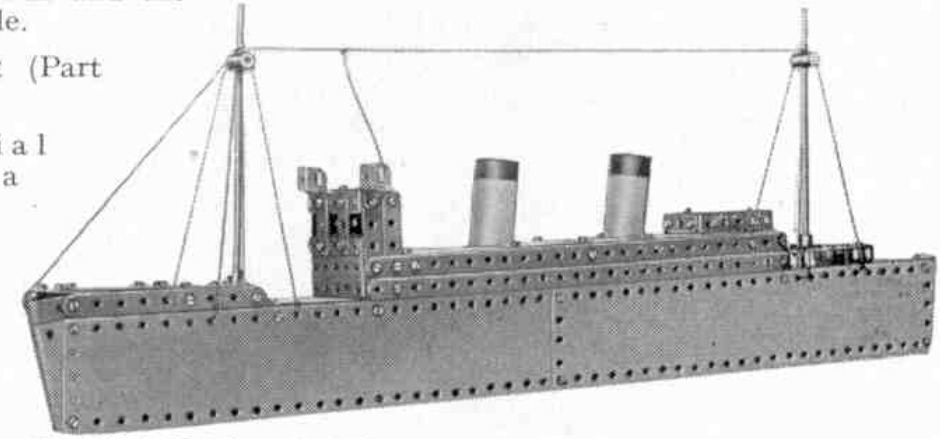
The specially designed Ship's Funnel is a finely finished accessory that will give just the final touch of realism that makes all the difference to a model ship.

The Funnel is approximately $2\frac{3}{16}$ in. high, and is of oval section, measuring $1\frac{1}{16}$ in. at its widest part. It is of the raked type, so that it lies at a slight angle to the vertical when bolted in position on a vessel. The Funnel is attractively finished in brilliant red, with a deep black band at the top. The base of the Funnel is provided with two perforated lugs, through which it can be bolted to a Plate or other suitable Meccano part.

Triple Pulley Block (Part No. 153).

It is safe to say that every Meccano owner builds a crane at one time or another, and therefore I am sure you will all welcome the return of the Triple Pulley Block. This Part is similar in general design to the Single Pulley Block (Part No. 151), but is fitted with three pulleys instead of one, which makes it more suitable for cranes handling the heavier types of loads.

The neatly shaped hook is arranged so that it is free to swivel in its mounting, which is also fitted with a lug to which the hoisting cord can be attached.



This illustration shows how the appearance of a simple model vessel can be made very realistic by the use of the Ship's Funnel (Part No. 138).

MORE GOOD NEWS

The re-introduction of the Meccano Wood Roller and the Loom Healds mentioned in these pages has made it possible to build once more a Meccano weaving loom entirely from Meccano parts. Looms have always been popular subjects among advanced model-builders with a good stock of parts at their disposal, as they not only provide ample scope in construction, but the making of the final adjustments and the setting up of the models ready for weaving, is a fascinating pastime for those who like tinkering with tricky mechanisms.

A new model Loom, based on a modern type of machine, will be described in the December issue of the Magazine, and I am sure that it will be eagerly welcomed. Although this model is a comparatively simple one, it is capable of weaving material of excellent texture. The shuttle used in the model is built up from standard Meccano parts.

I advise all those who have written to me on the subject of model looms to make sure of seeing the December issue of the Magazine by placing an order for it with their local Meccano Dealer or newsagent as soon as possible.