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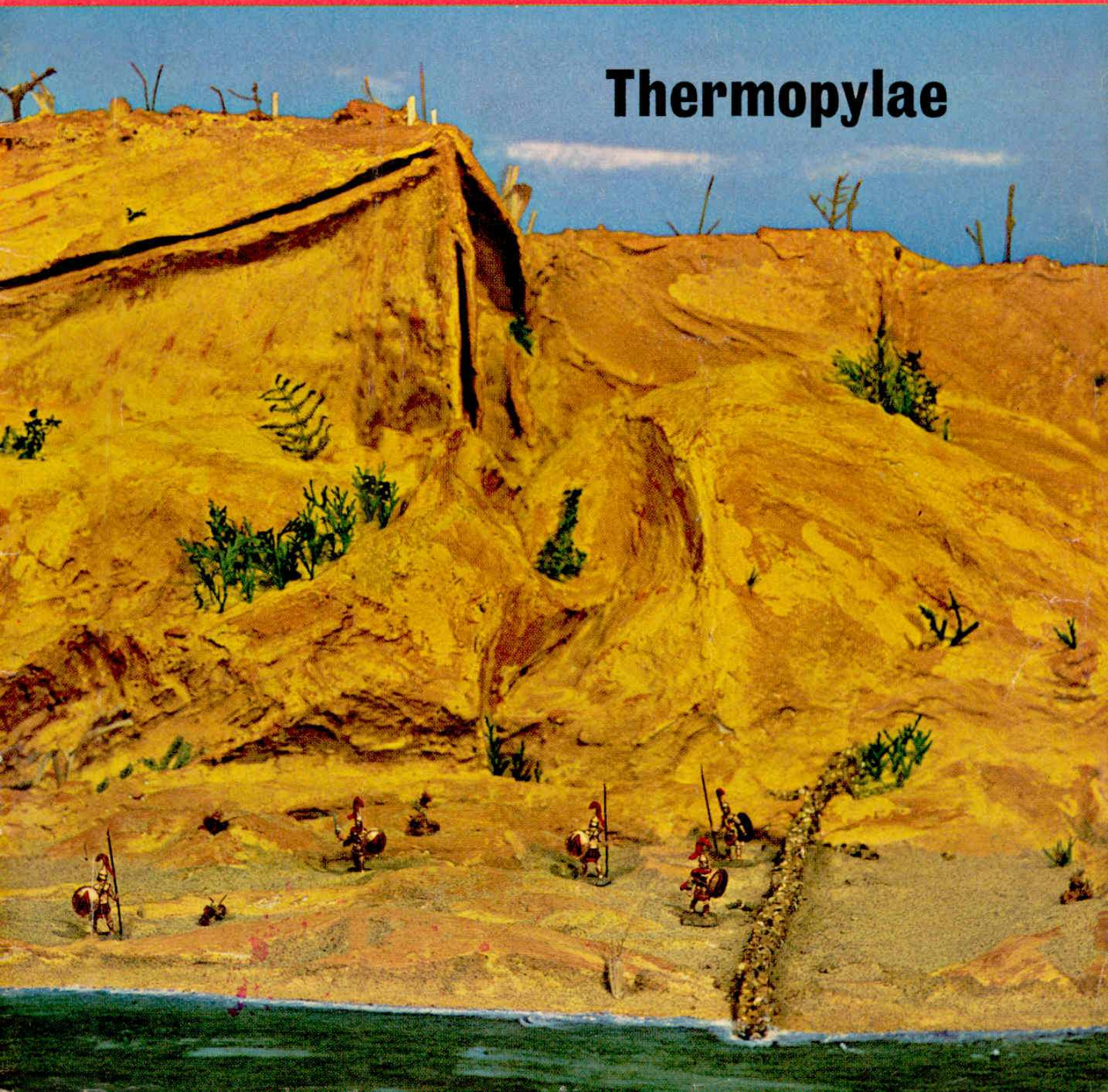
**ELECTRIC OUTBOARD RUNABOUT PLANS
PHOTOGRAPHY • SUNDIALS • STAMPS**



HOBBY MAGAZINE

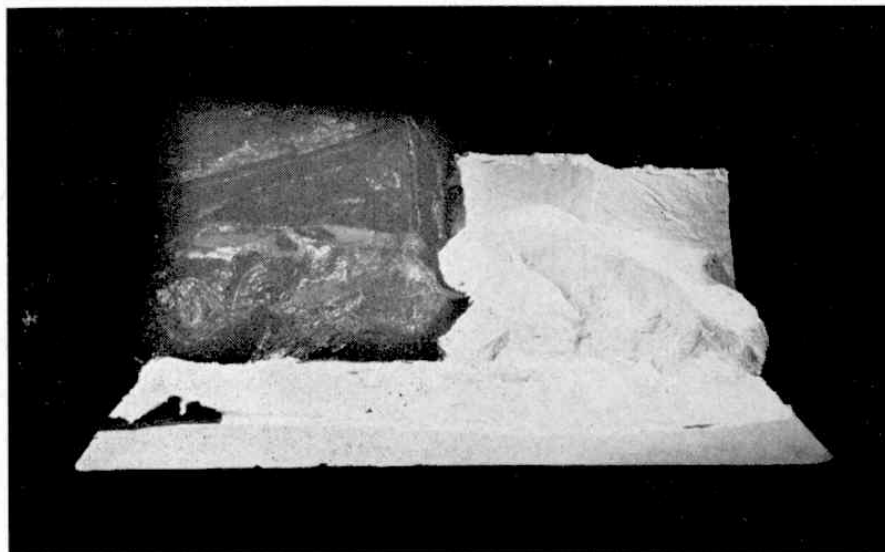
FOR THE INVENTIVE AND THE INQUISITIVE

Thermopylae



OPYLAE

reconstructs the
and discovers
new materials



creased strength, as well. Larger sheets of paper—again ordinary newspaper is perfectly O.K.—are now placed over the shape and stuck to the board at the edges with Dufix. The 'surface' sheets will be found to fall quite naturally into the sort of undulation required. 'Neat' Dufix is now brushed over the surface paper quite generously. When this dries—it does so quite 'clear'—the shape is already satisfactorily stiff. This first coat can itself be coloured in the appropriate hue but this was not necessary in this case as further layers were to be added. The next coat can be pigmented and now the mixture as desired—Dufix plus Dulite Filler—can be applied with a knife—an ordinary one from the kitchen—or a spatula. Failing all else fingers may be used. Already—as in Photograph 2—the shape can be seen quite clearly and it is upon this species of terrain skeleton that we begin to build up the more substantial article.

A point which might be made here is that normally the wargamer will require rather more stout terrain pieces than, say, the railway modeller whose aim is simply to make scenic background for his layout. The fact that more often than not the wargamer wants to manoeuvre his troops across his terrain will of course result in their having to be rather stronger. Even so, the Dufix/Dulite combination does not have to be more than an eighth of an inch thick—a quarter of an inch at the most—to take even a substantial weight of miniature soldiery.

To proceed, then. As the 'build-up' goes on, pigments can be added to the mixture before application, various shades of greens and browns, greys where the rocks emerge from the soil. Dufix indeed can be mixed with all the normal dioramic media, sawdust, cork dust, sand and so on, and any surface texture can be reproduced quite perfectly. With the knife or whatever device he is employing, the modeller can reproduce all sorts of surfaces—from a ploughed field to a modern lawn.

And so, from Photograph 3, wherein the scenic effect is just beginning to come through, we go on to Photograph 4, the complete 'Thermopylae'. In the foreground is the sea—or a small stretch of it—then the narrow area of flat land before the cliffs rise steeply and forbiddingly. Over them at various points patches of scrub and the occasional stunted tree have been added, and in the right foreground is the famous 'low wall' which played such a part in the battle. The whole affair does give a most realistic impression, it can be said without undue immodesty, and one can just imagine the Persian hordes surging up from the right in their attempt to sweep aside the gallant Spartans.

The final point to be made is the fact that these two I.C.I. products are a tremendous boon to the modeller. A messy sort of worker myself (you should see the table at which I paint my figures!) I found them quite the cleanest modelling substances I have come across. They wash off clothes perfectly easily while still wet.

You should use them for your battle terrain—how about the Pass of Roncevalles or the Heights of Abraham?

