


SCIENCE and MECHANICS

The Magazine That Shows You How

20¢

DECEMBER



Drag Racing Tests
Your Car's Pickup

A. B. ...

How to Make Simple
Television Repairs

Parade of New Toys
You Can Build or Buy

TOPS from the TOY SHOPS



A toy fire engine that pumps a stream of real water into the air is made by the Chas. Wm. Doepke Mfg. Co., Dept. A. Rossmoyne, Ohio, to sell for about \$15.95 (\$16.75 in the West). The rubber hose, carried on a reel beneath the truck's road bed, is unwound by means of a crank. Copied from an American-LaFrance pumper, it has detachable ladders, fire extinguishers, a bell and steerable front wheels.

SANTA CLAUS may be getting ready for the hard job ahead, but it's a cinch he'll need a boost from the family pocketbook, to even come close to satisfying the youngsters' hunger for toys that are new and different. American toy designers seem to have outdone themselves this year in an effort to make the job of finding the right thing for young Johnny or Suzy an easy one. In fact, from the hundreds of toys now available, we had a hard job picking a selection to show you here. There were so many good-looking, fascinating, educational (the-kind-with-the-fun-still-left-in-them) toys that we hated to leave any out. The Toy Guidance Council recommends most of these.

Worthy of honorable mention are a few toys not illustrated on the next few pages. For instance, *Jokari*, a paddle and ball game by Jokari, Inc., 30-A Church St., New York, in which ball snaps back automatically to a center control box (\$2.98 to \$7.49); a kit of 15 action toy patterns, about \$1.00 postpaid from Craftplans, Dept. D, 1321 S. Michigan, Chicago 5; a plastic coloring apron with pockets for crayons and coloring book, \$1.00 ppd. from Allison-Boothe, Dept. 9H, 511 E. 136th St., Hawthorne, Calif.; and a Magnetic Global Air Race, about \$4.95 from Replogle Globes, Inc., 325-M N. Hoyne Ave., Chicago 12, played with magnetic planes and an 8 in. globe.

That's a fair sample and, doggone it, we certainly wish we were young again. . . .

Would-be switchboard operators will love the Ring 'N Buzz Switchboard, which has 6 plug-ins, and rings and buzzes when calls are coming through. Price of about \$8.98 includes 2 flashlight batteries and 2 plastic telephones connected with 3 yds. of cord. A. Kamkap, Inc., 200 5th Ave., N. Y. C.



The door of this 9 in. garage opens automatically when a car touches it. Force of car hitting door knocks it off center, causing a spring and bracket to raise the door. Priced at about \$1.49. When a 7 1/4 in. station wagon with friction motor is included, price is about \$1.98. Courtland Mfg. Co., 200-M Fifth Ave., N. Y. 10.



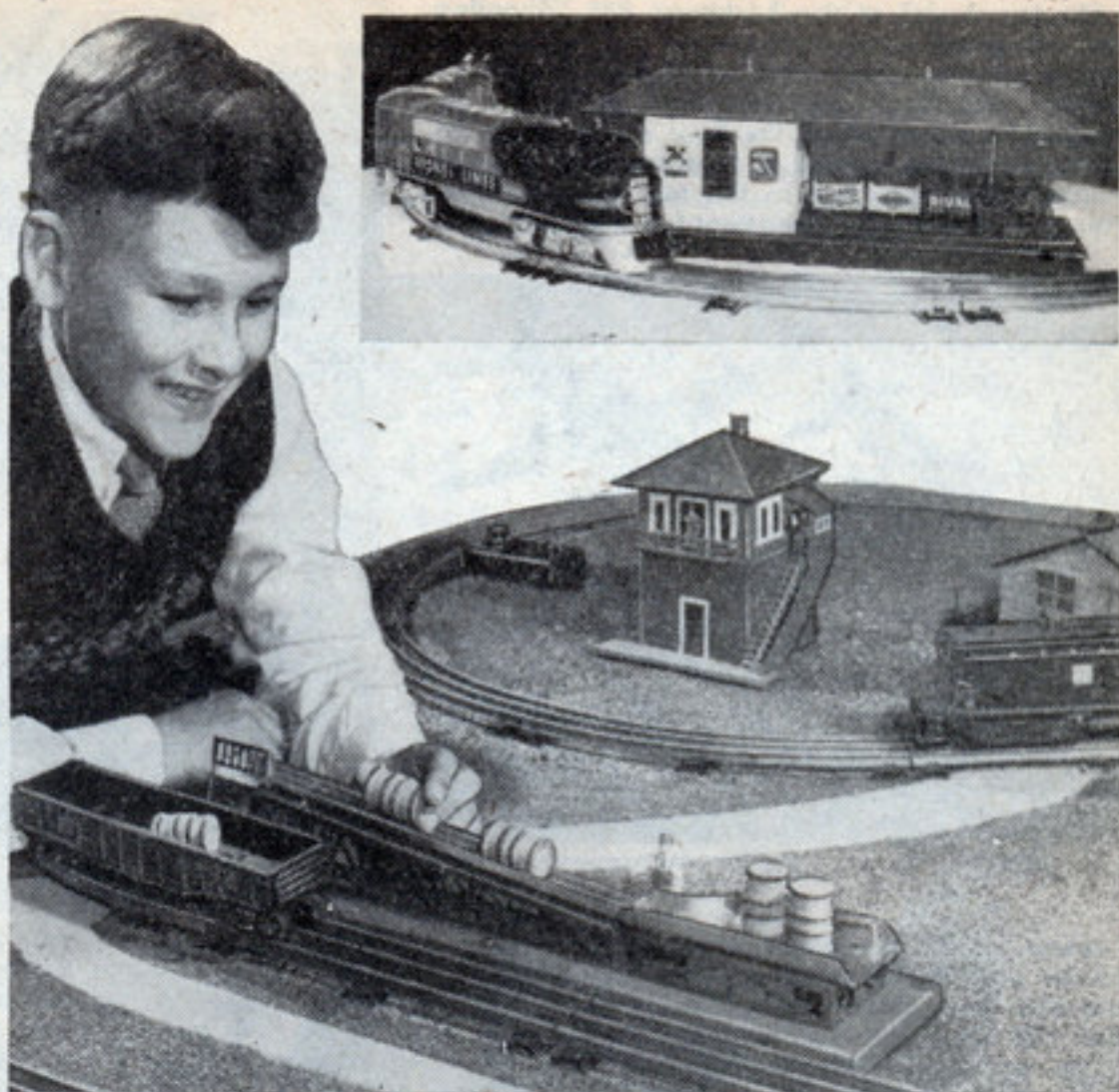
Junior (and Senior) will have hours of fun out of this year's additions to model train equipment. The Lionel line includes a remote-controlled barrel loader (right), priced at about \$7.75. Workman topples each barrel onto a moving conveyor which takes it to loading platform; chute carries it to railroad car. Switch tower in background costs about \$7.95. As train approaches, switchman hurries inside to throw switches; watchman descends flight of stairs with mail pouch. The freight station (inset) with 2 men hurrying about on baggage cars retails for approx. \$7.95. Mfr. is Lionel Corp., Dept. B, Irvington, New Jersey.



Photo Jig-Saw Puzzles are made from your favorite negative or snapshot by American Studios, Jig-Saw Div., La Crosse, Wis. Hand-colored puzzle costs about \$1.49, black and white \$1.00. An 8 x 10 in. enlargement is mounted on plyboard, then cut into different sizes and shapes according to the age of the child who will work it.

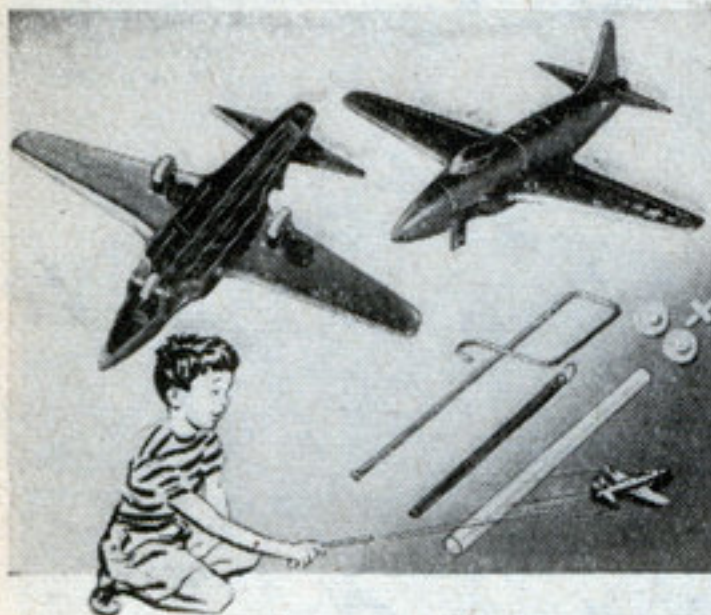
This polite piggy tips his hat when he is fed a coin. Being shy, he also hides his tail. Plastic bank sells for 25c to \$1.00; mfd. by American Factory Sales Co., P. O. Box 26-B, El Sereno Station, Los Angeles 32, California.

You can twist "Pat the Pixie" into any position you think of, because he is made of rubber-like plastic, and he will stay in that position until you decide to change it. Sporting elf's boots, suit, and plumed hat, Pat is 7 inches high. Manufacturer is Durex Co., Dept. Y, Box 672, Chicago 90, Ill.; price is about \$1.00 each or 3 for \$2.75 postpaid.

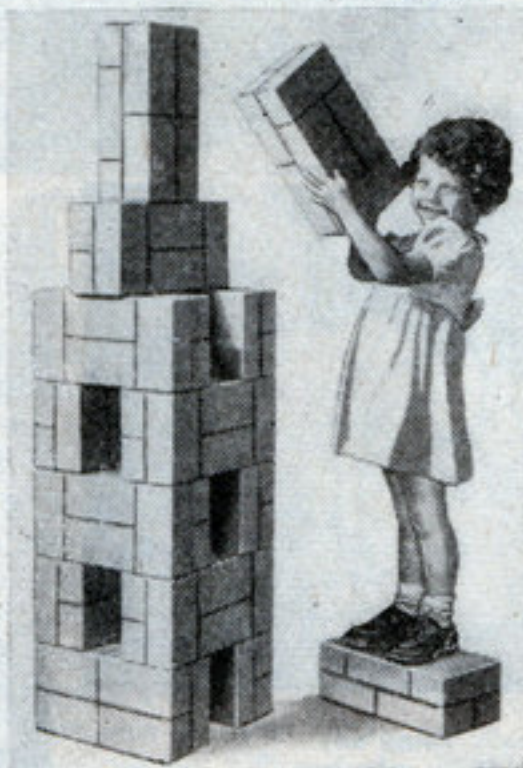


The Bubble Express (above) looks like an old-fashioned railroad steam engine. As it is pulled along, the wheels turn, forcing compressed air into the smokestack, and causing rainbow-colored bubbles to pour from the funnel at the top. Manufactured for 2-to-5 year olds, by Ideal Toy Corp., 200 Fifth Ave., New York 10, N. Y., to sell for about \$2.98.

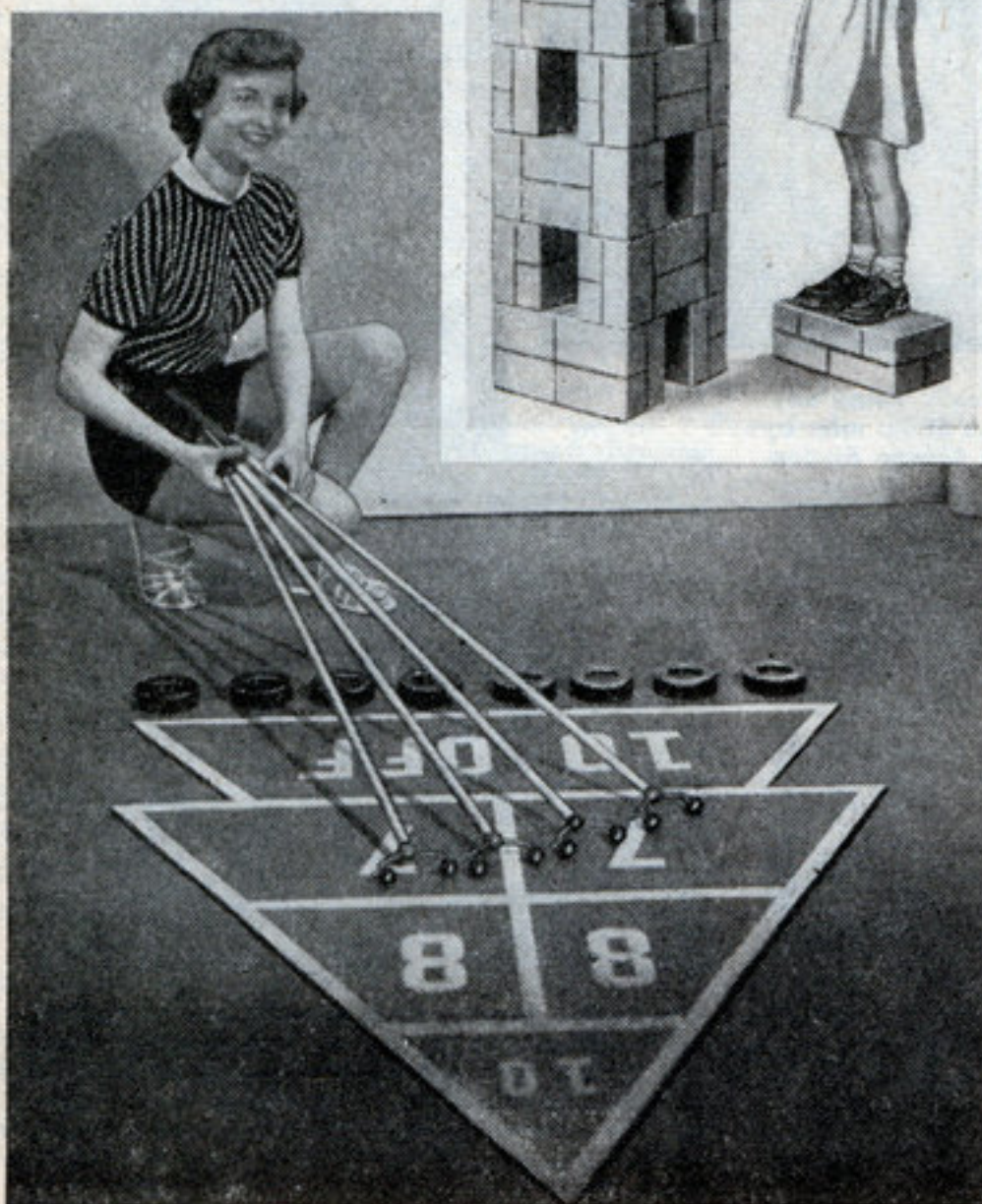
A 59c toy model of the Lockheed F80 "Shooting Star" jet plane (below) rides on a free-spinning tricycle landing gear. Product of Anchor Plastics Co., Inc., 535 Canal St., New York 13, N. Y., the plane is launched along the floor by compressing a catapult spring located in fuselage with a metal release trigger inserted in the tail end of plane. Wingspread is 8½ in.; length of fuselage is 7½ in.



A castle, wall, train, plane, etc., can be built by a young engineer with these sturdy (each can hold 200 lbs.) yet lightweight (11 oz. each) giant blocks. Selling for approx. \$5.95 per set of 12, the hollow wood blocks are made by Brrr, Inc., Blockbuster Div., P. O. Box 91, Hasbrouck Heights, N. J.

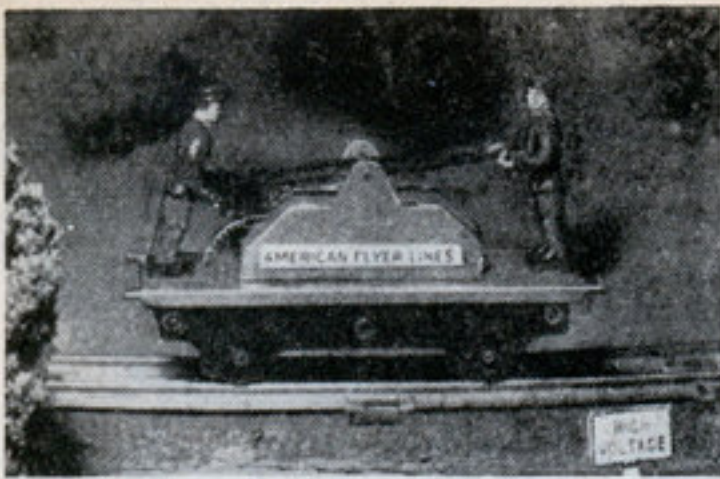


This miniature 27½ inch wood organ plays 2 chromatic octaves, with sharps and flats. Manufactured by Carlin Products, Inc., Musical Division, 70 N. 9th St., Brooklyn, N. Y., it has 25 brass reeds and 25 large keys (15 white and 10 black). Twin pedal operated, it produces rich melodic tones. Sold complete with bench and instruction song folio, organ retails at about \$25.

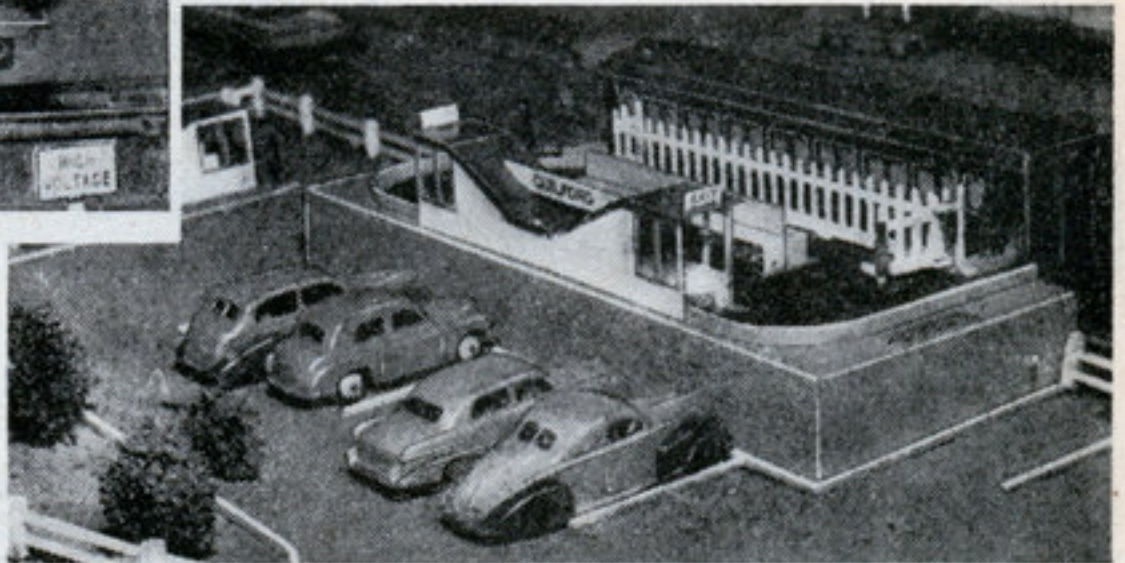


When "the clock strikes one" on Hickory Dickory Clock, all sorts of things happen! The sleeping cat's eyes open, the bell rings and pops up—disclosing a hidden mouse. Mfd. by Mattel, Inc., 5432-A W. 102nd St., Los Angeles 45, Calif.; priced at about \$1.98 in most areas.

Shuffleboard moves indoors with a two-thirds regulation size set made by Dimco-Gray Co., Dept. S, 207 E. Sixth St., Dayton 2, Ohio. Playable wherever there is at least 30 ft. of straightaway space on a solid base, set includes 4 lightweight 4-ft. aluminum push sticks and 8 discs (4 red and 4 black), costs about \$16.95. Instructions included for painting a court on any concrete surface.



The American Flyer line of model railroad accessories, mfd. by A. C. Gilbert Co., Dept. AF, New Haven 6, Conn., includes an animated station and coach for about \$14.95 (below) and a hand-car, about \$7.95 (left). Four tiny passengers stride up and down station platform as train pulls in. Coach stops, passengers board. When trip is completed, passengers leave train. Two figures pump handles of hand-car, designed to operate on American Flyer "S" gage track.



A small seamstress sews cardboard clothes to boy or girl dolls with colored tipped yarn laces, in a variation of paper doll cutouts called "Sew-On Cards" (above). Mfd. by Ed-U-Cards, Inc., Doll Div., 248 W. 23rd, New York, to retail for about 79c, toy features pre-punched holes in figures and clothes which eliminate the need for scissors.



The small mother can make 9 in. felt costume dolls from many nations with the kits (about \$1.00) manufactured by Mimi Kay Specialties, 914-M Hayes Ave., Oak Park, Ill. The Mexican Rosita kit (right) includes a flesh-colored piece of felt with body and face outlined; red felt for turban, bandeau, skirt, shorts, slippers; green, yellow and purple felt strips for ruffles; gold or silver beads for bracelets, earrings, necklace; embroidery floss for indicating features.



A circus every day for the whole family is the aim of Bende the Clown. He will take any pose demanded by his owner—he bends, twists, kneels. Wire within the pliable rubber foam of which he is made enables him to hold each pose. The nontoxic colors make him safe for the baby. Priced at \$2 plus 15c postage, from Joywood Co., Toy Div., 3600 Boardwalk, Wildwood, N. J.

Information on the progress of an attack on the cookie jar or toy fort can be traded by junior commandos via this walkie-talkie communication system. Consisting of an electro-magnetic transmitting and receiving device and 25 feet of 2-conductor wire, it sells for approximately \$2.98. No batteries are needed. Manufacturer is Remco Industries, Dept. 300, 1197 McCarter Highway, Newark, N. J.

