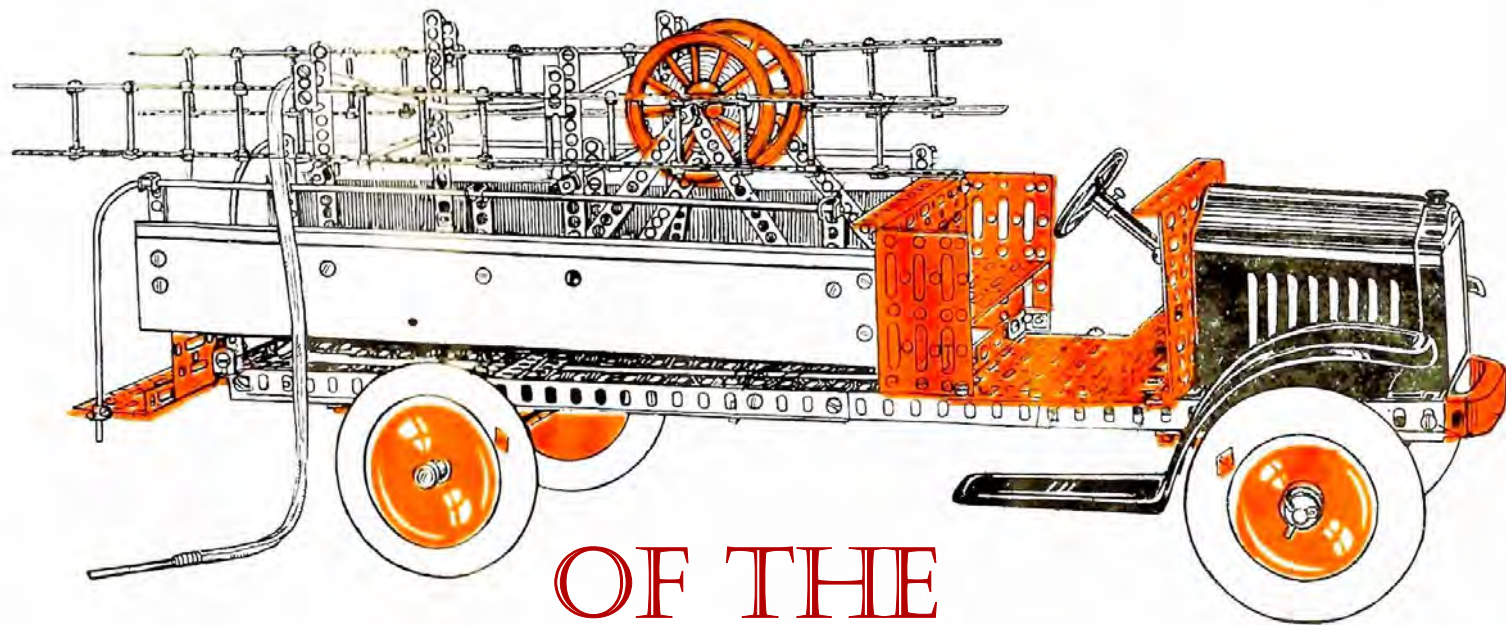


A.C. GILBERT CO.

100TH YEAR



OF THE WHITE TRUCK SET

Model Built With No. 10 Erector or No. 7½ Plus Extra Parts Listed.

EXTRA PARTS
Trade No. Na
S-57 1⅜" 8-32

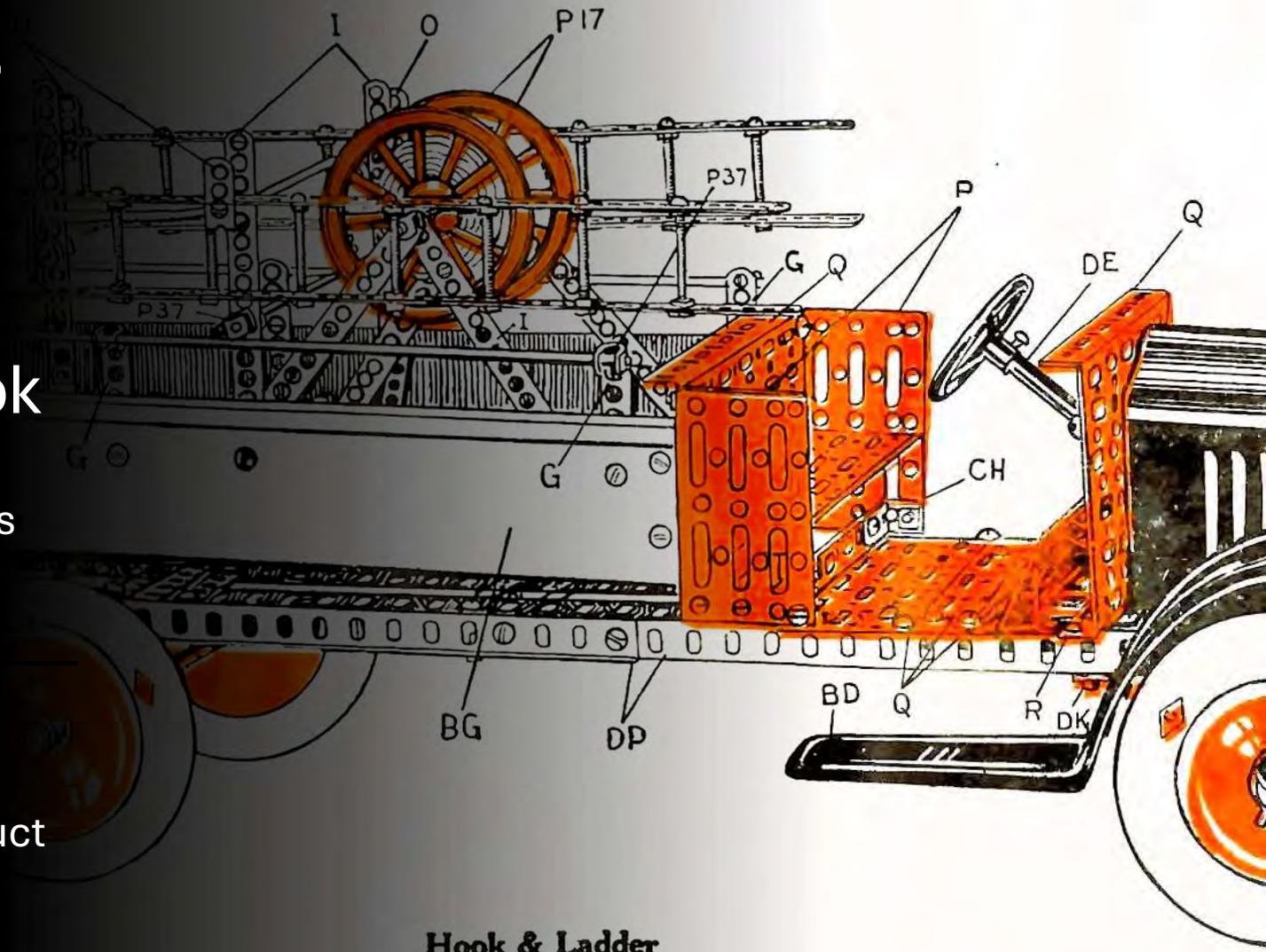
1926 Erector White Truck

A Perspective Look

Celebrating 100 years of this
exquisite Erector Set and
Model

Joe Grobmyer

A.C Gilbert Company Product
Collector





OUTLINE

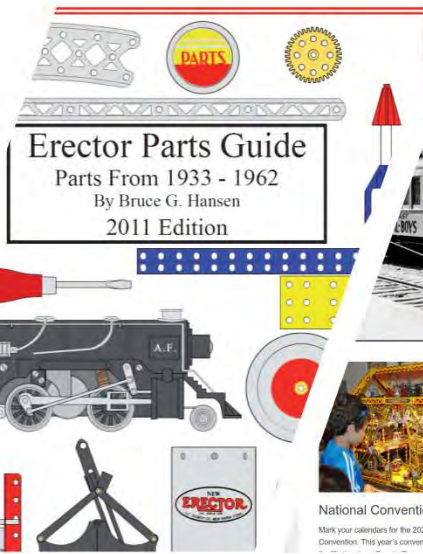
- A BIG Thank you for the references and the people
- Just the facts, Ma'am
- What I love about sharing my collection
- What I am not going to talk about into tonight
- Now let's talk history
 - What led to the America of 1926
 - The Progressive Era
 - The Roaring 20's
- Inventions Of the Industrial Revolution 1880-1920
- Tariff Act of 1922
- The Sesquicentennial 1926
- A little about White Motor Company
- Back to the "facts" of Kelmet and Erector
- My speculation on it being included in the Erector line
- Enduring legacy
- My love of history

Thank you!

BILL BEAN'S GUIDE TO
**GILBERT
ERECTOR®**
SETS
1913 - 1932



WILLIAM M. BEAN
Edited by
DAVID T. GILBERT



Gilbert Heritage Society



Gilbert Erector Set Guidebook
1913-1988

By Bruce G. Hansen



References

- The Man Who Lives in Paradise - The Autobiography of A.C. Gilbert
 - AC Gilbert with Marchall McClintock
- Gilbert Erector Sets VOL 1 & VOL 2
 - Bill Bean, Edited by David Gilbert
- Gilbert Erector Set Guidebook 1913-1988 and Erector parts Guide
 - Bruce Hanson
- Web searches, ChatGPT, Goggle Gemini, MS Copilot, etc.
- And of course, countless discussion with several of the club members.

BEAN'S GUIDE TO
**GILBERT
ERECTOR®**
SETS
1933 - 1962



WILLIAM M. BEAN
Edited by
DAVID T. GILBERT

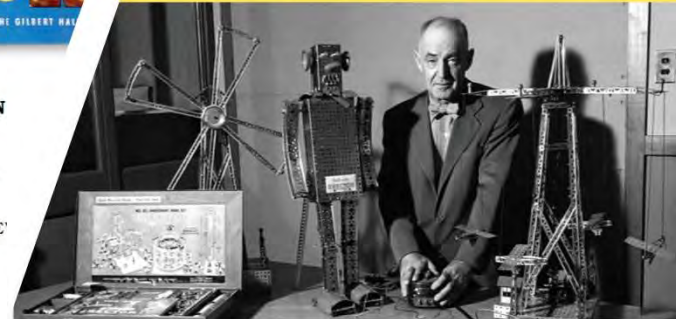
PUBLISHED BY THE A. C. GILBERT HE'
Doylestown, Ohio

ERECTOR® is a registered trademark!

WHO LIVES
PARADISE

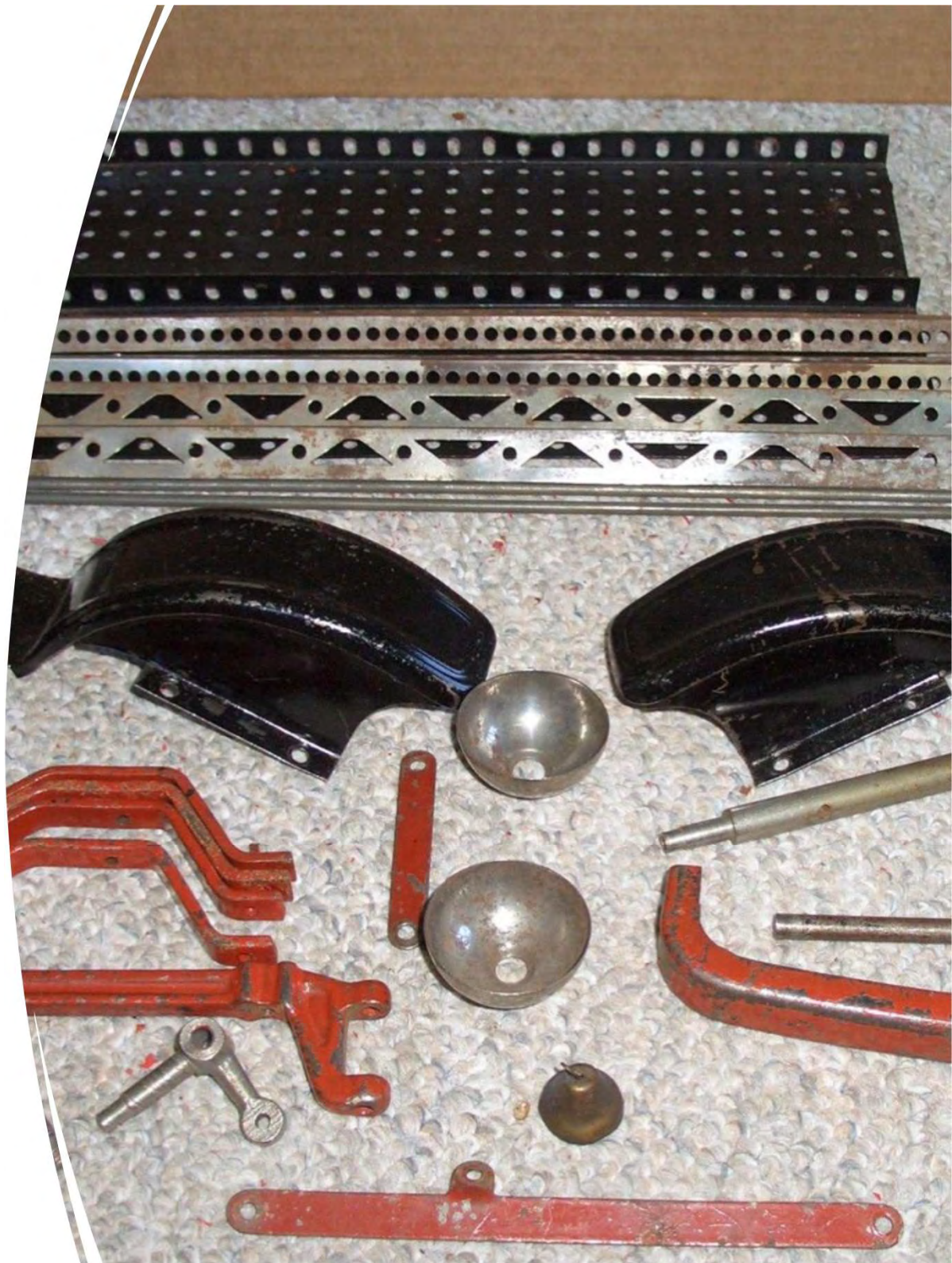


THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A.C. GILBERT
with Marshall McClintock



What I'm not going to delve into tonight

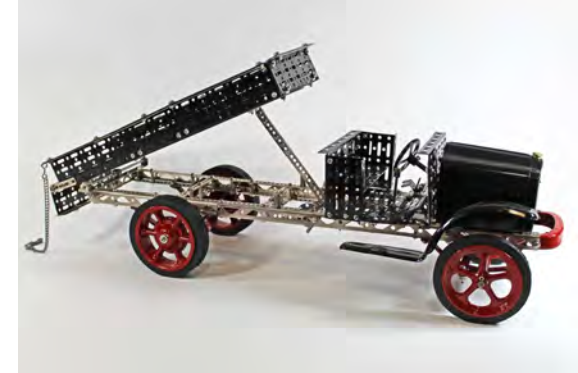
- The size set screw in the wheel
- Holes or slots
- Variations in the springs
- Variations in the paint
- The hood and radiator
- Variations in knuckles
- Variations in the front axle
- The special large base plate
- The 7 ½ set box



Just the Facts



The Burdette-Murray Company of Cleveland, Ohio produce a pressed steel toy of the White Motor truck



A.C. Gilbert included the White Truck model in his Erector Set line as the 7 ½ White Truck set!

1925

1923

1926

The Kelmet Corporation purchased the pressed steel truck from Burdette-Murray and started producing the Kelmet "Big Boy" White Truck





Let's talk about how I share my collection

Visually see the Erector sets in a row from 1913 to 1962 and beyond. They tell the story of the first half of the 20th Century of America

- The Teens and WWI. Type 1 sets: Brown, Black boxes. Very little color. The parts were very structural.
- The 20's Roared. The "New Erector" enabled some incredible models. Had the flashy Red boxes.
- The 30's and the Great Depression. The toned-down sets in the 30's. But only in size and parts count. Just as impactful as the architecture that was built
- The 40's and WWII. A wooden Erector Set!
- The 50's, Koren conflict and a New Hope. Aluminum parts (we hate those ☺) and the Models and huge sets. Robots and Amusement parks.
- The 60's. Space the final frontier.

Don't know much about History

What led to the America of 1926?

The Progressive Era (c. 1890s–1920s): Birth of a unified, consumer-driven national culture. America shifted from a rural, agrarian society to a bustling, urban, and industrial powerhouse.

The Presidents

William McKinley (1897–1901)



William H. Taft (1909–1913)



Theodore Roosevelt (1901–1909)



Woodrow Wilson (1913–1921)



Noteworthy Events

- **Women's Suffrage:** Following decades of tireless activism, the 19th Amendment was ratified in 1920, guaranteeing women the right to vote.
- **Economic Dominance:** Driven by wartime production, the U.S. transitioned from a debtor nation to the largest global creditor
- **Rural to Urban Shift:** Young people migrated from farms to booming industrial cities for factory jobs, while immigration surged, fueling rapid urbanization.
- **Rise of the Automobile:** Mass-produced cars (such as the Ford Model T) became increasingly accessible and affordable to the growing middle class.
- **The Temperance Movement:** Progressives successfully campaigned for the nationwide prohibition of alcohol, established by the 18th Amendment.
- **Public Health Crises:** The 1918 Influenza Pandemic swept through communities, compounding the societal challenges of the era.
- **World War I (1914–1918):** The defining global event of the decade, which radically altered geopolitical borders, introduced modern mechanized warfare, and brought millions of women into the workforce, forever shifting societal norms.

Income and Expenses

1900–1909:

- Average annual family income was quite modest. Unskilled workers made significantly less than skilled professionals. For instance, a waiter made about \$500 per year, whereas a surgeon earned roughly \$1,625. Overall, wage-earning men made an average of about \$11.16 per week.
- Average annual family income was quite modest. Unskilled workers made significantly less than skilled professionals. For instance, a waiter made about \$500 per year, whereas a surgeon earned roughly \$1,625. Overall, wage-earning men made an average of about \$11.16 per week.
- Average Family Expenses: ~\$700 – \$800 per year. Food claimed the largest share (up to 42%), followed by housing (23%), and clothing (14%). Butter cost about 25c per pound, and flour was just a few cents per pound. House \$2,000

1910–1919:

- Following the onset of WWI, inflation and wartime production significantly boosted wages. Average annual salaries for full-time non-governmental workers rose to around \$1,300 to \$1,500 during the latter part of this decade.
- Average Family Expenses: ~\$800 – \$1,000 per year. Following the establishment of the Consumer Price Index in 1921, data showed food and rent remained stable relative to income, but fuel and apparel spiked by over 3% annually. **Everyday Costs:** A pound of round steak was about 22c, and milk averaged 9c per quart. House \$3000

The Presidents

Warren G. Harding (1921–1923)



Calvin Coolidge (1923–1929)

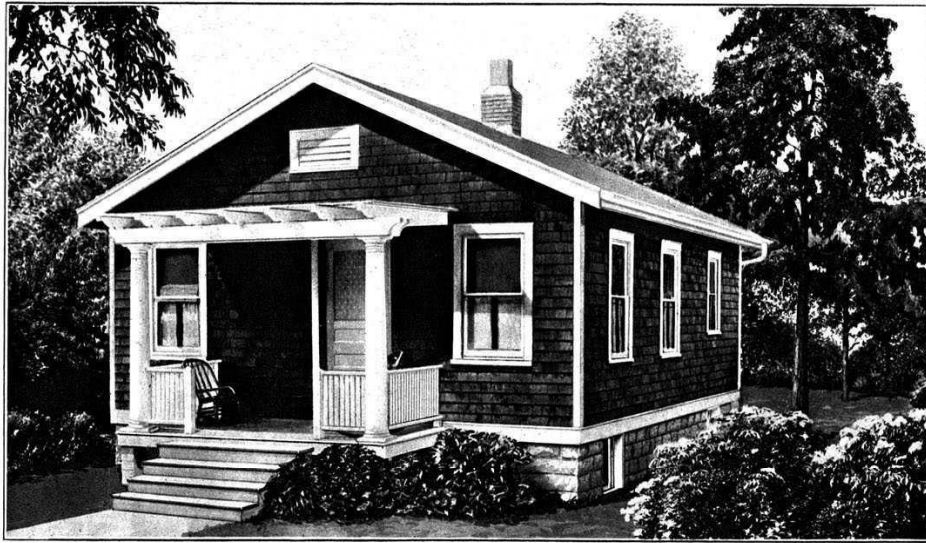


The 1920s (The Roaring Twenties)

Following the trauma of World War I, the 1920s erupted into a period of massive cultural, economic, and technological change.

- **The Jazz Age:** Defined by a booming post-war economy, the rise of jazz music, and the rebellious, liberated culture of "Flappers" in the US and Europe.
- **Prohibition (1920–1933):** In the United States, the constitutional ban on the sale and production of alcohol gave rise to underground speakeasies and organized crime, including figures like Al Capone.
- **Consumerism and Mass Media:** The 1920s saw the rapid adoption of radios, the widespread availability of consumer goods, and the explosive growth of Hollywood, which created the first celebrity culture.
- **1920–1929:** During the economic boom of the 1920s, personal income per capita stayed relatively strong (averaging around \$6,600 to \$7,000 in inflation-adjusted 2008 dollars). Weekly earnings in manufacturing averaged about \$26.
- **Average Family Expenses:** ~\$1,500 – \$2,000 per year. Americans became more comfortable spending discretionary income, though 53% of the average household's budget still went toward food, clothing, and housing. Gas cost roughly 21c per gallon. A dozen eggs cost 18c to 40c, and a new Model T could be purchased for under \$300. House \$4,500

FOUR ROOMS AND BATHROOM



Honor Bilt

The Fairy

No. 3217 "Already Cut" and Fitted.
\$965.00

See Description of "Honor Bilt" Houses on page 9.

A door connects the kitchen with the rear entry, which has space for ice box, that can be iced without tracking dirt into the kitchen. From the rear entry, stairs lead to the outside and down to basement.

The Bedrooms. The front bedroom opens from the living room. It has a fair sized clothes closet with shelf.

A small hall is open from the living and dining room and gives privacy to rear bedroom and bath. Bathroom is just the right size and is conveniently located.

Basement. Excavated under entire house. Cement floor.

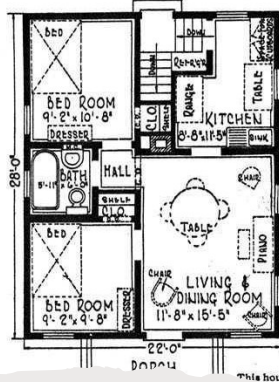
Height of Ceilings. Basement is 7 feet from floor to ceiling. Main floor rooms are 8 feet 6 inches from floor to ceiling.

What Our Price Includes.

At the price quoted, we will furnish all the material to build this four-room house, consisting of: Lumber, Red Cedar Shingles for Siding; Lath; Fire-Chief Shingle Roll Roofing, guaranteed for 17

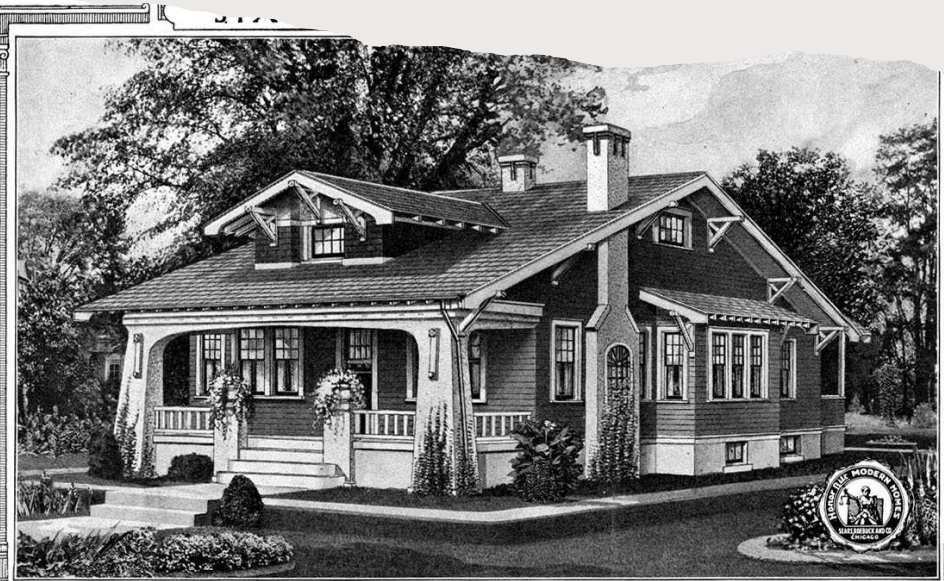
Yellow Pine; Pine; Porch

Can Be Built on a Lot 28 Feet Wide.



THE FAIRY is a comfortable bungalow home, with shingle siding. It has many features that will appeal to the housewife. There is quality in every foot of material. Yet, we will furnish all the material to build this bungalow at the very low price quoted. The splendid value is made possible by our modern and successful system of "Honor Bilt" homes.

Dining Room. The warm sun-



Honor Bilt

The Bandon

No. 3058 "Already Cut" and Fitted.
\$4,317.00

See Description of "Honor Bilt" Houses on page 7.

At the price quoted we will furnish all the material to build this six-room house, including kitchen cabinet, medicine case and mantel. We guarantee enough material to build this house. Price does not include cement, brick or plaster.

This house can be built with the rooms reversed. See page 3.

THE BANDON is a neat, practical and modern design very much in favor with discriminating builders.

Main Floor From the pleasant shelter of the big front porch one enters the attractive living room. If the French doors to the left happen to be open one can look into the cozy dining porch or sun room. In the living room the fireplace is opposite the French doors and the center of a pleasing group of windows and cased opening, balance and good proportions characterizing the room. In the dining room there is space directly opposite the cased opening for a buffet or china closet.

Bedrooms, bath, linen closet, attic stairs and kitchen all open off the hall. Both bedrooms have cross ventilation, large closets and doors to the 14-foot sleeping porch.

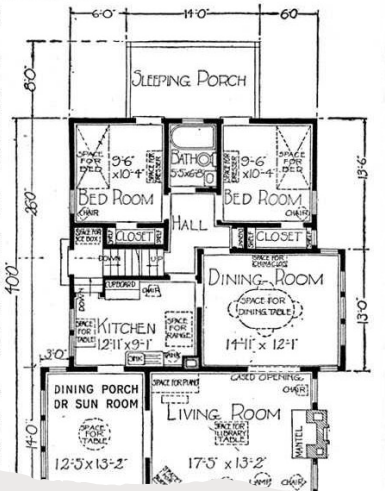
Any part of the house or basement may be quickly reached from the kitchen, yet the work is entirely out of sight. Sink and stove are together and near by are two handy cabinets. Windows fill one side of the kitchen and these, together with the glass panel door leading to the sun room, will make it a pleasant work room. At grade entrance above space for refrigerator is a large shelf for vegetables, this space being cooler than the kitchen. The glass in the outside door lights the landing. Rooms are 9 feet from floor to ceiling.

Basement Excavated basement under the entire house 7 feet from floor to joists, lighted with basement sash.

We furnish our best "Quality Guaranteed" mill work, shown on pages 108 and 109. Interior doors are five-cross panel, with trim and flooring to match, all yellow pine, in beautiful grain and color. Windows are made of clear California white pine, with good quality glass set in with best grade of putty.

Paint for three coats outside; your choice of color. Varnish and wood filler for interior. Design hardware, see page 109. Concrete foundation. No. 1 clear cypress ball

OPTIONS
Sheet Plaster and Plaster Finish to take the place of wood lath, \$103.00 extra.
Oak Doors, Trim and Floors in living room, dining room and dining porch instead of yellow pine, \$279.00 extra.
Maple Flooring for kitchen, pantry and bathroom instead of yellow pine, no extra charge.



1920's Sears, Roebuck and CO. House Plans

Inventions of the Industrial Revolution 1880-1920



Toys in early 20th Century America

Has anyone heard of the Tariff Act of 1922?

- The Tariff Act of 1922 (the Fordney-McCumber Tariff) was a highly protectionist law that set import duties at an average of 40%. It aimed to shield the recovering American toy industry from cheap European—particularly German—imports by establishing strict classification schedules for items like toy books and metal construction sets.
- The 1922 Act specifically addressed toys by grouping them into exact schedules and imposing specific duties on materials like tin, wood, and paper. This protected the domestic market and coincided with the rise of the Toy Manufacturers' Association (founded in 1916), which collaborated closely with the U.S. government to ensure domestic manufacturing survived the post-WWI era.

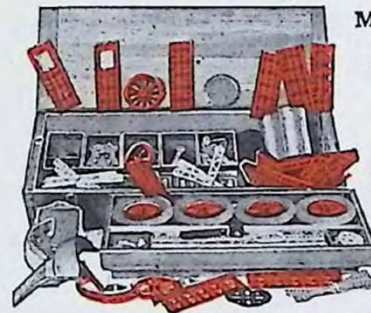


The Sesquicentennial 1926



Still
History
But
bringing it
home

Hello **THE NEW** 1,000
Boys **ERECTOR** Toys
In One



**MOTORIZED
ERECTOR
NO. 7½
With
Automobile
Chassis**

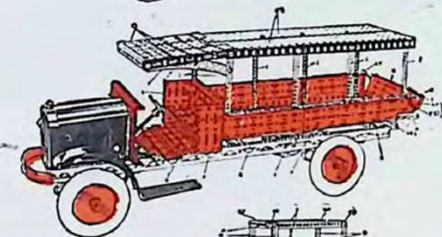
This is a brand new 1927 addition to the line of Erector Sets and, boys, it's a dandy too. It has, in addition to all the parts contained in the Super No. 7 Erector, many new feature parts such as big red solid steel disc wheels with oversize balloon tires, fenders, radiator, hood, bumper, springs, steering wheel, heavy truck axles, etc., enameled in colors, electrically baked; a 96-page manual which shows you how to build all of the 533 models contained in the Super No. 7, and motorized models over two feet long, such as chassis, fire engine, hook and ladder, dump truck, trolley repair truck, delivery truck, etc.

Boys; if you own an Erector Set now, the No. 7½ Erector will be a great addition to your present set. It builds many new large models, over two feet long. If you haven't an Erector Set, the No. 7½ Set is complete in itself.

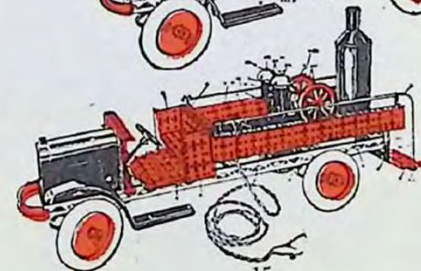
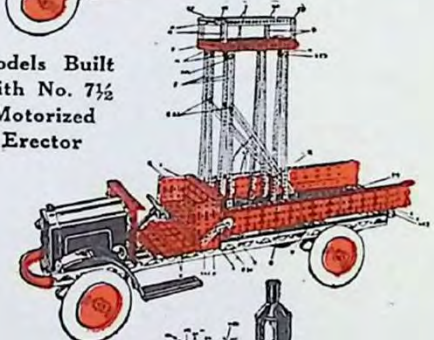
Price \$15.00 (Canada \$22.50)

14

Hello **THE NEW** 1,000
Boys **ERECTOR** Toys
In One



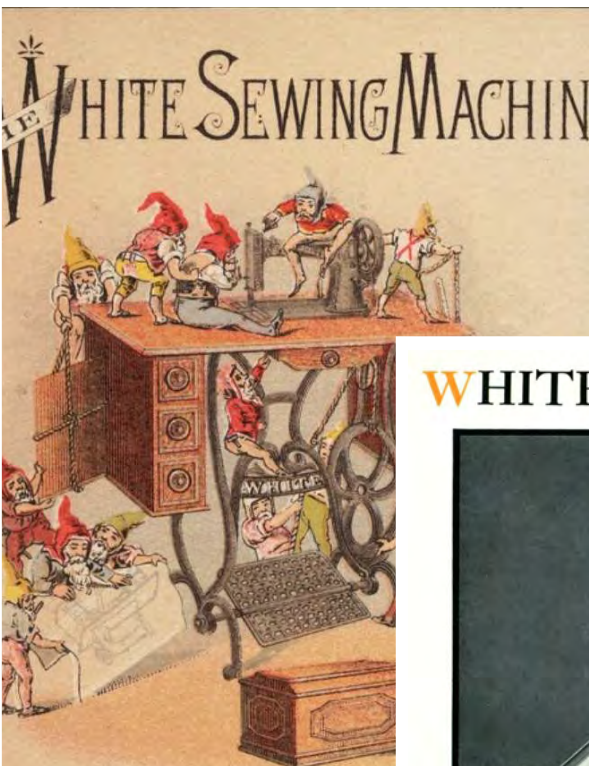
**Models Built
With No. 7½
Motorized
Erector**



15

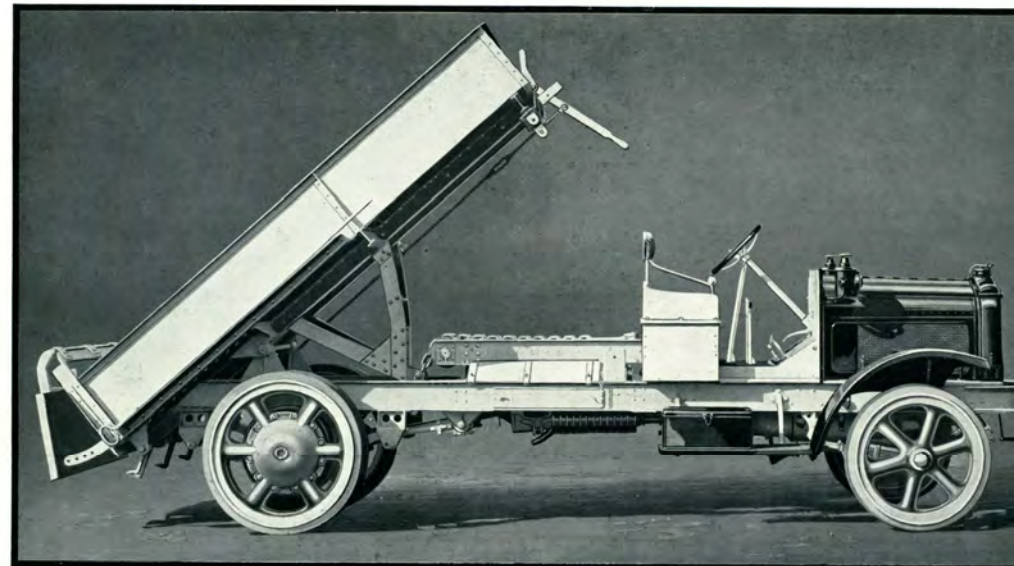
* \$15 in 1926 is equivalent to \$284 in 2026

WHITE SEWING MACHINE



THE MOST POPULAR IN
EVERY 2 MINUTES
EACH DAY WE MAKE A
WHITE SEWING MACHINE
CLEVELAND, O

WHITE 5-ton



MODEL 45-D—WHITE 5-TON POWER DUMPING TRUCK



White Motor Company



Exclusive Features of the White Limousine

The exclusive White quality of absolute noiselessness of operation is of particular advantage in a limousine because, in a car with a closed body, any noise made by the mechanism is even more noticeable and annoying than in an open vehicle.

Another exclusive White quality—namely—genuine flexibility of control, permits of the machine to operate smoothly in the most crowded city streets. The exigencies of street traffic, the embarrassing and sometimes dangerous conditions of city streets, are easily met by the White limousine.

As regards graceful lines, the White limousine must be considered one of the most beautiful of its class.

Write for Catalog

THE W





KELMET CORPORATION
200 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y.

A **Big Boy** Toy

The "White" Truck
No. 501

A replica of the real "White" truck, with all the details reproduced in miniature. Sturdy steel construction; will support a full grown man. It has realistic steering gear and dumping mechanism. Equipped with rubber tires, making it ideal for indoor as well as outdoor play. It is twenty-five inches in length, ten inches high and eight and a half inches wide. Body and cab beautifully enameled in glossy black; chassis and running gear in bright red.

A big feature is a handsome lithographed garage cut-out in colors, given away with each truck.

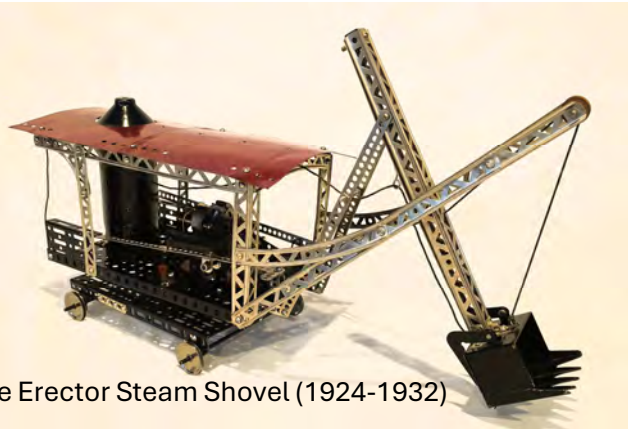
Packed in individual carton.

Size: 25x8-1/2x10 inches. Weight 10 pounds.

Kelmet Corporation

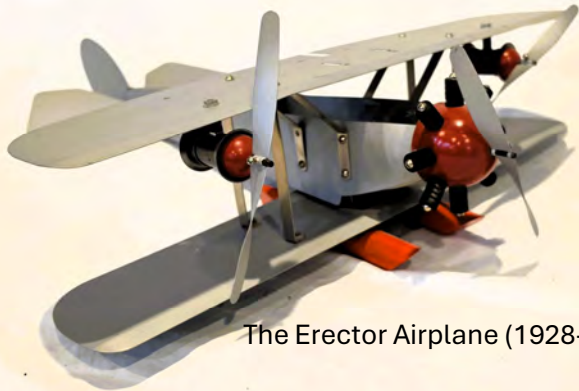
Time for some Educated Speculation

Why Gilbert included the White Truck



The Erector Steam Shovel (1924-1932)

The Classic Models
Air, Ground and Sea!



The Erector Airplane (1928-1931)



The Erector White Truck (1926-1932)



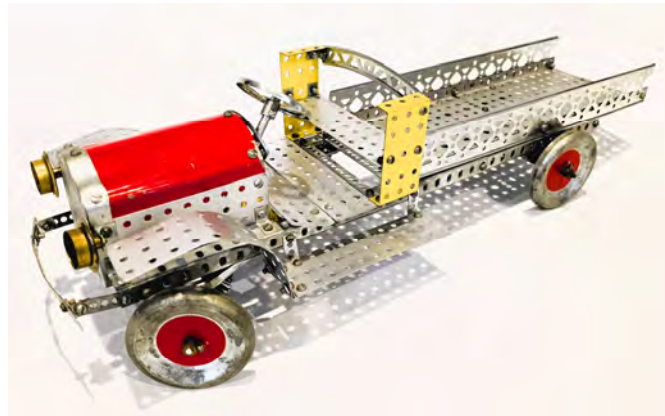
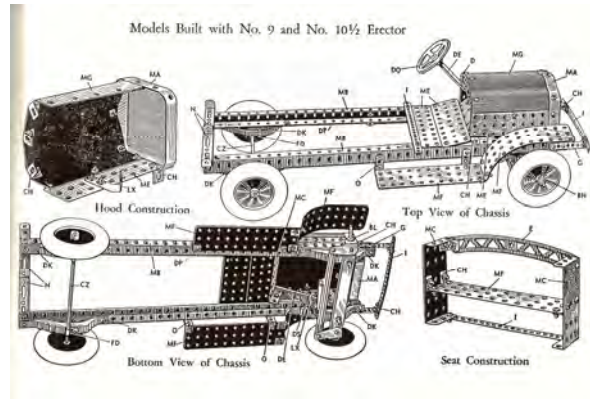
The Gilbert-Meccano Ship (1931-1935)



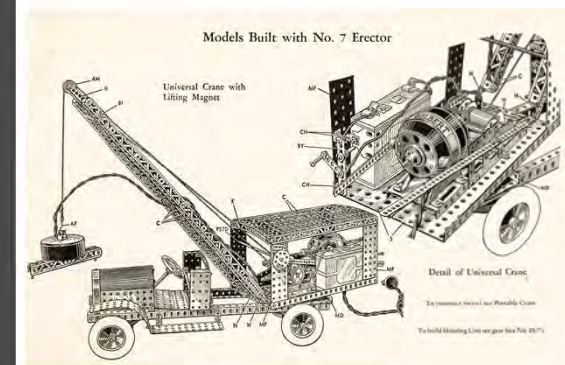
The Erector Hudson Locomotive and Tender (1931-1937)

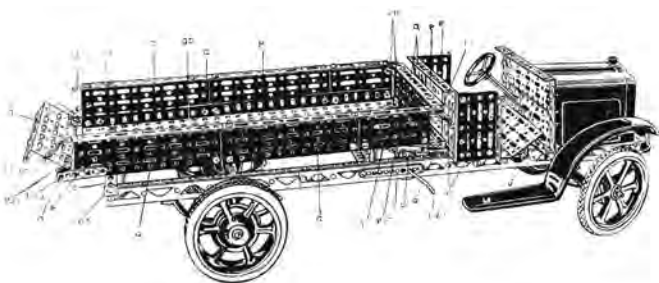


The Erector Ferris Wheel (1928-1932)



The Enduring Legacy of the Erector “White” Truck model

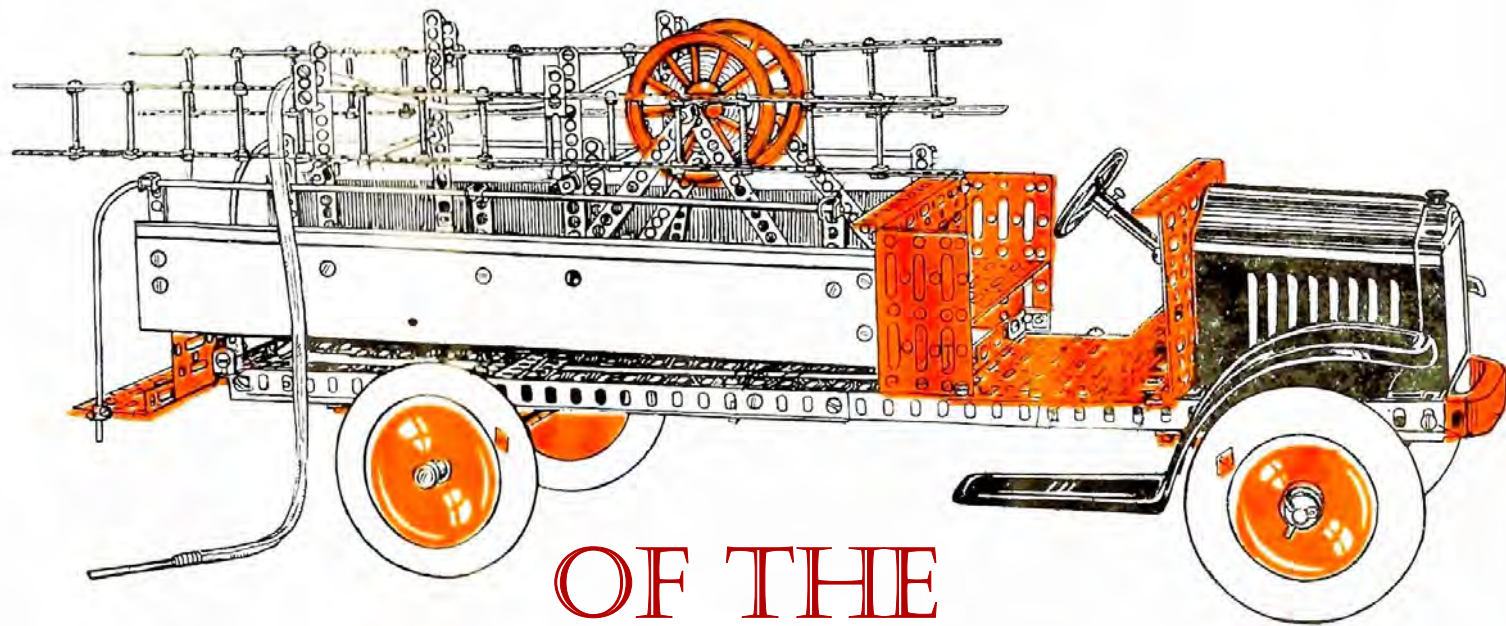




My love of History

A.C. GILBERT CO.

100TH YEAR



OF THE WHITE TRUCK SET