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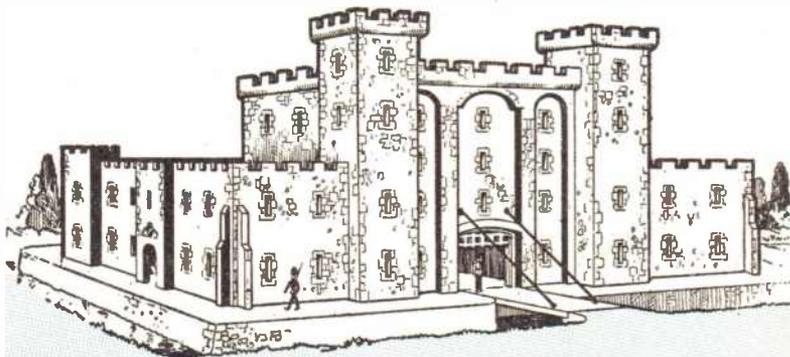
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All correspondence should be addressed to the Editor, Hobbies Weekly, Dereham, Norfolk

★FREE design to make

A FORT is always an attractive toy for a youngster, and this design with its towers, battlements and drawbridge will provide hours of pleasure. It is made throughout in $\frac{1}{4}$ in. plywood and occupies a space of 24ins. by 18ins.



A TOY FORT

All the patterns are shown on the design sheet. In some instances they have been broken to save space, and the lengths of these parts must be extended to the measurements shown. Mark all the parts on to the wood, tracing and transferring by means of carbon paper. Keep the corners true and the dimensions accurate. Letter the parts according to the design to facilitate ease of assembly.

The model fort stands on a base of plywood 24ins. by 18ins. by $\frac{1}{4}$ in. to which it is fixed by gluing. In the centre of the front edge of the base (along a 24in. length) cut an opening 2ins. wide by $1\frac{1}{2}$ ins. deep which will later accommodate the drawbridge.

Reference to Fig. 1 shows where the different lettered parts fit, and is a plan of the completed fort. The four towers are made in box form, two sides between the back and front. Make sure that the edges are straight and glue firmly together.

On the central front (part C) an overlay is glued along the top to come flush with the edge. Over the front of this and projecting above it is the battlement portion (Fig. 2). When these pieces are glued in place, there is a $\frac{1}{4}$ in. thickness on which to glue the parapet 'plank' (Z). These are glued along and close to the inside surface of the battlement parts, quite clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

The upright pillar pieces consist of pieces D and E. Pieces D are the narrow ones coming flush with the outside edge, and pieces E are the wider ones coming in line with the outer arches. Note that this makes the inner arch project slightly at the top (Fig. 2).

The tops of the front towers are shown in Fig. 3. The roofs are the same size as the framework, and the joints are covered by the castellated edges, which are glued around. The under edges of all these battlements can, incidentally, be rounded off as seen in the picture of the finished model.

The 'keep', which is the portion behind the main front, should next be com-

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FOR ALL HOME CRAFTSMEN
Over 60 years of 'Do-it-Yourself'

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pleted. The two side walls of this (F) are erected with the long back wall (G) in between. Cut windows in F as shown in the illustration. All have castellated tops which overlap the top slightly and the flat parapet platform is glued along at the back.

The walls adjoining the front towers (J) can now be cut, completed and fixed. They stand $\frac{1}{2}$ in. back from the tower fronts (see Fig. 1.)

The end walls (K) forming the sides are erected as seen on the plan in Fig. 1. The side gates (L) being positioned half way. The parapet part (P) runs the whole length of the sides (K) and marks the height of the floors in the gates (or towers), and shows as R in Fig. 4. These side towers consist of pieces M and L, the tops of which are cut to form

TOP ABOVE FRONT

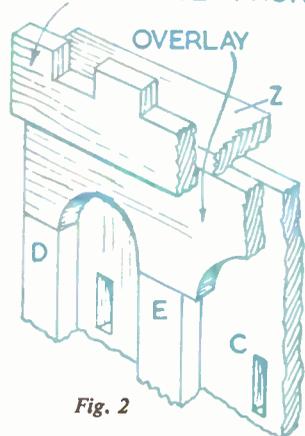


Fig. 2

the battlements. The construction at the top of these towers is shown in Fig. 4. Make up the rear towers from parts T and S (the sides) and U (the floor). The floors should be glued in before the last side is added. Two windows may be cut in T if desired.

The back of the fort (piece N) has a doorway cut in as shown on the design sheet. The top edge of this is shown plain, but if desired a similar battlement effect can be given as for the other walls and towers of the fort. The arch and portcullis are glued to the front (C).

Now glue all the made-up parts firmly to the base. The main towers should be set back $\frac{1}{2}$ in. from the front edge so that the archway and drawbridge openings coincide.

The drawbridge (V) has two screweyes which hold the chain leading to two similar screweyes in the main front and shown in the illustration of the model. The drawbridge is hinged to the base.

The finished model should be covered with special fort paper provided in Hobbies kit. Cut away the window slits and indicate the stonework around them

Fig. 1

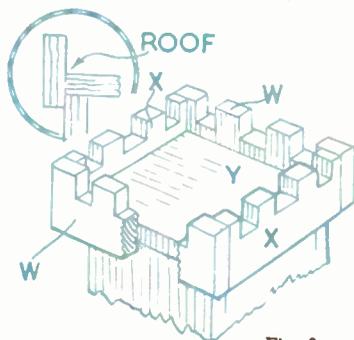
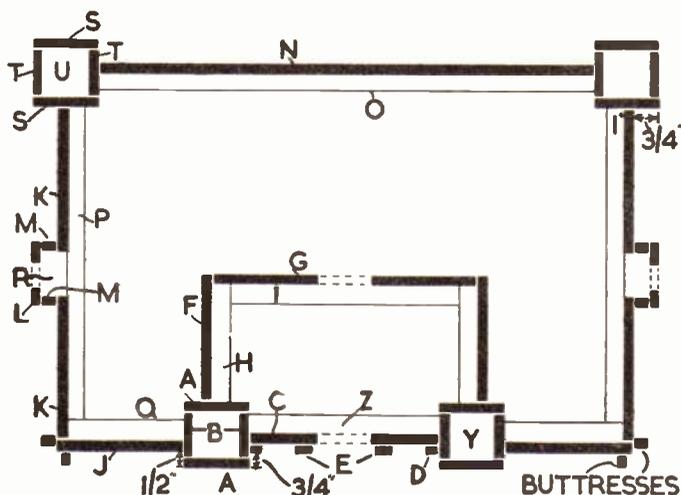


Fig. 3

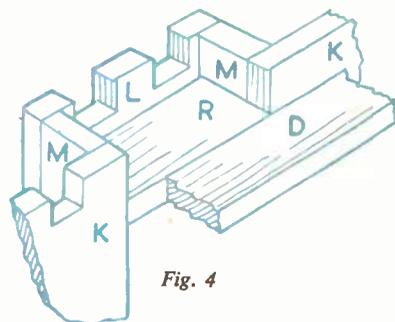


Fig. 4

with pencil or mapping pen and ink. The buttresses should be glued into the corners and painted a dark grey. The edges of the battlements and windows can be a bright red. Green flock paper (to simulate grass) forms the base of the courtyard. The inside walls of the fort and the baseboard can be painted grey.

For further effect, the model can be put

on a larger platform in order to provide a raised fort surrounded by a moat.

Hobbies Kit No. 3274 contains all wood and materials for making the Toy Fort. Kits from branches etc., or by post from Hobbies Ltd, Dereham, Norfolk, price 28/6.

Monkey Nut Menagerie

By P. Rogers

WOULD you like to make a collection of animals? This is what you will need.

A quarter of a pound of monkey nuts.

A few packets of pipe cleaners.

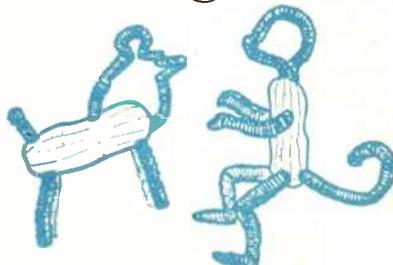
A large safety pin.

Paint (either water-colour or enamel).

Decide what animal you are going to make. Choose a suitable nut for the body.

Open out your pin, and using one side as a handle, make a small hole in the nut, where the head will be.

Take a pipe cleaner and fit it into the hole and bend it into the shape of the



head you want. Arms, legs and tails are all made the same way.

Paint your animal a suitable colour and the job is done!

SEAWEED

By
P. R.
Chapman



Serrated wrack growing on a rock at low tide

SEaweeds are as much an obvious part of the shore as shells and pebbles, and although when washed up and dry or decaying on the beach, they do not present a particularly pretty picture, in their living state they display forms perhaps as varied and beautiful as any of the non-flowering plants.

First let us say a few words about seaweeds in general. All seaweeds belong to the class of plants known as Algae, and although they may appear to possess roots, stem and leaves, in reality they are all of the same substance, unlike land plants. They have no actual roots, although they have a sucker or some means of attachment to the rocks, etc. Since they normally live completely immersed in the water, they can absorb any mineral matter they need from their whole surface. Like land plants, they need sunlight in order to manufacture their foodstuffs, although the deeper-living species can manage with very little.

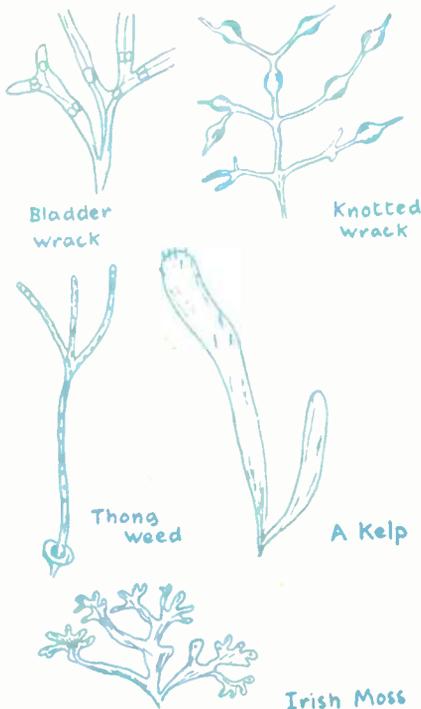
Seaweeds are characteristically limp and pliable since they do not contain woody tissues like land plants, and, when supported by the water, this limpsness is an advantage since otherwise they would be soon broken by the currents and waves. There are three groups of seaweeds, brown, red and green, although there is quite a wide variation of colour in any one group, the true colour sometimes being masked or absent.

Brown seaweeds

Most of the commonly seen seaweeds belong to this group and the degree of 'brownness' is very varied. They may be found growing almost everywhere on the shore, on breakwaters and sea walls, as well as on rocks. On an extensive rocky coast there is a definite zoning of seaweeds, since different species stand different degrees of exposure to the air. One of the types which is able to grow

highest up the beach is the Channelled Wrack. This can live for long periods out of the water and is often only covered by the highest tides. The branches or fronds have curled margins, enclosing a channel. High upon the beach the plant dries and blackens, but recovers when again immersed in water, regaining its deep olive green colour.

The Bladder Wrack is perhaps one of the best known seaweeds, with its little air bladders, which children delight in 'popping'. These bladders help to keep the plant up in the water. It occurs in



A few common seaweeds

vast quantities almost everywhere, on rocks and breakwaters and washed up by the tides. The Knotted Wrack also has bladders, larger and oval in shape. The Serrated Wrack has larger, flat toothed fronds and no bladders. It is found much lower down the shore, towards low tide level, where again it forms a dense covering on rocks.

Growing on stones in rock pools may sometimes be found small bushy plants with thin thread-like fronds. These are Brush Weeds and are somewhat inconspicuous with the ones we have discussed so far.

The Thong Weed is very easily recognised, consisting as it does of a strap-like thong several feet long, growing from a small disk-like sucker. The end of the thong is branched. The Cord Weed is another elongated one and is often picked up in long cord-like lengths, and although quite thin it is amazingly strong. It is a deeper sea plant and is mostly to be seen washed up by the tide.

Amongst the really huge seaweeds we have the Kelps, again growing in deeper water, but often washed up when they are commonly to be seen on the beach. A species known as the Sugared Kelp was previously used for the manufacture of saccharine. It has long, broad, flat fronds with wavy edges and is familiar to holidaymakers (even if they do not know the name) as a 'weather indicator', becoming soft or hard with changes in air moisture.

Green seaweeds

Although not so numerous as the brown weeds, there are a few in this group commonly found by the beach explorer. The so-called Sea Lettuce is familiar to most people. Its bright green, broad, flat fronds of paper thinness may be seen in rock pools or lying on the beach. The Gut Weed is of a bluish green colour and the long narrow fronds are almost cylindrical, often with gas bubbles. Many of the green seaweeds are very small and rather unlikely to be seen.

Red seaweeds

These are on the whole also quite small plants, but there are many different types. We can however consider only a few here. Flat rocks, near low tide level are often to be seen covered with a thick mat of fan-shaped Irish Moss, or Carrageen. Although technically a red weed, its colour is quite variable, being purple, green or yellow.

●Continued on page 261

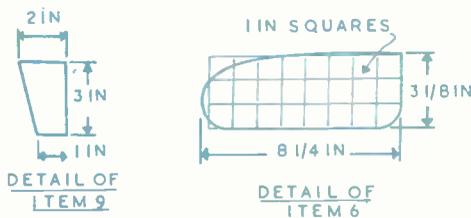
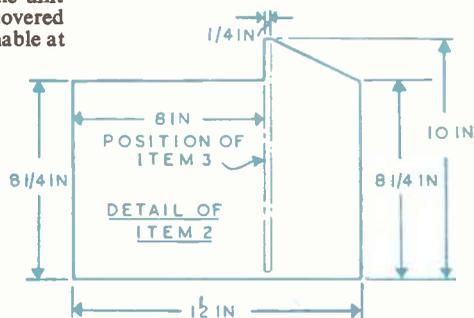
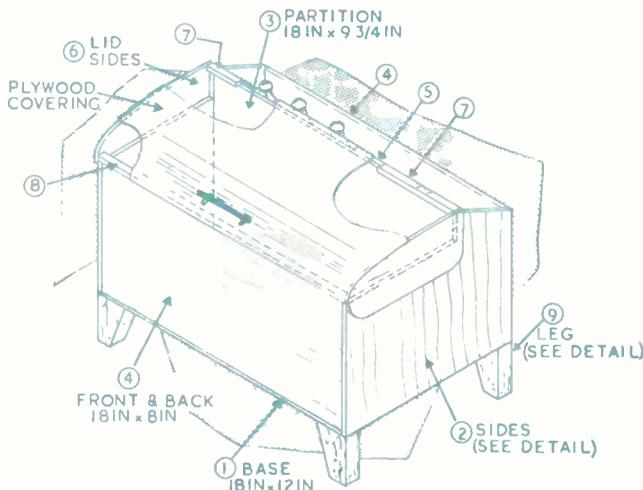
For the front porch

A HANDY FOOD CONTAINER

IF you are out all day get your tradesmen to cooperate by leaving milk and groceries in this airy container. It can be made easily and quickly, chiefly from $\frac{1}{2}$ in. thick perforated hardboard, and will cost only a few shillings.

The container can be made entirely from $\frac{1}{2}$ in. plywood if preferred. In this case it is a good idea to cut large panels out of the bottom and sides of the unit with a fretsaw. The gaps are then covered with thin perforated metal, obtainable at

most ironmongers, which is fixed either with sprigs or impact adhesive. (G.A.)



First cut out items 1, 2, 3 and 4. Trim true and square. Pin or fix with impact adhesive item 5 to the top edge of item 3. It is 18ins. by $\frac{1}{2}$ in. by $\frac{1}{2}$ in. Assemble the parts as shown with glue and panel pins. Fix the sides to the base, then add the partition and finally fit the front and back.

Mark out and cut four feet, item 9, from 1 in. thick wood and nail or screw them in place under the base.

Mark out the shapes of the lid sides (item 6) and cut them out with a fretsaw. At the positions indicated on the detail glue and screw items 7 and 8 which are both hardwood strips 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins. by $\frac{1}{2}$ in. by $\frac{1}{2}$ in.

Chamfer the forward edge of item 8 as indicated and, using impact adhesive along the top edges of the lid sides and along the spacers, bend into place the $\frac{1}{2}$ in. flexible plywood covering. Add small panel pins for extra security and trim away any excess ply. Screw the handle in place, which can either be a commercial product or one cut to a pleasing shape from scrap plywood.

Place the lid in position, mark the locations of the two 1 in. long hinges and screw one leaf of each lunge to the edge of item 5. Then screw the lid in place.

The whole unit can be sized inside and out and given a coat of white or cream enamel or it can be merely varnished.

Continued from page 260

Collecting Seaweed

The Purple Lava is rather similar to the sea lettuce, but is purple or brown in colour. It is very common on most shores. The Pepper Dulse is flat with much branched fronds, again of a variable colour. Some of the dulces and lavas were extensively used as food at one time and 'lava bread' is still eaten in Wales and other parts.

A striking plant with large, bright red fronds, membrane like and leaf shaped, is the Blood Red Dulse. It grows in deep pools at the low tide level, usually in somewhat shady places.

Non-flowering

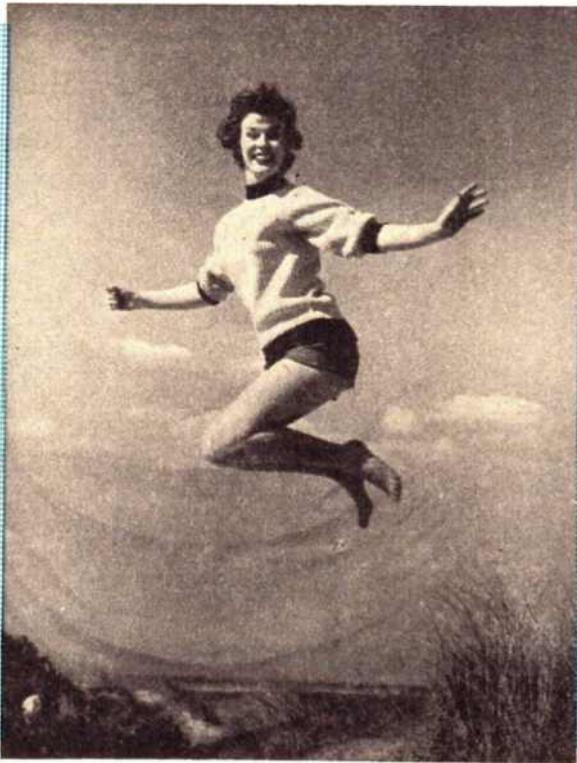
Seaweeds do not have flowers, and therefore cannot set seeds like most land plants. Sometimes you will be able to see little dots on the ends of the fronds; at certain times these release microscopic swimming particles in large numbers. Some settle down on rocks or stones, and, if uneaten, grow into new seaweeds.

Seaweeds, although lighter to carry home than our previous objects for the collector, do require more preparation

before storing, as is to be expected. The easiest to prepare are the smaller forms without bladders. These may be taken home in a Polythene bag, to preserve their suppleness, and should then be washed in fresh water to remove the salt. Stronger, thicker types can then be dabbed dry and laid between two sheets of white blotting paper. These in turn should be placed between several thicknesses of newspaper and a weight, such as several books, applied. The plants will gradually become dry, and should be examined after a few days and the blotting paper changed if still damp. When quite dry, the seaweeds may be removed and fastened to sheets of stiff drawing paper with small pieces of Sellotape. The name of the plant and details of where found should be added.

Very thin weeds, such as Sea Lettuce, should be floated on to blotting paper immersed in the water, and allowed to dry partially before pressing. The types with bladders are more difficult to deal with; they are best rinsed as before and gently pressed between layers of cotton wool. Naturally they will be thicker when mounted than the others.

HOLIDAYS FOR ALL



Summer holidays mean many happy hours in the sun by sea, river or lake, in the peaceful green countryside, on the challenging hills, or across the wild moorland. How well these passing delights are held in our memory by the camera's magical eye is depicted here by the capture of a golden buoyant moment on a sun-drenched shore.

Photograph on Ilford Film

ONCE more the annual holiday season is with us. How shall we spend our leisure time? This is a question on many people's minds. Some will decide for the seaside; some for the country. Happily, there are holidays to suit all tastes — and pockets! There are many forms of holidaymaking. We are acquainted with a young fellow who willingly leaves his job in a city bank, and casting aside his black coat, dons breeches and a khaki shirt and spends a fortnight or so on the farm of a friend, from whence he returns to his city life bronzed and fit, and finding life better for the change.

For a few shillings a night (1s. 6d. if under 16 years) it is possible to spend the night at one of the famous Youth Hostels. Remember, you may stay at one of these happy holiday places and enjoy it at the minimum of cost. It costs no more for a tramping or cycling trip than

to stay at home. Sunshine, green fields, the glorious out-of-doors, woodland countryside, and beauties of Nature all await the lover of the open-air! A bed at night, plain country fare, a merry heart, and a song to lighten the wayside — all afford you every opportunity to make the best of your holidays.

Camping is a fairly cheap holiday. Where three or four friends join in the expedition, with the object of touring one of the famous beauty spots of Britain, expenses are shared, and you may spend a week or fortnight under canvas at little cost. Young fellows in particular delight in a cycle-camping holiday. With a lightweight camping outfit on a bicycle you can play the gipsy-cyclist to your heart's content. To pass a fortnight or the best part of your outing touring round the countryside, carrying your own shelter, camping for days together in some charming spot independent of inns

and boarding-houses is certainly a fine experience.

Holidays in the open-air are very popular nowadays. More and more people go in for climbing the mountains. There is the climber whose idea of a perfect holiday appears to be clinging to dizzy heights or narrow ledges fringing a sheer drop of hundreds of feet — this man is the adventurous type, and takes risks when he scales the everlasting hills. But crag-climbing and mountaineering grow in popularity yearly, and if the climber assumes risks he also enjoys really magnificent scenery.

Boating, caravanning, fishing, and other forms of holiday-making appeal to their quota of people, and are all in the open-air, which is so essential.

Shed your worries

But whatever form your holiday takes, be sure and cast off your everyday habits, at the same time shedding your little worries. An excellent tip for a good time is to do just what you wish to do for the time, and go where you most desire, if at all possible.

If your idea of the perfect holiday is to go tramping, then pack your rucksack and go tramping; if happiest, camping, then provide yourself with a sizeable tent and necessary equipment and select happy companions and the best spots to camp in; if happiest by the seaside, go to some holiday-camp, join in the prevailing fun.

Again, if your notion of a perfect holiday is to go into some wild bit of country with a fishing-rod in quest of trout and sea-trout or other fish do your best with the time and opportunities at hand. For those inclined to be more ambitious we think of the Holiday Centre Tours, where parties are booked for the entire tour in a selected hotel at one particular resort and planned covering of a wide area on the Continent. Then we can find fun in travelling by bus to Scotland or the Western Highlands or an eight-day tour to Norway. Indeed there are holiday opportunities to suit all tastes.

Holiday magic tints the dull grey of normal life with bright hues when summer holidays come round. By seaside and sands, or on the heather-clad hills and on the ocean the world is viewed through the rosiest of spectacles. To reap full measure of our chances remember three essentials, to go with the right company and to the right place, and in the right holiday spirit, without which no holiday can be a real success.

(A.S.)

Cleanliness in Processing

PHOTOGRAPHY soon gains a hold, and then the amateur turns to his own processing and printing; very soon contact-size prints fail to satisfy and he invests in an enlarger — and at once falls prey to a crop of small problems that are, literally, 'magnified'. These problems are blemishes on the final print which may be less visible, or almost unnoticed, on the small size of a contact print, but which leap into 'life' on enlargement. They are best tackled at the root once and for all by a routine of clean working method designed to avoid them. They are dust, drying marks, chemical stains etc. . .

It is convenient to break this 'cleanliness-routine' into two stages: the negative processing — and the enlargement stage.

Negative processing

(1) *Dust particles.* Tiny particles, fine cloth threads floating in the air from clothes, etc. and almost invisible on a contact print, but they leap into annoying 'life' on enlargement. By obstructing the light passing through the negative on enlargement they cause a magnified white spot or streak, particularly noticeable in areas of even tone such as the sky, or on dark shadow areas of the print.

Routine

The developing tank must be kept scrupulously clean. After use, and when rinsed and dry, go over the inside with a fine, clean brush — not forgetting the lid, probably ridged with dust lodgement ledges — then turn upside down and tap gently. Replace lid and keep the tank in its box until next used.

DON'T load the tank under blankets, sheets, old coats etc. as is often done to give a temporary 'darkroom'. It may be light-tight, but it's very dusty! And in the darkroom don't rush to load the

film immediately you close the door; stay still, with everything ready, lid still on the tank, until any dust raised by you from floor covering or movement of your clothes has had time to settle.

After the final wash don't take the film from the tank in a room with folks moving around, yourself puffing a pipe or cigarette. Do it gently in the darkroom even though now lights can be on. If dust or chemical particles (sometimes from a not properly mixed fixing solution) mar any negative frames DON'T hold them under the full bore of a tap — the gelatine is wet and soft, you may wash off the particles, with a fine scratch mark remaining, or cause stress marks due to concentrated water pressure. No, submerge the affected negative frames in a dish of water, *beneath* the surface with only a gentle swirl from a slow running tap on the water surface and take care that the film does not rub the bottom or sides of the dish. If the particle is obdurate, a small swab of the BEST, soft cotton wool, well soaked, can be used with care UNDER the water surface. It must be best quality and well soaked, or it will leave more fibres than it removes — though these wash off

fairly easily if tackled right away with gentle movement of the negative under water.

If you use a film sponge to accelerate drying and remove surplus water be sure the sponge is clean. If chemical or gritty dust particles have lodged on the film even a gentle rub down with the sponge may well produce a fine scratch mark. Make sure they are dislodged first by a pre-wash and gentle swirl as described.

Cleanliness counts

To dry the film, DON'T hang it by its clips in the living room with other folks about and maybe, an open fire. Watch sunbeams in a normal 'clean' room and you'll see why not! Hang it to dry in the processing or darkroom, move softly, gently, and leave it alone till dry.

Cleanliness in mixing chemicals and in keeping the tank clean, are wasted if the film is dried in a dust-laden atmosphere — as the gelatine dries and hardens dust will become fixed.

These simple, routine precautions that become automatic will help you to obtain dry, dust-free negatives. They are worth a little trouble which adds little to the time involved in processing. (E.G.)

Hobbies Crossword No 18

Note: Figures in parentheses denote the number of letters in the words required.

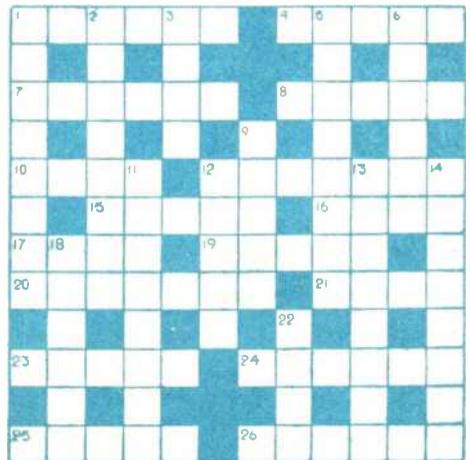
ACROSS:

1. It takes ten years to complete it (6).
4. To make this cake one needs to have a little science in advance (5).
7. Does he find life one long grind? (6).
8. Piece of poetry that is nothing more than hypocrisy (5).
10. Maybe a Spanish girl (4).
12. What you may be asked to take at the bar (7).
15. They may presage good or evil (5).
16. Evil character in Othello (4).

17. Sounds as though the villain is in Church (4).
19. Though partly mouse and partly louse it flies (5).
20. It's explosive enough to make Ned rage (7).
21. A sound that may be grand for the bridge player (4).
23. Fags-ends for instance (5).
24. Supply weapons to the girl for the Fleet (6).
25. It has a driver to put it in its place (5).
26. Footballer's gear? (6).

DOWN:

1. Deposit the fish to produce the dough (8).
2. A piece of childish heart trouble (4-4).
3. The tide may be nourishing (4).
5. Nice hats for sailors to sing about (8).
6. An aromatic spice (6).
9. Follow later (5).
11. It may enable Ma to be tractable (8).
12. A poem for an electrical term (5).
13. Not a footprint inside the front door but a standard sign (4-4).
14. Maybe some boarding school companion (4-4).
18. It has a polar significance (6).
22. It is found in Elgar's variations (4).



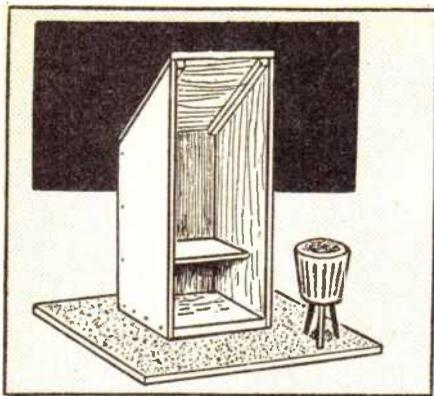
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
 ★ SOLUTION WILL BE ★
 ★ GIVEN NEXT WEEK ★
 ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

FOR INDOOR PLANTS

A CONVENIENT manure for indoor plants is one which can be kept as a solid concentrate and a quantity mixed with water prior to use. A useful formula is: ammonium nitrate 40 parts, ammonium phosphate 20 parts, ammonium chloride 5 parts, potassium nitrate ½ part, calcium sulphate 6 parts, ferrous sulphate 4 parts.

All parts are by weight. Separately powder the solids and mix very thoroughly. For use, ¼ ounce is well stirred with one gallon of water, and the plants watered with the mixture.

LINE-SIDE HUTS FOR YOUR LAYOUT



LINE-SIDE huts of one sort or another add 'liveliness' to a model railway. There are quite a number of such huts to be found in actual practice so there is a good choice of prototypes. The two given here are both simple to make and effective.

The first is a trolley hut. That is a shed in which is stored a platelayer's trolley, either hand or power driven, with often a flat trolley for the carrying of track parts.

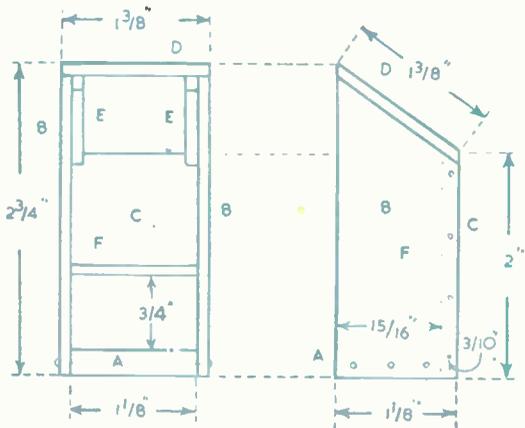
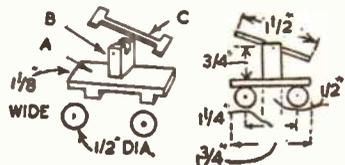
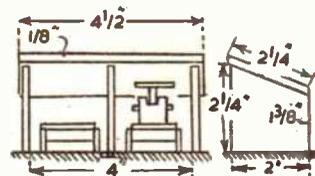
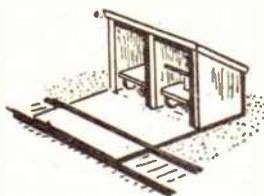
finished in black, but to give brightness buff could be the colour.

The trolleys are of course dummies, but quite a good impression is produced. The main platforms are cut as (A) and the wheels $\frac{1}{2}$ in. diameter, are glued to the sides.

This is all that is needed for the flat vehicle, but the power trolley has the 'tower' (B) in the middle with the rocking handle (C). (B) is glued to (A), and (C) can either be glued in position or fastened with a pin pivot so that it actually rocks.

Finally glue the shed in position on the base (see sketch) which both acts as a floor and runway to the nearby rails. Also glue the trolleys in the divisions. All these huts in actual practice have a concrete or sleeper-made path to the rails to which the trolleys have to be taken and then later lifted; so in building up a little 'scene' one is getting quite near the real thing.

The base should be fastened by a screw to the baseboard of the layout and



Some trolley sheds have doors, others are of the kind shown and then the trolleys are usually chained and locked to prevent an accidental running out on to the line.

The hut described is for gauge O. The dimensions should be halved for OO. Parts are: two ends, the partition, back, roof and base. All the necessary dimensions for making can be taken from the diagram. Note, however, that the partition is slightly narrower than the end pieces as the back sits inside them, but the partition sits inside the back. Glue holds everything together.

Huts of this nature are usually

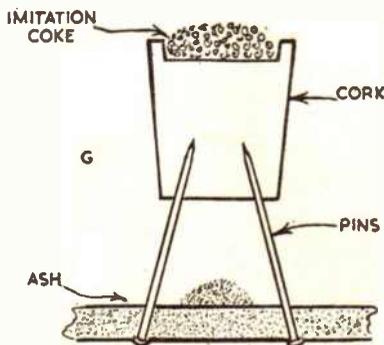
then surrounding material brought up level with the top of the wood. The whole arrangement thus becomes a fixture, which is really what is wanted.

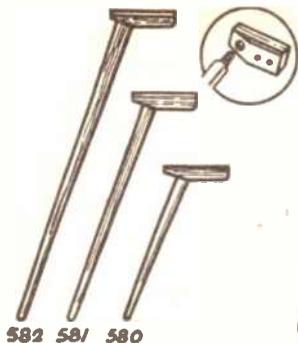
The fog hut shown here is again for gauge O and sections required in the making are: (a) the base $1\frac{1}{2}$ ins. by $\frac{1}{2}$ in. by $\frac{1}{2}$ in., (b) two sides, $1\frac{1}{2}$ ins. wide with edges $2\frac{1}{2}$ ins. and 2 ins. respectively, thickness $\frac{3}{10}$ in., (c) the back 2 ins. by $1\frac{1}{2}$ ins. by $\frac{3}{10}$ ins., and a roof (d) $1\frac{1}{2}$ ins. by $1\frac{1}{2}$ ins. by $\frac{3}{10}$ ins. In addition needed are two $\frac{1}{2}$ in. square strips (e), a cork for the brazier and three pieces of wood (matches will do) for the legs.

Assemble the parts as shown, securing with glue. Model-maker's pins could be used if desired, going through the sides into the thicker base (a), and into the back. The top of (c) is bevelled and on this is laid the roof (d), reinforcing with the strips (e). The seat (f) is so cut that it will just fit tightly in position and hold without support.

When assembled, paint the hut buff, black or grey and set (as shown in the drawing of the completed hut) on a bigger base with glue and one or two pins. Paint this with thin glue and sprinkle on sand or powdered stone. Blow away any that does not stick.

The arrangement is completed with the brazier (g). This is simply the cork set on three legs, which can be pieces of wood or long pins taken up from below as shown. Put vertical stripes on the cork (which should be of light colour) with Indian Ink to represent bars, and gouge out the top a shade and glue on some grains from a red pencil to look like embers. A little pile of ash should be glued below between the legs. (H.A.R.)





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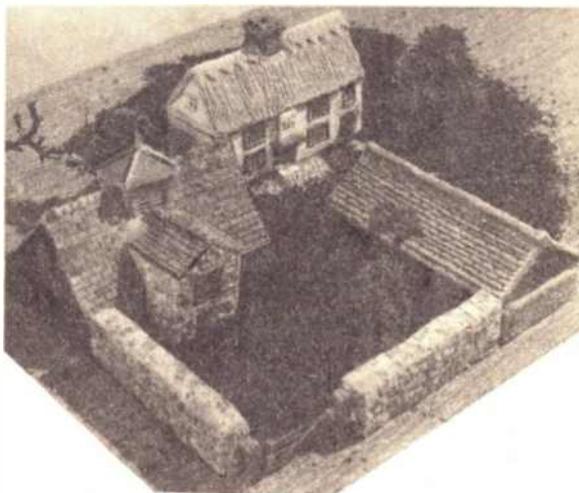
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AUSTRALIA is an island nearly as big as the whole of Europe. The Tropic of Capricorn passes through the middle of it, so that about half of it is in the hot lands. The Commonwealth capital is the new city of Canberra.

'Match labels: 1956 — Kangaroo and Map — 3d. mint. Stamps: 1951. 1/6 brown — Federal Parliament House, Canberra — 1/6 mint.'

Sydney — Capital of New South Wales — is Australia's biggest city. Not far from it is the place where British people made their first settlement.

Melbourne — Capital of the State of Victoria — is Australia's second city.

'Stamps: 1932. 2d. red — Sydney Harbour Bridge — 2d. used. 1934. 2d. orange — Melbourne and R. Yarra — 4d. used.'

AUSTRALIA

— By R.L.C.

There are large patches of true desert, but they form only a small part of the island continent. In many places where the old-time explorers reported waterless desert and blinding hot dust, there are now fine orchards, or cattle lands or sheep farms.

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'Stamps: 1934. 2d. red — Merino Sheep — 1d. used. 1948. 1/3 brown — Hereford Bull — 6d. used. 1953. Food Production — set of 6 — 2/3 used.'

Australia is the habitat of strange flora and fauna, and the home of the Koala (original Teddy Bear) who never drinks but obtains sufficient moisture for his needs from the young eucalyptus leaves on which he lives. He is depicted on pictorials of 1937 — 4d. green, 4d. used.

The 9d. stamp of this set (3d. used) shows the platypus, one of only two creatures known to science which lay eggs and suckle their young. The other is the Australian echidna or spiny anteater.

The kangaroo (½d. value — 1d. used) goes on all fours, and eats grass, but it can stand up and fight when attacked. Driven to bay against a tree, its powerful fore-paws will rip up the dogs with which the colonists hunt it, otherwise kangaroos are harmless enough. Other strange creatures include the deep-burrowing wombat, the Tasmanian devil and Tasmanian wolf; the dingo (wild dog) and the spotted native cat; the blind, deaf and dumb mole; barking and cycling lizards; house-building rodents and fish that breathe, having not only gills but lungs too, besides many birds of brilliant plumage such as the multi-coloured parrot and cockatoo.

In the north are to be seen the best specimens of the aboriginal tribes (8½d. stamp of 1950 — 8d. used). These, among the most primitive people known, are entirely nomadic, make fire with sticks, throw the boomerang and kill kangeroos and other game with spears.

The tribesmen are of fine physique, with long curly hair and often bushy

beards and moustaches of which they are very proud. The gins (women) are not so good looking as the men, being early exposed to every hardship and brutally treated from infancy. The natives do not tattoo themselves, but both men and women disfigure their skin with scars. The flesh is cut and the open wound filled up with clay so that owing to the temporary inflammation which ensues, permanent cicatrices remain.

Snakes — even the most venomous — are a food delicacy. As the climate is warm it would be impossible to keep the reptiles dead in a fresh condition for more than a day, so the Australian aborigine first catches it with a forked stick and then tosses it still wriggling into a net, where it is kept alive until required for dinner.

Religious rites — incantations and invocations to the gods of hunting and fertility — are performed under a tropical moon, and are most impressive. The dancers, weird and wild, whirl around in a frenzy to the exciting rhythm of primitive musical instruments and soul-stirring beat of the native drums. 'Stamps: Papua 1932. ½d. black and orange — Native girl; 1d. black and green — Chieftains son; 3d. black and blue — Native Tribesman; 5d. black and green — Masked dancer (set 3/6 mint).

The Australian flag — red or blue ground with Union Jack in top corner of hoist above large seven pointed star with Southern Cross constellation on fly — adorns the 3½d. peace stamp of 1946 (8d. mint), and also a match label of 1957 (1d. mint).

Australia has an interesting story which can be beautifully illustrated in stamps and match labels, but do not forget beer labels, many of which are colourful and of thematic value.

The names of Australians who seek English pen friends can be obtained through the Editor. *Please enclose stamp for reply.*

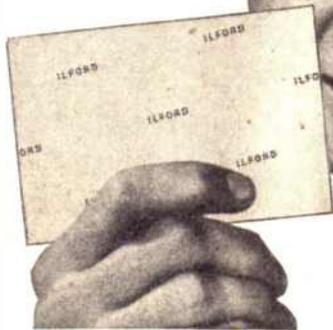


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Electric rail racing is quite new and the author, who, as Editor of *Model Maker* has done so much useful pioneering work for this hobby, devotes the opening ten chapters of his work to this branch of the sport. There is a section dealing with diesel powered models and some intriguing concluding chapters telling the enthusiast all he wants to know about lap recorders, model pits, and, indeed, the complete organisation of indoor and outdoor meetings.

Published by *Model Aeronautical Press Ltd.*, 38 Clarendon Road, Watford, Herts.—Price 10/.

Handsaws and Sawing

By A. W. Lewis

THIS latest issue in the Handguide Series has just been published in collaboration with the well known tool-making firm of Spear & Jackson Ltd. of Aetna Works, Savile Street, Sheffield from whom we have received a copy together with a wall chart dealing specially with handsaws.

The book is a complete guide to all types of saws and is, in fact, a miniature textbook not only for the school workbench but for the amateur woodworker and home handyman.

A feature of this excellent little work is its clarity of expression, rendered even more lucid by sequence pictures depicting the various jobs for which each type of saw is intended and the correct way to obtain the best results in each case.

Published by *Educational Productions Ltd.*, 17, Denbigh Street, London, S.W.1.—Price 2/6d. (post free).

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by Eric Leyland

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fascinating account of all that happens in its various Departments. Smash and grab raids, dialling 999, the Fraud and Ghost Squads — the very essence of action is here in an enthralling documentary as intriguing as highly-coloured fiction but with the weight and satisfaction of authenticity.

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Learning Metalwork with Aluminium

by J. C. Older

AS this is claimed to be the first book to be published in the United Kingdom dealing solely with aluminium and its suitability for use by the amateur craftsman, the appearance of Mr. Older's work is bound to prove of great interest in the growing ranks of hobbyists whose fretworking activities, hitherto limited to the medium of wood, may now be extended to the exciting sphere of metalwork in aluminium.

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tive models to be made, to the eventual refinements of spinning, moulding and welding.

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The British Journal Photographic Almanac 1958

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Published by *Henry Greenwood & Co. Ltd.*, 24 Wellington Street, Strand, London, W.C.2.—Price 6/- (Linson board covers) or 8/6 (cloth bound).

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by E. W. Luker

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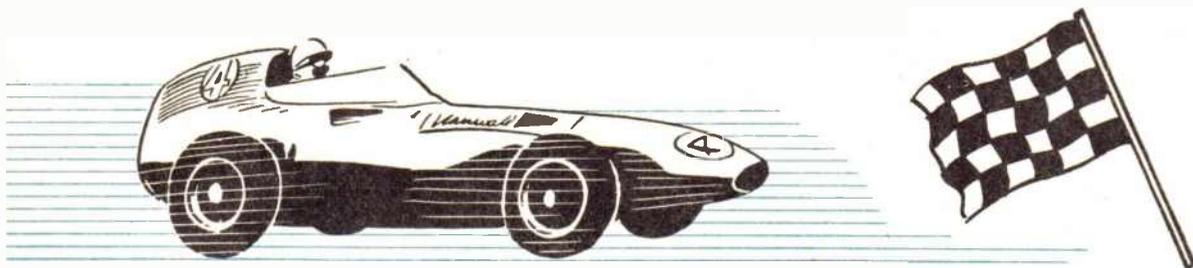
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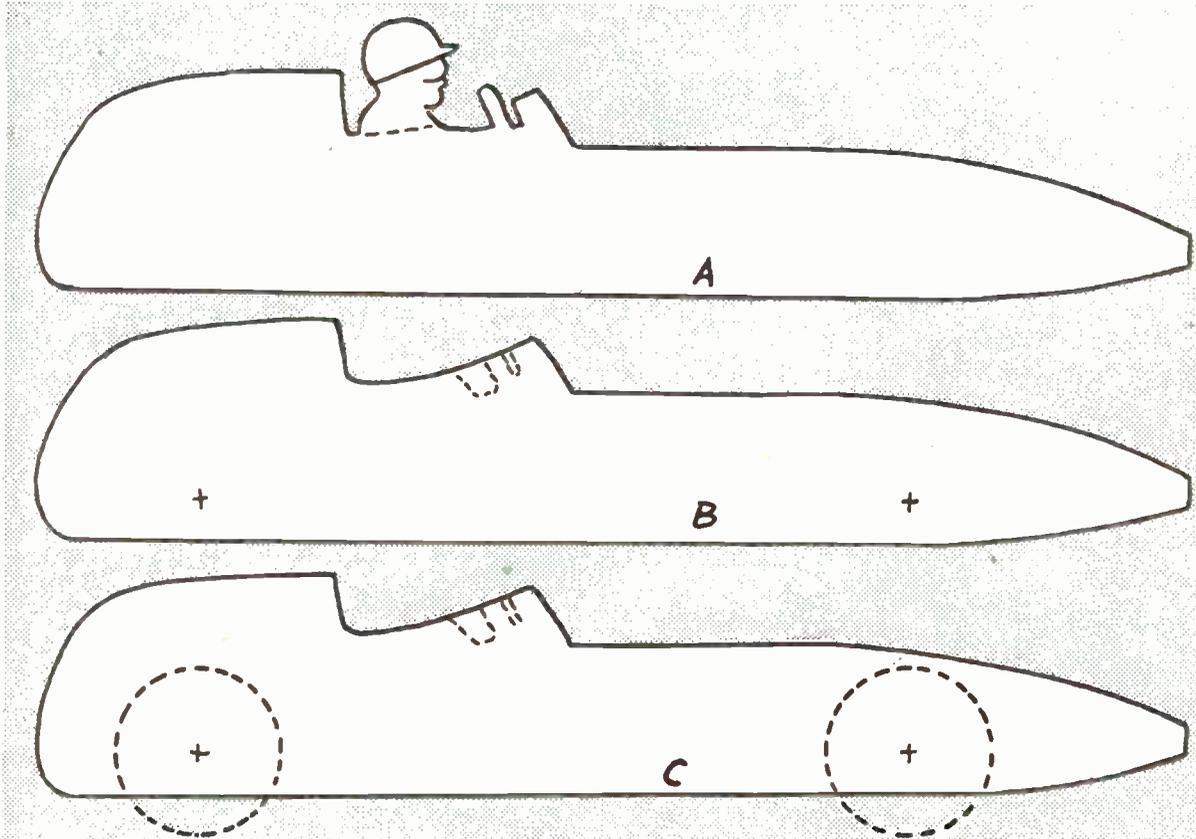


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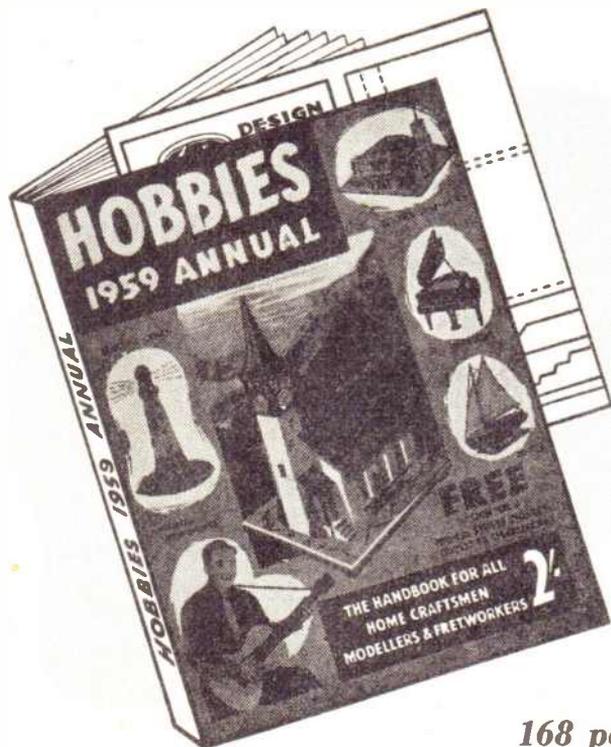
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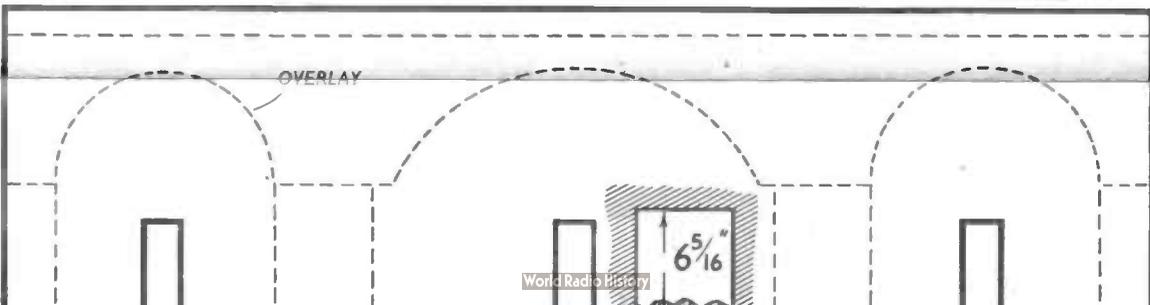
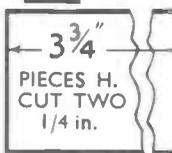
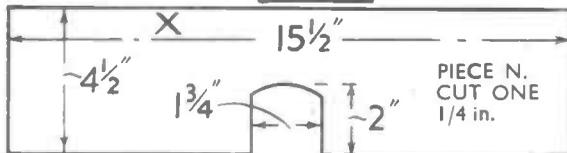
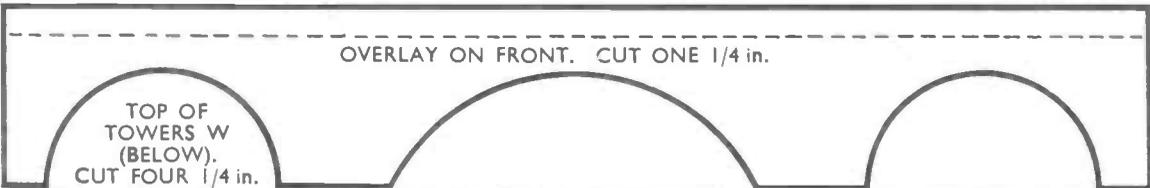
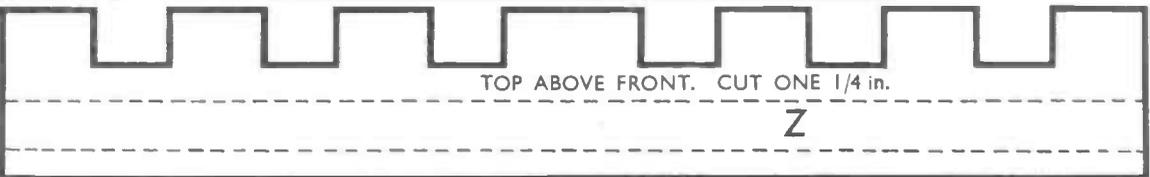
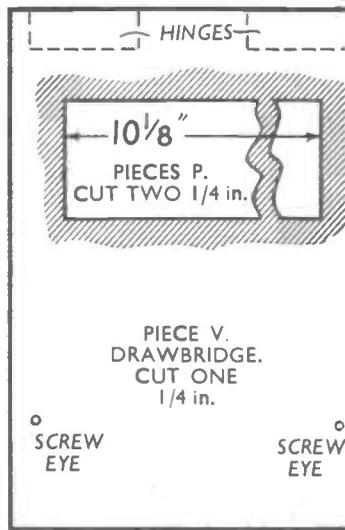
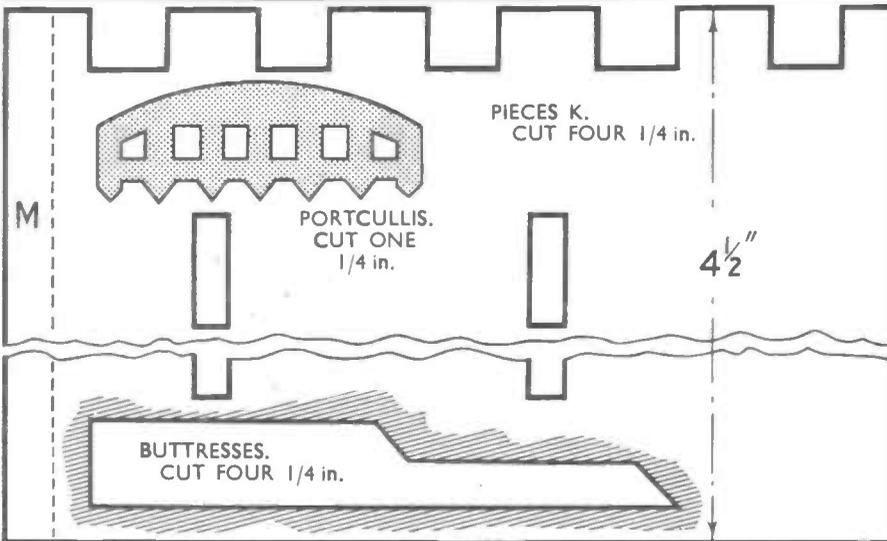
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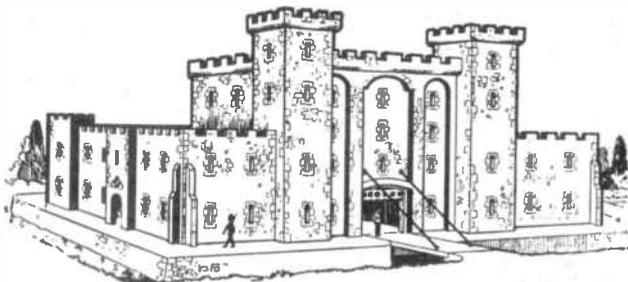




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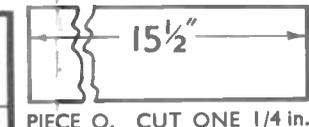
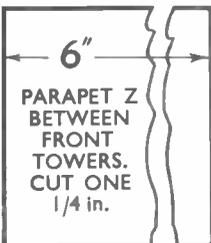
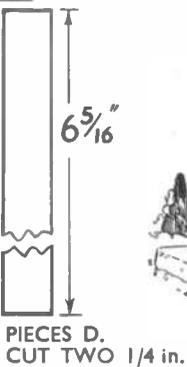
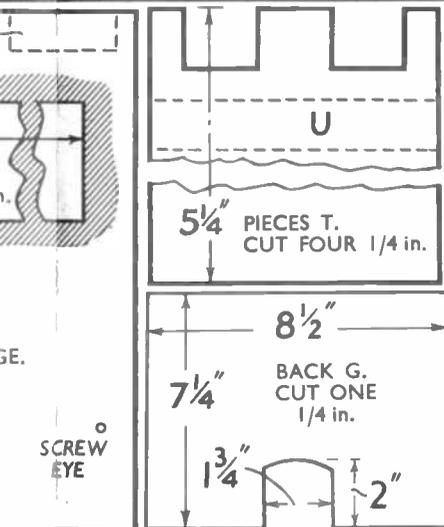
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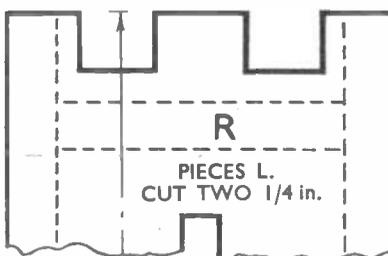
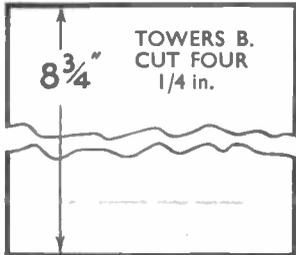
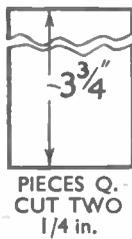
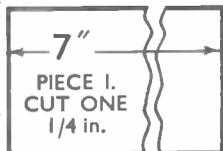
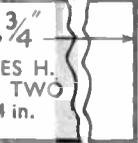
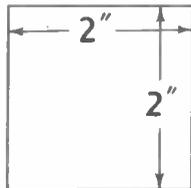
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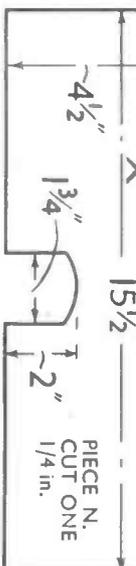
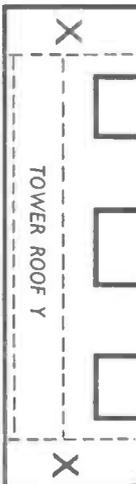
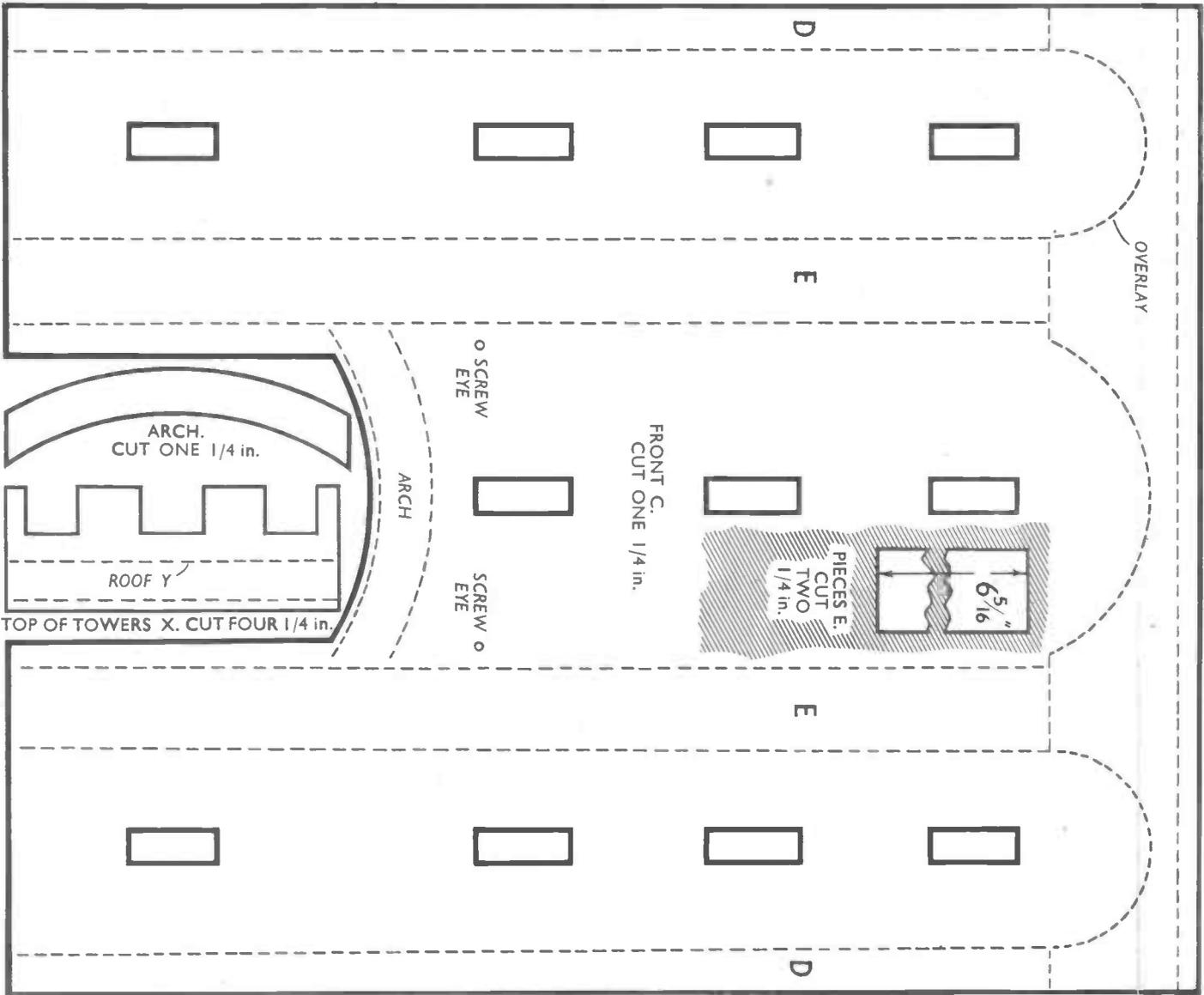
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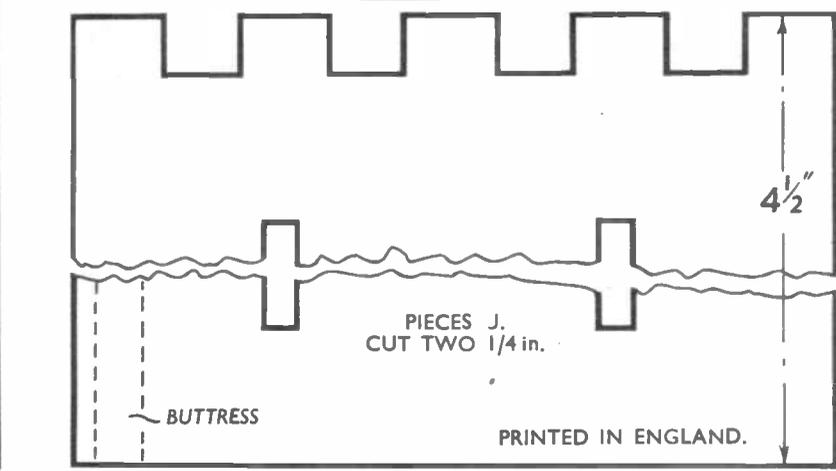
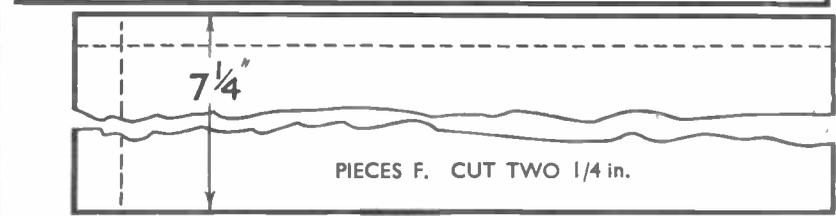
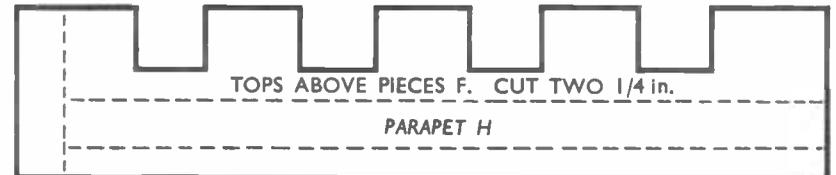
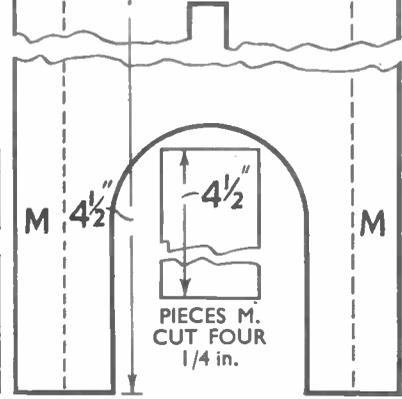
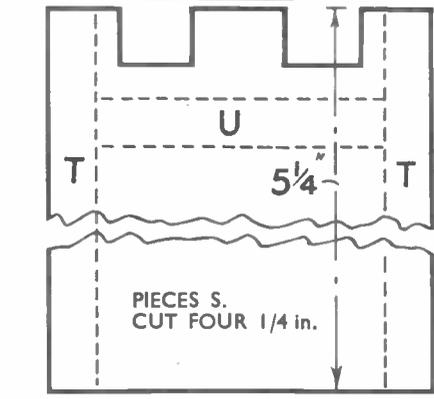
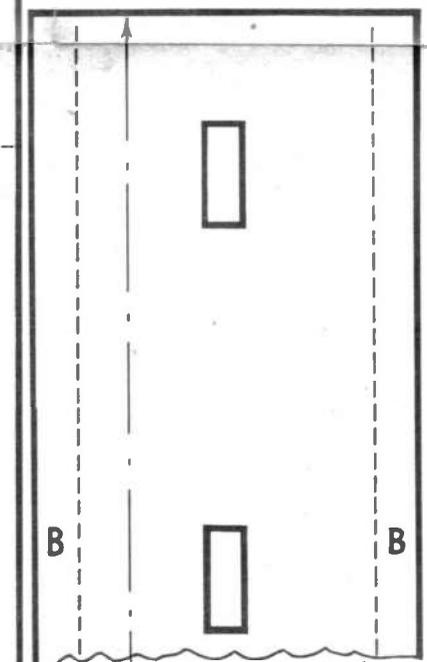
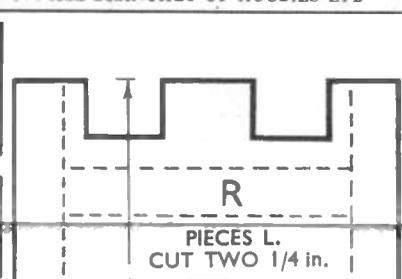
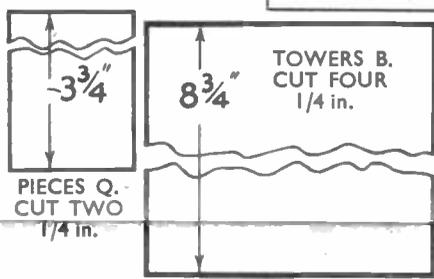
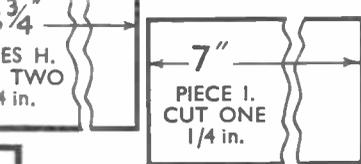
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