

in the Model Room, the staff frequently have to build display pieces—not necessarily Meccano displays—in which they often use bent Meccano Strips for brackets. They are not alone in this, of course, as a lot of people use Meccano for non-modelling purposes, but, because of the large number of such brackets used in his Department, the Head of the Model Room has developed a simple, yet efficient jig for bending Strips cleanly and in the right place—between two holes, as opposed to across a hole. It can be used to produce ordinary angle brackets, reversed angle brackets and even double angle strips.

The simplicity of the Jig's design is evident from the accompanying photograph. Produced in two

sections, one section consists of a $5\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{2}$ in. Flanged Plate, to the top of which two $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. Strips 1 are bolted, a distance of one hole separating them. Bolted to one end of the Strips, as shown, are four $1\frac{1}{2}$ in. Flat Girders 2, placed one on top of another for strength, and these should be arranged so that a standard Strip will just fit beneath them when slid along the channel between Strips 1. The whole assembly is connected by two Hinges 3 to the other section of the Jig which is built up from two $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. Angle Girders 4 connected together at one end by a $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. Angle Girder, overlaid by a $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. Flat Girder 5 and, at the other end, by a $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. Angle Girder 6, only. Angle Girder 6 is connected to Flat Girder 5 and the

A simple, yet highly effective Jig for bending Meccano Strips, designed by the Head of Meccano Tri-ang Limited's Model-building Department. The original is used for non-modelling purposes.

other $2\frac{1}{2}$ in. Angle Girder by two $5\frac{1}{2}$ in. Strips 7, with a half-inch space between them. This space is necessary when producing reversed angle brackets as one of the lugs of the bracket must project through it.

To use the Jig, a suitable Strip is slid down the channel between Strips 1 and under Flat Girders 2 until the point where the bend is to be made is in line with the inside end of the Flanged Plate. The exact position can be determined by lining up the two nearest holes in the Strip with the holes in Flat Girders 2. With the Strips in position, the desired bend is achieved by simply hinging up the section of the Jig containing Girders 4. For reversed angle brackets and double angle strips, the first bend should be made, then the action repeated as required.

PARTS REQUIRED

| | | | |
|------|--------|--------|-------|
| 4—2 | 20—37a | 1—52 | 2—114 |
| 2—9 | 20—37b | 1—103f | |
| 2—9d | 10—38 | 4—103h | |

DINKY TOY NEWS (from opposite) eye-slit headlamps, producing an impression of graceful power. The rear engine cover and roll bar creates a cowl-like effect, easily seen from the side view, this impression being further accentuated by the blunt, sturdy rear of this action-packed car.

Dinky Toys have captured all the lines of the original and incorporated some special features of their own to add to its play-value. An opening rear engine cover, with a transparent centre panel similar to the original's, is decorated with a black sporty stripe on each side, and it hinges back to reveal a plated engine complete with a stubby exhaust pipe projecting rearwards. The nylon moulded Speedwheels also used on the Ferrari give it increased speed while a black moulded interior adds to its attractiveness. External finish is in fluorescent light red, with white

baseplate and black and white engine cover.

Produced, like the Ferrari, to a scale of 1 : 43, the Fiat Abarth 2000 is marketed under Sales No. 202, and should attract a lot of attention from sports car enthusiasts and general collectors alike.

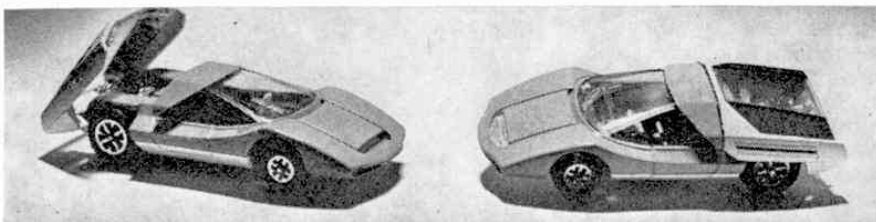
FIRE CHIEF'S RANGE ROVER

Another recent Dinky Toy announcement from Meccano Tri-ang will be of particular interest to collectors of model fire-fighting equipment. A new Fire Chief's Car is being introduced in the form of a specially-finished Range Rover, enamelled in a flamboyant red gloss with bright-plated baseplate and radiator-grille, and equipped with an imitation blue light on the roof and fire service labels, with Brigade crest, on the side doors. Identified by Sales No. 195, this model will

make a very handsome partner for the other fire-fighting appliances in the range, being, after all, based on an ideal vehicle for the job—a big, powerful, 4-wheel-drive estate car as much at home across country as on paved roadways. What could be better?

As with the standard Dinky Range Rover, introduced at the end of last year, the new Fire Chief's Car is fitted with Speedwheels, opening bonnet covering a detailed engine, opening doors and an opening two-part tailgate. Windows are of course included as well as a steering wheel and full seating, the backs of the front seats hinging forwards. This year's number plates are carried at front and rear.

Most people have a keen interest in a well-equipped Fire Brigade and I honestly feel that no model Brigade would be complete without this new Dinky.



Opposite, top, the two new Dinky Toy sports cars in a simulated racing sequence, with the Fiat Abarth hot on the heels of the Ferrari 312P. Bottom, left, anticipating real-life trends is Dinky Toy No. 195 Fire Chief's car and, right, the Ferrari 312P showing the unique forward-hinged doors. Left, the sleek and attractive shape of the Fiat Abarth 2000 is well captured in Dinky Toy No. 202.