

New Meccano Models

Beam Engine—Fret-Machine

CONSTRUCTION of the model Beam Engine shown in Figs. 1 and 2 is begun by building up two rectangles from $18\frac{1}{2}$ " and $7\frac{1}{2}$ " Angle Girders. For these the ends of two $18\frac{1}{2}$ " Girders are bridged by two $7\frac{1}{2}$ " Girders, the four being securely bolted together. When the two rectangles are built they are connected together by four $5\frac{1}{2}$ " Angle Girders 1 placed one at each corner as shown in Fig. 1. Two further $5\frac{1}{2}$ " Angle Girders 2, Fig. 2, serve as supports for a $5\frac{1}{2}$ " \times $3\frac{1}{2}$ " Flat Plate that forms a base for the governor mechanism. The beams are carried on supports consisting of four $18\frac{1}{2}$ " Angle Girders, which are bolted two on each side of the base as shown, and at their upper ends are bolted to 4" Circular Plates. These Plates each carry a Bush Wheel in which the axle on which the beams pivot is journalled. The construction of the beams will be clear from Fig. 1. The Rod on which the beams pivot is passed through the centre holes of two $4\frac{1}{2}$ " Angle Girders, which form the centre vertical member of the beams. The $9\frac{1}{2}$ " Strips of the beams are bolted to the ends of these Girders.

The cylinders are Meccano Boilers, complete with Ends, which are secured to a $5\frac{1}{2}$ " \times $3\frac{1}{2}$ " Flat Plate, 3 bolted between the lower $18\frac{1}{2}$ " Angle Girders of the base.

The crankshaft webs are formed by four $2\frac{1}{2}$ " Triangular Plates 4 and 5, to each of which two Cranks are bolted as shown with their bosses facing in opposite directions. The crankshaft carries between the two cranks a Sprocket Wheel that takes the drive from an Electric Motor, which may be bolted in any convenient position inside the base of the model. On the left-hand end of the crankshaft there is another Sprocket, connected by Chain to a Sprocket on the shaft of the governor. The connecting rods 7 and 8 are coupled to the crank pins at their lower ends by means of Handrail Couplings, one of which is shown

at 9; and connection to the beams is made by means of further Handrail Couplings at their upper ends. The Handrail Couplings pivot on 1" Rods held in place in the ends of the beams by Collars.

The opposite ends of the beams also carry 1" Rods on each of which pivot two pairs of $9\frac{1}{2}$ " Strips 10 and 11, Fig. 1, which form the links between the beams and the piston rods 12 and 13. Connection between the Strips and the Rods is made by means of large Fork Pieces.

The flywheel 14 consists of two Ring Frames, bolted back to back and fitted

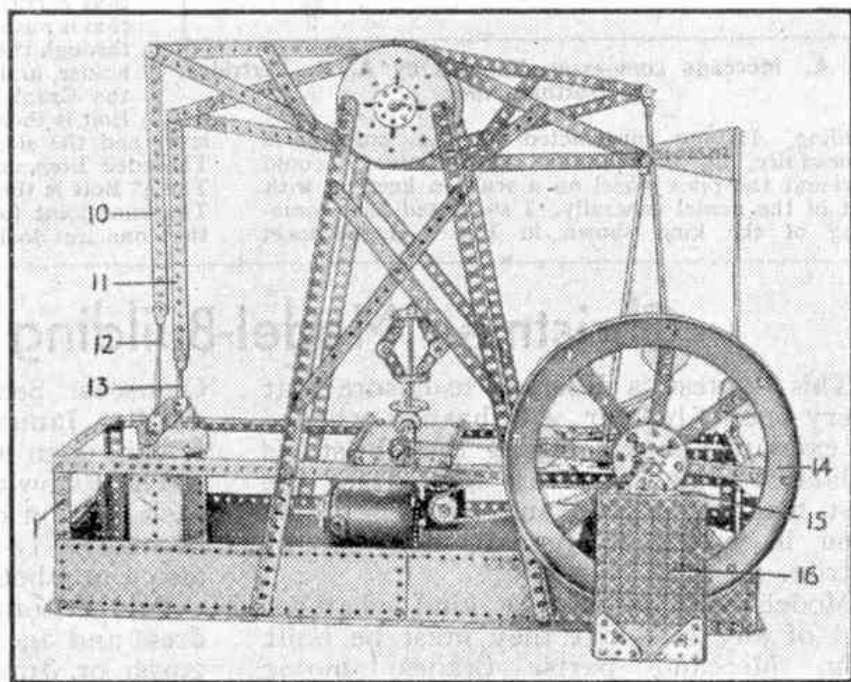


Fig. 1. A fine working model Twin Beam Engine.

with spokes consisting of $4\frac{1}{2}$ " Strips. The hub of the wheel is a Face Plate.

The crankshaft is journalled in Trunnions fixed to the frame in the positions shown in Fig. 2, and at the flywheel end there is an outrigger bearing consisting of a further Trunnion bolted to a $3\frac{1}{2}$ " Angle Girder 15. This Girder is supported between the ends of two $5\frac{1}{2}$ " Angle Girders that in turn are attached at their lower ends to the $12\frac{1}{2}$ " Angle Girders of the base by means of two $3\frac{1}{2}$ " Angle Girders. The $5\frac{1}{2}$ " Girders are also joined at their lower ends by a second $3\frac{1}{2}$ " Angle Girder, and the rectangular frame so formed is filled in with a $5\frac{1}{2}$ " \times $3\frac{1}{2}$ " Flat Plate 16.

The construction of the governor is

shown clearly in the illustrations. Its shaft is journaled in the Flat Plate and also in a Double Bent Strip 17 bolted to the Plate; and a $1\frac{1}{2}$ " diam. Contrate fixed to it is meshed with a 1" Gear carried on a Rod journaled in a $2\frac{1}{2}$ " x 1" Double Angle Strip bolted to the Plate.

Parts required to build model Beam Engine: 24 of No. 1a; 8 of No. 2a; 8 of No. 3; 4 of No. 6a; 8 of No. 7a; 16 of No. 9; 4 of No. 9a; 4 of No. 9b; 6 of No. 12; 3 of No. 13a; 1 of No. 14; 3 of No. 15; 1 of No. 15b; 1 of No. 16; 2 of No. 18a; 6 of No. 18b; 4 of No. 23; 4 of No. 24; 1 of No. 28; 1 of No. 31; 174 of No. 37; 10 of No. 37a; 3 of No. 45; 1 of No. 46; 3 of No. 52a; 21 of No. 59; 8 of No. 62; 2 of No. 95; 1 of No. 96; 1 of No. 109; 2 of No. 111; 2 of No. 116; 4 of No. 126; 8 of No. 126a; 4 of No. 133; 4 of No. 136a; 2 of No. 146a; 2 of No. 162; 2 of No. 167b; 2 of No. 190; 2 of No. 192; 4 of No. 197, 1 Electric Motor.

The simple and attractive model of a fret-machine shown in Fig. 3 can be worked either by hand or by a *Magic Motor*.

The table of the machine is built from four $5\frac{1}{2}$ " Strips and a $4\frac{1}{2}$ " Flanged Sector Plate and braced by two $5\frac{1}{2}$ " Strips, as shown in the illustration. The reciprocating arm consists of two $5\frac{1}{2}$ " Strips, one above the table and the other underneath it, joined together by two $2\frac{1}{2}$ " Strips 1 bolted to the $5\frac{1}{2}$ " Strips in the manner illustrated.

The arm is pivoted on a lock-nutted bolt through the holes of two Reversed Angle Brackets, which are spaced from the $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x $\frac{1}{2}$ " Double Angle Strip 2 by two Washers, and also through the centre holes of the $2\frac{1}{2}$ " Strips 1.

The bracing of the table legs carries a $3\frac{1}{2}$ " Crank Handle. On this is a cam built by bolting two Flat Brackets spaced by a Washer on each

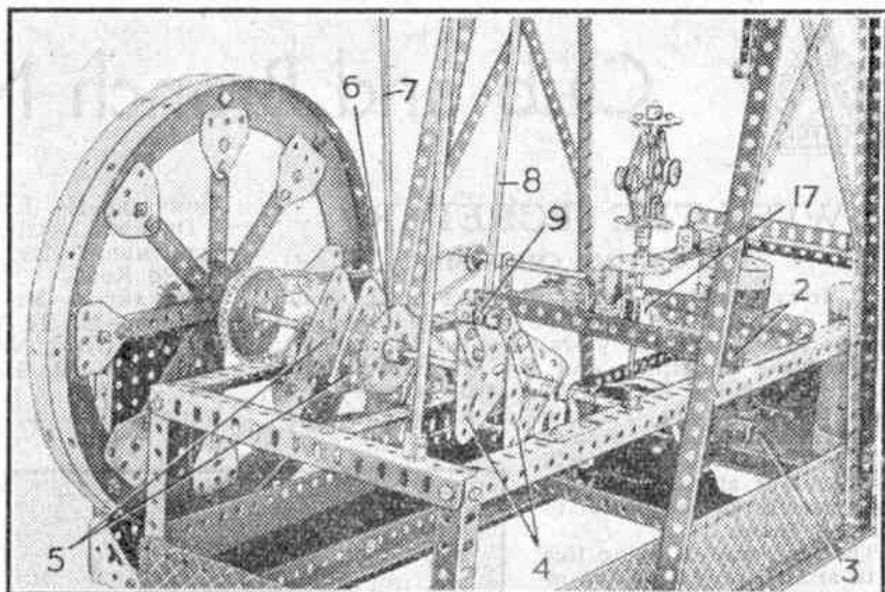


Fig. 2. A close-up view of the Beam Engine showing details of the crankshaft and governor.

side of a Bush Wheel, together with a Road Wheel and a 1" fixed Pulley. The positions of these will be clear from the illustration. A piece of wire is stretched from the end hole of the upper $5\frac{1}{2}$ " Strip to that of the $5\frac{1}{2}$ " Strip under the table, and passes through the appropriate hole in a $4\frac{1}{2}$ " Flanged Sector Plate. This represents the saw blade.

A quick return stroke is effected by doubling a small Driving Band 3 over the arm and looping it on to a Cranked Bent Strip 4, through which the $1\frac{1}{2}$ " Rod 5 is pushed. If desired, the *Magic Motor* can be bolted to the front leg of the fret-machine and the Driving Band fitted around the 1" Pulley. If a Motor is used, it is advisable to strengthen the front legs by connecting them together with a Double Angle Strip bolted near their lower ends.

Parts required to build Fret-machine: 8 of No. 2; 2 of No. 5; 4 of No. 10; 2 of No. 12; 1 of No. 17; 1 of No. 17a; 1 of No. 19s; 1 of No. 22; 1 of No. 24; 2 of No. 35; 21 of No. 37; 1 of No. 37a; 8 of No. 38; 1 of No. 44; 1 of No. 48; 1 of No. 54a; 1 of No. 111c; 2 of No. 125; 2 of No. 180; 1 of No. 187.

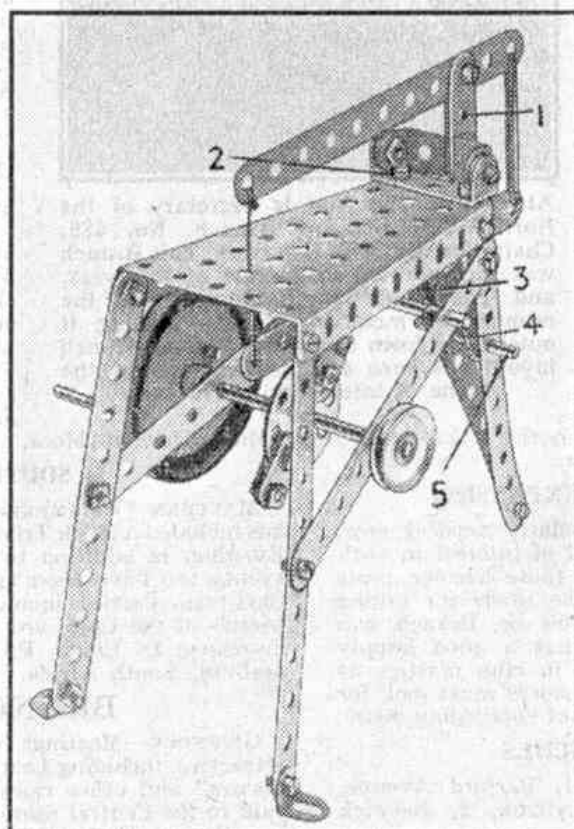


Fig. 3. A simple fret-machine that operates realistically.