

# Britain's Mechanised Army in Meccano

## Fine Models Built from New Outfit

THE use of mechanical transport to replace horse-drawn vehicles and columns of marching men, and the rapid development of tanks, anti-aircraft guns, and armoured vehicles, have revolutionised the Army of to-day. All boys are interested

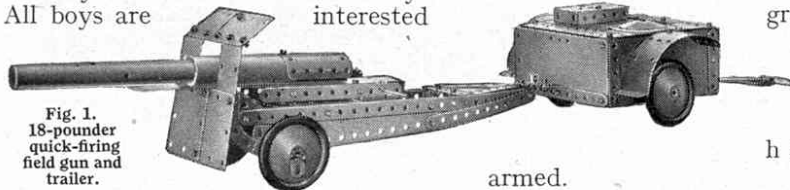


Fig. 1.  
18-pounder  
quick-firing  
field gun and  
trailer.

in the British Mechanised Units, and the new Meccano Mechanised Army Outfit announced on the inside front cover of this issue has been planned to enable them to build splendid models of tanks, guns and transport vehicles with a greater degree of realism than has been possible before. The specially designed parts in this Outfit are enamelled in Service green and black, and they are all interchangeable in the same manner as standard Meccano parts. This means that they can be assembled in different combinations to

Fig. 3. A group of models built from Mechanised Army Outfit parts.

build up models of various types, several fine examples of which are illustrated on this and the facing page.

One of the main items of equipment of a modern army is the tank, of which there are different types. The tank has been developed from the original idea of defending troops from machine-gun fire, and may almost be described as the modern counterpart of bullet-proof armour. It is capable of travelling over the roughest ground, and in its latest forms is very heavily armed.

The Royal Tank Corps has two types of tank, known as "Medium" and "Light." The present "Medium" weighs 12 tons and is fitted with a 90 h.p. 8-cylinder petrol engine, but the type is gradually being replaced by a "Cruiser" tank of nearly the same weight but of double the horsepower. The "Medium" carries a crew of five and is capable of a speed of 22 m.p.h. In front of its turret is a two-pounder quick-firing gun with a machine-gun beside it, and below and to the right of the latter is the driver's look-out manhole. A further machine-gun is placed on each side of the tank. In a vertical tube on top of the turret is housed a Morse signalling lamp.

Most of the "Mediums" are fitted with wireless.

Remarkably realistic models of tanks can be built from the special parts contained in the Meccano Mechanised Army Outfit, and a good example of these is the "Light" Tank shown in Fig. 5. It is based on one of the latest "Light" units in the British Army, and reproduces closely all the main external features of the actual machine. The "Light" tanks weigh about 5 tons. They are fitted with a 25 h.p. petrol engine and can travel at speeds up to 40 m.p.h., while their gun equipment consists of one light and one heavy machine-gun. The model illustrated is complete with swivel-



Fig. 2.  
Anti-aircraft  
gun.

ling gun turret and creeper tracks, and as the parts from which it is built are enamelled in the Service green colour of the actual vehicle it has a truly lifelike appearance. One almost expects to see the crew come scrambling out of its interior! A finishing touch is given by

