

Hobbies

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For interesting projection of enlarged pictures make A REFLECTOSCOPE

A REFLECTOSCOPE, as the name implies, is a scientific type of lantern which projects, by reflection, enlarged images (copies) of opaque illustrations, photographs and colourful objects, etc., on a screen. Thus, it differs vastly from the "magic" lantern which, like a cinematograph projector, requires glass slides and films.

Such an article — sometimes called an epidiascope—is much in demand at lecture centres, such as A.R.P. or A.T.C. or N.F.S., where diagrams and details can be thrown on to the screen for simple study.

A reflectoscope uses a single lens, plus a mirror attachment (used for correcting reading matter on drawings, etc., for images are projected in reverse, this being inevitable). The single lens means less expense and work.

Lens and Mirror

We say that because, as you must realise, it is rather difficult to obtain lenses of any sort these days. However, in designing the model reflectoscope shown at Fig. 1, we have striven to leave no matters "in the air" so to speak.

Alternatives are suggested, with various hints and suggestions, so that you will be able to make a practical, individual, reflectoscope according to available materials. The necessary mirror is obtainable, as

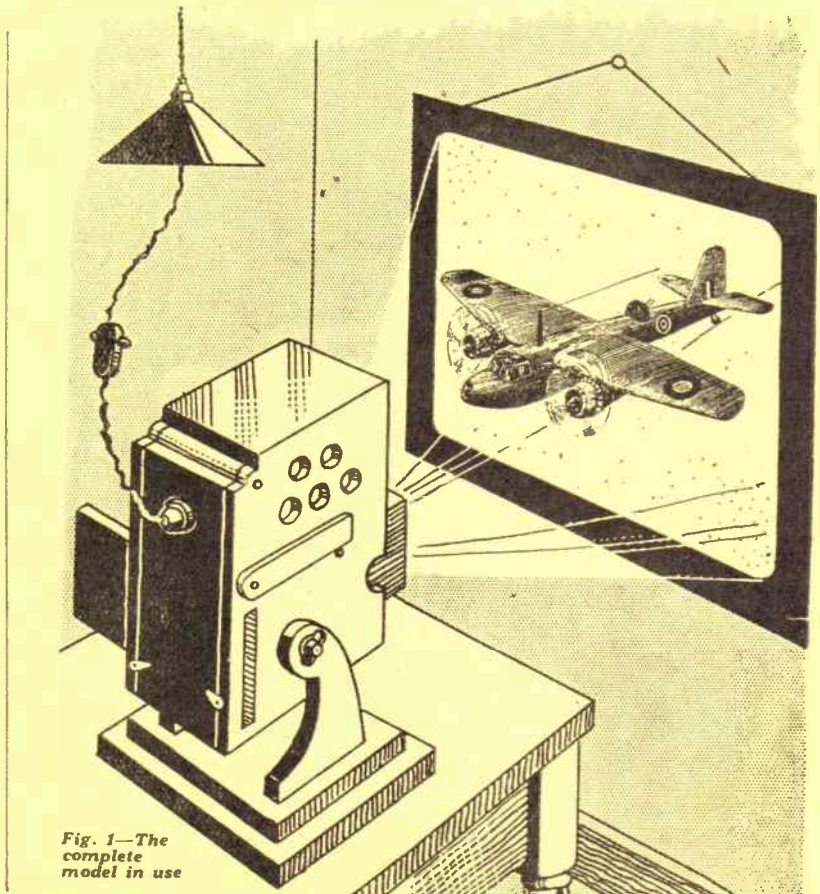


Fig. 1—The complete model in use

mentioned later from Hobbies Ltd.

In the circumstances, it is hard to give specific drawings and details, for much depends on the diameter and focal length of the bi-convex lens you possess or can manage to obtain. To make the model reflectoscope shown, a 3in. diam. (or 2½in. diam.) bi-convex lens is required, the focus being 6ins. or 8ins. or longer.

But, you are not tied down to this particular size of lens, for smaller ones can be incorporated into the model

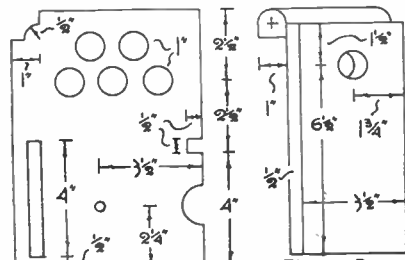


Fig. 2—Side shape

Fig. 3—Door details

Fig. 4—Shape of bottom

Fig. 5—The crosspiece

without difficulty. You can, therefore, build up the machine exactly as described and introduce individual alterations later on as dictated by actual experiment. So, with exception of the lens box, you can go ahead with the construction as described.

Incidentally, most mains-operated reflectoscopes are fitted with double 100-watt lamps, with parabolic reflectors behind them to increase the illumination. For the sake of cheapness and simplicity, we have adopted a single lamp and reflector which gives excellent results.

If desired, however, the width of the case can be enlarged 2½ins. wider so an extra lamp and reflector can be fitted, but we doubt if this innovation (which entails a lot of alteration) will be necessary.

Building the Case

The case is the first thing to be made. Cut out two side shapes as detailed at Fig. 2, using ¼in. wood. The five air vent holes can be cut out or bored with an 1in. diam. centre bit. The door piece, bottom and cross piece shown at Figs. 3, 4 and 5 are cut from ¼in. wood.

You also need a top piece 5½ins. by 3½ins. by ¼in. and a front piece 4ins. by 3½ins. Nail the top piece between the sides, keeping one end flush at the front edges, then add the bottom, keeping it inwards ¼in. to allow for the door thickness. Add the front cross piece and front piece.

To complete the door, round the top edges of an 1in. sq. block of wood

3½ins. long. Glue and nail it along the top edge of the door, as shown at Fig. 4, and centre the ends accurately for the pivot screws.

These are driven through the sides into the ends of the block. When the door is attached, glue a ½in. sq. block of wood inside the case, just behind the knuckle of the door (see cut-away view at Fig. 9).

Fitting the Reflector

The reflector is now fitted, this

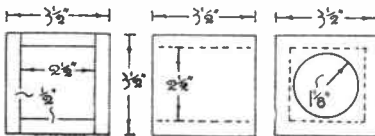


Fig. 6—End view, side view and front piece of lens box

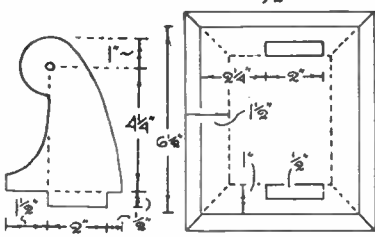


Fig. 7—The support

Fig. 8—The base pieces

consisting of a sheet of bright (new) tin measuring 7ins. long by 3½ins. wide. A piece of polished aluminium sheeting would be the best thing to use, but tin will serve, keeping the best inverted. No need to nail or screw the tin in position, as it will "spring" in place and hold itself securely.

The Supporting Trunnion

Unlike most other models, the case of the one in hand is supported in a trunnion so it can be elevated up and down easily. The trunnion consists of two support arms and their bases (Figs. 7 and 8). The arm supports are cut out from ½in. wood and drilled for ¼in. bolts. Glue the supports in the upper base piece, then attach a lower base measuring 7½ins. by 6½ins. or build this up with 1½in. wide strips of ¼in. wood, these being cut and mitred and screwed to show a ¼in. margin all round as shown by the dotted lines.

The case is suspended between the arms and held by means of a couple of flathead iron gutter-spout bolts 1½ins. long by ¼in. thick. The bolt holes in the case sides need to be countersunk on the inside (this should be done before building the case) so the heads of the bolts do not project and thus interfere with the movement of the lens box.

Fixing the Bolts

Screw the bolts into the case (at the inside, if already assembled) with the fingers to project slightly, then insert the ends into the support arm holes and continue screwing until the

bolt ends project about ¼in. outwards, from the arms, after which the bolt heads are embedded properly by turning the projecting ends with the nippers or pliers, following which the washers and bat-wings (thumb-screw nuts) are put on.

Lamp and Reflecting Mirror

Proceed by obtaining a standard electric lamp fitting and screwing it into a hole cut or bored in the door. The threaded end of the fitting must screw into the hole, for the door is too thick to enable the screw-on cap or holding ring, to be screwed on (see Fig. 8).

Of course, a suitable length of twin flex wire must be connected to the lamp fitting beforehand. The length of wire depends on the nearest plug-in wall socket or electric lamp. In the latter case, an adaptor is fitted to the end of the wire, while a two-pin plug is required in the former case. If a switch is not convenient, fit a cable switch (see illustration) in the wire or, alternatively, obtain a lamp fitting having a switch fitted on to it.

Mirror and Holder

To make the mirror attachment, cut out the adjusting support arm detailed at Fig. 10. This is bolted to the front part of the case with a flat-head bolt, plus washer and bat-wing. The mirror frame is made from a disc of ¾in. wood on which an ¼in. or ½in. overlay ring is glued. The mirror is 3½ins. in diameter and fits tightly into the ring (see sectional view). It is obtainable (No. 5740) from Hobbies Ltd. and costs 1/- post free.

It will be seen that the mirror is fixed upon the arm support with a single screw, based with a washer. While the screw must screw tightly into the mirror frame, it must be free to revolve in the support arm, but do not have it turning about too loosely.

As stated, the mirror is only used when an illustration, containing reading matter, is being projected. The mirror reverses the image the right way about on the screen. Consequently, the reflectoscope must be turned sidewise to the screen and the mirror set at right angles with the beam of light to deflect the reflection upon the screen, all of which means simple adjustments.

The Lens Box

Now, if you have a 3in. bi-convex lens having a 6in. or 8in. focus, the box is made from ¼in. wood to the outside dimensions shown at Fig. 6. The aperture in the front piece of the box, of course, will be 2½ins.

If the diameter of the lens is 2½ins., make the box as detailed. The front is cut from ¼in. wood, the aperture being 2½ins. An inner aperture piece has the same size of hole, but is cut to the dotted lines. The inner piece goes behind the lens (see sectional view at Fig. 9).

(To be Continued)

For any card game needing Trumps you want THE "JUGGLER" INDICATOR

A NOVEL and simple Trump Indicator is shown at Fig. 1. It consists of a statuette of a clownish juggler who "juggles" (among other things the four playing card "pips" which are, of course, the Club, Diamond, Heart and Spade. These are arranged on a movable back disc and, in order to indicate the trump suite of cards such as the Clubs, the disc is turned so the "pip" shows at the round aperture cut between the legs of the statuette.

The actual "juggling" comes in when the disc is turned—at least, one gets that impression. Thus, there is nothing difficult about the indicator. It is merely a novelty that will be appreciated by most card players. A blank circle is provided on the back disc and this is used to show that there are no trumps when required.

The full size patterns for the two main parts are printed on Cover iv, so you can paste them down ready to cut out right away with a fretsaw.

A Suitable Base

In respect to the base, we show a simple plain style. However, it is possible to make a flat box into which the pack of cards could be placed. It is only a matter of building up the thickness, with an opening at the front so the cards can be slipped in easily; no need to provide a drawer or tray or a hinged front.

We suggest this kind of base if you have not got a holder for the cards. There is no need for it in any case, but it helps to make the indicator more useful.

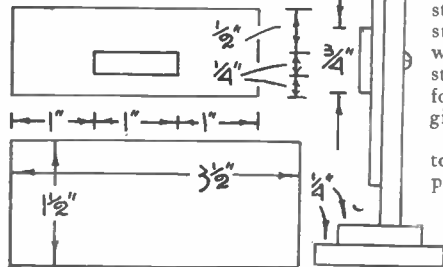


Fig. 2—The two base parts

As you can see, we give actual size patterns of the statuette and back disc. These are glued neatly on 1/4 in. wood. You could use 3/16 in. wood in both cases or use 1/4 in. wood in respect to the back disc. If you prefer to do this, cut out a 1/2 in. diam. disc from the same material.

Having cut out the statuette (around the outlines only, by the way, and at the circular aperture), glue its tenon to the upper base piece shown at Fig. 2, this being cut

from 1/4 in. wood or 3/16 in. stuff. Drill or pierce the disc pivot screw hole, the exact central position being the topmost button on the "tunic" of the clown (see Fig. 1).

When you have centred the back disc, drive a roundhead brass screw (use a 1/4 in. by 4 screw) into its centre. So that the point will not project and get a good grip, the 1/4 in. diam. disc mentioned should be first glued centrally to the back of the disc) see end view at Fig. 4).

Black Edges

We are assuming that as usual you have glasspapered the edges of the work neat and smooth prior to assembly. When you have got the parts assembled satisfactorily, remove the pivot screw and then proceed to blacken the edges of the parts (excepting the base pieces) with black ink or Hobbies Eggshell Black. When dry, apply red ink to the heart and diamond pips, using a fine pencil brush. Do not be afraid of the inking spreading, for the blackened background to these pips will afford some protection.

The ink is liable to spread beyond the background if you apply it too liberally. The first coat should suffice. Incidentally the chewed end of a matchstick would serve as a "brush" in applying the ink.

A Green Base

If desired, the back of the statuette and disc could be stained red with the ink. The base pieces should be stained with green ink or it could be stained brown with ordinary wood-work stain. When dry, rub the stained surface smooth with a piece of folded paper, this having the effect of giving a dull gloss to the wood.

A piece of green baize is then glued to the underside of the lower base piece. This, however, is not absolutely essential, as most card tables are covered with baize.

A Two-sided Indicator

If you are handy with pen and ink or poster paints it is possible to make a double-sided indicator so that all card players can instantly see what pip happens to be trumps. All you have to do is to trace a copy of the statuette on tissue paper, this being laid over the paper pattern. You also need a copy of the back disc.

Then by means of black carbon paper two separate copies of the statuette and back disc are drawn direct on the wood. When you have cut out the double parts, all details



Fig. 1—Notice the Trump showing between the legs of the figure

are drawn in in colours and the work laid aside to dry; the reverse sides must not be touched.

Finger Tabs

The back discs should be cut from 1/4 in. wood and glued together back to back. The finger tabs must meet neatly with each other.

When marking out the upper base piece allow a 1/4 in. space between the statuette tenons to allow for the thickness of the indicator disc. The two-sided disc is affixed between the statuettes by means of a single roundhead screw.

If you can, get two copies of Hobbies Weekly, as this would save you having to take tracings, and both the patterns work neatly into the idea of "double" sides.

DESIGN SHEET No. 2462

is given with this issue for making this R.A.F. Frame. Hobbies Branches supply the necessary wood for 3/2, or obtainable from Hobbies Ltd., Dereham, Norfolk for 3/9 post free.





HOW TO START A COLLECTION

EVERYONE who has a hobby maintains that the hobby they follow is the best. Well, this week we are going to sing the praises of philately—the correct name for stamp collecting. Although it is perhaps not quite right to call everybody who collects a philatelist, yet certainly they have the making of a philatelist in them. It depends, of course, on how they go on as to whether they deserve the fuller title.

What are the advantages of this hobby? First of all, it costs so little to start. Many people have the idea that you cannot collect without spending an enormous amount of money on your collection. That is entirely wrong, for you can start correctly at very little cost.

Points of Favour

Secondly it is a hobby for all ages. There are so many hobbies that sooner or later one is almost bound to give up, but not so stamp-collecting.

We all know how nice it is to have a complete room for our woodwork, a dark room for our photography and so on, but all that is required for the hobby of stamp collecting is a box in which to keep the album and a few envelopes or small tins.

Another thing which is very important is that so many people go in for it that there are always plenty of friends we can meet who are only too pleased to talk and to help or to exchange stamps. It is by that method we shall increase our collection more than by any other. At least at the start.

Of course, this is wartime, so like all other pastimes things are not so easy. Many people have had to put their collections into drawers where they will have to stay until times are such that people will be able to take them out again and take active part in increasing their value.

Suitable for the Sick

This last factor is a great point in favour of the hobby. It is one of the few that one can stop at a moment's notice, and then take up again without having lost anything. Imagine what would happen if an enthusiastic rabbit keeper decided that he was fed up for a period and wanted to stop suddenly!

Lastly it is something we can do even when we are ill. That is a splendid help to anyone recovering from a long indisposition. It would be difficult to do woodwork in bed,

and still less easy to have one's pet rabbit in the bedroom.

Do not think, however, that from the last few remarks that the writer suggests that anyone should give up woodwork or rabbit keeping. If you have philately as well, you can carry on with this during summer or winter.

Well, having gone into the advantages there may be some who want to know how they should start. So let us think of the essentials first. First you need an album. This may be a cheap exercise book, which if it is carefully kept will make quite a suitable receptacle for the first stamps that you are likely to get.

If, however, you can afford a printed album, then so much the better. But as you are collecting stamps they are what matter. A few stamps mounted in a clean exercise book look better than a lot stuck anyhow in an album.

Hinges are Essential

Secondly (and this will complete the essential purchases) you MUST buy some stamp hinges. These are even now quite cheap, but if you try to economise and use pieces of stamp edging then you will spoil all the stamps that you get.

They will stick too strongly to the stamps and later when you can find the money for an album and wish to transfer them into it you will find that in taking them out of your first album they will get torn. This

will be a bitter disappointment, because you will find that you have quite an affection for the first stamps you get.

You should not find much difficulty in getting a friend to give you a start with a few stamps to mount. Do not refuse any stamps—however common—because you will probably find that there are a few that you have got with some other collectors.

Easy Stamps to Collect

You may not be able to get a great number of stamps from letters in these times of war, because there are so few people who can correspond with people abroad. But remember there are a great number of soldiers abroad, and letters from them should be kept.

If you asked the average collector now if he had one of the "Trench Cards" of the last war, you will find that there are comparatively few who could produce one for you. Yet they were common enough from 1914-1919.

You see time makes a difference, and things of that sort get thrown away as useless, but they form an interesting item of postal stationery which should be kept.

Well, you can see from this that stamp collecting is by no means a difficult hobby to follow, and it is one which if you keep it up you will find grips you more and more.

A CHRISTMAS X-WORD PUZZLE

Whether you do it now or whether you leave it until Christmas Day you will find this little Puzzle simple and interesting. There are no irritating alternatives and all readers should be able to solve it. The solution will be shown next week so you can check up.

CLUES ACROSS

1. We wish you a merry one.
8. Often asked at Xmas parties.
9. In the negative.
10. Dad gets it in a pub.
11. Father Christmas is good to tiny ones.
12. Heard going up chimney for toys.
13. When on ground, Xmas is Xmas.
15. An extra one is all a dog gets at the festival season.
16. Black-out makes Xmas shopping this.
18. London Town (initials).
19. Falkland Islands (abbr.).
20. After the feast comes this, the reckoning!
21. Hope the plum-duff will be to your . . .
22. Therefore.
24. Can't buy any sweets without these.
25. A fountain one is a useful present.

CLUES DOWN

1. You'll send Xmas ones to all your friends.
2. On Xmas morning faces are this, as presents are inspected.
3. Ladies appreciate these stockings.
4. Don't buy your Dad a gaudy one.
5. Very popular for kissing purposes.
6. The other name is Claus.

7. May he remember you at Xmas Eve if you are employed.
13. Christmas on this day this year.
14. It would be a change from a pocket watch.
15. Sound a snowball makes against a wall.
17. Otherwise.
19. Hardly wanted during December.
21. Titanium (abbr.).
23. Opposite of "off".



Make one board do the work of two by means of ANTOFRET CUTTING

In these days of the scarcity of wood, it is essential for us to economise as much as possible in its use. If, therefore, we can find a way of making one piece virtually do the work of two, we are, indeed, making a great saving.

Here is a suggestion which follows out that idea, and which will probably be new to many of our more recent readers. Those who have followed these pages for years—and there are very many of them, we know—will probably remember earlier articles we had on the subject, and may like this reminder of the possibilities.

Incidentally as a matter of interest,

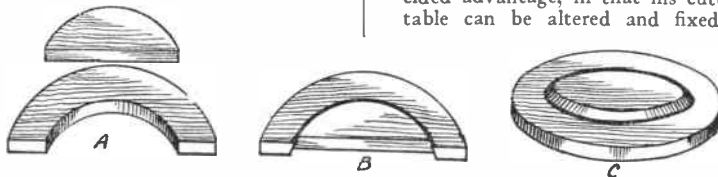


Fig. 1—Three details showing the cutting method and result

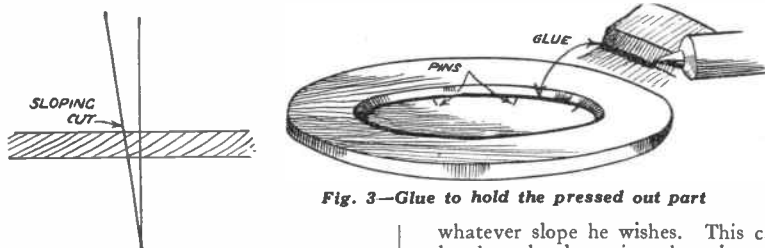


Fig. 2—The sloping sawcut

the principle was first introduced by an Italian priest many years ago, and as a result of a visit to Italy by Hobbies, its range and use was then the subject of a special type of design called Antofret.

Although now not so much in use in Designs, the actual principle of the idea can be followed out in everyday work in many cases. It is simplicity itself when one has got used to it, and involves no further outlay in tools or materials beyond those which any reader has in his possession.

Cutting on the Slope

Roughly—as will be explained more fully later—the idea is to have the sawcut very slightly on the bevel or at a sloping angle. The part then cut out does not fall away as is the case with a vertical sawcut. Instead, it only pushes a certain distance through the main part, and there becomes stuck as a raised piece to provide what appears to be another layer.

Normally, of course, it is essential to keep the blade in the handframe quite upright. In this work it is

equally essential to maintain the blade at a slight angle and keep it exactly there.

Machine Worker's Advantage

This may be awkward for the beginner, but the experienced worker should be able to cut with the handframe held constantly at the angle required. There were, at one time, special tables which tilted and could be fixed so that the saw itself worked upright whilst the wood laid at the necessary slope. These are not now obtainable, so the worker with the handframe will have to proceed as mentioned.

The machine worker has the decided advantage, in that his cutting table can be altered and fixed at

you have a piece cut out in which the ordinary upright cut has been used. At B you have the same piece but with a sawcut at an angle. In the illustration by the way, the actual angle has been exaggerated for clarity.

Various Uses

The simple example given shows only a portion of the work. In reality, it would be cut from a circular piece of wood such as shown at C where the principle mentioned has provided a double deck layer.

You see there how one piece has been made apparently into two, and the piece shown in the diagram can quite easily be used as a circular base. The cutting of these parts should be confined to plain straightforward shapes—circles, squares, oblongs, etc.

If you attempt any intricate curves such as found in fretwork, you will find it impossible to turn the saw and maintain the correct slope. A simple trial on a piece of waste wood will soon show you what can be done, and how to do it.

The Cutting Angle

The angle of the sawcut cannot be definitely given because it varies with the thickness of wood used, and with the amount of press-through required. In any case, however, the sawcut angle is very slight, and is shown in comparison with an upright sawcut at Fig. 2.

This, of course, cannot be definite but is soon found on trial. The trial hole is made in the ordinary way on the cutting line, and should be as fine as possible so it does not show very much when the work is complete. Make an experimental cut first on a piece of waste wood the same thickness as you are going to use in the finished job.

Hold the saw at the angle you think, and cut round steadily and quietly until you return to the trial hole again. You will see how essential

whatever slope he wishes. This can be done by loosening the wingnuts underneath, depressing the lefthand side and then tightening up the nuts again.

The work, even to the handframe user, is well worth trying, and a little thought will show how frequently the idea can be used in everyday subjects in which wood up to about $\frac{1}{2}$ in. is required.

Let us therefore look at the principal suggestion in greater detail. At Fig. 1. you see the idea illustrated clearly. In the first instance (at A)

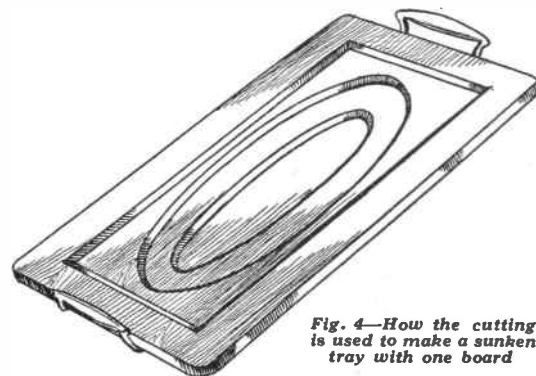
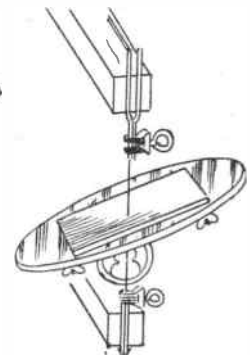


Fig. 4—How the cutting is used to make a sunken tray with one board



An exaggeration of a machine table tilted

it is to keep the saw at the same angle. If on some of the journey round you alter it slightly, the piece cut out will not fill the hole so well when it is pressed up, because one part will stick before the other,

A Tilted Table

The machine worker, however, has not this trouble if he has tilted his table and then maintains an upright sawblade.

So far we have mentioned the part which is pressed upwards. There is also the possibility of having the pieces pressed downwards to make a sunken framework as shown by the small tray effect in Fig. 3.

This sunken work is produced by reversing the angle of the sawcut. If the slope one way allows the part to be pressed upwards, then the slope the other way would allow it to be pressed downwards. The same thing can be brought about by changing the direction of the cut.

If the handframe cutting the circle in Fig. 1. proceeds from left to right, the part will be pressed up, if it cuts from left to right, the angle will be reversed and the part will be pressed downwards. It will probably take a little experiment and a few trials to get the exact depth required.

Thickness of Wood

Obviously, too, the thicker the wood the greater distance will be obtained. In $\frac{3}{8}$ in. wood for instance, the part

can be pressed up or down as much as $\frac{1}{2}$ in. In $\frac{3}{16}$ in. material it will only go down one or up $\frac{1}{8}$ in. Roughly you see, it should be $\frac{2}{3}$ rds. of the thickness.

A fine fretsaw blade should be used, and then this will make a difference to the amount of wood pressed up. For obviously a coarse sawblade is taking out a wider line and so allowing a bigger difference between the two parts.

Fixing the Parts

If a good piece of work has been undertaken, the piece cut will stick quite firmly on its own. It is advisable, however, when finally putting the pieces together, to apply glue very thinly to the edge of the piece to be pushed through. A thin ribbon of glue can also be added to the underside in the corner of the angle where it will not be seen.

Further than that, if there is room, some small headless tacks or panel pins for preference — can be driven and left projecting enough to form a shelf for support for the raised piece as illustrated in Fig. 4. which is an under-view.

One other little point is worth remembering. When an interior circle or square or other shape is first cut out it will, of course, have to be taken away to have a light rubbing with glasspaper if any saw burr has occurred on the edge. In putting it back into

place it must return in the same position exactly.

Marking the Position

This is not always simple, particularly in the case of a circle, and the part cut will be awkward to refit unless it is put in exactly the same position. To make this quite straightforward, however, it is a simple matter to run a pencil line across the actual cutting line before you start.

Then when the parts are cut out, they can be easily replaced together by seeing the pencil mark forms its proper continuous line. It does not want to be more than $\frac{1}{8}$ in. long and can occur anywhere; providing it appears on both the parts which will be separated.

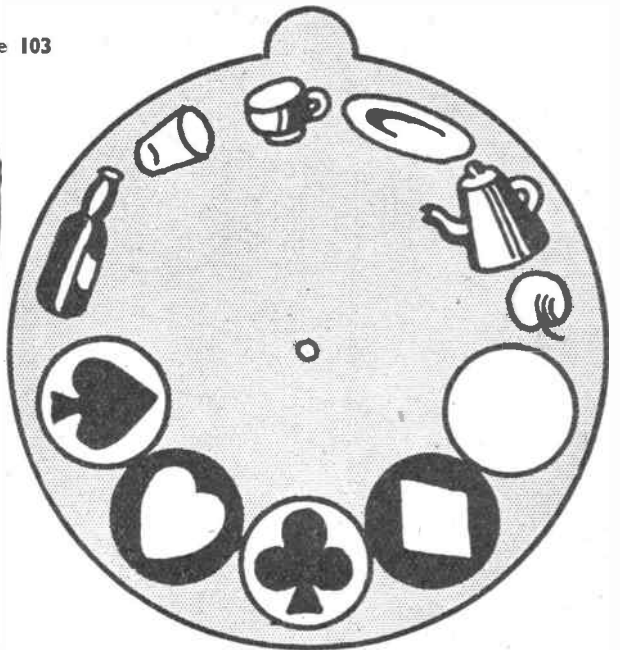
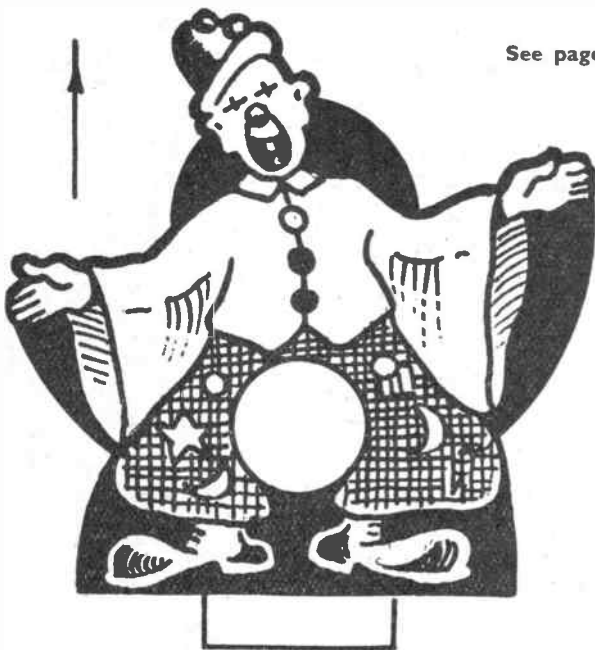
Some of its Uses

The possibility of this simple form of work should now be apparent to anyone. By careful cutting you can arrange, say, a base for a model to have three apparent layers of wood, but actually to be cut only from one board. Actually, as you can see, it is merely two centre pieces cut and pressed upwards in the method indicated.

Or you can make small wooden trays of which the outer rims can be square and the inner dropped pieces elliptical. One advantage, however, is that as there are no interior frets the whole work can be stained and polished quite easily.

“JUGGLER” TRUMP INDICATOR PATTERNS

See page 103



Look out for details of a Model Working Loom

When you get together remember to try these XMAS PARTY GAMES

NO Christmas party would be complete without a few amusing games, so the following should raise smiles and keep the party in a jolly mood. Children as well as grown-ups can join in.

Do As You Are Told

This is a game that will start things going with a big bang. You need a "Tell your fate" wheel. This is made from a piece of white cardboard about 2½ ins. square. Cut away the corners so you have a disc with eight even edges.

Rule pencil (or ink) lines from the corners of each edge to the centre of the disc, this giving eight triangular sections. In these spaces write the following:—

(1)—Sing a song. (2)—Make a face. (3)—Kick yourself. (4)—Stand on one leg. (5)—Do nothing. (6)—Tell a story. (7)—Talk like Hitler. (8)—Act the clown.

Now sharpen the end of a match-stick and push it into the centre of the disc so the point projects about ¼ in. at the underside. The disc is spun by each member of the party.

All must do what they are told to do by the edge that comes to rest on the table. Heaps of laughs in store, for most of the "actions" are impromptu and can scarcely be carried out owing to the hilarity of the other members.

Rations!

Sweets are rationed and not easily obtained without points. So, if the host of the Xmas party feels that members should "earn their ration" in some way, here is an ideal suggestion that will provide lots of fun.

Obtain or make a few paper bags.

Fill these with a few sweets or pieces of chocolate and tie a long piece of cotton (or very thin cord) to each bag; the bags must be attached to the centre of the cotton, by the way.

When the time comes to serve out the sweets, a bag is given to two members of the party, the ends of the cotton being held in their mouths by the teeth.

Arms are then folded or placed behind the back and at the word "Go!" the members must nibble at the cotton, the object being to see who can reach the bag of sweets first.

Whoever does so is entitled to the prize. In order that all members will receive a share, the person winning the prize should share some of it with the loser. In the event of one member allowing the cotton to slip out of the mouth, the other wins the prize.

Telegrams, Please!

Pencil and paper is required for this rather amusing game. Members, even in number, are given pieces of paper on which they write a fictitious name containing eight or nine letters, such as Bill Black.

There is an exchange of papers between members who, at this juncture, have to write a "telegram" on the paper received, using words that begin with the letters in the name in the order as they occur.

As an illustration, one member might receive a paper headed "Bill Black." The finished telegram might read: "Been Ill. Like Liver, But Liver Aggravates. Cat Kicked!" The person in charge of the telegram-writers allows them five minutes to compile a telegram and then says "Telegrams, please!"

The telegrams are then read out, forfeits being paid for incomplete or

incorrect messages. One amusing forfeit is to make the person concerned chew his paper into a small ball—and look happy while doing it!

The Drill Sergeant

Seeing there is a "whar-r-r" on, this game should be popular. A sergeant is selected (anyone who knows a few simple words of command) to drill a new bunch of raw recruits (members of the party).

The sergeant forms the recruits in a line and then announces in a bullying tone that he is going to issue a series of quick-fire orders, such as "Attention," "At ease," "Left turn," "Right turn," and so forth. The squad, however, must ignore all commands that are not preceded by the words "McGinty says."

The game commences. In a few minutes the room will be in an uproar, for most of the recruits find it hard to remember the rules, more so if the orders are given sharply.

Those who move when they should not move must fall out of the game. The player who is left in the line wins the game and can be the drill sergeant in the next game.

The Pipe of Peace

For this novel game a pipe is borrowed. Players must seat themselves in a circle, then the leader of the game, Standing Cow, by name, offers the pipe to the "brave" at his left side, saying: "The pipe passes."

This brave says: "Let it pass," and taking the pipe in his right hand, transfers it to his left hand, then offers it to his neighbour on his left with the same solemn rite. The passing has to be done very quickly, in exactly the same way as it started.

The trick in this game is in the transferring of the pipe from the right hand into the left hand prior to offering it to one's neighbour. Those who know what to do are often "caught napping" themselves, apart from those who are being initiated into the game.

—And the Forfeit

They usually pass the pipe on without first transferring it into the left hand. Wrong-doers have to crawl away on their knees until only one brave is left and announced "Heap big winner" by Standing Cow.

There is a laugh every minute with these games. Time seems to fly. If you want to make your Xmas party a big success, try them; they are guaranteed to liven up even the dullest member or the inordinate shy

Greetings from the M.E.F.

What a cheery note to receive for Christmas! Just shows you how keen and kind our readers are. The Airgraph shown came from Pte. K. Hawkins who is serving with the S.R.T.C. in the Mediterranean Force. He is an artist also as you can see. All readers at home will be interested in this gem from the Middle East and return the good wishes to a good fellow.



SOME NOTES OF INTEREST—

SCOUTS and anyone interested in the Movement—or anyone else for that matter—who get a chance, should certainly visit National Air Scout Exhibition being held in London next week.

There will be demonstrations by Air Scouts, working models, cinema films and special displays of interest to all air-minded boys. A Link trainer and a power-operated gun turret will prove a centre of special attraction.

A big feature among the competitions which will be held daily is the Model Plane Competition open to all boys whether Scouts or not. The competition has been divided into classes and age groups and no doubt many readers will use our models to compete.

Competitors will have to bring their models to the exhibition. There

will be prizes each day for the best models and the successful models in each daily competition will be held to compete for the finals in each class.

There will be daily spotting and Morse signalling competitions and many surprise items. A Fun Fair with a special air flavour will be another attraction.

The Exhibition, which is under the auspices of the Boy Scouts Association is being held at the Dorland Hall in Lower Regent St., from Dec. 28th until January 3rd, and we strongly advise all who can to pay a visit.

A **SMALL Hobbies Club** for Hobbies readers between 10 and 14 has been formed in the Aberdeen district of Scotland by some youthful enthusiasts there. It is called the Bon Accord Club and

the secretary is R. Leys at 25 Glenbervie Rd., Torry, Aberdeen. Any reader interested should write to that address for particulars.

CAN you imagine what a welcome a Hobbies Handbook is accorded by a prisoner of war? It provides him with something to do in his dreary monotony and helps to keep hands and brain steady and active. A recent letter on this matter came from the father of Harry Ruston of Nether-ton Dudley, Worcs.

His son, he said, asked him to write immediately for a 1943 Handbook to be sent to him in Italy if possible. He says how much he misses his Hobbies, but instead of making things in wood is now making them with the silver paper from the Red Cross chocolate parcels! Necessity is certainly the mother of invention.

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