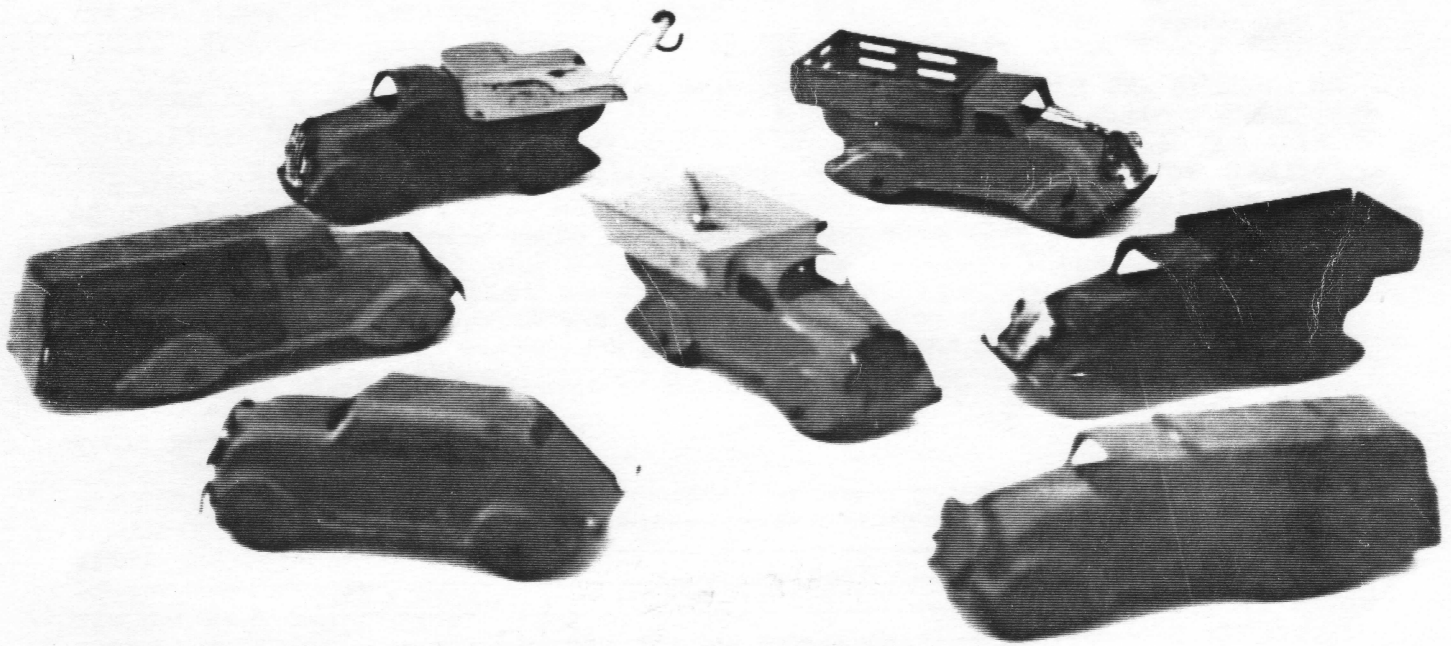


# COLLECTING WITH MARX

Issue 10

APRIL 1996



**.....ON THE COVER**

Examples of the much sought after vehicles that came both on train flat cars as well as in 1930's "playsets".

Let us know what you're finding. I think everyone likes to read about what others are finding. I would like to get many more letters concerning what you are finding and how you found it.

You should receive your issue of "Collecting With MARX" no later than the 12th of every other month. If you don't call or write to receive a replacement issue.

**COLLECTING WITH MARX**

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES: \$18.00 per year**

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**WITH EVERY SUBSCRIPTION comes a free ad of no more than 35 words with each additional word costing 10 cents.**

**CLASSIFIED ADS are 10 cents per word with a \$3.00 minimum and no maximum. Columns available are: Buy, Sell and Trade.**

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| <b>DISPLAY ADS: Quarter page</b>      | ----- | <b>\$10.00</b> |
| Half page                             | ----- | <b>\$18.00</b> |
| Full page                             | ----- | <b>\$30.00</b> |
| (Slightly higher if not camera ready) |       |                |

**PAY-AS-YOU-PLAY: If you want your ad in the next issue-send the money for it.**

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**INCLUDE YOUR NAME, address and phone number with every ad or article. Nothing will be printed about you that you do not designate. If you do or don't want your name on an article or other submission just designate so.**

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**AD DEADLINES:**

**FOR ISSUE**

|                    |       |                 |
|--------------------|-------|-----------------|
| <b>NOVEMBER 5</b>  | ----- | <b>DECEMBER</b> |
| <b>JANUARY 5</b>   | ----- | <b>FEBRUARY</b> |
| <b>MARCH 5</b>     | ----- | <b>APRIL</b>    |
| <b>MAY 5</b>       | ----- | <b>JUNE</b>     |
| <b>JULY 5</b>      | ----- | <b>AUGUST</b>   |
| <b>SEPTEMBER 5</b> | ----- | <b>OCTOBER</b>  |

**COLLECTING WITH MARX**  
P.O. BOX 614  
SPRINGFIELD, MO. 65801-0614  
417 833-3840  
6-10 P.M. CST or leave message  
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It's my pleasure to bring to your doorstep a bit of MARX past and present. Since the February issue I have been to a toy show and a train show and many antique shops and flea markets. I can't say that I have been able to add much to my collection. I picked up a Nelly-bell jeep to complete my Roy Rogers Rodeo Ranch playset. I found a Colorado and Southern Reefer with a dark blue solid colored door and two with light blue door guides. I added a friction tin floor toy, the silver and red Super Chief which I found at an antique mall. I also purchased a 4½" van from the sixties with a rear door which opens. This one is the square cab sixties series version like all the trucks (garbage, wrecker, dump, pickup, fire, etc) only this one is a one piece van.

We have had very good response to the survey in last issue and want to give everybody a chance to respond so it will be in the next issue along with another one from your suggestions. This month however we have the results of our "load vehicles" survey. One man had a list that just would not quit. He covered almost every variation submitted with the exception of a very few that I have and some submitted by a couple others. The list is comprehensive and includes all variations known to date.

Many of you specifically have liked the last few issues and we want you to rest assured that without your contributions we would have nothing. Please continue to contribute and do it as early as possible. Time has become a problem for all of us.

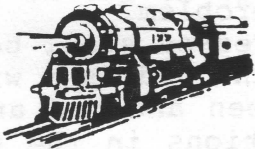
Jerry Cirinelli was kind enough to send along a copy of some ads from various sources that show the origin of most of the "load vehicles" that really don't belong on trains. If anybody would like a copy of it just send a SASE and I will see that you receive a copy. It's one page showing the various toys which at one time were the origins to most of these vehicles we love.

New collectors please write to tell us what you are finding. Old collectors write to tell us what you know or are finding or used to find.

Remember classified "FOR SALE" ads are free. Take advantage of it! Also you have a free ad of your choice with each subscription. Don't forget to use them.

Recently, I received in the mail a video produced by Larry and Jennifer Chernow. It is entitled "My MARX Collection" and it is a great place to become familiar with many of the MARX trains that maybe you haven't even seen before. Rather than narrating the video, Larry chose to use vintage Big Band music to enjoy as you view the 2 hours of MARX trains and more. I highly recommend that you get with Larry and Jennifer about obtaining your very own copy of this video. See the Chernow's ad in this issue. You'll be glad you did!

For now that's where we stand! Keep in touch and remember to beat those bushes. You never know what may fall out. Happy Collecting!



MY MARX COLLECTION: A TRAIN AND  
TOY VIDEO



116 minutes!

TAKE A STEP BACK IN TIME WITH A MUSICAL JOURNEY THRU MY MARX TRAIN AND TOY COLLECTION. SET TO VINTAGE 1940's BIG BAND MUSIC, THIS VIDEO SHOWS MANY EXAMPLES OF BOTH MARX TRAINS AND TOYS INCLUDING THE JOY LINE, 6" TIN, 7" TIN, STREAMLINERS, SCALE, SOME PLASTIC, AND BRITISH MARX. ALSO FEATURED IS AN OPERATING LAYOUT, HAFNER COLLECTION, AND A MOSTLY MARX TOY COLLECTION.

Very Colorful!

Digital CD  
Sound!

\$18.95 INCLUDES SHIPPING TO THE CONTINENTAL US. SEND A CHECK OR MONEY ORDER TO: LARRY CHERNOW, 12 NEWMARKET RD., SYOSSET, NY 11791

So much to see!



variety of colors just like any of the others.

Last but not least you may find at your local meet a truck with a stake bed. No it's a different stake bed than we mentioned before. This stake bed is the same truck cab as mentioned before but the bed is tin. I have this one in olive drab, red, and blue and may also be found in different colors. This one came with a hitch to pull two matching trailers. Oh yea! I almost forgot! Probably one of the most sought after MARX train toys ever made. The Deluxe Delivery truck and trailers. The truck is red and the bed and trailers are multicolor tin with the words "Deluxe Delivery" on the side. The truck that pulls these trailers is also reported to say "Made in Cuba" on the door. I own one and have seen one other. Mine is all red and if I'm not mistaken so is the other one.

One other thing I should mention about these vehicles is that they may come in windup as well as free wheeled. Some have a key which stays on the shaft to wind or you may have one that has a longer shaft and winds with a key that is removable.

These vehicles may have been sold originally by themselves on the dime store counter, in a train set box or included as part of another toy. There are toys such as the rare "Used car lot" which no doubt included several of these vehicles. There are service stations, firestations, bus stations and I also have a mint boxed single stall garage that includes a beautiful mint silver sedan.

While not as available as they once were these vehicles are still out there. I still today find these vehicles as cheaply as \$20.00 each and have paid as much as \$400.00 for them as well.

In the same series but a complete different stamping is a line of what I call metro vans. These are a one piece van type truck. The most common of all would be the Milk truck, which came in white. Next you'll find one that says "Delivery" on the side and you'll find it in red, green, and blue. This same van says "Gas" on the side and mine is green. Probably the least common of this group is another type of bus. It's the same stamping only with cut out windows. I have this one in red and a very uncommon silver. This series used the same grill and wheels as all of the other trucks and cars in this approximately 3" to 4" series of MARX pressed steel vehicles.

Thanks to the many people who responded to the "load vehicles survey. Here are the results to date. We added very few to Bob Rosenberg's very comprehensive list. Here it is and if you have any or find any different ones please let us know. Here it is.

#### Covered Tank Truck

| 3 bays on top of covering                | Cab   | Cover     | Regular | Windup |
|--|-------|-----------|---------|--------|
| 1  | red   | blue      | X       |        |
| 2  | red   | blue      |         | X      |
| 3  | red   | lt. green |         | X      |
| 4  | green | green     | X       |        |
| 5  | red   | red       | X       |        |
| 6 smooth-no bays-flip<br>down back piece | blue  | green     |         |        |
| 7  | green | green     |         |        |
| 8  | red   | green     |         |        |
| 9  | blue  | blue      |         |        |

#### Bus Type

Windows in side - 3 bays on top of covering

|   |       |       |
|---|-------|-------|
| 1 | green | green |
| 2 | red   | red   |
| 3 | blue  | blue  |

3 inch trucks  
 Army khaki  
 Army Dark green

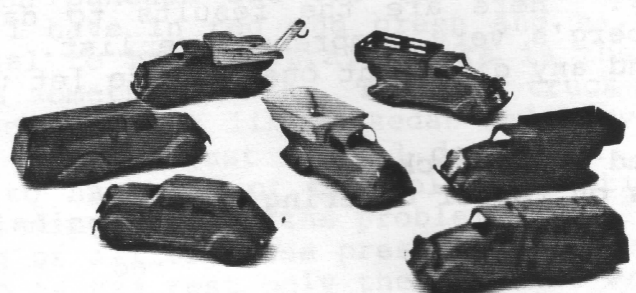
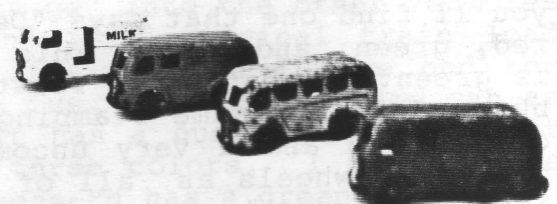
square windshield  
 X  
 X

| Stake Bed | Cab Body     | square windshield | 1/2 oval windshield | windup | USA stamped on door |
|-----------|--------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------|---------------------|
| 1         | green red    | X                 |                     |        |                     |
| 2         | green red    | X                 |                     | X      |                     |
| 3         | red lt grn   | X                 |                     | X      |                     |
| 4         | red grn      | X                 |                     |        |                     |
| 5         | blue blue    | X                 |                     |        |                     |
| 6         | red red      | X                 |                     |        |                     |
| 7         | red red      |                   |                     |        |                     |
| 8         | red red      | X                 |                     |        |                     |
| 9         | red red      | X                 |                     |        |                     |
| 10        | red red      |                   |                     |        |                     |
| 11        | grn grn      |                   |                     |        |                     |
| 12        | red slv      | X                 |                     |        |                     |
| 13        | red red      | X                 |                     |        |                     |
| 14        | blue red     | X                 |                     |        |                     |
| 15        | slv blue     | X                 |                     |        |                     |
| 16        | red blue     | X                 |                     |        |                     |
| 17        | red blue     | X                 |                     |        |                     |
| 18        | red blue     | X                 |                     |        |                     |
| 19        | pink lt blue |                   |                     |        |                     |

metal piece attached to grill over hood  
 X copper grill  
 tail gate bent down stamped PATROL  
 tail gate bent down

X solid square bed  
 with tailgate bent down

| Sedan             | regular | windup | Chief stamped | Marx logo on trunk | USA logo on trunk |
|-------------------|---------|--------|---------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Airflows          |         |        |               |                    |                   |
| red               |         |        |               |                    |                   |
| 1                 | X       |        |               | X                  |                   |
| 2                 | X       |        |               |                    |                   |
| 3                 |         | X      |               |                    |                   |
| 4                 |         |        | X             |                    |                   |
| blue-dark         |         |        |               |                    |                   |
| 1                 | X       |        |               |                    |                   |
| 2                 |         | X      |               |                    |                   |
| blue-light color  |         |        |               |                    |                   |
| 1                 |         | X      |               |                    |                   |
| green-dark        |         |        |               |                    |                   |
| 1                 | X       |        |               |                    |                   |
| 2                 |         | X      |               |                    |                   |
| green-light color |         |        |               |                    |                   |
| 1                 |         | X      |               |                    |                   |
| gray              |         |        |               |                    |                   |
| 1                 |         | X      |               |                    |                   |
| yellowish beige   |         |        |               |                    |                   |
| 1                 | X       |        |               |                    |                   |
| yellow            |         |        |               |                    |                   |
| 1                 |         |        |               |                    |                   |
| silver            |         |        |               |                    |                   |
| 1                 |         | X      |               |                    |                   |
| 2                 | X       |        |               |                    |                   |
| 3                 | X       |        |               |                    |                   |



white-have never seen-understand that it does exist.

**Special Delivery**

- 1 Red, white & yellow with 2 matching carts
- 2 Red with 2 matching carts
- 3 Blue with 2 matching carts
- 4 Khaki with 2 matching carts
- 5 White with 2 matching carts -- have never seen understand that it does exist

**Vans Delivery**

- 1 blue
- 2 red
- 3 green

**Gas**

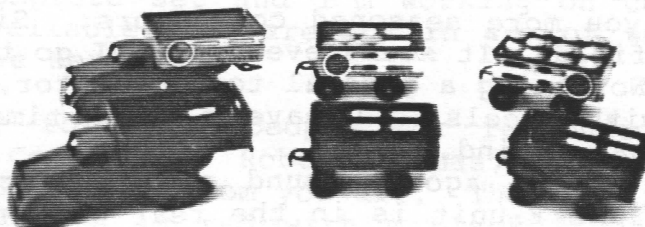
- 1 green

**Milk**

- 1 white

**Bus**

- 1 red
- 2 blue
- 3 cream
- 4 silver



| Stake Bed | Cab Body     | square windshield                      | 1/2 oval windshield | windup | USA stamped on door |
|-----------|--------------|--|---------------------|--------|---------------------|
| 20        | blu grn      | X                                      |                     |        |                     |
| 21        | blu grn      | X                                      |                     | X      |                     |
| 22        | slv red      | X                                      |                     |        |                     |
| 23        | grn lavender | Greenberg book and have seen one other |                     |        |                     |

| Dump Bed | Cab Body    | square windshield | 1/2 oval windshield | windup | USA stamped on door |
|----------|-------------|-------------------|---------------------|--------|---------------------|
| 1        | lt grn red  | X                 |                     | X      |                     |
| 2        | dk grn red  | X                 |                     |        |                     |
| 3        | red grn     | X                 |                     |        |                     |
| 4        | red grn     |                   | X                   |        | X                   |
| 5        | grn grn     | X                 |                     |        |                     |
| 6        | red red     | X                 |                     |        |                     |
| 7        | red red     |                   | X                   |        | X                   |
| 8        | grn blue    | X                 |                     |        |                     |
| 9        | blu red     | X                 |                     |        |                     |
| 10       | red blue    | X                 |                     |        | X                   |
| 11       | red blue    |                   | X                   |        | X                   |
| 12       | yel blue    |                   | X                   |        | X                   |
| 13       | yel red     |                   | X                   |        | X                   |
| 14       | red slv     |                   | X                   |        | X                   |
| 15       | red dk gray |                   | X                   |        | X                   |
| 16       | red white   |                   | X                   |        | X                   |
| 17       | orange slv  |                   | X                   |        | X                   |
| 18       | slv red     | X                 |                     |        |                     |
| 19       | blu yel     |                   | X                   |        | X                   |
| 20       | red yel     |                   | X                   |        | X                   |
| 21       | blu slv     |                   |                     |        |                     |
| 22       | blu grn     |                   |                     |        |                     |

| Tow Trucks | Body   | Tow Bed | Crank | Regular | Windup | Wind Shield |
|------------|--------|---------|-------|---------|--------|-------------|
| 1          | green  | red     | X     |         | X      | square      |
| 2          | red    | green   | X     | X       |        | square      |
| 3          | blue   | red     | X     |         | X      | square      |
| 4          | red    | blue    | X     |         | X      | square      |
| 5          | silver | red     | X     | X       |        | square      |
| 6          | red    | red     | X     | X       |        | square      |
| 7          | blue   | blue    | X     | X       |        | square      |
| 8          | blue   | yellow  |       | X       |        | 1/2 oval    |
| 9          | red    | yellow  |       | X       |        | 1/2 oval    |
| 10         | blue   | red     |       | X       |        | 1/2 oval    |
| 11         | red    | blue    |       | X       |        | 1/2 oval    |
| 12         | red    | silver  |       |         |        |             |
| 13         | OD     | OD      |       |         |        |             |

## READERS WRITE.....

Since I am a new Marx collector I feel I am having more fun than most of you more seasoned collectors. Since everything is new to me in this field. It seems everywhere I go there is something Marx to be found. Not being a general toy collector, but move towards trains and things with wheels. I have a hard time turning down some of the things that I find.

Two weeks ago I found a gray Mercury with double reduction gearing, the E-unit is in the rear and in the front is a large spur gear that drives a sparker wheel. I wonder what year this was made and how many.

Then last week at a local train meet I picked up an excellent 999 with the open type cowcatcher and a red Mercury set with streamlined tender, Cleveland and Detroit cars.

In the last issue there was a 3000 CP engine with double reduction gearing. The one in my collection has 1-piece pickup, chrome cars, domes, boiler front and cowcatcher, Baldwin disc wheels. It didn't come with a set. --John Hedeem.

John -- Maybe you're right! I know I still have a lot of fun but it may be less often. Your Mercury engine was between 1938 and 1941 but how many nobody knows. Your CP engine was made later than the engine in the last issue. My guess is 1946 to 1951.

Enclosed is a check to renew my subscription for another year. I like reading about what others find at shows and flea markets. Apparently, I'm looking in the wrong places because I don't find much to get excited about. Except about two years ago, I looked at a set with an 897 engine and six freight cars with 1-way couplers (the old version). I passed on it and kicked myself for days for doing so. The next week I was able to get the dealer's name and phone number. Surprisingly, she still had the set, but would be out of town for a month. Just before she returned, I found another set with a swing - peg CV and five freight cars on the black and silver frames with joy line couplers. I didn't pass on this one! Both sets run and are in very good condition. --Dan Schmatz.

Dan -- Keep looking! When I am persistent I eventually find something I need or want.

Now for the important part of this letter. Although the "Collecting With MARX" is a little rough for a magazine I would like to sign up for another year. I find the information is interesting and I am enjoying the education I am getting from it. I recommended it to another of my acquaintances and after reading my back issues he has now mailed in his application for a year of great information. I realize it is \$18.00 this year and am including a check for that amount. I missed the December issue, if you have any left could you start my subscription with the December issue. Thank you.

I inquired in a prior issue as to what type of tunnels were included in the double set #2065, and the answer I got was wrong. Maybe I typed the wrong set number, anyway do you or can anyone tell me what they look like, they were missing in my boxed set, although I had an extra 376 loco and tender in my set and some of my plastic cars were different colors than the set referenced in the sets book. Looking forward for an answer. Happy hunting and good luck on those 7" KCS cabooses, I am still looking for just one. Funny I have found (3) 53941 PRR stock cars in one year, where are those KCS cabooses? - Glenn Phillips.

Glenn -- The number we received was different than the #2065. Maybe someone knows what tunnel this set contains. The KCS cabooses are

very hard to find. Maybe the toughest of all the numbers series to complete. I know of one complete set and I'm working on completing mine. There are numbers available that are not in any of the books, and do complete a consecutive series.

I'd like to thank the following people for responding to my article about the whistling Commodores: Robert Thomas, Duane Ford, Jim Flynn and Al Woodward. Good to hear from you all. They confirmed the existence of whistling CV's both in red with a black front and all red.

I noticed that the pressed steel vehicles with the square roofs have nothing printed on the side. While the round roofs have "Made in USA" printed on the side. --Larry Chernow.

A question to the readers in HO, I've picked up two sets, one marked "Made in the UK", one set is a 040, 999 battery type, #8228 with Marlines logo on tender, 3 freight cars, blue box, XP-WB100 gray gondola, fast freight XP-WB100 and red, black caboose #1523 set #HK6875, and it says "OO" gage. Second set a 060 British switch engine tender, gray gondola and red and black caboose. No markings set box says it was made in the British Crown Colony of Hong Kong. Readers comments welcome, does any other British set exist? If so set numbers and whats in them. --Stan Troski.

Stan -- Good question! It will be interesting to hear from readers on this subject! I have one set which has the same thing on the box. It is the Green Giant foods promotional set made for the food company. It's engine, tender, gondola, flat and caboose with battery transformer.

Concerning the 556 caboose with no lower coupler support controversy - Vines original request for info did not mention if the caboose had a railing/ladder and I do have a 556 that never had a railing ladder or holes for it. I looked at my observations and out of 8 post war, 4 had the 2 holes for the railing ladder. Silver 2072 with PKC; blue with punch mark sliding coupler - red with lighted drum head and PKC; and red nonlighted with PKC.

Larry Chernow wrote about the whistling CV and that the blue and black Mercurys also had whistles. One other engine with the whistle is the 994. Mine came in the flimsy yellow set box and has blacken wheels - similar to the black Mercury. My blue Mercury whistles and has the die cast wheels.

Enjoyed the first nine issues and wish you continued success. - Gary Anderson.

IN response to Duane Ford's inquiries into those little Marx tractors, I can't say much as I have so few. My set no. 52455 is identical to the set on page 100 of Greenberg's Marx Trains, Volume III, sets. The two tractors are red with black wheels. I have one other tractor that I found in a garage sale, yellow with red wheels.

My wife and I just returned yesterday from two weeks in (very cold) Minnesota. The only interesting Marx piece we found was a clean 5½" midget tank, the kind used as a military train load. The sides are the common red, yellow, and black, but the middle panel is all black. The turret is silver and the twin guns are olive. We also found a 1947 Wards Christmas catalog. Keep up the good work. - Donald McLeod.

I loved this issue! I have a black nose whistling Vandy similar to Larry Chernow's, and the letter from Marx opposite the cattle car story seems to verify that Marx produced toys thru at least part of



1942 (the last sentence indicates this). Keep up the good work! -  
-Allan Miller.

The pictures are of my Marx layout. Three of the cars in the consist of no. 43 are from my original Marx electric train, which I received Christmas 1942 (mail car, Montclair, and the observation car). The Commodore and the other cars were later additions, purchased at swap meet and train shows here in St. Louis in recent years. I also have a small collection of other Marx steam locos, including a smoker 666, and later 3/16 scale and 0-27 scale passenger and freight cars.

The name "Toledo, Port Clinton, & Lakeside" comes from the original name of the interurban line that served my birthplace and place where I got my first Marx train, Port Clinton, Ohio. The theme of the TPC&L in Northern Ohio in the years immediately after WWII (no diesels, no Niagaras yet). --Ted Cover.

I really enjoyed meeting and visiting with you at the Mid America Train show in Kansas City last Feb 11th. I've already got the Mercury engine I bought from you re-painted. I've enclosed a check for \$21.00 for the first seven issues of Collecting With MARX I spoke to you about at the show.

Some finds I've had lately I got a Monon 81F A-B units with the 8 wheel B unit for \$40.00 at an antique mall and I was at a car swap meet and I found a 6" windup set with and 898 sparking loce, NYC wedge type tender 4 wheel, 738701 PRR brown gondola, 90171 BL&E brown plug door boxcar, 553 SF tank and 556 NYC caboose also with 8 curved track, 4 straight and a 90 degree crossover. I paid \$60.00 for this set and it is in VG+ condition.

I don't know how unusual this is but I also have set #25335 3/16 scale work train. All the others I have seen had plastic fork couplers but mine has metal fork couplers and NYC bridge.

Last year for our wedding anniversary my wife found a 6" passenger set with a red windup CV loco red tender with black stripe NYC and a red Bogota, Montclair and observation car in VG condition. I was delighted to get this as this was my first Red Vandy loco. Then she got me a 7" Southern Pacific AA diesel set for my birthday so I'm lucky to have an understanding wife who enjoys and supports my hobby. Hope to send along some photos next time. Thanks and I look forward to reading the back issues and up coming issues of Collecting With MARX. --Duane Ogan.

Concerning finds, in the past few months I have found a ramp car (no load) and an Erie green 4 wheel plastic knuckle coupler with 2 autos. The best find was the 12 piece army train. All 12 pieces are VG+-E. The man that sold them to me had them from when he was a kid. I didn't argue the price he wanted, it was more than fair.

Really enjoy Collecting With MARX, wish it was every month. I found the article from Larry Chernow on the red Commodore Vanderbilt with the black nose to be of interest. I have one which has the motor on the right of the pictures shown, It works. --Jim and Mary Jane McGinnis.

Jim -- You found a set that most MARX collectors would give their eye teeth for. Does the truck have the original cardboard canopy and is the airplane the civilian or military version? My guess is probably the civilian one but it's always interesting to know exactly what an untampered with original set has in it! This sounds like a fantastic set!

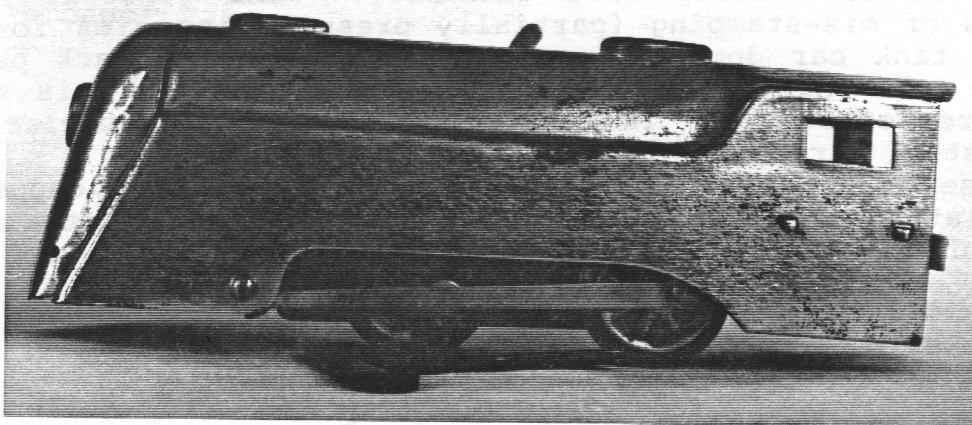
TELL YOUR FRIENDS ABOUT "COLLECTING WITH MARX".

My question for the readers this time has to do with the Commodore Vanderbilt. All of us who have collected Marx trains for awhile have had opportunity to own or at least handle these good running loco in several colors and color combinations.

But has anyone had or does anyone own an all chrome CV? I know of 2 others besides the one in my collection. One being chromed by the owner after leaving the factory. Could this be a variation of the CV seldom seen or an imitation done by a previous owner? I'd sure like to hear from anyone else who has one or even has an opinion.

The one I own came when I bought a friends collection. He bought it for \$10.00 at a flea market in Northern Minnesota, so it obviously wasn't done to try and make a profit.

Thanks for any help and happy hunting. -- John Torgerson, 2712 Del Ray Ave., LaCrosse, WI 54603. 608-783-3785.



#### MARLINES 198 SET

By: Norm Brickl

I am a subscriber to "Collecting With MARX" and enjoy the magazine so much. I have learned very much from your magazine and it has helped my collecting very much. I always wanted to write but never thought I had anything to share until now.

I began collecting Marx about 3 years ago, very much by accident and have been at it ever since even though I never owned a train when I was young. My wife and I love rummage sales and collecting. Three years ago we were at a rummage sale, I saw an interesting box, I opened it and it was full of Marx 6" trains. I asked the cost and was told \$6.00. I took it and it contained 2-6" sets one headed by a black CV and the other was an 8 wheel set with one way automatic couplers. About one year later I found 5 CP 8 wheel passenger cars for \$35.00 from a fine gentleman in Madison. Later I found the 400 engine with the baking soda ball (ball deteriorated) rest excellent for \$1.00 at a flea market.

Just this morning I had another experience that continues to keep me looking in all kinds of places for Marx trains. I found the Marlines 198 red engine, blue tender and yellow coaches in a boxed set #2850 with all contents in mint condition except the battery container which has some rust. Even the controller is mint with the original wires and the box in good shape and entirely legible. The cost was \$30.00. I must admit, I didn't know its value or uniqueness when I bought it, I just knew it was different and I had not seen it before. If you would like a picture for the magazine or more information just call me.

I guess I've answered your survey I enjoy all my pieces and also run a layout but much joy comes from the search. Thank you so much for your magazine.

--Norman Brickl -608-356-8028.

I purchased a very clean prewar 898 electric locomotive recently at a train meet. Not too exciting, right?

Examining it closer, I noticed it had steel pickup shoes, blue spring steel pickup spring and a steel coupler rivit. I've seen this on several other prewar engines but never gave it much thought.

Since the engine ran well but wouldn't reverse, I disassembled it for cleaning, lubrication and replacement of a cracked wheel. After disassembly I found it had steel axle bushings and the "E" unit lock switch blade was also steel.

Thinking back, I dug out a boxed set I had purchased a year ago that also had steel parts in place of the usual copper and brass.

The set is in a freight terminal box with no number. The "CP" style 494 engine has the same steel parts as the "898" mentioned above. All cars except the wedge tender have steel coupler rivits. Car frames are black on both sides and several appear to be black finish over lithographed metal on the bottom side (litho looks like channel track for windup race car set). The gondola frame show indications of mis-stamping (partially pressed ring area for wrecker car base), tank car dome and ends are finished in black paint over yellow and red. All car wheels are blackened steel as is the track and 90 degree crossover. The track lock-on also has steel rivits and blackened steel straps.

The use of steel and blackened steel in place of copper, brass and tin plating would indicate production just prior to or at the beginning of World War II when many metals and materials were in short supply.

Any comments or related information on this subject is welcome.  
---Steve Eckel.

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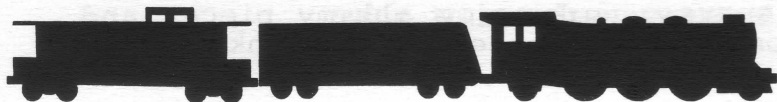
Tel: (708) 941-3843 Fax: (708) 941-3829

*Adult Collectibles not intended for children.*

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## BAD-MARX FOR CARMARX

By: Jim Norton

In the February 1996 issue of "Collecting With MARX", I stated that I was disappointed in the pulling power of my PRR engine and tender. Disappointed was a poor choice of word because it still performed well for the consist I had placed behind it. As I have tried to indicate several times - I am a firm believer in the New-Marx - operate the new Marx - and have a great many pieces of it. The PRR did not perform as well as the CP engine or the RI engine but still was completely acceptable. My experimentation with the engine and tender couplers was not scientific, but just a try at "what if".

Regardless -- it is 30 lashes for CARMARX if he has led you to believe that this was a negative comment about the new-Marx.

Second -- my comment in item No 1 -- "Read The Instructions" still applies. The design and production of new-Marx has been outstanding and I am sure the new-Marx staff has designed the best possible product.



### DR MARXSON & THE MERCURY MYSTERY CONTINUES--

With help from John Torgerson & Issue #5 of "Collecting With MARX"

One snowy blizzard weekend in the year of 96 - our hero - Dr. Marxson - locked himself into his train room - pipe in hand - casually going through back issues of "Collecting With MARX" - looking for a case - the phone rings - is the Pizza Hut and can you deliver?

Going back to searching through - "Collecting With MARX" - the Dr's mind still on Pizza - comes upon - Mr. Torgerson's article - interesting! Very interesting! He thinks - a case - maybe - he quotes - Mr. Torgerson - "Could marx have used the "dome" quantity to distinguish between - electric - clockwork - DC - will all the questions ever be answered?"

Marxson jumps at it - well lets see! Off to the shelves of trains!! A-ha - two black C/W whistling Mercurys - one die cast wheels - the other stamped steel wheels - each single dome!

Next - two gray electric Mercurys one freight - the other stream liner - each single dome! Again.

On to - copper & black electric Mercury stream liner - this one has three domes.

Finally red & chrome electric freight Mercury - one dome.

Dr. Marxson ponders will the question ever truly be answered??

By: Harry Coons With thanks to John Torgerson.

Please, if you haven't completed last issue's survey please take this one and it and send them in. We have had very good response but I want to get as many as possible. This information will not be shared with anyone except to tell the results of the composite survey. Here are suggestions that have been sent in.

1. 504 B&O caboose 4&8 wheel.
2. 2225 Allstate bay window tuscan.
3. 969 KCS tuscan 4 wheel.
4. 18326 orange NYC pacemaker w/stripes 8 wheel.
5. 18326 brown NYC only 8 wheel.
6. NYC maroon flat with stakes no clip.
7. NYC black flat with stakes no clip.
8. 559 NYC crane car with G trucks, plastic fork couplers.
9. 559 NYC crane car with G trucks fixed knuckle.
10. 5532 Blue Allstate gondola 4 wheel.
11. 467110 B&O white with red letters 4 wheel.
12. 5532 Allstate gondola 8 wheel green.
13. 9553 Allstate tank 8 wheel green single dome.
14. 5553 Allstate tank 8 wheel green 3 dome.
15. 21913 CV hopper 8 wheel green.
16. 51170 Erie gondola orange F trucks.
17. 5553 Exxon tank F trucks.
18. 4586 UP work caboose.
19. 198 steam engine green electric.
20. 4 wheel Canadian Pacific coaches.
21. #200 trolley.
22. M10000 green windup.
23. William Crooks windup.
24. 994 with whistle.
25. 201 observation with light.
26. Rail car flats with rails pair.
27. Joyline red top coaches.
28. Joyline engine black top/red frame windup.
29. Joyline dummy engine.
30. UP scale boxcar red ends.
31. B&O 6 inch gondola black interior.
32. Seaboard 6" light blue gondola.
33. 6 inch red base lumber or pole car.
34. Red 994 loco with 7 inch red NPR tender.
35. Copper Mercury windup engine.
36. Seaboard A unit large motor.
37. 999 Loco with Marx logo next to cab.
38. 6 inch KC Southern caboose.
39. CP engine windup with reverse.
40. 490 with baking powder ball.
41. 401 with baking powder ball.
42. Silver NYC coaches scale with solid windows.
43. Airplane flat black.
44. Scale flat car with real wood log.
45. Scale flat without stakes.

## **RESTORATION AND REPAIR PARTS**

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### MARX LOAD TRACTOR COLOR VARIATIONS

| OWNER    | BODY             | REAR WHEEL       | FRONT WHEEL    | PLASTIC TYPE |
|----------|------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------|
| MC JT DF | RED              | BLACK            | BLACK          | SOFT         |
| MC JT DF | GREY             | BLACK            | BLACK          | SOFT         |
| MC JT DF | GREEN            | BLACK            | BLACK          | SOFT         |
| MC JT DF | YELLOW           | BLACK            | BLACK          | HARD         |
| JT       | RED              | RED              | DARK YELLOW    | ?            |
| MC       | RED              | BROWN            | BROWN          | SOFT         |
| VB       | RED              | YELLOW           | ORANGE         | ?            |
| MC       | RED              | BLACK            | BLACK          | HARD         |
| JT MC    | DARK RED         | MUSTARD YELLOW   | MUSTARD YELLOW | HARD         |
| DF       | DARK RED         | GREY             | DARK RED       | HARD         |
| JT       | DARK RED         | RED/YELLOW SWIRL | DARK RED       | ?            |
| MC       | DARK RED         | SILVER           | SILVER         | HARD         |
| MC       | DARK RED         | MULTICOLOR GREY  | RED            | HARD         |
| JT       | DARK RED         | BLACK            | BLACK          | SOFT         |
| DF KN    | RED/ORANGE       | BLACK            | BLACK          | SOFT         |
| DF       | RED/ORANGE       | WHITE            | BLACK          | SOFT         |
| JT MC    | DARK YELLOW      | RED              | RED            | HARD         |
| JT       | PALE YELLOW      | MUSTARD YELLOW   | RED            | ?            |
| WD       | YELLOW           | BLACK            | YELLOW         | ?            |
| DF KN    | DEEP DARK BROWN  | BLACK            | BLACK          | SOFT         |
| KN       | BROWN            | BLACK            | BLACK          | SOFT         |
| JT MC DF | DARK BLUE        | DARK YELLOW      | DARK YELLOW    | HARD         |
| DF       | LIGHT BLUE       | LIGHT YELLOW     | TAN            | HARD         |
| DF       | PALE BLUE        | BLACK            | BLACK          | HARD         |
| MC       | PALE BLUE        | RED              | RED            | HARD         |
| MC DF    | MEDIUM BLUE      | BLACK            | BLACK          | HARD         |
| SE       | MEDIUM BLUE      | BLACK            | SILVER         | ?            |
| JT DF    | MEDIUM GREEN     | BLACK            | BLACK          | SOFT         |
| MC       | FOREST GREEN     | MUSTARD YELLOW   | MUSTARD YELLOW | HARD         |
| JT       | DARK GREEN       | YELLOW           | BLACK          | ?            |
| MC       | LIGHT GREEN      | BRIGHT YELLOW    | BRIGHT YELLOW  | HARD         |
| JT       | LIGHT GREEN      | BLACK            | BLACK          | SOFT         |
| VB       | GREEN            | YELLOW           | YELLOW         | ?            |
| DF       | LIME GREEN       | BLACK            | BLACK          | HARD         |
| JT       | APPLE GREEN      | MUSTARD YELLOW   | RED            | HARD         |
| JT DF KN | DARK OLIVE GREEN | BLACK            | BLACK          | SOFT         |
| DF       | DARK OLIVE GREEN | WHITE            | BLACK          | SOFT         |
| DF       | GREY             | WHITE            | BLACK          | SOFT         |
| KN DF    | CHARCOAL BLACK   | BLACK            | BLACK          | SOFT         |
| KN       | PURPLE           | YELLOW           | BLACK          | ?            |

40 DIFFERENT VARIATIONS  
REPORTED (2/10/96)

| KEY                |
|--------------------|
| MC-MARX CLAUSSEN   |
| JT-JOHN TORGERSON  |
| DF - DUANE FORD    |
| SE - STEVE ECKEL   |
| VB VINCE BANIEWICZ |
| WD - WILLIAM DUKES |
| KN - KENNY NESVICK |

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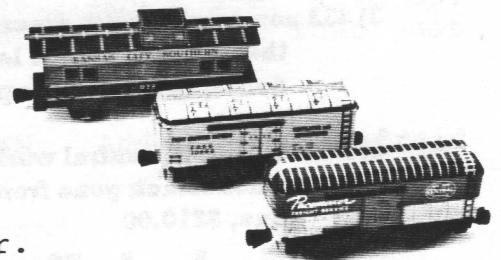
FOR SALE

1. 17899 T&P 3/16 gondola VG \$30.00.
2. 2130 Work caboos missing stack \$140.00.
3. Nativity Playset building only \$55.00.
4. Ordinance Boxcar #2858 EXC \$275.00.
5. Milk van good condition complete \$65.00.
6. Red truck with blue dump EXC condition \$145.00.
7. Red on red stake truck missing rear wheels VG \$125.00.
8. Red Airplanes (2) \$125.00 each call for details.
9. Canadian Pacific 8-wheel passenger set overall excellent condition. Engine, tender and 5 coaches \$1950.00.
10. 6" Military train; 500 engine, tender, gun car, searchlight and observation VG+ \$295.00.
11. Nickle nose red Mercury VG \$85.00.
12. Brown B&LE boxcar VG \$65.00 sliding doors.
13. Joyline Everful Tank car good \$40.00.
14. 201 observation shell VG to EXC \$40.00.
15. 245 Bogota good will clean some \$20.00.
16. Lighted red Montclair VG+ \$45.00.
17. Lighted red Bogota smooth has been brushed red top 1/3 of car clean \$15.00.
18. Red 4 wheel observation complete but well played with \$15.00.
19. Lithoed trunk for early Glendale Depot \$45.00.
20. Empty 4 wheel log car \$20.00.
21. 547 red w/yellow no doors or runners good \$15.00.
22. 1935 Green with yellow Joyline no doors \$20.00.
23. 2824 bare \$5.00.
24. Pair Burlington trailers on flat \$125.00.
25. Blue CWEX with pair gray cable reels \$140.00.
26. Pair of red tractors \$20.00.
27. General Alarm fire house VG \$45.00.

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WANTED

1. KC Southern cabooses tin.
  2. Need B&O cabooses #504, 506, 508, 517.
  3. Fruit Grower Express 6" reefers.
  4. Pacemaker Freight 6" Boxcars.
  5. State of Maine Boxcar #4493.
  6. 6" Chicago Northwestern boxcar brown.
  7. Empty set boxes.
  8. English Blue Cornation set.
  9. English Green link set.
  10. English Joyline cast iron engine any color.
  11. 6" flat for #5 army tank.
  12. All red 6" log car.
  13. Red 994 style engine & tender.
  14. Marx Playsets.
- Marx Claussen, P.O. Box 614, Springfield, MO., 65801-0614. Call 417-833-3840.



There is a chat group on the internet for MARX train collectors. People can write to Bill Maddy E-mail wcm2@cornell.edu.

Please send ideas for cartoons to Collecting With Marx so that we can pass them along to Fred Fillers.

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**FOR SALE**

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4000 seaboard "A", small motor, E+, w/956 cabooses, E-, \$125.00 for both. 81 Monon "AA electric, VG+, \$95.00. 99/99x Rock Island AB, VG, \$110. Sakai (Japanese Marx) steam Freight set, 6 pieces, E, \$150.00. Sakai Tank Car, VG, \$15.00. Sakai box car, VG, \$15.00. Set #52850, Big Rail, no box, loco, tender and cars only, 1666 gray w/smoke and gray sound-of-power tender, GN 34178 lime green box car, Erie log dump car, (works) w/repro logs, and SF cabooses all E/E-, \$115.00. Jack Reid, 13817 Beverly Park Rd., Lynwood, WA., 98037. 206-742-5615 anytime to 9:00 PM pacific time.

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Western Pacific, E-7, silver and yellow, power A and dummy A, VG. Rock Island "1998" power and dummy VG plus. MOPAC green stockcar, VG. B&O tin cabooses. SP #39520 (silver and black) good, minus, \$75.00. Several Bay window cabooses. Send Want List. Call Will Dukes, 301-845-8522.

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**WANTED**

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Marx Mickey Mouse train cars needed: boxcar #1476; gondola; and tender#941. Always looking for Marx train cars, so send me your "For Sale" lists. John Bisek, 425 W. 11th St., Albert Lea, MN, 56007. 507-373-4566.

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PFE 35461 w/red ends and the 3557 NYC vistadome. Al Woodward 6440 31st St NW, Washington DC, 20015-2342.

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Marx catalogs - 1953,1954,1958,1965. Yellow and Brown 10005 tail car. Harry Coons, 6319 Saybrook Ave., Phila., PA, 19142-2318. 215-742-3960 anytime.

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HO, British Production 040 (999 style) Number 8228 in red, green or blue with MARLINES logo on tender. US HO TWIN search light car, also odd ball, colored cars. Budd car dummy and items cast in different colors than normal. Stan Troski, 298 Broadview Rd., Cheshire, CT., 06410. 203-250-7296.

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gray electric Mercury freight engine, coaches for red articulated Mercury set, tender for electric "WM. Crooks" engine, army train "official car" observation, M10005 "Los Angeles" car in BRIGHT silver and red, #750 engine. Bob Osburn, 240 SW 298th Pl., Federal Way, WA., 98023-3565. 206-839-1925.

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Red pullman and observation, black frames, illum. preferred. #552 red gondola, black detail, round-end frame. Other 6" tab & slot cars, and 3/16" cars. Send lists. Dan Schmatz, 238 E. Lawrence, Royal Oak, MI., 48073.

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Mercury engines with tenders windup and electric also sets -- VG to excellent. Tom Olson, 831 Ridgefield Road, Wilton, CT., 06897. Tel 203-762-2208. FAX 203-761-0004.

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**FOR TRADE**

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CP 8 wheel passenger cars; #249, #250, #251 excellent-very nice. 247-VG frame chipped. 251-VG. 247-VG-dime size discoloration thru window-dent-can be straightened. Will trade for #246 and #252, must be at least VG+, remainder will be sold. Gary Anderson, Box 143, Stephen, MN. 56757.

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# Do: For Great Photos,

✓ Pick a film for the type of shooting you'll be doing — color, slide, or print. Slides are best for submitting color shots to a magazine. Print film is best for enlargements and for use in newspapers.

✓ Select the proper speed of film. An ASA of 50 or 100 works well because the image will hold up better when magnified.

✓ Use a plain background. Setting up a toy on a patterned or busy background distracts from the focal point. Gray is a neutral background color which can really make a toy stand out.

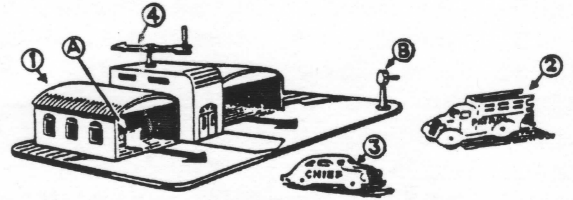
✓ It may sound elementary, but do make sure the toy is in focus — especially important details on the piece or box.

✓ Shoot extra frames of your subject. This way you'll have a backup in case one gets lost or destroyed. Shoot various angles of your toy: top, bottom, front, sides, etc.

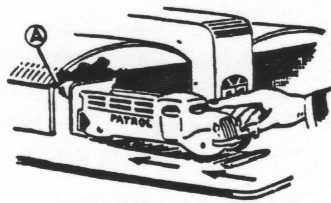
✓ When shooting, always use an F-stop between 32-16 for maximum depth of field. If possible, mount your camera on a tripod. Steady shots make great enlargements and slides.

✓ Identify prints, by information either on a separate sheet or on the back of the print. When writing on the back, however, do so lightly to avoid damaging the image or use a taped label or self-stick note.

## DIRECTIONS for OPERATION



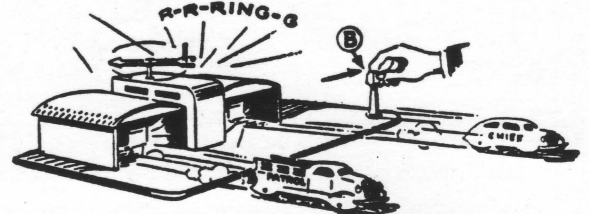
This box contain one Fire House (1), one Patrol Car (2), one Chief Car (3) and one Weather Vane key winder (4)



**1** Place cars in the middle of their respective stalls and push them against metal slides "A" until slide reaches rear of stall and locks.



**2** Wind toy, using Weather Vane winder as shown. Give it approximately one full turn in a clockwise direction until it touches the stop lock.

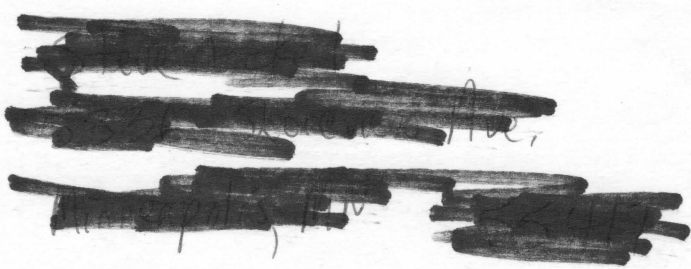


**3** Now pull the lever or hook in the Alarm Box "B" to the RIGHT and the cars will shoot out to answer the alarm

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