

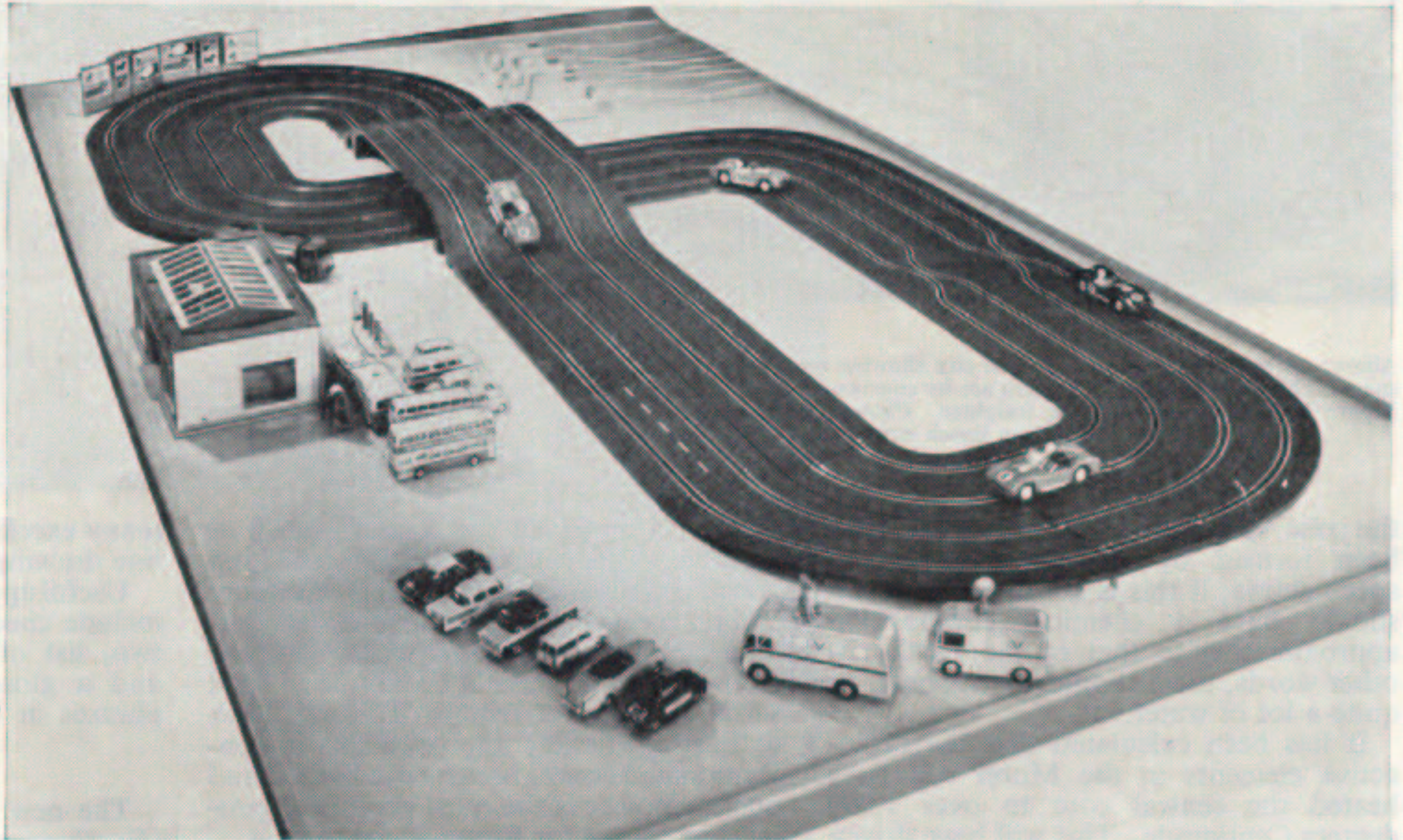
INTRODUCING ... LE MANS IN MINIATURE



WOULD you like all the excitement of a real car race in your own home, the "roar" of the exhausts, the excitement of taking corners at speed, the immense satisfaction of seeing your car shoot ahead of its rival? All these thrills are contained in the new road racing game "Circuit 24" based on the world-famous event at Le Mans and now available from Meccano Dealers.

Road racing experts who have seen and tested this fine new indoor attraction are enthusiastic about the performance of the cars and the challenge to skill which "Circuit 24" presents. It comes to Britain after a remarkably successful debut on the Continent and will be made for British enthusiasts in three sets, details of which are advertised on the inside front cover of this month's *M.M.*

Included in the price of each set is the power control unit necessary for operating the sturdily-built, brightly-coloured racing cars and three types of car will eventually be available, all built to 1/30 scale. In the actual sets will be D.B. Panhards, but as an alternative Ferrari cars may be purchased separately. There are also plans for a Competition Ferrari Car which drivers will be able to "tune" and which will be capable of a maximum scale speed of over 300 miles an hour.



Power units have been specially designed for use with "Circuit 24", and in all three sets speed is regulated by hand throttles or accelerators which give special booster control for maximum speed.

In each case a considerable measure

Chicanes and a fly-over bridge are clearly seen in the demonstration Circuit 24 layout shown above, in which Ferrari Cars are speeding round the track. Note how bricks have been used for banking at the corner of the track covered by the Television Broadcast Vans. Below: A close-up view of the D.P. Panhard Racing Car which will shortly become available for Circuit 24 enthusiasts.

of control can be obtained after a little practice. In "Circuit 24", as in everything else, practice makes perfect.

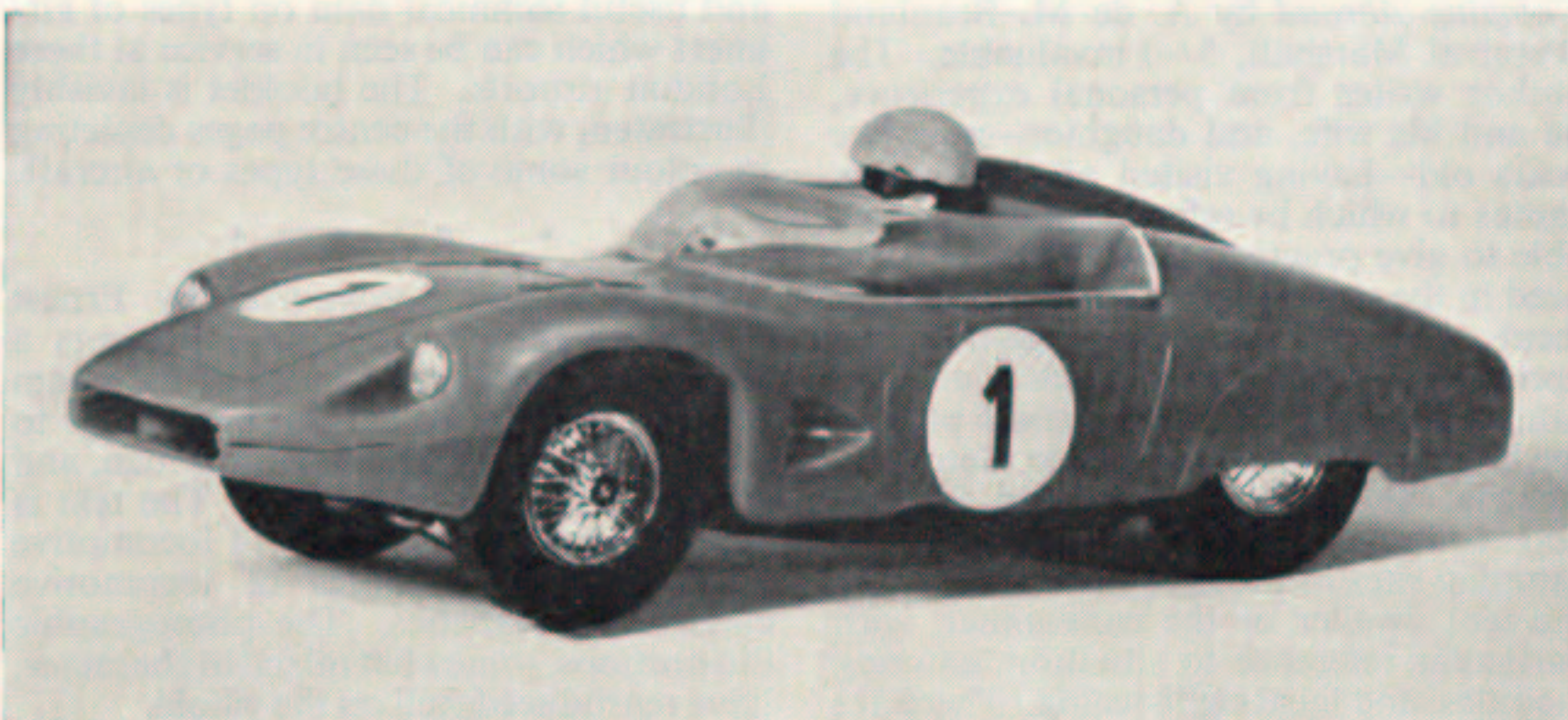
The circuit itself consists of a variety of track sections which fit together with remarkable ease so that assembly is no problem. Once joined neither the vibration

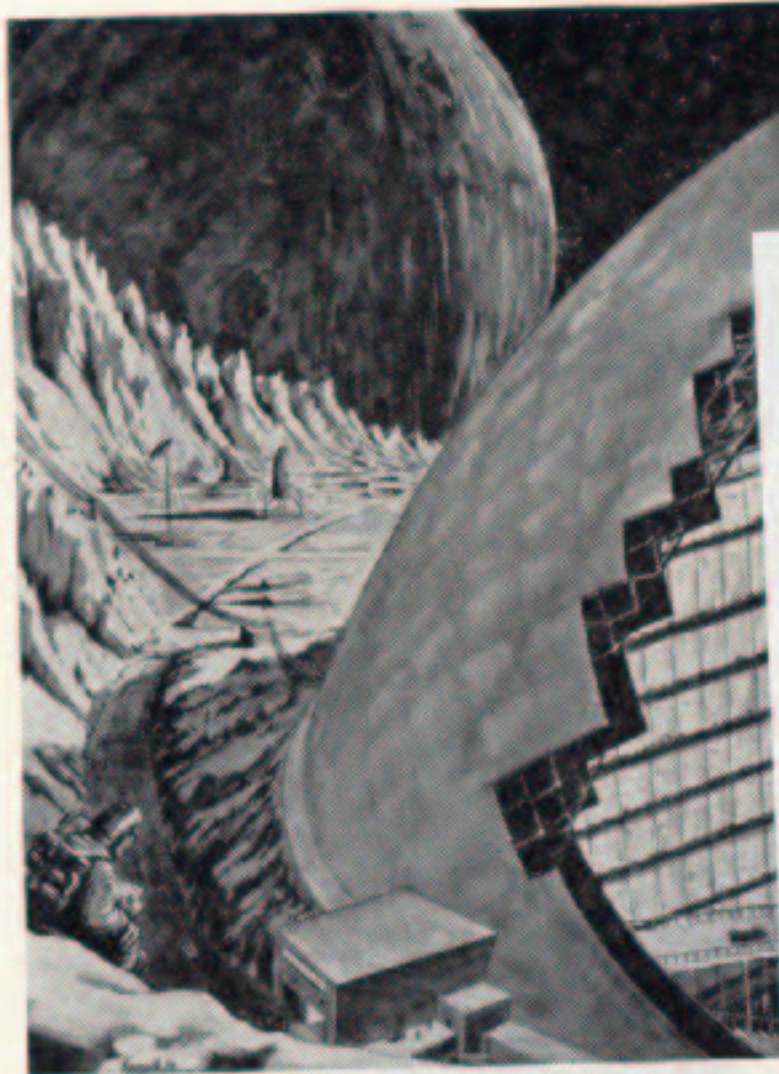
A STERN TEST

At Le Mans this year, a large "Circuit 24" track was on display near the main grandstand. Four Ferrari cars taken from standard sets ran continuously for 24 hours of the actual race and no fault or breakdown occurred in any one of them. The cars, in fact, covered approximately 56 statute miles in this exacting test, watched by vast numbers of people attending one of the world's outstanding track events.

set up by the running of cars nor the inherent stresses of the track can dislodge the units. All three sets contain straight and curved sections and one full straight with hump. In the two bigger sets is a breathtaking chicane which is a supreme test of a driver's skill. The biggest set

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Above: A sectional view of a domed city show space. This and the previous picture are by courtesy of the American Bosch Arm

the solar system are now thought to have been formed by an agglomeration of space debris; if this is so, then the Moon should have a chemical composition approximating to that of the Earth. In other words, there should, somewhere, be quite a lot of water.

It has been calculated that the radioactive elements in the Moon will have heated the central core to over 1,000 degrees Centigrade. This will have driven all the water into the outer layers of the Moon. There probably exist fissures, perhaps arising from past volcanic activity, and some water will have been forced into these, freezing as it nears the surface. Some astronomers now think that there are small domes which are a feature of certain parts of the Moon's surface are, in fact, the ends of sub-surface glaciers covered by dust and other debris.

Solar power will be continuously available on the day side of the Moon and can be used to split up the water into oxygen and hydrogen. These gases can be stored and used for fuel or the oxygen can be used for breathing purposes. During the night, the gases could be used to generate power. Alternatively, an atomic power plant could be used at night, and the design of small stations for use in the early stages of lunar exploration is already well advanced.

TRANSPORT COSTS

Protection will be needed not only against heat and cold but also against meteors, ultra-violet radiation and possibly other solar radiations. This may best be achieved by building underground, although domed cities such as those shown in two of our illustrations may be practical. It all depends on the conditions we find. Undoubtedly a major aim in space

Circuit 24—(Continued from page 348)

also includes an exciting fly-over bridge. In the two largest sets are bricks which fit beneath the track so that curves can be banked in realistic fashion and it will be found that these bricks have other uses also around the track.

The circuit operates at 24 volts A.C. (full boost) and 20 volts (normal speed). In all sets the cars provided will be matched for speed so that the operator's control will be the deciding factor. All the conditions are there to bring about the fantastic thrills of a real road event, and spins and skids are part of the challenge that lies ahead of the "Circuit 24" enthusiast.

The cars themselves vary a little in characteristics. For instance, the Panhard will be quieter than the Ferrari when running, but on acceleration a realistically designed "exhaust" note will be audible.

Accessories and additional track will be available so that extensive layouts can quickly be built up and provision has been made for track to be screwed to a baseboard if required.

"Circuit 24" sets, packed in attractive boxes which carry a scene in vivid colour based on the Le Mans circuit itself, are now available and full details of the items included in each outfit can be obtained from any Meccano Dealer.

One final word—a 24-page Book of Instructions in each set gives the owner all necessary information about track assembly, car maintenance, etc. The book also sets out general rules for racing which will be welcomed by all enthusiasts, although probably every home will have its own particular way of conducting races in which all members of the family can well take part.

SOME NEW TITLES

Whether you are planning a camping holiday abroad on your own, or with others at some established holiday camping site, you will find the handbook *A Fortnight Camping Abroad* by A. de M. Beanland (Percival Marshall, 5/-) invaluable. The author writes from personal experience, he and his wife, and daughter—now five years old—having visited all the foreign camps to which he refers. He is thus well able to give practical advice on what you need in the way of a tent and other equipment, how to set about getting the necessary foreign permits, etc., and on camp life generally. The second part of the book deals with camping in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Italy and France, and contains valuable information on camping sites in those countries for either the tent dweller or the caravanner, with particular reference to situation, catering facilities, and local sight-seeing. There are



many excellent half-tone illustrations and line drawings.

Useful appendices at the end of the book include check list of camping "gear" for two, list of some recommended camps, and a glossary of camping words and phrases in French, German and Italian.

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The new edition of *London's Airports (Heathrow and Gatwick)*, published by Ian Allan, price 2/6, will delight M.M. readers who are interested in civil aircraft and live in the London area or will be able to visit either of these London airports during their holiday travels. It describes the work of the various Air Traffic Controllers at Heathrow, and the features and functions of the main buildings there and at Gatwick. London Airport (Heathrow) is the home of the two main British air corporations, B.E.A. and B.O.A.C., and Gatwick airport is the home base of the B.E.A. Helicopter Unit, which is dealt with in a special chapter. There are plans of both airports and directions how to get there, and useful technical data on types of airliners which can be seen in service at these London airports. The booklet is lavishly illustrated, with the centre pages depicting in colour some of these types of aircraft.

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British Steam Locomotives by Ernest F. Carter (Foyle, price 4/-) presents a somewhat condensed history of the steam locomotive from its earliest beginnings to the present day in which famous men, and engines, are duly recognised. The text is supplemented by a glossary of locomotive terms and some tables of locomotive classes and statistics. The photographic illustrations, somewhat mixed in character, have reproduced well on the whole.