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Bygheller

Hobby Items Big on Santa's List

Space Age Inspires Boys' Toys

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Santa's sack is overflowing with boys' toys of all sizes and shapes.

The exciting advancements of the space age are widely represented on toy shelves along with the newest versions of military equipment.

For boys with more conventional desires, the variety of trucks, cars, building and science sets is astounding.

Among the most popular gifts for boys 4 to 14 will be road race sets, which will yield hours of competition to satisfy youngsters through the holidays and months to come.

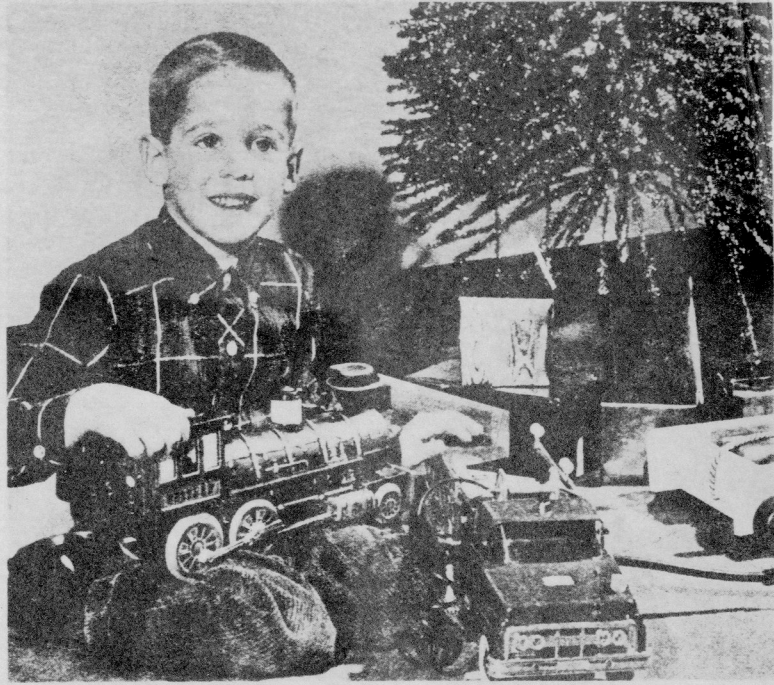
Most of the auto-racing sets include speed controls with reverse switches and brakes. Another popular feature is a "chicane" or cross-over lane, which offers the excitement of possible collisions.

In Railroading, It's HO Sets

When it comes to model railroading, hobby experts are advising concentration on HO train sets and equipment. Tyco and Athearn are among the more popular models. Sets start at about \$12 with a single oval of track.

Collectors and well-heeled model fanciers may spend up to \$200 for a hand-crafted brass engine for their HO railroads.

The whole field of models and hobby projects offers a seemingly



Four-year-old Kurt Riedel, 3017 Park place, finds his joy in a toy train and fire engine with water hoses under the tree at Lord's. The younger lads just love trucks of all kinds.

endless selection with fun for boys from 7 to 70. Some 20,000 items are stocked by Hobbymodels, 601 Davis street.

Today's boys can experiment

with tomorrow's wonders through chemistry sets including irradiated seeds, which will grow into giant-sized bean plants, and other experimental atom-age products.

A small gasoline engine powers the "Wing Thing," a batlike device with a 52-inch wingspread. It may also be flown like a kite. This toy is based on designs of the flexwing, which will probably help return astronauts from outer space in the years ahead.

Erector Looks to Future

Even old standbys like the Erector sets have turned toward the future. All sizes of these building games are available, with price tags from \$2.95 to \$30.

Kenner's Sky Rail kit provides an operating monorail, which serves a skyscraper city complete with helicopters. Another Monorail design offers 40 feet of aerial track, 10 suspension towers and a battery-powered engine.

The science marvels include a model car demonstrating solar energy. It also has a photo-electric cell which allows it to follow a flashlight beam.

Military marvels of the future also receive full treatment in toyland.

There's a full line of "Monkey Division" equipment, from automatic weapons to the beret of special forces troops. The realm of

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This two-way Monkey Gun, which fires pellets or plastic grenades, equips any youngster for war games. Six-year-old Tim Bannon also sports a Monkey Helmet as he fires from the protection of a rapid-firing plastic tank. Wieboldt's offers the gun for \$3.99, helmet for \$1.99 and tank for \$9.99.

Photos by W. B. Nickerson

Space, Speed Inspire Toys for Boys

(Continued from preceding page)
Planes and missiles is more exciting than ever, with futuristic designs inspired by the X-15 experiments.

Comprehensive play sets on molded bases provide many types of fun. One of the TV-inspired games is "Gallant Men," which has well over 200 pieces to give authentic detail for generals from 6 and up.

Other military action toys include "Mighty Matilda," a nuclear aircraft carrier with 21 planes and four helicopters, and a voice-command cannon. The latter fires only on the spoken command and includes a pirate ship target.

Old Favorites Continue

The modern developments have hardly replaced the basic essentials of a boy's toy chest.

Stores are showing full lines of sturdy cars and trucks, including dozens of models of heavy equipment with working parts. One of these is the Outdoor Set made by Tonka Toys, which has a boat, house trailer and two jeeps.

And for the younger boys, there's "Clancy," the clownish monkey, who roller skates and catches coins.

This variety of amusements is matched in box games and hobby offerings, which will also brighten a boy's yule.

Another Idea: Dogs

Another way to make Christmas memorable for a boy is give him his own shaggy dog. But select the pup carefully to be sure it will be a happy, healthy addition to the family.

And don't forget, nothing brightens a boy's eyes quite so much as seeing a bicycle under the Christmas tree.



Competition is the key to the interests of growing boys. Here electric racing cars provide a tense moment for Jim Bannon (left), 801 Seward street, and Robin Costan, 805 Seward. The display of road race sets at Field's kept them occupied.