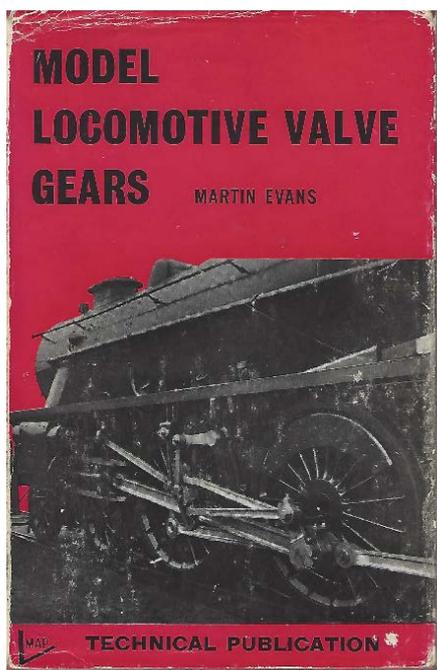


Book Review Nr 14

The two books this month are back to locomotives.

The first book is **Model Locomotive Valve Gear** by Martin Evans and published in 1962.



The cylinders and valve gear are probably the most important components of a steam locomotive. Were it not for the valves which distribute the steam to the cylinders and the valve gear that controls them, a locomotive could not move.

The valve gears described include Stephenson, Gooch, Allan, Joy, Hackworth, Marshall, Walschaerts, Baker, Beames, Jones, Greenly's Coorrected, Capriotti, Cossart and others.

The book runs to 100 pages and is broken down into 9 chapters. Chapter 1, Basic Proportions, recommends sizes of cylinders and ports for the various gauges along with average heights and offsets of valve spindles for outside cylinders. One chapter is dedicated to Stephenson Link Valve Gear and one to Gooch and Allan Straight-Link Valve Gear. Two chapters are dedicated to Radial Valve Gear and one each for Valve Gears for 3 and 4 Cylinder Engines and Poppet Valve Gears; the final chapter covers Cab Reversing Gear, Valve Setting and The Indicator.

The two chapters (41 pages) on radial valve gears, RVGs partly or wholly dispense with the use of eccentrics, include Joy, Hackworth, Walschaerts and the Baker types, with brief reference to the Jones, Beames and Greenly types. The book contains a number of photographs of models under construction and valve gear on full size locos along with 64 detailed and dimensioned drawings. The book is a revision and improvement on a previous edition and the author has drawn on the works of other authorities on this subject. Probably a must for a model loco builder.

The second book is **LBSC's Shop, Shed & Road** edited by Martin Evans published in 1974.

LBSC was the pen name of "Curly" Lawrence who in 1924 began a long series of articles in Model Engineer advising on all aspects of model locomotive engineering. These articles were so well received that in 1929 a book was published incorporating and developing the articles. A number of books have been published developing the subject further.

The book comprises twelve chapters running to 190 pages. Chapters cover injectors, hand and axle-driven pumps, double acting feed pumps, water gauges, whistles, safety-valves and snifting valves, motion work, lubricators, blowers, blastpipes, superheaters, blowdown valves and other components necessary for the successful construction and operation of locomotives.

This book concentrates on the ancillary components rather than the major components of model locomotives thereby focusing on those essential but smaller parts of the engine.

I expect this book to be in demand. This will be a book from the library which I want to borrow, but I will, of course, give others priority. **These two books will be available to peruse at the next club night.**

If you want to borrow this, or any book in the library, please contact me
Clive.Reynolds@stalbansmes.com

Remember we would welcome members' views on any books they borrow.

Clive Reynolds. 7th May 2022

