CHAPTER 22

V Twin

This engine is a tiny vertical twin wobbler. It features guides for the Crossheads, though it is quite a simple design. The one shown is mostly aluminum. The Pistons and Shafts are brass and the Flywheel and Crank Disks are steel.

Start the COLUMN with clean square stock 1/4" x 3/4" x 1-1/2". Lay out and make the two Foot holes and the two Shaft holes. Mill the 3/8" opening. Make the drill jig from a 1/16" steel strip. Keep the edge X true and square. Insert close-fitting pins 3/32" diameter in the Column. Place the jig over the Pivot pin and hold side X against the Crankshaft pin. Drill #56 for the steam passage. Turn the jig over to get the other hole. Note — the two exhaust holes are shallow. Drill the intake holes from each face. Do not drill all the way through from one side. Drill the 1/16" exhaust holes and tap the SteamConnection as shown on section AA. Add a couple of oil holes for the Crankshaft. Make the Foot as shown.

For the CYLINDERS, square up the end of 5/16" x 5/16" x 1-9/16" stock and lay out the bore centerline 11/64" from one face. Center-punch and chuck in a 4-jaw, centering with a center test indicator. Turn the 9/32" diameter 9/16" long and make the 3/16" Cylinder bore. Lay out and make the Pivot hole and drill the #56 steam passage at Y. Mill or file to the sections shown at A and B. Later, when the Pistons are complete, insert a 3/32" close-fitting pin in the Pivot hole. Place the drill jig over this pin. Insert a Piston in the Cylinder and a 1/16" close fitting pin through the jig and the eye of the Piston. Drill #56 only 1/32" deep as shown. If you have an end mill smaller than 1/16", this is the place to use it. On this model, a 1/16" mill was used and precautions taken to keep the #56 hole outline accurate as drilled. If the mill alters the opening at Z, it will cancel out the accuracy your jig helped you get. Watch closely and stop short at hole Z and then clean up the small break-through with a needle file. Dress the Valve face smooth and flat on a sheet of very fine emery paper on a surface plate or a piece of plate glass.

Make two PISTONS of brass. Use the Cylinders as gauges to make close, free fits. Add oil grooves. Mill the flats and lay out the Crankpin holes. If the two Cylinders are not identical, keep each Piston with its own Cylinder.

Make the TWO SHAFTS as shown. On the Crankshaft, make the shoulder-to-shoulder dimension about .005" greater than the width across the Column.

Make the FLYWHEEL and CRANK DISKS as shown. Set the Crank pins in the Disks with Loctite. After curing, start the assembly of the Crankshaft in the Column. Note - this is, more or less, a permanent job, so take care. It will not be easy to take apart. Insert the Crankshaft through the Column and Flywheel. Place a rubber band around the Flywheel and down around the bottom of the Column to prevent the Shaft and Flywheel from sliding around too freely. Snub it up quite tightly. Add one very tiny drop of oil to each Bearing. Rotate slightly to distribute the oil and then wipe off any excess. Now center the Shaft in the Column and carefully clean the 1/16" ends with a pipe cleaner and lacquer thinner. Avoiding the 3/32" diameter of the Shaft. The oil will prevent the Loctite from locking up the Shaft in the Column. Clean the bores of the Disks with lacquer thinner and apply a small amount of #601 Loctite to the bore only (not on the Shaft). Place the two Disks on the Shaft, rotating slightly to distribute the Loctite. Don't day too long because 601 is fast acting. Line up the Crank pins 180° apart by eye and set aside to cure. If you can work up a simple, fast way to get 180°, good, but a few degrees off won't make much difference in the performance. Center the Flywheel and tighten the set screw.

The SPRINGS are salvage and about the proportions shown.

The STEAM CONNECTION is an adapter for 3/16" aquarium tubing. Complete the assembly, lubricate and make a trial run on 5 to 10 pounds of air. This is a smooth running, high-speed engine, since it has good balance.