

SKY SCRAPER

OLD TIMER Model of the Month

Designed by: Carl Schmaedig
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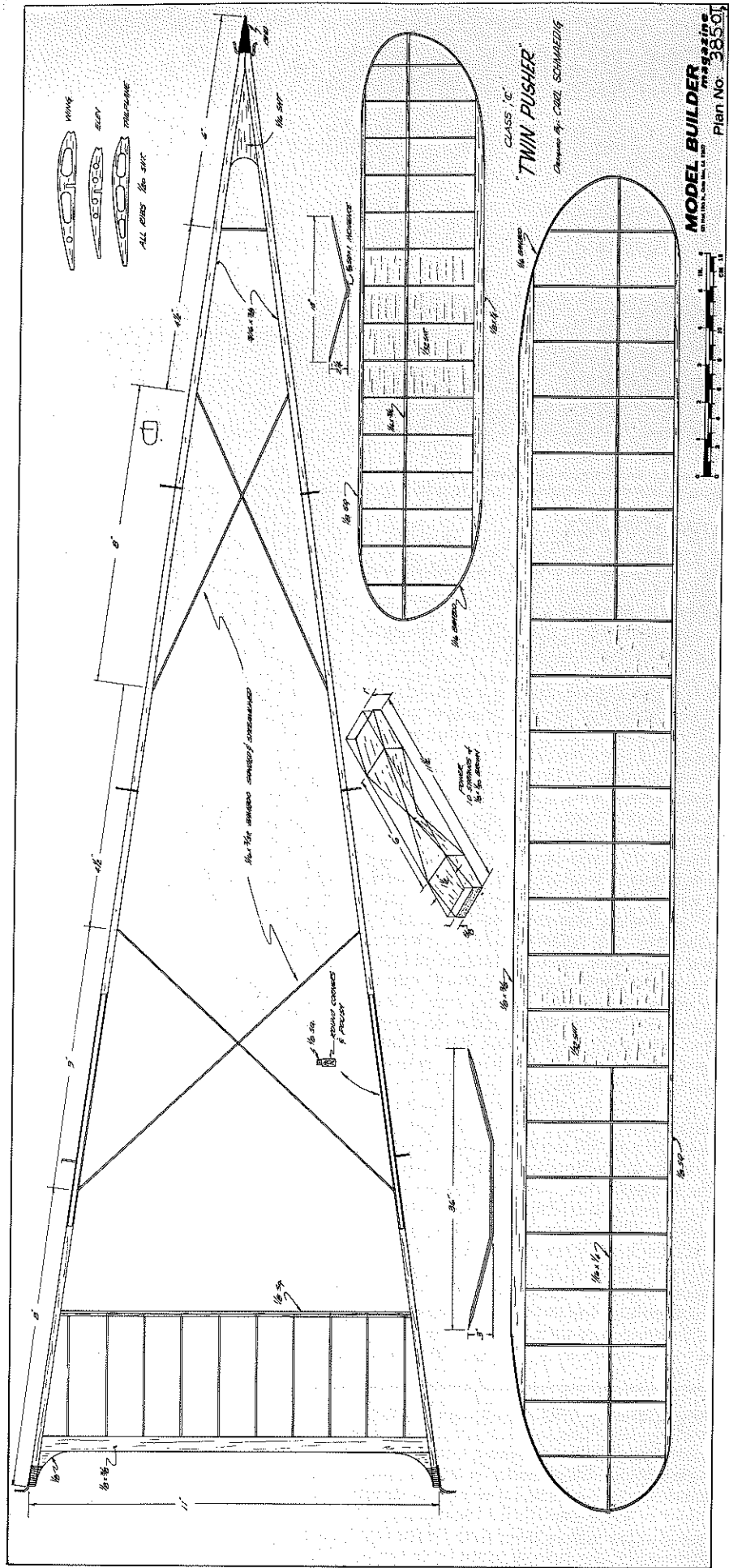
In the late 1920's and early 1930's there were only two kinds of model aircraft... those that were intended to fly, and those that were not. The flying types were simply divided into indoor and outdoor, and glider or rubber power... no gas engines, no radio control, no pylon racers, no control line, etc., etc. And the king of outdoor rubber power competition was a strange... almost awkward looking thing call a "twin pusher." With its long, twin rubber motors, light airframe, and almost stall-proof canard configuration, the twin pusher, although not a great soaring bird, could stay aloft for long flights just on the duration of its motor run alone.

A fine example of this type model is our Old Timer of the Month, Carl Schmaedig's "Sky Scraper," as published in the July 1936 issue of *Model Aircraft Builder*, and also in Frank Zaic's *1935-1936 Model Aeronautics Yearbook*. Carl, incidentally, was the designer of the "Miss Model Craftsman," which Frank acknowledges as being the inspiration for his famed "Miss America," originally kitted by Scientific, and now being kitted by several manufacturers as a popular old timer (see Beehive ad in this issue).

A model builder needs no special instructions to build this twin pusher. Note the wire "cans" which support the rubber in three places along each main motor stick. I wonder where the term "can" came from in naming these hangers?

The wing is mounted flat about midway on the eight-inch long, 1/8 square "elevation blocks," and the elevator is attached five inches from the nose. Test gliding without rubber and props was suggested. Move the elevator back if it stalls, move the wing forward if it dives (so it said). No mention was made of a balance point. Props (one left, one right handed) are mounted so that the top blade turns outward under power.

See how it was 50 to 60 years ago... try a twin pusher. You may like it, and think of the exercise you'll get chasing after it!



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