

AT "THE MODEL ENGINEER" EXHIBITION

# Internal Combustion Engines

by Edgar T. Westbury

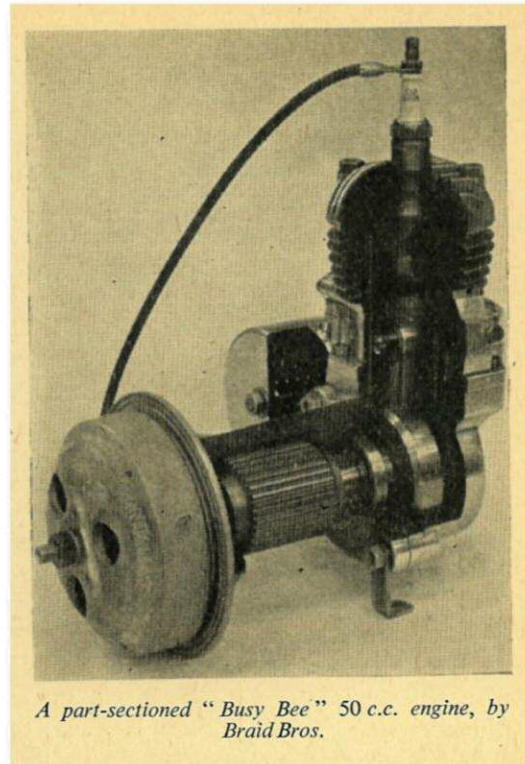
## Improvements

The "Busy Bee" 50 c.c. auxiliary engine was again featured by Messrs. Braid Bros., of Hack-

bridge, whose display included a finished engine, and also one in part section. Several detail improvements have been added to the castings and parts, including light alloy cylinders with cast-in high tensile steel liners, which call for the minimum machining work. Castings are now available for the special "Busy Bee" carburettor and control lever, and further developments are in progress. At the Exhibition, several constructors of this engine came forward with verbal testimonials to its success, not only as a cycle power unit, but also in performing other useful duties.

## Lack of Supplies

Apart from this example, however, one looked in vain for any assistance from the trade in respect of castings and parts for constructing i.c. engines of any kind. This is, in my opinion, much to be deplored, and it is not entirely to be accounted for by lack of interest among prospective constructors, to judge by the many queries I receive on this subject. In pre-war days, there were several firms who supplied castings for petrol engines of various types, but most model supply firms nowadays can only offer ready-made diesel or glow-plug engines, covering only the smaller sizes up to 5 c.c. I have often been accused of bias against the commercially-produced engine, but I have, on the contrary, given a good deal of help to the manufacturers of such engines, and I think it is not too much to ask that they should do something to assist those who prefer to build engines for themselves.



A part-sectioned "Busy Bee" 50 c.c. engine, by Braid Bros.