

not be fooled. Some people, in tying handkerchiefs together, are apt to lay the two handkerchiefs side by side and tie them into a single knot. This happens very seldom and may be avoided by holding the two ends to be tied wide apart, so that they cannot be drawn parallel. If, even with this precaution, the audience ties such a knot, we would not recommend trying to stop them, because that is not good business in a magical performance. The thing to do is what Alexander Herman would do. Simply say, "Ladies and gentlemen, you should all be satisfied that these are regular knots. I will ask someone to untie them to satisfy himself that they are fair, and also to show you how long it takes to untie a knot." You can then pass it on to someone else to re-tie it.

### STRETCHING A HANDKERCHIEF

**Effect.** Take an ordinary handkerchief, which you exhibit, and then twist it rope fashion. You can borrow one from the audience or use your own. A good patter to use is that the handkerchief is not large enough for you, so you are going to lengthen it out. Take the two opposite corners and twist them ropewise, and then begin to stretch it out.

**Effect.** It seems to grow longer and longer until it appears twice as large as it was at first.

**Trick.** This is really an optical illusion. Few people actually realize how small a handkerchief is straight across, that is diagonally. Say you take a handkerchief that is about 24x24 inches, which is a nice size for doing the trick effectively. This handkerchief is about 2 feet 10 inches straight across. Now, by stretching it the right way, you can stretch it to over 3 feet. In twisting the handkerchief you get a few inches of slack in each hand. By simply throwing the handkerchief over and

over, the same as skipping a rope, you keep making this movement, at the same time releasing a little from each hand. To the spectator, the handkerchief grows longer and longer; in fact longer than it would seem possible to make a handkerchief such as you exhibited before you started. When you have finished, hold in the tips of the fingers the remaining end so that the whole handkerchief is seen.

This direction may sound silly, but all you have to do is to practice this a few times in front of the mirror and then try it on some of your friends. You will find that it is a dandy trick. I always follow this trick with the Knotting Handkerchiefs, which works nicely in conjunction with the above.

### THE INSTANTLY KNOTTED HANDKERCHIEFS

After having demonstrated to the audience the simplicity of untying knots by magic, then show them how easy it is for a magician to knot a handkerchief. You simply take two handkerchiefs, show them separately and give them a little wave with the hand; they are seen to become knotted. They are then rolled into a ball and thrown on the floor, where they become separated.

**Explanation.** The secret of the trick is a little rubber band. The rubber band is held encircling the thumb and first two fingers of the right hand. (See Figure 31.) When you pick the two handkerchiefs up with the left hand, one

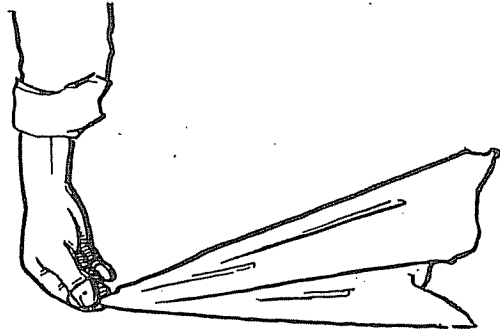


FIG. 31

is placed inside the rubber band between the thumb and two fingers of the right hand and then the second handkerchief is likewise transferred alongside of the other where they are held together in the hand. Now, by simply bending all three fingers, the elastic band will slip over the ends of the handkerchief, which appear to be knotted. The rubber band is so small that it will never be noticed. Now you roll them together, release the knot and they come apart.

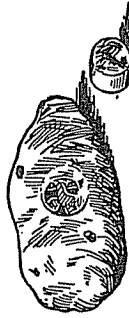


FIG. 32

### THE VANISHING RING FROM GOBLET OF WATER BY MEANS OF A HANDKERCHIEF

**Effect.** You borrow a wedding ring from the audience, place the handkerchief over the goblet of water, and then ask someone to hold the ring. At the word "drop" they drop it into the glass. They distinctly hear the ring fall into the glass tumbler of water. You pick the handkerchief from the glass and the ring has disappeared. It is found in some other object.

**How the Trick Is Done.** Take a white handkerchief and in the center of it tie a silk thread, to which is attached a wedding ring. Now you borrow a wedding ring from the audience, which you palm in your right hand. Holding up the handkerchief, grasp the ring on the string and hold it in the center. Place the handkerchief over the glass of water. When in this position you ask someone to come up and hold the ring, which is in the

handkerchief, and at the word "drop" to drop it into the water. They hear it drop into the water plainly. Of course you have palmed the real ring. In picking up the handkerchief from the glass the ring, which is on a thread, will also come up and the glass is empty.

By going back to your table the other ring can then be produced from the inside of a potato which you have there (see Figure 32) arranged as follows: Take a coring knife which is used for coring apples, and make a hole through the potato. Cork up the end with the piece you have taken out, and leave the cut end lying on the table, so that when you go back to the table you can drop the ring in the hole and then the potato, to all appearances, is an ordinary one.

You can now halve the potato with a knife and present the ring to its owner.

### THE BURNT HANDKERCHIEF RESTORED

**Effect.** You borrow a handkerchief and then pass it for examination. You put it inside of the fist, letting a corner of it stick out. (See Figure 33.) You now set the handkerchief on fire; then you rub it with the palm of the hand and restore it.

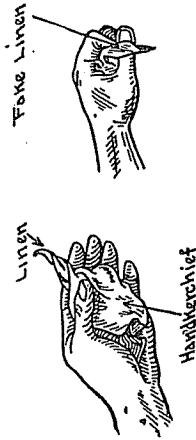


FIG. 33

**Secret.** Conceal in your left hand a small piece of cloth the same color as the borrowed handkerchief. It is better to use an old handkerchief so that it will be exactly like the handkerchief used. Now take the handkerchief by the center with the same hand; pull out between the thumb and forefinger to half its length the piece of cloth that you already have palmed or concealed. To the audience this appears to be the real handkerchief. It is to the piece of cloth that you set fire. Be sure, if you use a borrowed handkerchief, that it is well down in the hand before setting the fake piece on fire. When it has burned almost to the fist of the hand rub or blow out the fire first; then rub it out with the hand, concealing the burnt piece that is left in your hand. Now you can shake out the real handkerchief, vanishing the burnt piece in any way desired.

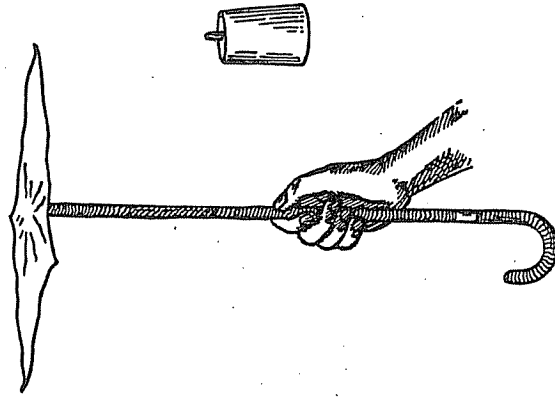


FIG. 34

**Effect.** You borrow a handkerchief and put it on top of an ordinary walking stick or cane. The handkerchief can be made to spin around as illustrated. (See Figure 34.)

### JUGGLING

A little juggling sometimes fits in nicely with a magical performance of this kind. Everyone enjoys seeing a juggler spin a handkerchief on top of a walking stick or cane. This can be done as a side play.

**Trick.** The point of a needle is driven into the top of the cane, so in this case the cane must not be passed around for inspection. A better way, however, and one which permits you to pass the cane for inspection, is to get an ordinary ferrule that will fit onto the end of the cane and to this attach a point of a needle or pin. This can be concealed in the hand while the cane is being inspected.

### PRODUCING A HANDKERCHIEF IN FULL VIEW FROM

#### A GLASS

The performer picks up a glass which has been standing on the table and pours some water into it to show that it is unprepared. The water is then poured out again and, holding the glass over the table, you say the words "Mysto Magic" and a handkerchief appears in the glass. You can step down into the audience and ask anyone to remove it.

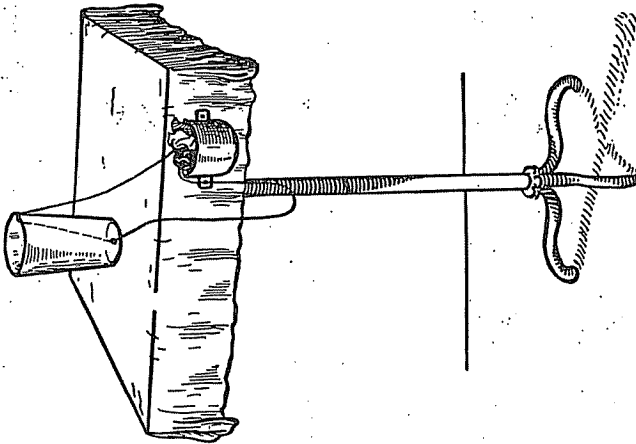


FIG. 35

**How the Trick Is Worked.** This is a very pretty trick. It requires the drilling of a small hole in the bottom of an ordinary tumbler. (See Figure 35.) A servante attached to the back of the

table contains a handkerchief, around which, in the center, is attached a thread. The thread runs from the handkerchief in the servante to the inside of the glass, then down through the hole back to the servante again, looping itself so that you have room to pick the tumbler up without disengaging the handkerchief.

When you pour in the water, cover over with one of your fingers the hole, which keeps the water from leaking out. There is enough slack in the string to allow you to pick up the glass without fear of detection.

Now all you have to do is to hold the glass over the table. You can give the thread a sharp pull and the handkerchief will be instantly thrown into the glass, breaking the thread off where it is attached to the handkerchief. A little practice will make the trick very effective and startling.

**Note.** If you have an assistant helping you, the thread can be run off the stage and pulled by someone outside. This makes the trick doubly effective.

### HANDKERCHIEF CASSETTE

**Effect.** A small tube, provided with a cover for each end is passed for examination. (See Figure 36.) A silk handkerchief is now placed inside and the tube closed. A second later the tube is opened and the handkerchief has vanished.

**Secret.** The apparatus consists of four pieces—a tube, two covers for the ends and a "Pull." The "Pull" must be placed on your person according to the directions given for **HANDKERCHIEF VANISHER** (page 26). Start the trick by passing the metal tube and the two covers for examination. While the audience is examining them, get hold of the "Pull" and hold it in the right hand.

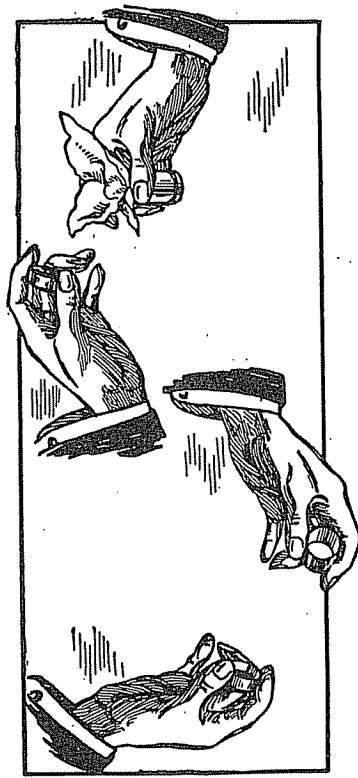


FIG. 36

In the same hand hold a small silk handkerchief so that the audience will not suspect that you have anything concealed. Then take back the metal tube and slip it down over the "Pull" into the hand. Bring the whole apparatus well away from the body and, taking the handkerchief, push it into the "Pull." When it is entirely out of sight, let the "Pull" fly back under your coat. Place the cover over the end of the tube and then reverse it (but do not show the inside of tube). Then put the cover on the other end. Hand the tube, which is now closed, to some spectator to hold. You now command the handkerchief to leave the tube and appear where you desire. We recommend using the drum-head tube with this trick.

### DRUM HEAD TUBE

**Effect.** The conjurer exhibits a nickel-plated tube together with two metal bands which just fit over each end. He then seals up each end with tissue paper, making a sort of drum head over each end. He then causes a small handkerchief to disap-

pear from his hands. Upon breaking the paper on one end of the tube, the handkerchief is found inside.

**Secret.** The apparatus (see Figure 37) for this trick consists of five parts. First notice the construction. Secure two thin silk handkerchiefs identical in color. One of these you place in the black compartment and over the end of it you lay a piece of tissue paper. By placing the ring down over it you make a drum head. Notice, too, that its edges are not left protruding over the ring, but are torn off. Place the loaded compartment, pointed end up, on your table. The duplicate handkerchief is now placed in front of the black compartment so your audience will not notice it. Now pass the tube for examination and let your audience take two pieces of tissue paper (these should be the same color as the one you used in covering the black compartment) and have them make a "drum head" at each end of the tube. After this is done, call attention to the fact that nothing can enter the tube unless the paper is broken.

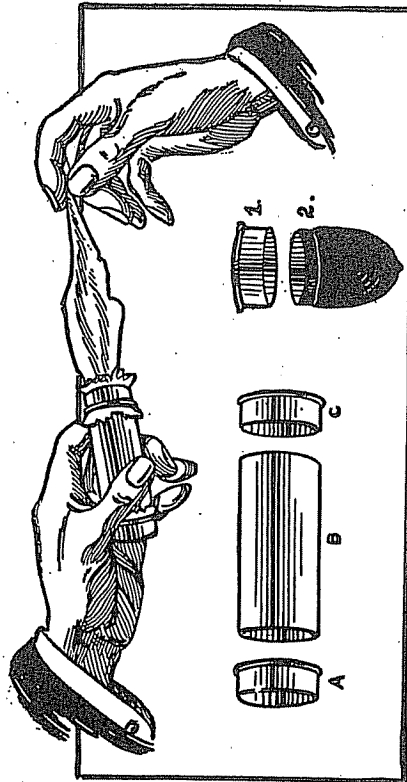


FIG. 37

Approach your table and pick up the handkerchief which lies in front of the compartment. Just before you do so, place the tube, either end down, over the pointed compartment. Now, the compartment containing the handkerchief is in the tube; still the ends of the tube can be shown to the audience and attention called to the fact that the papers have not been disturbed or broken, for the paper on the compartment containing the handkerchief replaced the broken paper on the end. Now vanish the handkerchief with the Handkerchief Vanisher or the Casette, as described in the preceding trick. Break the paper on the end containing the compartment and pull out the handkerchief.

This is really a wonderful trick and has been featured by some of the world's cleverest entertainers.

### MAGIC FLAG IN CANDLE

The effect of this trick is quite startling and pretty. You commence with the introduction which shows that both hands are absolutely empty and, with your sleeves rolled up, that there is no chance of concealing anything about your hands. You now call attention to an ordinary candle that is in a candlestick holder on the table. You then light the candle, and, without touching it to your body in any way whatever you produce from the flame a beautiful silk flag. As mysteriously as it is produced it is vanished, and the hands again shown to be empty.

You now show an ordinary piece of wrapping paper or white paper to be absolutely empty and, taking the candle from the candlestick, you blow it out and wrap it up in the paper. You break the paper in a twisting fashion and, when this is done, instead of the candle being found inside the flag comes into view

in a very startling and pretty manner, much to the delight of the audience; and as a final climax the candle is produced from the inside of your coat pocket lighted.

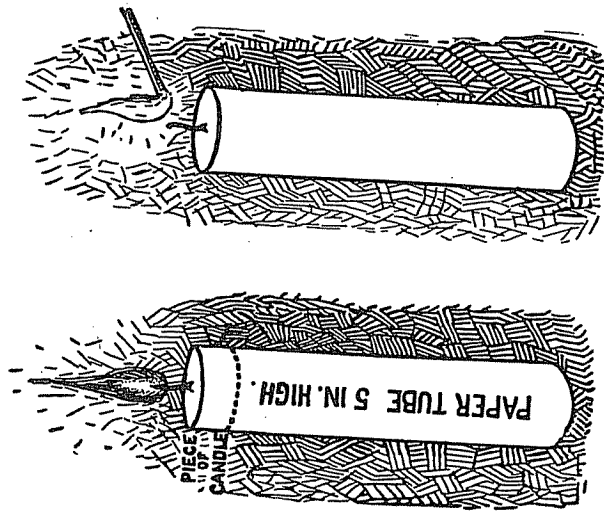


FIG. 38

#### Necessary Apparatus for the Trick

1. Two fine silk flags.
2. A safety match box.
3. Imitation candle (see Figure 38). The candle is made from white paper with a small part of a candle in the end or top, as shown in the illustration, and is held in place by melting some of the candle all around the opening before it is placed in it.

4. A regular candle the same length as the prepared one already described, with a match stuck down near the wick.
5. A piece of sandpaper sewed at the top of the inside coat pocket on which the match can be scratched later on when removing the candle from the inside pocket as the final part of the trick.

**Preparation.** Half open the safety match box and put into the end of it one of the flags. The other flag is concealed inside of the paper tube which represents a candle.

**How the Trick Is Done.** After your hands are shown to be absolutely empty you pick up the match box, take a match from it and light the candle. While closing the match box the flag is forced into the palm of the left hand. This enables you to produce the flag from the flame of the candle in an apparently mysterious manner. You now secure hold of the "Pull" under the left side of the coat and, while you are holding the flag in the right hand in a conspicuous manner in front of the audience, tell them that you are now going to vanish it and have it reappear in a most startling and surprising manner. This holds the attention of the audience to the flag while you are gaining possession of the "Pull" under your coat. This can be done in an easy manner without the least fear of detection. The flag is then rolled in the palm of your hand and vanished. You now pick up a piece of paper which you show to be absolutely empty and roll the candle into it, twisting the paper in such a way that it will break in the middle. This makes the flag spring into view. You then reach into the inside coat pocket and produce the real candle which can be lighted as described above, by scratching the match on the piece of sandpaper. If desired, you can place an ordinary wax match in the candle to take the place of the wick. Then place the candle back in the holder.

### INVISIBLE FLIGHT OR COLOR CHANGING HANDKERCHIEFS

**Effect.** One red handkerchief is wrapped up in a piece of paper in full view of the audience and another colored handkerchief is wrapped in another piece of paper. You then call attention to the fact that the red handkerchief is on the right of you and the blue on the left. At a word of command the

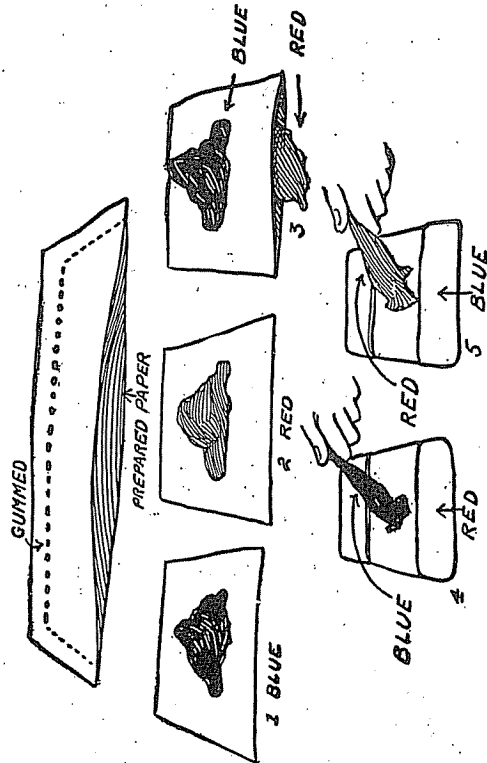


FIG. 39

paper is torn open, and instead of the red being on your right the blue handkerchief is found there and on the left is found the red. This is a very pretty little trick and requires no sleight of hand.

**How It Is Done.** You prepare for this trick by taking two pieces of paper, half a sheet of newspaper and glue them around on three sides. Then place the red handkerchief in between them (see Figure 39), and glue up the fourth side. Then take

two more pieces of paper and prepare them in the same manner with the blue handkerchief inside. These papers are to be lying carelessly on the table. When you are ready to perform the trick you take the red handkerchief and wrap it up inside of the piece of paper, with the blue on the inside. Be sure and mark the paper so that you will know what you are doing. You now take the paper with the red handkerchief inside of it and wrap up the blue handkerchief. Now at the word of command all you have to do is to break the paper which will release the handkerchief concealed therein. To all appearances the handkerchief has actually changed color. You can throw away the paper to one side and no one will suspect that the handkerchiefs you have wrapped up are still there.

### AN EASY WAY TO VANISH A HANDKERCHIEF

**Effect.** The performer exhibits an ordinary soup plate. This can actually be passed for examination to show that it is unprepared. To particularly emphasize to the audience that there is no trick about the table, he places a sheet of paper on top of the bare table and on top of this he places the plate. He then turns the plate upside down. Next an ordinary colored silk handkerchief is shown. He then takes a sheet of newspaper and out of this he makes a cone. Into the cone he drops the handkerchief. He now tips the paper cone with the wand and upon the words "Mysto Magic" the handkerchief mysteriously and invisibly travels from the paper to the plate. Upon opening the cone the handkerchief has vanished, and when the plate is lifted the handkerchief appears.

This is a real good trick, and is really two tricks in one. It has been performed by some of the best conjurers on the stage and requires so little sleight of hand that it works very effec-

tively and can be worked very nicely with comparatively little practice.

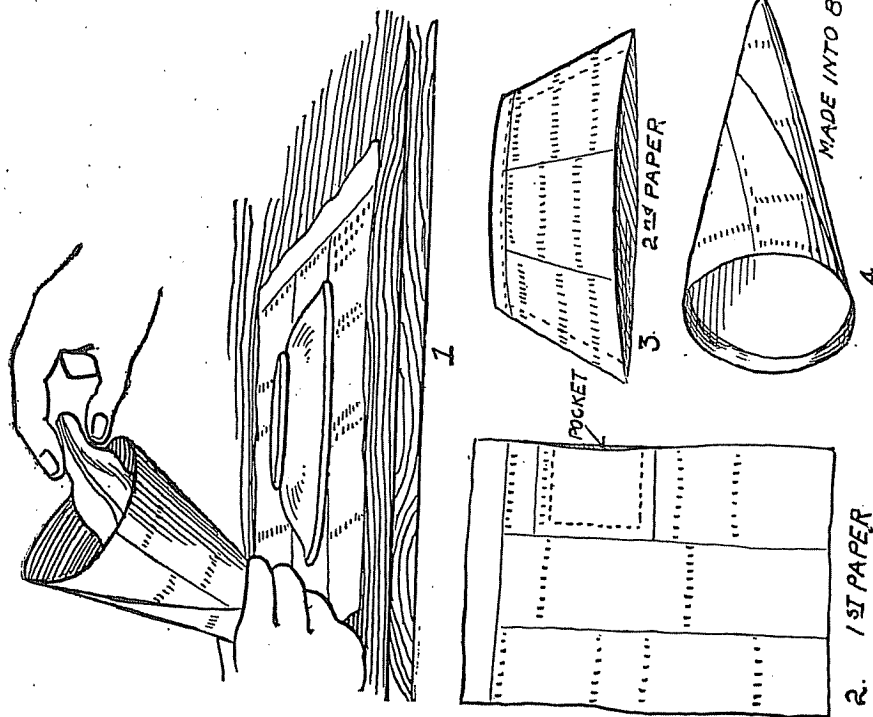


FIG. 40

**How the Trick Is Done.** Both papers are prepared for the trick. You take two pieces of newspaper or any paper for that

matter and glue them on three sides. (See Figure 40.) Leave one side open, making out of the paper a bag. From another piece of paper cut out a small piece the width of a column or two, say about 6 inches long, and paste this on three sides and then onto a half sheet of newspaper. In this way you form a pocket. (See Figure 40, No. 2.) The mouth of this opening is on the outside of the paper, and into this opening you put a silk handkerchief the same color as the one you are going to do the trick with.

Now, to perform the trick the conjurer carefully picks up the piece of paper in which the handkerchief is concealed, being careful that he grasps it so that his finger rests on the handkerchief concealed inside. At the same time he takes the plate in his right hand and, keeping his eyes on the plate and calling attention to the fact that it is an ordinary plate, he then remarks that he will place the paper under it to show that there is no mechanism about the table. As he does this the plate is transferred to the left hand, reversing it as he does so. This leaves him with the plate and paper in the left hand. Now by pulling the paper downward with the right hand, holding onto the plate and handkerchief with the left, the handkerchief will come out of the little pocket and lie concealed back of the plate in his hand. The bottom of the plate of course faces the audience, and the handkerchief is on the other side. He now lays the paper down on the table, and the plate and handkerchief which is now in the left hand he places on top of the paper. You will see how simple this is. No one will ever detect the possibility of the handkerchief being under the plate because only a second before you showed the plate unprepared, together with an ordinary newspaper.

That part of the trick is done. Now he takes the other sheet of newspaper which to all appearances is an ordinary sheet of newspaper, whereas it is a paper bag in reality, glued on three