Bohleno's

FIVE ORIGINAL Performance - Proven

Mysteries

- * TRIPLE RING-SILK PENETRATION
- **★ IMPOSSIBLE FLOATING HANDKERCHIEF**
- **★** MASTER SILK THROUGH ROPES
- **★** DEVIL'S OWN KNIFE-CUT RIBBON
- **★ MULTI-CUT PAPER STRIP**

The **original** routines with which Professional Magician Henry Bohlen won the Ring One Trophy and Conjurors' Magazine Award at the I.B.M. Convention in St. Louis, Missouri, June, 1946.



Bohlenos FIVE ORIGINAL Performance - Proven Mysteries



The State Library of Victoria "ALMA CONJURING COLLECTION"

- FOREWORD -

They who claim today of something original have a niche in which category Mark Twain placed those who talk about weather, BUT DONOTHING about it, and those WHO DO do something are the ones of whom Mark said nothing.

Henry Bohlen DID DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT and as a result won recognition from those who know and judge magic. Recognition and reward both.

To carry on in the same theme it is not enough to stop here, but from here for YOU TO CARRY ON with something fine and possibly finished in real magic.

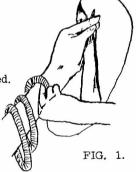
★ Jriple Ring-Silk Penetration

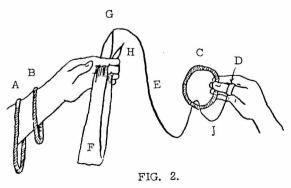
EFFECT: Three rings or hoops and an 18 inch silk handkerchief are shown. The silk is held by its diagonal corners in one hand. One by one the three rings are tossed at the loop of the silk and each in turn penetrates the silk. This amazing penetration of wood and silk can be carried a step further and each of the rings can be removed from the silk.

MATERIALS USED: Three rings or hoops, each being of such a size that it will pass through the next larger ring. (Embroidery rings are excellent. Painted white and used with a colored silk makes an excellent combination.) An 18 inch silk handkerchief having attached to one corner a fine black silk thread about 29 inches in length. The other end of the thread is attached to a celluloid ring which will fit over your thumb.

TO PERFORM: Place the three rings on your left arm and the corner of the silk with the thread attached, between the first and second fingers of left hand. Have the celluloid ring on the end of the thread on your right thumb. Display the silk, then bring the bottom corner of the silk up between second and third fingers of left hand. Care must be taken to keep the thread always between the body and the silk. Now with your right hand take the smallest ring from your left arm. Note the position of the right hand as it takes the ring, FIG. 1. The ring is taken from the left arm, brought down over and off the silk. The positions of rings, silk and thread should be as indicated in FIG. 2.

- (A) Largest ring.
- (B) Middle sized ring.
- (C) Small ring.
- (D) Celluloid ring.
- (E) Black silk thread.
- (F) Silk handkerchief.
- (G) Corner of silk to which one end of thread is attached.
- (H) Diagonally opposite corner.





Now bring the point of the thread (J), FIG. 2, over the left thumb. The position now is shown in FIG. 3. Now let go of corner of silk (G), at same time letting go of the hoop (C). The right hand is also pulled smartly away causing the end of the silk (G) to pass through the hoop and back up to the position shown in FIG. 4.

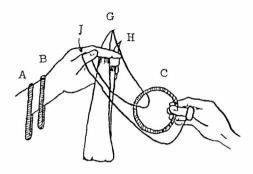
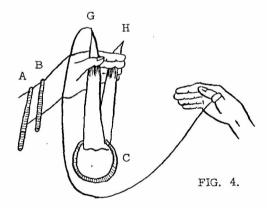
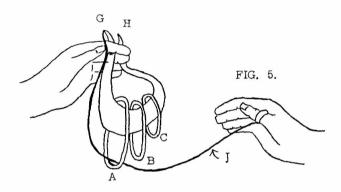


FIG. 3.

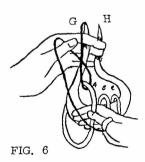


Before starting to loop the second ring it is necessary to bring corner (G) back again to the position shown in FIG. 1. The purpose of having each ring larger than the previous one will now be clear, as ring (B) is removed from left arm and carried down over silk and must pass over the small ring (C) as well. After looping ring (B), again repeat the same moves and loop the largest ring, (A).

TO TAKE THE RINGS OFF AGAIN, ONE BY ONE: Display the silk and rings on it by taking the corner of silk (G) in your right hand, and corner (H) in your left. Stretch the silk out and let all three rings slide on your left arm. Now let the two smaller rings slide back on the silk again, retaining the largest ring on your left arm. Now reverse the corners of the silk, that is, hold corner (G) in your left hand and corner (H) in your right hand. At this point let the largest ring slide back on the silk. Now place corner (G) between first and second finger, and corner (H) between second and third fingers of left hand. The silk, thread, and rings should be as shown in FIG. 5, with the thread running through ring (A).



Take the ring (A) in your right hand, lift up a little so that you can put the thread at point (J) over the left thumb, FIG. 6. All you have to do now is let corner of silk (G) drop, and pull right hand with ring (A) away. The ring will be completely free of the silk and the silk will be in the position indicated in FIG. 4.



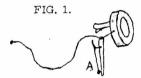
All the above moves are repeated to remove ring (B), and then ring (C).

★ Impossible Floating Handkerchief

Here's a floating handkerchief trick that is truly an illusion when properly handled and presented. It's easy to do, requires only a standard piece of apparatus which every magician has -- plus, of course, a handkerchief and a wooden or steel hoop. The effect is that you tie a knot in one end of the handkerchief, hold it in front of you and remove your hands -- when the handkerchief remains suspended in the air without any visible means of support. To further prove the absence of any threads, etc., you pass a hoop completely over the silk -- and still it stands suspended as though magnetized by some invisible force in mid-air.

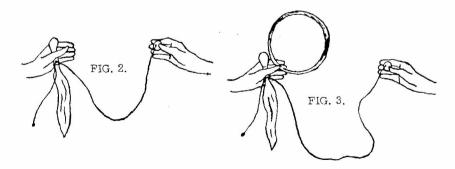
The apparatus required: One metal or wooden hoop, an 18 inch silk handkerchief, a small spring clip as illustrated, and a card rising reel (the Petrie Utility Reel is just right for this) with finger clip and a stop guard to control the pull on the thread.

TO PREPARE: Pull a few inches of thread out of the reel and tie the spring clip (A) to the end of the thread. Next tie an additional eight inch length of black thread to the spring clip. Tie a knot in the end of this extra thread. The apparatus, when assembled, will look like FIGURE 1. Place this in the lower right vest pocket and you are ready. Have the hoop laying on your table within easy reach.

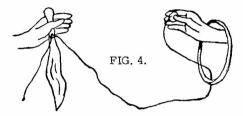


TO PERFORM: Stand slightly in front of, and to the right of your table as you show the handkerchief and tie a knot in one end of it. Be sure the knot is loose and fairly large. Steal the reel with the right hand, and while displaying the silk, fasten the clip on to the back of the knot. Extend the left hand which holds the handkerchief, so that a length of thread will be pulled out of the reel and will hang as illustrated in FIGURE 2. (View as seen by the performer).

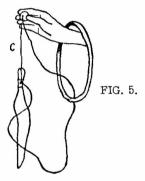
Now turn slightly towards the left and pick up the hoop from the table with the left hand. This action will further extend the thread from the reel, until you will have about four feet of thread hanging down between your hands. Check your reel at this point. The position will now be as shown in FIGURE 3.



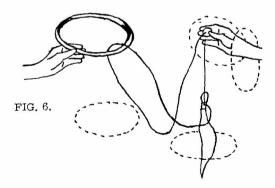
Throw the hoop over the right arm as in FIGURE 4. This action will bring a section of thread through the hoop as shown.



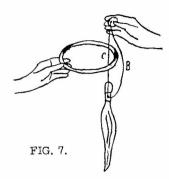
Catch hold of the end of the extra thread, C, between the second and thirdfingers of the right hand; release hold on the silk with the left fingers, and float the silk as shown in FIGURE 5. It is now apparently suspended in mid-air and neither hand is within eight inches of it.



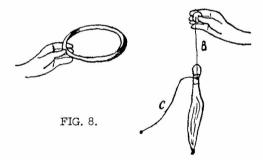
Reach across with the left hand, grasp the hoop off the right forearm and swing it down over the handkerchief in one rapid motion, and then to the left as shown in FIGURE 6. Hold the hoop in this position long enough for the audience to realize that the hoop is now completely away from the floating silk. Take care that the thread is always between you and the silk, and that the hoop always remains in a horizontal position. Do not twist the hoop around. You can now retrace the movement of the hoop ---- at the same time release pressure on your finger reel which will draw the thread back into the reel. Do this SLOWLY.



The position will now be as shown in FIGURE 7. All but about eight inches of the thread has been rewound in the reel, and the hoop will be between the two threads as illustrated. "B" is the reel thread, "C" is the extra 8 inch thread.



Now by letting go of the extra thread, "C", you can move the hoop away entirely the silk now being suspended by thread "B". See FIGURE 8. You will now have passed the hoop completely around the handkerchief, proving to all that the silk is actually suspended in mid-air.



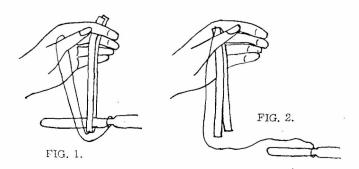
Turn slightly to the left and lay the hoop down on your table. Bring up your now free left hand, grasp the silk and, while taking your bow, release the spring clip from the knot and replace the apparatus in your vest pocket under cover of the silk. You can now pass out the silk and the hoop for examination as they are completely free of the apparatus.

* Devil's Own Knife-Cut Ribbon

EFFECT: The performer stretches a length of ribbon between his hands, folds it in half and then holding the two ends in one hand, forms a loop allowing it to hang down. Taking a large knife, he inserts the blade in the loop of the ribbon and proceeds to cut through it. The audience see it cut, yet the ribbon may be restored instantly. The cutting and restoring may be repeated again immediately, heightening the mystery. The secret is remarkably simple, making this Bohlen masterpiece an excellent impromptu trick.

THE SECRET: The ribbon has only a slight preparation, there's a thread attached to its center. The thread's length is about the full length of the ribbon, and terminates in a slip noose. This noose is attached to the handle of an ordinary table knife at the point where the blade enters the handle.

ROUTINE: Have the knife with the ribbon attached as explained, in your right coat pocket. Step forward and display the ribbon, stretching it out between the hands and giving it a yank or two to prove it unprepared. Be sure that the side of the ribbon to which the thread is attached is towards you. Now line up the two ends of the ribbon and grasp them between the first and second fingers of your left hand, with the back of the hand towards the audience. This will leave your left thumb free. The thread should now be hanging directly down from the bottom point of the loop. Reach into your pocket with your right hand for the knife, and under pretense of testing its sharpness slip the thread over the left thumb. Bring the knife down and insert its blade into the loop of the ribbon (Fig. 1). Pressing down on the ribbon with the knife will draw the two visible ends of the ribbon inside of the left hand. Now raise the knife up a couple of times, simulating the action of preparing to cut through the loop of the ribbon with a downward sweep of the knife. On the third sweep, bring the knife down fast, letting go of the ends in your left hand. The knife of course continues on its way down, and to all appearances cuts through the ribbon. For as the knife passes downwards the action of the thread over the thumb will snap the looped end of the ribbon UP to the left thumb and forefinger as quick as a flash, completely reversing it and leaving the original two ends hanging down (Fig. 2). Replace the knife in your coat pocket. Catch hold of the two ends with the right fingers and wrap the ribbon around your left hand. Blow on it and then stretch it out, showing it completely restored.

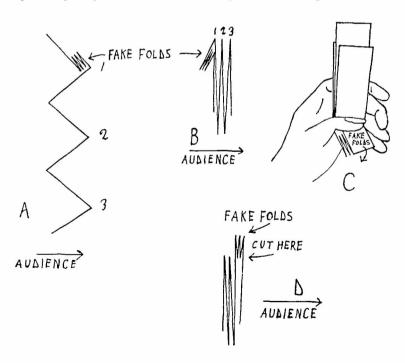


★ Multi-Cut Paper Strip

EFFECT: The performer exhibits a long strip of paper which he folds in accordian pleats, making a packet of about one-fifth the size of the original strip. One end of the packet is trimmed off by cutting away the several ends of the folded strip. Upon blowing upon the cut edges, the strip becomes completely restored. This strip is freely handled throughout the routine, with fingers wide apart, making this restoration a really mystifying effect.

ROUTINE: Hold the strip of paper by the fake folds, letting the strip unfold and hang down as in illustration "A". It will look like an ordinary strip of paper, the first finger and thumb hiding the fake folds. After displaying the strip of paper, refold it by pleating the strip commencing with fold number 1, then 2 and 3 until you have a packet about one fifth the size of the original strip. The folds are made towards the audience -- keeping the fake fold at the top and to the rear towards you as in illustration "B". Now reverse the folded strip bringing the fake folds into the palm of your left hand with the thumb resting on the fake end. Under cover of lining up the visible ends of the strip with your right hand, your left thumb turns down the fake folds straightening them out as in the illustration "C". Again reverse the pleated strip bringing the fake end to the top facing the audience (illustration "D").

You are now set for the cutting. Snip off the fake folds with two or three cuts of your scissors. Allow the front pleat to fall as well, proving that the pleats have really been cut through. Hold the strip up and as you nip one end of the strip between your fingers and thumb -- blow on it -- and let unfold to its full length, showing it completely restored. You can now pass out the strip for examination.

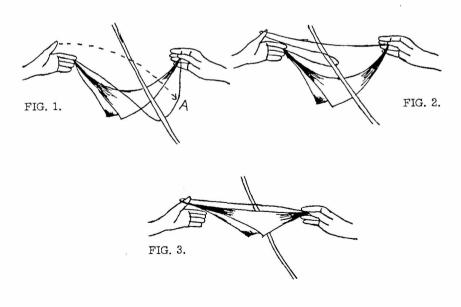


★ Master Silk Jhrough Ropes

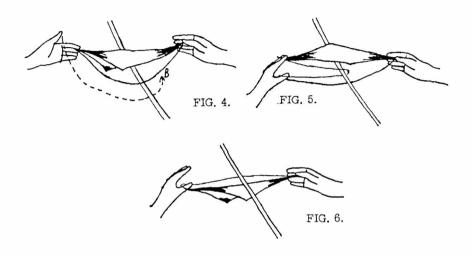
EFFECT: A length of rope is held taut by two assistants from the audience. The magician displays a silk handkerchief and looping it around the rope, with an end in each hand, he proceeds to pull it right through the rope. The process is then reversed by passing the handkerchief back and down through the rope, and as a final touch the trick is repeated with but one hand holding the handkerchief. It's an apparent impossibility, yet it is done right under the eyes of the two assistants. As a variation the silk can be pulled through a pole or for impromptu presentation it can be pulled through the top back rung of a dining room or club chair.

EQUIPMENT: No equipment whatsoever is required, just a short piece of black thread of a length corresponding to the diagonal length of your silk handkerchief. Take hold of your silk at two diagonally opposite corners, and stretch the silk to its extreme length, then tie your silk thread with one end to each diagonal corner and you are all set to perform. Also have an 8 to 10 foot length of rope at hand.

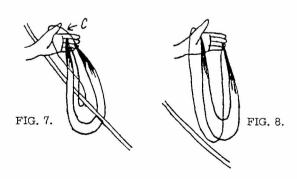
TO PULL THE SILK UP THROUGH THE ROPE: Invite two assistants to examine and stretch out the length of the rope to its fullest extent. Now you step behind the rope at about its center, right side facing the audience, and withdraw the silk from your breast pocket. Flick it out once or twice, then catch hold of it between the first and second fingers of the left hand at one of the corners to which the thread is tied. Letting the other end of the silk hang down, hold it up close to the rope and then reach over the rope with the right hand and catch hold of the lower end of the handkerchief, and hold it as in FIG. 1. Reach over with the left hand, and slip the left thumb under the thread at "A" FIG. 1. Then move the hands apart again as far as the thread will allow, FIG. 2. Make a couple of short upward movements with the hands, then let go of the silk in the left hand, at the same time both hands move apart and up in one rapid move. Care must be taken that the thread does not slip off from the left thumb. The silk has now apparently penetrated the rope, FIG. # 3.



TO PASS THE SILK BACK THROUGH THE ROPE: This is just the reverse of the above. Hold the silk stretched across the top of the rope FIG. 4. Now the left thumb must engage the thread by reaching under the rope at "B", FIG. 4. When you again draw your hands apart the thread will be looped around the rope as in FIG. 5. Make a couple of short downward movements, then let go of the silk in your left hand. At the same time move the hands apart and down in one rapid move. The silk again has penetrated the rope, FIG. 6.



PULLING THE SILK UP THROUGH THE ROPE WITH ONE HAND: First hold the handkerchief as in FIG. 1. Then bring the thread around the rope as in FIG. 2. Next the right hand brings up its end of the silk and places it between the left hand's second and third finger as shown in FIG. 7. Place your right first finger on top of thread at point "C", FIG. 7, and move down, at the same time let go of end of silk which you are holding between first and second finger of left hand and then left hand moves up sharply. When this end of the silk again reaches the left hand after passing around the rope, let go of the thread by the right hand. The silk will now be free of the rope FIG. 8.



TO PASS THE SILK ONTO THE ROPE WITH ONE HAND: Hold the silk in front of the rope with the left hand as in FIG. 9. Bring the thread at point "D" FIG. 9, over the left thumb as shown in FIG. 10. Snap your left hand upwards, letting go of the end of the silk held between the first and second fingers, and the silk will once again be around the rope as in FIG. 11.

