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INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF MAGICIANS

EDINBURGH CONVENTION

By ALAN KENNAUGH,

Most of us come away from any convention or magical meeting with our own impressions formed by careful study of the event from angles peculiar entirely to personal interest.

Most times the impressions are mixed. Certainly there are never unanimity with the entire assembly. Spotlighting them for a private magazine is difficult, but in a largely pictorial record when the report has already been written, the task is made lighter.

Here I am again painting the scene at Edinburgh, but this time surrounded by pictorial evidence of the highlights. I can play safe and find favour with everyone and congratulate ELIZABETH WARLOCK on her brilliant performance in winning the British Ring Shield. Yes there is no doubt about the mastery of magic here. No doubt at all about slipping in a bundle of credits too to FREDDIE CARTER, TOMMY HOWE and FRYL; RAYMOND MAYNARD, and MAE HOWE, who held high the honours of other awards.

It's not going to be a complete picture at all without mentioning too Johnny Platt's amazing close-up magic; the work of Jean Mare; that delightful cabaret performer; Fritz Olai and his symphony in silk; Jeffrey Atkins "burning" Catherine, Amos; Geoffrey Buckingham; Mystic Craig; Elmer Eckow; the Eddie Joseph and John Ramsay lectures, and other personalities like Oliver MacKenzie who turned out the famous Martin apparatus for our pleasure.

MAGICAL GEMS

Playing safe I said. But I am bound to miss some of your own personal highlights, for instance so many found undoubting

interest away from the organised events and picking up magical gems in odd corners of the excellent Assembly rooms. It is not often that so many famous close-up workers, plus those not so famous, but who have made their mark with probably only one twist or effect, can get together to swap ideas. George Blake can tell you a thing or two about this—he's always around in this sphere—imparting information and giving worthwhile praise in this line.

LAUGH — I thought I would never stop at the antics of the New Era gang with their crazy ideas.

AT — those "feet" of Mr. E (Duyphen)

AT — Ken Brooks a regular comedy man who could probably sell refrigerators to the Eskimos with his laughter lines, and leave them happy at that. We should be happy that he sells magic.

AT — Oscar the educated portierette presented by Raymond.

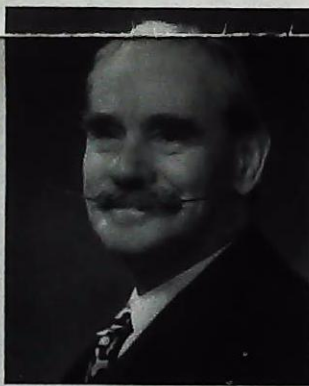
AT — Johnny Giddes and his tale of the shirt

APPLAUD — Yes! doing what comes naturally for up and coming acts like Alex Emsley and Drew Masters and Fred Barton in the Children's Show.

AMAZED — at Peter Warlock's always confident and thoughtful work including that amazing B.B.U. prediction.

DELIGHTED — at the success of the interesting museum exhibits, the Aladdin's Cave for the magical collector and enthusiast.

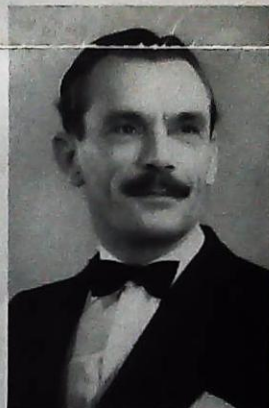
AT — some of the work in the closing session arranged by Francis Haxton and the pocket trick drive by Freddie Carter.



John Gambling, President 1952-53.



Oscar Paulson, President 1953-4.



Geoffrey Robinson, President-Elect.

AT — the refreshingly different lines put out by all dealers and their extreme patience in showing everything. (See "Budget" report).

AT — the always interesting work of Frank Bennett and Geoffrey Robinson who can include an act at every convention as far as I am concerned.

AT — the spirit of the organisers who had put in a lot of hard work before the convention and carried on throughout four long days of events.

AT — the spirit of John Gambling who was determined not to miss a trick, and probably didn't. There's magic for you.

There is a pot pourri of my highlights. Many will probably want to add a dozen or so more. While they may never have made it in print, the pleasure is all theirs, at the thought of taking part in the convention, at the thought of coming away with their own impressions often enriched with at least one new twist, effect, or magical gem.



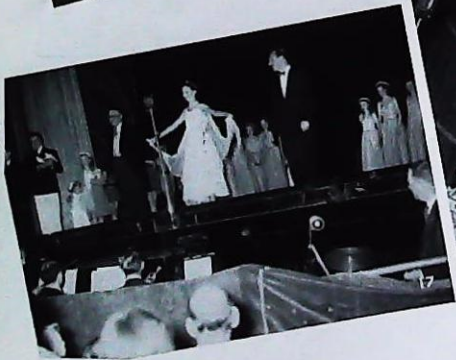
WILLIAM C. STICKLAND
Twenty One Years as Hon. Secretary to the British Ring

It is twenty one years since Bill Stickland as he is widely known, took over as Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, and magicians everywhere, in this country and overseas will join in offering him heartiest congratulations.

Only Bill, as he is widely known, can measure the time and energy expended in securing the important status the Ring has achieved during the past twenty one years. No one has a better title to satisfaction at the thought that so many worthwhile tasks have been finished and that so much has been accomplished.

He is a tower of strength, not only in Ring administration, but in matters concerned throughout the progress and welfare of the International Brotherhood of Magicians. For the future, we all wish Bill and Poppy much pleasure to enjoy the fruits of continuing labour put into magic and the I.B.M.

PHOTO — William C. Stickland receives presentation from Oscar Paulson.



1. President John Gambling laying a wreath on the grave of Lafayette. In attendance also are Claude Perry, Judge Wethered, W. G. Stickland and John Ramsay.
 2. The International Group— Jean Marc; Ian McGregor-Muir; Henk Vermeyden; Fritz Olaf; Glen Olaf.
 3. Johnny Platt's "curtain" at the Gala Show.

4. Jean Marc appearing in the Public Show.
 5. George Smallwood and Doretha's Tombola Stal.
 6. Miss Mae Howie receiving the Ladies Trophy from the Lady Provost with John Gambling, W. G. Stickland and Mystic Craig looking on.

7. George Davenport receiving the Craig Trophy for the Dealers Exhibition, from the Lady Provost, Mystic Craig on the left.
 8. Elizabeth Warlock receiving the I.B.M. Shield from the Lady Provost.

9. Tommy and Phil Speaker Cup being presented with John Graham in the gift.
 10. Freddy Carter (left) The Shield presented from the Lady Provost and G. Robinson (right).

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3. Johnny Platt's "curtain" at the Gala Show.

4. Jean Marc appearing in the Public Show.
5. George Smallwood and Doretta's Tombola Stall.
6. Miss Mae Howe receiving the Ladies Trophy from the Lady Provost with John Gambling, W. G. Stickland and Mystic Craig looking on.
7. George Davenport receiving the Craig Trophy for the Dealers Exhibition, from the Lady Provost, Mystic Craig on the left.
8. Elizabeth Warlock receiving the I.B.M. Shield from the Lady Provost.

9. Tommy and Phyl Rows with the Theo Speaker Cup being presented by the Lady Provost with John Gambling and Paul Graham in the picture.
10. Freddy Carter the Third Prize Winner in the Shield Competition, receiving his award from the Lady Provost. W. G. Stickland and G. Robinson look on.
11. Donald Crombie, Honorary Life Member with his Certificate, the Lady Provost and W. G. Stickland.
12. The Scottish Group showing on the front row, Miss Mae Howe with the Conventions Trophy.
13. The Lord Provost Sir James Miller chatting with members of the I.B.M.

Key to above Reproductions

14. Gilt Medalist: W. G. Stickland; Royal Standard: Vesta Durr; Marie; Ann; etc.
15. I. I. I. I.
16. Mystic Craig with many of his lady friends.
17. The Front of the Casino's Picnic.
18. Fred Quinn at the Casino's Picnic.



1. President John Gambling, holding a shield in the game in Lafayette. In attendance: W. G. Stickland, Perry, John, W. G. Stewart, The International Order, Joan Mary, Mrs. M. G. Stewart, Mrs. M. G. Stewart, Mrs. M. G. Stewart, Mrs. M. G. Stewart.

2. Elizabeth Warlock receiving the I.B.M. Shield from the Lady Provost.

3. George Davenport receiving the Craig Trophy for the Dealers Exhibition, from the Lady Provost. Mystic Craig on the left.

4. Tammy and Phyl Rowe with the Theo Spoken Cup being presented by the Lady Provost with John Gambling and Paul Graham in the picture.

5. Donald Grombie, Honorary Life Member with his Certificate, the Lady Provost and W. G. Stickland.

6. Ollie McKenzie, W. G. Stickland, George Davenport, Fritz Olaj, Borra, Glen Olaj.

7. Raymond Maynard of Bradford, winner of the Conventioneers Trophy for the most original act in the competition.

8. The Scottish Group showing on the front row, Miss Max Howie with the Conventioneers Trophy.

9. The Lord Provost Sir James Miller chatting with members of the I.B.M.

10. Mystic Craig with some of his lady friends.

11. The Final of the Children's Playtime.

12. Fred Barton at the Children's Playtime.

13. Miss Max Howie winner of the Craig Trophy for the Best Lady Magician.

14. C. Cameron, Johnny Platt, Fred Blackwood, John Gambling, President I.B.M., Eddie Logan, Max Raskin, President of S.G.A.M.S.

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Key to above Reproductions:—



Dennis Gardner



Paul Graham; Lord Provost Sir James Miller; Peter Warlock



Max and Helen Andrews, Mary Sowden, Poppy Stickland, Betty Tyler, Mollie Dester



Group Photograph.