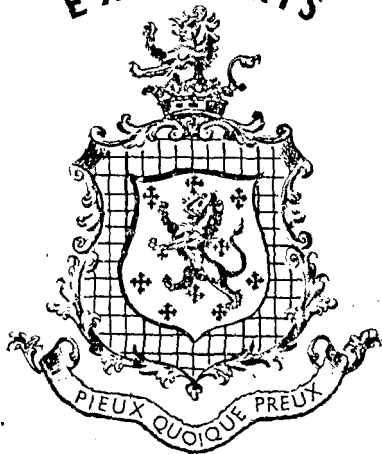


CAPERS with PAPERS

A Complete Paper Tearing Act to Rhyme
By Bill West

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Bill West's "CAPERS WITH PAPERS.
(A Paper Tearing Act to Rhyme).

Supreme Magic, Bideford, Devon.

A paper-tearing routine makes an entertaining contrast in a magical act, especially when the programme is lengthy as in the case of many programmes for children. The following paper tears are not offered as original material. The routine and Patter-to-Rhyme is. The paper tears are well known and many performers may be already acquainted with them, but for the benefit of those who are not, the following simple directions and suggestions will enable the items to be torn without difficulty.

Table-Cloth.

Take a double sheet of full sized newspaper (about 3' by 2') as in Figure 1. Fold the side CD to side AB, then fold B over to A making Fig. 2. the point H being the centre of the paper. Now fold the point G over to the side FH as in Fig. 3, then fold the side EH over to FH so that the slanting line is directly over the line FGH, it is recommended that this fold is made to the rear so that the line IJ is visible, this gives a clearer view of the position for the next tear, (Fig. 4), which is the dotted line in Fig. 4, this tear disposes of the surplus paper and it will be seen that you are now left with a circular piece of paper about two feet in diameter, (do not unfold at this stage), and that you have 16 layers of paper and any design will be repeated throughout the layers. By tearing out pieces similar to the shaded portions of Fig. 5. a pretty "Lace Cloth" will be produced. The more pieces torn out will result in a more lace-like pattern but it must be borne in mind that a certain portion of each edge must be retained to hold the "Cloth" in one piece.

It is recommended that the paper is folded beforehand and when the time comes to present the tear the paper is allowed to fall open, displayed both sides and quickly refolded in the appropriate manner, the fact that it has been previously folded will enable it to be refolded in mid-air without any difficulty.

Laundry Gag.

This needs only one or two wanton tears to bring about the complete destruction of the "Cloth".

Fig.

This too is a gag item and no special tears are needed, pieces are torn off haphazardly and a few small pieces are retained in the hand at the appropriate stage in the patter.

Tree.

To prepare this use several double sheets from a full sized newspaper and cut them in half lengthwise so that they are about 3' by 1'. Commence by making a roll with one piece and when about 4" of the paper is left, insert the next piece up to the roll (Fig. 6) and continue rolling in like manner until about 4" of that piece remains, then insert the third piece, and so on until the required amount have been rolled.

A pastry roller is quite a suitable object to start the rolling process, or similar object of about 2" diameter, the paper should not be rolled too tightly, the height of the tree required will determine the number of sheets required and, of course, the ability to tear same.

When the roll is completed, place an elastic band around one end, this will be the base, at the other end make some small cuts with scissors to facilitate the tearing at the appropriate time.

Having this prepared beforehand saves a lot of time during the performance.

All that remains to be done during the performance is the tearing down of the sections marked by the cuts, there should be about six or eight of these and they should be torn down about 4" to make the leaves of the tree, then if the centre is pulled up gradually a fair imitation of a tree results.

In tearing the cuts down it will be found easier to tear a full round down to about 2" first and down to 4" on the second round, when completed flatten out the leaves with the palm of the hand (Fig. 7.).

Ladder.

This is prepared in exactly the same manner as the tree, using the desired number of sheets for the height required. When the roll is completed, place an elastic band at each end (not too tight), the piece to be torn out is illustrated by the shaded portion of Fig. 8. - this item is also prepared beforehand and two short cuts are made in this also to simplify the tearing during performance.

After the piece is torn out the ends are bent downward as in Fig. 9. and the pulling out from the centre results in an attractive step-ladder.

Star.

A double sheet of full sized newspaper is folded in the same manner as for the table-cloth, all that remains to be done is to make a single tear along the dotted line shown in Fig. 10. and an eight pointed star will result. As in the case of the table-cloth, it is suggested that the paper is folded ready and when performing allow it to drop open and then refold in mid-air.

Other novelties to include in your act.....

Vin Carey's "Easy-do" PAPER ACT. A ships wheel, a string of dancing girls made from the wheel, a row of Chinese skeletons and a very good torn and restored Newspaper to conclude.

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ILLUSTRATIONS.

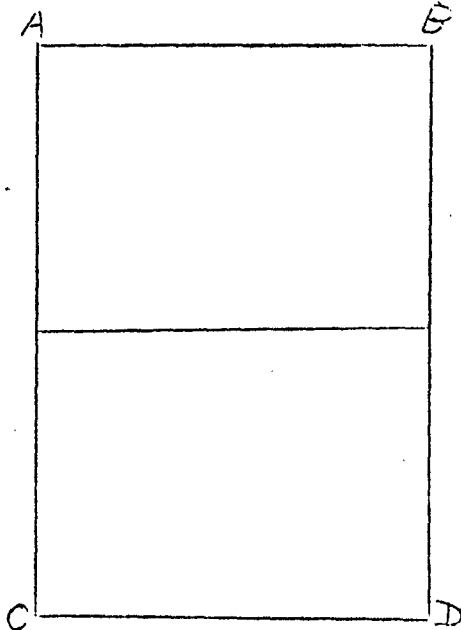


FIG. 1.

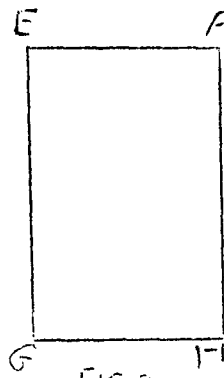


FIG. 2.

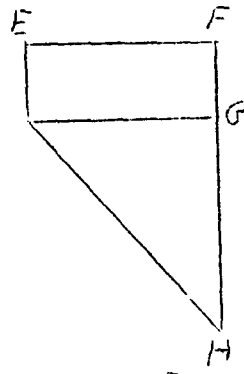


FIG. 3.

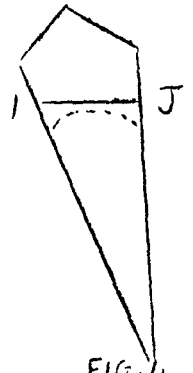


FIG. 4.



FIG. 5.

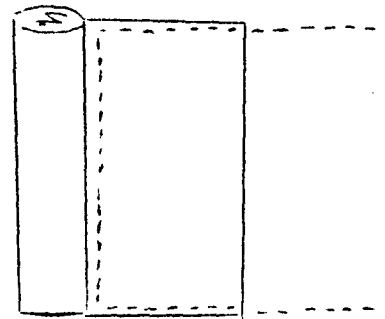


FIG. 6.

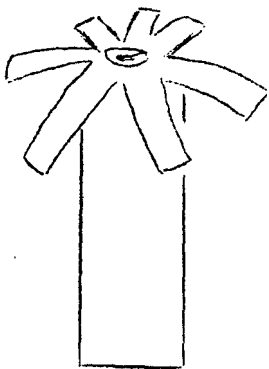


FIG. 7.



FIG. 8.



FIG. 9.

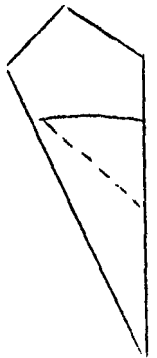


FIG. 10.

PATTER.Introduction:-

When you've read the daily paper,
And digested all the news,
And you've left the crossword puzzle,
With a lot of unsolved clues!
And when you've seen the strip cartoons,
And backed the racing tips,
The only use you have for it,
Is wrapping fish and chips!
Permit me then to show you,
Though news may be sublime,
That with your paper, you can still
Have quite a ripping time!

Tablecloth:-

It's very easy now-a-days,
To go into a shop,
And buy a kitchen table, with
A special plastic top.
They're in all sorts of colours too,
In pink, or blue, or green,
And they don't need any scrubbing,
Just wipe them and they're clean!
But not so many years ago,
It was a diff'rent tale,
Upon the table you might find,
A paper somewhat stale!
You may think it looked horrible,
And somewhat out of place,
Instead it looked most exquisite,
A masterpiece in lace!!!

This masterpiece in black and white,
Or maybe white and black,
I tear again to show you how,
The laundry sent it back !!!

Pig:-

This one you'll find amusing,
Like cartoons in the "MAIL",
It's going to be a paper pig,
Complete with curly tail!
I've got the fat stock prices here,
They're thirty bob a score,
So with sev'ral folds of paper,
I should get sev'ral more!
Now this is where the fun begins,
From here a piece is torn,
And some from here, and soon you'll see,
How little pigs are born!
And so the tearing up goes on,
Until I'm left with these,
A set of little paper pigs,
Which are designed to please!

(Cont.)

You don't think that they look like pigs?
And though you might well titter,
You will agree, upon the floor,
I've made the finest LITTER!!!

Tree:-

A little fairy story now,
About a boy called Jack,
Who went to market with a cow,
And failed to bring her back!
Nor did he bring home any cash,
And this caused angry scenes,
Especially when his Mother found,
He'd swapped the cow for beans!
However, they were magic beans,
And I will try to show,
What happened to those magic seeds,
When they began to grow!
This little roll of paper here,
Will represent the shoot,
The leaves appeared soon afterwards,
When it had taken root!
These strips which I am tearing now,
Are leaves, as will be seen,
I'm sorry that they're black and white,
Instead of being green!
And there you see the magic bean,
Outside of Jack's front door,
The first day it grew up like this,
The next a little more!
And so it went on day by day,
It grew and grew, and grew,
Until it passed the roof-top, and
The tip was not in view!
Jack's Mother realised her mistake,
And promptly begged Jack's pardon,
Suggesting that he picked the beans,
To sell at Covent Garden!
It would at least bring in more gold,
Than their poor ageing cow!
But looking at the beanstalk, Jack,
Began to wonder, how?
Well, how he picked the beans, of course,
Is quite another tale,
I'll show you how he managed it,
Where other folk would fail!

Ladder:-

Now here's another paper roll,
Just like we had before,
I'll tear a strip from here to make,
More litter on the floor!
The ends are then bent over thus,
To make it firm and stout,

(Cont.)

Then by taking hold the middle,
I start to pull it out!
And now the secret is exposed,
Of how Jack picked the crop,
An extending paper ladder, which reached up to the top!
And up and up, still more it went,
And reached a wondrous height,
For the ladder, like the beanstalk,
Went right up out of sight!!!

Star:-

Now if anyone should fancy,
Their chance upon the stage,
Here's how success can be attained,
With paper, just one page!
Just fold the paper up like this,
One tear, and there you are,
For when it's opened out you'll find,
You've made yourself a star!!! - GOODNIGHT!

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