OVERVIEW OF THE COLLECTION
Number: 012
Title: John H. Percival Magic Collection
Creator: Percival, John H.
Dates: 1888-1990, 2009
Quantity: # containers (total 103 linear feet)

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION
Acquisition: John H. Percival donated this collection to the Providence Public Library in 1970, with additions in the following years until his death in 1974. The collection was originally part of the Library’s Art and Music Department. H. Adrian Smith, who was a magic collector, bibliographer, and the executor of Percival’s estate, assisted in preparing the collection for cataloging in 1980. The full collection was transferred to PPL’s Special Collections in 1980 to better assure its long-term preservation. Bound manuscript entitled “Mysteries”, by John J. Goodwin; bound by J.R.H. Ellis; donated by C.J. Hagen of NY, date unknown. Packet of news clippings and promotional materials donated by magician Mike Johnson of Seaside, CA in 1990. Tony Kardyro’s Close-Up Deceptions donated by Mary Piacitelli in 1999.

Accruals: A small number of items have been added to this collection in the years since Percival’s death, both through donations and through acquisitions by librarians. Unfortunately, not all accruals were thoroughly documented. At this time, no further accruals are expected.

Custodial history: Material was acquired from collector.

Processed by: The collection was processed by Elise Petrarca in 2012. Additional processing by Angela DiVeglia, 2017.

Conservation: Collection has received light conservation such as unfolding pages, removing rusted paper clips, and placing very fragile items in enclosures.

Language: Collection is primarily in English, with a small number of materials in German, French, and Portuguese.
RIGHTS AND ACCESS
Access: This collection is open under the rules and regulations of the Providence Public Library, Special Collections department.

Preferred Citation: Researchers are requested to use the following citation format: [item title], John H. Percival Magic Collection, Special Collections, Providence Public Library

Property Rights: The Providence Public Library owns the property rights to this collection.

INFORMATION FOR RESEARCHERS
Separated material: A full list of John H. Percival's books on magic can be found in an external spreadsheet attached. Each of these titles can be found in the library's online catalog. A full list of titles also can be accessed through the online catalog by searching “John H. Percival Magic Collection.” During initial cataloging in 1980, books were arranged by author's last name and assigned volume numbers. This arrangement and numbering system has been maintained, with additional books assigned volume numbers at the end of the sequence.

Published descriptions: Not applicable.

Location of originals: Not applicable.

Location of copies: Not applicable.

Publication note: Not applicable.

Subject headings: Card tricks.
Magic tricks.
Magic tricks--Handbooks, manuals, etc.
Magicians--United States.

SEE ALSO: Not applicable.

HISTORICAL NOTE
John H. Percival was born in East Providence in 1888 and developed an interest in the magical arts after seeing a magic show when he was a child. From the age of eight until his death at eighty-six, Percival remained active as an amateur magician, using the pseudonyms ‘Mysterious John’ or ‘Rene’ when he performed. The first trick Percival learned involved breaking a matchstick in two, wrapping the pieces inside a handkerchief and removing the matchstick whole at the conclusion of the trick. When not engaged at his day job with the New England Telephone Company, Percival attended performances and magicians’ conventions where he became acquainted with many 20th century magicians, including Harry Blackstone, Howard Thurston, and Harry Houdini.
Percival acted as a ‘stooge’ for Houdini — a plant in the audience during the latter’s performance —
during a few shows the legendary magician performed in Providence. When Houdini called upon an
audience member to bring him a pair of handcuffs from which to escape, it was Percival who
provided the special cuffs. He also inspected the tank used by Houdini in his escape from the Chinese
Water Torture Cell. In a 1963 interview with M-U-M, Percival remarked that he and Houdini got into an
argument over the examination of the front bars of the tank, though whether this was a genuine tiff
or merely acting for the benefit of the audience is not clear.

Percival was active as a magician for much of his life, appearing in clubs, lodges, and churches where
he performed a variety of illusions, including escapes, but card tricks were his specialty. Though he
would occasionally enlist his wife, Irene, as a partner during a mindreading act, Percival was mainly a
solo artist, which could have its pitfalls. During what was doubtless a memorable performance at the
Iroquois Theatre in East Greenwich, disaster struck when a drop crashed down from the ceiling onto
his carefully arranged prop table.

SCOPE AND CONTENTS OF THE COLLECTION
The John H. Percival Magic Collection contains books, periodicals, ephemera, manuscript materials,
newspaper clippings, autographs, magicians’ promotional materials, typescripts, and photographs
spanning the years 1888-2009, with the bulk of materials from 1940-1970.

The largest portion of the collection consists of Percival’s book collection, which features over 1,200
volumes on magic tricks, ventriloquism, spiritualism, stage entertainment, and gambling, among
other topics. Items of particular interest include Will Goldston’s Exclusive Magical Secrets, which took
Percival two years to find and is secured with a lock and key, Harry Houdini’s exposé of fraudulent
spirit-mediums called A Magician Among the Spirits, a mystery novel by Clayton Rawson titled Death
from a Top Hat, and a practical guide to fortune-telling, Zancig’s New Complete Palmistry.

The sizeable periodicals collection includes both extensive runs of well-known titles, such as M-U-M,
The Linking Ring, and Tops, and single issues or small runs of obscure titles. Within the periodicals one
can find instructions for magic tricks and effects, news about magicians and magic shows, and
announcements for upcoming conferences.

A significant portion of the ephemera consists of conference programs, mailings, and meeting notes
describing the activities of national and international magicians’ organizations, including the Society
of American Magicians and the International Brotherhood of Magicians. Other ephemera include
magic dealers’ catalogs, advertising both supplies and books, a number of printed magicians’ secrets,
information about individual magicians including Tex McGuire, Dell O’Dell, and many others,
scrapbooks and clippings about magicians and magic shows, and keepsakes from magic conventions
and other trips. Also included among Percival’s ephemera is an autograph book of magician’s
signatures which he collected between 1916 and 1931.
A small series of Percival’s personal papers include his correspondence with fellow magicians, including his close friend H. Adrian Smith, whose own collection of magic books can be found at Brown University’s John Hay Library. Personal papers also include notebooks, early drafts of articles, newspaper clippings about Percival’s performances, and Percival’s own promotional materials.

The bulk of these materials were collected by John H. Percival; a small number were added by friends or librarians after his death (see Accruals for more details).

ORGANIZATION OF THE COLLECTION
The John H. Percival Magic Collection is arranged in five series, one of which is further arranged into subseries. The series and subseries arrangement of the records is as follows:

Series 1, Books on Magic, 1848–1990
Series 2, Periodicals on Magic, 1899–1984
Series 3, Ephemera, 1888–2009 & undated
   Subseries 1, Catalogs - Magic Supplies and Books, 1888–1999
   Subseries 2, Magic Tricks and Performances, 1933–1984 & undated
   Subseries 3, Magicians, 1907–1989 & undated
   Subseries 4, Magic Organizations, 1908–1982, 2009 & undated
   Subseries 5, Magic Conventions, 1927–1984
   Subseries 6, Scrapbooks, Posters, and Miscellany, 1910–1969 & undated
Series 4, John H. Percival Papers, 1904–1976 & undated

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE COLLECTION

Series 1: Books on Magic, 1848–1990
A full list of John H. Percival’s books on magic can be found in an external spreadsheet attached. Each of these titles can be found in the library’s online catalog. A full list of titles also can be accessed through the online catalog by searching “John H. Percival Magic Collection.”

During initial cataloging in 1980, books were arranged by author’s last name and assigned volume numbers. This arrangement and numbering system has been maintained, with additional books assigned volume numbers at the end of the sequence.

Series 2: Periodicals on Magic, 1899–1984
These periodicals have been arranged alphabetically by title; they can be requested using title along with volume number and issue number (if available), or by title along with date or date range.

_Around the Magic World_. Tan Bah Chee and Benjamin J. Kleinman, eds. Miami Beach, FL and Singapore
Vol. 1, No. 2 (Jan - March 1970)
The Barnstormer. Herman Hanson, ed. Boston, MA: Society of American Magicians Assembly #9
Vol. 1-35 (1938-1973)
Vol. 43, No. 10 (1981)

The Bat. Lloyd E. Jones, ed. Oakland, CA
No. 1 (Feb 1943)

Vol. 5, No. 2-10, 12 (Feb 1909 - Dec 1909)
Vol. 6, No. 1-9 (Jan 1910 - Sept 1910)

No. 1 (1920)

Big Bob's Magic Club News. Lloyd E. Jones, ed. Cicero, IL: Big Bob's Magic Club
No. 15, 17-23, 26 (April 1971 - Jan 1974)

No. 5, 9 (March 1971, Nov 1972)

California Newsletter. Los Angeles, CA: Society of American Magicians Assembly #22
December 1962 - March 1963

Céma Notícias: Boletim Informativo do Centro de Estudos Mágicos. Departamento de Promoção E.
Difusão, ed. São Paulo, Brasil
Vol. 1, No. 12 (Oct 1967)

The Change Bag. James Catlett, ed. [Place of publication not identified]
Vol. 4, No. 1 (June 1958)

Club 71. London, England: Repro 71
No. 4-5, 8-9 (Winter 1972 - 1974)

Combined Magical Club Bulletin. R. W. Hoel, ed. Buffalo, NY
Vol. 1, No. 1-6 (March 1915 - Aug 1915)

Vol. 2, No. 1 (May 1920)

The Conjuring Record. V. K. Allison, ed. Bronxville, NY
Vol. 1, No. 2-3 (April 1913 - May 1913)
   Vol. 1-4 (Feb 1945 - Feb 1949)
   Vol. 5, No. 1 (March 1949)

The Diebox: A Symposium of Meritorious Legerdemain and Kindred Subjects. Portland, OR: Walter Adrian
   Vol. 2, No. 3 (Aug 1934)

Dope Sheet, Tommy Windsor's. Marietta, OH: Tommy Windsor's Studios
   No. 1-6, 9-16 (Jan 1945 - May 1946, Feb 1947 - May 1948)

Ed Mellon's Mental-wise see Mellon's Mental-wise.

   Vol. 1, No. 3 (April 1909)

El-pro-per. Cranston, RI: C. Foster Fenner Junior League Magic Group
   August 1958 – February 1966

Florida Magic News. Miami, FL: International Brotherhood of Magicians Ring #45
   Vol. 1 (Dec 1965)

Frank Lane’s Funny Talk. Frank Lane, ed. Boston, MA
   Vol. 1, No. 8 (Dec 1938)

Ft. Lauderdale Society of Magicians. Ft. Lauderdale, FL: I.B.M. Ring #150
   Vol. 1 (May 1959)

   Vol. 9, No. 3, 6 (July 1953, Oct 1953)
   Vol. 12, No. 3 (July 1956)
   Vol. 14, No. 2 (June 1958)

   Vol. 1, No. 3-12 (Nov 1936 - Aug 1937)
   Vol. 2, No. 1-12 (Sept 1937 - Aug 1938)
   Vol. 3, No. 1-12 (Sept 1938 - Aug 1939)
   Vol. 4, No. 1-3, 5-12 (Sept 1939 - Nov 1939, Jan 1940 - Aug 1940)
   Vol. 5, No. 1-12 (Sept 1940 - Aug 1941)
   Vol. 6, No. 1-12 (Sept 1941 - Aug 1942)
   Vol. 7, No. 1-12 (Sept 1942 - Aug 1943)
   Vol. 8, No. 1-12 (Sept 1943 - Aug 1944)
Vol. 9, No. 1-12 (Sept 1944 - Aug 1945)
Vol. 10, No. 1-12 (Sept 1945 - Aug 1946)
Vol. 11, No. 1-12 (Sept 1946 - Aug 1947)
Vol. 12, No. 1-12 (Sept 1947 - Aug 1948)
Vol. 13, No. 1-12 (2 variants of No. 4) (Sept 1948 - Aug 1949)
Vol. 15, No. 1-12 (Sept 1950 - Aug 1951)
Vol. 16, No. 1-12 (Sept 1951 - Aug 1952)
Vol. 17, No. 1-12 (Sept 1952 - Aug 1953)
Vol. 18, No. 1-12 (Sept 1953 - Aug 1954)
Vol. 20, No. 1-12 (Sept 1955 - Aug 1956)
Vol. 21, No. 1-12 (Sept 1956 - Aug 1957)
Vol. 22, No. 1-12 (Sept 1957 - Aug 1958)
Vol. 23, No. 1-12 (Sept 1958 - Aug 1959)
Vol. 25, No. 1-12 (Sept 1960 - Aug 1961)
Vol. 27, No. 1-12 (Sept 1962 - Aug 1963)
Vol. 28, No. 1-12 (Sept 1963 - Aug 1964)
Vol. 29, No. 1-12 (Sept 1964 - Aug 1965)
Vol. 30, No. 1-12 (Sept 1965 - Aug 1966)
Vol. 32, No. 1-12 (Sept 1967 - Aug 1968)
Vol. 34, No. 1-12 (Sept 1969 - Aug 1970) - two copies of Vol. 36, No. 6 (Feb 1970)

_Ghosts_. A. W. Wilson, MD, ed. Kansas City MO: Earnest Evangeline
Vol. 1, No. 1 (Feb 1910)

No. 7-8 (undated)

Vol. 2, No. 1 (June 1935)
Vol. 3, No. 1 (June 1936)
Vol. 4, No. 4 (Sept 1938)
Hade-E-Gram Magi-zette. Calgary, Alberta, Canada: Micky Hades.

Vol. 3, No. 30 (June 1961)


Vol. 1, No. 1-12 + index (June 1943 - May 1944)
Vol. 2, No. 1-12 + index (June 1944 - May 1945)
Vol. 3, No. 1-12 + index (June 1945 - May 1946)
Vol. 4, No. 1-12 + index (June 1946 - May 1947) - Vol. 4, No. 2 (July 1946) incorrectly labelled
Vol. 5, No. 2
Vol. 5, No. 1-12 (June 1947 - May 1948)
Vol. 6, No. 1-12 (June 1948 - May 1949) - Vol. 6, No. 12 (May 1949) incorrectly labelled Vol. 7, No. 1
Vol. 7, No. 1-12 (June 1949 - May 1950)
Vol. 8, No. 1-12 (June 1950 - May 1951)
Vol. 9, No. 1-12 (June 1951 - May 1952)
Vol. 10, No. 1-12 (June 1952 - May 1953)
Vol. 11, No. 1-12 (June 1953 - May 1954)
Vol. 12, No. 1-12 (June 1954 - May 1955)
Vol. 13, No. 1-12 (June 1955 - May 1956)
Vol. 14, No. 1-12 (June 1956 - May 1957)
Vol. 15, No. 1-12 (June 1957 - May 1958)
Vol. 16, No. 1-12 (June 1958 - May 1959)
Vol. 17, No. 1-12 (June 1959 - May 1960)
Vol. 18, No. 1-12 (June 1960 - Aug 1961)
Vol. 20, No. 1-9 (Sept 1962 - May 1963)

Hutchinson’s Conjurer’s Chronicle: see Conjurer’s Chronicle


No. 83 (Nov 1908)

Ireland’s [Magic] Trick Talk: see Trick Talk

The Jinx. Theo Anneman, ed. and pub.

No. 22, 25, 31, 40 (July 1936, Oct 1936, Apr 1937, Jan 1938)
No. 61-151 (Oct 1939 - Dec 1941)

Leat’s Leaflets. Bideford, Devon, England: The Supreme Magic Company

No. 57 (July 1970)

The Linking Ring: Official Publication of the International Brotherhood of Magicians. Bluffton, OH.

Vol. 3, No. 1-6 (May 1925 - Dec 1925)
Vol. 4, No. 1-6 (Jan 1926 - Aug 1926) - two copies each of Vol. 4, Nos. 4-6
Vol. 5, No. 1-2, 4-6 (Sept 1926 - Feb 1927)
Vol. 6, No. 1-6 (March 1927 - Aug 1927)
Vol. 7, No. 1-6 (Sept 1927 - Feb 1928)
Vol. 8, No. 1-12 (March 1928 - Feb 1929)
Vol. 9, No. 1-12 (March 1929 - Feb 1930)
Vol. 10, No. 1-12 (March 1930 - Feb 1931)
Vol. 11, No. 1-12 (March 1931 - Feb 1932)
Vol. 12, No. 1-12 (March 1932 - Feb 1933)
Vol. 13, No. 1-12 (March 1933 - Feb 1934)
Vol. 14, No. 1-12 (March 1934 - Feb 1935)
Vol. 15, No. 1-12 (March 1935 - Feb 1936)
Vol. 16, No. 1-12 (March 1936 - Feb 1937)
Vol. 17, No. 1-12 (March 1937 - Feb 1938)
Vol. 18, No. 1-12 (March 1938 - Feb 1939)
Vol. 19, No. 1-12 (March 1939 - Feb 1940)
Vol. 20, No. 1-12 (March 1940 - Feb 1941)
Vol. 21, No. 1-12 (March 1941 - Feb 1942)
Vol. 22, No. 1-12 (March 1942 - Feb 1943)
Vol. 23, No. 1-12 (March 1943 - Feb 1944)
Vol. 24, No. 1-12 (March 1944 - Feb 1945)
Vol. 25, No. 1-12 (March 1945 - Feb 1946)
Vol. 26, No. 1-12 (March 1946 - Feb 1947)
Vol. 27, No. 1-12 (March 1947 - Feb 1948)
Vol. 28, No. 1-12 (March 1948 - Feb 1949)
Vol. 29, No. 1-12 (March 1949 - Feb 1950)
Vol. 30, No. 1-12 (March 1950 - Feb 1951)
Vol. 31, No. 1-12 (March 1951 - Feb 1952)
Vol. 32, No. 1-12 (March 1952 - Feb 1953)
Vol. 33, No. 1-12 (March 1953 - Feb 1954)
Vol. 34, No. 1-12 (March 1954 - Feb 1955)
Vol. 35, No. 1-12 (March 1955 - Feb 1956)
Vol. 36, No. 1-12 (March 1956 - Feb 1957)
Vol. 37, No. 1-12 (March 1957 - Feb 1958)
Vol. 38, No. 1-12 (March 1958 - Feb 1959)
Vol. 39, No. 1-12 (March 1959 - Feb 1960)
Vol. 40, No. 1-12 (March 1960 - Feb 1961)
Vol. 41, No. 1-10 (March 1961 - Dec 1961) - Note only 10 volumes were issued here, with the following issue (Jan 1962) numbered Vol. 42, No. 1.
Vol. 42, No. 1-12 (Jan 1962 - Dec 1962)
Vol. 43, No. 1-12 (Jan 1963 - Dec 1963)
Vol. 44, No. 1-12 (Jan 1964 - Dec 1964)
Vol. 45, No. 1-12 (Jan 1965 - Dec 1965)
Vol. 46, No. 1-12 (Jan 1966 - Dec 1966)
Vol. 47, No. 1-12 (Jan 1967 - Dec 1967)
Vol. 48, No. 1-12 (Jan 1968 - Dec 1968)
Vol. 49, No. 1-12 (Jan 1969 - Dec 1969)
Vol. 50, No. 1-12 (Jan 1970 - Dec 1970)
Vol. 51, No. 1-12 (Jan 1971 - Dec 1971)
Vol. 52, No. 1-12 (Jan 1972 - Dec 1972)
Vol. 53, No. 2-6, 8-12 (Feb 1973 - June 1973, Aug - Dec 1973)
Vol. 54, No. 1-5 (Jan 1974 - May 1974)
Vol. 61, No. 7-11 (July 1981 - Nov 1981)
Vol. 64, No. 1-10 (Jan 1984 - Oct 1984)

Los Angeles Wand. Southern California Assembly #22, Society of American Magicians.
Los Angeles, CA
Vol. 5, No. 5-9, 12 (Nov 1968 - March 1969, June 1969) - Vol. 5, No. 6 is incorrectly labelled
Vol. 6, No. 6 on masthead but correctly labelled on interior pages; Vol. 5, No. 7 is
incorrectly labelled Vol. 6, No. 7 throughout, and Vol. 5, No. 8 is incorrectly labelled
Vol. 6, No. 8 throughout.
Vol. 7, No. 1-12 (July 1970 - June 1971)
Vol. 8, No. 1-12 (July 1971 - June 1972)
Vol. 9, No. 1-3 (July 1972 - Sept 1972)

Maddock’s Magic Searchlight. Glasgow, Scotland: A. H. Maddock
Vol. 1, No. 5 (Feb 1920?)

Vol. 1, No. 1, 5 (Oct 1914, Feb 1915)

Vol. 1, No. 1-5 (Jan 1910 - June 1910)
Vol. 2, No. 6-11 (Sept 1910 - Feb 1911)

Magic. London: Ellis Stanyon
Vol. 11, No. 1,5 (Oct 1910, Feb 1911)
Vol. 14, No. 6 (March 1914)
Vol. 15, No. 6 (March 1920)

The Magic Gazette. Chicago: Nelma System
No. 12 (undated)
   Vol. 1, No. 4 (Aug 12, 1971)
   Vol. 2, No. 2 (Jan 6, 1972) - Masthead says Vol. 2, No. 1, but interior pages say Vol. 2, No. 2

   1962, 1968 editions

   No. 2-4 (May 1946 - March 1947)

The Magic Key. H. F. Herth, ed. Carroll, IA: Magic Key Publishing
   Vol. 1, No. 1-4, 6-10, 12 (April 1917 - July 1917, Sept 1917 - Jan 1918, March 1918)

   Vol. 3, No. 6, 8-9 (Sept 1954, Nov 1954 - Dec 1954)
   Vol. 5, No. 4 (July 1956)

   Vol. 1, No. 1 (July 1972)

   Vol. 9, No. 1 (German) (Oct 1924)
   Vol. 9, No. 1 (English) (Oct 1924)

Magic Searchlight see Maddock's Magic Searchlight

The Magic Wand: An Illustrated Monthly Journal for Conjurers, Concert Artistes, and all Entertainers.
   Vol. 1, No. 1-2 (Sep 1910 - Oct 1910)
   Vol. 3, No. 25 (Sep 1912)

   Vol. 9, No. 3 (May 1920)

   Vol. 10, No. 109 - 112 (March 1921 - Sept 1921)
   Vol. 11, No. 113-116 (March 1922 - Dec 1922)
   Vol. 12, No. 117-120 (March 1923 - Dec 1923)
   Vol. 14, No. 128 (Dec 1925)
   Vol. 16, No. 133, 135 (March-May 1927, Oct-Nov 1927)
   Vol. 17, No. 137-139 (March 1928 - Nov 1928)
   Vol. 18, No. 141-144 (March 1929 - Dec 1929)
   Vol. 19, No. 145-148 (March 1930 - Dec 1930)
Vol. 20, No. 149-152 (March 1931 - Dec 1931)
Vol. 21, No. 153-156 (March 1932 - Dec 1932)
Vol. 22, No. 157-158 (March 1933 - Sept 1933)
Vol. 25, No. 171-172 (Oct 1936 - Dec 1936)
Vol. 26, No. 173-176 (March 1937 - Dec 1937)
Vol. 27, No. 177-178 (March 1938 - Sept 1938)
Vol. 28, No. 182, 184 (June-Sept 1939, Dec 1939)
Vol. 30, No. 190-191 (June 1941 - Nov 1941)
Vol. 36, No. 214 (June 1947)

*The Magic World*. Philadelphia: J. E. Pierce
Vol. 3, No. 10-11 (Jan 1920 - Feb 1920)
Vol. 4, No. 3-9 (July 1920 - Dec 1920)

*The Magical Bulletin*. Los Angeles: F. G. Thayer
Vol. 7, No. 1-7, 9-12 (Jan 1919 - July 1919, Sept 1919 - Dec 1919)
Vol. 8, No. 1-12 (Jan 1920 - Dec 1920)
Vol. 9, No. 1-12 (Jan 1921 - May 1922)
Vol. 10, No. 1-8 (June 1922 - March 1923)
Vol. 13, No. 1 (June 1948)

No. 1 (March 15, 1924)

*The Magical Review*. Max Underwood, ed. New Lexington, OH
Vol. 1, No. 6 (June 1962)

*Magical Tidings*. Stamford, CT: Edward A. Shawman
Vol. 1, No. 1-5 (Aug 1964 - April 1965)
Vol. 2, No. 2-4 (Oct 1965 - Feb 1966)
Vol. 4, No. 1 (Sept 1967)

Vol. 16, No. 5 (April 1920)
Vol. 32, No. 9-12 (Aug 1936 - Nov 1936)
Vol. 33, No. 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 (Dec 1936, Feb 1937, April 1937, June 1937, Aug 1937)
Vol. 34, No. 12 (Nov 1938)
Vol. 35, No. 3 (Feb 1939)

Vol. 1, No. 1 (July 1973)
Magick. Bascom Jones, ed. Laguna Beach, CA
   No. 1, 8 (July 17, 1970, Oct 23, 1970)

The Magnet: The Only magic Newspaper in the World. Thom Hendricks, pub. Birmingham, AL
   Vol. 3, No. 4 (June 1958)

Mahatma. (OVERSIZE) George H. Little and T. Francis Fritz, eds. Brooklyn, NY
   Vol. 2, No. 10 (April 1899)
   Vol. 3, No. 1-2, 4-5, 7, 9 (July 1899 - Aug 1899, Oct 1899 - Nov 1899, Jan 1900, March 1900)
   Vol. 4, No. 4-5 (Oct 1900 - Nov 1900)
   Vol. 6, No. 4 (Oct 1902)
   Vol. 9, No. 5 (Nov 1905)

Ed Mellon’s Mental-wise. Uniontown, PA: Ed Mellon
   Vol. 1, No. 10-12 (undated)
   Vol. 2, No. 1, 6-12 (1955, Jan 1956 - July 1956)

   Vol. 3, No. 2 (May 1974)

The Modern Magician. Newark, NJ: James McKnight
   Vol. 1, No. 1 (Oct 1932)

   Vol. 1, No. 1 (Jan 1949)

M-U-M. Old Series. (OVERSIZE) New York: Society of American Magicians
   Vol. 7, No. 55 (Oct 1917)
   Vol. 10, No. 10-12 (April 1921 - June 1921)
   Vol. 11, No. 13-14 (July 1921 - Aug 1921) - Possibly misnumbered, supposed to be Vol. 10, No. 13-14, as the dates precede the start of Vol. 11?
   Vol. 11, No. 3-12 (Sept 1921 - June 1922) - Vol. 11, No. 9 incorrectly labelled Vol. 11, No. 8 on masthead
   Vol. 12, No. 1-4, 6-10, 12 (July 1922 - Oct 1922, Dec 1922 - April 1923, June 1923)
   Vol. 13, No. 1-12, 14-16 (July 1923 - June 1924, July 1924 - Sept 1924) - Dates seem to indicate that no Vol. 13, No. 13 was ever issued.
   Vol. 14, No. 4-7 (Oct 1924 - Jan 1925)
   Vol. 15, No. 1-4 (Dec 1925 - March 1926)

M-U-M. New York: Society of American Magicians
   Vol. 41, No. 1-12 (June 1951 - May 1952)
Vol. 42, No. 1-12 (June 1952 - May 1953)
Vol. 43, No. 1-12 (June 1953 - May 1954)
Vol. 44, No. 1-12 (June 1954 - May 1955)
Vol. 45, No. 1-12 (June 1955 - May 1956)
Vol. 46, No. 1-12 (June 1956 - May 1957)
Vol. 47, No. 1-12 (June 1957 - May 1958)
Vol. 48, No. 1-12 (June 1958 - May 1959)
Vol. 49, No. 1-12 (June 1959 - May 1960)
Vol. 50, No. 1-12 (June 1960 - May 1961)
Vol. 51, No. 1-12 (June 1961 - May 1962)
Vol. 52, No. 1-12 (June 1962 - May 1963)
Vol. 53, No. 1-12 (June 1963 - May 1964)
Vol. 54, No. 1-12 (June 1964 - May 1965)
Vol. 55, No. 1-12 (June 1965 - May 1966)
Vol. 56, No. 1-12 (June 1966 - May 1967)
Vol. 57, No. 1-12 (June 1967 - May 1968)
Vol. 58, No. 1-12 (June 1968 - May 1969)
Vol. 59, No. 1-12 (June 1969 - May 1970)
Vol. 60, No. 1-12 (June 1970 - May 1971)
Vol. 61, No. 1-12 (June 1971 - May 1972)
Vol. 62, No. 1-12 (June 1972 - May 1973)

National News Letter. Wynn Boyar, ed. Forestville, CT
No. 6 (June 1967)

N.C.A. Digest. New York: C.J. Hagen
Vol. 1, No. 1-12 (Aug 1920 - July 1921)
Vol. 2, No. 1-3 (Aug 1921 - Dec 1921)

The New Jinx. Boston: Arlecchino
Vol. 1, No. 1-12 (May 1962 - Apr 1963)
Vol. 3, No. 25-36 (May 1964 - Apr 1965)
Vol. 5, No. 49-60 (May 1966 - Apr 1967)
Vol. 6, No. 61-72 (May 1967 - Apr 1968)
Index to May 1965 - April 1968

The New Phoenix. Oak Park, IL: Jay Marshall
No. 331 (Oct 22, 1955)
No. 333-348 (Nov 22, 1955 - 1957)
No. 366-367 (Feb 1962 - Mar 1962) 
See also: The Osirian

Vol. 1, No. 6, 9 (June 1961, Sept 1961)  
Vol. 2, No. 6-12 (June 1962 - Dec 1962)  
Vol. 3, No. 1-12 (Jan 1963 - Dec 1963)  
Vol. 4, No. 1-12 (Jan 1964 - Dec 1964)  
Vol. 5, No. 1-12 (Jan 1965 - Dec 1965)  
Vol. 6, No. 1-12 (Jan 1966 - Dec 1966)  
Vol. 7, No. 1-12 (Jan 1967 - Dec 1967)  
Vol. 8, No. 1-12 (Jan 1968 - Dec 1968)  
Vol. 9, No. 1-12 (Jan 1969 - Dec 1969)  
Vol. 10, No. 1-12 (Jan 1970 - Dec 1970)  
Vol. 11, No. 1-12 (Jan 1971 - Dec 1971)  
Vol. 12, No. 1-12 (Jan 1972 - Dec 1972)  
Vol. 13, No. 1-12 (Jan 1973 - Dec 1973)  
Pictorial Album of Magicians (1966)

News Letter. Miami, FL: Ring #45, International Brotherhood of Magicians  

Vol. 1, No. 1 (Aug 20, 1955) - This issue is also The New Phoenix 329, printed in 1955, featuring the cover art from the April 1925 issue of The Osirian.

Pete’s Leaflet. Oakland, CA: Pete Biro  
Vol. 1, No. 1-12 (Jan 1973 - Dec 1973)  

The Phoenix. New York: Louis Tannen  
No. 1-50 (Jan 1942 - Dec 1943)

Pips. Chuck Kirchner and James Steffner, eds. Charleston, WV  
No. 21 (June 1960)

The Pyramid. Providence, RI: C. Foster Fenner Assembly #26, Society of American Magicians  
Dec. 1949

Ring 44 Newsletter. Providence, RI: William E. Baker Ring #44, International Brotherhood of Magicians  
Vol. 2, No. 2 (Oct 1956)


   Vol. 1, No. 1-10 (Sept 1962 - June 1963)
   Vol. 2, No. 1-10 (Sept 1963 - June 1964)
   Vol. 3, No. 1-10 (Sept 1964 - June 1965)
   Vol. 4, No. 1-9 (Sept 1965 - June 1966)
   Vol. 5, No. 1-10 (Sept 1966 - June 1967)
   Vol. 6, No. 1-10 (Sept 1967 - Summer 1968)
   Vol. 9, No. 1 (Sept 1970)

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   Oct - Dec 1971
   Jan - Dec 1972
   Jan - Nov 1973
   Jan - June, Dec 1974

The Spellbinder. New York: Society of American Magicians Parent Assembly No. 1
   Dec 1970

   Vol. 4, No. 11-12 (Jan 1906 - Feb 1906)
   Vol. 5, No. 1-12 (Mar 1906 - Feb 1907)
   Vol. 6, No. 1-12 (Mar 1907 - Feb 1908)
   Vol. 7, No. 1-12 (Mar 1908 - Feb 1909)
   Vol. 8, No. 1-12 (Mar 1909 - Feb 1910)
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   Vol. 11, No. 1-12 (Mar 1912 - Feb 1913)
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   Vol. 13, No. 1-12 (Mar 1914 - Feb 1915)
   Vol. 15, No. 1-12 (Mar 1916 - Feb 1917)
Vol. 16, No. 1-12 (Mar 1917 - Feb 1918)
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Vol. 18, No. 1-12 (Mar 1919 - Feb 1920)
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Vol. 45, No. 1-12 (Mar 1946 - Feb 1947)
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Vol. 47, No. 1-12 (Mar 1948 - Feb 1949)
Vol. 48, No. 1-12 (Mar 1949 - Feb 1950)
Vol. 49, No. 1-12 (Mar 1950 - Feb 1951)
Vol. 50, No. 1-6 (Mar 1951 - Dec 1951)
Vol. 51, No. 1-2 (Mar 1952, June 1952)

*Spirit News.* Miami, FL: Assembly #76, Society of American Magicians

Vol. 1, No. 1 (Jan 1972)

*Tales of Magic and Mystery.* Camden, NJ: Personal Arts Co.
Vol. 1, No. 5 (Apr 1928)

*Thayer's Magical Bulletin:* see *Magical Bulletin.*

*Tommy Windsor's Dope Sheet:* see *Dope Sheet*

*Top Hat Topics.* New York: Louis Tannen
Vol. 1, No. 1-2 (undated)
Vol. 3, No. 7, 9-10 (undated)
Vol. 5, No. 5 (undated)
Vol. 8, No. 2-3 (undated)


Vol. 1, No. 1-12 (Jan 1936 - Dec 1936)
Vol. 2, No. 1-12 (Jan 1937 - Dec 1937)
Vol. 3, No. 1-12 (Jan 1938 - Dec 1938)
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Vol. 6, No. 1-12 (Jan 1941 - Dec 1941)
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Vol. 20, No. 1-12 (Jan 1955 - Dec 1955)
Vol. 21, No. 1-12 (Jan 1956 - Dec 1956)
Vol. 22, No. 1-3 (Jan 1957 - Mar 1957)

   1962 Trick Annual
   1963 Trick Annual

*Trick Talk.* Chicago: Ireland’s/ Magic Inc.
   Vol. 2, No. 12 (Spring 1964)
   Vol. 3, No. 1-2, 4-11 (Fall 1964 - Summer 1965, Spring 1966 - 1972?)

*Tricks ‘n’ Things.* Medford, MA: James Raihno Products

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   Vol. 34, No. 11 (Dec 1954) - includes article “How Houdini Did It”

*Waikiki Wizard.* Honolulu, HI
   Vol. 1, No. 1, 2, 4 (July 2, 1972, July 3, 1972, July 5, 1972)

*The Wand.* Santa Barbara, CA: Assembly #54, Society of American Magicians
   Vol. 1, No. 2, 5 (Dec 1962, Mar 1963)

*Wilford Hutchinson’s Conjurer’s Chronicle:* see Conjurer’s Chronicle.

   Vol. 3, No. 29-36 (Jan 1908 - Aug 1908)
   Vol. 4, No. 37-40 (Sep 1908 - Dec 1908)
Vol. 5, No. 51-60 (Nov 1909 - Aug 1910)

Vol. 1, No. 1 (Apr 1947)

_Woofle Dust_. Portland, ME: Johnnie Murray
Vol. 1, No. 1-3 (Jan 1972 - Mar 1972)

Vol. 2, No. 7 (May 1960)
Vol. 4, No. 9 (July 1962)

**Series 3: Ephemera, 1888-2009**

Ephemera has been divided into subseries based on type and content of material. Subseries 1 includes Magic catalogs and books; Subseries 2 includes Magic tricks and performances; Subseries 3 includes Magicians; Subseries 4 includes Magic organizations; Subseries 5 includes Magic conventions; Subseries 5 includes Scrapbooks.

**Subseries 1: Catalogs - Magic Supplies and Books, 1888-1999**

This subseries primarily contains catalogs from dealers in magic supplies and magic books, including a small number of catalogs from dealers in Canada, Germany, and other foreign countries. Folders of magic dealers' catalogs also include individual price sheets, catalog updates, and special offers from said dealers. Note that some larger magic dealers' catalogs are individually bound; these are shelved separately, but are referenced in the folder list below.

In addition to catalogs, this subseries contains some information about magic shops, promotional material for new magic books and periodicals, as well as lists and catalogs from book stores and auction houses hosting sales in magic-related items.

One folder at the end of the subseries contains booklets and other short publications on a variety of magic-related topics, including magic novelties and games, magicians, and book collecting.

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Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Eagle-Fun, 1915-1963 & undated

Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Gamagic, 1907-1912

Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Gilbert-Grant, 1933-1965 & undated

Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Grant-Guaranteed, undated


Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Halton, undated


Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Holden's Magic Shop, Catalog No. 8, 1941 Bound - on shelf


Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Holmes, 1916-1925 & undated

Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Holmes-Hornmann, undated

Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Ireland-Lane, 1930-1964 & undated


Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Leroy-Lohrey, 1926 & undated


Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Maurer-Mysto, 1888-1921 & undated

Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Nat-National, 1939-1940 & undated

Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Nelmarr-Nelson, 1946 & undated

Magic Dealers' Catalogs: New York-Ovette, 1913-1927 & undated

Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Parker-Quality, 1909-1939 & undated

Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Raven-Sherm, 1899-1953


Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Supreme-Sylvian, 1973 & undated

Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Louis Tannen's Catalog of Magic No. 1, 1949 Bound - on shelf

Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Louis Tannen's Catalog of Magic No. 2, 1955 Bound - on shelf

Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Louis Tannen's Catalog of Magic No. 5, 1965 Bound - on shelf

Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Louis Tannen's Catalog of Magic No. 7, 1969 Bound - on shelf

Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Tayade-Thayer, 1919-1940 & undated

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Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Thayer Quality Magic, Catalogue No. 6, 1925 Bound - on shelf

Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Thayer Quality Magic, Catalogue No. 7, 1928 Bound - on shelf

Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Thayer Quality Magic, Catalogue No. 8, 1936 Bound - on shelf

Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Tiny's, 1950 & undated

Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Tiny's-Tripp, 1946 & undated

Magic Dealers' Catalogs: Waldman-Yost, 1968 & undated


Magic Books: Promotional Materials (Alpha by book title), undated

Magic Books: Collecting and Bibliography, 1967-1999 & undated

Magic Shops, Auctions, Sales, 1972-1986 & undated
Subseries 2: Magic Tricks and Performances, 1933-1984 & undated
This subseries contains printed and published information on performing specific magic tricks ("secrets"), as well as magicians' lectures, patter, and performance tips.

Many magazines, magicians, and suppliers offered secrets for sale—the purchased secret would be mailed in a single, colored paper wrapper with staples along the top edge. Numerous examples of this format can be found in this subseries. The magic yearbooks here, produced by different magic companies and spanning several decades, also consist primarily of magicians' secrets.

Percival copied many magicians' secrets, for both personal use and for publication; his manuscript copies, typescript, and bound collection of these can be found in Series 4.

This subseries also includes advertisements for and programs from specific magic performances, both within Rhode Island and throughout the United States, and photographs of magic performances.

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| Subseries 3: Magicians, 1907-1989 & undated
This subseries contains information about specific magicians, including Rhode Island acts such as C. Foster Fenner, national acts such as Dell O'Dell, and international acts such as Sorcar. Promotional materials are organized by magician's last name or, if none is available, first name. Among the promotional materials are news releases, business cards, flyers, pamphlets, and other documents promoting specific magicians and their magic acts. Souvenir programs with extensive information |

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| Magicians' Secrets (1 of 2), undated |
| Magicians' Secrets (2 of 2), 1933 & undated |
| Magicians' lectures, 1951-1985 & undated |
| Ireland's Magic Company Yearbook, 1934-1940 |
| Ireland's Magic Company Yearbook, 1942-1946 |
| Ireland's Magic Company Yearbook, 1947-1951 |
| Ireland's Magic Company Yearbook, 1952-1957 |
| Ireland's Magic Company Yearbook, 1958-1961 |
| Ireland's Magic Company Yearbook, 1962-1964 |
| Magic shows: Ads, Fliers, Promotion, 1962-1984 and undated |
| Poster: The 44th Annual Magicale, May 14, 1983 |
| Poster: Magic Night at River Works Auditorium, May 15, 1936 |
| Magic shows: Programs, 1925-1983 and undated |
| Magic shows: Program for S.A.M.'s Annual Salute to Magic, 1968 |
| Photographs of performances, 1930-1982 & undated |
about magicians are included here with promotional materials; other programs for magic shows can be found in Subseries 2.

This subseries also contains news clippings about magic and specific magicians (organized chronologically), magicians’ autographs collected at meetings, conferences, and performances, and photographs of individual magicians, most of which are formal or promotional portraits. News clippings about and photographs of John H. Percival are not included here; those can be found in Series 4.

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**Subseries 4: Magic Organizations, 1908-1982, 2009 & undated**

This subseries contains items produced by and pertaining to numerous magic and magicians’ organizations, including the Society of American Magicians (SAM), the International Brotherhood of Magicians (IBM), and the Rhode Island Society of Magicians. Information covers both national organizations, their local chapters, and local organizations. It contains some invitations to organizationally-sponsored conferences, shows, and other events. For programs from these organizations’ annual conferences, see Subseries 5: Magic Conventions. For periodicals published and distributed by these organizations, see Series 2: Periodicals on Magic.

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Providence, RI, 1951-1972 and undated
Society of American Magicians: C. Foster Fenner Junior League Magic Group, Cranston, RI, 1957-1964
Society of American Magicians: Herman Hanson Assembly #9, Boston, MA, 1951-1969
Society of American Magicians: Herman Hanson Assembly #9, Boston, MA, 1970-1974
Society of American Magicians: Herman Hanson Assembly #9, Boston, MA, General and undated
Society of American Magicians: Other Local Assemblies, 1940-1972
Society of American Magicians: Event Programs, 1929-1970
International Brotherhood of Magicians: Membership & Applications, undated
International Brotherhood of Magicians: Constitution and By-Laws, 1940-1964
International Brotherhood of Magicians: Other Rings, 1951-1967 & undated
International Brotherhood of Magicians: The Linking Ring Subscription Info, Indices, 1963-1968
International Brotherhood of Magicians: Convention Announcements, Event Invitations, 1953-1982
Magicians’ Alliance of Eastern States, 1951-1972
Maine Magicians’ Society, 1953-1972
National Conjurers’ Association: Newsletters, 1916-1920
Rhode Island Society of Magicians, 1916-1927, 2009
Other Magic Organizations, 1961-1972

Subseries 5: Magic Conventions, 1927-1984
This subseries primarily consists of programs from local and national magicians’ conventions. There are a small number of invitations to smaller magic conferences, as well as some typescript and handwritten materials produced by Percival and others on conference planning committees. A folder of tickets and name tags, included here, consists primarily of said items from conventions, alongside a few tickets from other performances. Finally, a folder of photographs shows groups of people at magic conventions and meetings, many of which are well-labeled with magicians’ names.

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International Brotherhood of Magicians Annual Convention: Programs, 1927-1937
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Photographs of Conventions, Meetings, Etc., 1945-1970 & undated 18 148

In addition to collecting loose ephemera, John Percival sorted and secured some ephemera in large scrapbooks. These scrapbooks include magicians’ promotional materials, business cards, holiday greetings, membership cards, invitations, event flyers, and programs. Much of the material is related to magicians and magic organizations, although Scrapbook 2 also includes a significant number of materials from dances, civic organizations, religious organizations, clubs, and the Telephone Society of Rhode Island, of which Percival was a member. (Note that, while the cover of Scrapbook 3 reads “Convention Programs Scrap Book”, it contains various items related to magic and magic conventions, including name tags, news clippings, tickets, and lecture notes.)

In addition to Percival’s collection of ephemera, this subseries contains a folder containing a short memoir and collection of ephemera compiled by magician Edward C. French of North Dighton, Massachusetts and mailed to Percival. It also contains a bound manuscript volume of “Mysteries” by New York magician John J. Goodwin; the volume has a hand-drawn, red and black Society of American Magicians logo on the first page. According to a notation on the flyleaf, the volume was bound by J.R.H. Ellis and donated by C.J. Hagen of NY.

Finally, this subseries contains several folders of ephemera that are unidentified or do not fit neatly into the other subseries. Many fun, uncategorizable items reside here, including a number of novelty
games and cards, cardboard false mustaches, fake money, and a magic apparatus consisting of a board with cards featuring shapes.

The folder of photographs included here is truly miscellaneous--one older photo is of an unidentifiable object, and another shows the hand of a suited man holding out a belt.

<table>
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<th>Scrapbook (1 of 3): Magic and Magicians, 1913-1933 &amp; undated</th>
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<td>Miscellany: Fake Money, undated</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous and Unidentified Items, undated</td>
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<td>Edward French’s “10 for 10” and Collected Ephemera, 1938-1969</td>
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<td>Poster: “Your Luck’s In Your Hand”, undated</td>
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**Series 4: John H. Percival Papers, 1904-1976 & undated**

These personal papers contain handwritten and typed correspondence, typescripts, drafts of articles and lectures, photographs, and personal letterhead, business cards, etc. Several folders of newspaper and magazine clippings document Percival's life and performances; these give a good idea of the frequency and scale of Percival's magic performances, as well as the other organizations with which he was involved. Percival's notebooks chiefly contain notes on magic tricks and stage patter, both copied and original. Photographs consist primarily of portraits and close-up photographs of John Percival, both in magic settings and in his professional life at the telephone company. (Note that Percival may also appear in some groups in photographs in Series 3, Subseries 2 and Series 3, Subseries 5.) Two of Percival's desktop files---a business card file and a subject card file---give insight into how he organized his correspondence, as well as how he organized, accessed, and utilized the materials in this collection.

Correspondence is organized chronologically; individuals with whom Percival frequently corresponded have their own folders, within which correspondence is also chronological.

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<td>Correspondence: H. Adrian Smith, 1929-1971 &amp; undated</td>
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