MANDARIN PLUS!

Manufactured & Released by MAK Magic Co., Columbus, Ohio

This is one of the nicest mini-acts we have seen in a long time. You can use the double load feature or the single load method, as you choose. We supply a box, open at the top, with doors both front and rear, as well as a base on which to set the box. A covering cloth completes the outfit. You will notice that the box has a bag on the bottom and this bag is covered with a trap -- the inside bottom of the box. Into this bag you place the items that will make up the second load. If you use livestock, take care that they are loaded just before you intend to do the trick, so the little fellows have air.

It is best to have the box setting on the base when loading. When the base is setting on the table with the cut-out section downwards, this cut-out section will hide the bag with the load nicely. For the second load, form the metal panels to form a "V". The open part of the "V" faces the spectators, the point of the "V" facing the performer.

Behind each side of the "V", to the rear of the box, place the items for the first production. Don't make this production too elaborate, since you can't leave livestock loaded in the bottom compartment for more than a few minutes because of their demand for air. Several bundles of silks and a glass of milk, or some other solid object, should be just about right. This solid item is important as will be shown later.

Finally, take the covering cloth and fold it several times in one direction only and drape it over the top of the box, extending down each side much like an altar cloth. The cloth should be folded so that it covers the entire depth of the top of the box between cut front and back of the box. Folded properly, the cloth will seal out all light from entering the box from above, thus completing the black art. With the front of the box facing the audience, you are all set to perform.

PERFORMANCE

Open the front of the box to show it empty. Place your hand just inside the box if you wish. Close the door. Remove the cloth from the top. Open it out and display it. Start to apparently produce something from the cloth -- but as you glance at the box pretend to notice something in the 'empty' box. Drape the cloth over your table and start to make your first production. About midway in your first production, fold the "V" panel flat and remove it as you make some comment like, "Well, what do you know! Part of the Great Wall of China!" As you continue the production, move the glass of milk, or other solid object, forward so it is just behind the front door. Finish your production, but open the front door and remove the solid item WITH YOUR HAND GOING THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR TO DO SO.

HANDLING THE BOX FOR THE SECOND PRODUCTION

To show the box empty for the second production you will remove

the box from the base, and with the doors open, let the audience see down in from the top. The top of the box will be tilted toward the audience. This must be done in a certain way to avoid flashing the load bag at the bottom to the audience.

To show the box empty, first open both doors all the way. The next move is to pick up the box and tilt it toward the audience. Do this by placing the palms of each hand flat on each side of the box, fingers pointing to the audience, down near the base moulding. Next, you do three things simultaneously. Raise the box up and off the base a trifle, tilt the top towards the audience, and turn the box a quarter of a turn in either direction -- which ever is easiest for you. At this point the top of the box is tilted towards the audience, and your hands are still on the sides of the box with one hand above the other. The doors are extending out to the sides giving you cover for those spectators sitting to the side.

Practice the above move so that all is one smooth flowing motion. Now reverse this move. Place the box back on the base. Close the doors. Reach down into the top and open the bottom trap and make the second production. Remove the production items (animals) from the top with the doors closed.

The Manderian Plus can be used as a subtle production. For instance, have two small rabbits loaded in the bottom bag. Produce a larger rabbit from another piece of apparatus and put him in the Manderian chest for safe keeping. A moment later take him out along with his (?) babies.

Perhaps two white doves go in, and the same two white doves come out along with three colored ones, from the bottom bag.

If you have a very tame animal try this animal exchange. Prop the bottom trap half way open and hold it in place with a small stick or piece of wood. This will form a "V" shaped trough to one side of the box. Place your tame animal in this trough. Nothing is in the lower bag. For the exchange, one animal, such as a mean, ferocious rattle snake (really?) goes in the top and safely into the bag. The trap is closed and the other very tame animal is removed. Amazing!