Excerpted From “The Open Church”
Salina, Kansas, September, 1894
Erkki Huhtamo Collection, Los Angeles

THE STEROPTICON IN GREAT BRITAIN

To those who have watched it, the rapid growth of the stereopticon or magic lantern, in popular esteem during the past few years has been nothing less than marvelous. It seems but yesterday—though in reality it is some five or six years ago—that the lantern was but an amusing toy, vile smelling and scorn-provoking, not worthy the name of instrument, except indeed an instrument of torture, and relegated to Christmas parties and occasional ragged school treats. The exceptions were few and far between. Here and there a college professor demonstrated knotty problems by the aid of the lantern, and a minister entertained his parishioners with great success. But *tempora mutantur!* and the change has been rapid and all-pervading, and the “Mission of the Lantern” is everywhere recognized and its assistance sought.

It is to be feared that the name “Magic Lantern”—that relic of a past superstitious age to which the British people cling with characteristic conservatism—still militates to some extent against its use and accounts for the scepticism with which the uninformed view its claims. This scepticism is, however, becoming rapidly overborne by undeniable proofs of the lantern’s utility. Speaking generally we may say that its value is no longer questioned. Church and State have adopted it, and it is without dispute the most effective and the most largely used instrument in both public and private educational enterprise. The Board schools of the country, although they have not made the adoption of the lantern compulsory, have recommended its use to the various teachers, and many of the Boards have either purchased lanterns themselves for the use in the schools, or have assisted their teachers by grants toward the cost of their outfits. In the *Evening Continuation Classes* the lantern plays an even more important part, and it has been found that in those classes where its aid is employed the attendance is larger and more regular and the interest more sustained. The unanimous testimony of the most successful teachers in this country is that instruction, and particularly geographical and historical instruction, may be impressed on the minds of the dullest scholars through the combined media of eye and ear.

But the sphere of the lantern is not confined to elementary education and to the teaching of the young. If
of the north and midlands to the hop growing regions of the south. In these lectures which are attended by youths and adults eager to learn the best methods, the lantern has been of the greatest service. It has entirely superseded the cumbersome, expensive and unwieldy diagrams of former days and enabled the instructor to illustrate his minutest points much more clearly and exactly than by the largest blackboard. Recognising this the majority of the councils have spent large sums on lantern outfits, ordering them by the dozen at a time and reaping a rich reward in the increased intelligence and efficiency of the working population.

Nor has the church in this matter been behind the state; as a matter of fact it is entitled to the claim of prior discovery. The same arguments that secular educationalists employ in favor of the lantern commend themselves to religious instructors. An eloquent picture will go far to make even a dry exposition of truth palatable and operative, and an old story, which has lost its freshness and power, is often vivified under the animating light of the lantern. Timidly and cautiously the church stretched forth her hand to an untraditional Roman Catholic, to the aggressive Salvationist; from the peaceful Quaker to the war-like Labor Church, and it has its place in the Sunday School, at least, almost as fully recognized as the harmonium. As yet it has not found its way into the Sunday services of the churches, except in isolated cases and in mission halls, but where the experiment has been tried, the results have abundantly justified the experiment. The testimony of those ministers who have adopted it for the Sunday evening services, as stated frequently in the various denominational papers, is that the experiment has been an unqualified success. Empty churches have been filled, sleeping members have been aroused, and the numbers increased and impressions deep and apparently lasting, have been made where mere preaching was without avail. There is every indication that the lantern will, in the future, be largely used to disseminate Christian truths, and it may be that W.T. Stead’s expectation,—that the lantern is destined to be used in St. Paul’s Cathedral,—will yet be realized. In the week/evening services connected with the churches the lantern has been of the very greatest service. As conducted ordinarily the services are generally failures, the congregations are miserably small, and fullness and deadness are their prevailing characteristics. The introduction of the lantern has caused a veritable transformation. Crowded congregations attest the success of the new movement and it may safely be said that none of the clergy who have tried this method will be very ready to

RILEY Bros.,

Stereopticon Manufacturers and Outfitters,

Steropticon Manufacturers and Outfitters,

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abandon it. In the Sunday School the lantern is one of the most potent centralizing forces, and the regular weekly lectures or illustrated concerts which some of the clergy give, are looked forward to with keen interest.

So much for church and state. But the general public is by no means in the rear. A noteworthy illustration of the public appreciation of the lantern is found in the extent to which public lectures avail themselves of its aid. A few years ago the programme of a large mechanics institute in one of our cities contained two illustrated lectures out of twenty-four; last year every lecture, ranging over every kind of subject, was illustrated by the lantern. There could be no greater proof of its recognized value.

Again, a well known elocutionist and lecturer in the north of England, not only lectures continuously with the lantern the year round, but has for two or three years past addressed large audiences on Sunday evenings with its aid. For the purposes of these addresses the largest halls in such towns as Newcastle-on-Tyne and Sunderland have been taken and for many months have been crowded to the doors on successive Sunday evenings—a striking confirmation of the attractive value of the lantern, for it is well known that only the most eloquent speakers can attract audiences if unaided speech is relied on.

Thus briefly I have shown how widespread is the use to which the lantern is put. A word or two will not be out of place as to the cause of this phenomenal growth. This is not difficult to trace. Up to some five or six years ago lanterns and slides were alike expensive and the dealers offered no facilities to would users. The credit for introducing a new order of things by which the general adoption of the lantern was rendered not only feasible, but even tempting, is largely due to one firm whose enterprise has placed them at the very head of lantern caterers. Briefly their plan was to reduce prices within reasonable limits, to abolish prohibitive charges made for loaning slides and apparatus, and to forego the requirements insisted upon at that time by all other houses that the full value of the goods hired should be deposited prior to the dispatch of the goods. Whether their confidence in the bona-fides of their customers has been justified, they will know, but at all events the system is maintained. Sent by parcel post or rail, slides reach us in the most remote places at an inclusive cost of a few shillings, and the selection thus placed within the reach of a poor man or a struggling cause is practically inexhaustible.

In conclusion, I can but express my conviction that the use of the lantern is destined to grow yet more and more. Dignity and prejudice will hold aloof for awhile, but they will either have to yield or succumb. Every day finds the lantern put to new uses, and every day brings renewed testimonies to its value. I believe myself that there is no instance on record of any other instrument lying unused and unrecognized for scores of years and attaining so rapidly and so permanently an eminent and unrivaled position in general educational works.

Excerpted From “The Open Church”

THE ORIGIN OF A NEW DIVERSITY

The Lantern Slide Circulating Library

The senior editor of “The Open Church” on his recent visit to England interviewed the members of the enterprising firm of Riley Brothers, of Bradford, who are the largest dealers in the world in Stereopticons and Slides. Their new premises, situated at 55 and 57, Godwin Street, Bradford, are quite spacious and admirably adapted for the large and ever increasing business of the firm. I was interested in the unique method of storing the tens of thousands of lantern views which they hold. From fifty to eighty slides were piled in upright racks with tables attached. Some of these racks held at least six hundred boxes or nearly 50,000 slides. Altogether accommodation is provided for a quarter of a million slides, besides dissolving effects and lantern requisites in general. In another large room I found the artists at work whose daily business is painting the views for which this firm has gained a high reputation. In another room is a complete photographic

continued page 4
The origin of the New Diversity continued

studio where operators were at work producing the negatives, etc. Riley Brothers gained in this department the only award for English goods at the World's Fair. I also visited the workshops where they manufacture their own lanterns. I received a true Yorkshire welcome from senior partner of the firm, and was afterwards introduced to his two sons who are the life and soul of the business. Asking for information about the phenomenal growth of the lantern trade, Mr. Riley informed me that for many years he and his family had been manufacturers and merchants in the Bradford Dress Goods trade, and that the woolen and stuff business has still carried on by them. Continuing, he said that the Stereopticon business forced itself upon them, 'as a hobby' some years ago I invested in a large triunial lantern, and bought several hundred slides, and presented the same to my sons. With the outfit it was decided to raise money enough by exhibitions, lectures, etc. to pay twenty pounds a year to keep a boy in the Children's Home. This we did successfully several years. My sons operated and I did the 'talking.' The possession of many plain slides induced one of my sons to try his hand at coloring the same, and he soon attained considerable ability in that very difficult art. Our lectures became quite popular, and our slides were greatly admired, and my son was soon inundated with slides, belonging to ministers and lecturers in the neighborhood, for coloring. Then we were asked to loan the many sets we had purchased for our own use. This we did frequently to our friends without charge. Later other people came asking for loans and offering payment. We fixed moderate price for the first fifty slides, and that price has governed every loan since. The demand became so great that we bought other sets at wholesale rates and began to advertise in a small way. The first season brought us some 200 to 300 orders for hiring slides, and in five years the business has gone on by leaps and bounds so that last season—1893/4—we sent out more than six thousand boxes of slides on hire! In England we are in advance of the United States in our postal facilities. The Parcel Post came to our assistance enabling us to send a parcel up to eleven pounds in weight to any part of the United Kingdom for about three cents per pound, and for one penny we could insure up to five pounds in value. In this way fifty slides, insured, could be sent to any part of the Kingdom, and all return charges paid, for less than three shillings (seventy-five cents). When the railway companies realized the trade we were doing through the post office (we being the largest contributors to the Bradford post office funds) they began to press for our trade, but as they had a rule which enforced an extra rate of fifty percent for glass it did not pay us to send long distances by rail. After some time the railroads made us a special rate, so that we can now send to any part of the Kingdom our goods labeled "glass," at the ordinary rates—a special privilege not enjoyed by any other house."

"Do you demand any deposit for the value of the slides? I should think you ran great risks from so wide a range of customers unless you do."

"Well, it may appear so to you, but we never demand any deposit and although more than fifty thousand boxes have been handled by the railway companies and post office during the last five years we have only lost one or two boxes, and thousands of our customers are entirely unknown to us."

"Do you find many slides damaged in transit?"

"No, not now. At first we had a very large percentage but we have constructed specially padded boxes as the result of long experience. These boxes are registered, and by their use our breakages have been reduced to a minimum."

Mr. Riley was then asked to explain the system of selling lanterns upon the installment system which this English firm introduced, and he said: "We have sold thousands of lanterns by this system. It was introduced by us at the urgent request of ministers who could ill afford to pay down the money needful for an outfit, but they could pay down a little and by using the lantern at lectures and entertainments, earn the installments needed for the monthly payments, and by the time the last installment became due the lantern had paid for itself. Hundreds have written to us thanking us for this privilege, and I may say that we do not lose more than one to two percent by the system."
"I suppose those who become purchasers in this way become customers to your hire department?"

"Oh, yes. If it was not for the facilities offered by the hire department for getting a large assortment of slides on loan not one in twenty would become purchasers of lanterns."

"What are the special lanterns largely used by English Lanternists?"

"Well, you much understand that the bulk of our customers are Clergymen, Catholic Priests, Ministers and Schoolmasters. We may safely say that nine-tenths of our customers come from these classes. Many of these are from the country and rural districts where there is no house gas, and so many of them begin with an oil lamp as it does very well for country districts, and is easy to manipulate. The "Praestantia" lantern fitted for oil has been pronounced by hundreds of customers to be the best oil lantern in the market, and we may safely assert that there is not a land under the sun where these lanterns are not being used by missionaries of all denominations. The introduction of the patent Lawson Saturator has marked a new era in the history of the limelight lanterns. We have purchased the absolute right to manufacture and sell this patent throughout the world, and hundreds were sold the first season. It is so simple, safe, economical, and powerful that its permanent success is not in doubt. It only requires the oxygen gas to produce the best attainable illumination.

"Our Superb Extra Bுnial has a large, and yearly increasing scale. We find customers, who have brought a single lantern, as they become familiar with it, launching out after a larger one. Here we often take back our own single Praestantia lanterns in exchange for the Superb Extra Bуnial. These two lanterns are our own special production, and cannot be gotten through any other house."

"I suppose you were satisfied with the results of your exhibit at the World's Fair last year?"

"Well, we certainly were in some respects. As you know we got the only British award in our class of goods, and the highest diploma of merit. Still the exhibition was too large—so much so that many interesting exhibits were never seen by millions of visitors and in many cases exhibitors found it a heavy expense all but thrown away."

"What kind of slides do you find most largely used in England?"

"In reply you most understand that the Sunday evening lantern services have only just caught on in England—in fact the lantern work has been mostly confined to Lectures, Band of Hope gatherings, Missionary of Temperance meetings, Educational Classes, etc. hence the lecture sets, life model stories, educational series and comics have been most largely in demand. The Life of Christ, Pilgrims Progress, St. Paul in Rome, and other Bible stories have been also quite popular; and the plain and illustrated hymns are in increasing demand.

"We have already established agencies in the United States, and are negotiating agencies in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and India, and expect to thoroughly cover all English speaking centers of population."

"Do you intend giving the same facilities for purchase by installment payments, and hire of slides in all your agencies?"

"Yes, this is an essential part of our business, and we propose to build up our trade upon this system in every part of the world. It will take an enormous capital, and considerable managing skill, but we feel that the experience we have already gained will be invaluable to us in our more extended operations."
At every service from five to six popular hymns were sung from the screen, and for hearty, enthusiastic congregational singing, the stereopticon stands forth pre-eminent. I also threw on the screen the Lord’s Prayer, the Apostle’s Creed, the Ten Commandments and many other of the Psalms and got the congregation to read them in concert. Following the stereopticon service a fifteen minute testimony meeting was invariably held, and the reverence and spiritual atmosphere of the meetings was a constant surprise to myself, as well as to may brethren from different points who came to see for themselves. We fully believe in the stereopticon not only as an educational, but also evangelizing force. We do not however worship the instrument; it is but a thing of brass and glass and magic if you will. But it speaks. He that hath eyes to see let him learn in that way what the lantern teaches. I give below a partial list of the hymns that we secured slides of—large heavy faced type, so that every one could read them readily in any part of the Church.

Abide with me, fast falls the eventide
All hail the power of Jesus’ name
All people that on earth do dwell
Art thou weary? art thou languid?
At even ere the sun was set
Brightly beams our Father's mercy
Christians awake, salute this happy morn
Come let us join our cheerful songs
Come, Thou Fount of every blessing
Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly dove
Eternal Father, strong to save
From Greenland's icy mountains
Glory to thee my God this night
God moves in a mysterious way
Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah
Hark, the herald angels sing
How sweet the name of Jesus sounds
I think when I read that sweet story
I am so glad that our Father
Jerusalem the golden
Jesus, lover of my soul
Just as I am
Jesus shall reign
Lead, kindly light
Lord dismiss us with thy blessing
Lord I hear of showers of blessing
Land ahead, its fruits are waving
Light in the darkness, sailor
'Mid pleasures and palaces
My God, my Father, while I stray
Nearer my God to Thee
Now the day is over
O think of the home over there
O for a thousand tongues to sing
Once in Royal David's city
Onward Christian soldiers
Praise God from whom all blessings
Praise ye the Lord, 'tis good
Rescue the perishing
Rock of Ages
Savior to thy dear name
Shall we gather at the river
Sun of my soul
Standing by a purpose true
Sowing the seed by the daylight
Salvation, oh the joyful sound
Speed thy servants
Sweet hour of prayer
Oh safe to the Rock
Tell me the old, old story
There is a Fountain filled
There is a land of pure delight
There's a land that is fairer than day
The heathen perish day by day
The Church's one foundation

There is a green hill far away
What means this eager anxious throng
We plough the fields and scatter
When peace like a river
While shepherds watched their flocks
When I survey the wondrous cross
What a friend we have in Jesus
Work for the night is coming
When all Thy mercies, O my God
Yield not to temptation

I also used many choice illustrated hymns, as well as hymns with the music all complete, and I shall continue the use of the lantern as a solvent of the Sunday evening problem and a successful means of reaching the masses. This season I shall illustrate many of the parables of the New Testament, and I shall be glad to answer any inquiries that may be made in connection with lantern work. My three months vacation in England this summer was largely in the interest of this branch of Church work, and I propose to extend its operations in every legitimate way.

GRAND ILLUSTRATED LECTURES

Any church or society wanting a superbly illustrated lecture on any subject advertised in the Hire List on pages 14 and 15 of this issue of "The Open Church" can be accommodated by addressing this paper. The finest lantern and the most powerful light in the world, are guaranteed, together with the best colored views in the United States. Any Y.P.S.C.E., or Epworth League, or Temperance Society can make money more easily and satisfactorily in this way than any other. For terms and full particulars address "The Open Church", Salina, Kansas.
FROM THE PRESIDENT’S CORNER
By Ralph Shape

Just when you think that the magic lantern is losing its luster and fascination, its popularity again rises to ever increasing heights. The movies have been around for over 100 years. Yet, given the opportunity, crowds flock to see a magic lantern presentation. The public is interested in history and when they examine the history of cinema they always arrive at the magic lantern. Auction results prove that popularity. Ebay continues to offer hundreds of magic lantern related items at ever increasing prices.

Two recent auctions in Europe, one in Germany and the other in London have proven that quality material brings record prices. It is sad to see collections broken up but those items for history now depend on new hands.

Speaking of history, we will soon celebrate the anniversaries of other historic events. This December it will be 100 years since Wilbur and Orville Wright flew their machine over the dunes in North Carolina. Little of this event was recorded on film or glass. Next year it will be 200 years since two stalwart explorers ventured off into the unknown. Meriwether Lewis and George Clark had no cameras of course, but they were still able to map and record adventures that would show the way for future settlers. Lewis and Clark opened up the new frontier of America. Wilbur and Orville Wright opened the frontier of the sky which led to space. Both of these adventures have endless possibilities for a magic lantern program. The stories have been told over and over but not by the magic lantern.

Between those two historical events another occurred. One hundred fifty years ago, in 1853, the Crimean War began. Unlikely that anyone will celebrate the anniversary of that event. However, it does have some significance. The science of photography had begun. For the first time photographs directly from the battlefields could be circulated to the public. The first war correspondents were present at the battles. Photographers James Robertson and Roger Fenton covered the war from the Crimea. Fenton, one of the founders of the Royal Photographic Society, chose to photograph only the pleasant, happy side of the war while ignoring any photos showing any unpleasant aspects. He chose not to photograph the charge of the Light Brigade as the battlefield was too gruesome. It would be up to the magic lantern showman to bring the horrors of war to the world by means of a magic lantern show.

When you try to come up with ideas for a magic lantern presentation history provides endless possibilities. Lantern showmen of the past presented views of the world along with then current as well as past events to appreciative audiences.

Enough of looking back. Looking forward leads us to the next gathering of the Society in San Antonio in 2004. Hope you are all making your plans to attend.

May your lantern always shine brightly.

PROPOSED CHANGES TO BY-LAWS
By Homer Peabody, Vice President

The following proposed changes to the By-Laws of the Magic Lantern Society of the United States and Canada are published for your review and feedback.

Part IV. Officers and Elections:
Line 3. Delete “All officers shall be elected by mail ballot and shall serve for two years beginning after their election and may be reelected with the exception of the President who may only serve consecutively two terms.”

In its place add. “A nominating committee consisting of no more than three people shall be appointed by the President at the biannual general meeting. Members are urged to send nominations to the nominating committee thirty days before the scheduled meeting. A slate of officers shall be presented by the nominating committee at the general meeting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor. A vote by ballot shall be made. No proxies shall be valid.”

Remainder of Part IV remains the same.

Please notify me of any comments or suggestions at: Homer Peabody, 848 Rosecrans St., San Diego, CA 92106.
EXEMPLARY OF "CHAT" ON YAHOO GROUP

Hello,
I am a new member to the site and wanted to know if anybody had information on the following projector. I have a large commercial stereopticon that was made by the Detroit Stereopticon Supply Concern. It sits on a stand with a rheostat built into the bottom. I think it was originally carbon arc but was converted early on to an electric light bulb. I have posted photographs of this projector at www.geocities.com/marcus1912/stereopticon.html

I would like to know what the platform and the piece above it is used for. I would also like to know where I can find an original carbon arc set up for this projector. I am interested in stereopticons from this time period, especially early film/glass slide combinations. What other members have these types of projectors and does anybody know where there are others for sale? Finally, I am also looking for an early commercial film projector, such as a Powers Cameragraph. Thanks.

Mark N.

SPECIAL EFFECTS ACHIEVED WITH SPECIAL EFFECT SLIDES
By Wallem Wagenaar

Ed. Note: We sold two 5" x 7" Worstel Special Effect Slides to Willem Wagenaar. One was a black and white positive and one a negative of the same view. Since we know Willem to be a gifted lanternist we inquired bow be planned to use the slides. Below is his reply.

Use a biunial lantern. The bottom slide is the negative, which means that it projects the trees without the background. A color filter with a continuous change of colors is added. Hence the trees can get all the colors of the rainbow. The top slide is the positive, which means that it projects the background. Here the color filter has more intense colors, so the background is always darker than the trees. The total effect is theater scenery, as if the lights on the trees are operating independently of the lights on the background. Now what you can do is start with a night scene: background dark blue, trees lighter blue. Let the sun rise, by making the background more red. Gradually the trees turn from pink to light green. Make the background from red through yellowish to light blue. Since I use the triuniall, you can add bright sun with the third lantern.

I made the changing color filters from a piece of rainbow-like gift wrap paper, which I had copied in a copy shop on a large transparency sheet. You can place the filter in front of the projection lens, but also in the special slots for filter between the light and the condenser lens, if your lantern happens to have them.

Marcus1912@yahoo.com

Hello Mark, I have what looks to be an older version of that lantern. As you can see in my website it was operated by gas. Other than that, I have no more info. Hope that helps, Moshe (Israel)

The stereopticon pic at: www.geocities.com/mbarel.geo/enterprise.html

my camera collection site at: www.geocities.com/mbarel.geo

Ed. Note: This is a free service of Yahoo. To subscribe go to magic_lantern@Yahoogroups.com

MAGIC LANTERN TREASURER'S REPORT

February 15, 2003
Balance October 19, 2002 $6,883.40

Income:
Bank Interest - $3.42
Member Dues - $1,375.00
Total Income - $1,378.72

Expenses:
Gazette - $569.72
Postage/Mail - $42.26
Total Expenses - $611.98
February Balance - $7,649.84
THE SIX NATIONS AND THE "MAGIC LANTERN"
By Lindsay Lambert

Following the final evening's events at The Magic Lantern Society's 2001 Convention in Birmingham, I was about to leave the hotel to find a fish and chips shop. However, I noticed the American lantern contingent sitting in the restaurant, and stopped to say a quick 'hello.' Sue and Bob Hall then kindly offered to treat me to a meal. I happily accepted. This had strings attached, though, as they had me promise that I would write an article for The Magic Lantern Gazette in return. In short, I must sing for my supper.

My immediate thought was I should report an intriguing bit of magic lantern history relating to North American aboriginal people, which I had found in the course of some research: before European settlement, the Iroquois, or Six Nations Confederacy, occupied the lands from the Hudson River through the Mohawk Valley to the Great Lakes. The first five Nations, the Mohawks, Onondagas, Oneida, Cayugas and Senecas, had been engaged in a bitter war with each other until they were united by the Peacemaker and Hiawatha. (The name of The Peacemaker is known, but traditionally remains unspoken.) The Tuscaroras eventually joined as the sixth Nation.

The Six Nations were valued allies of the English-American colonists against the competing settlers of New France. This relationship became strained in 1709, when the Crown chose to abandon a major expedition intended for the destruction of the French. The colonial authorities decided to present their case or the expedition at the Royal Court, and included four Six Nations Sachems, or leaders, among the delegates. The trip was calculated to impress the Sachems with England's power.

They were referred to as American Kings. The ranking individual, described as the Emperor, was Te Yee Neen Ho Ga Prow. He also had the English name of Henrick. The others were Oh Nee Yeath Ton No Prow, Christianized as John, Sa Ga Yean Aua Pralh Ton, or Brant, and Elow Oh Kaom, or Nicholas. With the exception of Oh Nee Yeath Ton No Prow, all were Mohawks or adopted Mohawks, the closest and most important Nation to the colonists. They were presented to Her Majesty Queen Anne in London on April 19th, 1710, and created quite a sensation everywhere they went. They left England for America on May 19th, sailing from Plymouth.

What does all this have to do with Our Favorite Subject? During their visit, the Sachems were presented with many gifts to take back with them. According to an invoice of merchandise noted in the Calendar of Treasury Papers, 1708-1714, these included a "Magick Lanthorn with Pictures."

While at the Convention, I managed to obtain a lantern slide relating to the Six Nations. It is an amateur photograph of three Mohawk children taken in 1925 at the Caughnawga (now Kahnawake) Reserve, which is just south of Montreal across the St. Lawrence River. (We call them Reserves in Canada, rather than Reservations.)

The people of the Six Nations are very important: They cultivated corn, beans and squash, referred to as the Three Sisters, which were unknown in Europe prior to the exploration of North America. These were soon grown by the colonists, and are now staple foods worldwide. The Six Nations Confederacy, which still operates, has likewise been of great influence: It incorporates a system of government based on equal voices and consensus, and provided the inspiration for the United States Constitution. Benjamin Franklin spoke Mohawk. When the colonists began agitating for better representation, the English government sent spies to find out why. The report stated that they were being influenced by the peculiar ideas of their native neighbors. One key element was unfortunately not adopted, however: Women, as the gateway of life and the protectors of life, are accorded the final say in all decisionmaking. However, they chose the chiefs who are always men, and can

continued next page
unseat them. Imagine how few wars we would have if everyone worked the same way.

Nyaweh goa.*

"Thank you very much in Mohawk.

The historical information on the Sachems' visit to England and illustrations were obtained from Richard Pugh Bond, Queen Anne's American Kings. (Oxford: Claredon Press, 1952.)

*Editorial Note: Yes, we admit, we shamelessly bribe people for articles. Lindsay repaid his debt in a timely manner. We, on the other hand, have been tardy in using the article!

**NAMES**

By Bob Bishop

Some years ago, at a time when the number of books and magazine articles which had come my way was extremely limited, it was quite normal for me to be confused as to what were proper names for the various transencies one comes across in the medium.

Once I was taken to task when I had spelled Chromotrope with an 'n.' I had found that spelling in an old book but probably it was a misprint. Lantern slides were much easier to be familiar with. American lantern slides were a uniform 3 1/2" x 4" while English lantern slides were 3 1/4" x 3 1/4". Of course there were also the round magic lantern slides with various diameters made to fit the magic lantern they were designed for.

In the beginning there were but hand painted images for slides. Unless, of course, some actual object such as partially decomposed leaf would be put between layers of glass and projected. Insects were often skewered between the separated pieces of glass and then projected.

A model slide by some unknown artist would be copied by his apprentices. Perhaps one would sketch in the main object. Another would do the colour and still another do the background. This method produced fine slides but in my mind's eye they could not compare with slides done by fine craftsmen who would build color upon colour until the desired tint was achieved.

I often am confused by magic lantern slides. What I call 'panoramic slides' consists of one scene on a rectangular slide regardless of size. There are, of course, other slides of the same dimension with three or four or more separate and distinct images. But surely, they cannot be called panoramic slides. I have heard and read of them being called 'slippers.' I have been guilty of calling them 'running slides.' Slippers, to me were the mechanical slides such as single slip slides, double slip slides, etc. These are but a few examples of the various imagery.

I have not mentioned the images done by crayons, transparent color, and/or transparent oil colors. So now after all the years I have come to agree with Michener when on page 264 of his book "Chesapeake" he states: "But always he lacked the essential tool without which the workman can never attain true mastery. He did not know the names of any of the parts he was building, and without the names he was artistically incomplete. It was not by accident that doctors, and lawyers, and butchers invented specific but secret names for the things they did: to possess the names was to know the secret. With correct names one entered into a new world of proficiency, became the member of an arcane brotherhood, a sharer of stories, and in the end, a performer of merit. Without the names one remained a bumbler, or in the case of boat building, a mere 'carpenter.'

I do believe Michener makes a point. And that is good enough for The Old Projectionist.

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**WASHBURN CAMPUS: PAST & PRESENT**

By Martha Imparato
Submitted By Gale Wollenberg via Terry Borton

Technological Pioneer Remains a Part of Campus—Dr. Fisk Adapts Form of Entertainment to Classroom

When Dr. Daniel Moses Fisk arrived at Washburn College in 1899, he brought with him a new application of an old technology. In the 1880s, magic lantern shows were all the rage as a form of public entertainment. Photographs were printed on glass lantern slides—a forerunner of the modern photographic slides can be traced back to the 17th century in Europe. Animation and elaborate visual tricks were devised in the 1800s, which prefigured the motion pictures invented in 1895.

Dr. Fisk began using lantern slides as an educational tool during his monthly Sunday lantern-nights at churches in Jackson, Mich., Toledo, Ohio, and St. Louis, where he was a minister in the 1890s. His illustrated lectures included "The Dawn of the Reformation" and discourses on Luthers.

Professor Fisk used lantern slides because he "believed in the enforcing value of an appeal to the visual." In other words, he felt that students learned better with visual aids to reinforce what he was teaching. While at Washburn (1899-1924), he devoted a great deal of his own time and money to buying and preparing slides for use in the classroom. Dr. Fisk glued a photographic print of each slide into a book of blank pages and identified each slide with a caption and a number. He also typed up lecture notes with slide numbers to show at appropriate times.

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Washburn Campus: Past & Present continued

Most of his slides were photos and drawings of historical persons and events, but some of the slides were of places and events closer to home. Several years after he first came to Washburn, Dr. Fisk volunteered to become the college field agent. He traveled around the state recruiting more students and more donations of money to help sell the value of a college education and Washburn in particular, he developed a group of slides titled “Who’s who and Why?” showing how education helped successful people. He developed another group of slides titled “Pioneer Kansas, and the Schools She has Founded.” He was assisted on this project by his soon to be second wife, Louise Fox, an artist. Taking his show on the road meant toting around a 300-pound kit consisting of a lantern, gas tanks, a screen, and, of course, the heavy glass slides. His five-year campaign raised enough money to add four new buildings to the campus, and student enrollment more than doubled.

Upon his retirement in 1924, the professor gave his slides, catalogs, and lecture notes to the college with hopes that other professors would be able to use them and save themselves time. It is unknown whether anyone else ever used his slides, but it is likely the younger professors were experimenting with new technology by then.

All that remains of Daniel M. Fisk’s collection are some slides of Washburn buildings and of scenes and activities, probably from his road show. There is also one catalog volume and one volume of lecture notes from a class called “The Rise of Democracy.” In addition, the archives contain his third-person autobiography, “The Evolution of a Schoolmaster.”

PHOTOHISTORY XII
By George Eastman House

The 12th Triennial Symposium on the History of Photography will be held September 19-21, 2003. Join us in Rochester, New York to meet historians, collectors, photo experts and dealers from around the world. Tour George Eastman House and the International Museum of Photography and Film. This symposium, held every three years since 1970, brings together those who make history in the field of photographic history.

For registration information and related symposium information, visit the TPHS website @ www.tphs.org, or send a request to: PhotoHistory X11, POBox 10434, Rochester, NY 14610.
MEMBERS IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Tom Rall was recently featured in a Washington, D.C. newspaper. He does a good job promoting magic lanterns whenever possible. We have included an excerpt from the article which pertains to his thoughts on slides.

Identifying someone as an “antiques dealer” is about as specific as saying someone is a doctor, with a range of specialties nearly as vast. Tom didn’t find his own niche in the antique world until, “about six or seven years ago.” That was when he started his collection of “Photographic Lantern Slides.” A precursor to the slides we know from the ever popular 1970’s slide show, “lantern slides” were actually positive images inscribed on postcard-sized glass slides. They were projected onto a screen, with the resulting likeness magnified to many times its actual size, through the use of “magic lanterns,” instruments that predate the slide projector by nearly three centuries. Even before the advent of electricity, lanterns projected images using limelight (the light that is produced when lime and oxygen are burned, and is recognized for its role in the evolution of stage lighting). In the late nineteenth century, magic lanterns were in high fashion as an offshoot of the newly popular art of photography. They were used for projections of religious art, for early animations, and to achieve visual tricks that resembled the earliest conception of the motion picture, which was invented in 1895.

“It was an overlooked genre of photography,” Tom explains, “so I took that on with the idea that I would help make the market, and that I’d become an expert on it.” It strikes me then that when Tom decides to do something, he does it fully. “Now Sothebys refers clients to me, and I write a column about (lantern slides), and here at Eastern Market you can see the largest selection of slides for sale anywhere in the world.”

LAURA AT THE LOUVRE
Submitted by Ralph Shape

Paris has been treated to a spectacular magic lantern show. The Louvre Museum put on a special two and a half-week event concerning fireworks and the effects of fire in the cinema. On March 2nd, the audience in the Louvre auditorium was entertained by Laura Minici Zotti as she presented her new special program with slides of landscapes with fire, volcanoes, chromatropes, and a beautiful series of 50 slides “Our Heroic Firemen,” about the life of the bravest firemen during the Victorian age. The program was very well received by the audience which included several other members of the Society.

A CD has been made which tells the story of the Museum and the history of pre-cinema. It contains many examples of museum displays as well as pre-cinema from the Javanese Shadow to the last magic lanterns. Laura and Alberto will present this program to the British Society at their July meeting in Oxford.
PHOTOGRAPHIC HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF NEW ENGLAND, INC. PRESENTS TWO SPEAKERS FOR PAST PHSNE MEETING

Alan Kattelle to Present Lantern Slide Show of Yellowstone National Park PHSNE charter member and Past President of PHSNE Alan D. Kattelle will present a showing of hand colored lantern slides of Yellowstone National Park taken by the official Yellowstone Park photographer J.E. Haynes of St. Paul Minnesota. J.E. Haynes was the son of Frank Jay Ellis who first came to Yellowstone as the Official Photographer for the Northern Pacific Railroad in 1881.

Haynes established a network of Haynes Picture Shops throughout the Park. Jack Haynes took over from his father in 1916, and was also ably assisted by his wife, Isabel, who took over the business in 1962 after Jack’s death. The business was sold to Hamilton Stores, Inc. in 1968.

The slide presentation includes a portrait of N.P. Langford, who was the official historian of the famous Washburn Expedition; also traveled with Dr. Ferdinand V. Hayden’s expedition of 1871 to the region that eventually became Yellowstone National Park. Langford became the first superintendent of Yellowstone National Park.

Art Vaughn’s Lantern Slide Show “Around the United States, 1919” The Spallholz Slides

Art Vaughn’s lantern slide show “Around the United States, 1919 promises to be a delightful rip for everyone. While in the Coast Guard, stationed in South Portland, Maine in 1967 Art bought about 500 lantern slides and an old projector from a Salvation Army outlet for $15. In the lot were some very interesting old car photos and although about 25% of the them had some form of dam-

FROM THE SEMI-ANNUAL NEWSLETTER OF THE HISTORICAL LIGHTING SOCIETY OF CANADA

Friday the 19th of April saw immediate Past-President Don Snider of Bellevue (Washington) at the train station awaiting the arrival of the Ottawa-Toronto Via train. The train carried a very special person, whose talents the City of Bellevue might have been lost to over a century ago. With him he carried his personal luggage for a three-day visit, and a collection of rare pieces of equipment and props that would capture the hearts of all those attending the Spring General meeting the following day. Transportation of our guest, and his precious cargo, from the station to the Clarion Inn was managed by Don Snider.

Checking into the inn was Professor M. Lindsay Lambert of Ottawa, together with his century old “Iron Duke” magic lantern. A quotation from Fitz Gerald’s translation of the Rubaiyat of Omar Khyyam reads as follows:

For in and out, above, about, below,
’Tis nothing but a Magic Shadow-show,
Play’d in a Box whose Candle is the Sun,
Round which we Phantom Figures come and go.

Indeed the seventy members attending the Spring General meeting were thrust back in time for what was "billed" as a form of "Popular 19th Century Entertainment for all Ages."

All lighting in the tightly packed room was turned down upon introduction of Professor M. Lindsay M. Lambert. The “Professor” lit up the screen with a collection of some 80 lantern slides, all original, and some of which were delicately rare hand-painted examples.
His interest broadened with the collection of photographic and related equipment, and research into “limelight.” In 1982 he acquired his first of two magic lanterns. This was the Russian iron and brass lantern known as the “Iron Duke” which was made by the London firm of Butcher & Sons around the turn of 1900. It was not in the best of condition and together with love and tender care was restored with great patience as a working model. His second lantern is a biunial model which requires the more difficult to find “dissolve” slide sets.

Originally the “Iron Duke” would have been illuminated by a three-wick oil-burner. This was subsequently replaced with a limelight jet. The “Professor” uses a 100-watt halogen lamp which fits a socket and reflector assembly that was originally sold to replace the limelight jet. A heat absorbing glass has been inserted between the lamp and the condenser lenses to further preserve the lantern slides. The lantern has a red velvet curtain at the back, and sits on a mahogany tilting stand which the “Professor” made himself.

As tradition has it, the lanternist made his keep by traveling from town to town with his precious magic lantern slung over his back. No different today is the artistic and talented Professor M. Lindsay Lambert who has traveled the U.K., the U.S., and Canada. He presented his first show in 1994. In 1996 he presented his lantern show at the Museum of Science and Technology in Ottawa, on the occasion of the opening of a new exhibit, “Illuminating the Story of Projection,” which celebrated a century of cinema.


In wrapping up his hour-long show, the professor presented a number of rare slip, lever, and rackwork slides. These included a monkey performing acrobatic maneuvers on a ladder, a lion rolling his eyes, a dog jumping through a hoop, and the very rare “rat catcher.”

To the full sound effects of snoring, grunting, gasping for air, and swallowing, the Professor took the captive audience through the motions on screen of the “rat” attempting to enter the open mouth of a gentleman sound asleep in bed. With mouth wide open, the “rat” advances up the pillow but hesitates as the gentleman suddenly closes his mouth. He gasps for air and opens his mouth once more. The “rat” enters the mouth, the mouth closes, the gentleman chokes and spits the “rat” out. Having not learned a lesson from this, the “rat” (silly thing) attempts this maneuver once more, is swallowed this time. The gentleman continues his slumber, unaware of what has just transpired.

Oufitted appropriately in the true tradition of a showman (in shirt, tie and tails) the “professor” enlightened his audience as to the presumption of such a title. “Professor has its roots in the word profess. A professor is someone who professes, and I profess to know a bit about magic lanterns and slides. My favorite is that it is ‘assumed as a grandiose title . . . exponents of various popular arts and sciences, as dancing, juggling, phrenology, etc.’ I leave it up to my audience to decide.”

Our thanks to Professor M. Lindsay Lambert for an absolutely outstanding show that will be engendered to the hearts of everyone at the meeting for a long time to come.
RECENT AUCTION RESULTS
By Bob Hall

In the last issue of the *Gazette* a flyer was included advertising Uwe Breker’s auction. Items shown on the flyer achieved the following amounts in Euros:

Triunial 24,034.
Jeweled Aladin Lantern (did not sell) Porcelain Lampascope 1,321.
Clock Under Glass (did not sell) Lithopane Tea Warmer 216.
Lantern de Orient 15,622.
On the back side of the flyer; Lamposcope (did not sell) Mutoscope 4,085.
British Coin Operated Stereo Viewer 2,163.
(All prices in Euros.)

Although I have not done so, if interested I suggest you explore the results of Christie’s May auction of magic lanterns on their website.

MAGIC LANTERN SOCIETY - NORTHWEST CORNER
MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 27, 2002

Present for the meeting at Ron and Dorothy Easterday’s home were Alice Koch, Ralph and Judie Shape, Mike and Sharon Koch, David and Lesley Evans, Larry Cederblom, and Bob Doran.

After a tasty lunch and social time, President Ralph called the meeting to order at 12:30. Minutes were read and treasurer’s report given. Bank account balance is $6,883.40.

Ralph read emails he had received. It was noted that Bob Skell, Wenatchee, is selling his entire. No other details are known.

Ralph shared the British Society newsletter. Their annual meeting is in January. They don’t plan to hold an auction. They need information regarding our next convention. We will need to set a date before their meeting, so it can be included in their newsletter.

There will be a Magic Lantern display in the Cologne Museum September 27-November 24.

Homer Peabody has consulted with an attorney regarding our by-laws. He will suggest changes and solicit comments. He also commented on the excellence of our newsletter.

Sharon explained the use of Paypal, which will ease the process of dues payment for our out of country members. The process is quick and simple, and costs us about $1.28 per transaction, rather than a flat monthly or annual fee.

Ralph welcomed our newest northwest members, David and Lesley Evans. They commented that they will be happy to be here, hopefully moving to Revelstoke, Canada.

There will be an auction November 15th in Vienna. There will be some rare and unusual cameras. This is just the first of several auctions to be given by Centennial Photo.

Ralph read Alice’s conundrum, which was printed in 1892. She gave away six slides that Joe had made and sold some others. Ralph also thanked everyone whose convention presentation reports were printed in the *Gazette*.

Dates settled on for next year’s meetings are:

February 16 - Hall’s
May 4 - Bob and Carm Bishop
August 24 - Koch’s
November 16 - Shape’s

Bob Doran had two offerings for reprint for our membership Christmas gift. One was a Colt Catalogue of Stereopticons and Accessories.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50, after which Larry presented a very scary Halloween show, and the Kochs showed some miscellaneous slides bought at the convention.