

TABS



Editor
RICHARD HARRIS

- 3-15 AMATEURS - PLEASE TAKE A BOW!
Our twelve page salute to the thousands of amateur lighting enthusiasts who also use our equipment.
- 16 LIGHTRIG A new suspension system
by The Editor
- 18 THE ULTIMATE VANISHING TRICK!
by J. A. Hutchinson
- 20 I WAS THERE
by Frederick Bentham
- 22 BOOKSHELF
- 22 LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
- 23 WOODY OF STRAND
- 23 CADENZA EP
A New Effects Projector from Strand Lighting
- 24 THE EDITORS JOURNEYS
- 25 CONTROLVERSATION
By Andy Collier
- 26 PERFECT EFFECT
*A look at the Gemini lighting memory system
By Andy Collier*
- 28 SETTING A TELEVISION LIGHTING TREND
A visit to Studio A, BBC Scotland.
- 30 TWO TO BEAR MY SOUL AWAY
An encounter with Gemini by P.L. Hanley
- 30 SAAB SOUND
*How an M24 helped launch a new car
by Bjorn Claesson*
- 32 THE CARDIFF SEARCHLIGHT TATTOO
by Colin Clarke

This is the final issue of Tabs, for the foreseeable future.

As I write I have before me a copy of the first edition which came out in October 1937. It had ten pages and was, of course, the original 'pocket' sized format.

There were three main themes. Heavy emphasis on helping the amateur with lighting information, great stress on the hiring out of lighting, now long since passed to our dealers around the country, and a great deal of brouhaha about the then new Manchester branch and its manager, Mr. Percy Corry, who is, I am delighted to say, not only with us but highly active and still provocative in his ninety second year.

To, as it were, round off the Tabs story I have sought to include as many amateur lighting items as possible in this issue. I believe many of our professional lighting readers will be impressed by what can be achieved, by mixing enthusiasm with meagre resources. Our hope is that a small part of this enthusiasm has been aided and nourished by Strand, and by Tabs itself. The five Editors, Hugh Cotterill, Fred Bentham, Francis Reid, Phil Rose and myself would all regard that as a most worthwhile contribution and reward.

Why have we decided to draw a line after forty eight years?

There are several reasons. The circulation of Tabs, which has been freely available on request for all but a few years of its life, has grown to nearly fifteen thousand copies of each issue. Even though we have made every effort to control the costs, the actual production, paper

Some TABS from the archives including the 1st issue (1937) and the golden jubilee issue 1964. . . .



FROM THE EDITOR

and printing alone approach 80p a copy. Our authors are either volunteers or paid at little more than the honorarium level. The Editorial Pentax has for long substituted for professional photography BUT costs have continued to rise.

So rather than bring out a poorer cheaper version we decided on a complete change.

We are bringing out a new publication - 'Strandlight'. "Why?" I seem to hear fifteen thousand voices shout.

Well, two main reasons.

We want to make our magazine more freely available, and this means making it less expensive to produce. We are thus switching to a tabloid format, but, I quickly add, not to the typical tabloid content.

Second, and far more important, the new Strand Lighting company has become fully international.

We now supply stage and television lighting and architectural dimming and control systems around the world.

Rancho Dominguez in California is our American base, Brentford our European centre, while Hong Kong services the Far East. We have sales offices in New Jersey, Toronto, Salzdahlum - in West Germany - Paris and Singapore and agents around the world.

'Strandlight' will have correspondents in each area and will, we are determined, be the first truly worldwide 'Lighting for Entertainment' publication. Obviously, the role of the Editor of 'Strandlight' will be crucial. He will have to combine great knowledge and enthusiasm, while his journalistic flair must always be tempered by the most nit-picking accuracy.

Since no such paragon has come forward, I have been given the job.

We hope you will want to receive your copy of 'Strandlight' - but please note - it will not be sent unless you ask for it. This is because some Tab's readers will have moved without telling us, while some will have changed their interests.

How to get your copy of Strandlight:
U.K. Residents; Fill in and post the reply paid card:
Overseas; Contact your local distributor or Sales Office.

Please don't forget to enter your address, including the postcode, and we would be very interested to know your occupation.

WEEKLY HIRE CHARGE

FLOODLIGHTS AND BATTENS

100-Watt Magnesium Floodlight or Batten (comprised of 2 in colour, supplied in a 6 ft frame), 100 or 150 watt with set of 100 or 150 watt lamps. For 100 watt lamps. For 150 watt lamps. For 150 watt lamps.

CYCLORAMA LIGHTING

100-Watt Circular Cyclorama Flood. Pattern 21, supplied with 2 100-Watt lamps. 100-Watt lamps. 100-Watt lamps.

EFFECTS LIGHTING

100-Watt Optical Effects Projector. Pattern 21, supplied with 2 100-Watt lamps. 100-Watt lamps. 100-Watt lamps.

GIVE HIM SOCKS

Our socks are guaranteed hand woven and comfortable. Large variety of sizes and fashionable designs. Try our socks for two pence 3/6 per pair.

LADIES!!!

The only real vanishing cream available under ordinary light. Ultra Violet. Make up 7/6 per pot.

THE DIRECTORS OF THE WELL KNOWN
STRAND LIGHTING
AND ENGINEERING COMPANY LIMITED

A COMPLETELY NEW GLOSSARY

TECHNICAL TERMS THEATRICAL LIGHTING

Compiled with Due Diligence and Repeated Research. Contains all the terms used for LIGHTING PLAYS in the theatre throughout the world. The Majesty's Handbook. Commencing Nov. 1st 1937, and thereafter to be published as supplies shall last!

ACTORS' ORPHANAGE

Price 1/6. (Including postage) 1/9. (Including postage) 1/9. (Including postage) 1/9.

Volume 22, No. 1 GOLDEN JUBILEE March, 1964

October, 1937

TABS is published by Strand Lighting at PO Box 51, Great West Road, Brentford, Middlesex TW8 9HR. Correspondence and articles for publication should be addressed to the Editor.