When gentlemen wore moustaches and dangled silk handkerchiefs, the average audience asked nothing better than a rabbit and a top hat for a good evening's entertainment. Glenn L. Morris, '26ba, has found a swingtime version of the old stage magic that's even better.

For Mr. Morris tours the country giving popularized science demonstrations, and his electrical "magic" has kept hundreds of audiences guessing. His only sleight-of-hand work lies in pushing buttons.

Before almost two million persons, at one time or another, Mr. Morris has demonstrated the oddities of modern science. Over a total of 496,600 miles in the United States and Canada, he has moved his elaborate set of demonstration equipment, and wherever he goes, from Maine to California, he meets graduates and former students of the University of Oklahoma.

His main regret is that he never gets to know any of them very well.

When he lectured at Chicago Heights, Illinois, the principal of the high school corrected him when he introduced himself as "Glenn Morris of Madison, Wisconsin."

"You were from Oklahoma when I knew you," the principal insisted, and on comparing notes the two men discovered that they had known each other twenty-five years before.

Mr. Morris has been working at this sort of lecturing for a long time, for it was money from demonstration tours which made the completion of his college training possible. After he received a degree in physics at the University in 1926, he moved to Wisconsin, where his headquarters are still located.

Along with memories of blizzards, floods, mud and peculiar restaurant and housing facilities, the genial lecturer can look back to the times when his first audiences met under the tents of the old summer Chautauquas, and in close winter community buildings. He has slept in hundreds of strange beds in rooms where the ventilation and heating systems were uncomfortably poor.

Now Mr. Morris demonstrates his scientific oddities before school assemblies, luncheon clubs, church groups, science clubs, teachers' colleges and conventions. In some instances, city school boards purchase entire blocks of his time so that, as a visiting teacher, he can cover all of the schools in the district.

In a whimsical vein, Mr. Morris recalls some of the unique introductions he has been given before various audiences in the forty-eight states he has visited.

"As chairman of your Lyceum committee," said a man who was about to introduce him to an Ohio audience, "I am happy to announce that we have a surplus of $300 on this season's operations, and, with your permission, we have decided to keep this money until next season in order to buy a better grade of talent. Now we come to the final number of this year—"

In the early days, when advertising was bombastic and flashy, Mr. Morris was frequently referred to as an "Electrical Wizard," and sometimes as "The Benjamin Franklin of the Twentieth Century."

The advertising proved a boomerang. One summer night when a fuse blew out, leaving his audience in total darkness, Tracing the electric wires to the alley, with his pocket flashlight, Mr. Morris observed that an ingenious local electrician had installed his own fuse box on top of a pole. Returning to the tent, he requested the superintendent to find a lineman. To his consternation, the good woman walked to the platform, and, without telling the audience about the problem at hand, inquired in a high-pitched voice, "Is there an electrician in the house?" The "electrical wizard" lost the audience that night and the contract for the following year.

"Usually someone breaks the ice by giving me some sort of an introduction," he said. Sometimes, however, I have to take matters into my own hands. At one town I waited far past the hour scheduled for my performance, thinking that perhaps it was prayer meeting night and the sponsors were waiting for the people to arrive. All of a sudden a bald head appeared in the stage door and snapped, "Well, why don't you start, and give the people something for their money?"

"And sometimes as 'The Benjamin Franklin of the Twentieth Century.'"

Throughout the educational magician press buttons.