Magic Packs

THE TRICK: The magician asks a volunteer to name any number between one and ten. He then goes through a deck of cards, and takes out all four cards of that number. This leaves 48 cards. He deals these cards into six piles of eight cards each. The magician then turns his back, or leaves the room, while the volunteer takes one card from near the center of any pile. He shows this card to the group, returns it to the top of the same pile, and stacks the six piles in any order that he wishes. The magician returns to the room and goes through the deck of 48 card turning each card face up. In a short time. he holds up the chosen card to the astonished audience.

THE SECRET: The deck has been stacked. In advance, the magician places six picture cards at the top of the deck and the other six picture cards at the bottom of the deck. As a result, when he deals out the six piles of eight cards each, the top and the bottom card of each pile will be a picture card. The card that the volunteer player picks from the center of a pile, therefore, will never be a picture card. When he returns this card to the top of one pile and places the piles one on top of another, this card must wind up between two picture cards. It is simple for the magician to find, since it is the only non-picture card between two picture cards.