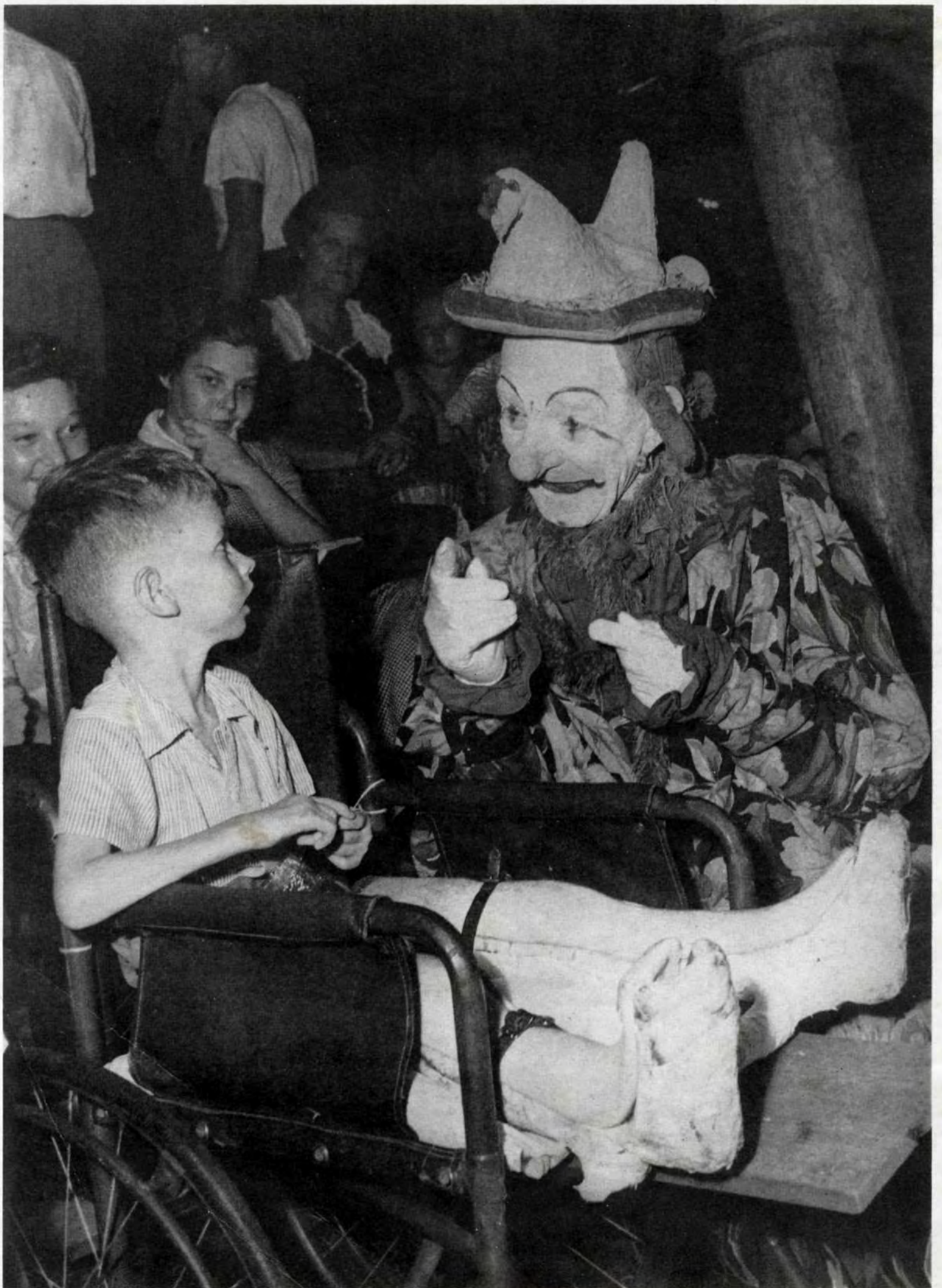


SAWDUST TRAIL



—Miami Herald Staff Photo

Dedication . . .

To Children of All Ages

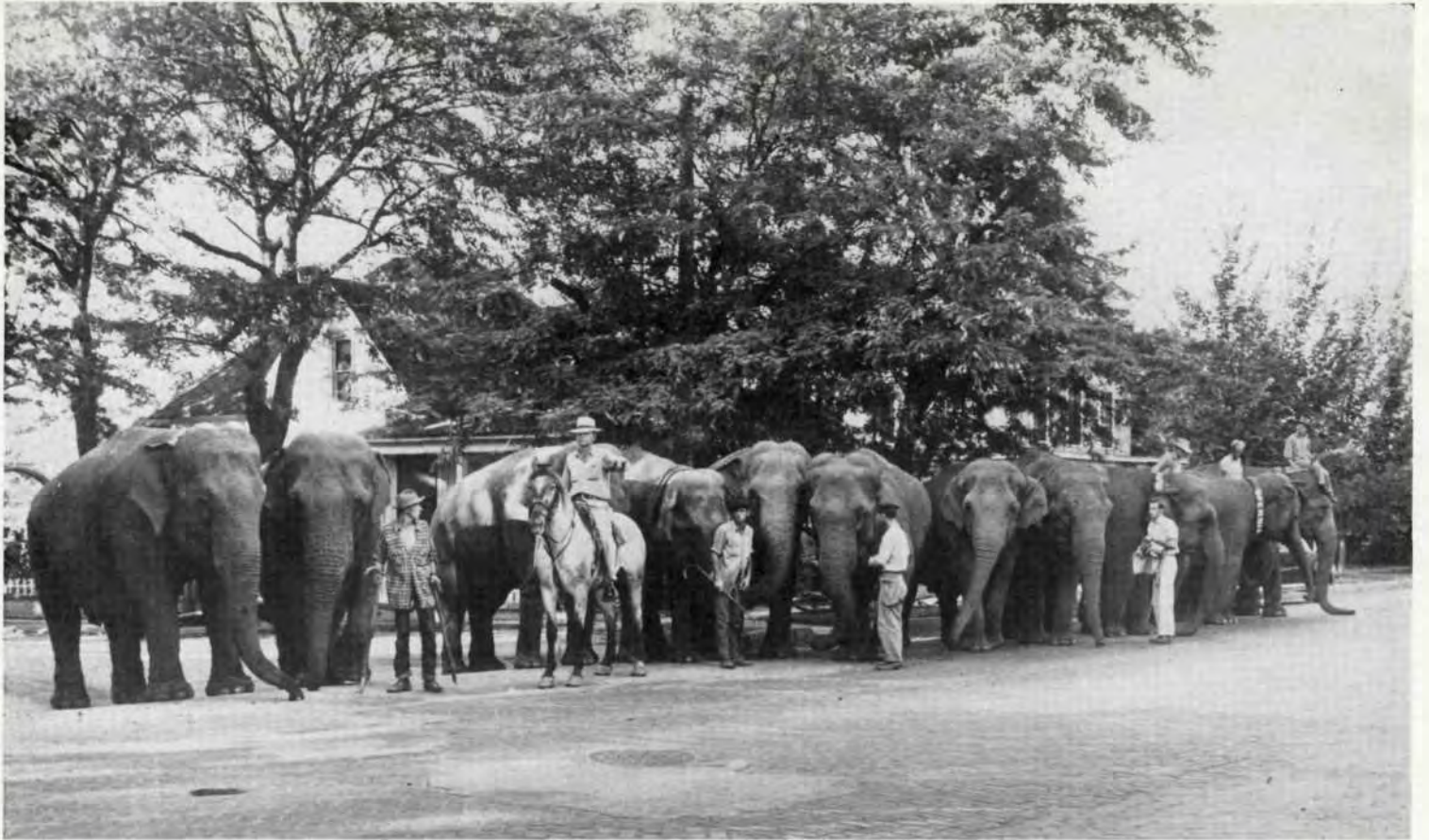
And to the Personnel of "America's Favorite Show"

Is Dedicated This Booklet

About the 1949 Cole Brothers Circus

—TEDD MEYER





Here come the e'phants! Eugene (Arky) Scott, elephant boss, signals where to place the watering tub. The elephant men (left to right) are: Charles (Doc) Haag, Scott, Royce Thomas, "Lucky," Tedd Meyer, John Smith, "Mysterious Whitey," and Bill Cox.



The girls drink up, while their buddy Elmer, the elephant lead horse, watches. Each pachyderm drinks about 30 gallons of water daily. A wash tub and a fire hose, not small boys with buckets, have always been standard elephant watering equipment.



Harness and lead bars are put on at the circus lot, and the elephant department goes to work. Wilma and Nellie, with Tedd Meyer aboard, pull three tons of big top canvas. A single elephant, Blanche, drags the rolls of canvas out of the wagon.



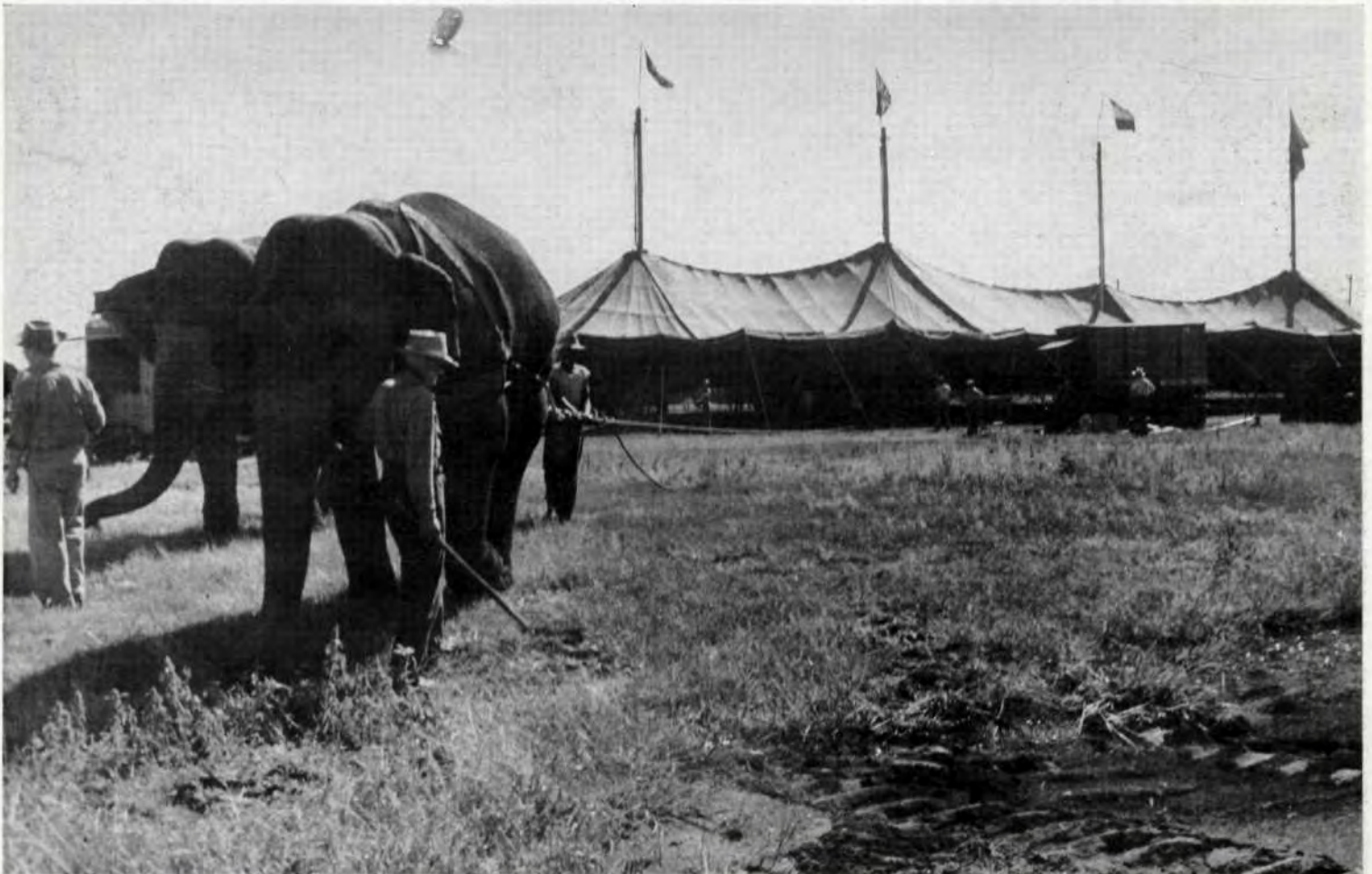
Men and machines drive down wooden stakes which will anchor the billowing big top. Blanche, the biggest elephant in America, grabs a trunkful of grass before raising the Douglas fir center poles. A circus favorite, she is gentle and loves attention.



Photos by Johny Vogelsang

After the center poles go up, canvasmen unroll the pieces of canvas, spread them out, and lace the 12 sections together—assisted by the traditional army of children.

Laced and rigged, with most of the side poles up, the big top resembles a huge, gray bowl. More than five miles of 1.90 twill, 31 inches wide, were used in its manufacture.



Four elephants, one to a pole, "pull the peaks." In the left foreground with Little Babe, John E. Smith (Smitty) watches the No. 2 peak to make certain that it doesn't go too high. The six tons of canvas are raised only this high at first, so that quarter poles may be inserted into tent holes and tied off. Then elephant power pulls the quarter poles into position.



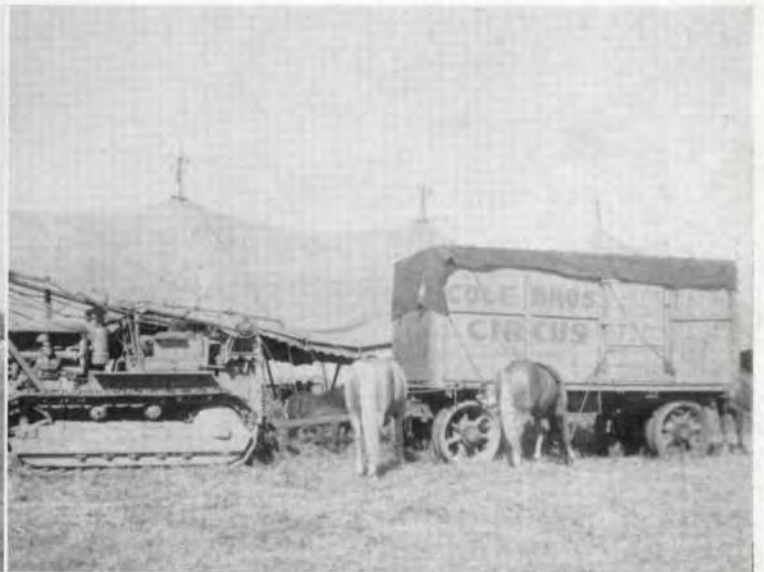
The vast Studebaker plant is a familiar sight to troupers when the annual visit to South Bend, Ind., rolls around.



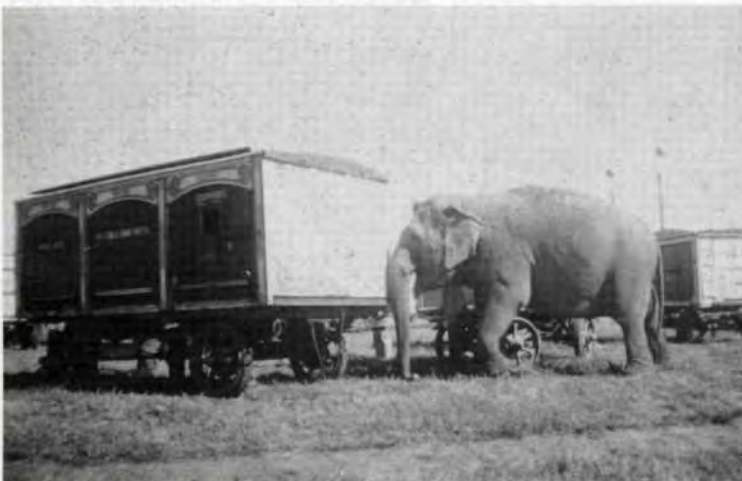
The circus looks forward to playing South Bend because it has a railroad lot and its citizens are circus-minded.



The lead stock, zebras; llamas; camels; sacred cattle; and water buffalo, must be led to the lot. In Cedar Rapids, Iowa, it meant one-way hikes of six miles for animal men.



When the padroom is up, the button box will be pulled in. Performance "glad rags" are kept and repaired in the busy wagon presided over by wardrobe mistress Kathryn Luckey.

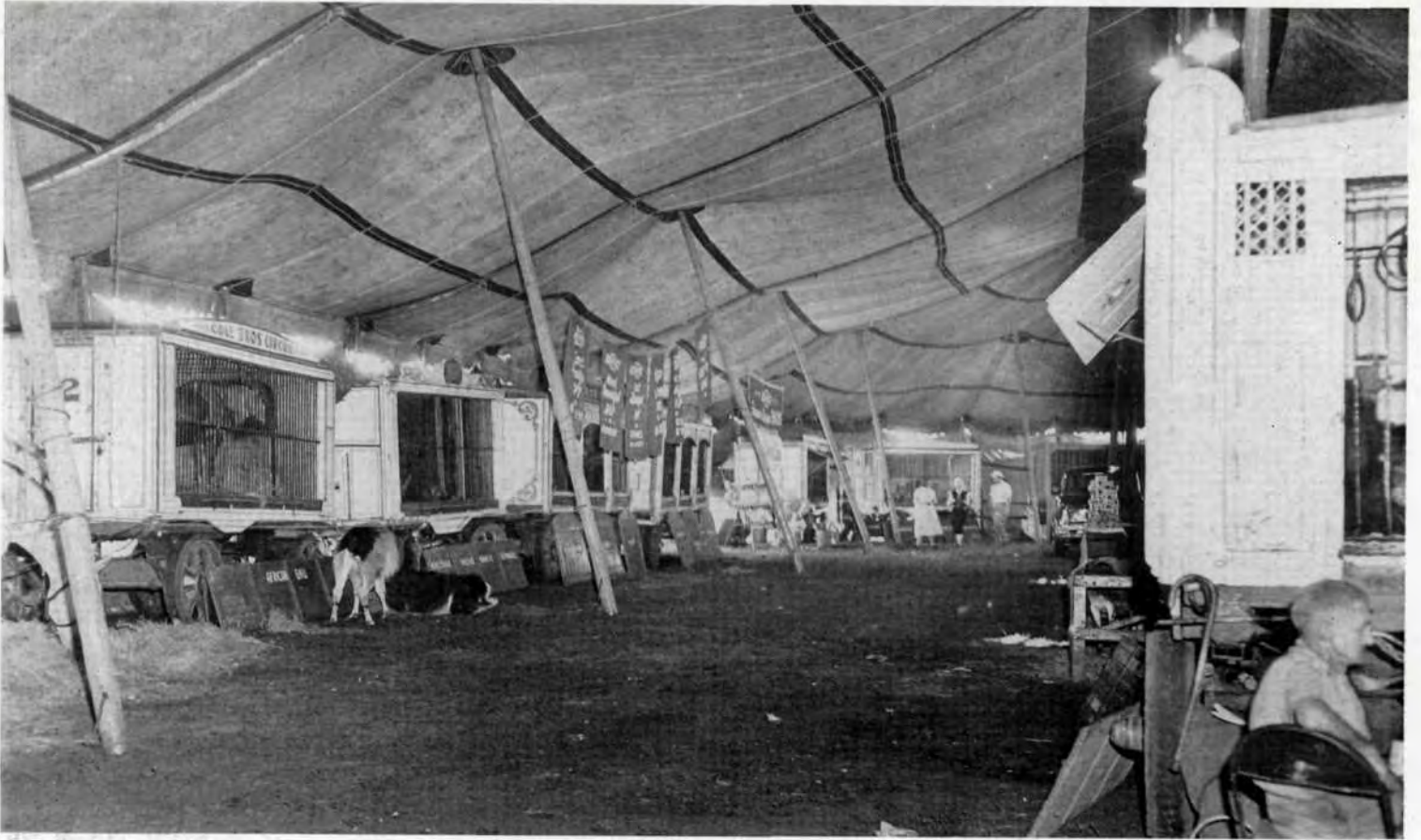


Never trained for the ring, Trilby earns her bales of hay by spotting menagerie wagons, pulling up menagerie center poles.

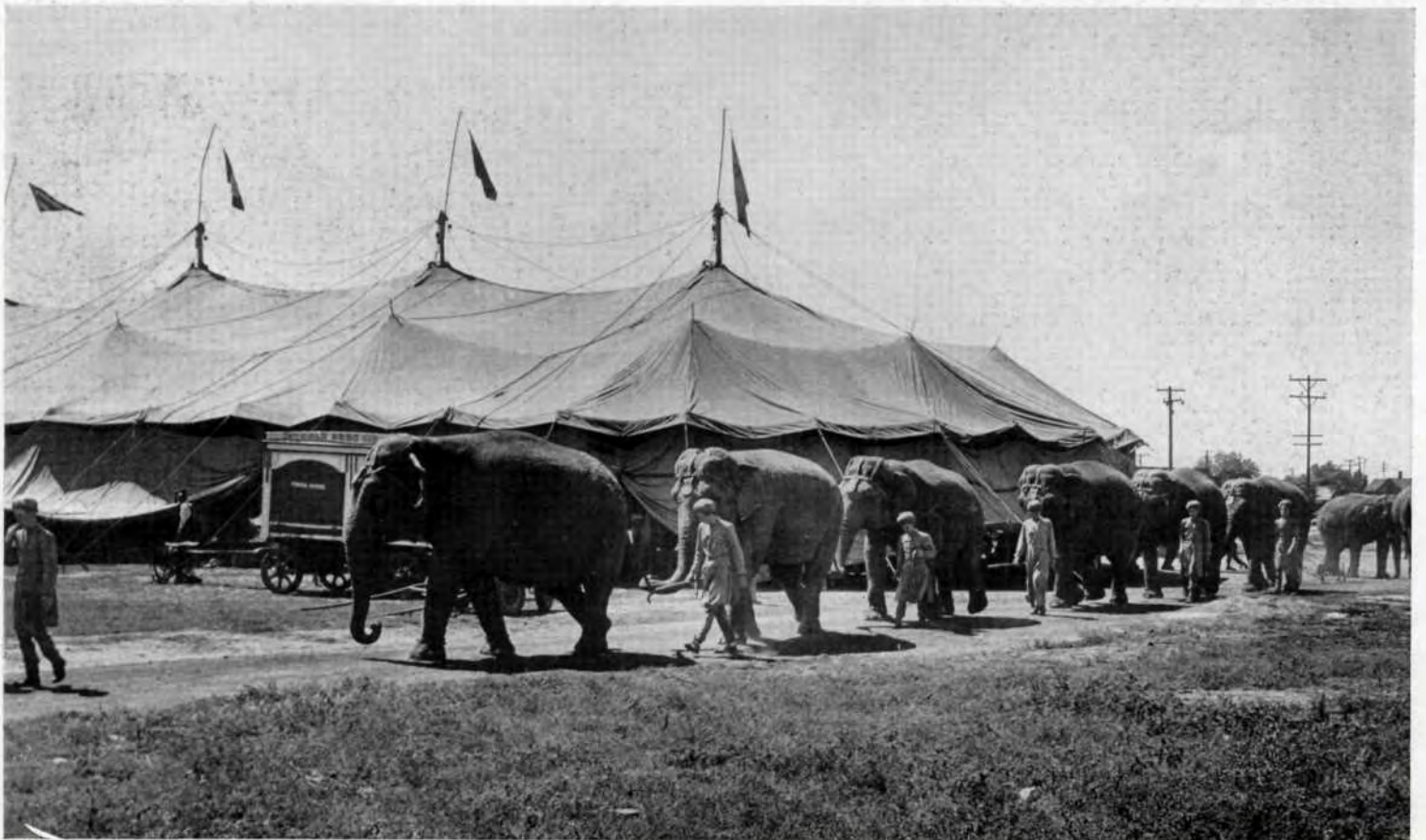


Photos by Johnny Vogelsang and James McRoberts

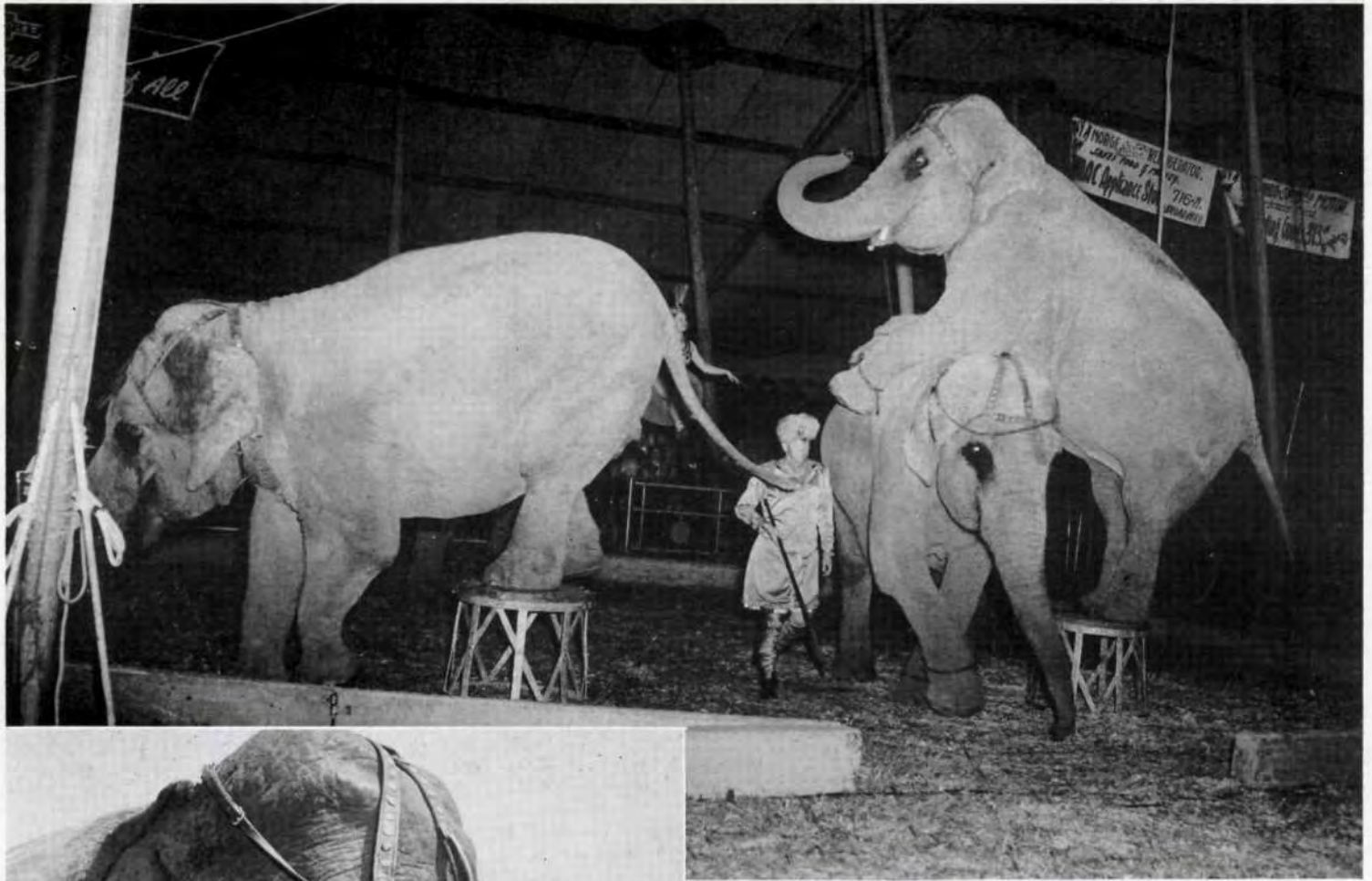
The sawdust-strewn midway is bare at 11 a.m., but by 1 p.m. it will hold a happy mass of humanity awaiting the cry of "Doors!"



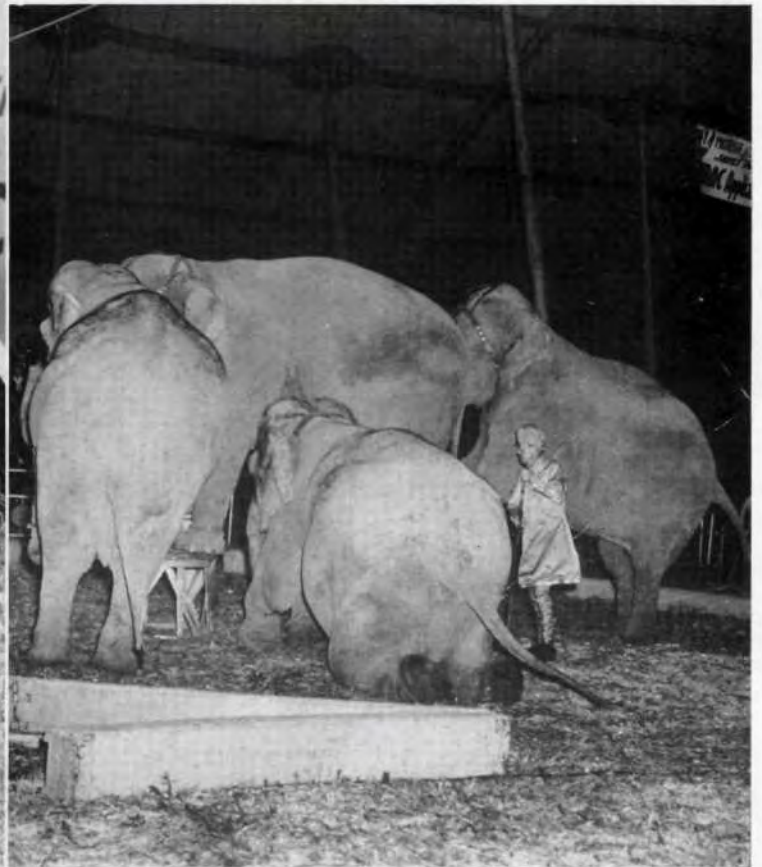
When the side show band begins playing at 12:30 p.m., it's the signal for elephant men to sweep off the bulls and put up menagerie guard ropes. At 1:15 the doors open.

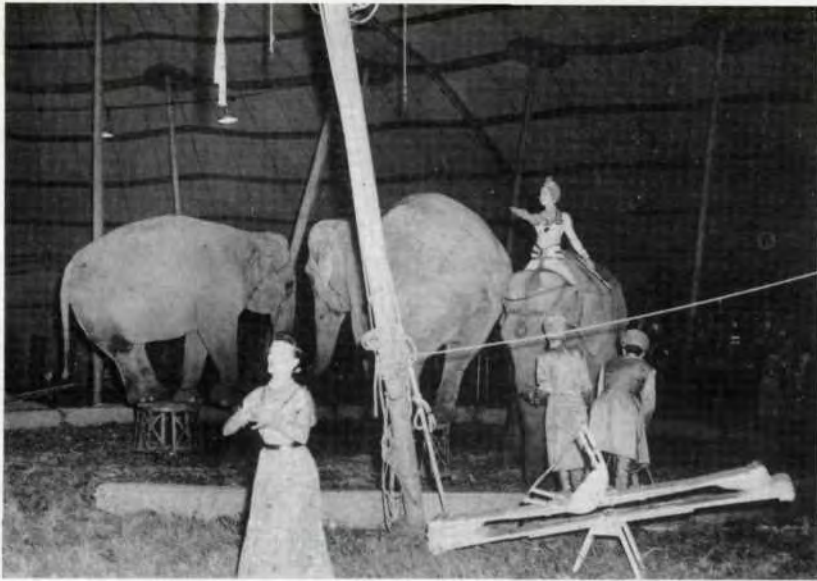


Pachydermic performers parade to the backyard just before it's time for the act. In the language of the white tops, elephants, regardless of sex, are called "bulls."



Pat Scott (left) poses with her pal Babe, the oldest elephant in the herd. Minutes later (above, below), they're starring in the center ring under the direction of Eugene (Arky) Scott.





"MANDALAY," Display No. 1, transports you to the land where "The Dawn Comes Up Like Thunder." Press Chief F. Beverly Kelley massed bejeweled adjectives masterfully, described it as a "Glittering East Indian Spectacle of Unparalleled Opulence and Immensity."



"Moving Mastodonic Mountains of Jungle-bred Talent and Gorgeous Dancing Temple Maidens from the Exotic Land of Rudyard Kipling."



Photo by Rockford, Ill., Register-Republic
 Roman-standing rider Jinx Adams awaits the cue to send her 16-horse hitch thundering around the hippodrome track.



Toni Martin smiles atop a smart-stepping Kentucky blue blood, for the lot is grassy and the day sunny in Colorado Springs.



Human projectiles Sylvana and Donaldo Zacchini (sister and brother) are shot out of a huge repeating cannon twice daily.

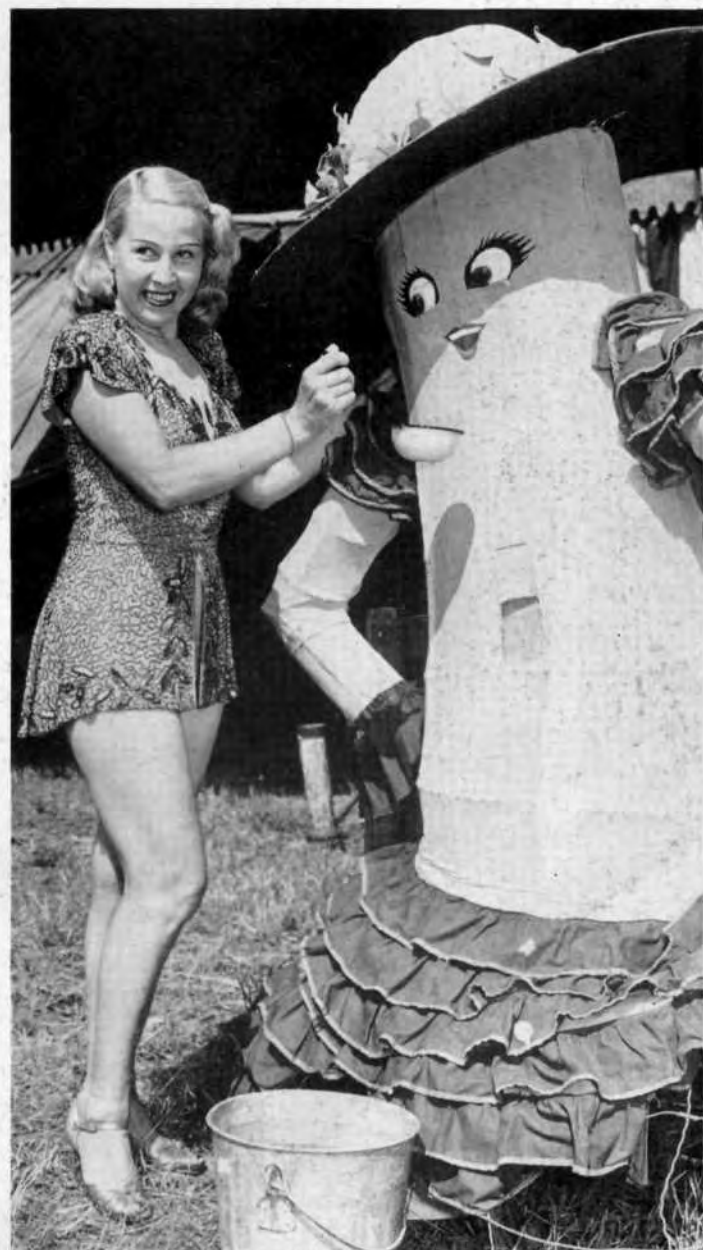
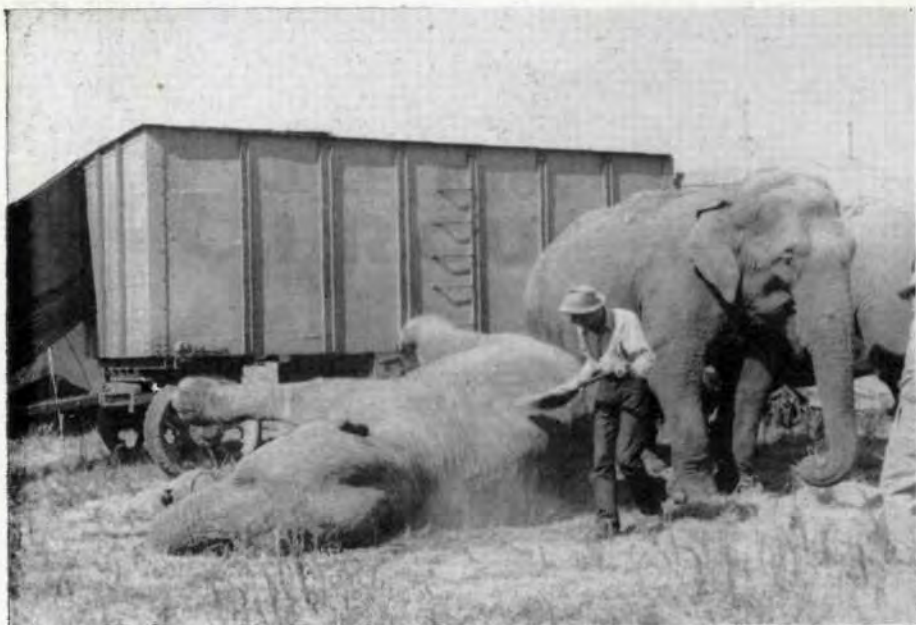


Photo by Rockford, Ill., Register-Republic
 The clown costume isn't a bit thirsty, but apparently feels unicyclist Marta Mathis' offer is a nice thought anyway.



Doc Haag gives Babe a brisk sweeping off (above) in preparation for her midway appearance when she will give rides to thrilled youngsters—and grownups. The entire herd is swept off before each show; Babe and Carrie get extra brush-offs when the matinee is nearly over, before going out with the howdahs. Nellie and Tessie (foreground below) feel each other out prior to one of their frequent fights. Great pals years ago, they suddenly became bitter enemies. Now, a day rarely passes when they don't try to stage a battle royal. Wilma and Nellie, affectionately nudging each other, (bottom, next page) are bosom buddies.

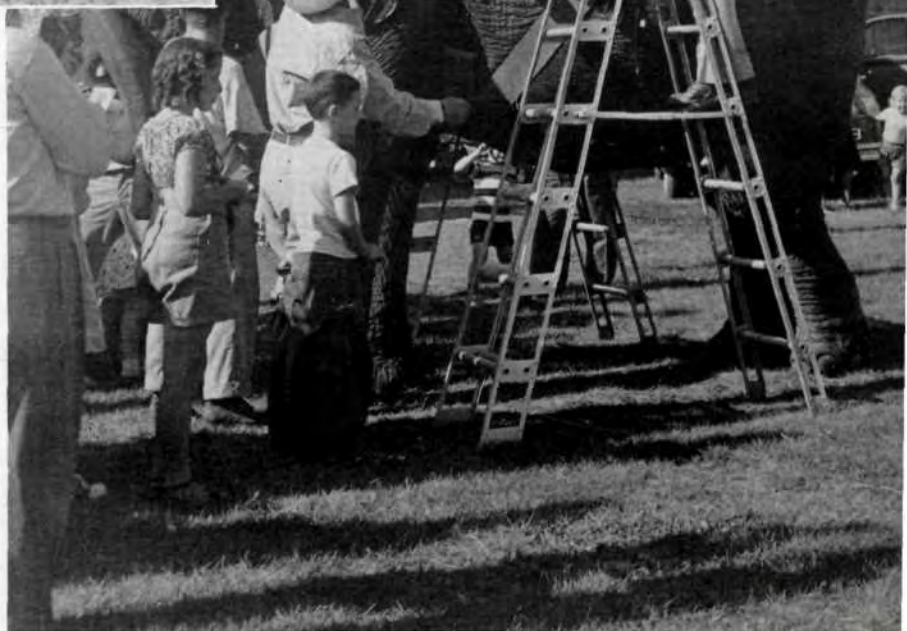
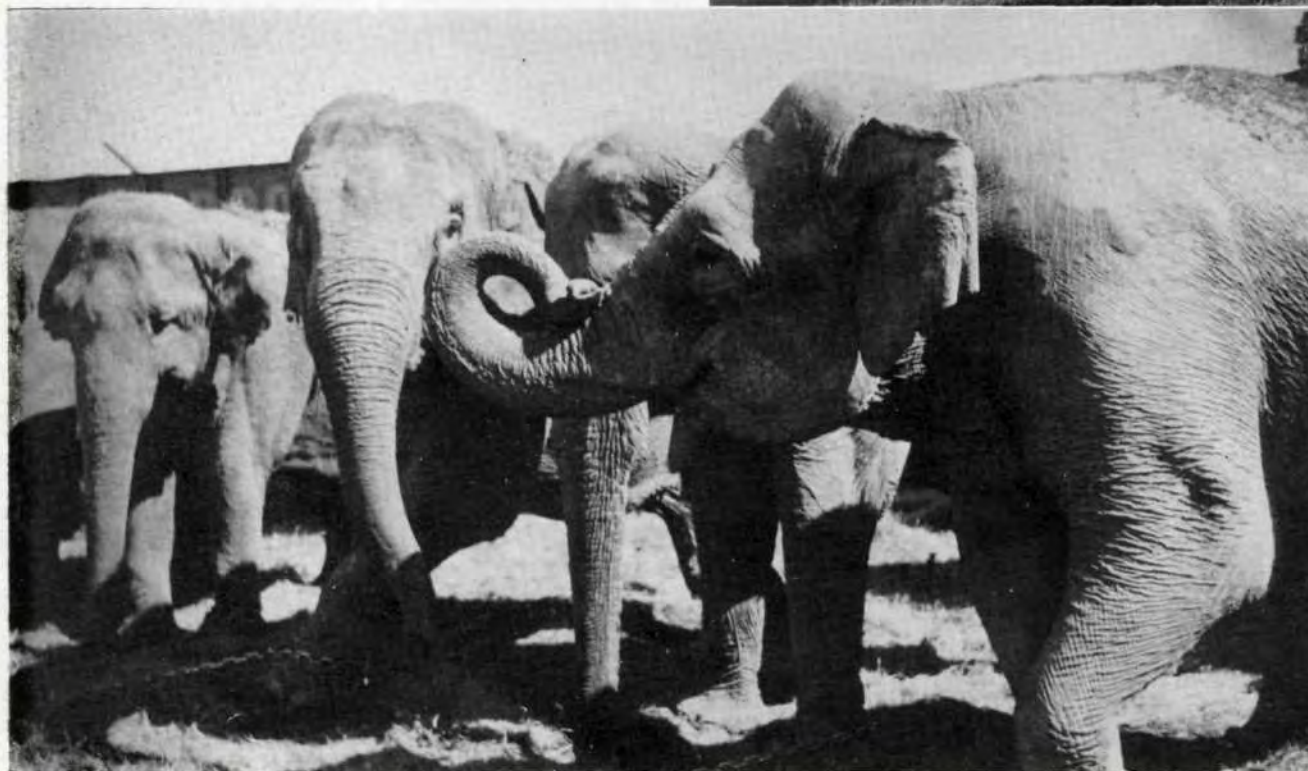
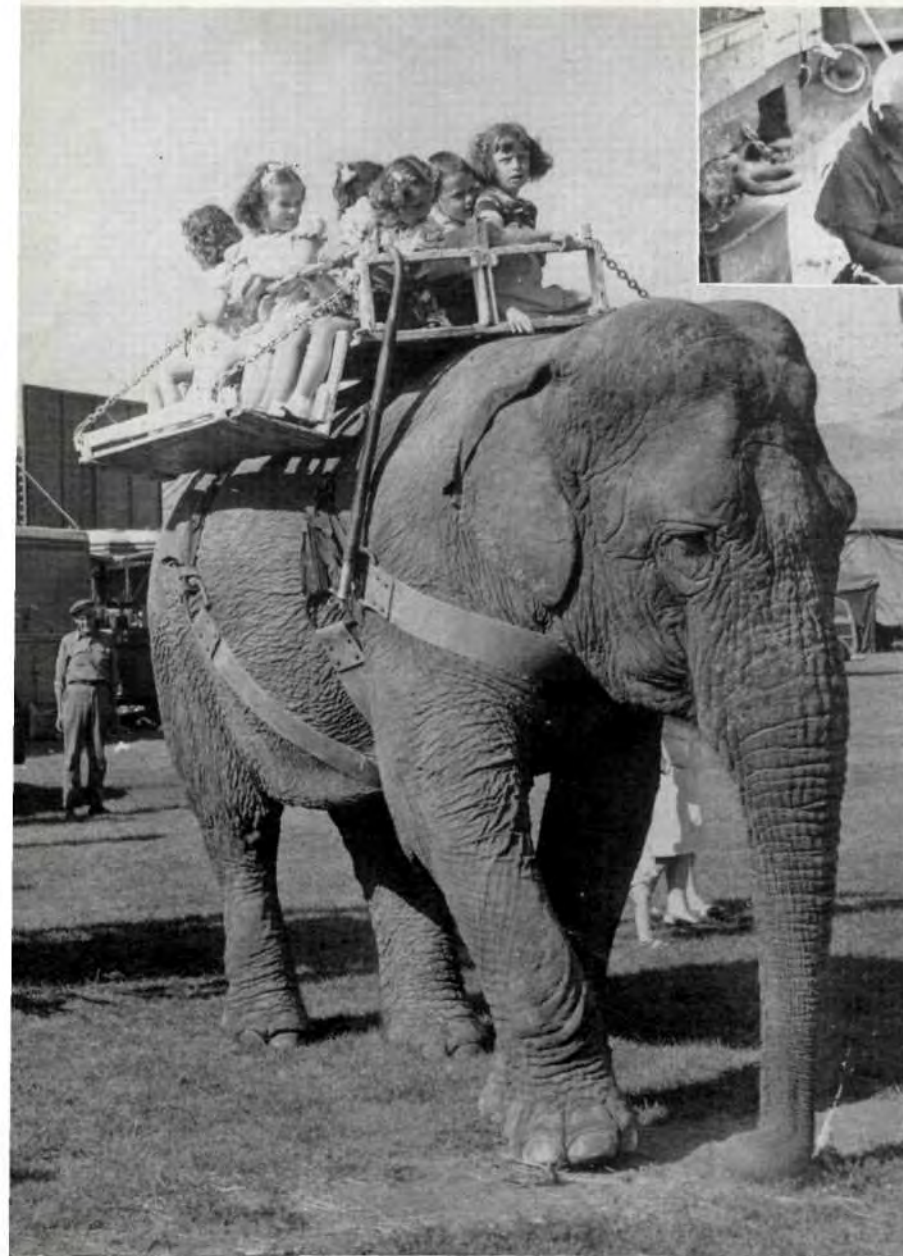


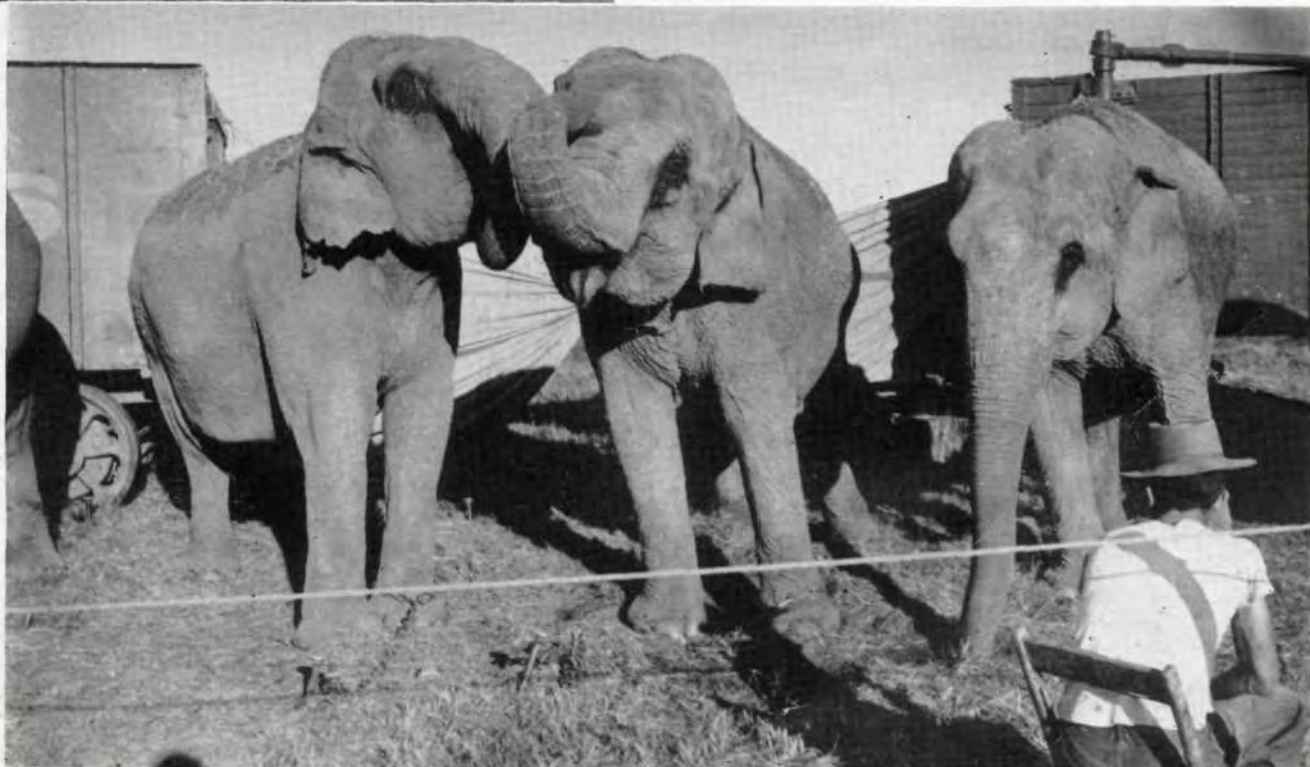
Photo by Des Moines

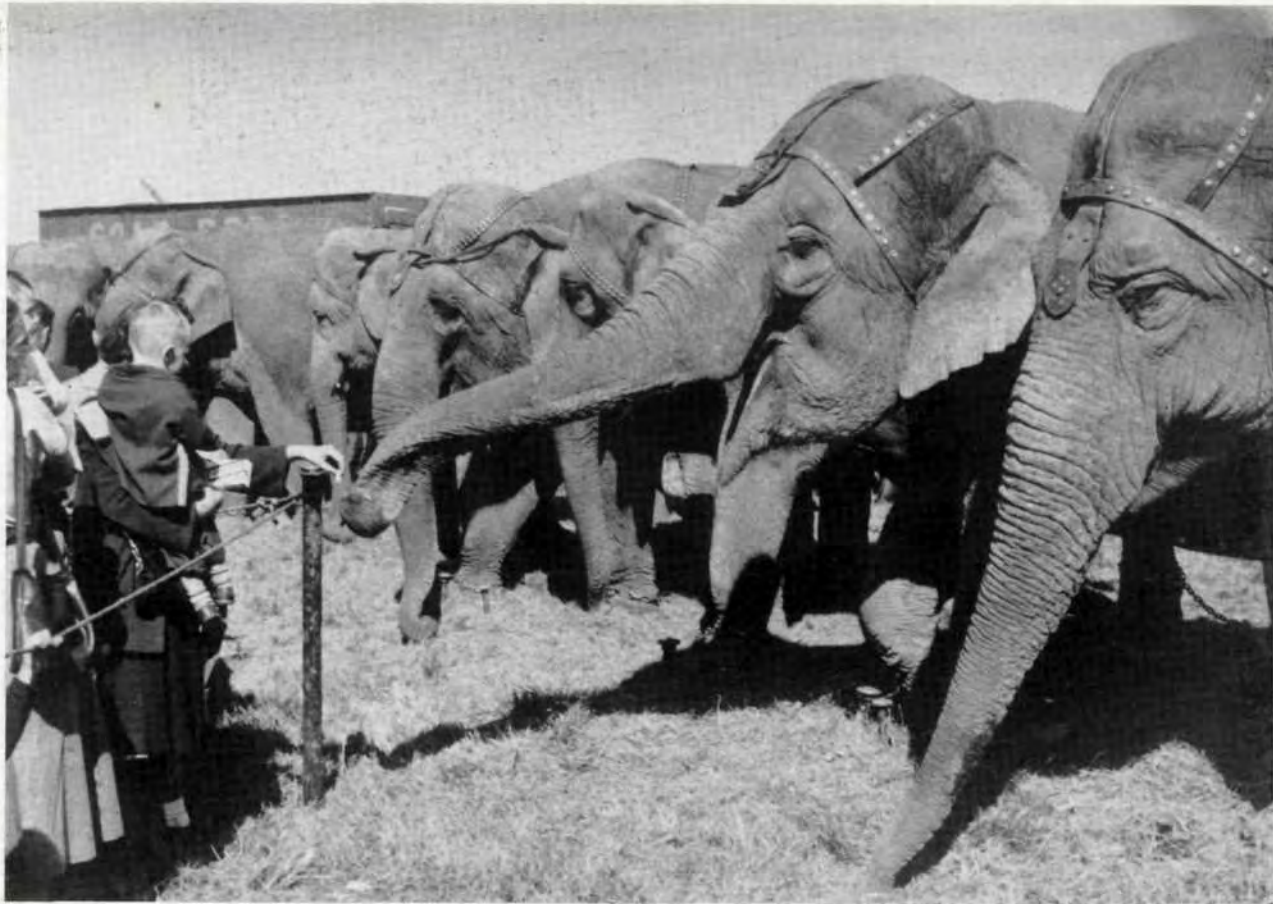




Screams of fear and delight mingled as Des Moines, Iowa, children rode real, live elephants (left). Young Iowans, eager to go on abbreviated safaris, lined up for hours, provided the elephant ride with its banner days of the season. Earl (Irish) Greer (left, above) and Harold Streeter keep up with the news. Irish, 78 years young, has charge of the show's almost human chimpanzees. He entered show business in 1892 with Gentry Bros. Circus. After that he was with Hagenbeck-Wallace, John Robinson, Gollmar Bros., and Walter L. Main—famous circuses now nonexistent whose names were once household words in America.

Register and Tribune

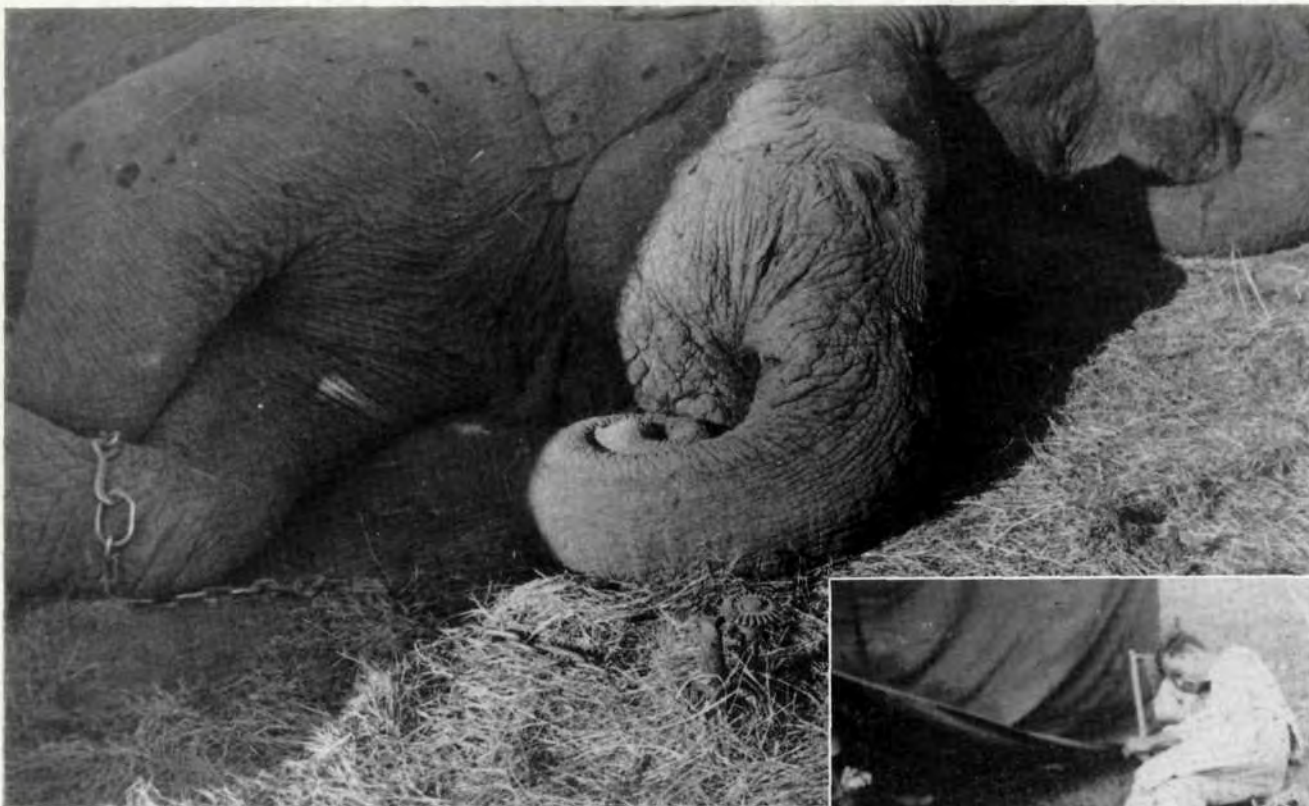




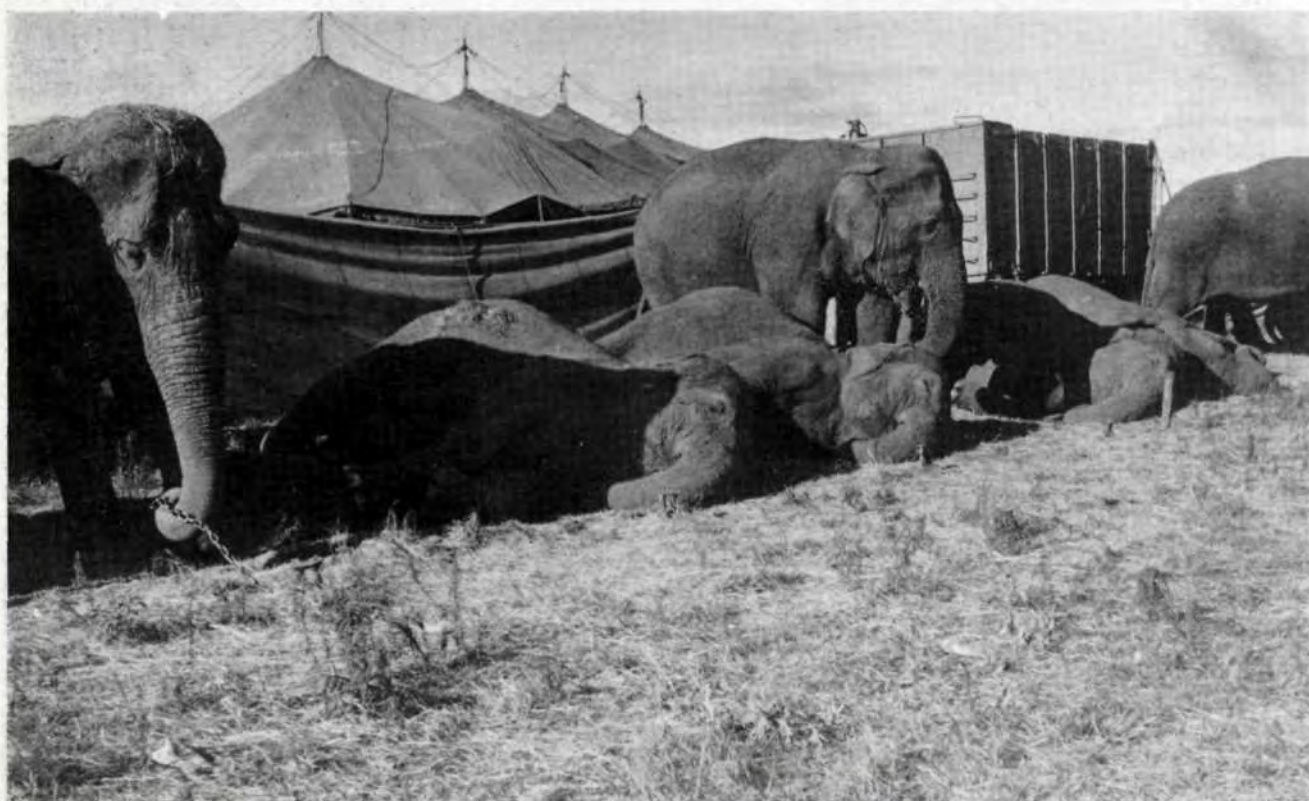
"They all look alike to me!" say most circus-goers, but the faces and figures of elephants are as varied as those of people. Jean, reaching for the peanut, possesses an unusually large head. Louie, right, has a face resembling that of an old man.



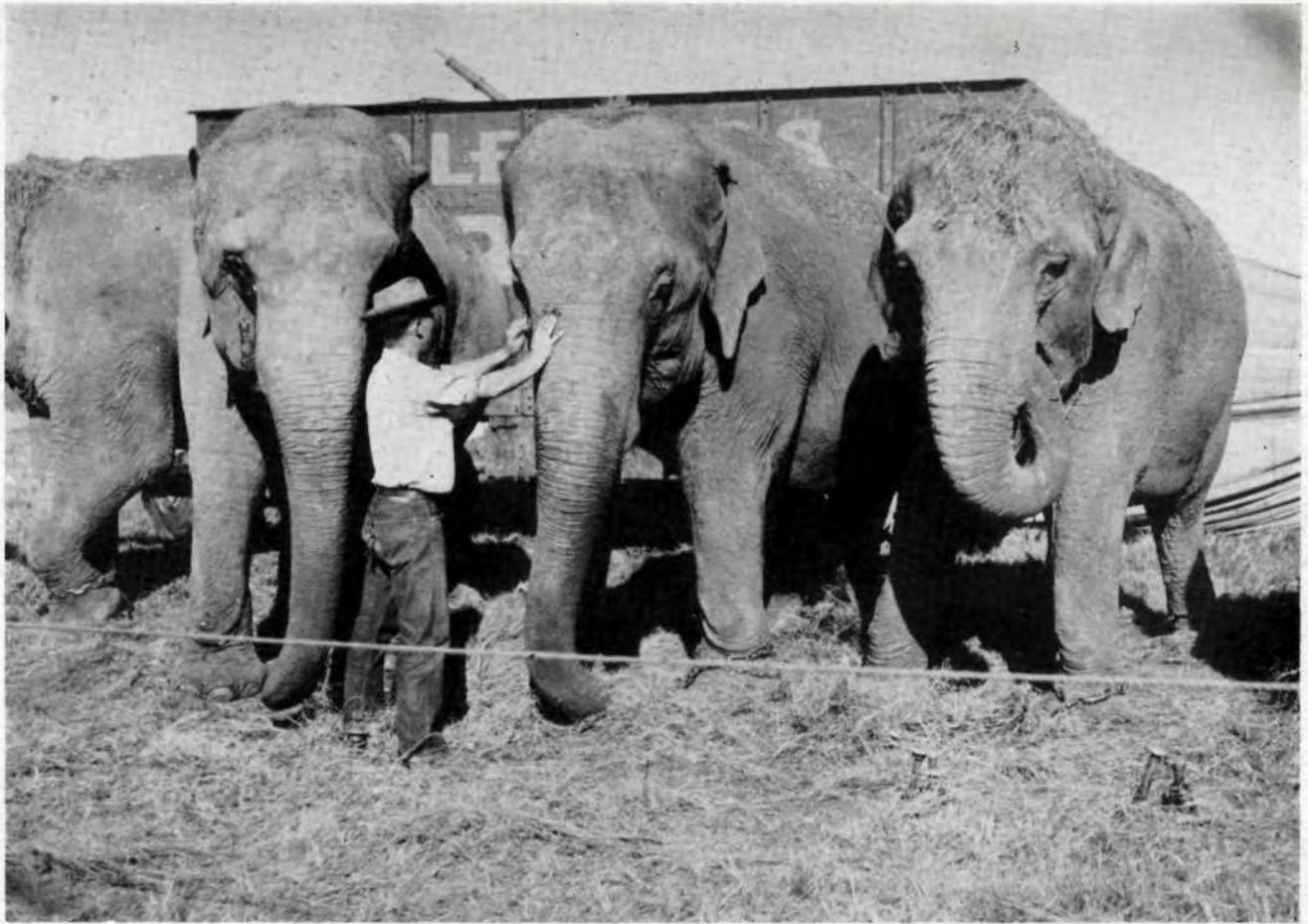
The side show blow-off gets underway when the big show is over. "Missing the side show after seeing the circus is like eating a cake without the frosting! See it now friends! You'll find nothing but wagon tracks on this circus lot tomorrow!"



Grabbing forty winks between shows is a mighty good idea, as it will be midnight before the elephant department leaves the lot and 1 a.m. before the bulls are loaded in their specially-built car.



Elephants sleep standing up or lying down, depending upon their individual habits. But never do they all sleep at the same time. Several are always awake, on guard against any approaching danger.



Elephant beautician Bill Cox rubs vaseline around Katie's eyes to keep the skin from becoming hard and brittle. Once a year, in winter quarters, the hides of all the giants are rubbed down, then treated with neatsfoot oil to give pachydermic skin new life.



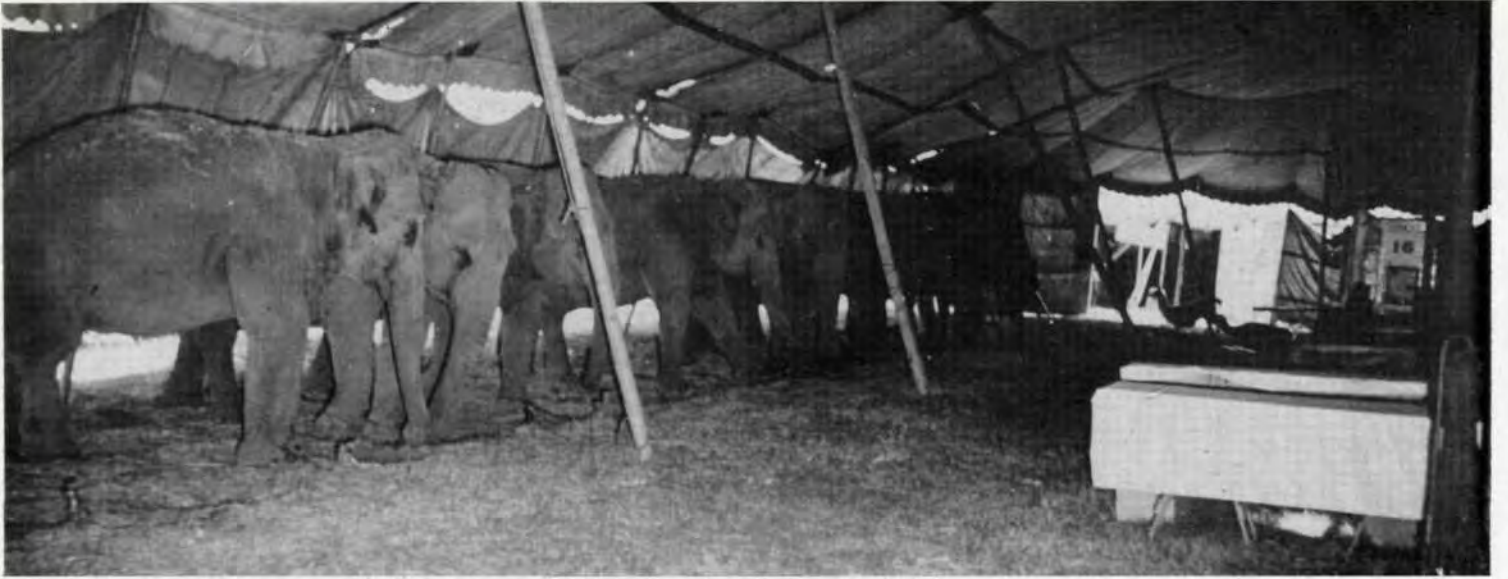
Almost every day is washday on the circus. Doc Haag attacks the dirty wash with soap, scrub brush, and plenty of elbow grease.



A torrid day and a dusty lot in Rock Island, Ill., didn't bother Arky Scott. He coolly submerged in a barrel of water.



Smitty relaxes before the act, recalling, perhaps, Dan Rice Circus days when he worked two tuskers in a three-elephant act.



After a good night's rest, the bulls are in a playful mood the second day of the two-day Des Moines stand. Katie has pushed the third quarter pole from this end out of line. Louie, a "master mechanic" at unscrewing clevis pins and working hooks out of slots, is probably busy unfastening her front leg chain. And undoubtedly Blanche has impishly used excess energy to pull up her front stakes.



A member of the ring stock department washes one of the scores of equine performers which are all kept faultlessly groomed.



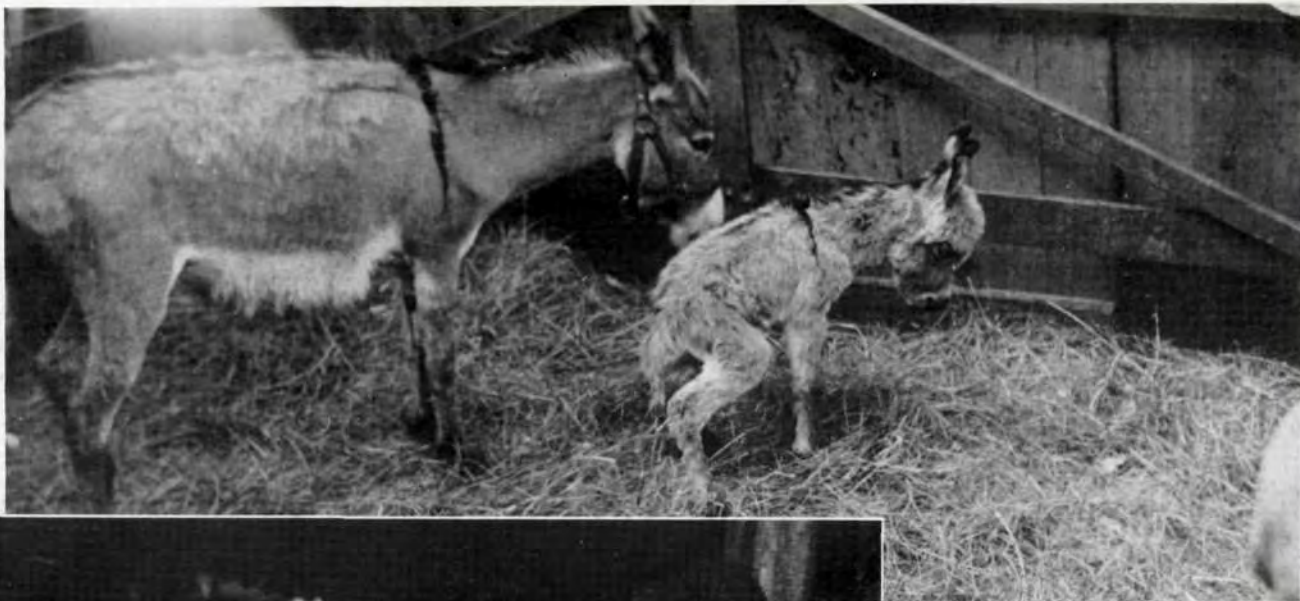
The circus blacksmith is still a mighty essential man. If you don't believe it, visit Tex McGummary's shop (above) any day.



Bob Mekkes and Doc Haag listen to a St. Louis Cardinals baseball game on the portable radio, during the windup of the sizzling pennant race.



Buckets—you take baths out of and wash clothes in 'em, though laundry and cleaning are sent out to cities the show will visit. Each bucket bears its owner's name; those of different departments are painted distinctive colors.



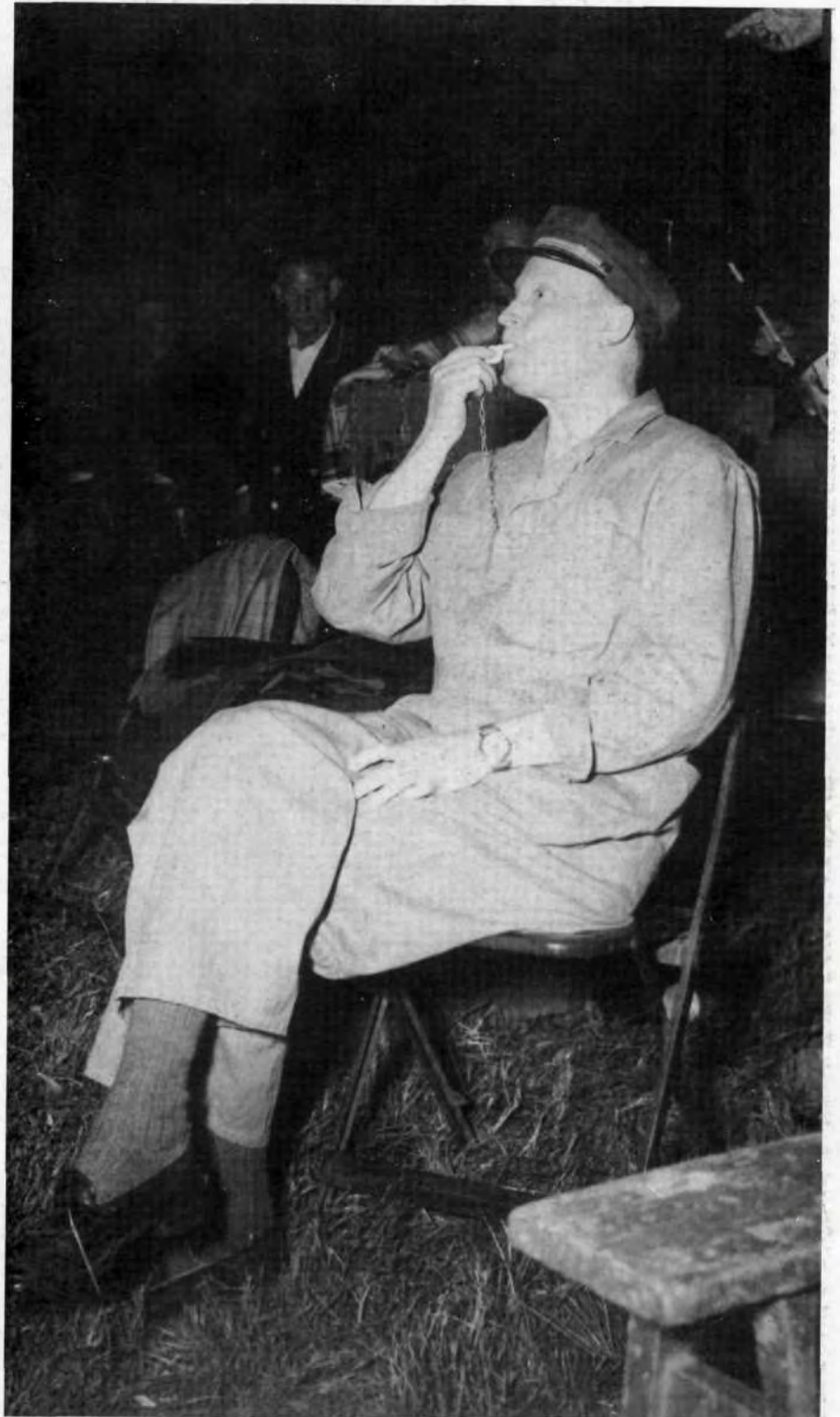
Midget mule Denver was a trifle wobbly on his feet one hour after birth (above). Two hours later, with mother Louie (below), he felt right at home. At the age of three days (left) he was throwing up his rear legs in true mule fashion and began making nocturnal escapes from his pen during the three-day Denver, Colo., stand. The blessed event occurred in Kearney, Neb.



Photo by Denver Post



"Here we are again!" crys Horace Laird, who has been a clown and official mail agent with the sawdust and spangles city every year since Cole Bros. Circus was founded in 1935.

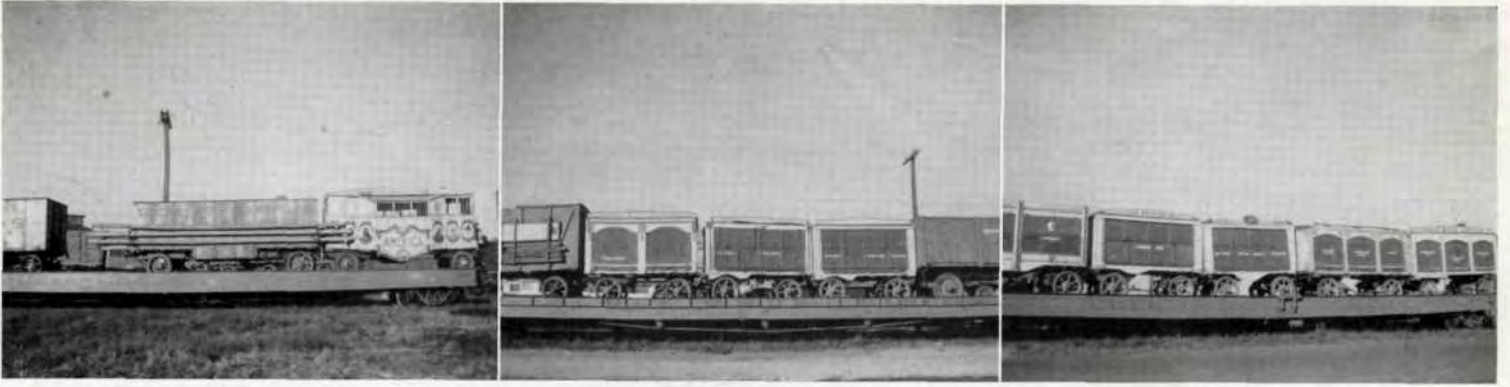


A shrill whistle blast by equestrian director Vander Barbette starts another performance of the 1949 edition of "America's Favorite Show."

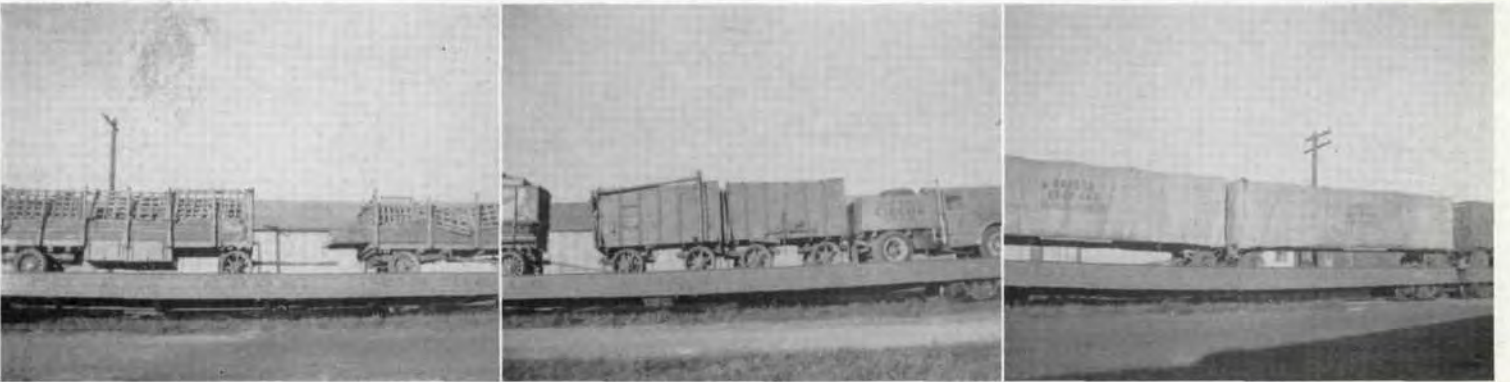


Miami Herald Staff Photo

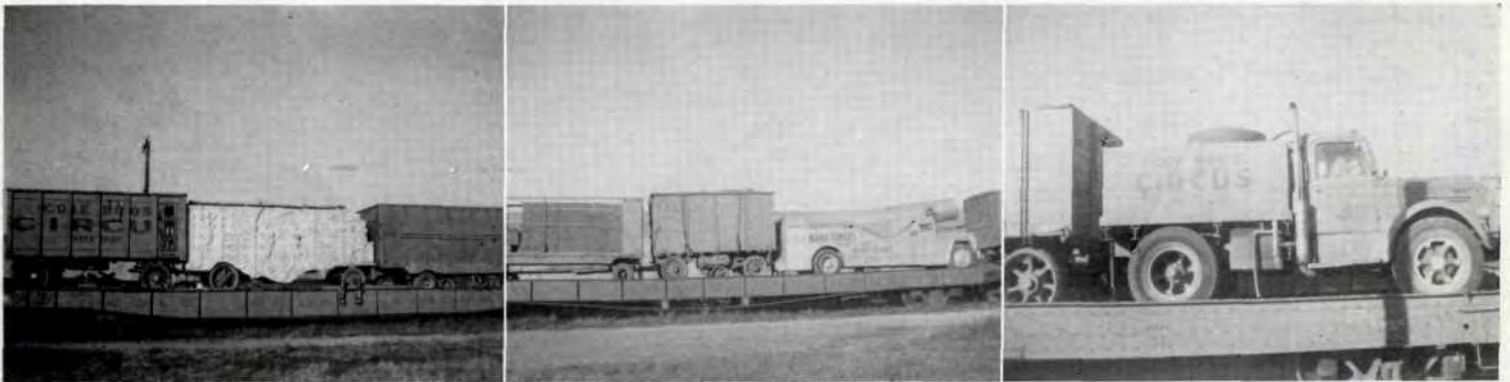
Australian Eddie Dullum changes from mere man to fabulous funster. Once a bookkeeper and a school teacher, he started in American show business as a white-face clown in 1946.



Whether it's in Sandusky or Seattle, circus fans' hearts beat faster at the sight of the gaily-painted show train glistening in the early-morning sunlight. Sounds and smells from cages (center and right) and the steam calliope (left) send spirits soaring.



There are tons and tons of equipment . . . two wagons carry all stringers and jacks which support the grandstand (left) . . . twin wagons contain all the big top canvas (center) . . . and a pair of wagons with panels unfold to become the side show banner line (right).



Loaded on the flat car pictured at the left are: a trunk wagon with trained dogs housed in one end, the elaborately carved white ticket wagon which is the Columbia bandwagon of bygone circus days, and an all-steel wagon that holds grandstand chairs.



The private car (left) and sleepers (center) carry executives, performers, and working men when the circus train races through the night to tomorrow's town. Elephants, horses, and lead stock "hit the hay" each night in cars built expressly for them (right).

Photos by James McRoberts

Official Tour — Season of 1949

COLE BROTHERS CIRCUS

Date	City	State	Railroad	Miles
April 14	Louisville	Kentucky		
April 15	Louisville	Kentucky		
April 16	Louisville	Kentucky		
April 17 (Sun)	Louisville (Matinee only)	Kentucky		
April 18	Owensboro	Kentucky	K.&I.—L.&N.	113
April 19	Evansville	Indiana	L.&N.	43
April 20	Terre Haute	Indiana	C.&E.I.	106
April 21	Decatur	Illinois	Penn.	95
April 22	Springfield	Illinois	B.&O.	44
April 23	Peoria	Illinois	Alton—P.&P.U.	63
April 24 (Sun)	Peoria	Illinois		
April 25	Hoopeston	Illinois	Nickle Plate	113
April 26	Lafayette	Indiana	Nickle Plate	43
April 27	Kokomo	Indiana	Nickle Plate	64
April 28	Muncie	Indiana	Nickle Plate	51
April 29	Indianapolis	Indiana	N.Y.C.	54
April 30	Indianapolis	Indiana		
May 1 (Sun)	Indianapolis	Indiana		
May 2	Columbus	Indiana	Penn.	41
May 3	Jeffersonville	Indiana	Penn.	63
May 4	Lexington	Kentucky	L.&N.	91
May 5	Lexington	Kentucky		
May 6	Covington	Kentucky	L.&N.	100
May 7	Cincinnati	Ohio	L.&N.—N.Y.C.	12
May 8 (Sun)	Cincinnati	Ohio		
May 9	Middletown	Ohio	N.Y.C.	28
May 10	Richmond	Indiana	Penn.	76
May 11	Fort Wayne	Indiana	Penn.	92
May 12	Lima	Ohio	Penn.	59
May 13	Dayton	Ohio	B.&O.	81
May 14	Springfield	Ohio	Penn.	29
May 15 (Sun)	Columbus	Ohio	Penn.	52
May 16	Zanesville	Ohio	B.&O.	58
May 17	Newark	Ohio	B.&O.	25
May 18	Marion	Ohio	Penn.	78
May 19	Tiffin	Ohio	Penn.	48
May 20	Mansfield	Ohio	Penn.	44
May 21	Akron	Ohio	Erie	68
May 22 (Sun)	Akron	Ohio		
May 23	Warren	Ohio	Erie	42
May 24	Youngstown	Ohio	Erie	14
May 25	Canton	Ohio	Penn.	56
May 26	Wheeling (Bridgeport, Ohio Lot)	West Virginia	Penn.	88
May 27	New Castle	Pennsylvania	Penn.	89
May 28	Latrobe	Pennsylvania	Penn.	92
May 29 (Sun)				
May 30	Harrisburg	Pennsylvania	Penn.	207
May 31	Sunbury	Pennsylvania	Penn.	53
June 1	Lewistown	Pennsylvania	Penn.	71
June 2	Huntingdon	Pennsylvania	Penn.	36

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May 30	Harrisburg	Pennsylvania	Penn.	207
May 31	Sunbury	Pennsylvania	Penn.	53
June 1	Lewistown	Pennsylvania	Penn.	71
June 2	Huntingdon	Pennsylvania	Penn.	36

Date	City	State	Railroad	Miles
July 30	North Platte	Nebraska	U.P.	95
July 31 (Sun)				
Aug. 1	Denver	Colorado	U.P.	262
Aug. 2	Denver	Colorado		
Aug. 3	Denver	Colorado		
Aug. 4	Colorado Springs	Colorado	D.&R.G.	75
Aug. 5	Canon City	Colorado	D.&R.G.	86
	(Matinee only)			
Aug. 6	Grand Junction	Colorado	D.&R.G.	275
Aug. 7 (Sun)				
Aug. 8	Salt Lake City	Utah	D.&R.G.	296
Aug. 9	Salt Lake City	Utah		
Aug. 10	Pocatello	Idaho	U.P.	174
Aug. 11	Dillon	Montana	U.P.	190
Aug. 12	Butte	Montana	U.P.	69
Aug. 13	Missoula	Montana	N.P.	130
	(Matinee only)			
Aug. 14 (Sun)	Spokane	Washington	N.P.	258
Aug. 15	Spokane	Washington		
Aug. 16	Wenatchee	Washington	G.N.	164
Aug. 17	Everett	Washington	G.N.	130
Aug. 18	Bellingham	Washington	G.N.	57
Aug. 19	Seattle	Washington	G.N.	84
Aug. 20	Seattle	Washington		
Aug. 21 (Sun)	Seattle	Washington		
Aug. 22	Tacoma	Washington	G.N.	40
Aug. 23	Aberdeen	Washington	N.P.	98
	(Hoquiam, Washington Lot)			
Aug. 24	Olympia	Washington	N.P.	60
Aug. 25	Longview	Washington	N.P.	62
	(Kelso, Washington Lot)			
Aug. 26	Portland	Oregon	U.P.	49
Aug. 27	Portland	Oregon		
Aug. 28 (Sun)	Portland	Oregon		
Aug. 29	The Dalles	Oregon	U.P.	84
Aug. 30	Kennewick	Washington	U.P.	142
Aug. 31	Lewiston	Idaho	N.P.	143
Sept. 1	Moscow	Idaho	N.P.	51
Sept. 2	Coeur d' Alene	Idaho	N.P.	128
Sept. 3	Sandpoint	Idaho	G.N.	106
	(Matinee only)			
Sept. 4 (Sun)	Kalispell	Montana	G.N.	221
Sept. 5	Cut Bank	Montana	G.N.	154
Sept. 6	Havre	Montana	G.N.	129
Sept. 7	Great Falls	Montana	G.N.	123
Sept. 8	Helena	Montana	G.N.	98
Sept. 9	Bozeman	Montana	N.P.	93
Sept. 10	Livingston	Montana	N.P.	18
Sept. 11 (Sun)	Billings	Montana	N.P.	107
Sept. 12	Sheridan	Wyoming	Burl.	142
Sept. 13	Crawford	Nebraska	Burl.	276
	(Night performance only)			
Sept. 14	Alliance	Nebraska	Burl.	57
Sept. 15	Scottsbluff	Nebraska	Burl.	63
Sept. 16	Sterling	Colorado	Burl.	110
Sept. 17	Fort Morgan	Colorado	U.P.	38
Sept. 18 (Sun)	Greeley	Colorado	U.P.	58

Date	City	State	Railroad	Miles
Sept. 19	Fort Collins	Colorado	Colo. & Sou.	26
Sept. 20	Pueblo	Colorado	Colo. & Sou.	192
Sept. 21	La Junta	Colorado	Santa Fe	65
Sept. 22	Garden City	Kansas	Santa Fe	152
Sept. 23	Dodge City	Kansas	Santa Fe	50
Sept. 24	Liberal	Kansas	R.I.	123
Sept. 25 (Sun)	Pratt	Kansas	R.I.	136
Sept. 26	McPherson	Kansas	R.I.	80
Sept. 27	Manhattan	Kansas	R.I.	122
Sept. 28	Lawrence	Kansas	R.I.—Santa Fe	79
Sept. 29	Ottawa	Kansas	Santa Fe	27
Sept. 30	Chanute	Kansas	Santa Fe	64
Oct. 1	Pittsburg	Kansas	Santa Fe	55
Oct. 2 (Sun)				
Oct. 3	Jonesboro	Arkansas	Frisco	288
Oct. 4	Holly Springs	Mississippi	Frisco	95
Oct. 5	Amory	Mississippi	Frisco	83
Oct. 6	Jasper	Alabama	Frisco	85
Oct. 7	Montgomery	Alabama	Frisco—L.&N.	157
Oct. 8	Montgomery	Alabama		
Oct. 9 (Sun)				
Oct. 10	Palatka	Florida	A.C.L. & Sou.	376
Oct. 11	Orlando	Florida	A.C.L.	92
Oct. 12	West Palm Beach	Florida	A.C.L.	195
Oct. 13	Miami	Florida	F.E.C.L.	67
Oct. 14	Miami	Florida		
Oct. 15	Miami	Florida		
Oct. 16 (Sun)	Miami	Florida		
				14,544
Home Run from Miami to Ojus, Florida, via F.E.C.L.				14
TOTAL MILEAGE DURING SEASON OF 1949				14,558

Statistics of the 1949 Tour

Total Miles Traveled	14,558
Number of Railroads Used	27
Length of Season, Days	186
Number of Performances Given	346
Number of Performances Lost	1
4-Day Stand (8 Performances), Miami	1
4-Day Stand (7 Performances), Louisville	1
3-Day Stands, Indianapolis, Denver, Seattle, Portland	4
2-Day Stands, Peoria, Lexington, Cincinnati, Akron, Des Moines, Kansas City, Salt Lake City, Spokane, Montgomery	9
1-Day Stands	138
Sunday Stands	17
Number of Cities Visited	153
Number of States Visited	23
Number of State Capital Cities Visited	13
Longest Run of Season (Montgomery, Ala., to Palatka, Fla.) Miles	376
Shortest Run of Season (Covington, Ky., to Cincinnati, O.) Miles	12
Double Length Steel Railroad Cars Used by Show	30

