



6th Year

August 1, 1977

Number 31

# Investigation Plans

The FBI, The Justice Department and the IRS have joined forces to plant agents and informants on all circuses, carnivals and fairs, CR learned last week. They want to obtain detailed information about who owns what and who operates what, especially flat joints, concessions and other fast money operations.

According to several generally reliable news sources "there is solid evidence that organized crime is involved with the operation and management of many shows." One source told CR that "some earth-shaking charges can be expected within the year."

Every facet of show business is being looked into in an effort to obtain information about incomes, expenses and operations. Both the FBI and Justice Dept. expect to obtain hard evidence that will stand up in court after their charges are filed. The IRS expects to realize taxes and fines that will amount to thousands and thousands of dollars.

## Performer Hurt

A near capacity crowd of 13,000 people watched in horror as high wire performer Daniel Acosta slipped and fell 40 ft. to the floor of the Forum on July 20th. The accident occurred during the evening performance

(Continued on Page 18)

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**A Big Show**

The Int'l Stars of Magic Show, presented by the Pacific Coast Assoc. of Magicians at its Seattle convention (July 15) was presented before a sellout crowd. All 1,212 seats were sold out well in advance of the actual show night, thanks to good advance publicity.

The show, which ran two hours and 40 minutes, featured: Paul Diamond, MC; The Uyedas, Oriental Trickery; Desmond, Sophisticated Sorcerer; Dovenov, Dove Magician; Tim Elliott, mime; Yutaka Kikuchi, Japanese magician and Kramien, featuring "Magicazam" with Kathleen. Music for the program was directed by Mildred Stephens.

**Show Acts**

Visited the Circus Hall of Fame last month and found they had a brand new show and a very interesting one.

The show program includes: Warm-up, Danny Chapman worked about 10 minutes, then: Berosini, mixed animals (llamas, pony, donkey); Danny, the Clown; Sarah Chapman, web; Danny, the Clown; Berosini, juggling and audience participation with a big ball; Clown; Sarah and Danny with a whip act, followed by intermission.

The second half of the show featured: The Berosini ponies; Danny with a dog and puppet; Otto Berosini, hand balancing on top of tall ladder; Clown magic; Sarah Chapman, balance trapeze; Berosini's uncaged tiger.

... Jim Swafford

**Fair Acts**

Acts appearing at the Fulton County Fair in Rochester, Ind., included: Susan Sheryll's Royal Afghan Champions; Johnny Laddie, unsupported ladders; Susan Sheryll, recording artist; Johnny Zoppe's Rhesus Monkey Revue and Princess Sonja, aerialist. Handling the music for the July 18-23 date was Kaye Scheiman, while Gerry Scheiman was in charge of lights and props.

**CROWD PLEASER**

The program for the Gatini Circus now on tour in Canada features: Gary and Zoe Ann Henry, clown and high school horse; Chester Cable, foot juggler; Winnie McKay, trapeze; Mr. and Mrs. Tino Zoppe, comedy and single trapeze (Olinka); The Grimaldis, musical clown number; Lucio Cristiani Family, trampoline, leopards and juggling; and Gee Gee Engesser and her elephants.

... Bobby Gibbs

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# ROUTES

Clyde Beatty-Cole Br. Circus  
Aug. 1-3 Lockport, N. Y.  
4-7 Buffalo

Carson & Barnes Circus  
Aug. 1 Paxton, Ill.  
2 Pontiac  
3 Dwight  
4 Lemont  
5 Lake Zurich  
6-7 Milwaukee, Wisc.

Circus Fantastic  
Thru Sept Santa Clara, Calif.  
Gurnee, Ill.

Circus Kirk  
Aug. 3 Orange, Mass.  
5 Winsor  
6 Springfield, Vt.

Circus Vargas  
Aug. 3-7 Point Claire, Quebec

Early American Circus  
to Aug. 6 San Mateo, Calif.

Funs-A-Poppin Circus  
to Aug 28 Lion Country Safari, Ca.

Garden Bros. Circus  
to Aug. 4 Three Rivers, Quebec

Bobby Gibbs Circus  
to Sept. 11 Baraboo, Wisc.

Grande Early American Circus  
Aug. 1 Tawas, Mich.  
2 Mio  
3 Atlanta  
4 Onaway

Hall & Christ Circus Unique  
Aug. 3-7 Cincinnati, Ohio

Tommy Hanneford Circus  
to Sept. 5 Lake George, N.Y.

Happytime Circus  
Aug. 3-7 Napa, Calif.

Hoxie Bros. Circus  
Aug. 1 Ventor, N. J.  
2 Avalon  
3-4 Ship Bottom  
5 Williamstown  
6 Tuckertown  
7 New Lisbon

Hoxie's Great American Circus  
Aug. 1 Wooddale, Pa.  
2 Grindstone  
3 Glen Dale, W. Va.  
4 Caldwell, Ohio  
5 Crookville  
6 Reynoldsburg  
7 West Lafayette

TNT & Royal Olympic Circus  
Aug. 4-7 Mt. Prospect, Ill.

Karl Wallenda Circus  
Aug. 2 Gulfport, Miss.  
5-6 Baton Rouge, La.

King Bros.-Cole Cmbd. Circus  
Aug. 1 Bricktown, N.J.  
2 Brigantine  
3 Sparta  
4 Narrowsburg, N. Y.  
5 Sparrows Bush  
6 West Haverstraw  
7 Greenwood Lakes

Martin & Downs Circus  
Aug. 1 Dunnville, Nfld.  
2 Trepassey  
3 Conception Bay  
4 Wabana  
5 Carbonear  
6 Bay Roberts

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit  
Aug. 2-3 Abilene, Texas  
5-7 Lubbock

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit  
Aug. 4-15 Anaheim, Calif.

Sells & Gray Circus  
Aug. 1 Grayling, Mich.  
2 Alpena  
3 Boyne City  
4 Graun  
5 Lansing  
6 Mt. Pleasant  
7 Saginaw

John Strong Circus  
Aug. 2-3 Des Moines, Iowa  
4-5 Omaha, Nebr.  
6-7 Kansas City

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# BILLY BARTON . . . .

STRUPPI HANNEFORD was clawed in the back and chest during a rehearsal with a second rollover tiger. Stitches were required to close the wounds. I spoke with the wild animal trainer-star hours after the accident and Struppi said she felt lousy but that she'd survive (typical of Struppi). Tommy said it could have been much worse, she might have been clawed in the face. The Hannefords are now at Lake George for the summer where KAY RO-SAIRE is also performing. Tommy comments that Kay's act is excellent, that she has added the 'head in the lion's mouth.'

RAY VALENTINE, Jr. has fully recovered from the broken collarbone suffered on their opening date of the season, is back doing the blindfold triple in the act. TONY STEELE is also flying with the Valentines.....GUNNAR AMANDIS new high wire act sensation (two boys formerly with RBBB) is scary. They're called the SCHMIDT-ALBULET DUO.....IAN GARDEN is producing the Cincy Shrine date in 1978.....Understand Mr. Hermann (of the Lipizzan Stallion show currently at Great Adventure) is ill.....But on the mend and back at work is young ARTOS ZAMPERLA (engaged, by the way, to TINA PALACIO) who broke his wrist, hand, fingers, some ribs and fractured a hip when he missed the double somersault from teeterboard to running horse. A bone was grafted from his upper right arm to his right wrist. Unbelievably, young ARTOS was walking around just a few short weeks after the fall....Ah! the constitution of the very young!.....The SCOTTS have also come in for their fair share of bad breaks:

GEORGE was kicked in the face by a mule, and TINA fell from a swing breaking her leg in two places. VIVIAN came on to help the family.

SNAPSHOTS: Dashing young CHRISTOPHER JAMES is the MOST exciting tight wire artist since the legendary CON COLLEANO. Look for this lad to go places. He's marvelous!.....KIM KRISTENSEN is celebrating Xmas early when the "ornament of his eye" Miss ANGEL NOEL visited the youthful equestrian in Florida.....LILLI & SVEND, with only 6 days off, darted home in a rush to look over their new house (and possibly their bank account). ...Our dear friend MARY JO COULS has been vacationing with HINES & PATTI RUCKER on the Nordmark All Star, was feted by the Couls CFA

Tent in Indianapolis....Sidewall SYD is prop boss and assistant to CHESTER CABLE on Cirque Gattini....GEORGE & ANNE HUBLER caught Puck's Circus on a recent trip to Toronto.

QUICKIES: VICKI HANNEFORD is breaking pretty BELINDA AMANDIS for one-arm swings...Slick VALENTINE is producing a series of Police sponsored dates in Texas this fall. Slick purchased the lighting equipment that TRISKA owned and rented out....Understand MOGODOR CRISTIANI is promoting the dates....Rumor has it that Uncle SID KELLNER is back east promoting dates....The Loyal Repensky-John Robinson CFA Tent tossed a gala picnic between shows for the HUBLER INT'L CIRCUS, on Saturday, July 9th. It was a catered affair....Fire laws, so stringent since the Beverly Hills Club fire, caused Atlantic City (NJ) officials to nix the erection of the Hanneford Family Circus Big Top on the Steel Pier. The show is working open air. Seems whenever we experience a fire disaster the bigwig bureaucrats go gungho and get over-zealous. Too much, as usual, too late!

TIDBITS: That delightful fragrance emanating from LILLI KRISTENSEN's leopard "Palace" is created by an electric dispenser spraying - are you ready? - Chanel No. 5 over her pussycats!....The YOUNG TROUPE (doing a nice teeterboard act, incidentally) showed me fantastic posters used by STAR-DUST CIRCUS which were made in Italy...JO ANN JENNIER lost two days and \$500 bucks when the rear end in her seal truck went kaput...Winds were so fierce on day in July, Bill Hill couldn't get the Hoxie G-A top into the air.....On the same day the SELLS & GRAY big top blew down (A welcome to the club, kids!).

REPORT FROM FAMOUS HUNT: MARY WISE, of clown alley, pens that one of the 3 femme joey's, packed her cannon, her saw-horse, and took off. Mary and the remaining girl clown are doing the washwoman but...."You can't say we're in drag, can you?" (Guess not)....Master NORMAN MILLER has added new routines to his trapeze act....BOB OWENS departed Hunt, is now with Great American....After some terrible weeks with no help the show has a full crew, trucks are in running order, show is moving well - up by noon, loaded by midnight. Mary adds she is doing a solo

(Continued on Page 16)

# ROUTES

Wenatchee Youth Circus  
to Aug. 7 Portland, Oregon

... OTHER ROUTES ...

Century 21 Shows - Blue Unit  
Aug. 2-7 Chippewa Falls, Wisc.

Century 21 Shows - Red Unit  
Aug 5-14 Springfield, Mo.

CMB Lot Gathering  
Aug. 1-5 Indiana, Pa.

James H. Drew Shows  
to Aug 6 Valparaiso, Ind.

Foley & Burk Shows  
to Aug. 6 San Mateo, Calif.

Magic Time USA - Prof. Miller  
Aug. 2 Newcastle, Ohio  
3 Van Wert  
4 E. Lansing, Mich.  
6 Monroe  
7 Wayne

Royal Lipizzan Stallions  
Aug. 5 Langley, B. C.  
6-7 Vancouver

James E. Strates Shows  
Aug. 1-6 Clearfield, Pa.

The Ice Show  
Aug 5-Sept 2 Los Angeles, Calif.

This Is Hawaii . . . On Ice  
Aug. 1-7 Nagasaki, Japan

Tip Top Shows  
Aug. 3-7 Green Lake, Wisc.



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## Aliens Hitch Ride

The arrival of the circus train at San Diego (RBBB Red Unit) brought that city more than wild animals and performers. Local authorities arrested 10 aliens who had hidden in one of the circus cars, captured some with handcuffs and destroyed a crop of marijuana found while searching for other aliens.

A Santa Fe Railroad official said there were 13 aliens who were discovered by security guards as they checked the train near Pacific Highway in Old Town. He said the circus train came in from Phoenix by way of Colton.

When the aliens were found they started to run. Two were stopped in the railroad yard, but escaped as police went after others. One was captured on a nearby airport runway. An official said there may have been more than 10 aliens, but that is all that were caught and turned over to authorities for deportation to Mexico.

Richard Foote, a border patrol supervisor, says railroad cars are the most popular means of transportation for aliens. "For that reason we check trains as often as possible."

No one knows just where the aliens came from. They may have gotten aboard the show train after coming across the border from Tijuana, thinking they were heading for Los Angeles. On the other hand they could have gone aboard the train at any of several small communities between Phoenix and San Diego.

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## PEOPLE

THE DAVIDE ZOPPE Family is playing dates in Canada and will tour with the Hubert Castle Circus in 1978.

CHARLES and LEE MOYER were stranded for a few days during a Hoxie Great American Circus move when their giant ape show truck broke down.

BLACKIE ESCALANTE is working on a TV pilot film called "Spiderman". He had to have his head shaved for the part.

MARCIE and TEX MAYNARD, musicians on leave from King Bros. Circus, filled in for Hoxie's Great American Circus for a couple of shows when the show organist DAVE MILLER broke his ankle.

SPARKY and DOT, clowns, are working at the Allentown, Pa., Fair for its Aug. 5-13 engagement.

JOE FRISCO's Pet Zoo and Mini Circus was featured at the Peoria, Ill., Fair last month, playing there July 15-23.

EDDIE VENTURA recently visited the Circus World Museum in Baraboo where he was busy inspecting the old Aut Swenson cars displayed there.

EDDIE HOWE, former Ringling press agent, recently returned from visiting his younger brother (Major DAVID HOWE, USMC) in Spain. David was once a show treasurer before joining the Marines. Eddie has resumed his road publicity work in advance of such major films as "Rocky" and "Taxi Driver." He will also be out ahead of the movie "A Bridge Too Far."

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## New Team

Billy Barton and Ethel Jennier are teaming up for the 1978 season and will package the Prince Najvez, Aztec aerial act with fireworks finale with Ethel's leaping greyhound dog act for Fairs and circus dates. The team is actually a trio, including Bobby Davis, current assistant for Najvez, who is also property master on most engagements, and who will work in both acts. Miss Jennier will "flash" the Najvez act and Barton will also assist Miss Jennier in her dog act.

Under contract to Barton, (who is her manager) Jo Ann Jennier, daughter of Ethel, will be sent to other show dates with her Aerial-etta trapeze thriller, and Jo-Ann and Sunny seal act. Where possible the two units will be brought together on certain dates.

Miss Jo Ann Jennier (Aerial-etta) is already under contract to Royal Hanneford, Emmett Kelly, Jr., and Circus Odyssey for the latter part of 1977 and the spring of 1978.

Ethel's Greyhounds and the Aerial-etta combination are set for Christmas shows with Emmett Kelly, Jr., booked by Miss Rose Adair, of New York.

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## PEOPLE

ETHEL LUCKEY, organist at the Circus World Museum, is playing with her left foot in a cast. She broke her ankle on July 10th after slipping on wet grass. On July 14th, everyone at the Museum hosted a birthday party for Ethel.

MILT ROBBINS and WARD HALL visited Franzen Bros. Circus last month and report the show was doing good business.

THE RITO BROTHERS, trampoline, unicycle and juggling act, are with the Gran Circo Americano in Peru (July 22-Sept. 4). They will return to the States in time to play the Texas Shrine dates.

HARRY CHIPMAN has just been presented with his 30 year pin from the Elks Club.

PAUL MALVERN, one of the Original Malvern Troupe of acrobats, was recently presented with a 50 year pin by his Masonic Lodge.

HARRY GRAHAM, news editor and syndicated columnist of the Santa Ana (Calif.) Register, is co-authoring a book on the life of TITO GAONA, due for publication sometime next year.

FRANK PANISKO, famed Montana circus fan who is known as "Mr. Butte" spent a week in Southern California after attending his grandson's high school graduation at Camarillo, where his daughter lives. Frank is anxious to get major circuses into Butte for the coming season.

## THANK YOU

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to Lee Stath Marilees-Durango, Mexico, Sept. 30, 1962."

## SAWDUST TRAIL

An error appeared in my column of July 18 regarding the Dixiana Circus now owned by Peter Luvas. The original item on that show was not the ticket wagon, but a ticket stand. The stand, a knock-down, three sided box, was on the old Gentry Bros. Circus.

This reporter spent 8 days in New Orleans and took in a Friday night performance of RBBB's Blue Unit at the Superdome. Attendance seemed to be well over 20,000, using the basketball seating arrangement, which gave most patrons a good view of the show. Local TV and news coverage was very heavy for the circus, with articles appearing almost daily. Stories included those about Kenneth Feld and Chappie Fox.

It was a surprise to see the show's feature attraction, Michu, with his right arm in a cast. We were unable to learn what happened, but the cast didn't impede Michu's appearance in the wedding spec. However, he did not appear in other parts of the show.

Tim Holst, ringmaster and assistant performance director, announces the show in clown make-up, wearing a unique costume. The show features more clown numbers than in the past, but this writer could only recognize Prince Paul and Mark Anthony from previous years.

The Blue Unit's jump into New Orleans was a 24 hour run from Dallas, with the train arriving at 4 a.m. on July 13th. More than 2000 people were on hand to watch the elephants walk from the train to the building a distance of only a few blocks.

This reporter is not a predictor of things to come and I really missed the boat on my predictions about the Beatty Circus. However, I'll go out on the limb to make two predictions: Parley Baer will continue to work on circuses, despite his announcement at the CFA Convention. I think you will be seeing his name connected with a "bigger" show soon. Bill Stebbing will find the indoor circus is a different operation than his outdoor show has been, but it will be a successful venture for him. A name change is due!

..... M. L. Dupont

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in

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## Visitors

Visitors at the Circus World Museum, in Baraboo, Wisc., this past month have included: Gary Davison, of Minneapolis; Jim Shields, of Rhode Island; Bill Brinley, of Conn.; The Lodi Duo, aerialists; Patches & Checkers, clowns with Carden-Johnson Circus; Emil and Debbie Goetchi, of the Great American Circus Directory; Walt Hohenadel, editor of the CFA's White Tops and a lot of other show folks and fans.

.... Bobby Gibbs

## INFO SOUGHT

Several prominent circus troupers would like to learn where and what became of the most well-known of all female circus press agents, Floree Galt. She was originally hired as a member of Cole Bros. Circus Press Dept. by Col. Zack Terrell in the 1940's, where she remained through that show's demise in 1950.

Originally from London, Ontario, Canada, she gained nationwide press attention for herself and Cole Bros. Circus by being the first woman press agent for a major circus.

Anyone knowing where Floree is or what became of her can notify Circus Report.

Information is also wanted on the whereabouts of James Gephart, longtime manager of Cole Bros. Adv. Car No. One and in its later years the show's General Agent.

Former and present troupers would like to contact Miss Galt and Mr. Gephart, if someone can supply their whereabouts.

## Miscellaneous

Roberts Bros. Circus made the 14 mile voyage across Chesapeake Bay to Tangier Island aboard the fishing vessel "Anthony Cline."

The 1978 P.C.A.M. Convention will be held at the Ambassador Hotel in Los Angeles on June 29-July 2. Information is available from Ed Alterman, 20126 Itasca St., Chatsworth, Calif. 91311.

Christening ceremonies for the new Early American Circus big top were covered by the local TV camera crews and then featured on last week's late news in the San Francisco area.

The Moscow State Circus is scheduled to begin its 1977 fall tour of the U.S. at Chicago in September.

The Early American Circus, featured at the San Mateo (Calif.) Fair (July 25-Aug. 6) presented two shows each weekday with three on Saturdays and Sundays.

Several circus fans have expressed a desire to organize a tent to be called "William 'Bill' Moore", named for the late circus General Agent and Legal Adjuster who was a close friend and confidante to Clyde Beatty.

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**Pot-Pourri**

Juggler/Unicyclist Ken Sherbune visited with Jim Stutz and the Dionne Family when the Beatty-Cole Circus played New Hampshire..... Pat and Mary Bissonette are heading for Minnesota late this summer.....Ethel Jennier has added two more greyhounds to her act....The McCloskys are sporting a new motorhome in addition to their Cadillac and Airstream trailer.

Recently King Bros. had to switch to cassette tapes for music after Jerry Maas' organ broke down. All went well until the web display featuring the head balancing trapeze. The music started with the Romeo and Juliet Theme then quickly switched to a swinging Swanee River!

..... Mike Naughton

**PEOPLE**

DAVE SLUSSER (Hi Ho, the Clown) plans to be back on the road in February with two new acts.

DON and ROXY ENGESESSER are appearing nightly at the Riverside Restaurant in Branford, Fla., with their show the "Western Wild Cats Band and Show."

**ATTENTION!**

ROBERTS BROS. CIRCUS (Bob and Doris Earl) - Please call me collect. I need your locations for the first week in August.

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**Show Features**

Business for the Carson & Barnes Circus in the Washington, DC area has been very good, with the show drawing mostly full and SRO houses for each performance.

The show is featuring three flying acts - Avilas, Butestias, Paudillas. They work at the same time and present some of the fastest 10 minutes or so of flying that can be seen anywhere. By the time they are back on the ground the audience is really giving them an ovation.

Another feature of the circus performance is the show's herd of 34 elephants, with five acts working at one time. The finish trick is the long mount with 24 elephants. Before too long it is expected that all 34 elephants will take part in this number.

Several plans are already underway for the upcoming year, including a three principal riding display, a big display of bear acts and dog acts and a full five rings of liberty horses. The show's big 10 piece band is also expected to be expanded.

MICHAEL BURKE, executive vice president and director of Madison Square Garden, was "head man" of ABBB in 1955, appointed by John Ringling North.

**FOR SALE**

Just a few left! Famous pink King Bros. heralds (1954) dated Providence, R.I.  
..... \$4.00

Rare pictorial 1926 tack cards Heritage Bros. Circus, dated Grand Junction. These are rough, but real treasures.  
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## S & G in Ohio

Sponsored by the Rotary and Booster Clubs the Sells & Gray Circus gave a 4:30 and 8 p.m. performance at New Lebanon (Ohio) on July 18th. The temperature was 90 plus as the heat wave continued to hover over most of the eastern part of the country.

The show is traveling on 14 trucks, plus a number of private vehicles. Two trucks have the Side Show banners painted on them and they are used to form one side of the midway. Other midway units include the ticket office, souvenir stand, concessions and pony ride. The animal trailer is spotted inside the side show.

The big top is an old one, their new one having been lost in a recent storm. As a result the top shows signs of wear. The overall layout looks good and it is a good circus performance.

The program here featured: Overture with live music by the Parker Duo (organ and drums); Billy Earl, ringmaster; Three girls on web; Marie France, Yorkshire Terriers; Antonia Trio, perch; The Clowns (Spiff and Michael) in Tug-O-War; Mlle. Moizes, rola bola; The Zuranies, rola bola and the Marlene & Co. rola bola act; Michael, the clown magician; Mimi Zerbini, trapeze; the clowns, ; bigger balloon; The Great Moizes, tight wire.

After intermission were: Billy Earl and Sabrina, sword balancing; The Antoys, acrobatic balancing; Wilma and Blanca, swinging ladders; Clowns, the watermelon; Juggling display with Marie Cristine, Sampion, Great Michael; Bonnie & Clyde, musical clowning; The Estrado's, teeterboard; Gary Thomas and Miss Wilma, elephants.

Show visitors included George Hubler and Mel Miller.

..... Don Sandman

Federal Judge Malcolm Littlefield has suggested that not more than 170 polar bears, 3000 Pacific walrus and 3000 sea otters be killed each by Alaskan hunters. These limitations, he said, will not threaten the survival of the species.

## PEOPLE

TONY AGUILAR and his "Festival Mexicano Rodeo" were at the Sports Arena in Los Angeles July 29-31. Prices for the show ranged from \$4.00 to \$7.00

STEVE BAKER (Checkers) and GARY RAY (Patches), popular circus clowns, were pictured on the front page of the Casper (Wyom) Star-Tribune on June 23rd.

GARY HOLVECK, illusionist, is featured at Williams Grove Park (Allentown, Pa.) where he does two half hour shows each day.

CLARE CUMMINGS (Milky, the Clown) was called out of retirement for three benefit shows for the Jaycees at Berkeley, Mich., earlier in the year.

BELO NOCK, the 8 year old clown, was one of five clowns appearing with the Denver (Colo) Shrine Circus. His uncle is the famous Swiss clown PIO NOCK.

DICK WILSON, known as Mr. Whipple in the please don't squeeze the Charmin commercials on TV, worked in vaudeville as an acrobatic drunk on a tightwire.

MURILLO & ULISES, balancing act, were featured in the stage show at the San Mateo (Calif.) Fair July 26-31. Appearing on the same show were singer ANDY RUSSELL and piano player JO ANN CASTLE.

### Miscellaneous

The major Los Angeles area newspapers carried no mention of RBBB's Red Unit opening in the Forum on the show's opening day, but all papers carried the photo of a Circus Vargas elephant being washed at a car wash in Toronto.

The City Council at Bedford (N.H.) completely reversed itself and refused to allow the Beatty-Cole Circus to play at its local mall. In a last minute move the circus set up at the Manchester airport

A living two-faced calf has been added to the Circus Vargas menagerie. Named "Princess" the new arrival has two noses, two mouths and a sweet disposition.

# Lions and Tigers

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## Show Picketed

Members of the Musician's Union in Oakland (Calif.) picketed the Royal Lipizzan Stallion Show at the Coliseum because the show was using taped music instead of a live band.

The horse show — presented by Arena Productions — has used an orchestra composed of Local 8 members in the past. As many as 25 musicians have worked with the show at Oakland and San Francisco in previous years, said one union member.

## PEOPLE

GLENN MOL, publicity director for the Los Angeles (Calif.) Sports Arena, says he has been negotiating with a major circus in hopes of bringing the show into the Arena for a long spring or summer engagement.

WALLY NAGHTIN, bear trainer on Circus Vargas, is now presenting a group of 14 bears in the show's opening number. His son WALLY, Jr., recently flew into New York City with a bear cub for an appearance on TV's "To Tell The Truth" show.

DIAMOND JIM PARKER (personal secretary to showman CLIFF VARGAS) is kept busy doing advance clowning for special dates as well as maintaining the show's office wagon.

ROBERT STACK, film and TV star, was the "Honorary Ringmaster" for Ringling-Barnum Circus at the Forum on June 19th. Other stars appearing in the show's spec that evening were: Rosemary Bowe Stack, Elizabeth

## Park Features

The local amusement park (Dorney Park) at Allentown, Pa., has a very fine zoo with animals presented by Bob and Ralph Dietch. These two fellows are the ones who took care of the RBBB animals and cages when that show got out of the menagerie business and only used the animals at Madison Square Garden. They have an animal farm at Fair Lawn, N.J., and there is an old Ringling wagon at the park.

Coco, the Clown and his family are also at the park. They roam about the facilities and also present a half hour show in the open air theatre. His young son, Coconut, does a great job on stilts.

The James A. Bailey Ring No. 35, held an east coast model builders display at the park (July 19-24) with some 110 model builders participating. In addition to the miniature displays there was a calliope concert, clown make-up sessions, wood carving demonstrations and a parade of 3/4 size wagons each day.

..... Bill Slenker

Stack, Jay Stewart, Steve Forrest, The Keane Brothers, Jo Ann Pflug, John Amos, Vachon and Nicole, Jim Bacon, Dody Goodman, Jack Oakie, Jonathan and Melissa Gilbert, Ciji Ware, Scoey and Clara Mitchell, Wes Parker, Mary Ann Mobley, Gary Collins, Rosie Grier, Gloria de Haven, Peter Marshall, Lee Meriwether, Anson Williams, Robert Conrad, Sally Struthers, Willie Shoemaker, Courtney Arcaro, Jed Weitzman, Henry Winkler, Donny and Marie Osmond.

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## PEOPLE

ROD WAINWRIGHT and family spent several days with Hoxie's Great American Circus and sends a "Big Thank You" to everyone on the show.

ANGELA WILNOW is playing fairs in New York State and New England for the rest of the summer. Her bookings were handled by the Al Martin Agency, Wes Oler Agency and Variety Attractions.

CARL BECK, magician, has put an all new magic act together with many outstanding illusions. He plans to use two black panthers in one production number.

DAVID STARR, CFA from Seattle, visited the Wenatchee Youth Circus this month and reports he enjoyed their show.

GEORGE HANNEFORD, Jr. and members of his Hanneford Family Circus are pictured in the new Steel Pier program book. The circus is a summer feature at the Atlantic City attraction.

DOROTHY HERBERT is visiting friends in Florida, including MILONGA CLINE and MARJORIE and DAVID HACKETT.

## BILLY BARTON (Continued)

juggling turn wherein she eats apples while tossing things. "The audience loves it," she says, "and I've never been more regular."

Seen working concessions in Cincy were FREDDIE SCHMIDT (Becky has a concession unit on fairs), BOB GRAY and HARRY MILLS, coming in from Erie where he parked his FLYING ESPANAS, was making the book pitch....GUNNAR AMANDIS reports an excellent first year with their new booking agency, but raised heck with me because I never "mention" his name, so . . . GUNNAR AMANDIS, GUNNAR AMANDIS, GUNNAR AMANDIS, Gun.....

See you down the road, luvs.

The GUTIS FAMILY spent some time at home and on Club dates while their son PETER played Goal keeper with the Hilton "Eagles" Soccer Team and Dad CHARLES helped with the coaching. They are now on the fair circuit where they will continue until the end of October. They will be appearing at the Monroe County Fair (Henrietta, N.Y.), State Fair (Des Moines, Iowa), the Big E (W. Springfield, Mass), plus fairs at Topsfield, Mass. and Montgomery, Ala.

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## Show Folks

Acts appearing with the Emmett Kelly, Jr., Circus at Concord, Calif. (June 11) were: Earl Tegge, ringmaster; Fay Snyder, dogs/mixed animals; Heidi Wendany, pony/horse/juggling/ dogs; David Linden, balancing/spinning plates; The Knupps, cradle/trapeze; Pepi Martinez, rola bola/high wire; Lancelot Link Chimps; Tim Tegge, drums; Linwood Fagt, trumpet.

Appearing with the Kelly show at Cleveland Heights, Ohio (July 4) were: Kent Clayton, ringmaster/ropes/whips; The Commancheros, cradle; Lilli Ana, leopards; Dick Franco, juggling; The Kents, balancing; Doubleday & Co. revolving ladder; and the Marcos, rola bola.

Acts on the July 21st engagement with the Kelly show (Wallingford, Conn.) were: Marco Polo, sword balancing; Andre & Bunny, wire; Scalzo & Co., magic/illusions; Cowboy Joe Phillips and the dancing horse "Golden Mist"; Jerry Lipko Chimps, Phillips wonder dogs; The Cyclonians, unicycles and Charlie Van Buskirk, ringmaster.

Acts set for the Aug. 11th engagement of the Kelly Circus (Cohasset, Mass.) are the same as shown above for July 21st, except that Marco Polo will not be on the bill.

Acts set thus far for the Kelly show date at Louisville, Ky. (Aug. 18-28) include: The Ashtons; The Claytons, ringmaster/ropes/whips/balancing; The Smahas, horses; Car-men Del Molino, trapeze; Hunkie Johnson bears, Tony Steele, sponge dive; The Flying Valentines; Vashek, wire/aerial motorcycle.

Acts set for the Kelly show engagement at Brentwood, L.I. (Aug. 30-Sept. 5) are: Pat Anthony, wild animals; Vashek, wire/aerial motorcycle; The Cyclonians, unicycles; Tony Steele, sponge dive; The Flying Valentines; The Smahas; The Ashton Family; Charlie Van Buskirk, ringmaster.

MILT ROBBINS at 83 is probably the oldest active showman on the road. He handles the door for a Hall & Christ Show. Milt was born in Bridgeport, Conn. (Oct. 16, 1893) when his father, FRANK A. ROBBINS, was manager for the Bob Hunting Circus.

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## Big John's Show

The Big John Strong & Son Circus is doing good business as it moves through the mid-western states. When seen at Oregon (Ohio) on July 19th, the show had capacity crowds for each performance.

Big John is capably assisted by his son John Jr. and a troupe of some 35 youthful and enthusiastic performers. In addition to his juggling and balancing acts, John, Jr. manages the side show. He does the outside bally, plus sword swallowing, fire eating, magic, lecturing, etc.

One thing Big John asked me to do was express his gratitude to Leaf Tent & Sail, Inc., who made his big top. It recently withstood 85 mph tornado winds. The top looks as good now as when it first went into the air.

..... George DaDeppo

**PERFORMER HURT (Continued)**  
of the Ringling-Barnum Circus at Inglewood (Calif.) just before intermission time.

Acosta's fall was broken when he landed on an usher, who was standing in the aisle between the first two rows of seats. Witnesses said the usher (George Hoppe) was apparently unaware of what was happening until he was hit. It was also reported that a long balancing pole fell into the crowd and injured a 13 year old girl.

Paramedics rushed Acosta to the Centinela Valley Hospital where his condition was listed as "serious". A hospital spokesman said the performer suffered a broken right elbow, a broken pelvis, cracked ribs and a ruptured spleen.

## Death At Zoo

An elephant attacked a man cleaning the animal quarters at Audubon Park Zoo (New Orleans, La.) on July 6th, crushing him to death.

Mark Gordon, 26, a zoologist who had recently moved here from Omaha (Nebr) was crushed against a concrete post. He died of head injuries.

Ron Foreman, zoo director, said Gordon and another man were cleaning the elephant enclosure when Gordon turned his back and the elephant charged. Foreman said the female elephant "Miss Sunbeam" had been at the zoo for 15 years and had never before caused any serious problems.

He described it as an accident and said the elephant would remain at the zoo. "No one is at fault," said Foreman. Gordon "shouldn't have turned his back, but the elephant is not a dangerous animal." He said there was no indication that "Miss Sunbeam" was ill or in any sort of pain.

..... M. L. Dupont

## Miscellaneous

Telephone solicitors in Alameda (Calif.) County, phoning about a rodeo, were reprimanded last week by officials for their "heavy handed" sales pitch.

Every week the RBBB Red Unit orders some 4,000 lbs of beef or horsemeat, 1,500 lbs of bran moistened with molasses, 40 lbs of oranges, 20 loaves of bread and 11 ton of hay for its animals.

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