



5th Year

August 2, 1976

Number 31

COUNTDOWN ?

Problems continue to plague Super Circus USA as it struggles to maintain its route schedule. Reports of acts leaving, dates cancelled and poor business have come from those people who remained with the circus during its layover at Jackson, Miss.

At Shreveport the show had only two good houses for five performances, while the engagement at Lafayette was cancelled. Unhappy acts said some folks have not been paid since the tour got started. In the meantime Rix's bears went back to their home base, while the Canestrelli Family and Cristiani's elephants

went off to play other dates.

This week the show moves into Tampa (Aug. 5-7), an important date on the show's tour. A big advance promotional campaign was carried out there and as a result it should prove to be a good three day spot for the show.

(Continued on Page 10)

AVAILABLE FOR LIMITED ENGAGEMENTS

JACOBS HOLLYWOOD ELEPHANTS

Contact

JUDY JACOBS KAYE

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PEOPLE

ED PORTER's van caught fire while he was visiting the Beatty-Cole Circus at Poughkeepsie (N.Y.) and was destroyed.

PAUL SCARNE, magician, conducts a weekly talent show at the Sundancer Club in Las Vegas.

ANTONIO LORENZO, Jr. was honored with a birthday party between shows on Sells & Gray (July 21) at No. Attleboro, Mass. His father operates the pie car and his mother appears with the show elephant act.

BOB MONAHAN and NICKY DEKKER (Amazing Monahans) recently returned to the U.S. after a tour in Mexico where they visited several shows.

JAMES B. MacDONALD (carnival worker) was sentenced to 60 days in jail after taking part in a street fight in downtown Ashcroft (B.C.).

JOHNNY MARRONE, trainer, was walking his pet tiger in Toronto when it attacked a 2 year old boy

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on July 9th. The youngster was not seriously hurt.

TOM CRANGLE, former Denver advertising man, is now a Regional Marketing Director for RBBB

JOSE BARREDA, lion trainer, has taken over the cats on Carden-Johnson while his son, George, recovers from wounds caused by an attacking lion.

SIEGFRIED & Roy's (magic) disappearing tiger gave birth to two cubs on July 4th. They are appearing at the MGM in Las Vegas

MARTIN L. BOYER, of Los Angeles and builder of Boyer Bros. Circus (in miniature) attended the July 29-31 Model Builders Convention in Springfield (Ohio) and then went on to the Circus World Museum in Baraboo.



ALEXANDER (Al) WEIR (73) a professional clown for more than 50 years, died at Richmond, B.C. on July 8th. He ran away from home to join the circus and was known professionally as "Deadpan Duke." He toured with most of the major circuses and retired from the Miller-Johnson Circus. In 1952 he appeared on TV with Ed Sullivan and Arthur Godfrey. Survivors include his wife, Eileen, four sons and three sisters

WANTED: Extra small ponies for a liberty act. PRICE MUST BE RIGHT. Contact: Hal Haviland as per King Bros. Circus route.

Super Circus USA

Super Circus, produced by Sandy Dobritch, was presented at Shreveport (July 9-11) with a one ring format, cut down from its St Louis version and its upcoming Tampa stand (Aug. 5-7), to be played under canvas. The Royal Hanneford Circus equipment used at the first two dates will not be available for the full route.

The Municipal Auditorium, rarely used for circuses, is a cramped building which hampered the set-up of the Flying Medallions and the Hans Winn Troupe. Animals were forced to enter via the lobby doors, which were too small for Chandra, a large bull, who was subsequently omitted from the Hanneford herd. Tajana's tiger act was set on the stage.

Despite tensions backstage due to troubled conditions arising from the Shreveport date (see CR for July 19, 1976), performers came on with smiling faces and played to thin crowds with a vigorous enthusiasm that proved they were troupers all the way.

Two separate musical units shared the program - the excellent Charles Schlarbaum band from Royal Hanneford and the impressive organ-drum team of Vynn and Wynn, with Super Circus. A third unit, Bob and Kay Parker, were also on the date. Bob is handling lights, Kay is pregnant. When one considers several shows working without live music the excess of musical units here seemed uniquely ironic.

The color book pitch was handled by Heinz Shappi who had his Bubble Bounce in the lobby and who does his balancing and comedy piano acts on most dates. The Super Circus concession dept. is helmed by Burt and Marie Pettus, who earlier in the year were with Dailey Bros.

Hanneford ringmaster Ray Orszak announced the show, fulfilling the fledgling promise made in March. Tall, bearded, elegantly tailored, he makes a striking appearance. His resonant voice is authoritative, his bearing commands respect. He does not overplay his role, nor does he overpower acts with those cliché superlatives nobody believes. As Signor Ray, he also does a fine illusion act.

Only three years at bat in the big league of cat acts, Tajana made the transition from trap-eze star to wild animal trainer with remarkable skill and courage. Seven tigers and one large male lion are being used, with four new tigers soon to be included. Tajana has added a roll-over tiger, double fire hoops, and now has twin tigers sitting up on revolving mirrored balls, performed in a blackout. A touch of comedy involving the huge male lion, Sam, complements more than just a touch of class from the stunning Tajana, whose fire and spirit in the big cage in no way diminishes her natural elegance.

(Continued on Page 11)

RAUTES

Beatty-Cole Circus
Aug. 2 Ithaca, N.Y.
3 Auburn
4 Hornell

Carden-Johnson Circus
Aug. 2 Ardmore, Okla.
3 Shawnee
4 Altus
5 Hereford, Texas
6 Artesia, N.M.
7-8 Roswell

Carson & Barnes Circus
Aug. 2 Madison, Wisc.
3 Racine
4 Belvidere, Ill.
5 Burlington, Wisc.
6-8 Maywood, Ill.

Circus Kirk
Aug. 2 Wareham, Mass.
3 Lynn
5 Agawam
7 Suffern, N.Y.
8 Blakely, Pa.

Circus Vargas
Aug. 3-5 Berrie, Ont.
6-11 Ottawa

DuBois Circus World
Aug. 4-8 St. Jerome, Queb.

Famous Hunt's Circus
Aug. 2-3 Bridgewater, Mass.
4 Middleboro
5 Little Compton, RI

Garden Bros. Circus
Aug. 2 Rome, N.Y.
3 Herkimer
5 Burlington, Vt.
7-8 Three Rivers, Queb

George-Matthews Circus
Aug. 3 Blytheville, Ark.
4 Paducah, Ky
5 Hopkinsville
6 Owensboro
7-8 Bowling Green

Happytime Circus
Aug. 4-8 Napa, Calif.

Hoxie Bros. Circus
Aug. 2 Vineland, N.J.
3 Cape May
4 Wildwood
5 Sea Isle City
6 Brigantine
7 Ocean City
8 Lakewood

Hoxie's Great Amer. Circus
Aug. 2 Gloucester, Ohio
3 Wellston
4 McConnellsville
5 Pennsboro, W. Va.
6 Wheeling
7 Scottdale, Pa.
8 Ligonier

Kaye Cont'l Circus
Aug. 3 Natchez, Miss.

King Bros. Circus
Aug. 2 Rutland, Vt.
3 Hanover, N.H.
4 Claremont
5 Springfield, Vt.
6 Bellows Falls
7 Brattleboro
8 Bennington

Pickle Family Circus
Aug. 7-8 Chico, Calif.

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit
to Aug. 4 Inglewood, Cal.
Aug. 5-17 Anaheim

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit
Aug. 3-4 Abilene, Texas
6-8 Lubbock

Royal Bros. Circus
Aug. 2 Gladstone, Manit.
3 Rivers
4 Minnedosa
5 Carberry
6 Souris
7 Virden
8 Melita

Sells & Gray Circus
Aug. 2 Millinocket, Me.
3 Dover Foxcraft
4 Waterville
5 Lewiston
6 Damariscotta
7 Sanford
8 Weirs Beach, N.H.



BILLY BARTON....

THE WHEATON TENT CATASTROPHE is a month old, but stories still spring from its aftermath. HAROLD BARNES' tent boss WALT DAVIS, closest to the "long side" from which point the storm erupted, escaped via that exit and watched in anguish as the beloved old top the first of the Barnes' collection, disintegrated into rubble. He leaned dejectedly against a seat truck, lit a cigarette and muttered ----!

I goofed (again). It's the Hilton Flamingo, not the Dunes, for the juggling VILLAMS in Dec. The trip is with Super Circus and plays Polack's fall tour first... SARAH & DANNY CHAPMAN on tour in Peru with Circo Togni.....Polack Bros. Ogden date had snow flurries as an extra added attraction - in June?....Latest to join the "almost human" ape parade is MAR-IO WALLEDA BOGINO now monkeying around with the Royal Palace Circus. JENNY WALLEDA visited recently and ended up being the stooge....The CUNEOS are enjoying their annual stint at Marineland.TONY SMAHA, Sr. is fully recovered from an operation involving both hips, back riding again on Holiday For Horses....LA TOSCA - one of the all-time great

bounding rope artists - was honored recently by the Ringling Museum.

AL DAWLEY says that HUBERT CASTLE, despite his hectic schedule, takes people to the Canadian Tax Office, helps them with forms in an effort to get their tax money back. Al and Sue plan a trip to Europe.

DIANE & MARY LOU LANDES say the Bicentennial created a bonanza for their costume rentals. "But what," the sisters wail, "will we do with all those colonial costumes?" Create a Spec, my dears! MARY LOU is the proofreader for the popular WHITE TOPS edited by MEL OLSEN....JOHN GOODALL spent over an hour tracking the Diamond S Rodeo by phone so he could visit the HERRIOTTS - found them in Waukegon.

CARSON & BARNES makes Wheaton this fall, playing the same fair grounds site just vacated by Sam T. Polack. Hope they have better luck with their Big Top!..The Baltimore Fair, a new venture, was a total fiasco I'm sorry to say. Bad weather didn't help and informed sources tell me the carnival and Big Name attractions really suffered. The circus, however, had reputable financial backing - all acts were paid in full. If you are a bird fancier you'll be interested to know that BILLY RODGERS now has a rare hy-

WANT TO BUY

....Single trapeze rigging. Write: Marcia Anne Smith 4721 West 78th St., Chicago, Ill. or call: (312) 582-2849

(Continued on Page 13)

Runaway Back

After running free for four days last month in Poughkeepsie (NY) Toby the chimp was recaptured by his owner Al Sabo. Two shots from a tranquilizer gun slowed Toby down, then he was seduced and recaged with the aid of a female chimp named Bunny. Both chimps are back at Sabo's home in Amenia (NY) where they will stay until it is sure that Toby is healthy, then they'll rejoin the Beatty-Cole Circus.

Toby and another chimp got loose on July 12th when handlers were putting them back in their cages after a performance of the Beatty-Cole Circus. The other animal was lured back with a can of beer, after he reportedly bit a circus employee. Toby was also offered a can of beer, which he took and ran.

NOTE

In response to many letters and cards we are once again making an attempt to bring you some of those old-time show cartoons. See Page 14.

WANTED

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Also Small Female Elephant

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PEOPLE

PAUL RUCKER and his wife, who have a dog and goat act on Carden-Johnson, were struck by a speeding car enroute to Fergus Falls on July 8th. Their truck and trailer were overturned, but they escaped without injuries.

LOU and DOLLY JACOBS were featured in the June 23rd issue of the Times-Picayune at New Orleans, La.

HEIDI and TRACY BOLZ, daughters of WAYNE BOLZ, worked trap-eze and ring acts with Franzen Bros. Circus last month.

IAN GARDEN visited the Du Bois Circus World during the show visit at Montreal, Quebec.

DONNI STAMBAUGH has returned to his home after a 6 week teaching engagement at Ringling's in Florida.

Thank You

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protege, now cook house operator with Century 21 Shows for your purchase of an Airstream trailer and Southern Cook Hse.

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Federal Suit

In an effort to slow down the demand for products made from endangered animals the Federal Government has filed a suit against an ocelot coat and its owner. The owner is travel agent Barbara Jordan, of Chicago, who had the coat made in Canada, some four years ago, at a cost of \$1,600.

"I had no idea ocelots were an endangered species when I got the coat," says Mrs. Jordan. "How's a poor ordinary citizen supposed to know? This is a case of bureaucracy at work."

Mrs. Jordan's attorney says the coat should not be confiscated because the pelts were obtain-

Many Thanks

My Sincere Thanks to all those who sent cards and letters during my recent confinement in the hospital.

..... Bill Williams

ed before the ocelot was placed on the endangered list. He said it would cause "unfair hardship" on Mrs. Jordan, and that the initial error was made by federal officials who allowed the coat to pass through U. S. Customs.

Under the law the government can file suit against the animal or animal products to confiscate and destroy it. The worst that could happen, other than losing her coat, is a fine of \$10.00.

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Send Cards

Show folks currently on the sick list include:

Ed Riley (billposter), 907 North 4th St., Hugo, Okla. 74347.

Mario Wallenda, Rehabilitation Institute, 261 Mack St., Detroit, Michigan.

"Dutch" LaBlare, Golden Age Home, Hugo, Okla. 74347.

Each would enjoy receiving cards and letters.

Miscellaneous

The Great Y Circus played a series of nine shows in three days at the Central City Mall in San Bernardino, Calif., recently.

The Chinese Circus Revue of Taiwan is currently featured at the Thunderbird Hotel in Las Vegas.

KENNETH FELD was recently featured in a two page "Business Week" advertisement.



Featured at
ABBOTT'S MAGIC GET-TOGETHER
Aug. 20-23
Colon, Michigan

Show Acts

Acts currently working at the Old Chicago Mall include: Saul Shafton, announcer; Emil Hahn, bandmaster; Great Milton, head balancing trap; The Cassidys rolling globes; Ginger Lee, web; Reggie Van Young III, comedy car; Rummel Duo, aerial cradle; Cleo, the Mean Little Kid, comedy; The Slaters, dogs; Zamudio, high wire and the Great Boros, breakaway swaypole.

Other acts include: Tony & Chris; Roy Roberts; Luigi Cataloni; Alberta Masseur:

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PROMOTION CHECKS SET

Canadian officials are keeping a watchful eye on "circuses and other transient attractions," according to an official of the Consumers Affairs Dept. Early this year, the spokesman added, a show was shut down in the east because its promotional operation was making "false, misleading, deceptive or unconscionable representations.

Following the "cease and desist" order of fund raising activities, all Canadian Provinces were alerted to keep a close eye on any such activities.

The Consumers Affairs spokesman said the transient show operators use popular local groups "as fronts to promote the sale of tickets involving thousands of dollars." It has also been reported by the Better Business Bureau that often private firms sell

these tickets to cash in on the community goodwill of local organizations. About 75% of the money raised, they said, goes to the promoters, leaving very little to charity and the sponsors.

"It is amazing," he said, "that organizations can get talked into being involved in this kind of operation."

Fisher Bros. reportedly carries a large group of animals including: 3 elephants, 4 female lions, 9 monkeys, a baboon and a hippo.

Erik Adams, Jr.

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COUNTDOWN ? (Continued)

Acts have said they will not work unless salaries are paid at Tampa and as a result some trouble could erupt as the date gets underway.

In the meantime rumors persist that the full route will be played, that the Northeast tour will be cancelled, and that Sandy Dobritch will handle promotions at all future spots himself.

Visit to.

Enjoyed visiting with Patti and Hines Rucker and the other folks when Int'l All Star Circus came to Decatur (Ill.) July 2nd. They have a nice show and gave performances at 6 and 8 p.m.

On July 11, the Mid America Circus gave a 2 and 4 p.m. show in Decatur, with temperature in the high 90's. This is a nice little show, with friendly folks so it was a nice circus visit. The lot here was a rough and rock strewn one, then they jumped 22 miles north to play Clinton for the following day.

..... Allen Babcock

New Home

A long-time dream became a reality early this year when Wm. Capell purchased Legend City, a theme park at Tempe, Ariz. The facility, which offers a wide variety of entertainment, was at one time the nation's 5th largest park.

Henry Bros. Circus, operated by Ivan Henry, has been permanently located in the park, and Ivan has been named Entertainment Director. In addition to western features and rock bands, the circus features an elephant, dogs, Henry's chimps, magic, vent and other numbers.

Show folks traveling through the area are invited to stop in and there is the possibility of working on weekends. Please phone in advance by calling: (602) 275-8551.

RBBB's Blue Unit clowns recently voted on their choices for the five top clowns in all of show business.

The winners were: Charlie Chaplin, Groucho Marx, Red Skelton, Lucille Ball and Carol Burnett.

THE BALE FAMILY

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High School Horses on tour with "Holiday With Horses"

SUPER CIRCUS (Continued)

Swashbuckling DeMille storms the ring with all the flamboyant bravura of a latter day Musketeer, excels in probably one of the finest tight wire acts today. His nimble dancing, sword-fight on wire, style and showmanship, makes him exciting to watch and a perfectly executed back somersault on a portable rigging with excessive springiness is unbelievable.

A goodly portion of comedy is dished up throughout the program by Wally & Cheryl whose wash woman routine is on its way to becoming a classic, underscored by Cheryl's slapstick timing reminiscent of the great Martha Raye. The Hanneford boxer dogs are now presented by Kathy English and Don Basham, while the Sanger Riding Academy spotlights Peter Haubner as principal rider. When he is finished three stooges come from the audience - a kid, Kathy English, and, finally, Tommy Hanneford in his now famous "fag" bit which seems more broad and not as subtle as it once was. They are, nevertheless, overshadowed by the redoubtable Dame Kate Hanneford as the bewildered mother chasing her son with an umbrella and by the precocious Boston bull terrier ripping off Tommy's pants at the end.

The Flying Medallions, fresh from Las Vegas this season, and highlighting catcher Jimmy Cavaretta, Playgirls favorite pin-up, make a flashy entrance exuding

tons of wholesome American sexiness. Leapers Barry Mitchell and Maureen Cavaretta fly with ease--beautiful clean movements, always out of the net, featuring pirouette returns, a pike forward over a double half-twister to hand-held stick, a 2½ by Barry, and a double by Maureen. Impressive drops to the net are triggered by Jimmy's flying-back out of the catch trap and it must be noted that Jimmy is one of the few catchers ever to steal more than his own share of the limelight.

So much has been said about the marvelous juggling acrobats, The Villams, that little can be added except to remark it is not what these talented people do, it is how - the speed, the sparkling personalities, their immediate impact on an audience, is all wrapped up in one guaranteed show-stopping package. They are, in a word, superb.

The Winn Troupe clicked in their two man inclined walk with cross-over and, again, with a three-person motorcycle thriller, better than most to be sure, employing a free-wheeling shoulder stand, lots of noise and flashing lights and a good revolve.

The Hanneford elephants are well trained and no not "lumber" but move rapidly from one routine to another. The act is highlighted by the energetic mounts by seasoned pro, Kathy English, backed by Kim Norman, Struppi Hanneford and Peter Haubner. Tommy

(Continued on Page 13)

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SUPER CIRCUS (Continued)

works the herd.

The Hanneford Riders remain a Hallmark Riding Act beginning with five lavishly costumed girls the entirety of the act dominated by the dignified presence of 87 year old Dame Kate Hanneford as its Royal Ringmistress. Peter Haubner somersaults so casually they almost lose their interest - three singles in a row capped by two horse-to-horse. Tommy Hanneford, no longer a youngster, has lost none of his speed. It is he, and only he - as close to the immortal Poodles as it is possible to be - who makes the act great. His lightning routine standing on the finish Apaloosa, Spangles, - first jumping a hurdle, then diving to the floor to roll-up in hat and coat, and then leaping back on the horse to swing in and out of his coat, is the kind of stuff of which goosebumps are made. Tommy deserves the encore he usually works up to, and Spangles, the beautiful horse, equally deserves its final bow.

PEOPLE

FRANK CLEVENGER, the fellow who was seriously injured in a Hoxie Bros. gas truck accident, (May 24) has been moved from intensive care and the hospital now lists his condition as "fair."

Col. JERRY LIPKO recently obtained two baby chimps. One weighs 11 lbs while the other is just 9 lbs.

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BILLY BARTON (Continued)

brid Macaw with a gold head and deep orange-gold breast. He also has a rare black cockatoo,

REX YOUNG has taken well to married life (3 yrs). His wife, Sandy, possesses a sense of humor to match his....Agent HOWARD SCHULTZ is sporting a complicated beard that makes him almost unrecognizable!

LILA CANISTRELLI suffered a resin infection that infiltrated her blood stream, is well now and back on her single trap....Caught up to the magazine, if not the story (torn out, mailed and lost) on GIL MILLER: Feb. issue of Chicago, a profile entitled GIL THE GREAT: "One of the Few Men Ever to Call Czechoslovakia from Skokie."

FRANCINE SCHACHT is working out a new entrance patterned after MAE WEST....ILONKA VILLAMS eschews leotards for tunic-styled mini dresses which suit her work and personality to a "T"....The

ELKINS SISTERS created those elegant jump suits with ostrich flared bottoms and INGA SMAHA alternates between "Lipizzaner Traditional" and those gorgeous split gowns so becoming to her.

Not since the now retired ADRIANA & CHARLEY has a trampoline act of such unbelievable scope and power hit the scene as has the Freddie Canistrelli Family! The original routines must be seen more than once to be believed. Featured are such tricks as a "half-in-half-out double" by lithe 18 yr. old MARCO to the shoulders of 25 yr. old BELMONTE, plus a triple, a quadruple full twister, single somersault during which a hoop passes over the body FIVE TIMES, and a triple - all to the shoulders; not to mention a blindfolded somersault to a three man high! Also in the act is 4 yr old ALLESIO being groomed at the same age MARCO started -

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ROUTES

- John Strong Circus
Aug. 2-3 Griffith, Ind.
- Super Circus USA
Aug. 5-7 Tampa, Fla.
- TNT & Royal Olympic Circus
Aug. 4-8 Mt. Prospect, Ill.
- Wallenda Circus
Aug. 5 Gulfport, Miss.
- Wenatchee Youth Circus
Aug. 2 Everett, Wash.
4 Bellingham
6 Bremerton
8 Olympia

..... OTHER ROUTES

- American Freedom Train
Aug. 4-8 Westchester Cty, NY
- Century 21 Shows - Blue Unit
Aug. 3-8 Chippewa Falls, Wis
- Century 21 Shows - Red Unit
Aug. 6-15 Springfield, Mo.
- Coco's Musical Comix
Aug. 2-8 Hersheypark, Pa.
- Diamond S Rodeo
Aug. 4 Budd Lake, Pa.
5 Union
6 Westwood
- James H. Drew Shows
Aug. 2-7 Valparaiso, Ind.
- Holiday With Horses
Aug. 4-5 Augusta, Ga.
7-8 Raleigh, N. C.
- Mitchell Marionettes
Aug. 6-15 Davenport, Iowa

Available

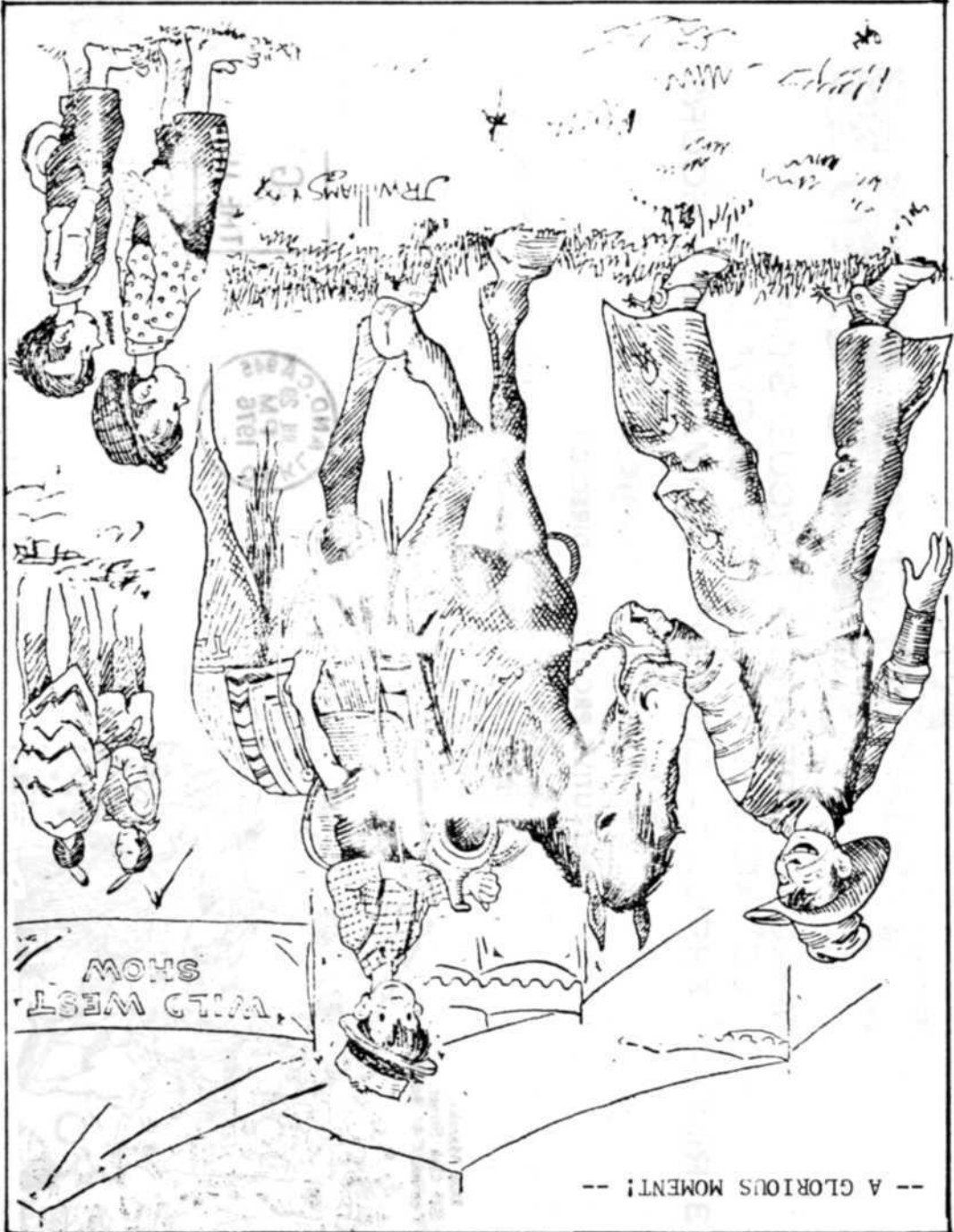
One of the biggest problems the Ringling-Barnum Circus has, according to an advance agent, is getting rid of the manure. Generally it is good for gardens and is being offered for free, he reports.

Usually the circus gets a radio station to offer 100 lb bags as a promotion stunt during the shows engagement, he said. This provides a means of disposing of it and creates some added publicity and interest.

JENNY WALLEDA has opened a mail forwarding and answering service for performers. Agents may call her and she will provide information on the availability of acts.

Interested parties can contact: Jenny Wallenda, 2708 De Soto Road, Sarasota, Fla. 33580. Phone: (813) 355-6807

- Rose City Rides
Aug. 4-7 Potosi, Mo.
- Royal Lipizzan Show
Aug. 2-3 San Francisco, Cal.
6-8 Vancouver, BC
- Startrek Convention
Aug. 7-8 Oakland, Calif.
- Tip Top Shows
Aug. 5-8 Luxemburg, Wisc.
- W. G. Wade Shows
Aug. 2-7 Mason, Mich.
2-7 Harrison
- 40 Horse Hitch
Aug. 8 Davenport, Iowa



-- A GLORIOUS MOMENT! --