



America's Favorite Circus Weekly

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The PAL SHOW

Although attendance was not all that had been hoped for last week's PAL Circus at the Cow Place in San Francisco was an impressive and entertaining show, offering something for everyone. The many multi-ring presentations kept the show rolling and delighted the audiences.



The show folks arrived at the Cow Palace early on Nov. 23rd, but were unable to get into the building because of a rock concert that evening. As a result it wasn't until Saturday morning that any rigging could be handled, so the opening 11 a.m. show was about 1½ hours late. Then at 2 p.m. with the show underway the local bandmen said their time was up and they left. They returned for the other show and caused no further problems. However, all three shows on opening date were running behind schedule.

This year's show was produced
(Continued on Page 3 - Column 2)

AN ANIMAL SHOW

one of the most unusual and interesting shows to be developed on the west coast is the "Early American Circus" which made its debut early this year. Produced and presented by Jerry Booker, the new show's headquarters are in Los Gatos, Calif. They've been playing shopping centers, celebrations and special events, and next year the show hopes for a series of California fair dates.



The program is presented in a round, one pole top and offers a wide variety of animal and novelty numbers. All equipment and cages are new and brightly painted, with "neatness and cleanliness" the rule for everyone on the show.

In most cases the show has been sold outright to the sponsor so there is no admission charge. Concessions, consisting of pop corn, peanuts and cotton candy are dispensed from a colorful circus wagon -- all free to the kids.

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SHOW ITEMS SOUGHT

A law suit filed by the Ringling-Barnum Circus against the Ringling Museum of the Circus and Florida's Secretary of State Richard Stone, has been moved to a Sarasota, Fla. court. The suit was originally filed in May at Tallahassee.

The circus is asking for the return of wagons, wheels and other equipment which it says were loaned to the museum until such time as they would be requested by the circus.

It is presumed that the Ringling-Barnum people want the items for their Circus World park.

YEARS AGO

June 18, 1917

The R. T. Richards Supreme Shows played at Dalton, Mass. on June 18th, then went to nearby Lee for June 19th.

This is a small show, with just 5 wagons and some autos. On their way to Chester (Jun. 20) the elephants ran away near Becket and were gone all night.

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Acts On TOUR

That nine day tour of the Hox-Bros. Circus in Florida (Nov. 30-Dec. 8) was booked and promoted by Mearl Johnson. The circus included two aerial ballet numbers and was presented under Hoxie's new round big top.

Appearing in the show program were:

Lucio Cristiani - riding act
 Mary Ruth - dogs and ponies
 McGuire Sisters - bird fantasy
 Gene Mendez - high wire
 Gilda's uncaged leopards
 Miss Laura - cloud swing
 The Diaz Sisters - juggling
 John Herriott - horses
 Italo Fornasari Family - clown band, juggling, trampoline
 King Charles - band leader
 Bob Mitchell - ring master

THERE'S HOPE

A recent report from Canada indicates that aerialist Mary Gill has come out of a coma -- a condition she has been in for some two weeks.

Broken and bleeding, she was rushed to an Ottawa hospital shortly after falling from the perch board during a performance of the RBBB circus. Doctors gave her a 10 to 15% chance of recovery when she underwent brain surgery. She was paralyzed on the right side.

It is still touch and go for the beautiful aerial star, but she does have a chance for recovery.

POSTERS ON TV

On Dec. 17, 1973, the Public Broadcasting Service (Educational Television) will be presenting, on a national basis, a medical show called "The Killers." The TV program is scheduled for viewing at 8 p.m. e.s.t.

Featured in the program will be a collection of circus posters which are owned by Mr. and Mrs. Ralph E. Trower, of Brockton, Mass. The posters will include oddities such as: Singers Midgets, animal freaks, Tom Thumb, Siamese ladies, giant, fat lady, bearded lady, an Albino family, siamese males, the giraffe necked women, Chinese giant, etc.

NO BIZ AT CONCERT

Small crowds were on hand to see the 3rd annual "Broadway USA" show at the Oakland, Calif. Auditorium on Nov. 18th. Two performances were presented under the sponsorship of VFW Post 7722, of Walnut Creek, Calif.

Featured in the stage show were: Billy Daniels, who made the song "Old Black Magic" popular; The Wheelers, marimba artists and Sammy Blank and his orchestra.

Want — Want

Stationary elephant job - must be on the West Coast.

Contact: Ray Rodman, Log Cabin Trailer Park No. 6, 18411 Valley Blvd., Bloomington, Cal. 92316.

A 3 SHOW TOWN

At least three major circuses are reportedly playing in Mexico City for the holiday season. One show is playing indoors, one is in a ballpark, while the other is playing under canvas.

The Super Circo Bells is playing in a 22,000 seat baseball park and is featuring the Murrillos, a balancing act, and Guzman & Monique, high wire number.

Playing under canvas is the Fuentes' Circo Union. They recently purchased their own Mexico City lot to assure themselves of a good location.

Meanwhile the Circo Atayde is making its annual appearance at the Coliseum in Mexico City.

THE PAL SHOW (Continued)

by the USA National Circus. Simone Finner served as talent coordinator, while special effects were handled by Terry Shepherd. Roy Kabat was the ringmaster/announcer, while the band was directed by John Molinari.

Clowns on the show included: Danny Ashley, Randy Runyon, Father Paul Tenbury, Dave Fulton and Javier Merales.

Lee Noblitt was in charge of props, with a crew consisting of: Mike Rockwell, Jeff Benson, David Fullman, Bob Jenelli, Bill Mosler and Armando Huley.

(Shows program is shown elsewhere in today's Circus Report.)

ROUTES

Allen's Petting Zoo
Dec. 5-9 Anaheim, Calif.

Beatty-Cole Circus
Dec. 3 Winter Haven, Fla.
4 Clearwater
5 New Port Rickey
6 Bradenton
7 Pinellas Park
8-9 Tampa
-- End of Season --

Circo Union
to Dec. 20 Mexico City, Mex.

George Matthews Circus
Dec. 3-5 St. Louis, Mo.

Hoxie Bros. Circus
Dec. 3 Orlando, Fla.
4 Tampa
5 Largo
6 Sarasota
7 Fort Myers
8 Naples

Key Bros. Circus
Dec. 9 San Francisco, Cal.

Royal Lipizzen Show
Dec. 4 Toledo, Ohio
6 Canton
7-8 Columbus
9 Charleston, W. Va.
-- End of Season --

Rudy Bros. Circus
Dec. 7 Milpitas, Calif.
8-9 Richmond

Santa's Xmas Revue
Dec. 5-6 Bakersfield, Cal.
7 Porterville
8 Exeter
9 Madera

Showfolks Circus
Dec. 8 Sarasota, Fla.

John Strong's Int'l Circus
Dec. 5 St. Louis, Mo.
6 Tulsa, Okla.
7 Enroute
8 Dallas, Texas
9 Houston

Super Circo Bells
to Dec. 16 Mexico City, Mex

Tripoli Productions
Dec. 4 Columbia, Mo.
5-6 Kansas City
7 Lawrence, Kans.
8 Topeka
9 Manhattan

Wonderful World of Magic
Dec. 3 Ypsilanti, Mich.
4 Ann Arbor
7 East Detroit
8 St. Clair Shore

..... OTHER ROUTES

Bugs Bunny Show
Dec. 8-9 New York, N.Y.

Carnival History Soc. Meet
Dec. 9-11 Des Moines, Iowa

Marlene Dietrich Show
Dec. 6-16 San Francisco, Ca

Holiday on Ice (Nat'l)
Dec. 6-9 Reno, Nev.

Ice Capades
Dec. 5-9 Portland, Oreg.

Ice Classic
Dec. 5-15 Mesquite, Texas

Ice Follies
Dec. 4-9 Rochester, N.Y.

Int'l Assoc. of Fairs Meet
Dec. 4-6 Las Vegas, Nev.

finale

Albert Butler - press agt who worked with RBBB for 27 years. Died at Baltimore, Md, on Nov. 4th. He was 84.

J. Rudolph Conway - brother of the late Joseph Conway, show owner. Died at Yeadon, Pa. on Nov. 2nd.

Con Colleano - famous tight wire performer, died at Miami, Fla. on Nov. 13. He was 73.

Kovaz Auto Daredevils
Dec. 6-19 Tampico, Mex.

Showman's Assoc. Meeting
Dec. 7 Gibsonton, Fla.

Showmen's League Convention
Dec. 2-6 Las Vegas, Nev.

Showtime of '73

Dec. 8-9 Hayward, Calif.

Small World (Disney)
Dec. 4-9 Atlanta, Ga.

Wrestling
Dec. 1 San Francisco, Cal

Yugoslavia State Dancers
Dec. 5-6 Berkeley, Calif.

HISTORICAL FACT

C. E. Dubla, a circus historian, trouped with the Might Haag Show in 1912. He wrote the book "Those Good Old Minstrel Days" and was a trombonist for many shows.

PEOPLE

W. D. WASHBURN (Sparky, the Clown) was in the San Francisco, Cal. area the weekend of Nov. 24-25 for a special show date.

ERIK ACADIS, balancing act, was recently married to Bobi, a member of the Stanek Troupe.

RED GATES and FRITZ LAUBER worked concessions for the San Francisco Police Circus at the Cow Palace on Nov. 24-25

BOB EMRICO, clown, is working in an Oakland, Calif. magic show between holiday shows.

BOB and ROSA GIBBS are playing dates for the March of Dimes in Texas this month.

DANNY BAKER, concessionaire, was the "kid pusher" seen in the film "Greatest Show on Earth."

ERIK ADAMS will have his chimp act working a sports show in February then joins the Hubert Castle Circus in March.

DON PERKINS, Beatty-Cole public relations man, planned to finish up the season with the show after leaving a Hattiesburg, Miss. hospital. He was injured in a car wreck.

DON MARCKS handled the MC work for a couple of holiday shows in the San Francisco area recently.

JOE BENNETT, of the Tulsa, Okla. Zoo, is planning to write a book on the history and training of elephants in America.



Send your friends a Holiday Greeting via The Circus Report.

Be a part of the big Dec. 24th issue for only \$2.50. Send in your order today.

Not much time left.

The Graduates

Following an elaborate graduation ceremony on Nov. 17th some 14 members of the RBBB College of Clowns were signed to perform with "the greatest show on earth". Two of those given contracts for 1974 were women.

In all 42 hopeful students attended the most recent session of the college, which is directed by Bill Ballantine. Instructors at the college included: Bobby Kaye and Lou Jacobs, veteran clowns; Mate & Heri, dancers; Victor Geone aerialist; Movey Burgess, juggler and Antar Wazzen, acrobat.

AN ANIMAL SHOW (Continued)

Featured in the program is a traditional type clown, a girl snake charmer, a Charlie Chaplin character, a girl on a quarter horse, a man who wrestles a lion, and several animal features presented by Jerry Booker and his wife.

Among the latter group of animals are: a hyena that works on a leash, a trained peacock, giant Clydesdale (high school type acts) a trained pig, and some unusual freak type animals.

EXTRA SHOWS SET

A total of five performances will be presented by the Caltech Circus at Pasadena, Calif. in February. An increased demand for tickets makes it necessary to offer additional performances.

The circus, which was started in 1971 at the California Institute of Technology, is produced and directed by Tom Lehman. It always features professional acts, a full band and displays by the local circus model builders. Chuck Burnes, a former clown and most recently assistant manager on the Rudy Bros. Circus, serves as a consultant and ringmaster for the performance.

RECORD SHOWS

Record crowds attended Kramien's Mad World of Magic Show at its final two dates of the show's Canadian tour. Playing the McPherson Playhouse in Victoria, BC (Nov 16-18) the magic show had to give seven performances, then they moved to the Oak Bay High School Auditorium for Nov. 19-20 and four big shows.



Kramien will wind up his current tour on Dec. 27th, and opens again in the spring, with a 1974 edition which he claims will be the most lavish Magicial Production our generation has seen.

The all new show will featu

SHOW WINDS UP OKAY

The 1973 season was good to us, said Dave Twomey as he put his Happytime Circus into winterquarters near Santa Rosa, Cal. last week. Now we are looking forward to 1974, he added, for it looks as if we're really going to have some nice dates.

According to Dave his circus had no trouble getting gasoline until they came back to California. In fact, he said, we had to lay over near Modesto because the stations were all closed for the day, and we couldn't find enough gas to make the last leg of our trip home

During its dates in Arizona the show encountered both rain and snow. In the Barstow area (Calif.) winds of 40-45 miles were blowing and the highway stopped all trailer travel. Several campers were seen along the road, blown over as a result of the storm.

On Nov. 20th, while traveling north near Chowchilla, a south-bound truck side swiped one of the circus trailers and just kept going. Fortunately a witness to the incident chased the truck down. "We were lucky," says Dave, "for no one was injured and the damage isn't too bad."



ure Las Vegas style costuming and backdrops. A Vanishing of a live horse, plus six other new illusions will be built this winter.

RANDOM RAMBL'GS

by ART "Doc" MILLER

Red cake coloring had a most humble origin, perhaps if it were not for circuses, it might never have been invented. The tale was passed on down to me many years ago by Silvia, the attractive snake enchantress on Christy Bros. Five Ring Wild Animal Circus. She had learned of the incident, from her mother, a famous aerialist, whose father, a singing clown, was the very person this bit of history centers around.

Soon after the Civil War, a wagon circus ventured down into hot dusty Texas. Drinking water was a grave problem, often secured from any convenient stream. Hardest hit for a supply was the old clown who ran the lemon-ade stand. One day when the midway was jammed with thirsty Texans and his stock of lemon-ade depleted, he raced around the circus grounds in desperation, looking for a chance bucket of water -- any water. As a last resort he dashed into the ladies dressing room, pushed aside a girl washing her red tights, and without an I, Yes, or No, picked up the tub and staggered back to his stand. Not a bit concerned over the pinkish water he hastily tossed in some citric acid, a little sugar and his tired old lemon, carefully paraffined to last through the season. Loudly he shouted - "Come get your strawberry lemon-ade." Oddly enough it sold quickly and

RECORD SET

New circus attendance records were set at Sacramento, Calif. by the Miller Johnson Circus which recently closed a five day stand in that city. The show enjoyed exceptionally good newspaper and TV coverage prior to and during the actual engagement.

Originally scheduled to give 12 performances, the circus found it was necessary to provide 14 shows, each presented to turnaway business. On Nov. 20 they gave two performances, on Nov. 21 there were also two shows. On Nov. 23rd three shows were required, while on Nov. 24 it was necessary to offer four performances.

Crowds of people even came out on teardown day (Nov. 25) and expressed their disappointment at not being able to see the circus.

long afterwards, folks still stood around clammering for the exciting new treat.

Having found such a profitable new idea, the old clown visited an inventive sort of a druggist for a substantial supply of red coloring. This man, alert to a greater market, hit upon the idea of marketing it in tiny bottles as something extra special for cake coloring.

The new product made an instant hit with housewives, while pink lemon-ade gradually fell to the wayside when germs were invented around 1920.

solid tour ends

Next Sunday (Dec. 9) Allen's Petting Zoo and Rides will wind-up its 1973 season at Anaheim, Cal and will then go into its quarters at Pixlay.

The zoo and rides spent the entire year in California, playing a total of 25 shopping centers, 7 fairs (including Cal Expo), and four celebrations.

VISITORS

Among those seen visiting at the PAL Circus in San Francisco, Calif. last week were:

Chester Cable, George Kellner, Dave Hammarstrom, Floyd Baker, Tom Upton, Jerry Booker, Pat Ariete, Don Mercks, Loni Ironberg, Patti Antalek and several folks from nearby Marine World.

notes

The Happytime Circus played for the Washington Fairs Assoc. at Yakima on Oct. 31-Nov. 2

Circus Kingdom is reportedly going to play a series of dates in the East right after Christmas.

The Garden Circus Corp. has moved to: The Garden Building, Sarasota, Fla. 33577. Phone: (813) 366-9282.

The Wallace & Rogers Circus plans to open its 1974 under canvas tour in April.

SHOW TALENT

Acts appearing on the San Francisco, Calif. PAL Circus included:

Ade Smieje - trained tigers
 David & Irene - aerial cradle
 Turner's liberty ponies
 Daisy Mae's critters (goats)
 Miss Anna's poodle revue
 Randy Runyon - rola bola
 The Noblitts - trampoline
 Javier Morales - rola bola
 Roxy Family - tight wire
 Mdme. Charlene - comedy wire
 Miss Allison and Diana - trapeze
 Senior Antonio - balancing trap.
 Eduardo's Gypsy bears
 Chi Chi - the trained chimp
 The Winn Bros. - wire walk
 Twinkle Toes - comedy horse
 The Flying Farfans - trapeze
 Charles Family - bicycles
 Chief Screaming Chicken - comedy
 Randy Runyon - juggling
 The Morales Duo - balancing
 Javier Morales - juggling
 The Clowns - painting scenery
 George Matthews circus elephants
 The Armendos - aerial motorcycle

A BUSY TOWN

This is a busy week in St. Louis, Mo., especially for the circus fan who will have a difficult time trying to keep up on all of the shows playing there.

The Tripoli Productions Indoor Circus played the city on Dec. 2 and 3, then comes the George Matthews Christmas Circus for Dec. 3-5, while the John Strong Circus is in town for two shows on Dec. 5th.



Pictured here is the Kork Family in 1906. Mrs. Kork was known as "Marionette, the Girl in White" when she was a bareback rider with Barnum & Bailey. Her husband, Walter, was a clown and acrobat on the show. They also appeared in vaudeville as the "Korking Korkers." In the high-chair is daughter, Marion, who became a Hollywood dance instructor. Their son, Bobby, appeared in vaudeville, burlesque and musical comedies, then went with carnivals presenting girl revues and sex attractions.

PEOPLE

KARL WALLEDA made an outdoor "sky stroll" in New Orleans, La. on Nov. 18th.

BILL BURGER visited RUTH and JOHN STRONG at Costa Mesa Nov. 17

VINCE DILLMAN, an RBBB catcher, majored in criminology at FSU and plans to retire soon to attend law school.

RAY GRANT, magician, will be with the Hubert Castle Circus in 1974.

DON KIRBY, clown, suffered a heart attack and is in a hospital at Spokane, Wash.

BOB EMRICO, clown, plans to rejoin the Wallace & Rogers Circus next spring.

LETTERS

Really enjoy Circus Report. It's the best source of timely circus news information around.

..... Don Covington

I look forward to every issue of Circus Report and when I receive it I do not lay it down until I finish reading it. It is the greatest thing that has been offered to circus fans.Lloyd Harms

ANGELA WILNOW will play Christmas dates for the Capitol Booking Service. She has that troupe of trained Collie dogs.

AUSTIN MILES has been touring as narrator with the Royal Lipizzan Stallion Show.

The HARTZELL FAMILY is working winter dates in the Pacific Northwest with a show called "Heads Over Heels"

ALBERT LUCAS, juggler, fell during the Ice Capades Show at Fresno, Calif. on closing night and broke his arm.

ICE CAPADES

This year's edition of the Ice Capades makes up in novelty what it lacks in excitement, says Robert Taylor, drama critic for the Oakland (Calif) Tribune. They have a girl in a fish bowl, fencing, a look at some former days and several numbers just for the children.

The most prominent skater in the show, says Taylor, is Julie Holmes, a U.S. Olympic silver medal winner. Also featured is a Hungarian skater and the team of Roy and Sandi Wagelein.

The show is short on sets and lighting effects, but has some inventive acts. "Atlantis is surely the first bondage number on ice, a combination of Flash Gordon, Cecil B. DeMille, Madam Satan and a Betty Page cartoon book, with a black prince in silver chains and a water slave. That's the girl in the fish bowl. She's not nude, but then she's not wearing ice skates, either."

Taylor also notes that the show's music and announcements are on tape (a common thing with ice shows, which tends to take away some of the live quality of such presentations).



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