



5th Year

July 5, 1976

Number 27

# Blowdown

One of the worst blowdowns in years occurred at 8:10 p.m. in Wheaton, Ill. (June 27), when a black storm of tornado-like intensity struck the Sam T. Polack Circus, almost without warning. The wind tossed the huge Harold Barnes tent some 200 feet from its original site, its flight checked only by tight ropes on the short side, a shoulder high steel fence, a long open horse barn and equipment belonging to the performers.

The 4:30 p.m. Sunday night show was over and most of the circus equipment had been removed, except for seats which Walt Davis and his crew were dismantling and loading when the storm struck.

Only one minor injury was reported - a young tent worker was hit by a swinging pole. At least 25 (Continued on Page 21)

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**Circus Suarez** completed a ten day stand at the downtown bullring in Tijuana, Mexico, on June 16th. They set up with 3 center poles and two rings, although the tent size varies from one town to another. In some towns they use a four pole top with one large ring (European style). Seating capacity runs to 5,000; there are two hundred 4-seat boxes around the ring, separated by newly chromed dividers.

The show's interior is spotlessly clean, costumes are clean and flashy and the fast two hour show won strong applause throughout. Entrance to the top is through a large semi, ticket boxes along the front. Tijuana prices were up from normal and were \$2 for general admission; \$3 for reserved and \$4 for box seats.

The show plays seven days a week, except when jumps prohibit it. Prior to each large town the show is completely repainted.

The Tijuana program featured: Spec (all performers plus 2 camels, 4 elephants, 4 horses and 3 ponies); Clowns; Revolving Ladder; Foot Juggling (props include one that looks like a man who is dancing on artists feet); 2 camels and pony; Mind Reader; Trampoline (5 people dressed like comic book heroes); Baby Elephant; Clown Band; Unicycles (3); Ray and Mary Grant, illusions (uses

two girls, Doll House, Aerial Drum, Sawing in Half, Tiger Illusion); Clowns; Aerial Rockets to the Moon (traps and Hanging perch with special lights, etc); Intermission of 5 minutes.

Raul Suarez opens the second half with cage of mixed cats (6); Blindfold wirewalk to top of the tent; Tiger riding a horse; Double hanging perch act; Chimps (3); The Flying Astros (3); Clowns; Elephants (3 Indian, 1 African).

At the start of each show two photographers shoot everyone in the box and reserved seats. At intermission they distribute glossy enlargements, in special Circo Suarez folders for \$1.00 each. Later they distribute small plastic peek-throughs with small transparency in the end for an additional \$1.00. There were very few refusals for either offer.

..... Chuck Burnes

W. E. (Shotgun) PAGE, former circus owner, visited friends on Lewis Bros. Circus when the show played Lewisburg, Kentucky.

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# ROUTES

## Beatty-Cole Circus

- July 5 Cape May Crt Hse, NJ  
6 Somers Point  
7 Brick Town  
8 Kenilworth  
9 Yonkers, N.Y.  
10 Newburgh  
11 Kingston

## Carson & Barnes Circus

- July 5 Bellaire, Ohio  
6 Cambridge  
7 Logan  
8 Greenfield  
9 Maysville, Ky.  
10 Fairfield, Ohio  
11 Greensburg, Ind.

## Circus Kirk

- July 8 Waterburg, Vt.  
9 Randolph  
10 Keene, N.H.  
11 Hudson, Mass.

## Circus Vargas

- July 6-8 London, Ont. Can.  
9-15 Toronto

## Clyde Bros. Circus

- July 7-8 Iowa City, Iowa  
9 Centerville  
10 La Crosse  
11 Fairfield

## DuBois Circus World

- July 7-11 Shawinigan, Queb.

## Famous Hunt Circus

- July 5 Pittsfield, Mass.

## Famous Hunt (Continued)

- July 6 Westfield, Mass.  
7 Greenfield  
8 Holyoke  
9 Hadley  
10 Douglas

## Happytime Circus

- July 6-11 Pleasanton, Cal.

## Hoxie Bros. Circus

- July 5 Dover, Dela.  
7 Hagerstown, Md.  
8 Waynesboro, Pa.  
9 Chambersburg  
10 York  
11 Hanover

## Hoxie's Great American Circ.

- July 5 Rennerdale, Pa.  
6 Barnesville, Oh.  
7 New Lexington  
8 Marysville  
9 Park Layne  
10 West Jefferson  
11 Arcanum

## Int'l All Star Circus

- July 5 Rock Falls, Ill.  
6 Oak Lawn  
7 Valparaiso, Ind.  
8 Kokomo  
9 Richmond  
10 Elkhart

## King Bros. Circus

- July 5 Dunkirk, N.Y.  
6 Bradford, Pa.  
7 Salamanca, N.Y.  
8 Olean

## King Bros. (Continued)

- July 9 Wellsboro, N.Y.  
10 Elmira

## Lewis Bros. Circus

- July 5 Hindman, Ky.  
6 Wayland  
7 Martin  
8 Pikeville  
9 Jenkins  
10 Wise, Va.  
11 Norton

## Polack Bros. Circus

- July 10 Puyallup, Wash.  
Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit  
Jul 6-11 Phoenix, Ariz.

## Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit

- Jul 7-18 Houston, Texas

## Sells & Gray Circus

- July 6 Lehighton, Pa.  
7 E. Stroudsburg  
8 Riverdale, N.J.  
9 Randolph  
10 Boonton  
11 Greenwood Lakes, NY

## John Strong Circus

- July 6-7 Chickawauga, N.Y.  
8-9 Jamestown

## Super Circus USA

- Jul 9-11 Shreveport, La.

## TNT & Royal Olympic Circus

- Jul 6-10 Dallas, Texas

## USA Nat'l Circus

- Jul 8-Sep 8 Lima, Peru.

## Wenatchee Youth Circus

- July 5 Monroe, Wash.  
10 Chewelak



# BILLY BARTON . . . .

WELL, IT'S OFFICIAL . . . RUDY JACOBI informed me by phone that he is indeed launching the Rudy Bros. Circus on a 20 week tour in '77 - all dates to be played under canvas, adding still another major tent operation to the ever-increasing list of big tent shows.

GAYLORD MAYNARD'S Musical-Horse extravaganza, agented by STU McCLELLAND, goes into rehearsals July 15 for a 21st opening at Edmundton (Alberta) and will tour 8 weeks. Included in the line-up are Chi-Chic Pierce, knife thrower; Anderson's White Horse Troupe, and 16 Cherokee Indians from N.C. . . . KENNY HELLER, brother of Patsy Jordan, will do an Indian Sponge Dive using a rigging identical to brother-in-law Johnny's. LARRY RUHL will also be with Gaylord's show in an executive capacity.

MISS EDIE, of the CHAPMANS, played the Onstage in L.I., recently with her trapeze act . . . MICHAEL CHERRICK wound up his Globetrotters tour and his uncle, the fabulous FRANCIS BRUNN is still appearing at the Americana in Puerto Rico . . . GUNNAR AMANDIS is making great strides with his new talent agency.

BRENDA JONES CUTTIN and BUZZY are still with a Clyde Bros. unit on Concessions . . . PETE & ISABEL LUBAS handled concessions on the KAYE CONTINENTAL at Denver, and midget clown JUNE DEWSBURY fills her open time working concessions for the couple.

Former circus owner DUB DUGGAN (Hagan-Wallace Circus - runs continuous promotions in the Gulf State Area, promoted the King Bros. Shrine date at Mobile . . . MURRAY HILL, will move or already has moved into the Springfield (Mo) vicinity after selling his Burlington (Wis) farm.

JOHNSON'S BEARS will appear in Canada for the Department of the Interior for 15 days in August . . . when JOHNNY JORDAN sprained his ankle on the DIXIE BROS. CIRCUS, GAYLORD MAYNARD flew in to replace him in the Jericho Leaps.

CARSON & BARNES is thick into the Eastern Territory . . . The juggling VILLAMS, from Hungaria, have residence in Sweden. Ilonka is married to John and Leslie is a partner although he looks like John's brother. They have a lovely daughter already well-developed in the juggling art.

Letter from long-lost friends LOTTIE (Brunn) and TED CHERRICK, now with Gatti-Charles, report the show is a great one to be on, has good people, a good program, and a solid season from March thru October. Business, they say, has been "phenomenal", that the show broke all previous records

Ringmaster-vocalist JOHN MILLER (Gatti-Charles) is the son of musical director HERB MILLER who is the brother of the late GLENN MILLER . . . LES BLOCKS, high wire, are in their second season on the show and the SUAREZ FAMILY, riding act, are also there.

ARTHUR GROTEFONT, who last season toured as Supt. with the LOS MUCHACHOS show from Spain says it was the "most fantastic show" he has ever seen. The show was made up of 110 boys whose ages ranged from 5 to 27 years and who came from a place similar to our BOYS TOWN. He says the kids did every type of act imaginable, including such features as 5 high rola-bolas atop 8 ft., platforms. The show opens "dark" with a young man in street clothes sitting before a mirror turning himself into a clown. As the lights came up the entire cast emerged from the audience stripping their street clothes to reveal Harlequin costumes and blended into a giant acrobatic melange!

Circus Psychic RICHARD PLUME, who predicted the Dobritch L.A. disaster several years back as well as Al's mysterious death, almost to the date, says: "A dark cloud seems to hang over the circus industry throughout the summer. It will lift by fall but expect more "accidents" and "disturbances" till then."

MARLENE GROTEFONT reports everything actually STOPS for about an hour on SELLS & GRAY when the CRs are delivered . . . and BILLY EARL told me that during the running of my FAY ALEXANDER BIO the Chapter Six cliffhanger had everyone on the show going nuts for almost three weeks due to delayed arrivals of Chapter 7!

A sumptuous surprise Birthday Party was tossed at the Pimlico Motel in Baltimore for Circus Impresario RUDY JACOBI on May 21st. The bash was organized by the new Regional Manager of all promotions, CAROLINE TULLEY. Some 280 persons attended the festivities, thirty-two of which were promoters including TOMMY BENTLEY and CHUCK CLANCEY. The birthday cake was constructed

(Continued on Page 19)

# A First Class Show

.....by DON SANDMAN

"Big John Strong, the man with more friends than Santa Claus," is the slogan on John's trucks and the turnouts for his first Ohio date indicate it's a fact. Business in Kentucky, says John, was good and advance sales are all well ahead of last year thus far. The Canadian tour which was cancelled, has been reinstated.

Prior to arriving at Miamisburg (June 23-24) the show's concession trailer was wrecked. Although it was on the lot it was not being used and will require big repairs or replacement. As a result the show's three trucks are really needed to carry additional supplies.

The animal/sleeper truck has an outstanding paint job, including a full length picture of Big John. The other trucks are also well painted and lettered.

This year the show uses a three ring format, with ladders and webs over all three, plus dogs in two and juggling in two, thus giving the impression it is a bigger show than ever.

John really knows how to sell a show and he plus The Wendanys, The Michaels, Chris DeWayne, Sandy, etc., are all pros. The act that steals the show features Tyrona Peru, and her male partner. She dances on glass, they eat fire, swallow swords and ever have snakes. The partner lays on a bed of nails and lets a member of the sponsoring group break a large rock on his chest. The show

## PEOPLE

SWEDE JOHNSON recently made several dates in the southern states, then went into St. Louis last month. Swede and Mabel report there is a new addition to the family - a grand child - Georgia Paige Stephenson. The parents are Ann (Johnson) and Frank Stephenson.

MRS. FRITZ HUBER, of Houston was one of the several guests at the recent CFA's 50 Anniversary Convention in Dallas. She visited with Ann Thomas (Flying Melzaros) Bobby Peck, Smokey Jones and his daughter, and reports that Tommy Randolph was busy taking pictures at all hours of the day or night.

DR. NEIL KAHANOVITZ, formerly with the Neil-Friel Trio, visited the Walter Patterson Family at a Canadian date. Neil is a medical student in Los Angeles.

clowns also do a good job and add much to the program.

CFA's on the lot included Jim Saunders, Al Conover, Wendell Cultice, Gale Ahrens, Bob Hoban, Don Brewer, Al Brewer, Carl Gray, Charlie DeWein, Bob MacDonald, Jake Conover, Paul Cover, Dick Schillhahn and Grace Sandman.

..... Don Sandman

# Dubois Circus World

A new idea, the creation of DuBois Circus World, part carnival and part circus seems to be paying off for the Canadian organization. The show has been drawing good business with the circus getting consistently good attendance at each performance.

## NICE TOUR

The full evening of magic offered by Prof. Miller & Co., recently completed a five weeks engagement in Canada for L. G. Gordon's Leisure Entertainment Productions. All dates were telephone promotions and extra shows were required at nine towns. The tour was highlighted with five shows at Hamilton and three in St Johns.

Featured in the show were Stu and Sara Miller; Bernadette Bohman; Robert Locklair; John Richy; Tex Wilson and Helen Wilson, organist. The show was highlighted by special wardrobe, Miller's Leopard Illusion, plus the Unicycle/juggling act presented by Sara Miller and Wilson's Chimp act.

Staff for the circus consists of: Claude DuBois, owner; Michael Gathen, mgr/announcer; Cheri Troy, prod./aerial; Lee Maloney, bandmaster; Chester Cable, canvas; Chettie Cable, props; Jay Troy and Fred Arwood, clowns; Rosell, sound and Cleo, wardrobe.

The program includes: Clown warm-up (Fred Arwood); Gee Gee's uncaged cougar; Jay Troy, comedy trapeze; Mr. Bell, balancing; Winnie McKay and Laura Patterson, trapeze; Zellmar's liberty act in miniature; The Walters, trampoline; Windy & Walt, teeterboard; Clown levitation; Jerry Lipko, chimps (or Al Antonucci); Chester Cable, foot juggler; Clowns boxing; Aerial web production; Gee Gee Engesser's elephants.

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## A Close Call

The fun of playing with cans of paint and drinking a few proved to be almost fatal for the big Fisher Bros. elephant Tila. The animal, owned by Ken Benson, was found laying on her side, at Union City, Mich. (June 14), too sick to move on with the show. Another elephant, Jennie, participated in the fun, but apparently didn't drink any paint.

The local vet took blood tests, provided medicine to counteract the effects of blood poisoning and kept a watchful eye on the sick elephant. He also was in constant touch with a California elephant trainer who aided him in his work.

From time-to-time, Tila was

## Miscellaneous

Reports from San Antonio indicate that Circus Union 76 has been completely disbanded.

RBBB's third unit will open late this year at Baltimore, under canvas, using the title Hagenbeck-Wallace.

RBBB grossed a total of some \$6,000,356 during its NYC date.

turned from one side to another, with the aid of a tractor. It was said this would prevent any undo stress by laying in one position for long periods of time.

Finally on the fourth day Tila roused, finally got to her feet and started eating. Shortly afterwards both Tila and Benson drove off to rejoin the circus.

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# LION PARK CIRCUS

An added summer feature at Lion Country Safari Park in Laguna Hills (Calif.) is the Royal Cont'l Circus produced by Paul V. Kaye. The show is a free attraction at the park and is presented under the same big top that was used early in the year for a similar circus feature.

The program features clowns Harold Hall, Tim Hill and Linda Daly. Announcements are handled by John Daly, while the band is directed by Tracy Heaston.

Acts include: Moore's Mongrel Revue (Bob, Jeanne and Bonnie); Mitzi, Eva and Ruth, aerial display; The Juggling Jewels (Mickey Josey, Lulla and Buddy); Clowns (eggs or dentist); Jacob's Elephants (Judy Kaye and James (Dutch) Crawford); Miss Astra, sponge dive (Ruth Hill); Young Family, teeterboard; Eduardo, high wire; Clowns, ~~boxing~~; The Flying Ramos (Sergio, Mitzi, Eva, Raul); Exit March.

When the Jacobs elephants are away on circus dates Ernestine and Parley Baer's ponies are added to the program.

## Many Thanks

CFA members at Huntsville (Ala.) visited the Ringling-Barnum Circus (June 17-20) and treated show personnel to drinks and tamales at the back door.

On behalf of all the show folks I want to thank Jack Atkinson (Pres.), Herbert Frierson (VP) and the others for a really good time.

.....Tommy Libel

## Freaks Wanted

Florence Nerlinger, casting director for Universal Pictures (New York City) is looking for Freaks (Side Show talent or non-pro). Only Human Freaks (deformed oddities or dwarfs) are wanted at once for a film titled "The Sentinel" which goes into production on July 6th. (No wheel chairs).

Those interested should call Florence in New York City Collect during EDT business hours at (212) 246-4774, at all other hours call her at (212) 462-7328.

All those accepted for the film will receive round trip air fares to New York, plus hotel, meals and incidentals from Universal Pictures. They will also be paid Sreen Actors Guild scale

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## Show Dates

American Freedom Train  
 Jul 7-12 Baltimore, Md.  
 James H. Drew Shows  
 July 6-10 Louisa, Ky.  
 Pontiac Unicyclists  
 July 10 Brockport, N.Y.  
 11 Rochester  
 Rose City Rides  
 July 7-10 Clarence, Mo.  
 Blake's Country Fair  
 July 8-12 Knoxville, Iowa  
 Blue Water Festival  
 July 5-11 Port Huron, Mich.  
 Century 21 Shows - Blue Unit  
 to July 10 Connersville, Ind.  
 Century 21 Shows - Red Unit  
 to July 11 Cedar Rapids, Iowa  
 Diamond S. Rodeo  
 July 5 Delaware, Ohio  
 6 Springfield  
 7 Xenia

## WANTED

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Royal Lipizzan Stallions  
 July 6 Reno, Nev.  
 8 Monterey, Calif.  
 10-11 Inglewood  
 Royal London Magic Circus  
 July 4-10 Bowling Green, Ky.  
 Tip Top Shows  
 July 8-11 Two Rivers, Wisc.  
 40 Horse Hitch  
 July 11 Marshall, Wisc.

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## CLYDE BROS. NOTES

When Clyde Bros. played at South Bend (Ind) June 12-13 they worked on the stage of the old vaudeville civic theatre. It's a building that isn't adequate for a circus, says Kaye Scheiman, but they did a commendable job of doing a good performance. The elephants were worked outside since they were too heavy for the stage in the building.

The program, with Andrew Kirby, mgr/announcer, and clowns Steve Baker and Gary Ray, featured: Lou Regan, tigers; Clowns; Maya, sword balance; Pat Davison, rola bola; James Connors, ponies; John McKay, Jargo; Mario Zerbini, tight wire; Michael Connors, llamas; Clowns; Princess Kayleah, doves; Mlle de Paree, trapeze; Scott's Unridable Mule; Intermission; Kirby's Chimps; Pat Davison juggling; Kurt & Kalea, cradle; Zerbini, comedy table; Clowns; Scott's Boxer Dogs; Zerbini, teeterboard, Lou Regan, elephant act.

The show jumped into Sharon (Pa.) for June 14-15 and got rained out on the 15th, so returned for shows on the 20th. In the

## PEOPLE

PAUL HARVEY (newsman) told last week about a circus going to Alaska. He failed to mention the show's name.

THE VOLANTES, unicycles and magician RON URBAN are currently working a special show at Chicago

meantime they went into Erie for June 16-19.

The program at Erie and Sharon featured: Spec; Tony Steele, sponge dive; Lou Regan, tigers; Kurt & Kayleah, perch; Maya, sword balance; Davisons, rola; Roberto, sword balance; Clowns and comedy giraffe; Cucciolo, comedy trampoline; Pony and llama displays; clowns; Pat Davison, juggling; Mario Zerbini, tight wire; Tony Steele, juggling; Princess Kayleah, doves; Miss Maya, single trap; Scott's Unridable Mule; Eddy Ventura, rocket car; Intermission; Kirby's Chimps The Flying Dells; Zerbini Bros., omedy table; Carl Wong, sway pole Clowns; Ascott's dogs; Zerbini Troupe, teeterboard; Lou Regan, elephants; Hugo Zacchini, cannon.

### THE BALE FAMILY

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High School Horses on tour with "Holiday With Horses"

## SELLS &amp; GRAY CIRCUS — Billy Barton

PENN HILLS (Pittsburgh) PA; June 8:  
AFTER WAITING three years for their new big top and having it only five days, the top and spool wagon were totally destroyed by fire. A vintage 85 ft. square push-pole big top, discolored by seasons of mud and rain, was brought out of storage and into this unlovely canvas is packed three rings, seating for 2000, innumerable aerial riggings suspended from a cleverly constructed "girder" crane bar and from two "gallows" crane bars that extend into the end sections of the tent.

Also packed into this square top (with a 42 foot middle) is the best performance to be seen on any small or medium sized tent show, lacking only a live, brassy band, and slowed by a series of lulls, some of which are unavoidable, some of which are covered by "pitches", and at least two of which could be eliminated by disciplining the lazy entrances of performers.

Marlene Grotefont does an admirable job on the music stand using two turntables, cutting from one record to another, always on cue; but no amount of perfection here will replace finish chords, drum rolls, rim shots, or the gallops and chasers that would trim the dead spots. It is a pity the budget does not permit at least a 3-piece combo to pep up a high-calibre performance, filled to overflowing with quality acts, good-looking young people, and outstanding costuming.

The show is also well-lighted with a pan of quartz lights hanging center, other quartz lights mounted on poles that flood the air and rings. The lighting and the "gallows" crane bars were designed and executed by chief electrician Arthur Grotefont.

Prior to the performance proper is a peanut pitch with coupons offering prize balloons. The pitch is brief and effective resulting in a quick turnover. Ringmaster Billy Earl then makes his appearance—a tall, fastidiously groomed young man whose speaking voice is well-modulated and whose welcoming and subsequent announcements are intelligent and clear.

Three very pretty young ladies make a flashy entrance for the opening number, doing webs and several fast spins. Unfortunately each girl seems to be doing her own thing and since first impressions are important, the initial impression here would be bolstered considerably if only the girls would smile. Their bored expressions telegraph instantly in such an intimate performing area.

Miss Marie France center-rings with a charming group of five toy-like Yorkshire terriers to

the utter delight of young and old, is followed by the Antonio Trio (two young men and a sexy girl) in a forehead perch act that is top-drawer—including a dramatically executed one-arm handstand, a free head balance, and an upside down slide-for-life.

Two three-ring displays follow . . . a rola-bola number featuring the Zuranis and the Evy Karoly high school horses (3) which serves to introduce 18 year old Mark Anthony Karoly whose handsome "now" look registers with rock-star impact on the audience. He is a virtuoso performer proving his versatility in the high school display. Later in a single trampoline act peppered with swing-time twisters, Arab somersaults, including a double, and again in a fast-moving Principal Riding Act opening with round-offs on a finish horse, closing with nice, high "jerks", running standing "feet jumps" and a back somersault on a resin-back. His youth, good looks, and wow-showmanship has the audience eating out of his hand.

The smooth juggling skill of Sampion is flanked by two single jugglers in end rings. Sampion juggles 5 clubs, 6 hoops and, finally, 8 hoops effortlessly. All three jugglers close with fire torches in a blackout.

To an audience clapping in unison Bonnie Earl starts off the Bonnie and Clyde Musical Novelty singing "Those Were The Days" accompanying herself on the steel guitar. Her singing is interrupted by Billy Earl in comedy garb and the program gets its first and only big comedic moment. A "boogie-woogie" number is featured with both performers playing one guitar. The team closes with the show-stopping "Wabash Cannonball" bows off to wild stomping, whistling and cheering and, while this may be an unusual act for a circus, judging by audience reaction it is easily the "hit" of the show.

The Antonios reappear as the Estrade Troupe in a two-man teeterboard nothing short of sensational. Their finish trick involves Julio hitting the board, a chair on his shoulders, into which Antonio flies in a perfect double-somersault. Last great two-people teeterboards on the circus scene were the Fabulous Montes De Oca Duo and Howard and Wanda Bell.

The Flores Duo perform a better-than-average combination cradle-hanging perch aerial act with nice planges, hand to hand routines, and windup with a layout spin by one ankle.

Miss Dana Novotny, whose family comes to Sells & Gray from Ringling, and who are from

(Continued on Page 18)

# Their Band Is Great.....

The following musical score for Clyde Bros. Circus was compiled by Dr. Paul Fitzpatrick during a recent visit to the show.

Mike Pike - leader and organ	<b>MEMBERS OF THE BAND INCLUDED</b>	Charlie Lowe - trumpet
Bill Fry - percussion	William Hammer - alto sax	James A. Taylor - trumpet
Bernard Dasher - tenor sax	Ted Whelchel - trumpet	William Gaines - trombone

## OVERTURE -

Circus Extravaganza  
Stars and Stripes Forever  
Yankee Doodle Dandy

## AMORILA 1976

Avant Garde

## BLINKO & MARAN - CLOWNING

Be A Clown  
Cabaret Theme

## LILLIE KRISTENSON - LEOPARDS

Fanfare  
Caravan Club  
Born Free  
On The Warpath  
Around the World  
In A Persian Market

## BOB GIBBS - PERFORMING DOGS

From This Moment On  
It's Today  
From This Moment On

## DUKIE & CLOWNS - SHARPSHOOTING

I'm An Old Cowhand  
Happy Days Are Here Again  
Pretty Girl Is Like A Melody  
Bonanza Theme

## THE AUSTINS - PLATE SPINNING

Breezing Along With The Breeze  
Mr. Sandman  
Big Cage Galop

## K. CHRISTOPHER AND HORSE

Java  
Somewhere My Love  
Thousand and One Nights  
Col. Bogey March

## CLOWN WEDDING -

Wedding March  
Billboard March

## TEETERBOARD AND HEAD STAND -

More  
Maria Theme  
Acquarius Theme

## PERFORMING PONIES -

Camptown Races  
Greatest Show on Earth  
Pony Boy

## RUCKER'S CHIMPS AND DOGS

Abba Dabba Honeymoon

Kids  
Talking To The Animals  
Kids

## ANDREWS AND JEWELLS DUO - JUGGLING

Make Me A Smile  
Hungarian Rhapsody  
Hungarian Dance No. 3

## SECOND HALF OVERTURE -

No Business Like Show Business

## WIRE WALK -

Love Theme

## BOB GIBBS - PERFORMING MULES

Watermelon Man

## YOUNG TRUPEU - TEETERBOARD

Hungarian Melodies  
Rhapsody No. 5

## THE GRIMALDIS - MUSICAL COMEDY

Seventy Six Trombones  
Can Can  
Tip Toe Thru The Tulips  
Whole World In His Hands  
12th Street Rag  
Whispering  
Anchors Aweigh  
Special Glockenspiel Music

## BOB GIBBS - CAMEL ACT

Caravan Club

## ALZANA - HIGH WIRE

Fanfare  
Walk up - Special Effects  
Foolish Heart  
Theme from Exodus  
Descent - special music

## THE RUCKERS - ELEPHANTS

Baby Elephant Walk  
Thunder and Blazes  
Circus Extravaganza  
London Bridges  
Thunder and Blazes

## THE GERALDOS - SKY WHEEL

Mission Impossible Theme  
It Better Be Tonight  
Baton March  
March Militaire  
Circus Echoes

## FINALE -

No Business Like Show Business

# Gang Hits Show.....

A GANG of teenagers harrassed the Carson & Barnes Circus during its June 12th engagement at Chester (Pa.). Their action caused an endless series of problems to the show and resulted in some serious losses.

The gang started out bothering the elephants. When asked to stop they came back with charges of having been insulted, then started their harassment in all seriousness.

The youths released locks on several cages, allowing a lion and bear to escape. A considerable amount of property damage was reported before the animals were recaptured.

When they were unable to release the jaguar's cage door, one youth was seen pulling a handgun and then he fired point blank into the cage. The jaguar was hit in the head, killed instantly. A local CFA, Rev. G. C. Bingaman reports the jaguar was an extremely beautiful specimen.

Charges were filed against several John Does, and last week authorities were reportedly locating at least a part of the gang.

**CLASSIFIED**

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

**WANT:** Set of tuned cow bells. Details and price to Don Marcks, 527 Oak St., El Cerrito, Ca. 94530.

## Show Acts

Acts appearing with the recent El Kahir Shrine Circus at Cedar Rapids (Iowa) on June 4-6 included:

Zoppe's dogs, monkeys, ladders and aerial acts; Diano's elephants; Antalek's dogs and chimps; The Flying Dells; Curtis Duo, aerial cradle; Betty Woods, doves; and the Sensational Leighs and their Space Wheel. Clowning was handled by Irv Romig and Al Ross.

Music for the program was provided by Florine Oler, organist and Tim Tegge, drums.

Thank you Grace McIntosh & Chuck Marine, M&M Productions, for your circus photo orders.

## CIRCUS PHOTOS

CUSTOM COLOR CIRCUS PHOTOS

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## Good Start

The season is already well underway for the TNT & Royal Olympic Circus which opens a five day stand at Dallas this week. This year for the first time the show is using a program/color book designed and edited by Tim Tegge.

Acts appearing with the circus include: The Juggling Houcs; Mario and Barbara Alberti, rolling globes; Los Comancheros, aerial cradle; Two Torreanis, wire and the Davidsons, rola bola

Music will be provided by organ and drums, with Jane Erdmann/Lynette Philip at the keyboard and Tim Tegge on drums.

The circus is booked steady through Oct. 31st.

## CIRCUS acts

Acts featured in the Bertolino Bros. European Circus, at the Boston (Mass.) Arena, during its May 20-23 debut included:

Rix's performing bears; The Skydels, aerialists; Burger's Animal Revue and Chimps; The Austins, plate spinning; Satani Demon, fire/magic; Williams mixed animals; Kocka-Poldis Troupe, teeterboard; The Grimaldis, musical comedy; Ken Sherburne, juggler; Rex Williams & Co.; The Albanis, aerialists.

The show's staff consisted of: David and Carl Bertolino, producers; Dixon White, gen. mgr; Anthony Rais, performance director; John Molloy, musical director; Larry Drake, ticket sales.

## Erik Adams, Jr.

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# CIRCUS RHYTHM

The following musical score from the Carson & Barnes Circus has been compiled by Dr. Paul Fitzpatrick.

## OVERTURE -

Keiffers Special  
March of Spanish Soldiary

## DONALD CARR - WILD ANIMALS -

Bravura  
Jungle Queen  
Big Cage

## FULTONS AND MACGLIONI - AERIAL

Father of Victory  
Strangers in the Night  
I Left My Heart in San Francisco

## DON CARR - LION RIDING ELEPHANT

Royal Decree

## WIRE ACTS -

El Cumbonchero  
Pretty Girl Is Like A Melody

## CLOWNS -

Goofus

## BI-CENTENNIAL SPEC -

Circus on Parade  
Yankee Doodle Dandy

## SINGLE TRAPEZE -

Squealer  
Let Me Call You Sweetheart  
Rozella Waltz

## MORALES FAMILY - TEETERBOARD

Broadway One Step

## CLOWNS -

Trombone Blues

## JUGGLERS -

Copa Cabana

## SINGLE ELEPHANT IN EACH RING

Pan American

## HAIR HANG -

Baby Face  
Looking Over a Four Leaf Clover

## ELEPHANTS -

Olevine March

## LOS CONDOROS - HIGH WIRE

Roses of Memory  
Whip and Spur Galop

## BAREBACK RIDING -

Hippodrome

## ROLA BOLA -

Georgia Girl

## DOG ACT -

Pink Lemonade  
Eclipse Galop

## VICTOR MACGLIONI - CLOUD SWING

Trombones on Parade  
Roses & Orchids Waltz

## CLOWNS -

Alley Cat

## BALANCING ACTS -

Desert Patrol  
Shadow Of Your Smile

## THE FLYING ACT -

Hosts of Freedom  
Sunnyland Waltzes  
Go Galop

## FINALE -

Hippodrome

## FOR SALE

Have three beautiful Arabian geldings (matched). Ideal for liberty act or specialty act.

Contact


BERTHA KAUFHOLD

4863 Occidental Rd.  
Santa Rosa, Calif. - 95401



For the best in all show information read Circus Report each week. It's just \$12.00 for the year.

Order from:  
Don Marcks, 525 Oak  
St. El Cerrito, Ca.

**In Memoriam** 

**JOHN CLINE**, circus animal trainer, whose ponies, elephants and horses were on many shows, died June 8th after suffering a brain tumor. Survivors include his wife Milonga, sons John H. III and Phillip J., of Lakeland, Fla. and a daughter Mrs. Kathy Hueling, of Baraboo, Wisc. He also has a sister, Mary Pauline Manville and a brother, Russell Cline, of Henderson, N.C.

**Peru Show Set**

The USA Nat'l Circus will play a return engagement in Lima Peru, in conjunction with Circus Togni, of Italy. Scheduled to open on July 8th, the show will appear at the 25,000 seat Amauta Arena for two months. It will then go on tour in South America jumping to Tokyo for a Dec. 25th opening.

Featured USA acts include: John Baldwin's Charming Chimps; The Jolly Jesters, English music

**BILLY BARTON (Continued)**

like a mammoth Big Top complete with a menagerie housing miniature cage and circus wagons. It goes without saying that Rudy was overwhelmed!

**HAROLD HALL** has taken up residence in Laguna Beach while he is appearing at Paul Kaye's circus date for the summer at Lion Country near Laguna Hills . . . The season started June 10 . . . **BOB TOP & EDNA** (high platform roller-skaters) will play the **JOHN F. KENNEDY STADIUM** in Philadelphia, September 17.

On a recent Sunday the **JORDANS** were sunbathing at Florida's famed Lido Beach when the crowded area was startled by an 18 year old male streaker. "I was so surprised I saw nothing but a flash of skin," sighs Patsy, adding: "damn it!"

See you down the road, luvs.

hall novelty act; The Reeko Bros comedy jugglers; The Romanos, bicycle troupe; Antonio's Poodle act; The Stoyanoffs, perch; The Lubans, comedy bar act; The Flying Russells, flying act; Hollywood Jungle Killers; The Seven Alexandres, teeterboard; The Batchlerettes, high school horses and trick roping; The Cossacks, trick Roman riding and the USA Nat'l Circus elephants.

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## NEW TOP

When Carson & Barnes played Quarryville (Pa.) on June 21st, they set up their new tent, and it's a beauty. The top is orange, yellow and blue striped, with orange and yellow side walls. It is about 140 x 340 and uses six center poles, with space for five rings.

The show looks good and they had nice crowds here, with a fine performance and excellent band. This show has more animals than any other show and Dorey Miller can be proud of this one.

..... John Adams

## PEOPLE

THE BUMPY FAMILY will wind of a four week engagement at the Riverside Park (Agawam, Mass.) on July 11th. They had two acts at the park, along with the JORDAN'S upside-down unicycle act.

MERLE EVANS conducted concerts at Lansing, Mich. (June 21-22) and Naperville, Ill. (Jun. 24)

THE FEARLESS BAUERS are in their third consecutive year at the Great Adventure Theme Park, Jackson, N.J. They are using new

## Sells & Gray (Continued)

behind the Iron Curtain, excels in a technically excellent head-balancing trapeze feature, drinking from a glass upside down, spinning hoops on hands and feet, revolving and swinging on her head. She is a stunning, long-limbed beauty whose presentation would be enhanced by speed. Her sonambullistic entrance and lengthy pauses between routines takes the edge off an otherwise superior performance.

Billy Earl's sword balance, climbing a high ladder with a burning torch mounted sword-tip to sword-tip is effective, as is the Antoys Trio, hand-balancing and the pure-circus action of Evy Karoly's riding dogs, using two bridges, that the kids love.

Twenty-one year old, blond, good-looking Gary Thomas presents the two-elephant act which tops the show, assisted by Wilma Lorenzo in quick mounts. Gary, in his first season with Sells & Gray, shows great skill and promise. The Storeys told CR that Gary has successfully trained the one smaller elephant to "work" and accept Wilma Lorenzo's mounts. Gary's brother is wild animal trainer Harry Thomas, Jr., and their father is the late Harry Thomas, famed equestrian director featured with many big shows.

Jean Bervoux of the Block Family, is the single clown, sometimes helped out by Antonio Estrade but the show could use at least two more clowns.

Sells & Gray stand at Penn Hills was sponsored by the Firefighters resulting in a full matinee and an overflow night house. Mgr. Wilson Storey told CR that business has been fantastic - easy to believe. It is an entertaining show with a \$3 top that gives people their money's worth and leaves the committee satisfied.

taller and more flexible sway poles.

## SIDE SHOW HELP WANTED

Sword Swallowers - Human Freaks to Feature

Write:

CIRCUS VARGAS

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**JACOBY**

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**MILLER** \*

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**PRINCE**  
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**NOW fully booked for 1976**

## A Fun Circus

For some 35 years Fred Piatt of the Detroit (Mich) area, has been working with puppets and presenting shows. About six years ago he started to develop a puppet circus and now his show virtually rivals some of the real ones.

Actually Piatt's actors are marionettes, worked with strings, and they are all hand-made. There is currently seven acts in the circus and each is presented in a traditional circus ring, with circus background music.

The show troupe includes "Bomb-Boo" an elephant that is 5'1" high and is 7' long. A small elephant named "Dusty" is also

one of the show stars. Then there is the Tanaka Family, of high wire artists; Senor Estrao, sway pole performer; Bobo and Beanie, the clowns; Congo, an ape; Regin-old and Fanny Cockney, trapeze artists; Gretchen Wisenoff, wild animal trainer; Arturo, the cannonball; Toby Tyler and his Roman riders and Chazar, the magician.

Piatt has been making puppets since he was a youngster and his wife helps with the hobby by making costumes, etc. When they aren't doing shows Piatt is a school custodian and his wife is employed at a hospital.



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SHOW BLOWDOWN (Continued)

other people were inside the big top or just outside on the short side when the tent billowed and upended.

Bobby Davis found shelter near the fence as poles fell just above his head. Marco Canistrelli actually dove over the high fence chased by flying canvas, poles and stakes as he ran into the horse barn. Two unknown girls ran for shelter, scrambling under Ron Kelroy's station wagon, which the first center pole fell upon, crushing in the roof.

Only minutes before, Guy Gos-sing, Jimmy Douglass, the Elkin Sisters, Cimse and the Chapmans had pulled out, otherwise damage to equipment would have been worse. Caught in the path of the tent, which rose more than 100 feet into the air, were Billy Barton (trapped with truck and trailer), Phil and Francine Schacht and the Wainwrights. Four quarter poles hit Barton's unit but, due to the fence, damage was minimal. The horse barn deflected serious damage to the trailers of the Sachts and Wainwrights, also to Aneta Vargas and the Flying Rauls, parked just beyond.

A pole smashed into the back of Phil and Francine's elephant truck, gouging a deep hole. Tent stakes and guy ropes wrapped around the Schacht and Wainwright trailers.

Quarter poles were tossed

like matchsticks on the roof of the horse barn and side poles, splintered in half, were scattered around trailers the distance of a football field away.

A diesel seat wagon, inside the tent, had its cab battered in while a light plant was dented and a rental Hammond organ was destroyed. Seat planks and light chandeliers were strewn every which way.

At least 14 crew members and performers, in high wind and rain cut in to rescue Barton, hook up his units and pull them to safety Aneta Vargas, running back to her trailer, threw herself on the ground, with her youngster.

John Villams, who had moved far beyond the tent area, watched it all and said, "One center pole did a complete somersault. Never in my whole life have I seen anything like it!"

Damage to the tent was severe. The best that can be salvaged are the poles, cables, ropes, bale rings and winches. The canvas is a total loss.

The tent was scheduled for the St. Louis date for Sandy Dobritch (June 30-July 4) and will now be replaced by a top that was used at Baltimore. Supt. Davis reports he doubted if the seats, poles and other equipment could get to St. Louis on schedule.

# Strike Due

The second major strike of the year is expected to hit San Francisco (Calif.) in late August. The upcoming strike by city bus drivers and mechanics will virtually stop all local transportation and bring the city to another standstill.

In mid-April, a strike by city craft workers was strongly supported by the bus drivers union. They now look forward to full support of their cause by craft workers and other city employees.

## OPENS SOON

The all-new "Holiday With Horses", produced by Don Woods Enterprises, Inc., will make its debut late this month (July 28-29) at Tampa, Fla. The show will then start touring continually, offering complete family entertainment that is expected to appeal to a wide range of people.

The show will feature the Imperial Lipizzan Stallions, plus a special children's feature, the appearance of the Flintstone family. Special flooring, lights and costumes have been prepared for the show, along with special scenery, including a huge castle backdrop. Three show semis will be used to transport the show's equipment, and there will also be many private vehicles.

Some of the performers signed for the show's tour are: The Smaha Family; Rene, Anita, Gloria and Bonnie Bale; Countess Mari-tella and Wolfgang Dellefont, the head trainer and rider of Lipizzaners. In all some 40 horses will be featured in the show's program,

The strike is due just prior to the arrival of Ringling-Barnum for its annual Cow Palace engagement. The strike could result in smaller circus crowds since there will be no way to get about the city, except in privately owned vehicles.

One union leader said last week that once the strike is set pickets will be placed around all city operated facilities and as a result everything is expected to be shut down. He said this would include picketing of the Cow Palace and its parking area. There won't be any plea to help the poor children like the last time, he added.

In April Polack Bros. Circus arrived in San Francisco for its annual engagement at the Civic Auditorium, during the midst of a shut-down strike. However, because of pressure on the part of Shriners who sponsor the Polack Bros. Circus, and the fact that profits from the show go to the Children's Hospital, the pickets were recalled for the circus weekend.

**SELLS & GRAY CIRCUS**

This compact little show moves on 13 pieces of rolling stock, all in good condition, including spool wagon, sanitary trailer, cook house semi and sleepers. The midway is a smaller edition of its mother show, Beatty-Cole. Two semis front the side show, fifty with a thirty foot middle, which house cage wagon, animals, and is managed by veteran side-show man Henry Thompson who makes the openings. Billy Earl is the inside-lecturer who, with his wife Bonnie, also does vent and swords. Featured are the Woodtkes in a well-costumed, exciting knife-throwing act.

The cookhouse, mounted on a semi with canopy attached is presided over by "Blackie" Libman, is open to all performers and personnel. The tour involves 32 weeks, taking the show as far north as Maine and is currently swinging through the east racking up full houses and leaving behind happy customers and sponsors.

The current 85 ft. square push pole top, replacing the burned tent, is to be replaced itself by a new top from Leaf - a replacement that was nearly expedited recently by another fire of unknown origin starting in the spool truck bed. The show was just pulling into town when the driver of a truck following the spool wagon spotted the blaze. The fire department was called thereby circumventing the loss of both a second top and the spool truck recruited from Beatty-Cole.

Show staff includes Wilson F. Storey, general manager and booker of acts for Sells & Gray and Beatty-Cole. Renee Storey Dzierzynski office; Dorothy Storey, purchasing agent. Ed Dzierzynski, concessions; Bob Fogg, mechanic; Arnie Jeffer, props; Vince Novotny, canvas; and Arthur Grotefont, electric. The Sells & Gray Circus is owned by the Acme Circus Corporation. Joe MacMahon is the General Agent for

the three circuses which includes King Bros.

The program, running one hour and forty minutes, with intermission is top notch, goes in the following order:

Bicentennial Aerial Ballet  
Mlle. Marie France Yorkshire Terriers  
The Antonios - Forehead Perch  
Clowns

The Zuranis, Don Caldon, Marie  
Vasserot - Rola Bola

Evy Karoly, Mark, Miss Ruth High  
School Horses

La Dana (Novotny) Head Balance  
Trapeze

Clowns

Mark Anthony - Olympic Trampoline

**INTERMISSION**

Billy Earl, sword balance and the

Antony Trio, acro

Evy Karoly, riding dogs

Aerial Ballet (3) featuring Tina Storey

Clowns

The Great Mark Karoly - Principal Riding  
Act

Sampion, Marie Cristine, Michael -  
Juggling Display

Bonnie and Clyde - Musical Novelty

The Flores Duo - Aerial Feature

The Estrades - Teeterboard

Sells & Gray Elephants with Wilma

Lorenzo, I rained & Presented by

Gary Thomas

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# YEARS AGO

101 Ranch Wild West Show  
Pittsfield, Mass.  
May 19, 1925

The 101 Ranch Wild West Show came in this morning from Albany (NY) at 8:40 a.m. with one train of 33 cars (9 horse cars, 12 flats, 2 stock cars and 10 sleepers), carrying 42 wagons, one closed car, 5 trucks and a trick auto.

Their colors are orange and purple. All wagons are yellow.

Unloading started at 9:40 a.m. and was finished at 10:45. They have 19 steer, 8 buffalo, 6 elephants, 3 camels and 10 oxen.

Wagons include two ticket wagons, a steam and an air calliope, light plant (two engines) stage coach, small covered wagon a large covered wagon, plus 72 baggage horses and 29 broncs.

Altold there are 15 tents - open arena, two side shows, two horse tents, three candy stands, dressing and ring stock tent, dining, kitchen, wardrobe, stewards, ammunition and a small private top.

The parade was held at one o'clock and consisted of 32 sections. The side show opened to good crowds, has three ticket boxes, 12 banners and a bally stand. Features are: J. H. Oyler mgr; Al Flosso, incide talker & Punch; Montana Hank, giant; In-

dian fat lady; Julia Little, snakes; Millie Lam, mind reader; Chief Iwo, fire eater/sword swallower; Millie Delmore; Sir Alket, sword swallower; Madame Leatric, snakes; Mose Smith, tattooed man; Dr. Frank LaMarr and Fan Toy, Chinese Den; Walter Mason, minstrels.

The No. 2 side show has 10 banners, 3 ticket boxes and features: Gene R, Milton, mgr; Al Salvaid, lecturer/magic; May-Joe three legged-double bodied child; Jolly Ollie, fat girl; Madame Murrel, ming reader; Cpt Caech, giant; Mr. & Mrs. Major Fox, midgets; M. Turner, handless wonder; Dules, frog boy; T. A. McClendon, tattooed man; Jessie Franks, bag puncher; Miss Ray Tulles, snakes; E. C. Andrews; fire eater; Prince Nemo, sword swallower/walk on glass; Mlle. Rose, mystery and Paul Vernon, air calliope.

The matinee opened at 2 pm and started about 2:45 with a good show and fair crowd. A wrestling match was presented as the concert.

The night show started on time and drew a good crowd. By 6 p.m. the cookhouse and horse tents were coming down and being loaded. The side shows came down about 9:30 p.m. and the big show was over at 10:30 p.m. then the entire show was down and off the lot by 11:45 p.m.

and the train was ready to go by 1:25 a.m. The train left for Springfield (Mass.) at 2 a.m.



"I think its very nice of Millicent, don't you?"

## PEOPLE

BILL BURGER and son have joined the John Strong Circus for the summer season.

AL MALL has his concession units at the Frontier Park in Cheyenne, Wyo., this month.

PHIL SHEAR and SPARKY report they have a new blue and white side show top on the Dailey Bros. Circus. The top arrived on July 1st at Gillette, Wisc. Business, they say, is just great.



# ACTS AVAILABLE

Due to disappointment the following acts are available for the balance of the 1976 season

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Also Available - Collector's Special - One Copy Only - Scrapbook form of the 1963 Kelly-Miller Boat Circus Fire and Sinking in Yarmouth, N.S. - Photos - News Items - News Photos - In Mint Condition just \$50.00

Many other items of interest all priced for quick sale - Everything goes. Send \$1.00 and stamp for printed list.

Accumulated collection of Jack S. Smith, showman and former circus owner.

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## FAIR HURT

A strike by Alameda County workers is playing havoc with the fair at Pleasanton (Calif.). The workers have been on strike for more than a month in a demand for higher wages. While the fair has nothing to do with their efforts they have decided to make their biggest show of force at the fair grounds.

The fair is attempting to operate as usual, but there is a definite lack of attendance and many delivery people and union

## ROUTES

Dailey Bros. Circus  
July 5 Tomahawk, Wisc.  
6 Minocqua  
7 Park Falls  
8-9 Wakefield, Mich.  
10 Ashland, Wisc.

members are refusing to cross the picket lines. Horse racing, an important part of the fair has been disrupted and could be cancelled completely.

The courts have ruled the strike is illegal, but pickets continue to ignore the court rulings.



GOSH IRV!  
WOULDN' YA  
LIKE T' SEEN  
WOT HE'S  
SEEN - AN'  
DONE WOT  
HE'S DONE?  
GOSH!

GOLLY YES!  
JUS' THINK OF  
HOW MANY  
PEEPUL HE'S  
SCALPED!  
GOSH! MAYBE  
FIVE HUNDERD  
ER-ER MOREN  
A MILLYUN,  
MAYBE HE  
HAS VA  
CANT TELL.



OUR BOYHOOD HEROES.

J. Williams