



5th Year

June 7, 1976

Number 23

All Good Dates

The first four months of 1976 produced top business for George Hubler's Int'l Circus. The show opened on Jan. 23rd, at Mentor (Ohio), where attendance broke all previous records, despite the day-and-dating of the Grotto Circus in downtown Cleveland, just 15 miles away.

The show's phone promotion at Poughkeepsie (N.Y.) tripled that of last year and the circus drew three turn-away crowds. Later at

DUO DATES

Of special interest for this week is the fact that shows will be day-and-dating in Utah and in Nebraska. Similar situations are

Youngstown (Ohio) the circus had standing room only at ten of its eleven performances, for a record attendance of 33,000 people. Another strong date was Buffalo (N.Y.) where the circus showed

(Continued on Page 10)

(Continued on Page 2)

AVAILABLE FOR LIMITED ENGAGEMENTS

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FLASH!

The Humane Society of Marin County (Calif.) is asking a \$25 exhibit fee for shows using animals in that county. This is in addition to the regular city license fees.

One of the four Humane Officers said last week we are going to do everything possible to keep circuses and petting zoos out of this county.

Changes Made

The RBBB Red Unit will play the Superdome in New Orleans (La.) June 22-27. This will be the show's only engagement in Louisiana.

Circus officials report a new seating arrangement will be used there this year. During the engagement some 18,000 seats will be provided, thus giving spectators an intimate view of the big circus performance.

GOOD DATES (Continued)

under Shrine auspices at the War Memorial Building, which seats 18,000 people.

Midwestern, Texas and Kansas dates also held up well and last week's Cedar Rapids (Iowa) date (June 4-6) was another good spot. The show will wind up its indoor tour at Lexington (Ky) on June 27th, a Shrine engagement. Featured acts there will include: Los Latinos, wire; Tony Fossett, bounding rope and gorilla; Zoppe's monkeys and Afghans; Tommy Hanneford's riding act; Tajana's wild animals

WANTED

All types of Animal Acts to start July 1st.

Contact: GORDON WALSH
Mid America Circus
5973 East 31st Street
Tulsa, Okla. -- 74145
Phone: (918) 836-7761

Classified

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

WANT: Girl to help work elephant act. Contact Ben DeWayne, Polack Bros. Circus, 203 North Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60601

MODEL CIRCUS WAGONS BUILT: Kits, repairs, scratch, running gears. S.A.E. for full details Art Spellman, Cross Creek Apt. B-61, 1500 No. Congress Ave., West Palm Beach, Fla 33401

WANT: Remember the Banana Man act? We want to buy the acts (Props and Music). Anyone with knowledge of its whereabouts please contact: John R. Hartzell, Wallace & Rogers Circus, 463-B So. Decatur, Las Vegas, Nev. 89107 - Phone: (702) 870-5508

PEOPLE

CARL BECK(Beck, the Magician) goes to Europe this month for a long tour with his magic features.He opens at Amsterdam, then goes to Vienna and Prague.

"The Bale Family"

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A CFA Week

In commemoration of the Golden Anniversary of the Circus Fans Association of America, New York State Governor Hugh L. Carey issued a proclamation declaring the week of May 24-30 as "Circus Fans Association of America Week" in the state of New York.

The proclamation was read and presented to Ringmaster Tim Holst of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey's Red Unit, prior to the evening performance on May 26. The circus was playing in the RPI Fieldhouse at Troy, N.Y.

The presentation was made by Elbert L. Wert, New York State CFA Chairman.

James K. Cotter, of Glens Falls, assisted by Dr. John S. Still, Chief Curator, History and Acting State Historian of the State Education Dept., are to be commended in securing this proclamation.

HELP WANTED

- IMMEDIATELY -

Need two men for year round work. Must be dependable and an interest in animals is helpful.

Contact:

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Route 5 - Box 9

Burlington, Wisc. - 53105

Phone: (414) 763-3687

PEOPLE

JOANNE VARNER was guest of honor at a party for her birthday (May 14) at Yakima, Wash., when folks on the Gatti show provided her with gifts, including a watch and ring.

SANDY FULBRIGHT was kicked by one of her horses last week at Vallejo (Calif) but escaped serious injury.

WILMA RENCH organist, provides top-notch music for the American Continental Circus at every performance.

AL DAWLEY recently closed his tour with the Castle show and will announce acts on the Rudy show in Pennsy and Ohio.

THE JUMPING JACKS worked the Polack show date at Fairfield (Calif.) on May 29th. Their trampoline act always draws ohs and ahs from the audience.

CLIFF SPENGER, high wire performer, who taught at RBBB's Clown College, will teach wire walking at Richmond (Calif.) YMCA this summer.

PHIL SHEAR and SPARKY have joined Dailey Bros. Circus for the month of June.

WALTER STIMAX and MILDRED HALL continue to please show crowds with their big heads and other clown numbers. They are currently with Polack Bros. and will go to Hawaii for the Paul Kaye show.

JIM PARKER has been visiting show friends in Northern California for the past several weeks.

RUTH REYNOLDS, wife of the CFA's Director of Public Relations, (Ed Reynolds) will sing the National Anthem at the CFA Convention in Dallas (Texas) this week.

WANTED

Advance Agents for small good outdoor show.

Write:

DAVE KNAPP

P. O. Box 311

Acton, Cal. -- 93510

ROUTES

Beatty-Cole Circus

June 7 Williamsport, Pa.
8 State College
9 Berwick
10 Easton
11 Middletown, N.Y.
12 Peekskill
13 Greenwich, Conn.

Carden-Johnson Circus

June 7 Los Alamos, N.M.
8 Monte Vista, Colo.
9-10 Colorado Springs
11 Rocky Ford
12 Leadville

Carson & Barnes Circus

June 7 Winchester, Va.
8 Martinsburg, W.Va.
9 Harrisburg, Pa.
10 Ephrata
11-12 Chester

Circus Kingdom

June 7 Lincoln, Ont.
8 Niagara Falls, N.Y.
10 Poughkeepsie
12-13 Montreal, Quebec

Circus Kirk

June 8 Oberlin, Pa.
9 Halifax
10 Shiloh
11 Lansdale
12 Chatham, N.J.
13 Wayne

Circus Vargas

June 7 Logan, Utah
8-9 Ogden
10-12 Salt Lake City

Clyde Bros. Circus

June 8-10 Peoria, Ill.
12-13 South Bend

Dailey Bros. Circus

June 7 Kiel, Wisc.
8 Town
9 Hurricane
10 Lake Mills
11 Verona
12 Sauk-Prairie
13 Elroy

Diamond S Rodeo Show

June 8 Murfreesboro, Tenn

DuBois Circus World

June 9-13 La Val, Ont.

Europorama

June 7 Billings, Mont.
9 Bismarck, N.D.
11 Sioux Falls, S.D.
12 Sioux City, Iowa
13 Omaha, Nebr.

Famous Hunt Circus

June 7 Greaterford, Pa.
8 Valley Forge
9 Perkasio
10 Warrentown
11 Dublin
12 Levittown
13 Willington, N.J.

Fleckles Int'l Circus

June 4-11 E. St. Louis, Ill

Franzen Bros. Circus

June 7 Yorkville, Ill.
8 Shabona
9 Carpentersville
10 Hebron

Happytime Circus

June 9-13 King City, Cal.

Holiday Hippodrome

June 7 Danville, Ill.
8 Terre Haute, Ind.
9 Vincennes
10 Evansville
11 Columbus
12 Anderson
13 Frankfort

Hoxie Bros. Circus

June 6-8 Indianapolis, Ind
9 Centerville
10 Yellow Springs, Oh.
11 Wash. Crt House
12-13 Huntington, W.Va.

Hoxie's Great American Cir.

June 13 Collegeville, Pa

Kaye Cont'l Circus

June 12-15 Denver, Colo.

King Bros. Circus

June 7 Madisonville, Ky
8 Beaver Dam
9 Troy, Ind.
10 Rockport

(More Routes on other pages)



BILLY BARTON . . .

THE TRAGIC LIST of accidents this season has been lengthened by the little show boy who was run over by a truck on King Bros. and by the collision involving a gas truck on the Hoxie show.

It is certainly not the year for PETER LUVAS. Showtime USA folded on him and now I understand the Berosini Circus which he was on also closed suddenly... Upon completion of their run with Hamid-Morton The FLYING VALENTINES will play celebrations, three weeks in Springfield, Mass. (Agawam Park) and the Texas dates... VICTOR JULIAN reopens at the Medora Musical this month, his 9th consecutive year.

Beatty-Cole producing clown KENNY DODD has created the ultimate in the clown nurse. In his acupuncture number he has FOUR balloon bazoomed and bottomed "angels of mercy" (and DENNIS STEVENS with his 'Buster Keaton' deadpan expression is a riot!). Kenny told me he originally planned to use six. Four is enough. Kenny, the ring couldn't hold two more!

FOR SALE

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R. E. LEONARD

Phone: (913) 494-2512

My thanks to Jimmy James, Billy Griffin, Dave and Lois Hoover, Bob Meadows and the many others for making my visit to Beatty-Cole an enjoyable one.

Poor RON & MI TZIE and the case of the falling chandelier. During the Dayton run it fell and was smashed and, just lately, on a windy day the prop unhooked and fell again - this time with Mitzie on it, who injured her back in the ten foot fall (she's fine now). Last I saw of the couple they were busy stringing beads and gluing mirrors. Ron asked me if I wanted to help and I said, "No thanks. I don't string beads, I READ them!"

People on the Hoxie show tried to convince me I saw only two elephants on the Great American show when I insisted I saw three. Well, I did. The third elephant is on loan to Hoxie by Dave Hoover.

COUNT NICHOLAS, Ringmaster on Beatty-Cole, was remarried recently in Athens (not Georgia, but Greece)... TARZAN and JACKIE ZERBINI repeat their annual stint at Fantasy Island this summer... DAVE COSTELLO, on Hamid-Morton, has come up with a new idea for his Gorilla Parody - after he comes out of the seats he leaps onto a pedestal that is winched up a tower from which he does a sponge dive.

DENNIS STEVENS has a record of longevity with shows. In 33 years he has trouped with only three circuses - 14 years with Polack, 19 years with Ringling; the remaining years with Beatty-Cole... Veteran FRANCIS DURANT is featured in the Beatty-Cole side show

(Continued on Page 12)

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A New One

A new show premiered at Evansville (Ind.) with six performances using the title "—reat 'merican Suicide & Daredevil Show", the show was produced by Universal Entertainment Corp., under the direction of Frank Roberts and Jay Kholos.

All six performances drew poor crowds and it has not yet been decided whether the show will be continued. Originally it had been hoped the show could tour well into the latter part of the year.

The program featured: Sheila Winn, slide for life; Norman Bigelow, doors of death; Satani Demon, sword ladder and fire wheel; Pat Shawn, blow gun; Miss Astra (Flying Eagle), sponge dive; Karl Winn, blindfold wire walk; Norman Bigelow, water tank escape; Henry LaMothe, shallow dive; Norman Bigelow, strait jacket escape from burning rope; Benny Keoke, human bomb and The Dance Machine, dance numbers.

Miscellaneous

Mama's Restaurant in San Antonio, Texas, sponsored performances of Circus Union '76 on May 23rd.

The Early American Circus will play the San Mateo (Calif.) Fair again this year, its second consecutive engagement there.

Mattel's annual report to stockholders includes a few color circus drawings — Gebel—Williams and Lou Jacobs.

SAWDUST TRAIL

The George—Matthews Circus equipment has been laying idle at Amite (La.) where the show will reopen soon. They have been trying to give the male lion 'Arlo' to the La. Purchase Gardens & Zoo. It twice injured trainer Magana.

Charles Kohler, of Dixiana Circus, was in Monroe (La.) to put his daughter on a plane for Dallas. He also visited King Bros. Circus at some local engagements.

Bea Stone and ex—CFA Pres. Jack Painter recently visited this writer. Bea is recovering from a back injury and plans to rejoin hubby Arthur on Dailey Bros. advance real soon. My thanks to Don Nieman for that gorgeous Hoxie Bros. program.

The Royal Hanneford Circus will play Monroe plus Lake Charles and Shreveport this July. The dates were acquired when RBBB dropped them in favor of playing the Superdome in New Orleans. Incidentally, when RBBB cancelled the dates some 30,000 flyers, plus tickets and posters were destroyed.

Reports indicate the Showtime USA equipment has been recovered and moved back to Ohio. A sad event during the show's brief operation was the injury suffered by the promoter's son who was run down by a stage coach. He is in a Rosenberg, Texas, hospital.

Lovie Kellner is reportedly booking dates on the Atlantic coast for Carson & Barnes.

..... M. L. Dupont

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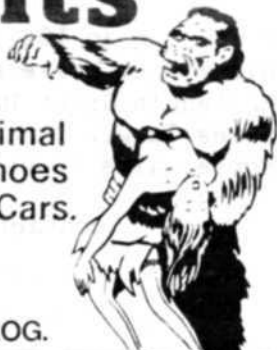
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ROUTES

King Bros. (Continued)

June 11 Hunting, Ind.
12 Paoli
13 Bloomington

Kirk Bros. Circus

June 7 Hannibal, Mo.
8 Quincy, Ill.

Knights of Columbus Circus

June 12-13 San Francisco, Cal

Lewis Bros. Circus

June 7 Greensboro, Ala.
8 Livingston

Polack Bros. Circus

June 5-6 Long Beach, Calif.
11-12 Salt Lake City, Ut.

Ringling-Barnum Blue Unit
to June 13 Philadelphia, Pa.

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit
June 10-13 Louisville, Ky.

Sells & Gray Circus

June 7 Waynesburg, Pa.
8 Penn Hills
9 Greensburg
10 Somerset

Stebbing's Royal European Circ.
June 9-12 Dallas, Texas.

John Strong Circus

June 8-9 Tulsa, Okla.
11-12 Gladstone, Mo.



PEOPLE

THE BARRY MILLER FAMILY will work at Kingston, N.Y. on July 4-5.

COCO, the Clown, was working advance for the now defunct Showtime USA.

CHUCK SCHARBLAUM, MARY RUTH and HEIDI HERRIOTT were recently Beatty-Cole visitors.

KARL and ROSEMARY BISCHOFF, of Sheboygan, Wisc., recently visited Carson & Barnes and Hoxie Bros. in Illinois. The Bischoffs were in Chicago to buy equipment for their Tap A Tune pitch at Galesburg on Decoration Day.

THE AMAZING MONAHANS have expanded the act with the addition of NICKY DEKKER from Holland for their European dates.

ALLEN BABCOCK, EDITH JOHNSTON, JACK ALBEA, MERLE PEPPER, BOB PHEBUS, MIKE SORRELL, CHARLES BELLATTE, Mr. OSBORNE, JIM MORAN, BILL and EDDIE BACKSTEIN, V. H. RICHARDSON, NORMAN SCHULER and VELMA BABCOCK have been visiting shows in the Illinois area.

HELP

I need a small mini-circus for immediate shows in the mid-west. Can provide continuous work thru Labor Day, in Iowa and perhaps all of September in Kansas.

Small Budget, but pay is guaranteed and working conditions are fun. One spot weeks, Wednesday through Sunday.

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or per route this paper

The Happytime Circus recently wound up its Vacaville (Calif.) date for that city's Fiesta Days.

Dubois Circus World

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Wants to buy a round end tent - push pole or bail ring
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CLYDE BEATTY-COLE BROS. CIRCUS Show Visit

The Beatty-Cole Side Show is managed by Count Nicholas. Featured is Francis Durant. Inside lecturer is Dick Stewart who also does magic; Andy Brisky. Miss Cherie, snakes; an electric girl. Fire and swords fill the program on individual platforms scattered around the tent. The side show also houses the good sized menagerie featuring a baboon, caged animals, a camel, nine bulls and other animals.

The circus carries a cookhouse for single men only which includes clowns, band members and working staff. Cooking is done in a semi by Joe Spiko, served in a large top adjacent and the old-time method of raising the flag at meal-time is employed.

Five semi-sleepers sleep clowns, side show people, band members, butchers, some staff, and all workingmen. Office manager Billy Griffin informed CR that 75 per cent of the show's tractors are new, blue Chevys purchased through Johnny Canole. None of the show equipment exhibits any appreciable signs of wear and tear, the show has encountered only one day of rain since opening, hit only one soft, muddy lot, and business on the whole has been healthy.

Staff for the show includes: Frank McClosky, president/producer; Edna Antes, secretary/treasurer; John Pugh, general manager; Art Branning, manager; Arnold Maley, road treasurer; Wm. Webster, concessions; Oscar Grissett, mechanic; Wm. Keller, electrician; Tom Rice, big top; Dallas Farmer, prop boss; Ron Herman, purchasing agent; Clifford McDuffee, transportation; Robert Gray, 24 hour man; Ken Dodd, mailman; Elba Walker, aerial director; Rita Ferreira, wardrobe. Joe McMahon, general agent.

The Beatty-Cole program runs two hours with no spec and no intermission. It is a full three ring circus.

Overture

Dave Hoover's wild animals (five male lions and three tigers)

Clowns - walk and stop features

Ricardo Troupe (5) wire: Miss Joyce,

Sword Balance

Rita and Elba, hanging perch, The Gloriona, hanging perch

Clowns - Acupuncture Number

Ruwills, plate spinning while standing on head

Gaona Duo, Juggling tops

The Dionnes, juggling

Members of the Circus World Museum attended the evening performance of the Circus Kingdom in Baraboo (Wisc.) on May 23rd. Among those attending were Bobby Gibbs, Jimmy (Happy) Williams, John H. Wilson and several members of the museum's acrobatic school.

Presented in the Commercial building at the fairgrounds, the circus was hampered because of the low ceiling and so had to cancel most of the aerial acts. Some audience participation was included in the show, with specialties by Bobby Gibbs, who received a cream pie for his efforts.

The circus band was directed by Rev. L. David Harris. The local date was sponsored by the Baraboo Bicentennial Committee.

..... Bob Gibbs

DUO DATES (Continued)

expected to develop later in the month in the mid-western area, as well as in the major cities of Colorado.

On June 10-12 Circus Vargas will play an engagement in Salt Lake City, while Polack Bros will be in the same city June 11-12.

The Royal Lipizzan Show will play Omaha on June 12-13, and Europorama plays that city on June 13th.

HISTORICAL FACT

The Barton Bros. Circus, of 1925, opened in Boston for a Feb. 9-14 date, then went to Manchester, N.H. for Feb. 16-18. The show's manager was George Barton

Hofmeister's liberty horses (8)

Ron & Mitzie in aerial ballet

Ray's Comedy Car

The Dionnes, rola bola; Sylvia & Hajo, balance; Pietros Bros., rola bola

Iron jaw slide for life

Ethel Joyce's Greyhounds

Santiago Troupe and Canistrelli Troupe, teeterboard acts

Clowns - Tea For Two

Three rings of elephants (9) closing with the long mount on track

The Rayalls, aerial motorcycle

The Ferrieras, shoulder perch; Pietro & Joyce, unsupported ladder; The Denlas, perch

Clown's Crazy Number

The Four Flying Gaonas

Exit March

Hoxie Br. OK

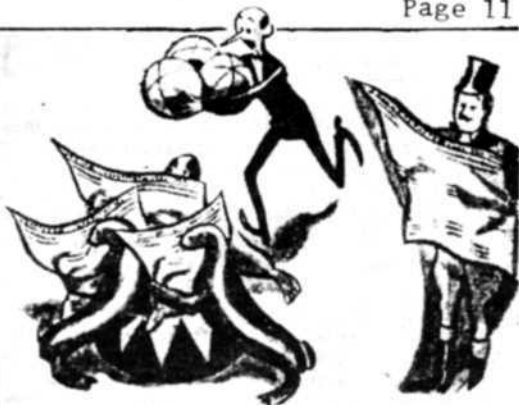
This year Hoxie Bros. is putting their emphasis on Mongo, the gorilla. Special window cards and bumper stickers are used to announce the coming of the circus and their big feature. It is the first gorilla to tour in 20 years. They purchased the old Ringling cage No. 96, which housed M'Toto on that show. About \$7000 was spent to redo the cage for its present occupant. It is placed just inside the side show tent and really draws the people.

In addition to Mongo, the side show features the Princess Margaret Ann (39 in. tall); Rubber Girl; Electric Girl; Snakes; Fire Eater; Sword Swallower, plus the show's five small and three big elephants (one is an African), bear chimp, lion, goat, camel, 2 baboons, zebra, donkeys, 2 llamas, yak, and Gary Henry's white mule. Roger Boyd, Jr. does the come-in and is a good talker. They use a three piece band to get the crowd interested.

Show personal is headed by Hoxie and Betty Tucker, owners; John R. Hall, manager; Jim Silverlake, supt., George Hodgdonm office manager, Johnny Walker, concessions; Jim Hodges, purchasing agent; Jim Aucott, front door and Jose Diaz, electrician. Jim Hodges also serves as advance man.

The performance is announced by Phil Chandler and the band is directed by Fred Kitchen. The program was designed by Lisa Hall.

The show features: Spec "America on Parade"; Michael Cecere, lions (6); Gary Henry, clown



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egg balance gag; Aerial ballet, with Linda, Anna, Yamily, and Judith on web, Miss Graciella on trapeze; Bradd and Sheila Frank, dressage; the Cortez Troupe (4), high wire; Tom Sink, Popcorn the Clown; Princess Zoeanna, trick and Roman riding; The Diaz Sisters, unicycles; The Frank Family, ropes and whips; Jim Silverlake and Linda Chandler, elephants; Rio, the unridable mule; The Diaz Sisters, juggling; Clowns; the Flying Columbi ans (4).

CFA's seen on the lot at Enon (Ohio) May 11th include: Gale Ahrens, Dick Adams, Al Conover, Bob Hoban, Wendell Cultice, Charles DeWein, and the writer.

..... Don Sandman



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BILLY BARTON (Continued)

The famed RUDYNOFF Family visited Beatty-Cole at Hagerstown (Md)...JORDANS took their bus to the Winnebago hospital in nashville (hope they left the bar alone)...GAYLORD MAYNARD will play a run of Western Canadian fairs with his Musical Horse Show starting in July...The EMMETT KELLY Circus played a long run at Hempstead, L. I.

Apparently the Disney PETER PAN SHOW, backed by NBC, didn't translate well in Chinese. It opened in Hong Kong early in the season and closed not long ago in Singapore. There's A happy ending to this one for everyone got paid!

It's been learned that a very famous aerial star of the 40's is confined to an eastern sanitarium. This great star dropped out of sight in the 50's, and has been the subject of much speculation since.

The end of May saw Garden Bros., Royal Wild West, Hamid-Morton, Hoxie'S Great American, Beatty-Cole, Emmett Kelly Circus and Circus Hunt all jockeying for customers in the New York, New Jersey, Philly area.

Ringmaster AL DAWLEY, of Castle, was highly praised by the Regina(Sask) press... PRINCE NAJVEZ will make Rudy Bros. at Cin cy in July...RUDY JACOBI will re-enter the Circus Sweepstakes next year with a tour of 20 weeks...EDDY VENTURA started his park season at Kennywood in May.

Playwright VINCENT GAETA, talent-director

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for the ONSTAGE Night Club, owned by Steve and Whitey Carlson, was invited by the Dutch Government for two weeks of poetry readings. He returns to the Onstage next week, incidentally, he's looking for aerial and novelty acts that are travelling in the area.

BILL BRICKLE's Poodle Fantasy will be with the BERMAN DALLAS Super Circus when it debuts this month...ETHEL (Jennier) JOYCE is part of the Beatty-Cole ballet and is as agile as a girl in her teens...MITZIE GILL, supported by Ron, does the layout spin by her teeth - not seen since MELITTA & WICONS...HUNT's CIRCUS is using original lithos and posters which are striking to say the least...ZOEANN HENRY'S Roman Riding Exhibition is the outstanding hit of Hoxie Bros. program.

NO REST FOR THE WICKED: Home, after four gruelling months on the road I was knocked flat on my back with flu. Roused myself long enough to catch Beatty-Cole and to attend a dinner party afterwards, when I was barricaded for the night by squads of police cars and helicopters with searchlights hunting two escaped murderers in the immediate area! My God, my nerves!

See you down the road, luvs.

ROUTES

Blake's Country Fair

June 9-13 Webster City, Iowa
(Gibson Discount Center)

PEOPLE

Acts appearing with the Circus Uni on '76 on dates in San Antonio (Texas) included the juggler Oresto, Great Dante, balancing, the McKay Duo, cradle, Gary Johnson's elephants The Isaacs, magic, Lodi Duo, cradle, Nino Santos, juggling and balancing, Prof. Shappi, comedy piano

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CLYDE BEATTY-COLE BROS.

..... by BILLY BARTON

In the title race for the "largest tented circus in America", Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. is unquestionably a first-class front runner. The great white big top (150x300) brand new sprawled in lazy nobility under a bright sun on the grassy hagerstown (Md.) fairgrounds. (May 15) waiting placidly for the two packed houses being assured by the Emmett Kelly CFA members who, each year, sponsor and play host to this "Empress" of the circus empire.

The Empress seemed to stare down from her imperial peaks at the broad midway stretching from her marquee, disdainfully perhaps at the upstart side show top - a 50 with three 30's also white, also new; more benignly at the mounted Hippo show, the "grease-joint" semi, the mounted Monkey show; at the office wagon and pony ride. Do we fancy a contented sigh at the long lines of paying customers as they que up at the ticket wagon fronting the midway? Perhaps. But there the people were and, as Dave Hoover and others commented "The CFA does a hell of a job for the show here each year."

The Beatty-Cole Circus is a well-framed operation that looks and is smoothly professional without sacrificing its primary function - that of being a tented community of family entertainment. In other words, for all its mechanized efficiency, the show wears a warm, welcoming face.

Inside the Big Top, equipment is well kept and painted. Seven steel seat wagons, and six large sections of chairs provide adequate seating. The old-fashioned chandeliers have been replaced by banks of lights, spotting ring and track, mounted between quarter poles.

Complaints that last season's program was scimping won't be echoed this year. If anything, the show is overlong causing droves of patrons to "walk" during the last 15 minutes thereby cutting into the side show's earning potential. For that reason alone time should be pruned from the performance.

The program gets off like a racehorse, gallops in momentum until those last 15 minutes when it slows to a crawl - all due to an unpardonable delay in setting the flying act net which could be and should be set while the aerial motorcycle is on. During this act, ring three - where the flying act is hung - is free. As it now stands the aerial motorcycle follows the bulls, goes next to a perch display (too late in

the show) and is followed by a long clown 'crazy' number that cannot possibly take up the slack while the net is being set. By this time the house is half gone which a judicious rearranging of acts would rectify.

There are so many GOOD aspects to the performance it is difficult in a limited space to do justice to all without slighting some, but... Ethel Joyce's Greyhounds is a standout. A pro to her toes, Ethel center-rings with youthful zest and winning personality. The final high hurdle leaps by the canines reap well-deserved ohs and ahs.

Dave Hoover enters the steel arena like a latter day Clyde Beatty, dressed in white, brandishing whip and chair, and gives the American public the sort of cage act they expect - lots of lion-fighting-chair, whip cracking, gun-popping rough and tumble action. It's a fast act and, when that final lion emerging from the chute leaps across the arena to attack Dave and chair, the audience is brought up in their seats.

Two teeterboard troupes, 7 people each, the Santiago and Canistrelli troupes, further enhance the program's speed. The Canistrelli's appear earlier as the Ricardos with the first 'troupe' tight wire act seen in many years.

Ken Dodd's Clown Alley (7), get strong laughs in numbers that are inventive and new. The alley includes Dennis Stevens, Jimmy James Jim Stutz, Bill Smith, Louis Nagi, Mike Ferri era and Dodd himself. The 'acupuncture' number is especially clever.

A Bicentennial Aerial Ballet has 12 girls on rotating ladders spotted around the track, in vivid costumes, working in perfect synchronization. Center-featured is the iron jaw aerial juggling of Ron and Mitzie Gill.

No Ziegfeld Girl ever made a more stunning entrance than does Miss Gill decked out in lavish red, white and blue willow umbrella plumes that virtually sweep and fill the ring. The team's iron jaw juggling routines from a jeweled chandelier are worthy of the star billing they receive.

Fred Logan oversees three rings of bulls, three large ones in each end ring, three babies in the center which he and his wife work with

(Continued on Page 14)

Show Acts

Acts appearing at the Old Chicago Mall up to the end of May included. Saul Shafton, M.C. Emil Hahn, bandmaster. Ginger Lee, web. Zamudio, head balance trapeze. Slater, slack wire. Reggie Van Young, Cleo, the Mean Little Kid. Slater's Dogs. The Zamudios, high wire. Great Boros, break-away sway pole. Rummel Duo, aerial cradle. Great Milton, head balance trapeze. The Cassidys, rolling globes. Tony & Chris. Luigi Cataloni, Jack Kratt, banjo. Hugo Greystone, magic and Mario Manzini, the Modern day Houdini.

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BEATTY-COLE (Continued)

gusto. All nine join for the final long mount on the front track.

The Dionne Troupe, the Flying Gaonas - a new act with four young men. Rita & Elba's perch, the Rayalls, motorcycle. Hofmeister's horses, round out a performance that, for the most part, keeps its three rings dizzy with action - backed up by a fine, brassy circus band under the baton of capable 24 year old Charles Bertini whose eight musicians all seem unusually youthful.

Ringmaster Count Nicholas does not overburden the show with announcements, a plus. the Usherettes wear blue uniformed frocks, all interior bally-cloths are red, white and blue, stripes and stars, the prop crew are in red coveralls and last, but by no means least, it was observed that customers are treated with the utmost courtesy and respect. In this day and age such treatment is not only commendable it is almost a miracle.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

DONALD G. ROGERS, of Lewiston, Maine, writes that he didn't pass away as was reported last month. "I had a heart attack in January, but am now back on the road and still booking fairs, etc."

Acts and attractions can contact Don at: Box 1186, Lewiston, Me. 04240 or Phone (207) 782-1654

CIRCUS WORLD

The programs currently being featured at the Circus World Museum (Baraboo, Wis.) offers:

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James H. Drew Shows
June 7-12 Grundy, Va.

Prof. Miller & Co. (Magic)
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June 8-13 Sheboygan, Wisc.

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