



America's Favorite Circus Weekly

3rd Year

October 7, 1974

Number 40

SHOW READY TO ROLL AGAIN

After an absence of ten years, the Hunt Bros. Circus is scheduled to play a full season of 110 dates next year. The show, which will be operated by Harry Hunt's daughter, Marsha, is not only said to be fully booked for 1975, but is also signing dates for 1976.

All booking and publicity for the show is being handled by Harry Hunt, who insists that he is retired. Response has been very good and folks are interested in the revival of this old show title, he said. In fact, he adds, many of our old sponsors are coming back.

Hunt Bros. will use a 100 ft. top with one 40 ft. middle, which was recently purchased from the U.S. Tent Products Co. They have also acquired a couple of used tents for spares. Seat-will be available for 1,080 to 1,500 people.

The show will travel on seven new GMC diesel units with 40 ft. trailers. Two diesel light plants have also been added to the show equipment, to provide indirect and spot light illumination.

The opening date has been
(Continued on Page 16)

Split Reported

Two shows will emerge from the Bill English operated Circus Classics, Inc. for the 1975 season. In an announcement last week, Bill English told Amusement Business, that he and Tommy Hanneford were going to go their own way. The split, he said, is a friendly one and should work out to the best advantage for both parties.

Tommy Hanneford is to take over complete operation of the Hanneford Circus. The show will be playing Shrine dates, as
(Continued on Page 14)

Busy Area

This past year the area of Western Penna., New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland have been heavily booked by circuses. The thing is that this is a densely populated area and jumps can be short and easy to make.

The last show in the area was Circus Vargas. Prior to that we had the George-Matthews, Sells & Gray, Lewis Bros., Hoxie Bros., Stebbings Circus, the Charles Bros., Royal Ranch, the Beatty-Cole, Circus Kirk, Hanneford Circus, Ringling-Barnum, Garden Bros. and Hamid-Morton.

The best business was that done by Circus Vargas, Lewis Bros. and Circus Kirk. For the others attendance wasn't up to what they had hoped for.

..... Charles Meltzer

Miscellaneous

RBBB's Red Unit, at Indianapolis, Ind. (Oct. 1-6) was at that city's newly opened Market Square Arena. The facility seats about 19,000 people.

The USDA is studying reports about the sizes of dog cages. In some cases animals are going to be required to get outside exercise, they report.

A Holloway production, with Earl Tegge, Manager, opened at Mt. Joseph (Cincinnati) Ohio on Sept. 20th.



ADVERTISING

Low-cost promotion for your circus, ring, tent, act, etc. good "circusy" matchbooks, pens, pennants, bumper stickers, buttons, balloons, business cards, stationery, etc.

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-*-

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-*-

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Successful Tour Is Completed

The 1974 tour, which ended on Sept. 3rd, was the most successful tour ever for Circus Kirk, according to show owner/manager Dr. Charles Boas. New records were achieved by the front door, the side show and concession departments, he added, during the four month, six state tour.

The big top - 60 x 160 - had new eight high blues, with a total seating capacity of 1,500 people. The orange and white side show - 40 x 100 - had a 100 ft. long bannerline, and featured eight platform acts inside.

On the midway a petting zoo replaced the traditional pony ride. Novelties, a jewelry stand, snake show and concessions completed the front end.

The program featured several new and revived acts. The show switched over to theatrical lighting and featured all-new wardrobe. A newly rebuilt cookhouse provided regular meals for show personnel. Leased tractors were used to haul show equipment.

Among the changes planned for 1975 are: a new canvas loader, an animal truck, a unit for toilet facilities, a mechanics truck with winch, and a concession trailer.

The show's home office has been moved into the town of East Berlin (Pa.) This provides additional office space, plus storage facilities for wardrobe, sound and electrical equipment. All rolling equipment is stored at the show's quarters about a mile away.

SHOW Visit

Some 37 people from the Bohemian Home, in Chicago, including Tad Tosky, visited the George-Matthews Circus when the show was in that area on Sep. 13:

The circus rolled out the red carpet for Tad, a former clown. He was given a special seat, in front of the center ring. Show announcer, Ed Russell introduced Tad to the audience, after which he was presented with a special gift.

The show's staff included:

Dr. Chas. Boas - owner/manager
 James Kieffer - business manag.
 Robert Hannigan - office manag.
 Larry Cimino - public relat'ns
 Mary Stambaugh - home office mgr
 Pat Conway - band leader
 Frank Gyondla - electrician
 Nancy Feyler - producing clown
 Mike Straka - side show mgr
 Mort Gamble - concessions
 Lolly Boas - concessions
 Jeff Gabel - cookhouse
 Scott Godfriaux - mechanic

Show Date

Friday, Sept. 13th was a good day for the Carson & Barnes Circus. The show played at Nashville, Ill. and was the first circus to play there in many years. They had two packed houses.

Local folks who visited the show and their friends who are with it were: The Robert Scholtenbrand Family, Mrs. Marlene Cox and Family, and Naomi McDowell.

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ART "Doc" MILLER

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finale

GEORGI KRISTOV, an acrobat with RBBB was killed on Sep. 10 when struck by a car as he and his wife, Betty, crossed a street in Minneapolis. His wife was hospitalized with serious injuries.

NIKOLAI POLIAKOFF, known as "Coco, the Clown" died on Sept. 25 at Peterborough, Eng., while with Roberts Bros. Circus. The 78 year old sad clown had been in show business for some 40 years.

ELIZABETH SEELEY, a former curator at the P. T. Barnum Museum in Bridgeport, Conn. was found dead in her home last month.

WILLIAM P. THOMPSON, Sr., who had traveled with the Terrel Jacobs Circus and James Strates Shows died at Woodbury, N.J., last month, he was 59 years old.

MARIA ZOPPE, the mother of Joseph Zoppe, of the circus family, died on May 22 at Dallas, Texas.

VEGAS DATE

Acts booked into the Benihana Room, of the Las Vegas Hilton Hotel, by Simone Finner Enterprises are: Les Tai-Funs, aerial hair-hang; Piet Paulo & Co., magic illusions, and June Koramoto, Oriental musical novelty feature.

Stiff Competition For C-B Show At Canton

An all-day rain, combined with local football games were tough competition for the Beatty-Cole Circus when they played at Canton (Ohio) on Sept. 20th. The circus was sponsored by the American Legion and drew about a 3/4 house in the afternoon and a half house for the night show.



Canton is the football capital of the world and several major games were being played the day the circus arrived here at Canton. Also adding to the competition was the fact the Beatty-Cole circus followed John Strong, Clyde Bros. and George-Matthews, all within a 90 day period.

The lot, at the fairgrounds, was a muddy mess, but the circus gave those people who attended the show their money's worth. The only act that wasn't included on the program was Dave Hoover's cat act. One circusman said it was just impossible to move the cages in and out of the tent in all that mud.

It was an impressive show running an hour and 50 minutes. The tent is in excellent condition and the rolling equipment all looks good.

Concession prices of 30¢ and 40¢ were less than the other shows. Coloring books sold for 50¢, the side show was priced at 75¢, while the two pit shows - an ape and a hippo - were both priced at 25¢.

..... Tom Morrison

On July 9, 1902, President Teddy Roosevelt named William F. Cody (Buffalo Bill) Buffalo Warden at Yellowstone Nat. Park

A Nice Lot

Here at Youngstown, Ohio, the city is in the midst of a rebuilding program and, in fact, the mall will be opened this month. As a result the Beatty-Cole Circus was able to play right downtown on Sept. 19th. In fact they set up the show on what is to be the site of the new Post Office building.

Many of the white collar workers took a part of the day off to watch the circus activity. As a result the show played to some people who hadn't seen a circus in years.

When the new Coliseum is opened, it's 20 miles southeast of Cleveland, it will bring the Ringling-Barnum show a bit closer to Youngstown. The "Big One" opens there for 17 performances in early November, but the first show going into the building is The Frank Sinatra Show set for Oct. 25, and it is already a sell out. Bill Gillam



YEARS AGO

In his brief history of the Lewis Bros. Circus, published in June, writer J. Adrian Rosenberg, reports the show's permanent winter quarters were in Jackson, Mich. This was the home of the show's owner Paul M. Lewis.

It was in 1926, says the writer, that Paul M. Lewis and Ray Zimmerman established the Lewis & Zimmerman Circus. Not too long afterwards Lewis purchased Zimmerman's share and renamed the show Lewis Bros. Circus. Zimmerman stayed on the show as an executive employee.

Lewis Bros. played in the mid-west and east every summer until Paul Lewis died in June 1953. After his death the show equipment, property and animals were sold to Jack and Jake Mills for their Mills Bros. Circus. They had been with the Lewis show, working as concessionaires

Mr. Lewis' wife, Mae, and daughter, Evelyn, were featured on his circus and were very versatile performers. Other performers who were with Lewis Bros. at one time or another included Buck Owens, Jess Willard and Whitey Ford (The Duke of Paducah

SELLS FLOTO CIRCUS - 1922

The Sells Floto Circus was traveling on a train of 29 cars,

KEEPS BUSY

The 1974 season has kept George Huntley pretty busy trying to keep up with shows in his part of the country.

Thus far he's seen: John Strong at Dubuque, Iowa (May 26) Daily Bros. at Milton, Wisc. (July 31); Hoxie Bros. at Janesville, Wisc. (May 31); Carson & Barnes at Vinton, Iowa (June 15) Whitewater, Wisc. (Aug. 5) and Oakbrook, Ill (Aug. 31); Beatty-Cole at Madison, Wisc (Sept. 4) and Freeport, Ill (Sept. 7); Franzan Bros. at Evansville, Wisc (Aug. 21) and Janesville, Wisc. (Sept. 1).

CIRCUS BENEWEIS

Acts featured in the 1974 edition of Circus Beneweis in Denmark, include:-

Carlos Robin Hood Riding Act
 Les Franciscos - clowns
 Les Facitos - illusions
 Kim and Miller Beneweis - horse
 Sonny Beneweis - baby elephant
 Les Chabres - poodle act
 Fred Roby - ventriloquist
 Sandros - juggling
 Nelly Jane - ring mistress

which consisted of: 14 flats, 8 horse cars, 7 sleepers, plus 33 wagons, 2 tractors, a cart, two autos, a motorcycle and a mule mobile.

They had 17 tents, with a 4 pole big top and 6 pole menagerie tent.

ROUTES

Allen's Pet Zoo
Oct. 9-14 Azusa, Calif.

Arabia Temple Shrine Cir.
to Oct 13 Houston, Tex.

Beatty-Cole Circus
Oct. 7 Kirkwood, Mo.
8 Cape Girardeau
9 Blytheville, Ark
10 Jonesboro
11 West Memphis

Carson & Barnes Circus
Oct. 7 Langdale, Ala
8 Tallassee
9 Luverne
10 Abbeville
11 Ozark
12 Enterprise

Circus Vargas
Oct. 9-10 Huntsville, Ala
12-16 Louisville, Ky

Circus of Wonders
Oct. 10-13 San Bernd. Cal

Al G. Clark & Bros. Circus
Sept. 26 Arapahoe, Neb
28 Clay Center
29 Red Cloud
Oct. 1 Fairbury

Dailey Bros. Circus
Sep. 30 Wymore, Nebr

Dr. Pepper Circus
to Oct. 20 Dallas, Tex.

Fisher Bros. Circus
Sept. 29 Home, La.

George-Matthews Circus
Oct. 8 Evansville, In.
9 Paducah, Ky
11-12 Memphis, Tenn

Hanneford Circus
Sep. 23-24 Hillsdale, Mich
26 Louisville, Ky

Happytime Circus
to Oct. 13 Fresno, Cal.

Sells & Gray (Cont'd)
Oct. 9 Stanton, Ky
10 Harroburg
11 Campbellsville
12 Bowling Green
13 Russelville

Shrine Circus
Sept. 27-29 Phoenix, Arz

John Strong 1869 Circus
Oct. 7 Kingsburg, Cal
8 Visalia
9 Porterville
10-11 Open
12 Goleta
13-14 Oxnard

Voorheis Bros. Circus
Oct. 7 Standish, Mich
8 West Branch
9 Tawas
10 Bay City
11 Howell
12 Richmond

..... OTHER ROUTES

Century 21 Shows - Blue Unit
Oct. 7-12 Clanton, Ala

Century 21 Shows - Red Unit
Oct. 7-12 Meridian, Miss.

Disney on Parade
Oct. 1-6 Miami Bch, Fla.

James H. Drew Shows
Oct. 7-12 Monroe, La.

Golden Gate Rodeo
Oct. 9-14 Fresno, Calif.

Holiday on Ice
Oct. 1-16 Hampton, Va.

Ice Capades
Oct. 3-6 Fort Worth, Tex.

Junior Horse Show
Oct. 13 Lafayette, Cal.

Longhorn Rodeo
Oct. 11-13 Frankfort, Ky.

Elvis Presley Show
Oct. 11-14 Las Vegas, Nev.

endangered by law

The director of the Hogle Zoo at Salt Lake City, Utah, says a federal law passed last December restricting sale and trade of endangered species is actually threatening their existence.

Le Mar Farnsworth said the facility is cutting back its breeding program because it cannot get rid of an excess of some animals included on the endangered species list. In a letter to Earl Baysinger, who handles endangered species problems for the U.S. Department of the Interior, Farnsworth has asked for immediate help in moving nearly two dozen animals from the zoo.

In his letter, Farnsworth said the animals cannot be traded or sold because of the law. "Perhaps you could suggest to me where I could send two Bengal tigers, three Siberian tigers, four black leopards, one spotted leopard, two Parma wallabies, seven timber wolves and two red wolves."

Farnsworth said the law prohibits zoos from trading or selling excess animals covered by the Endangered Species Act of 1973, except as approved by the Department of Interior. "Most zoos that can qualify under the guidelines already have enough specimens of endangered species," he said.

The law bans export to foreign countries where some of the animals are taken from the wilds or sale to circuses. "We didn't know the legislation was in the mill...it was passed in a hurry at the end of last year," Farnsworth said. He added that the bill was the result of a treaty involving more than three dozen nations, but that the treaty has not yet been ratified.

Hogle Zoo is in the process of splitting up its breeding groups to avoid overcrowding and currently has a surplus of 22 endangered species.

Happytime Circus
to Oct. 13 Fresno, Cal.

King Bros. Circus
Oct. 7 Arcadia, La.
8 Jonesville
9 Winnsboro
10 Talluah
11 Lake Provid.
12 Belzoni, Miss
13 Grenada

Polack Bros. Circus
Oct. 12-13 Richmond, Va.

Ringling-Barnum Blue Unit
to Oct. 21 Chicago, Ill.

Ringling-Barnum Red Unit
Oct. 8-9 Bloomington, In
11-13 Champaign, Ill

Royal Lipizzan Stal. Show
Oct. 8-9 Portland, Me.
11 So. Yarmouth, Mss
12-13 Providence, R.I.

Sells & Gray Circus
Oct. 7 Pikeville, Ky.
8 Williamson

Elvis Presley Show
Oct. 11-14 Las Vegas, Nev.

Reveen, Illusionist
Oct. 8-13 Sacramento, Cal.

Rose City Rides
Oct. 7-12 W. Plains, Mo..

Frank Sinatra Show
Oct. 7 Philadelphia, Pa
9 Pittsburgh
12-12 New York, N.Y.

Talent Buyers Seminar
Oct. 13-15 Nashville, Tenn

Ukranian Ice Festival
Oct. 8-13 Washington, DC



currently has a surplus of 24
endangered species.



He's a hunting dog? Gosh,
what was it he lost?



Fisher Bros.

The show's clowns are: Mike Gasca, Michael Swan, Leroy Pierce and Isom Null.

The show staff includes:

Mel & B.K. Silverlake - owners
 Jim Davis - general supt.
 Kathleen Stevens - office mgr
 Raymond Duke - general agent
 Torchy Wilson - booking agent
 Billy Sheets - promotion agent
 Joe Silverlake and Jack Bennett
 ↓ billposters
 Clara Stevens - concessions
 Donnie Cannon - concessions
 Mike Gasca - novelties
 Josephine Duke - peanut pitch
 Jerry Presley and Lillian
 Pierce - cookhouse
 Mel Silverlake - ringmaster
 Peggy Null - organist
 Isom Null - drummer

Show Film

Early this month the CBS-TV "Late Movie" presented the film "Three Ring Circus" featuring Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis.

The circus was filmed on the 1945 Clyde Beatty Circus and had some good shots of the show's animals and equipment being unloaded from the train.

There was a nice scene of the show train being pulled into town by a big SP engine. Also of interest were the setting up scenes and the stop action photography as the big tent was being put up.

PEOPLE

JIM BLEYER, former Sarasota, Fla. newsman, has been appointed Director of Information for the Ringling Museums.

GEORGE D. DEPPO, who has been doing art work for several shows, is working with Little John Strong, in the publishing of a book on freaks.



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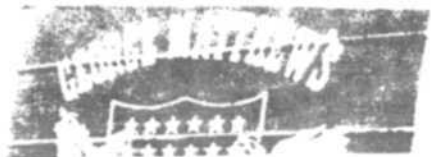
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 El Cerrito, Cal - 94530

PHOTO TITLES

The photos on the opposite page were taken on the George-Matthews Circus by Norman Wilbert.

The clown is D. W. Washburn (Sparky) with former clown Percy Rademaker. At the top right is Alfonso Magana and one of his elephants; The Great Lothar is shown balancing on a chair.

In the center is Bud Rich, show manager, while at the bottom is the George-Matthews Circus Band. John Molinari, leader and Fred Higuera, drummer.



A CIRCUS VISIT by Norman Wilbert

When the George Matthews Great London Circus played Cedarburg, Wisc. (Sept. 19), Frederick Wendland and this writer were on hand to visit. We were pleasantly surprised at the pleasing appearance the show made on the lot, with everything fresh and clean.



The 4 p.m. show drew about a 3/4 house and offered a program that was fast-moving and loaded with talent, with everyone in neat and attractive wardrobe.

Due credit should go to band leader John Molinari and his fine musicians. Their cues and tempo changes kept the performance at peak interest. The band features trombonist Darcy Maham and of course drummer Fred Higuera, who has played with the best of the bands.

The Ronritas are a Spage Age sensation, who also offer an aerial cradle number with the whole family. The Great Lothar is another impressive act, doing a one finger stand atop a lighted globe.

A comparatively new-comer in the circus world is Alphonso Magana, and his wife Cindy. His dreams of being a lion and elephant trainer are at last coming true.

Herbert Weber and his charming partner dazzle the circusgoers with their unusual tight wire act and the slide for life. The attractive Frauensteins are a crowd pleaser with their spinning plates and single trapeze work.

This exciting circus is a

Chicago Meet

Laws regulating charitable solicitations were discussed at the recent (Sept. 28) Int'l Telephone Sales Promotion Assoc. at Chicago. Spokesmen from the states of Florida, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio were on hand to talk about the laws now being enacted and/or under discussion in their states.

Also on the agenda was an election of officers, plans for a campaign to inform producers of amusement events that "the success or failure of such events depends heavily on the degree to which telephone promoters suppress unethical operations and secure solicitation rights for those remaining."

real credit to owner Sid Kellner and our thanks to Bud Rich, who was handling Mr. Kellner's duties, for his hospitality and for allowing us to take pictures

We hope the show is going to be back in this area in 1975.

PEOPLE

BLACKIE MARTINE, original trainer of the elephant "Modoc" visited his old friend at Lion Country Safari park last month.

JOHN MOLANARI had the full George Matthews Circus band at the airport in Kalamazoo, Mich., to welcome his wife and new daughter to the circus.

KELLY MASTERS, former leading man with the Chick Boyes Players, and his wife GLADYS, recently visited BILL and RUTH GREEN in Kansas. The Masters now live in Roswell, N.M.

HAYES GANIARD, of Clarks-lake, Mich., is recovering from a recent heart attack.

RAY JOHNSON recently celebrated his 50th birthday and 29th year in show business. He is with Allen's Pet Zoo.

C. P. FOX, Director of Circus Research & Circus Towne at RBBB's Circus World in Florida, has been named a vice president of the park facility. He will supervise all operations and marketing activities.

BILL and MARJEAN RIVERS joined the John Strong Circus on Sept. 29th

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RECORD-BREAKING BUSINESS

During its three day engagement (Aug. 16-18) at Expo 74, in Spokane, Wash., the Royal Lipizzan Stallion Show drew record-breaking crowds. Some 90,000 people jammed the Coliseum to see the show, providing a gross sale of \$108,000.

While the nationally touring unit was achieving sell-outs in Spokane, the special Fair Edition of the Lashinsky's Royal Lipizzan Stallion Show was appearing at the Canadian Nat'l Exhibition in Toronto, as featured guests of the World Tattoo. In four performances (Aug. 16-18) this unit played to 60,000 people.

public choice

With spring just getting underway in Australia shows in that country have been experiencing good business. Big crowds have been attending Alberto's Circus at Chadstone Shopping Center, while the Lion Park's attendance is up.

During the same period Circus Sanger, exhibiting for a week at Corio Village drew capacity crowds, for each of its five shows per day. The following week at Brandon Park the show's ring was enlarged so more people could be accommodated at each performance. Featured were trained dogs and midget mustangs

FINE BLEND OF TALENT

The program as being presented on Voorheis Bros. Circus during its current tour in Michigan features:-

Come-in routines
Peanut Pitch - Overature
Tympani - Introduction
Jose Cole - one finger stand
Rolandos - juggling
Amazing Mr. Shafton - magic
Arturo Ponce - head balancing
The Lang chimps
-- Intermission --
Super Dave's liberty ponies
Zig Zag Girl - illusion
Toto, the human gorilla
Marvelous Marcellis - wire/cycle
"Tika" and Kari
Finale - entire company

SPLIT ANNOUNCED (Continued)
well as at Universities and Colleges. They will also offer packages of acts to show producers.

The Circus Classics, Inc. plans to operate under the title of Russell Bros. Circus. They will use most of the present executive and promotional staff, and will be playing large sponsored dates, using telephone promotion.

For the past several years Tommy Hanneford has leased his show title to Circus Classics, and acted as its performance director. Many of the acts on the show were personally owned by Hanneford.

My Thanks To -

GENE and SANDY HOLLOWAY, who have the exclusive rights to Big John's 1869 Circus

**ADVANCE DEPARTMENT:-**

Parley Baer

Bill Birchfield

PROMOTOION MANAGERS:-

Ed and Claudia Roach

Charles Mason

Ed and Mary Ann Decker

Rose Baker

Mr. and Mrs. Al Kayda

Bettye Hutton

UNIT MANAGER:-

Earl Tegge

SHOW PERSONNEL:-

The Canestrelli Family

The Wendany Family

The Wal-Tims

Norm and Vi Davis

James Wallington, Supt. and tent crew

Mark and Robin Horton

Tex Goetsch

Harry Jenkins, Sr. - Harry Jenkins, Jr.

Bob Gardiner

THANKS ALSO TO:-

Little John

Ruth

Linda

Sandy

P. S.:-

Have opened a booking office for acts on the various John Strong units, as well as for other shows. Write: Box 600, Thousand Oaks, California - 91360

.... Big John

BIG JOHN STRONG & SON present the 1869 CIRCUS

MAIN ENTRANCE

*** CLOWNS ***

TRAINED ANIMALS

GINDY the CHIMP

ACROBATS

*** JUGGLERS ***

OLD TIME SIDE SHOW

**UNDER THE
BIG TOP**

The BERNY SHOW

Featured in the Circus Berny, in Norway, are:--

Henryk Gabrych - band leader,
with the Polish Orchestra
Arokos Red Indian Melange
Two Doprovoloch - knife throw'g
The Brumbachs - sword balance
The Garcia Troupe - perch act
The Francielias French Illusions
Hoppes Unrideable Mule
Seven Cubanitos - Russian swing
Lorents Sea Lions
Les French "Gina, in the Moon"
Indiana & Matero - Gaucho act
Finale - "Midnight in Moscow"

Didn't Make It

Although Red Skelton did not achieve his first ambition he's really not too sorry. When Skelton ran away from home, as a youngster, to join the circus he planned on being a lion trainer.

"It's been a living," he said recently. "I started out with a medicine show, got into television - and I was back where I started selling medicine

HUNT SHOW READY (Continued)

set for May 1st at Florence, N. J., to be followed by stands at Westville, Mt. Laurel and Dover. All jumps will be small and the first 21 days of the tour will keep the show within 400 miles of its home base. For the full year the show is not expected to travel more than 2,500 miles.