



America's Favorite Circus Weekly

3rd Year

July 8, 1974

Number 27

## A **JULY 4<sup>th</sup>** Opening Date

The American National Circus, Inc., opened its summer season to good crowds at the Veteran's Memorial Stadium in Long Beach (Calif.) on July 4th. The circus owned and managed by Parley Beer, offers a talent packed three ring performance.

The show's executive staff, in addition to Beer, includes: Bob Yerkes, aerial director; Ernestine Clark Beer, executive secretary; Kim Beer, wardrobe; Don Heaston, musical director and Simone Finner, talent coordinator.

Among the acts appearing in the circus program are:

Ron Oxley - wrestling bear  
Clarence, the cross-eyed lion  
The Brauns - Knife throwing  
Johnson's elephants  
Toni Madison - Poodle Revue  
Henry's Chimps  
Barbara & Sylvester - whips/rope  
Mercedes & Benz - juggling  
The Randolphs - plates/rola bols  
The Amazing Ashtons - risley  
The Roberts - aerial cradle  
The Grahams - aerial cradle  
Bouncing Braytons - trampoline  
Miss Astra - sponge plunge  
Miss Allison and Dianne - trap.

(Continued on Back Page)

## SHOW SOLD-OUT

What may very well be the biggest single date of the year was played by the Happytime Circus last week (July 6) at West Point, Calif. The town, a small one in the Mother Lode country, is located several miles off the regular highways of that area.

The date was booked and promoted by Ringling Richards and at least a week before the show arrived the advance sale had amounted to three times the

(Continued on Back Page)

**RAIN BELTS Lewis Bros.**

When Lewis Bros. arrived at Washington Court House, Ohio (June 22) they found the lot was a mass of mud, mud and mud. The big top had to be moved three times before a comparatively useable area was found.

The first performance got started at 6:20 p.m. because of the bad lot conditions. Then at about 7:20 p.m. there was a real downpour of rain.

Rosa Gibbs was ill and as a result didn't work at this date. That meant a slight alteration of the program, as is show below:

Capt. Rob't Gibbs - trained dogs  
 Gary Henry and Pokey - clowns  
 Maya Souren - single trapeze  
 Bobby Gibbs - liberty mules  
 Miss Zoe - swinging ladder  
 Capt. Rob't Gibbs - perf. camel  
 Pokey, the clown - balloon act  
 Zerbini Bros - acrobatics  
 Gary Henry - comedy pony  
 Bob Gibbs - the drinking elephnt  
 Miss Anna - Cossack riding  
 The Balloon Pitch  
 Great Mario - tight wire

**A Show Folds**

Despite the fact that dates were advertised for Oakland, Cal and Portland, Oregon, the Peter Pan Show folded after its final performance in Los Angeles on June 30th. The show first opened at San Antonio on Jan. 3rd and was never able to consistently pull good crowds.

It was sort of a saw-saw operation, with the people staying away in droves, says Jack Sidney, director of international marketing and booking for NBC Entertainment Corp. The show's total gross, he added, amounted to \$2.5 million, while the cost of production was \$1. million.

There is a possibility the show may tour in South America, starting in Argentina this month. If that deal goes through it will be a licensing arrangement, with the show playing in theatre and under canvas dates.

Pokey - the strong man  
 Miss Maya - sword balancing  
 Capt. Bob Gibbs - elephants

..... Don Sandman

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## Acts Added For Big Date At Cleveland

Five packed houses were crowded into three days for the Gatti Charles Circus at Cleveland (27-29), where the advance promotion was handled by Henk Tarver and his wife. The circus, under the management of Patti Gatti and Chuck Burnes, augmented its regular program with the addition of several acts for this date.

Among those extra acts appearing in the show program were: the Howard Suez lion act, which opened the show, plus Lotti and Mike Brunn (jugglers) who worked in a display with Betty and Ken Willer; the Howard Suez elephants, which worked along with Mike Rice's trio; The Argentinos and The Navarros (perch acts) working in a display with Ken Willer's one finger stand; Tina, the Upside Down Lady, appeared in a display with Bambá (iron jaw), Giano's hair hang and Miss Navarro (single trapeze). Cucciolo's Comedy Trampoline, with Ted Brunn on the mike, were also in the show.

### **GARDEN GOING STRONG**

Earnings are reportedly up 20-30% for Garden Bros. Circus this season, making it the best season yet. The circus opened at Altoona, Pa. on April 22nd, then moved into mid-western Canada for the summer, with an anticipated closing set for Sept. 20th at Newfoundland.

The show had two units operating at the same time at the start of the season. The special unit played three dates in New Jersey under the Shrine.

Acts featured in the special unit program included:

- Bill Golden - wild animals
- Regino Duo - hanging perch
- Roland Marcelli - wire/juggle
- Terry O'Brien - wire/juggle
- The Flying Armour
- Hans & Adele - juggle/gorilla
- Klauser's beers

Frank Mogyorosi's lions opened the second half of the program.

The entire program was backed by a seven piece band, directed by Don Rey.

### **A Benefit Show**

This year's annual MS benefit show, presented in Chicago on June 5th featured a variety of acts including:

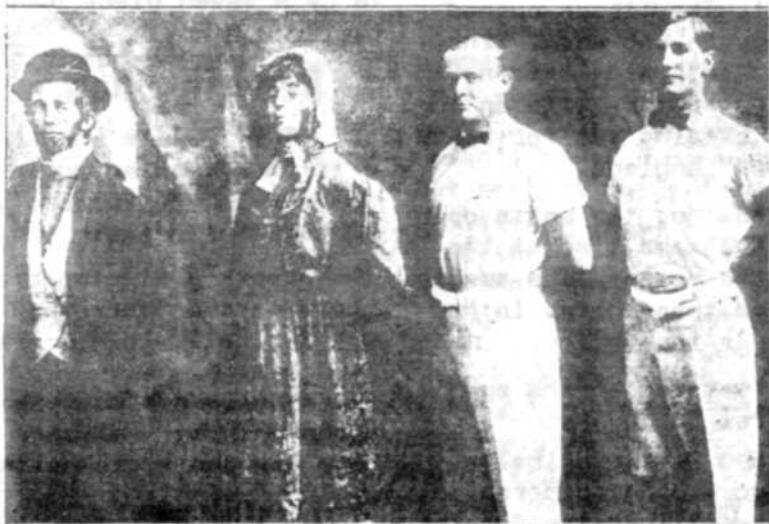
- The Arbors - singing group
- Prof. Faye & Dombroski - comedy
- Jay Marshall - black art
- Ken Milton - MC
- Norm Neilson - magician
- John Shirley - pitch
- The Stevens - trampoline

- The Hawthorne elephants
- Satani - sword balance
- Corone Troupe - high wire

Clowns on the unit were: June Dewsbury (producing); Gean Messeck and Don Kirby.



The above picture was taken on Levitt-Brown-Huggins Shows at Bellingham, Wash. in 1923. At the ticket booth is Will Wright, to the right is Joe Demouchelle, special agent, at the left is Bernie Levitt.



Shown above is the Original Casting Campbells, in 1910. From l.t.r. are: Mattie O'Mars; Joe Quinn; Louis L. Campbell (later managed the Fearless Campbells); and George Gooding.

# Pat Nixon at Russian Circus

By LYNNE OLSON

MOSCOW (AP) — Mrs. Richard M. Nixon, accompanied by the wife of Leonid I Brezhnev, watched with delight today as the Soviet Union's fledgling clowns, aerialists and acrobats performed for her in a miniature big top.

The visit of the President's wife to the state circus school, the only one of its kind in the Soviet Union, was her first official solo appearance since she and Nixon arrived in the Soviet Union, yesterday.

As this year's graduates of the school tumbled and juggled through nine acts, Mrs. Nixon occasionally whispered to the plump, gray-haired wife of the Soviet Communist party chief and evoked from her a couple of rare smiles.

Mrs. Nixon, in a pink and white-check, long-sleeved dress, appeared thoroughly absorbed in the performance. She oohed and aahed as two girls in silver tights teetered

across a high wire, applauded heartily the pratfalls of two acrobatic clowns and clapped in alarm when two aerialists collided in mid-flight.

The young people, in glittery, spangled tights, in their teens and mid-20s, tried to keep their smiles fixed, but they occasionally were replaced by frowns and grimaces of concentration or looks of outright disgust as they made mistakes.

The elderly director of the school, Alexander Voloshin, sat next to Mrs. Nixon and whispered explanations of the acts through an interpreter. Like a mother hen, he tensely watched his proteges and only rarely applauded his acts.

Graduates of the school perform in 100 Soviet circuses.

After the performance, Mrs. Nixon was escorted into the ring, where she was handed red and pink carnations and given a five-minute standing ovation by the performers.

## They Have Helped

The following people have made substantial donations to the Animal Trainer's Legal Counsel Fund now being sponsored by the Nat'l Congress of Animal Trainers, P. O. Box 698, Greenwood Lake, N. Y. - 10925.

Bert Nelson Snyder  
"Smiley" Daley  
Volney Phifer  
Hubert G. Wells  
Don, Melina and Cheryl  
Shawver  
Robert V. and Lucille  
Snowden  
Robert M. and Mae Noell  
The Circus Kingdom  
John Canole



## NOTES

The Wenatchee Youth Circus opened its 22nd season at Cashmere, Wash. on June 9th.

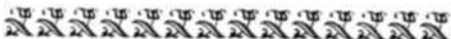
The July issue of "Friends" magazine has pictures and a story about the Beatty-Cole Circus. Get a copy from your local Chevrolet dealer.

The Continental Circus has

been rated as the strongest and best circus to play Florida so far this year by Freddie Daw.

Elephants with the Ridgeway Circus in New Zealand are: Bimbo, Dolly and Sheba.

Australia's Sole Bros. Circus is repainting its trucks to read "Sole Bros. New World Circus".



# ROUTES

Allen's Pet Zoo  
July 8-14 Pleasanton, Cal.

Beatty-Cole Circus  
July 8 Pittsfield, Mass  
9 West Springfield  
10 Worcester  
11 Haverhill  
12 Lewiston, Maine  
13 Bangor  
14 Waterville

Buffalo Bill's Wild West  
Jul 13-Aug 18 No. Platte, Nbr

Carden-Johnson Circus  
July 10 Plentywood, Mont.  
11 Sidney

Carson & Barnes Circus  
July 8 Staples, Minn.  
9 Ailkin  
10 Remer  
11 Bemidji  
12 Chisholm  
13 Aurora

Hubert Castle Circus  
July 8-9 Helena, Mont.  
10-11 Missoula

Charles Bros. Circus  
July 9 Dakton, Pa.  
10 Hinesdale, N.Y.  
11 Salamanca  
12 Cuba

Circus Kingdom  
July 14 Middlet'n. R. I.

Happytime (Continued)  
July 11-14 Monterey, Cal.

Hoxie Bros. Circus  
July 8 Gaithersb'g, Md  
9 Ephrata, Pa.  
10 Sinking Springs  
11 Coplay  
12 Leighton  
13-14 Philadelphia

King Bros. Circus  
July 8 Craig, Colo.  
9 Meeker  
10 Aspen  
11 Leadville  
12 Salida

Lewis Bros. Circus  
July 8 Chestertown, Md  
9 Denton  
10 Open  
11 Smyrna, Dela.  
12 Middletown  
13-14 Claymont

Polack Bros. Circus  
July 12-14 Las Vegas, Nev.

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit  
July 9-14 San Diego, Cal.

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit  
July 9-16 Houston, Texas

Royal Lipizzan Stallion Shw  
July 8-9 Long Bch, Cal.  
12-14 Anaheim

Rud Bros. Circus  
July 9-14 Buffalo, N.Y.

Tommy Scott Show

Milwaukee Summerfest  
July 12-21 Milwaukee, Wisc

Rose City Rides  
July 10-13 Clarence, Mo.

Tip Top Shows  
July 11-14 Two Rivers, Wisc

## *Readers Please Note!*

As everyone is aware, the costs of materials is continually rising and just this past week paper price went up again.

We are trying to hold the line and maintain the present \$10.00 per year subscription price.

To do this we need your renewal check promptly, and we need new subscribers. Won't you please tell your friends about Circus Report? They might want to have their own copy.

We're also looking for additional news so we can expand the route listings and news features. So do send your items in early.

Many thanks

*Don*

July 14 Middlet'n R.I.  
**Circus Kirk**  
 July 8 Woonsocket, R.I.  
 9 E. Bridgew'r, Mass  
 10 Cumberland, R.I.  
 11 Rochester, Mass  
 12 Enroute  
 13 Orleans

**Circus Vargas**  
 July 9-10 Marshall, Mich.  
 11-13 Grand Rapids  
 14 Jackson

**Europorama**  
 July 8 Glendive, Mont.  
 9 Enroute  
 10 Minot, S. D.  
 11 Bismarck  
 12 Dickinson  
 13 Mendon  
 14 Lewiston

**Franzen Bros. Circus**  
 July 11 New Lisbon, Wisc.  
 12 Whitehall

**Gatti-Charles Circus**  
 July 9 St. Thomas, Ont.  
 10-12 Waterloo  
 13 Guelph  
 14 Hanover

**George-Matthews Circus**  
 July 8 Enroute  
 9 Columbus, Ind.  
 10-11 Louisville, Kty  
 12-16 Cincinnati, Ohio

**Happytime Circus**  
 July 9 Chowchilla, Cal.

**Tommy Scott Show**  
 8 Sheets Harbr, NS  
 9 Bridgewater  
 10 Liverpool  
 11 Yarmouth  
 12 Digby  
 13 Canning  
 14 Bedford

**Sells & Gray Circus**  
 July 8 Windhem, Maine  
 9 Damariscotta  
 10 Rockland  
 11 Ellsworth  
 12 Machias  
 13 Calais  
 14 Presque Isle

**John Strong Circus**  
 July 8-9 Canton, Ohio  
 10-11 Akron  
 12-15 Cleveland

**Wenatchee Youth Circus**  
 July 9-11 Portland, Oreg.

..... OTHER ROUTES .....

**Century 21 Shows - Red**  
 July 12-20 Peoria, Ill

**Century 21 Shows - Blue**  
 July 12-20 Peoria, Ill

**Disney on Parade Show**  
 to Aug. 4 Mexico City, Mex

**James H. Drew Shows**  
 July 8-12 Huntingburg, Ind

**Foley & Burk Shows**  
 to July 14 Plessanton, Cal

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July 8, 1974

Page 7

## USDA Can Sell Animals To Recover Costs

The U. S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) has adopted new regulations that make imported animals subject to public sale by the government if importers fail to pay the costs involved for care and feeding of animals while in quarantine.

Officials of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) said amendments to federal regulations, effective June 26th, formally specify the government's authority to recover costs for caring of imported animals while they are being held at port-of-entry quarantine facilities. Livestock from all countries, except Canada and Mexico must undergo mandatory quarantines upon arrival in the United States.

APHIS officials explained that while a majority of importers pay the established fees, there are occasions when owners or agents have defaulted.

The new regulations also specify that APHIS officials may arrange for care and feeding of animals, at the owner's expense, if the owner neglects to adequately provide for such care at non-federal quarantine facilities.

Other requirements of the regulations specify:

-- That arrangements must be made by the importer for acceptable transportation to the quarantine facility.

-- That requests from the importer for APHIS inspection and other veterinary services be made in writing, with a waiver of claims against the agency and its employees.

The Walter L. Main Circus played the Hartford, Conn., Fair on Sept. 4-9, 1922.

## He's Injured

Veteran circus performer and elephant trainer Fred Logan suffered possible serious injuries when he was struck on the head by a falling light unit last month. The accident occurred during the show's setting up operations, when Logan sat on the ring curb to relax for a moment.

In addition to receiving a bad head injury it has been reported that Logan lost the sight of one eye and has been unable to move his right leg.

Logan's duties have been turned over to Johnn Herriott for the remainder of the season.

## TALENT BILL

Acts appearing on the stage at the Vallejo (Calif.) Fair on June 25-29 included:

Mike Caldwell - comedian/MC

The Duane Dancers (5)

The Saxons - juggling/unicycles

Rufe Davis - musical/comedy



Pictured above is Lulu, the Woman Clown, who appeared with the Ringling-Barnum Circus in 1939. She was billed as the "World's Most Successful Women Clown" and the first woman clown to appear on the Ringling-Barnum Circus. (The above picture was made to show how she looks in everyday life and under the big top).

# finale

MRS. CHICK BOYES, of Hebron, Neb. died on June 20th at Lincoln, Nebr. She and her husband operated the Chick Boyes Players in Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado for many years.

LEWIS (Lou) WAGONER, of Oakland, Calif., died in that city on June 30th. From 1958-1964 he coordinated appearances of the Polack Bros. Circus in Oakland, under sponsorship of the Children's Hospital.

## FAIR SHOW

Acts featured on the stage show at the Alameda County Fair in Pleasanton, Calif. (June 30-July 14) include:

- July 1-4 Jerry Van Dyke, The Clementis Cycle Trio and the Mergo Dancers
- July 5-8 Donald O'Connor, The Clementis Trio, Lou Dupont, ventriloquist and The Third Generation
- July 9-11 Jerry Reed, western star, Lou Dupont and the Duane Dancers
- July 12-14 Myron Floren, accordionist, Robby & Cisny, dancers and Keith Evans.

### HISTORICAL FACT . . . .

The Curtis L. Backus Circus went broke in Rutland, Vt. in 1934.

## Carson & Barnes

The weather was generally good when Carson & Barnes played Marengo, Vinton and Manchester (June 14-16) and nearly full houses were recorded for each performance. At all three Iowa towns the circus was able to set up on grassy lots, which added to the show's attractive appearance.

The program is stronger than it was in 1973 and most of the performers are from Mexico or South America. They have beautiful costumes and really know how to sell their acts. Many multi-ring displays add to the performance and prove this is a big show.

Equipment is all in good shape. However, they are using last year's big top, which shows signs of wear and tear. They haven't had a blowdown as yet, but at Fort Collins, Colo. (May 13) some 80 m.p.h. winds made even the center poles dance 5 ft off the ground. The tent held though, as it was anchored to trucks placed alongside the top. The crowd waited for four hours before the wind subsided and the matinee finally got started about 6:30 p.m.

A new top has been ordered since last winter and they still aren't sure just when it will be arriving.

..... Eric Wilson

# PEOPLE

KIRBY GRANT (Sky King) is currently selling insurance in the Los Angeles (Calif.) area.

BRIAN FAWCETT's chimp has a prominent spot in the upcoming TV movie "Punch & Jody."

FRITZ LAUBER, concessionaire, is working at Expo 74 in Spokane, Wash. He also sells cotton candy at the San Francisco and Oakland (Calif.) auditoriums.

D. W. WASHBURN (Sparky, the Clown) has joined the George Matthews Circus for the remainder of the season.

FRANK DEAN recently copyrighted a western song he plans to use in his act.

MEL HALL and family have joined Carden-Johnson Circus with their various animal acts.

JIMMY GOFF, drummer, was the guest of Cleveland Circus Chairman Don HOLZHEIMER, at the academy for Police Horses. They have 40 horses for parade and patrol purposes.

DONNIE GREEN served as the clown for the Vallejo (Calif.) RCA Rodeo on June 27-29.

SAUL SHAFTON, magician, will be one of the stars at the Abbott Get-together in August.

DON REY, JIMMY GOFF, HARRY ROSS, ETHEL and GLEN HENRY vis-

# More TALENT

Circus Safari, which toured for several weeks in the western states earlier this season, was produced by Betty and John Reed. Talent coordinator and manager/ringmaster was Ernest Rhodin, with many acts being booked through Simone Finner, of Hollywood.

Among those on the show and not previously listed (See Circus Report for May 13, 1974) were: Lola Rhodin, trapeze; Les Rhodin, high wire and Rudy Rhodin, juggler.

ited the Carden-Johnson Circus at Rock Springs, Wyo., then caught the George-Matthews Circus at Independence, Mo. last month.

MIKE MARTIN, illusionist, has reportedly joined the Sells & Gray Circus.

GLEN HENRY has left the Gatti-Charles Circus to play independent dates with his dogs and ponies.

DWIGHT MOORE had his dogs at the Delmar (Calif.) fair in late June.

DOC HIGGINS, former RBBB vet, and currently working at Lion Country Safari in California, will leave for Europe in August, where he'll work for an animal park.

SHOW SOLD OUT (Continued)

town's population. Three shows were given, with crowds jam-packing the tent for each performance until it was impossible to move.

A special program was provided for the date, with extra help on hand to handle concessions, etc.

The program, directed by Dave Twomey, featured:-

Frank & Bernice Dean - western numbers and trained horse  
 The Saxons - unicycles/juggling  
 The Bakers - plates/juggling  
 Michael Kelly - slack wire  
 Kenny Twomey - clown/role bola

Also used were the show's ponies, goats, dogs, llama and baby pig.

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AMERICAN NAT'L CIRCUS (Cont'd)

A 12 girl aerial web display  
 The Cycling Whizzards - cycles  
 The Flying Artons  
 The Flying Viennas

Clown Alley was lead by Billy Leland.