



7th Year

May 8, 1978

Number 19

ACTS HIT BY RED TAPE

During the Hubert Castle Circus engagement at Indianapolis, Ind., circus folks were suddenly made aware of new enforcement of regulations concerning the movement of animals in and out of the States. The federal regulations which were passed to protect wild animals could soon put circuses on the "endangered entertainment" list.

As a result of a crackdown in enforcement of the import/export provisions of the U. S. Endangered Species Act it may become impossible for animal acts to venture outside the States. Under the regulations special permits and proof of ownership are required for acts going into Canada or other countries. If the regulations are not adhered to the animals could be seized and/or long delays at the border can be expected, while waiting for federal clearances, which some officials report could take 30 days or longer.

A story in the Indianapolis Star, written by Mike McNamee, on April 15th, reports that the circus could become so weighted with red tape that circuses — "the most international form of entertainment known to man" — will be driven out of business.

The Endangered Species Act, passed in 1973, was toughened by Congress' ratification of the International Convention on Trade in Endangered Species in February 1977. With that, the U. S. Interior Dept. has pressed for a

crackdown on "import" of animals on the list of threatened species — even if those animals, like most in circuses today, are native born.

The circus people reported they were not told of the crackdown until a few days before the circus was to go into Canada for a series of show dates there for the Shrine.

There isn't enough time, they said, to get permits for their lions, tigers, bears, elephants and

(Continued on Page 19)

AVAILABLE FOR LIMITED ENGAGEMENTS

Paul V. Kaye

HOLLYWOOD ELEPHANTS

Contact

PAUL V. KAYE

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Show Report

Before going into their Canadian route, Carden-Johnson/Clyde Bros. International Circus enjoyed sold-out houses in the States. Some of the jumps have been long, when changing territory, but every performer has turned in a stellar and super performance.

Wardrobe looks fresh and new as does the equipment. There have been some augmentations and inter-changes of acts where it was deemed necessary and beneficial to the show itself. We enjoyed such an augmentation thru Orlando, St. Petersburg and Tampa, when Blinky, the clown came on and showed himself to be a spectacular performer in his own right. He has a knack of holding an audience in his grip and has, and shows a flair for comedy reminiscent of the old vaudeville people. The producing clown on Carden-Johnson is Mark Anthony who stands right up there with the best. The present line-up is: Bill Golden, tigers; Clown Chase; the Venturas and the Cavanaughs, cradle acts; a three ring display of bikes and trampoline featuring Mr. Bell; The Ortegas and the Ritos Bros; Clown Walk-around followed by Scott's dogs; the Castro Bros. on the high wire; Clown photographer; horses by the Antonios; Aerial Ballet featuring Lorelei and Bobby Golden.

The Flying Carrolls; juggling with Inge Williams, The Youngs, The Antonios; Clowns; Har-

Show Acts

The El Zagal Temple Shrine Circus, at Fargo, N. D., (Apr. 14-16) was produced by Carden-Johnson and featured the following program: Circus overture, directed by Jack King; Bill Golden, tigers; The LaPauls, aerial; Clowns; The Omeda Bros. and The Rito Bros., wizards on wheels; Inge Williams, dogs; Clowns; Scott's Unrideable Mule; Miss Lorilie, aerialist; The Omedas, horses; The Flying Carrolls; Inge Reichel, juggling on skates; Mark Anthony and his car; three rings of balancing acts; The Torino Bros. & Co., The Amazing Mr. Bell; Lady Kathy and Associates, football playing dogs; Windy and Walt, balancing; Clowns; The Cloudbusters, The Venturas and La Pauls, aerial; the circus elephants presented by Carol and Bill Golden; Finale.

.... Harold Flint

worth's almost human chimps; The Youngs, teeterboard; Walt and Wendy, hand balancing; Inge Williams, dogs; Clowns; Bill Golden and the circus elephants.

All in all it makes for a well balanced shows and is receiving raves wherever it goes. Jack King is musical director and doing his regular good job, and his former partner from vaudeville is with him, on drums, Fred Stroud.

..... Jack King

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Show Dates

Big John Strong Circus
May 8 Atascadero, Calif.
9 Paso Robles
10 Santa Maria
11 San Luis Obispo
12 Goleta
13 Port Hueneme
14-15 Newport Beach

California Circus
May 10 Oakland, Calif.

Carden-Johnson Circus
May 12-14 Macon, Ga.

Hubert Castle Circus
May 8-11 Regina, Sask.

Circus Vargas
May 8-9 Antioch, Calif.
10-11 Petaluma
12-14 Daly City

Famous Hunt Circus
May 8-9 Pottstown, Pa.
10 Newton Square
12-17 Philadelphia

Hamid-Morton Circus
May 11-14 Springfield, Mass.

Hix Bros. Circus
May 12-13 Dunn, N. C.

Pickle Family Circus
May 12-14 Berkeley, Calif.

Police Circus
May 12-14 Seattle, Wash.

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit
to June 4 New York, N. Y.

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit
May 11-14 Hershey, Pa.

Royal Lichtenstein Circus
May 8-9 Cincinnati, Ohio
10 Canton

Shrine Circus
May 12-14 Des Moines, Iowa

---- OTHER DATES ----

Century 21 Shows - Blue Unit
May 8-14 St. Louis, Mo.

Century 21 Shows - Red Unit
May 8-14 E. St. Louis, Ill.

James H. Drew Shows
May 8-13 Mt. Airy, N. C.

Fantasy On Ice
May 12-14 Mansfield, Ohio

Doug Henning's Magic Show
May 9-10 Cleveland, Ohio
11 Wheeling, W. Va.
12-14 Cincinnati, Ohio

Ice Capades - Eastern Unit
May 9-14 Long Beach, Calif.

Kaye Hollywood Elephants
to May 14 Circus California
(Enroute California)

Los Latinos - wire act
to May 17 Philadelphia, Pa.

NASCAR
May 13 Petaluma, Calif.

PEOPLE

ELOISE BERCHTOLD and her elephant "Sahib" were the star attractions at the completion of the renovation of an area of the Pike Place Farmers Market in Seattle. 'Sahib' had the honor of laying the last brick, assisted by Mayor Charles Royer.

SUSAN (Zoppe) SHERYLL has added a very rare, pure white, male Afghan hound to her five 'Royal Afghan Champions', the afghan, imported from Suffolk, England, was flown into Memphis, Tenn., to join Susan and Davide on the Hubert Castle Circus.

KARL WALLEDA is being honored by the Showfolks of Sarasota who will name their new addition to the clubhouse the "Karl Wallenda Room."

NADIA IVANOV recently was the instructor for a Heart Association Class in 'Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation' held in Sarasota.

Steve Williams (Vent)
May 9-13 Lexington, Ky.



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THE CALIFORNIA CIRCUS, produced by **DICK GARDEN**, opened Apr. 23 in the San Francisco Bay Area, will play a route of one and two day stands, indoors and out, through May 14. Word is, the show may also make a fall tour. Some of the talent includes The Kneisleys, cradle; Najean, trapeze; Eduardo, high wire; Sebastyen's poodles; DeMille, wire and clowns Tim Hill and Fred Lavine.

THE PHAROAHS, cradle act, inked for the Hubler Kentucky dates, couldn't make the first two towns due to a long jump from Wichita and so the **KNEISLEYS** subbed. Meanwhile Bill Kneisley tripped over a ring curb in Wichita, injured his ankle, which had to be put in a cast, and arrived on crutches. **PEE WEE PINSON**, on tap with his baby elephants, then had to replace Kneisley!

The Kentucky dates, a rough string of 5 one-dayers, culminating with a two day stand in Lexington (with a heavy aerial show did not get on its way to hanging until 8 ayem at breakneck speed for a matinee) brought about its fair share of fatigue, frayed nerves and mechanical breakdowns, including **JO ANN JENNIE** with a burned out clutch, **BOBBY HOCUM** with a broken axle on his trailer and **BILL** and **TRUDY STRONG** who pick-up went Pffft and required a new motor.

ROCKEY ROAD TO ROMANCE: During the **ZOPPE-ROSAIRE** courtship, **KENYA**, the Zoppe female chimp was unhappy with her new rival and let Pamela know it in no uncertain terms with pokes in the ribs, pinching and finally, a good, healthy bite. "I was waiting for that," said Pam, "so I had a reason to knock hell out of her, which I did. So now . . . if we're not exactly bosom buddies, she at least **KNOWS** she is number **TWO**, **NOT** number one. It is an animal law they live by." Since the marriage Kenya has accepted the inevitable. . . however. . . I noticed that whenever Pam kissed her new husband she made sure to buzz temperamental Miss Kenya Zoppe as well!

It was old Home week for the "Wilson" Sisters in Kentucky when Trudy, Donna and Joanne were together again and the Strong trailer became "open house". Pee Wee dished up his famous Chicken Fried Steak (with mashed potatoes and gravy) and, I gotta admit, the fame is justified.

GUNNAR AMANDIS was surprised, when he visited the show in Lexington, to see his daughter **ANITA** on the date. Okay, it's hard to believe he didn't know she was there, but take it from me - he didn't. Gunnar went on to visit Castle in Indianapolis, Hanne-

ford in West Virginia and God knows where else. Told me he is going to Europe soon, a tour that takes in Norway.

SNAPSHOTS: **BELINDA AMANDIS** bought the revolving aerial rigging formerly owned by the **FRED DONIAS** which "Bubbles" built. Plans to tour it next season. Meanwhile she is working with Royal Hanneford. . . **DIANE WILSON** lost her main seal, the other one is also ill. . . **GEORGE HANNEFORD, Jr.**, is, I am told, out of the hospital and recovering. **VICKI** is on Kelly Bros. . . Is **VENO VENITO** involved in a hot new romance? That, at least, is what my spies tell me. . . **TOMMY HANNEFORD**

TOMMY DONOHO is a stagehand in Vegas, **POM Pom** is in wardrobe. . . **RUMOR HAZZIT** . . . **LOU ANN JACOBS** may appear at the Monte Carlo Circusfest. . . **JO ANN JENNIE** is breaking her seal "Sunny" for "water work" preparatory to a sports show tour in '79. . . Clown **BOBBY KAY** (so dangerously ill a few season back, is on tour with Ringling Red. . . When **BILL STRONG's** pick-up broke down, **PEE WEE PINSON** hauled the Strong's 5th wheel behind his diesel tractor which was an odd looking combination. . . Now I know how **JOE SHERMAN** affords those high-line motels: he wins at Knock Rummy. . . The **PABLO RODRIQUEZ** Troupe are at Old Chicago for the season. . . **KAY ROSAIRE** made Atlanta for **IAN GARDEN**. . . Garden Bros. also played a string of Kentucky dates. . . **IRENE FOSSETT** creates those jeweled ties for "Belly-Dancin'" **BOOM BOOM** whose collection now totals 15. . . **NORBU** and **ARDEN's** daughter, **NOBIE-ARDEN** is in school in Florida but joins the couple this summer. . . **JOSELITO** now making that "one wheeler" across the wire as his finish trick. The one wheeler has NO seat or frame (don't ask me HOW he does it). . . Joselito, by the way, is the teeny-bopper delight - they squeal and scream and gush at every performance. . . **GEORGE BARREDA** made Green Bay for Fleckles and and will also make the summer tour with his lions. . . **RON KELROY** lost 40% of his leg muscle (in the calf) as a result of the tiger chewing incident in Chicago. Eyewitnesses report the accident happened during the National Anthem. Tony, the white tiger, actually pulled Ron's leg into the chute. . . **BEN DE WAYNE**, who was on Ron's side, extricated Kelroy (himself getting scratched) and **WADE BURCK** prodded the animal from the opposite side. Wade, incidentally, is no longer with the tiger act, and the new trainer (injured himself this winter) refuses to go into

(Continued on Page 16)

INTERNATIONAL CIRCUS

INTERNATIONAL CIRCUS

by Tom Castellanno

The International Circus debuted April 8, sponsored by the Easton Area High School Choral Boosters Association. Produced to play in high school auditoriums and gyms, this new show has the early appearance of a successful project for owner/producer Carlton "Corky" Young. The opening day went smoother than anyone would expect for a new show.

Following the opening which included the National Anthem, introduction of acts with stilt-walker Spanky the Clown representing Uncle Sam, the show opened with the Karen Nyce Duo, featuring Miss Karen's beautifully executed one-finger stand. Following a brief clown parody, Roberto and Alexandra (Robert and Sandy Momyer) presented their magic Flight of Fantasy, featuring silks, doves, parrots and the production of an eight foot boa constrictor, an unusual and well received act. Dapper Dan and his four-man clown alley presented the Dentist Gag, followed by the Sikorsky Trio with their juggling routines, the first of three spots filled by this talented family. A quick walkaround by the clowns led to a short intermission.

The second half opened with the Sikorsky Trio on unicycles featuring a two-man high on the six-foot cycle. The audience expressed their appreciation of this difficult feat. George Whitehead with his canine pals brought repeated applause from the crowd with his assortment of four-footed friends.

Dapper Dan and Earl the Pearl did their version of the Washer Woman. It should be noted that all clown numbers were well presented and gave evidence of the clowns' desire to please the audience. The Bob Good Duo - hand balancing on the high pedestal, was the type of act not often seen on a small show. Good is

the son of former Ringling equestrian star, Robert Good, and shows much of his father's flair for showmanship.

After a balloon pitch, Roberto and Alexandra returned for their second appearance with the Doll House Illusion, fire eating and the Indian Sword Cabinet. All their equipment is color coordinated and even when presenting illusions they maintain a visual involvement with their audience.

The Sikorsky Trio, assisted by Miss Diane, made their final appearance with a strong rolling globe display, manipulating the giant balls up inclines and across a see-saw bridge. Throughout the show, character clown Barney involved himself with the various acts and worked the audience. Barney (Ron Dehoff) shows signs of becoming a master carpet clown. Dapper Dan was producing clown and handled his alley well.

The final walkaround by the clowns featured a lightning-fast display of crazy gags and led into a farewell salute from the entire cast with Spanky making another stilt walk. For a relative newcomer to circuses, Spahky (Curt Dettra) makes a strong impression.

Announcing chores were handled by Robert Momyer. A unique idea of the International Circus is to use the high school band as the circus band. For this date, the band under the direction of music director Gerald Bender turned in a first rate performance. The 18-piece student band never backed a circus before, yet never missed a cue and provided up-tempo tunes for each act.

Producer Young noted a new ring curb and mat are in the works and new lights have been ordered. He plans on continuing to use the school bands as a means of involving the students in the actual show, making them feel more a part of the project. Performance time is 90 minutes with the intermission.

(Continued on Page 19)

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PEOPLE

JAMES C. HALL visited the Beatty-Cole Circus shortly after it opened for the 1978 season.

DORIAN BLAKE was in Hunstville, Ala., with his "Razzmatazz" show (Mar. 19-22) in conjunction with the public showing of the space shuttle "Enterprise."

MARY JO COULS, JIMMY COLE and **GUNNAR AMANDIS** were among those recently seen visiting the Hoxie Bros. Circus.

BOB EMERICO has joined Clown Alley with the Jungle Wonders Circus which played dates in Nevada last month.

BARRIE SLOAN recently completed doing advance publicity with his "Big Heads" and stilts at Indianapolis for **CECE BURNS** and the El Murat Shrine Temple. Now he heads for Nashville to work for **EDDIE ZACCHINI**.

JERRY BANGS, inventor and producer of clown numbers on many shows, was recently released from the hospital and is now at: Kent Nursing Home, Lancaster, N.H. 03584 and he would enjoy letters and cards.

KING SLOAN, following in his father's footsteps, was featured in the recent Sailor Circus at Sarasota where he was seen on stilts and also doing a unicycle act.

RICHARD D'CLOWN is moving to Sacramento, Calif., where he will work for the phone company.

The **CASTRO BROS.** (high wire act) escaped injury when their truck blew a tire coming into Bismarck, N.D. Both truck and trailer rolled over twice and were completely demolished.

Show Crew

Dates in Kentucky, produced by the Hubler International Circus were: Prestonburg Apr. 10, Hazard, Apr. 11, Corbin Apr 12, Somerset Apr. 13, Frankfort Apr. 14 and Lexington Apr. 15-16th.

Talent for the series of dates included: Zoppe's Arabian Riders; Norbu; Joselito, wire; George Barreda, lions; Pinson's elephants; Ethel Jennier's Greyhounds; Pam Rosaire; chimps/dogs; Joanne Pinson, horse; the Kneiseley's cradle; the Pharoahs, cradle; the Quassars, aerial; Flying Ramos, plus trampoline; Prince Najvez, aerial; Aerialletta; Herman & Petunia; Joe Sherman's big heads; Jo Ann and Sunny; Najean; Aerial Ballet; Marie-Louise; Wayne Liikala; William (Boom Boom) Browning; plus a 12 piece band in Lexington.

Troupers

The circus at Duluth, Minn. (Apr. 14-16) was produced by Sam T. Polack, with Al Dawley, ringmaster and Russell Darr, musical director. John McKay was producing clown and Ron Kelroy was in charge of props.

The program featured: Lisa, cloud swing; Pat Anthony, wild animals; The Apollo Duo, and Frank & Estralita, aerial; Miguel Ayala, tight wire; Erna's Chimps; Christine's Chimps; the Clowns; Carmen Del Molino and Francarro, trapeze; Baby Dondi; The Obando Troupe, high wire; Carolina's; Jose Francisco; Margarita, hair hang; Killer Willard, boxing kangaroo; the Klementis, bicycles; Clowns; Johnson's bears; the Bertini Duo, Aerial perch; the Hortobogoyis, teeterboard; Clowns; Gorilla Parody and the Espanas Flying Act.



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Foes of "Junk Calls" Go Into Action

The cause for alarm: an electronic machine that can make a sales pitch to 1,000 homes a day and often won't get off the line.

Every day, more than 4 million Americans slam down their telephones on unwanted calls from salesmen trying to sell them something.

Annoyed with these intrusions, consumers across the United States have mounted a campaign—with growing success—to get these "junk calls" banned.

Officials in Washington are responding to this pressure. On March 15, the Federal Communications Commission launched a six-month investigation that could lead to a ban or other restrictions on unsolicited phone calls.

"No solicitors" plan. In Congress, 87 representatives and six senators are backing a telephone-privacy bill that, in the words of the bill's chief sponsor, Representative Les Aspin (D-Wis.), would "permit every citizen to hang a no-solicitors sign on his own telephone" by telling the phone company he doesn't want to be bothered.

According to Aspin: "Junk calls are a far greater intrusion than junk mail. You can check your mailbox at your own convenience. You can tell most junk mail by its cover and chuck it if you choose. But junk calls bring you on the run from your garden, interrupt your concentration while trying to juggle the household accounts and fall smack in the middle of the family dinner hour."

A check by *U.S. News & World Report* bureaus shows that state legislatures and public-utility commissions are also taking action.

Complaints about junk calls have sharply increased with the introduction of an automated dialer that can place up to 1,000 calls a day, give a tape-recorded sales pitch and take orders—all without a human attendant.

These machines, costing from \$5,000 to \$10,000, were first sold for commercial use last summer. Already, they are creating a furor.

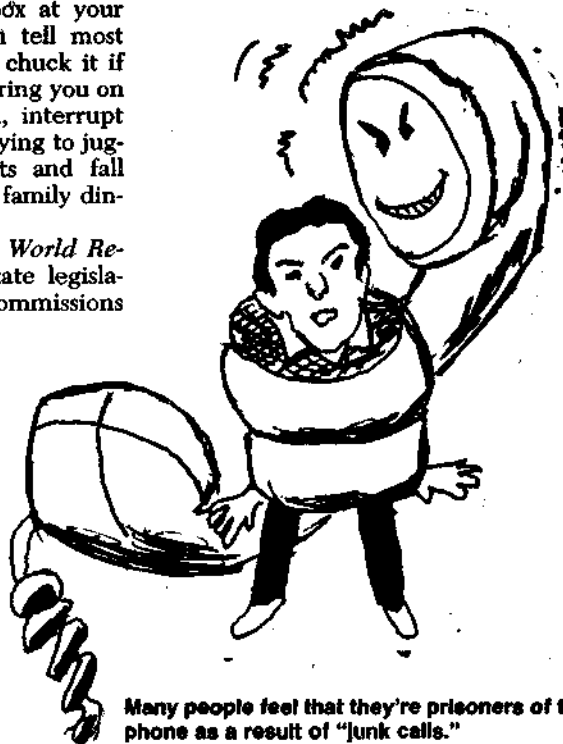
Although few companies are using them now, the potential for rapid expansion is great because they offer substantial savings in advertising costs. By cutting out operators, firms can reduce the cost of each call from 6 to 10 cents to less than 1 cent. For small businessmen in particular, this makes the phone an attractive promotional tool.

The machines also make phone solicitation more efficient. Explains Edgar Reynolds, president of Digital Products Corporation, a Florida-based manufacturer of automatic dialing equipment: "More calls can be placed in an hour. There are no human errors. And unlike an operator, the equipment doesn't have to take coffee breaks. Nor does it get upset when someone hangs up or swears at them."

The automated dialer can be a valuable tool in other ways, too. Airlines use it to inform passengers of flight delays. Large clubs find it an easy way to tell members about the time and place of the next meeting. Radio stations use the equipment to conduct public-opinion polls.

Still, these dialers are being promoted primarily for advertising purposes. And that has consumers worried.

An unlisted number offers no protec-



Many people feel that they're prisoners of the phone as a result of "junk calls."

tion from the machines since they can be programed to dial through every combination of numbers in a telephone exchange.

They sometimes tie up an individual's line, even if he or she has already hung up. This is particularly true where a telephone company's switchboard equipment is old and does not disconnect a call immediately after one party hangs up but waits until the recorded advertisement is finished.

In emergencies, this can mean trouble. In Minneapolis, a woman whose mother suffered a heart attack went to call an ambulance just as the phone rang and a computerized sales pitch began. The tape would not stop, even after she hung up. The mother finally got aid—only after her daughter managed to use a neighbor's phone.

Moves in the states. It is incidents such as this that have pushed state, as well as federal, agencies into action. California's Public Utility Commission is proposing a ban on the use of automated dialers and may consider even further curbs to prohibit phone solicitations altogether, including those made by live operators.

Commissions in Illinois and Missouri have ordered telephone companies to stop all calls generated by the automatic dialer. The Maryland and Virginia state legislatures have passed laws limiting the use of taped sales calls. In Virginia, the ban would only apply where the recipient cannot stop the recording promptly by hanging up.

Similar bills are also pending in Connecticut, Florida, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin.

In New York, the State Legislature is expected to vote this session on a measure that would fine firms up to \$10,000 for making calls—both taped and live—to persons who have told the telephone company that they do not want to receive any of these solicitations. Backers of the plan suggest that asterisks might be put in phone directories next to the names of those not wanting such calls, though this would not help people with unlisted numbers.

Another problem: State bans might not prevent advertisements from being phoned across state lines. That is one reason why the FCC is going to consider a national rule. The agency already has on file about a thousand comments, most of them against the automated dialer.

Even if all of these state and federal proposals are adopted, there still will be no guarantee that consumers will be completely free from unsolicited calls. The reason: Few of the plans propose to restrict calls by charities, pollsters or politicians. □

IN S. D.

Many performers and staff members with Circus Vargas visited the Wild Animal Park in San Diego when the show played that city. After seeing the much talked about bird act, which I might add was all it was written to be, we decided to take in the Elephant act.

This act is trained and presented by Franz Tish, and is by far the best act of its kind around.

After talking with Tish and learning about the restrictions he has as far as types of tricks that he is allowed to work (nothing circus), you would think there was nothing else left. But Franz Tish showed us that day that he ranks up at the top of the list with the best trainers.

The act is beautiful and very comical. Some of the tricks were such that none of us had ever seen before.

Franz is from Austria and a circus family. He worked for a number of years on the same shows as Gunther. One can tell just by talking to Franz that his heart is still with the circus.

Some day, some show just may be lucky enough to have this remarkable trainer. But until that day arrives you can find him every day, doing what he enjoys and doing best — working and training elephants.

If you are ever in the area be sure to catch his act. You won't be disappointed.

..... Larry Joyner



CARSON & BARNES CIRCUS

A new first in the circus world, two 5-ring circuses, produced and toured by the same management, became a reality on Apr. 15th when the Carson & Barnes No. 2 unit opened at Tishomingo, Okla.

The newest unit, managed by John Frazier, is part of the organization headed by D. R. Miller and his wife Isla and their son-in-law Gary Byrd and wife Barbara. Heading the staff for all operations is Ted Bowman, executive manager, headquartered at the show's home base in Hugo, Okla. Manuel King, with Bowman are talent coordinators, and each circus has its own staff of key people right on the show.

Carson & Barnes No. 1 unit left quarters after their usual home-town opening in mid-March and are already well into their tour season.

The No. 2 unit's rolling equipment came mostly from the former George Matthews Circus, Fisher Bros. and equipment in Hugo. The big top is a reconditioned tent 140 ft round top with three 40 ft middle pieces. There are five rings, a format that has been used successfully

by Miller for several years.

Manager Frazier has 25 big circus trucks, is carrying 10 elephants, a large hippo and a variety of other animals.

Jessie A. Jensen, C&B director of marketing and executive agent, and his personnel booked both units in the states with Frazier and his associates handling bookings in Canada.

Among the executives with the No. 2 unit are: John Frazier, manager; Billy Sheets, equestrian director; Bob Gibbs, animal acts; Toni Frazier, concessions; and Paul Hudson, public relations.

The show's program features: Spec with entire cast; Onofre, casting act; Bautista, trampoline; Wayne Ragan, wild animals (4 tigers, 4 lions); Clown tiger chase; Peanut pitch; Single elephant acts worked by Steve Patten, Eddie Backstein, Bob Gibbs, Terry Finny and Wayne Ragan; the Aerial Ballet; Onofre, cradle; Clown walkaround; Bob Gibbs, with 8 white German shepherds; Sam on rola bola; Carlos, unicycle; Veronica, unicycle Magnolia, rola bola; Bob Gibbs, mixed animals; Color Book sales; Bautista, high wire; Katy, ponies; Bob Gibbs, mules; Rosa, ponies; Clown levitation; Lala, contortion; Carlos, hand balancing; Margarita, contortion; Reuben, hand balancing; Magnolia, contortion; Gibbs and comedy elephant (Big Lydia); Bautista, juggling; Magnolia, low wire; Clown walkaround; Gibbs and elephants; Miss America clown on track; the Bautista Flying act, Finale.

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Magic Show

Magician Mike Straka heads up the cast of the
Philip Morris magic show "The Magical Land
of Oz." The tour will cover the States and Can-
ada and is expected to continue until December.

Included in the show cast are: Mike Straka,
road manager; Meg Hanson, bad witch; Cathy
Jackson, good witch; Lee Jackson, wizard; Bob
Sykes, scarecrow; Lynn Ehmann, lion; David
Scott, tin man; Dorian Gossler, Dorothy.

SHOWS

Acts featured in the Michigan dates produced
by George Hubler included:

Mar. 28 - Wyandotte - The Great Houston; Sir
Chadwicke Chase; Walt King's elephants; Killer
Willard; Christina's chimps; King's llamas; Irene
and Tongo; the Elkins Sisters; the Karinas;
Freddie Large trio and Wayne Liikala, clown,

TALENT

Several acts have been booked by Simone Fin-
ner for the Harlem Globetrotters European
tour which started on May 1st. They include:
Dick Franco, juggler; The Francis Duo, balan-
cing and rola bola; Les Romanos, French bicy-
cle trio; Ariel and Andray, comedy acrobatic
duo; Roberto Biasini, bicyclist; Walter Wasil,
balancing act; John McPeak, juggler and Los
Marchitas, bicycle team.

with Jessie Griffiths, organist.

Apr. 8-9 - Rock Island, Ill. - Lilli-Ana's leo-
pards; Roberto, aerialist; Ethel Jennier's Grey-
hounds; Sir Chadwicke Chase; The Edwards,
bikes; Girl in the Moon; Jo Ann and Sunny;
Aerialetta; the Karinas; Fossett's Swaying Stars;
Marie-Louise; Freddie Large Trio; Clowns; Kar-
en Davis, Ringmistress and Richard Rosio at
the organ.

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Jim Nordmark's 'International Magic Spectacular Production' started its second tour at Terre Haute, Ind., after a two week vacation in Sarasota, Fla. The show is set to proceed to Wisconsin, Iowa and Missouri, enroute to Texas.

Having several new people on the show, Mr. Nordmark was on hand, getting everything synchronized to perfection.

Personnel for the show includes: Joe Eddy, mgr/MC/magician; Betty Eddy, bookkeeper/illusionist; Rick Bittle, stage mgr/electrician; Michael McClenithan, asst. stage mgr; Coco Leigh, lighting director; Dorian Warfield, general maintenance director and Mrs. George Siegel, concessions.

The show's line dancers are: Jill Voelker, of Sarasota; Michele Malvern, of Buffalo; Jackie Percher, of Cleveland and Richard Welch, of Garfield Heights.

The band includes: George Siegel, leader and organist; Bob Amato, trumpet (formerly with Int'l All Star and Ringling Red); and Howard Brady, drummer (from Stu Miller's show).

The program featured: Overture; Dancers in a Disco Number; Magic, Joe Eddy; Dancers in a Star Wars number; Bonnie & Clyde, novelty act; Joe Eddy and Louie, ventriloquist; Dancers in a Latin Fiesta number, with Joe Eddy on bongo drums; Intermission; Dancers in an Inca Dance number with The Pirate King; Joe Eddy, illusions; The Guillotine number; Clown Dancers in 'Circus on Parade'; Billy Earl, sword balancing; Dancers followed by Jill Voelker and Joe Eddy with the Levitation; Finale with the

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PEOPLE

VINCE CARMEN has added two new show girls to his 'Razzle Dazzle' show and will be increasing his illusions with three major features this month.

RON and SANDY SEVERINI, RBBB clowns who were married in the circus ring at the Los Angeles Forum in 1972, are working advance for the big circus.

LEW ANDERSON has spent 25 years in show business, unknown to the public. He has been working as Clarabell the Cow in the Howdy Doody Show.

entire cast.

This show has Class, Color, Uniqueness, a gorgeous Las Vegas style wardrobe and an excellent selection of program which appeals to all ages. Joe Eddy does magic and illusions with finesse and professionalism. Bonnie and Clyde are outstanding to all.

This 90 minute show is well on its way to being a truly great entertainment package.

..... Edith S. Johnston

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A LETTER

To The California Assembly

Gentlemen:

How can you be justified to vote for bill AB 2840 introduced by Henry Mello?

For more than a Century in America - Circus people and professional animal trainers - have cherished and bred all lines of the beautiful cat family. If it were not for their efforts, there would be very few if any cats left to protect. Thank God that in recent years, Zoo officials have gained the permission and convinced their financial sponsors, to breed and preserve these animals. They are run by public funds. But we the Show People paid our own bills. We did not ask the taxpayer to do it for us. From generation to generation for over a Century, these animals have been a part of our own family.

We know there are a rare few amateurs who neglect and mal-treat, and we the Show People dislike them as much as you politicians dislike some of those around you on your committees.

Now we are faced with a Johnny come lately - know it all - and is going to play God by introducing Bill AB 2840 - that will give authority to destroy these precious animals - which we Show People have worked generations to preserve. This will also destroy a traditional way of life which has made America what it is today. You do not learn this expertise by reading some book or going to a Zoo. It only comes thru generations of love and training to understand that which must be - to preserve and re-generate that which man has so crudely destroyed - such as this man Henry Mello is trying to do.

What reason on qualifications can this new boy Henry Mello produce besides personal egotism. He is blind in his thinking with NO expertise or experience. How many meals did he miss so that his animals might eat? How many of his own dollars were spent? or how many of his own hours were spent? - to own - breed - care for - these precious cats, as we show people have done for generations. Only after he can prove 50 years of handling - feeding and cleaning cages - then let him speak. But when it comes to regulations call in at least 20 experts and let them form the regulations needed, to overcome the minority few who violate the privilege of owning one of these beautiful cats, which we the show people have worked so hard to protect.

Mr. Assemblyman Henry Mello - just why are you attempting to pass a bill that would destroy these precious animals - and their protectors way of life? You have no right or qualification to play God. What per-

Miscellaneous

Garden Bros. Circus played Cincinnati, Ohio, for the Syrian Shrine Temple at the Cincinnati Gardens on May 2-7.

Michael Edgley's "Greatest Circus on Earth" is scheduled to tour New Zealand, opening at Auckland on Dec. 26th.

A group of wolves bit their way through the fence at the Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle, and all were quickly caught, except one female that trotted into a downtown community before it was captured with the aid of a tranquilizer dart.

sonal vendetta is this with you? Were you ever a child Mr. Mello? Did you ever go to a circus? A Child or Adult has never lived until they have experienced the thrill of The Circus. What would the circus be without the Beautiful Big Cats and Elephants?

The combined efforts of Shriners and Circus people each year produce millions of dollars for helpless children in great need. If we permit this bill to pass it will destroy the Circus for generations to come.

Your bill would prohibit private ownership - just like RUSSIA and other Communistic countries. Then political appointees - leaches - friends - relatives and politicians without knowledge or experience will come as the Gestapo to destroy our animals - in a guise of protecting the endangered species AS ALREADY HAS BEEN DONE IN SOME CASES. Then after this bill is passed - what next - and next - and next? We will not let your bill start a Holocaust here.

Do something Mr. Mello that you may be more qualified to do, and call upon the Show People with expertise to write the bills needed.

I speak for all the Circus People - breeders and animal trainers. Yes - sawdust and animal blood runs in our veins, as it has for generations, only deep claw marks and old scars could qualify you to speak Mr. Mello. We will not let you jeopardize our way of life, and we will fight for the BIG CAT as it is a part of our family and always will be.

Robert Steele, president
Steele's Productions, Cincinnati, Ohio

(All show people who will cooperate in killing this radical bill, instead of our animals, please write and phone NOW to: Assemblyman Eugene Gualco, Committee Chairman, Room 2016, State Capitol, Sacramento, Calif. - 95814.

BILLY BARTON (Continued)

the arena as long as the white tiger is in there. My "on the scene" sources tell me that particular tiger is a breeder, hence its viciousness.

BAD DAY AT WICHITA: The problems for high wire acts continued unabated. It was a double-header mishap for the great Alzana with the Paul Kaye Circus at Wichita. Harold was testing his walk-up when two cable-clamps snapped. He was caught and assisted to the ground by Johnny Luxam. Then, during the show, as Harold was tightening the wire, the main cable snapped striking several patrons. The 2x4 strips of wood around the beam had slipped permitted the sharp edges of the beam to cut the cable. Harold ran to see what had caused the wire to snap and was intercepted by Police who had seen him at the racket, later running, and assumed he had deliberately sabotaged the rigging. Some rather animated explaining was required before the Police were satisfied. **POST-SCRIPT:** Performers on the date said Harold received a long ovation during one performance, remarked also that the almost 70 year old high wire star claims Wichita was his late date, that he is retiring.

BILL STRONG reports the Paul Kaye Clown Alley was exceptionally good, featuring clever take-offs on modern themes, such as **JOHN TRAVOLTA's** "Saturday Night Fever" and a burlesque on "Star Wars". Paul has always believed in a large and effective clown alley, often has a hand in producing the numbers. The alley included many new faces: Neil Kay, Bill Vaughn, Ed Ball, Fred LaVine, Ken Miller, Claude Schmidt, along with perennial **ERNIE (Blinko) BURCH**.

Speaking of things funny - **KENYA**, the almost-human Chimpanzee sat in the back door watching **NORBU**, the almost human gorilla perform in the center ring. The expressions moving across the chimp's face, the intense, almost puzzled interest reflected in the animal's eyes, conveyed an intelligence which was more than human, it was downright uncanny!

See you down the road, luvs.

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Acts Named

The program presented by the El Murat Temple Shrine Circus in Indianapolis featured:
Spec, Circus on Parade; The Ronritas, giant wheel; Doubleday & Co., aerial comedy; Tarzan Zerbini, wild animals; Clowns; Los Comancheros, The Paula Sisters, The Davids and The Shermans, aerial acts; Rosaire & Kony, trained horse; Timothy & Daniel, The Laddies, Martinez Duo; Randy & Sylvia and The Freddie's, balancers and jugglers; Karl's Poodles; Mlle. Jacqueline, single trapeze; The Golden Carlos Twins, equilibrists; The Marcowich Troupe and The Hernandez Troupe, acrobats; Diano's elephants; Roman Schmitt, rhio and elephant and the Castle Circus elephants; The Rock Smith Flyers; Doug Ashton and Sally, comedy; the Marhal camels and llamas; Maple Grove Esquetrarians; Burger's Aniaml Revue; Susan Sheryll's Royal Afghans; Boomer & Co., boxing kangaroo; Miss Sylvia, Patricia, Debbie, Robin, Rebecca, Sally, Blanca and Chela, aerialists; Jorge's comedy car; Burger's Chimps; Johnn Zoppe's Rhesus Monkeys; The Canestrellis, trampoline; Clowns and the Friel-Smith Cannon.



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REVIEW

The Hubert Castle produced Antioch Shrine Circus, at Dayton, Ohio (April 18-23) offered a great show, but featured only one elephant. Lucky Larabee was the ringmaster and Les Schlafman was the musical director.

Joe Hartman started the show with his mixed group of wild animals (6 tigers and 3 lions). Highlights included the 4 tigers doing rollovers and the wire walking lions.

A loose Ape then appeared in the arena, ran into the seats to steal a ladies purse and headed for an aerial ladder with the lady in pursuit. It was a delightful opening for Doubleday & Co's revolving ladder act.

The Freddie's presented Ladder Balancing in Ring 1, while Miguel Angel presented his tightwire act in Ring 3.

Frank and Janet Burger's mixed animals - dogs, pony and monkey - were well received, and especially by the children.

Beautiful aerial queens Debbie, Margaret, Michelle, and Rebecca, plus the daring man on the trapeze Francarro worked at the same time, along with the Paula Sisters who have an aerial perch act.

Rosaire and Tony, the Wonder Horse, offers an act that is definitely appealing to everyone. The children especially enjoyed this one.

The Marcowich Troupe of Swing Acrobats performed high arching acrobatics propelled by the swing. It proves once again that these young men are two of the premier acrobats in the business.

Roman Schmitt, with his rhino and elephant, has to be the most unusual and outstanding act of all time. It is a number that could be head-lined anywhere, as the animals move in graceful rhythm and precision.

The Ronritas aerial wheel put them right under the roof of the arena and everyone worried for fear he would hit the roof. It was a great closing number for the first half.

After the usual sales pitches the second half got off to a good start with the Rock-Smith Flyers, offering some beautiful aerial work.

Boomer and Co., the boxing kangaroo boxes everyone, not only the stooges, but he ends up hitting the pretty girls and the crowd eats it up.

The Maple Grove Equestrians (Rosaire) offer beautiful equestrian excellence with three horses. One ridden by a lady and the other two worked from the ground by men.

Again in the air and all at one time were the cradle acts - Los Comancheros, The Davids, The Shermans and Frank & Estrellita. As the boy sitting next to us said, "there's a whole lot of spinning going on up there."

(Continued on Page 18)

Roberts Bros.

Sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, Roberts Bros. Circus played Jasper, Fla., on April 15th, which was declared "Circus Day" by Mayor Bettye Sears. The signed proclamation appeared in the newspaper and was presented to show officials.

The circus has now moved up the coast and is playing in Virginia. It is an under-canvas show with seating for some 1,000 people. Advance sale tickets are \$1.50 and \$2.50, while prices at the door are \$2.00 and \$3.00.

Some of the acts appearing with the circus are: Max El Toreador and his bullfight boxers; the performing elephant Pasha; Earl's Military ponies; Miss Gloria on the rola bola; Miss Maryse Basco, juggler and many other numbers.

PEOPLE

THE WACKY ILLWACOS, a group of Bulgarian acrobats are performing with the Follies, a newly opened Music Hall in Seattle. Their fast paced act has a clown theme and is a real crowd pleaser.

HARVEY LONG, Seattle magician, has written a book called "Fund Raising Magic." It lists 21 ways to raise money, program ideas, duties of chair-persons and 25 things to know about MC'ing a show.

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CASTLE REVIEW (Continued)

Jorge's comedy car is the presentation of a fine rigged auto act that the kids really howl about. The man who rigged this car must have been a mechanical genius

The Elkins Sisters - Beauty all around with the beautiful Elkins and their Afghans and Poodles in a bit of "Poetry in Motion."

Frank and Janet's Chimps again had the children happy and roaring. Especially the small scene stealer who just won't stay on his seat and keeps ad-libbing all of the time, as he watches the others work.

The Canestrelli's World Champions on the tramoline, are just that. If there is anyone who doubts this claim they haven't seen the act. This is without a doubt the Class Act of the tramoline - real beauty and excellence all the way.

The closing act was the Friel-Smith Cannon and it is wonderfully staged. A real crowd pleaser and an excellent way to end a circus performance.

Sorry that I wasn't able to get all of the Clown contingent's names, but Joe Sherman and Prof. Grey, and their cohorts kept the kids laughing.

The Shriners tell me this has been a record year for the Antioch Shrine attendance and I know they were strawed the day I visited and also for a couple of oth-

IN MEMORIAM

HARRY S. BLOOMER (71) well-known in the Johnson City, N. Y. area where he appeared as Blinky the Clown, Peter Rabbitt and also worked as Santa Claus, died of cancer on April 6th in Johnson City. At his request he was buried as Blinky the Clown, a character he created in 1942. Survivors include two sisters.

BLANCA ESCALANTE CAUCIA (60), a member of the original Escalante family, died of cancer on April 23rd at Foster City, Calif. She had toured with the Al G. Barnes Circus, Hagenbeck Wallace and other shows, then became a singer working in west coast night clubs. Survivors include her husband Louis and a daughter Louisa, as well as several members of the Escalante family. Burial was in Los Angeles.

er performances. Earl D. Creager the general chairman can be really proud of the show and Hubert Castle has proved you do not need a whole herd of elephants to produce a circus, just as long as you have one.

..... Don Sandman

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chimps, etc., to come back again from Canada (to be imported into the U. S.), since the law requires a 30 day wait for public comments after the permit request is published in the Federal Register.

Show owner Hubert Castle told McNamee that "no circus in the world can survive in just one country, even the size of the United States. If we can't travel to Canada, we can't exist."

Continuing Castle said many animal trainers will refuse to leave the country is there's any chance they won't be able to bring their valuable "performers" back in.

"The people involved should have some input when a law like this is passed," Castle said. "Circus people weren't consulted about the problems this causes for us, and the people who were asked don't have the slightest idea what we're doing."

Steve Drown of the Interior Dept.'s permit office said the circus owners should have known about the five-year-old permit system, even if law enforcement agencies have let them travel in and out of the U. S. freely until the recent crackdown.

The law was passed, Drown said, to regulate

INT'L CIRCUS REVIEW (Continued)

According to Young, he will keep the format of the show at Easton, "Bringing professional acts together for a quality show that the sponsors are able to promote, while at the same time, keeping the costs at a level that allows sponsors to make money on the project."

There was evidence that the performers made a real effort to please their audience (we saw both shows that day) and the little details that make a difference were given attention. The show was covered by a college newspaper and one of the local papers. Both shows were well attended by enthusiastic audiences. Of the many small indoor circus shows, this one appeared to be among the best.

trade in animals that are in danger of extinction. But he admitted that circus animals are for the most part well-cared-for and that circuses pose little danger to animals.

The trip to Canada "is hanging in the air right now" as the circus negotiates with the government for the necessary permits. But the trainers are sure of one thing — they won't risk their animals on a gamble.

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