



5th Year

February 9, 1976

Number 6

reduced fee plan

In a move designed to attract circuses and carnivals, the City of El Cerrito (Calif.) plans to reduce its business license fees for traveling shows. Council members generally agreed that current high prices have kept such shows out of the city.

In the past the license fee was \$500 per day for any type of show. Under the new plan a circus playing to less than 4000 people per day would pay a fee of \$150 for the first day and \$100 per day thereafter.

For circuses playing to more than 4000 people per day, and all carnivals, no matter how big the crowds, the fee

would be \$300 for the first day and \$200 for each day thereafter.

The circus or carnival oper-
(Continued on Page 11)

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PEOPLE

UNCLE HEAVY and His Pork Chop Revue played a date at the Mellett Mall in Canton, Ohio on Jan. 21-24.

KARL WALLEDA recently celebrated his 71st birthday, with some 50 friends and relatives attending a buffet supper at his home in Florida.

CHUCK SATEJA was an instructor at the RBBB Clown College, and since has been helping the new clowns get going on the big show.

EMMETT KELLY, Sr., recently taped the Emmy Awards Show for ABC-TV, which will be aired on April 24th. On Feb. 13th, he will be on the "Today" show.

JOSIP MARCAN will tour with his lions on the new "Music Hall Frances" show in South America. It's a combination stage and circus show that will run for two years.

THE KLEMENTIS, bicycle act, taped a Mike Douglas TV Show at Las Vegas on Feb. 4th.

In Memoriam

JESSE FULLER (79) popular Blues singer and musician, died at Oakland, Calif. on Jan. 29th. Although he is best known for his music, he spent a part of his younger days working for various railroad circuses.

FOR SALE

FLOYD KING CHAPTER C.F.A. TENT Announces a sale for the winter months ONLY!

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- ENQUIRIES WELCOME -

HISTORICAL FACT

While appearing with the Bob Morton Shrine Circus, at Springfield, Mass. (May 6, 1936) aerialist Mickey King performed 276 continuous one-arm swings during a special children's show

Under Canvas in London

....by JACK NIBLETT

Ever since Bertram Mills' Circus ceased operating at London's Olympia Grand Hall in 1967, attempts have been made by English circus owners to find other suitable Metropolitan locations for a Christmas Circus. A Concert Hall, a converted cinema, even a converted railway-engine shed have all been used, but none have proved suitable or successful. It was Circus Hoffman who broke the jinx on the winter tenting show which has persisted in the minds of circus owners since the ill-fated Carmo Circus was destroyed by snowstorms and then by fire in the early 1930's. Hoffman built up their tent at Shepherds Bush, in central London, for the Christmas season of 1974-75, and helped by a mild winter had a very successful stand.

Now, encouraged by a succession of mild winters our English circuses are staying out later and later.

This year Chipperfield's were at Shepherds Bush and Gerry Cottle's Circus was at Clapham Common (a London suburb) and all did well with heated tents over Christmas and New Years. Hoffman was to have played at nearby Wimbledon, but since another show played there in November, they elected to take the Bingley hall at Birmingham. Then shortly after Christmas they were out tenting again.

Chipperfield's program is always a big animal show. Dick(Jr) had lions, leopards and panthers. His cousin John had polar and

black bears. Sister Sally had dogs, ponies and monkeys. John (Sr) had the elephants and horse acts, while son-in-law Jim Clubb showed the snakes and crocodiles

Dressed in French fashions of the 90's, the Ballons gave their usual amusing bicycle act and also contributed a knock-about number. The show had a new group of clowns from Portugal, and one of their young ladies performed on the web. More comedy was provided by Peter Sandow and his unpredictable taxi. The fine flying act - Flying Saltos - worked in subdued light.

Gerry Cottle had his own cat acts, with lions presented by Capt. Sydney Howes; elephants and horses by Carlos McManus. El Hakim gave his Indian Fakir act and the strong man from Persia - Khalil Ogahby - demonstrated his strength by lifting a small elephant. The Santos Juilan Troupe are cycle experts and the Kansas Troupe are skilled jugglers.

Clowns Tommy Tucker, Bean and Doodie worked between acts and did their "Ghost" number, a popular act with the kids. Pierre

(Continued on Page 18)

the king story

... by FLOYD KING

In regards to your recent stories about the King title, here is the ruling of the sale of King Bros. Circus title in the Mid-George Federal Court and the Probate Court of Macon (Ga.)

The title of the use of King Bros. Circus was in the hands of the Federal Court when bankruptcy was brought against the circus in 1955. It laid on the shelf for a year and I bought the title for ownership from the Federal Court for cash.

I was on the road in 1955 at the time and subsequently, the use of the title was drawn up in a written contract for the Cristiani Circus with Remo Cristiani as manager. Later Bob Snowden rented the title. In '56 Snowden framed a stage show called Circusrama.

I visited the Snowden show, operated as King Bros. Circus on their closing day in the '50s. Frank McClosky was in the wagon and checking Snowden's books. We found he was short on payments for several weeks.

McClosky said he would pay Floyd King the balance that was due. He also agreed to pay a weekly fee for the title while the show was on the road.

At no time did my late wife Vicki King make any contract or agreement with Mr. McClosky or Mr. Collins.

With the advancing cost of living, my attorney here in Macon advised Jerry Collins and Frank McClosky, one month before the show closed in 1975, that an

Gets Raves

The new "Casino de Paris" show at the Dunes Hotel in Las Vegas has won rave reports by Night Life columnist Perry Phillips.

Phillips went on to say: "Topping a lineup of outstanding specialty acts is the Stupids who hail from Stockholm. These six gentlemen comprise one of the best tumbling acts I've ever seen. They're on a solid 10 minutes and, during that time, there is absolutely no letup. It's a break-neck pace all the way and beautifully timed. That they didn't miss a single cue still has me scratching my head!"

increase in payments would be required in the future. Pete Cristiani had planned on putting out a circus in 1976 and I sent him a lease. That circus did not materialize.

In the meantime, Mr. McClosky advertised in Amusement Business that he wanted a Manager for King Bros. in 1976, as well as personnel in all departments.

BILLY BARTON... .

Oh, the Wonderful World of Women: TAJANA's appearance on MIKE DOUGLAS proves beyond question she is one of the all time GREAT circus stars....Miss Spirit of '76 - glorious GLORIA SWANSON (That plus Two!) guesting on

TOM SNYDER confirms that America's preoccupation with the Youth

Syndrome is just so much balderdash....IRENE FOSSETT's transformation from Beauty to Stooze in the twinkling of an eye is a marvel of comic ingenuity...and Mystery Lovers mourn with me the loss of our beloved AGATHA CRISTIE - happily her final book in which she kills off "Miss Marple" was written before her death to be released posthumously.

LOCKE LORRAINE writes that he is still active doing commercials and fashion modelling in Hollywood.....KAY HANNEFORD taking cobalt treatments five times a week. Several teeth had to be extracted before treatment could begin. Signs of improvement in her condition spark general optimism.....JIMMY HALL in a Dallas hospital undergoing tests for an undetermined illness, was forced to cancel Castle's winter tour (although his family is making the dates).

BEN DeWAYNE and FRANCESCA HYNDS are working the Polack bulls.....TOM and POM POM DONOHO are in Texas with Mac McDONALD.. ..Complications at "Old Chicago" caused the Donoho-Polack rift... TERRY CAVARETTA's name now entered in the Guinness Book of

World Records.....RONRITAS at Circus Circus.

I've been asked to warn performers to beware of a new Texas based show, whose owner is writing letters on lavish letterhead stock offering much work, big money and big promises and can offer no such securities....FLYING DELLS to Milwaukee (Suesz), Madison (Kay) and Lansing (Voise). Believe it or not, some people will do ANYTHING to sling mud on their own divorce actions. We onlookers are NOT amused.

TAJANA's new wardrobe from EAVES a disaster area..took DON BASHAM two days to make it presentable. One would think a New York Costume house would be more efficient. Great credit must be given DON, incidentally, for handling wardrobe for FIVE production numbers and over 78 people virtually without assistance!

Rumbles of a new circus grow louder....If I were to ask how many people adore VICTOR JULIAN we couldn't see the world for hands. Diddyknow he's a gourmet cook, loves to cook, cooks

(Continued on Page 17)

SHOW OSCARS

Big Top "Oscars" were awarded to top circus talent at a Jan. 10th program in Madrid. The world Oscar, for the best performance, went to John Taylor, of Canada.

The Oscar for the best magician went to Dame Lee Ville, of the Jean Richard Circus, while the Oscar for the triple somersault went to the Flying Armors. The Oscar for juggling went to the Diablos Blancos group.

PEOPLE

THE BUMPY FAMILY and THE STEVENS have a 2½ page article, with photos, in the Dec.-Jan. issue of "Strength & Health" magazine.

MR. & MRS. J. A. HOFMEISTER, Whitehouse, Texas, also known as "Chief Joseph" are wintering at Sarasota, Fla., with their 8 Appaloosa stallions. They'll be touring with Beatty-Cole starting April 5th.

Fay Snyder had her "Yvette's Mini Circus Revue" at the 1st Bicentennial parade of the year in Los Angeles (Calif.) on Jan. 25th. The animals will also be featured in a children's book, which will be the story of a do running off and becoming a circus star.

DAILEY BROS.

With the current season already well underway, Dailey Bros. Circus is playing Texas dates, prior to moving north for what is expected to be a long season.

The show features:

Sparky - come-in work
Tommy and Gopher - single bulls
Goober Null - clown magic
Victor Macglionni - cloud swing
Peanut Pitch
Gloria Null - swinging ladder
Sparky - floating cane
Victor and Linda - aerial cradle
Tex Dailey - trained goats
Elephants with banners
Gloria Null - Spanish web
Goober and John - trunk illus.

-- Intermission --

Gloria Null - single trapeze
Goober & Sparky - clown boxing
Tommy Armstrong - chimps
Goober and Gloria - juggling
Linda Loter Florez - dogs
John and Gloria - Zig Zag illus.
Tom Armstrong - elephants
Victor Macglioni - high wire

The Side Show includes: Magic and vent, Sparky; Sword swallowing and fire eater, John Trowers; Sword ladder and Nail board
Tex Dailey. There is also a Two Headed Baby Annex on the midway.

Notice

A warning to all show folks who travel on the Ohio Turnpike! McCoy's Garage in Norwalk (Ohio) has the towing contract for the area and their prices are high!

Fleckles OK In Saginaw

The Shrine Circus in Saginaw, Mich., produced annually by L. N. Fleckles, of Chicago, concluded another successful run on Jan. 20th.

The program featured the following line-up of acts: Guy Gosling's Tigers; The Saturnaires, Space Saucer; Mickey Antalek's chimps; clown number; Display with Lucky Bros., Seguara, bounding rope; Lambertys, juggling; Herman & Retunia (Zoppe comedy riding); Display with Vidbel's ponies; Lona's Pets and Louisa's Doves; Aerial Ballet starring Mlle. Jacqueline Zerbini; the World Wheelers, black unicyclists; Clown number; The Pharoahs, high cradle; The Rock-Smith Flyers.

After intermission were: Display with Young & Old, Lamberty, Jr., balancing and the Kelroys; Tibor Alexander's dogs; Display with Eddie & Eddie, comedy casting and the Amandis teeterboard; Vidbel's elephants; Jose Lito, high wire; Zoppe's Arabian Riders; The Quassars, Rocket Ship thrill act.

Al Youngman was the musical

Show Acts

Acts appearing at the 22nd Annual Kansas City Sports Show (Jan. 30-Feb. 8) were:

Bill Fontana - log rolling
Willie Mosconi - billard champ
Gerald & Mobby - acrobats
Ray Sommers - sporting dogs
Kocka-Poldis Troupe - swing act
Bobby Holter - wrestling tiger
Joe McKenna - movie/stage star
Bruce Rice - sports announcer
Tony DiPardo - orchestra leader

director. Producing clown was Coco and the alley included Hap-py Kellams and Mike Clucker.

Unusual was the fact that while Jackie Zerbini was appearing in Saginaw, husband Tarzan was in Flint for Polack Bros. Both joined the Castle opening in Grand Rapids on Jan. 26th.

.... Billy Barton

We Hope You'll Have Sunny Days and Straw Houses All Season

Happy 1976 to All Our Circus Friends



BEN HAMMER & DEL WENTWORTH

Props.

Greatest Miniature Circus in the World

Hubler Starts Strong

George Hubler's HUBLER INT'L CIRCUS launched its new season with a power-packed program at Mentor, Ohio, Jan. 23-25. It was the 7th Annual Mentor High PTA Circus co-produced by Harry Mills with A. Hugh Brown the General Circus Chairman.

Attendance records were shattered, boosted by the addition of an opening matinee (a 3/4 house) on Friday, Jan. 23rd. The first performance ran close to three hours but was pared to two hours and twelve minutes by Saturday, when the three shows ran back-to-back, causing long lines to form in the lobby and traffic snarls in the Mentor High School parking lot. The attendance was estimated at well over 22,000 in three days, with seven shows.

Free meals were served to performers and circus workers on Saturday and Sunday, plus a gala Saturday night party at the Arrowhead Club, complete with food, beverages and live music.

The stories phoned in and circulating at the Al Sirat Hanelord Circus playing in downtown Cleveland that (A) Lily Kristensen had been clawed, that (B) Sonja Zoppe had fallen, and that (C) a member of the Flying Valentines had bounced from the net to break his neck were totally without truth or foundation. The true fact (in case these stories are still dancing about the country) is that Debbie Valentine was struck in the eye by the elbow of Ray, Jr., during the pirouette return in the passing leap. Five stitches were required to close the wound, but Debbie did not miss a performance

The program included: Bicentennial Bonanza (Tournament); Zavatta Troupe and Johnnie Laddie & Co. unsupported ladders; Lily Kristensen's leopards; Trudella, slide-for-life; Susan's Afghans; The Kids Fantastic (a local group); Clowns; Freddie & Co.; Tom Sink, Grotto Clowns; The Smahas; Herman & Petunia; Aerial Ballet with Princess Sonja; Diano's elephants; Prince Najvez; Happy Birthday Uncle Sam was first half closer, followed by Intermission.

Ray Valentine, Jr., tight wire with back and forward somersault and somersault through a hoop for finish; David Zoppe & Family, rhesus monkeys; Joe Zoppe Troupe, Arabian Riders; The Pharoahs, cradle; clowns; The Flying Valentines; Finale.

Music by Florine and Phil Oler and the High School Circus Band. National Anthem sung by Theodore Hieronymous. Les Yoxal, props; Wayne Liikala, lighting; Jo Brown, co-ordinator; June Mills, production director and Ann Fairchild, aerial choreographer.

..... Billy Barton

Hnos. Padilla Circo

..... by LOUIS ASKER

Tepic, Mexico, Jan. 21, 1976. Hnos. Padilla Circus played at Tepic Jan. 16 thru 21st, a town of 110,000 people. A new show this year, it is owned by the Padilla brothers: Abelardo, Julio Cesar and Humberto.

The show has a brand new top, approximately 110 ft. round, with a 40 ft. center section. The show's trucks and trailers are

well painted and lettered. The big top entrance has a walk-thru similar to the semi-trailer that is used by Carson & Barnes Circus.

The program is a one ring format and seating consists of 9 high blues, reserved chairs and box seats, for a total capacity of 3,000 people. Music is recorded and of high quality. Inside they have a popcorn, cotton candy and bottled pop concession stands.

The program features:-

Opening announcements, followed by four dancing girls, dressed in Top hat, coats and tie

Clown number (4)

Julio and Abelardo Padilla - springboard leaping

Clowns - Children spanking gag
Tammy and the Three Padilla Bros - trampoline

Entrance of four costumed girls to song "Pink Panther" which is introduction to Lilliana on single trapeze

Yoyito, the clown - rolla bolla

Six cotumed girls in Spanish dress with castinets to introduce three girl web number

Yoyito, the clown - at top of the tent

The Padilla Bros. - flying act
Clowns - the photo gag

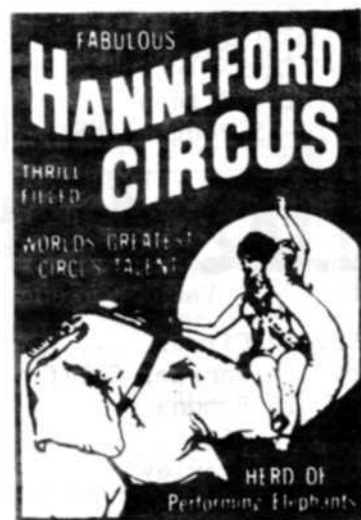
Vanessa - single trapeze

Yoyito, the clown - high wire

Magic - Luciani and nine costumed girl assistants

Closing spec - all performers

The performance is well received and all performers wear flashy wardrobe.



See Us At Detroit
Thru Feb.15
State Fairgrounds Coliseum

ROUTES

Cole All Star TV Circus

- Feb. 9 Jamestown, N.Y.
 10 Hinsdale
 11 Fillmore
 12 Angelica
 13 Almond

Fisher Bros. Circus

- Feb. 12 Weslaco, Texas
 13 San Juan

Tommy Hanneford Circus

- to Feb 15 Detroit, Mich.

Holiday Hippodrome

- Feb. 9 Bryan, Texas
 10 Hunstville
 11 Lufkin
 12 Nacodoches
 13 Texarkana, Ark.
 14 Monroe, La.
 15 Shreveport

Hubler Int'l Circus

- Feb 14-15 Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit

- Feb. 10-15 Greensboro, N.C.

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit

- Feb. 9-11 Venice, Fla.

John Strong Circus

- Feb. 9 Santee, Calif.
 10 Ramona
 11 Off
 12 Brawley
 13 Calexico
 14 El Centro
 15 Holtville



The above advertisement was designed and used for Charlie Chaplin's 1928 film called "The Circus."



Dying Breed

Lions are a dying breed, according to "Int'l Wildlife" magazine. They claim there are only 200,000 lions left in the world today, a 100% decrease from the lion population of 25 years ago.

It's not the hunters who are responsible, but the ranchers who own African land where the lions roam. These culprits poison lions rather than provide him with a relatively painless death by bullet.

If the trend continues, the magazine warns, there will only be a few thousand lions left at the turn of the century. More and more of Africa's grassland is being turned over for the grazing of cattle.



NEW LICENSE FEES (Continued)

ator would have to pay the cost of extra police and fire service as provided by the city.

The proposed reduction in license fees resulted from discussions with Circus Vargas who first planned to play the city's shopping center during the winter months. Tentative plans now indicate the circus may play the location this spring.

ROUTES

American Freedom Train

Feb. 11-14 San Antonio, Texas
15-17 Austin

Black Watch Troupe

Feb. 9 Atlanta, Ga.
10 Nashville, Tenn.
12 Baton Rouge, La.
13-14 Houston, Texas

Sports Show

Feb. 8-14 Harrisburg, Pa.

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SAWDUST TRAIL

Local columnist Jack O'Brien reports that RBBB's Michu will have Joe Namath as his best man for his upcoming wedding.

Emmett Kelly, Sr., was a recent guest on the Carol Burnett TV Show.

Another TV ad using circus ideas is the Timex Co., with an elephant who steps on one of the firm's watches and smashes it.

Jack Smith, agent, who was working for the Oscarian Bros. Circus is now employed by the Stebbing show.

C. E. Speilman (Cosmo, the Clown) has been steadily improving his publication "Clown Chat-er." Two new clown schools are being organized in the Chicago area.

Richmond, Va., will be the host city for the Clowns of America Convention Mar. 31-Apr. 3rd with headquarters at the Hotel John Marshall.

Don Nieman, CFA and his

Miscellaneous

A dozen youths interrupted the Soviet Circus one night in New York City by throwing eggs at the magician. The show was continued after the youths were ousted.

Ribbon Star Circus and Circo Blue Star recently played the same small town in Mexico.

20th Century Fox Studios have scheduled a film titled "Circus" and "The Life of Tom Mix" for early shooting.

Circo Union, of Mexico, is heading for Brazil and other engagements in South America.

YES, WE'LL

ROUTE YOU! But, Mr. Circus owner and operator, you have to send in your route. Do it now, before you forget.

daughter, both ardent circus fans, started off 76 by seeing the Soviet Circus. By the way Don's grandfather made harness for Hagenbeck-Wallace and RBBB.

.... M. L. Dupont

Have You Seen?

TODAY IS CIRCUS DAY IN ___?

An Advance Itinerary of all Circus Routes. Published weekly. All go "AIR MAIL" around the World. \$15.00 for 1976 season.

Write for SAMPLES to CHARLIE CAMPBELL, 1296 Oaklawn Ave. N.E. Atlanta, Georgia - 30319

Shrine Circus

The Moslem Temple Shrine Circus in Detroit (Mich.), produced by Hanneford Circus, Inc., of Osprey, Fla., runs two and a half weeks - Jan. 30-Feb. 15th. The show program includes:

Color Guard - Nat'l Anthem - A
Slide for Life - Sponge Plunge,
Overture into **RAZZLE DAZZLE**
Tajana - trained tigers
The Astros - aerial motorcycle
Wally & Cheryl - comedy
Kayletta's birds
Bobby's Shepherds
Gina's Leopards
The Janos Chimps
King's Storybook Animals
Faye Alexander - comedy car
Salute to Hollywood aerial ballet
with Marina Radelescu
Vince Carmen, Signor Rai, Baron-
ess Von Frost, Morris & Co.,
Phillips Trio - illus.display
Clown magic number
Planet of the Apes and Zoppe's
Space Odyssey
Gibb's ponies
Sanger's Riding School
Rosa's ponies
Sir Victor Julian - poodles
This is My Country - spec
The Flying Dells - Flying Steeles
Winn Troupe - inclined wire
OOpsey - celebrity clown
Gibbs, Hanneford, King - bulls
Sulo Sisters - rolling globes
Ramos Troupe - risley
Hungarian Troupe - risley
Bertini Troupe - bikes
Dionne Troupe - balancing
Tongo & Irene & Co. - comedy
Original Hanneford Riding Act
Eddie Ventura - crater crash
Flags of all States - finale

Vegas Acts

Acts currently playing at
Circus Circus Casino in Las Ve-
gas include:

The Esquedas - teeterboard
Ronritas - cradle and wheel
The Flying Michials
The Flying Terrels
Charlie Charles & co. - bikes
Simona - single trapeze
The Randels - trampoline
Alejandros - wire act
Clown carousel and aerial ballet

NOW AVAILABLE

The Karl Wallenda book will be released this week. It can be obtained from: Roy H. Sagarin, 26 High Street, Chatham, N.Y. 12037. The price is \$7.95

FOR SALE

A 12 horse trailer with living quarters - Good Condition

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Also Miscellaneous circus equipment.

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AN OPEN LETTER(Compiled by Billy Barton
from Direct Quotes)

TO TOMMY HANNEFORD:

It would be prejudicial for those connected with the technical production of your circus, or for those appearing in it, to boast-although we can hardly be cited for feeling proud...but...when professionals, personally uninvolved with your 1976 Bicentennial Edition are lavish with their praise, it is felt that such objectivity is worthy of your attention and, since it happens so rarely, that of the Public as well.

In a business where back-stabbing, throat-cutting and happy-knocking is rampant, it is a pleasure to listen to this praise, given so sincerely, so freely and with such spontaniety.

Here, then, are the quotes, from your contemporaries who witnessed your dramatic Cleveland debut:

Former circus owner HARRY MILLS: "There hasn't been a circus like this in Public Hall since the early days of Orrin Davenport. It's the best! Next to the Ringling show. The spec, the production, the way it looks, the performance! Best show I've ever seen."

The DAVID ZOPPE Family: "He gives the circus business a whole New Look."

Producer GEORGE HUBLER: "I wasn't disappointed. Highly Impressive!"

The AMANDIS: "Beautiful!"

MILDRED HALL: "The shocks! The surprises! Had me on the edge of my seat. I wish I was a part of it!"

JOE ZOPPE FAMILY (riders): "The best...the most profession-

al show I have ever seen!"

LILY KRISTENSEN: "We are so happy for Tommy that he is making it. We've got our fingers crossed for him!"

WALTER STIMAX (running wild-eyed at the conclusion of the first half): "What can he DO to TOP THAT?"

BILL STRONG (The Quassars): "I think Tommy's done something with the circus that's needed to be done for a long time. I don't know what it is, but he's found the formula."

And there were more, Tommy - from people who were overheard but could not be reached later for direct quotes - all of whom agree that what you have done for the circus, mixing old-world nostalgia with new world elegance for the beautification of the whole is, in the final analysis, of mutual benefit - to the performer, the committee, rival

(Continued on Page 18)

Detroit Notes

Sir Victor Julian came in the last minute to replace Tony Fossett's bounding rope act. Tony was injured in a tumble from a ladder during his Gorilla Parody in Cleveland. As he was climbing to the balcony the ladder slipped throwing him backwards into the seats. What might have been a very serious accident turned out to be a minor one, injuring only his heel, but enough that walking and working on it in the bounding rope act was impossible. Tom Desimini, a non-pro, filled in for Tony in the gorilla number for the last two shows in Cleveland, but Tony returned to the act in Detroit.

Augmenting the Detroit line-up are the Ramos Troupe, risley, hair hang, finger stand; Vince Carmen and Morris & Co., illusions; Tony Steele Troupe, sponge dive, cradle, flying act; and four web girls. Fay Alexander also joined with his comedy car as a prelude to the Salute to Hollywood aerial ballet. At the end of his act 24 Keystone Kops pursue Fay out of the arena in a recreation of the old Mack Sennett car chase, followed by the entrance of 24 Keystone Kops and Mack Sennett Bathing Beauties on 12 tandem bikes. Star Marina Radelescu's entrance is made in an open top 1935 Auburn - silver with burgandy fenders, while vocalist Ernie McLean sings "Hooray For Hollywood".

RAZZLE DAZZLE, the eye-popping opening number runs only one minute and twenty seconds and includes: Betty Woods Duo, hanging perch; Steeles, cradle; Doubleday & Co., revolving ladder; Billy Barton, foot swivel; Keppo Sisters and Martells, unsupported ladders; Clarissa Sisters, tight wire; King's Storybook camels, llamas; Irene's Kangaroos; Ramos Troupe with two hair hangs and two finger stands; Maas, Jr., slack wire; Ray & Yolanda and the Dubskys, perch; Rosa Gibbs, iron jaw; Wally & Cheryl; 24 Shrine clowns, headed by OOpsy; Chari-vari; aerial revolve girls; Misses Karen, Nancy, Marina and Roberta and vocalist Ernie McLean who sings "The Big Show's In Town" an original tune with words and music by Billy Barton.

In Detroit all three ring displays became displays of five including an animal display, an acrobatic melange, and five rings of illusions. Fourteen or more people were added to the Phillip Morris spec, "This is my Country", an opulent "story-spec" that has been highly complimented. Extra people were also added into the Planet of the Apes and the Finale.

... B. B.

A CIRCUS FACT

Circus Vargas closed its 53 week 1975 tour at Hayward, Calif., on Feb. 2nd, 1976.

a winner

DETROIT, Mich: Post-production speculation by supporters and detractors was widespread right up to and including the opening of this major Shrine date on Jan. 30th.

Winning the Detroit bid for '76 by Hanneford Circus turned the faucet on a shower of controversy. Allegations that Hanneford would bring in an inferior production have been rendered invalid by the Circus Detroit is seeing and talking about.

New Show

An original musical production called "The Day The Circus Comes to Town" will be featured at RBBB's 'Circus World' when the Florida park reopens this spring. The show was written by Paul Crabtree, who will also produce and direct the spectacular.

With a cast of some 80 persons the show tells the story about the day the circus came to a small mid-American town, with the setting in the 1930's. In addition to the original musical score and lyrics, there will be a number of circus acts woven into the story.

The musical is to be presented in a new 1500 seat Circus World Theatre. This facility has a special stage, designed to accommodate large scale musicals.

In addition to the musical show there will be a variety of live entertainment and other shows at Circus World when it reopens. The huge "Circus in America" film will continue to be a feature, plus activities in which

The Moslem Temple Shrine Bicentennial edition for 1976 is topped by a collection of innovations and features never before seen in the Fairgrounds Coliseum.

It is obvious that the show has cost a bundle to produce, and one thing is sure, whoever wins Detroit's bid for '77, if Hanneford doesn't, has a job cut out for himself. This will really be a tough act to follow.

Show Acts

Some of the acts currently featured on the Cole All Star TV Circus, playing the New York and Pennsylvania area are:

The Fabulous Robertsons
The Marcellis - juggling
George Ross - magic/illusions
Roland - high wire clown

This season is James M. Cole's 59th year in show business and in conjunction with the nation's birthday he is featuring a Bicentennial theme.

the visitors can actually take part.

BILLY BARTON (Continued)

all night, dishes upon dishes, which he passes out to friends? And I want to tell you he makes the best rice pudding on earth!

Some people think of themselves as "stars" but a REAL star is a man like Sir Victor who, at his age, rushed out to help with the cat props opening night in Cleveland and was knocked down in the dark. Thank God, he was unharmed but...think a minute: HOW many performers are really THAT "with-it"? Not many!

EDDY VENTURA's first outdoor date is Kennywood Park in May....BOBBY GIBBS and WALT KING trying for top honors in the agitation dept, distressed at finding themselves out-paced by Tommy Hanneford himself....If there is a better production vocalist in the circus than ERNIE McLEAN you'll have to prove it to me and just about everyone else.

DAVID ZOPPE on hand in Cleveland to help brother Johnny launch his new rocket ship..... Zoppe riding act stopped to visit, ditto GUNNAR AMANDIS....TONY & IRENE (Fossett) vexed with me! I reported they have three kangaroos when they have only two - unless you count Tony....and daughter MICKEY MO has a crush on me (and I go for her!) Alas! she's too young and OH Boy! am I too old!...

Letter from MARI JO COULS provides my readers with the

following: King Bros. will go out with Whitey Black, formerly of Carson & Barnes, at its helm. Neither Rawls nor Dorey Miller are connected with the show or its title.....Hassle between King, Cristiani and the King Br. title unhassled.....Cristiani (it is said) will not take out a show this season....Thus King Br remains the same as in previous years. NOW...aren't all of you GLAD that THAT is settled!

MARI JO, now in retirement, says she feels she'll make a "good towner" and "circus fan".. is THRILLED that the Indianapolis fans named their newly formed Tent #123 after her and her late husband. So am I, Mari Jo, and thanks for your letter.

I would like to publicly thank those people who made my SALUTE TO HOLLYWOOD web number the SMASH hit that it is! IRIS KEPPO who designed and made the costumes....DAVID WALLY JONES who built the props....JERRY MAAS who arranged the score... ERNIE McLEAN who sings it and LEO MASCITTO who conducted it... ALL the talented boys and girls (24) who are in it (and learned to ride tandem bikes)....CHERYL CHILDRESS' marvelous "Hedda Hopper"....TOMMY DESIMINI's equally great comic portrayal of the PATHE NEWSREEL Cameraman...MARINA RADELESCU, the star, for changing her image - and beautifully!....and TOMMY and STRUPPI HANNEFORD for spending the tons


(Continued on Next Page)

UNDER CANVAS (Continued)

Picton was on hand with his original "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang" comedy car and the Zavattas offered some fine tight rope work. The young man of this group performed as "Tarzan" on the rope.

The Inaros (Fossett) Sisters gave a glittering display on trapeze and web. The Cottrelli group performed a chair balancing act, while the male partner also took the lead in a clown number.

There were thrills and chills from the high wire by the Cimarro Bros., one of whom also did a swaying lamp post act. The last item was a "Wild West Bonanza" with some of the Fossett girls twirling ropes, eating fire and doing bareback riding.

In Memoriam 

JAMES E. EDMONDSON (65) known as "Prof. Backward" died in Atlanta, Ga. on Jan. 30th, after being kidnaped, beaten, robbed and shot. He was featured in Ripley's Believe It Or Not and was a popular entertainer.

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OPEN LETTER (Continued)

producers (who MUST upgrade to compete) and to the ticket-buying public.

Tommy, we know how unpredictable and erratic you can be and we accept that...BUT...if you let success swell your head each one of us will form a line to kick you squarely in the-you-know-where.

Meanwhile, we salute you, and Good Luck!

Show Guests

Recent visitors to the "Wonderful World of Horses" show at Tampa, Fla. included: Edith Evans, Austin Miles, Mr. & Mrs. J. A. Hofmeister and Mr. & Mrs. Wooden.

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BILLY BARTON (Continued)

of money to build it.

NOW...if I could just keep Tommy's nose OUT of it....everything would be super cool!

See you down the road, luvs!

CIRCUS



WHAT'S HE LIKE?
WHY, OUT OF TH' RING
HE'S TH' MOST SERIOUS
GUY YA EVER SEE —
SPENDS ALL HIS SPARE
TIME READIN' HIGH
BROW BOOKS



THE BOY WHO THOUGHT
CLOWNS SPENT ALL THEIR
WAKING HOURS LAUGHING
AND CRACKING JOKES