



4th Year

October 13, 1975

Number 41

More Laws Proposed

Seven new bills have been introduced in the House of Representatives to govern the control of various animals within the U. S. If passed these bills will set up strict controls on the care, treatment and handling of animals and could prove to be a definite problem to show people.

Bill HR-4030, introduced by Whitehurst, of Virginia, will establish a Federal Zoo and Aquarium Board that would establish and enforce standards for operation of animal facilities. Such a bill could cover breeding and training compounds and traveling shows.

Bill HR-4373, introduced by Derwinski, of Illinois, would create a National Zoo and Aquarium Corporation.

Both of the above bills are similar to the Dingell Bill (HR-663) which calls for a Federal Zoo Control Board. There is now some doubt that this bill will reach a vote and it is believed the above two bills were intro-

(Continued on Page 14)

XMAS PLANS

A welcome increase in business has greeted the John Strong Circus since its return to the west coast and particularly in California. While business for the most part was on a so-so basis this year, on the west coast the show has been drawing big crowds with money to spend in all departments.

(Continued on Page 9)



TNT &
ROYAL OLYMPIC

....

A GOOD YEAR

The 1975 season was generally a good one for the TNT & Royal Olympic Circus, reports show producer Earl W. Tegge, and our reception was excellent.

The TNT & Royal Olympic Circus has both a tented tour and a shopping center tour. The show covers some 12,000 miles, presenting 171 performances in nine different states.

The under-canvas tour was mixed, reports Tegge, with both good and fair dates. The tight money situation was especially noticeable at the concession stands.

The show's shopping center tour was highly successful, Tegge said. The show created a great deal of interest and was credited with a definite upswing in business for each center. As a result repeat dates have already been signed at virtually every center, while new dates are currently being booked.

Acts appearing with the circus during the shopping center tour included: The Houcs, jugglers; Don Philips & Co., balancing; Vickinas, risley; Lenares Poodles; Bill Brickle's Poodles; Martin Lamberti, one finger stand; The Chris Albertis rolling globes; Francero & Estreleta, cradle; The Jeffreys, aerial ballet; Doug Hawkins, clown; Tim Tegge as Twinkles, the clown; The Wazzans/Volvos, revolving ladder and trampoline and Glen Henry's dogs.

Show Program

The program being presented by the George Matthews Circus at the close of its 1975 season was featuring:-

Alphonso Magana - African lions
Miss Lu Ann - single trapeze
Harry Ross and circus clowns
Mlle. Bosco - juggling
The Fulbrights - liberty horses
The Clowns
Ivan Henry - chimps
Great Huberto - slide for life
Maryce Begary - one-arm swings
-- Intermission --
Sandy's liberty pony review
Los Latinos - tight wire
The Clowns
Senor Pauncho - elephants
Clowns - The Washerwoman
Prince Najvez - cloud swing
Ed Russell - Announcer
Jim Gibson - Musical Director

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The program featured:-

- Clowns - Come-in Warm-up
- Overture - "Circus on Parade"
- Tajana - lion and tigers
- Keppos and Martels - ladder acts
- Struppi - black leopard riding an elephant
- Marina, Sharon, Kim - trapeze
- Basketball playing dogs
- Clowns - Balloons
- The Bertinis - wire act
- The Sanger Riding Academy with Peter Haubner & Marina Radelescu
- Chona Eastwood - aerial feature
- Tom Hanneford with Catherine English and Iris Keppo - the circus elephants
- Intermission --
- Anita and Iris - Sulo Sisters
- The Bertinis - unicycles
- Marina Radelescu - single loop
- Eastwood's Gorilla Parody
- Hanned Family Riding Act

.....by KAYE SCHEIMAN

The Royal Hanneford Circus opened its fall season at Elkhart, Ind., on Sept. 20th, with two shows. This engagement was followed by stands at Kalamazoo on Sept. 21 and Grand Rapids on Sept. 22.

As the season moves along the show will be playing dates in New York, Ontario, Rhode Island, Kentucky and Tennessee.

This show is fast paced, nicely costumed and like all shows produced by Tommy Hanneford, has that well polished look.

PEOPLE

FRANK DEAN was recently featured on a Mexican Rodeo in Southern California. He opened the show with his rope act.

WAYNE and DIANE RHODES are the parents of a daughter (Christina) born in Long Beach (Calif) on Sept. 5th. Grandparents are DOLORES RHODES and EDDIE HOWE former circus folks.

EDUARDO and his Gypsy Bears are currently touring with the new Americana Combined Shows.

SPARKY, D. W. Washburn, continues to delight and amaze folks with his clever floating cane number, now with the Mid-America Circus.

Included on the staff are:
 Producer - Tommy Hanneford
 Announcer - Steve Grant
 Bandmaster - Charles Schlarbaum
 Prop Boss - Dwight Hanson
 Electrician - Charles Boxley

ROUTES

American Cont'l Circus
Oct. 13 Coolidge, Ariz.
14-15 Nogales
16 Douglas
17 Wilcox
18 Benson
19 Safford

Beatty-Cole Circus
Oct. 13 Helena, Ark.
14 West Memphis
15 Jonesboro
16 Forest City
17 Greenville, Miss.
18 Bastrop, La.
19 Alexandria

Carden-Johnson Circus
Oct 15-21 Dallas, Tex.

Carson & Barnes Circus
Oct. 13 Mena, Ark.
14 Shreveport, La.
15 Natchitoches
16 Vidalia
17 Ponchatoula
18-19 New Orleans

Hubert Castle Circus
Oct. 8-12 Colo Spgs, Colo
17-19 Chattanooga, Tenn

Circus Vargas
Oct 15-20 Atlanta, Ga.

De Wayne Bros. Circus
Oct. 12 Long Beach, Cal.

Diamond S Rodeo
Oct 11-12 New Orleans, La

Dr. Pepper Circus
to Oct 19 Dallas, Texas

Hanneford Family Circus
Oct. 14 Rayville, La.
16 Columbia
18-19 Ruston

Hoxie Bros. Circus
Oct 13 Milledgeville, Ga.
-- End of Tour --

Kaye Cont'l Circus
Oct 16-19 Wichita, Kans.

King Bros. Circus
Oct. 13 Albertville, Ala.
14 Oneonta
15 Arab
16 Leeds
17 Pelham
18 Pell City

La Torres Animals
to Oct 19 Beaumont, Tex.

Mid-America Circus
Oct 14-15 San Antonio, Tex

Pan Americana Circus
Oct 17-19 Queens, N.Y.

Pickle Family Circus
Oct '8-19 San Bruno, Cal.

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit
to Oct. 19 Largo, Md.

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit
to Oct. 27 Chicago, Ill.

Royal Hanneford Circus
Oct. 15 Frankfort, Ky.
17-18 Johnson City, Tn
19 Charlottesville, Va

Rudy Bros. Circus
Oct 16-19 Tulsa, Okla.

Sells & Gray Circus
Oct. 13 Camden, Ark.
14 Prescott
15 Hope
16 Texarkana
17 Spring Hill
18 Hamburg

Shrine Circus
Oct 14-19 San Antonio, Tex

John Strong Circus
Oct. 13 Kingsburg, Cal.
14 Dinuba
15 Hanford
16 Visalia
17 Portersville
18-19 Bakersfield



LONG TOUR PLANNED

An ambitious tour that calls for dates in the capital cities of all 50 states, plus intermittent stops along the way has been announced for the Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show in 1976. The tour, planned as a nostalgic look at the old west, will open at Nashville (Tenn.) this winter and closes late next year at Washington, DC.

The show, says Buffalo Bill Carson, "will be a huge extravaganza for the Bicentennial." It will include stage coaches, cowboys and cowgirls, buffalo and everything for a complete family entertainment program.

The idea, according to Carson, is "to operate like the old time round-up shows that were so prevalent in the west. We'd come into a town as a parade, gather up children and adults along the way and end up at the show lot."

The proposed show is expected to carry some 200 people, plus livestock and would be capable of setting up on a parking lot, fair ground or vacant lot. It will be entirely self-contained with its own lighting system, sound and concessions.

The program will include everything from western acts to singing and specialty numbers. While the major portion of the program will be presented by show personnel some local talent would be acquired at each engagement.

"We're going to be on the



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road constantly in 1976," Carson said, "making stops anywhere people want us. This is an ideal show for any town's Bicentennial celebration and we're going to try and play in every city we can during the Bicentennial."

Short, late circus parade leaves fans wanting more

Although the Chicago press and other news media, as well as the area's fans, have been enthusiastic about the RBBB's performances in their city, they have been critical of the show's announced circus parade down State Street on Sept. 30th.

Circus posters lined the parade route and all of the announcements stated the parade would start at 10:45 a.m. People were on the streets for hours while some of the school band personnel had been standing on the street since 8 a.m. The parade finally got started at noon.

One fan says there were two announcements that the parade would be late, because the train had been put on a siding in South-west Chicago instead of the downtown location.

When the parade finally got underway it consisted of only three local fire trucks, the elephants, camels, horses and llamas. Then came a second high school band and it was over.

"We were disappointed," one observer said, "because we had been led to believe this was going to be a real parade with the circus people and one that would be led by Gunther Williams the circus star."

Other observers were also

More Dates

Contrary to current reports the Wallace & Rogers Circus is not now winding up its 1975 season. The show plans to stay out as long as weather will permit, then they'll move indoors for winter bookings.

Show officials report they have had a "pretty good" season thus far and think the year will end on a good note. Some big dates have been scheduled later this year.

Last week another man was added to the show's booking crew for winter engagements.

critical and said, "It wasn't worth coming downtown for."

Another said she was "disappointed. I sure expected more than this."

An older man with his grand-daughter was asked what he thought of the parade and his response was "I'd rather not say in front of the child....I'll say this - I sure expected more!"

FILM MEET

Ron Sanford recently got together with Bill Green at Beatrice, Nebr. to screen slides and films made by Ron during the summer season.

Included in the film show on Sept. 20th were: Circus World Museum, Carson & Barnes, M & M Circus and Mid-America Circus, with a special film on D. W. Wasburn's (Sparky) comedy clown numbers.

ROUTES

American Freedom Train
Oct. 15 Boise, Idaho

Century 21 Shows - Blue Unit
Oct 13-18 Barnesville, Ga.

Century 21 Shows - Red Unit
Oct 13-19 Gulfport, Miss.

James H. Drew Shows
Oct 13-18 Cordele, Ga.

Holiday on Ice
Oct 14-19 Greensboro, N.C.

Ice Follies
Oct 16-26 Hershey, Pa.

YEARS AGO

Pittsfield Mass. June 14, 1925
Sells Floto Circus

The Sells Floto Circus went through here this morning at 10 a.m. going from Schenectady to Boston. They are on one train of 29 cars (7 horse cars, 14 flats, 8 sleepers and 61 wagons).



After a long and successful season, which started in January in Nevada, Magic-Capades is at home in Vancouver, Wash. The show is taking a three week holiday before opening its new tour, starting at the Opera House in Spokane on Oct. 27th.

Several new illusions and production numbers have been added to the show. Just recently delivery was taken on a new custom Diesel tractor and specially designed 40 ft. trailer.

Magic Capades is booked through 1976 and in January the show owners, Stan Kramien and Kathleen Lison, will put out a second unit called "Mad World of Magic," featuring illusionist Mark Evans.

Magic Capades plays primarily promotion dates, using the show's own promotion team. Some fair dates are also scheduled and on occasion the show is sold outright to promoters. In the spring of 1975 the show was sold to Sid and Matt Kellner for a series of eastern dates.

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CIRCUS SENTINEL

.....by BILLY BARTON

Greetings with the first column by the Rex Reed of the circus. Nothing is sacred, kiddies, and inasmuch as we all love secrets I promise not to keep any.

Well, it's official - LEO MASCITTO and young CLARA BERTINI are tying the knot in December. He is the bandleader for Garden, a very talented guy.....GIL MILLER traipsing about Europe - scouting for talent?

Pan Americana Circus onstage at the Beacon Theatre in New York City.....Hear that PETE LUVAS got very badly burned recently - somebody, Isabel, please write in.....BERTINIS, with the Suesz show in Old Mexico report very good biz.....IAN GARDEN is touring an Abacadabra type show in Canada.

WALLY WALLBOY and femme clown sidekick, CHERYL, pratfalling with Hanneford Circus. Hey, Wally, how does it feel to be in buildings with showers after your mud show education?

TAJANA has two rollover and globe spinning pussycats, hyping an already socko act. Didyaknow TOMMY actually broke them and didyaknow he can work those big claw-babies, too? I didn't and if I don't tell ya so it will be my head in a lion's mouth.

SANTANI dressing in Barton's trailer in Kingston to a lot of ribbing.....Hate to disappoint you but Barton has a private dressing room van.....IRIS KEPPO and MRS. BERTINI knocked themselves out with a lavish birth-

day spread for STRUPPI, very well done circus tent style and oh! what yummy food.

CFA'r PAUL NEFF and pal, HENRY BUSH, working props in Kingston, N.Y. their favorite past-time. Wanna permanent job?TOMMY HANNEFORD doing a commercial with a baby elephant between dates.....No encores, Tommy, its the elephant they want.

JOHNNY ZOPPE's new Space Act will orbit in Detroit, one of many firsts skedded for that major Shrine date. More about it later.....SHARON WARD back with Hanneford doing web and ladder/trap, also stooging in Eastwood's Gorilla parody.....EASTWOODS with a new Airstream sporting a Bi-Centennial swing.....thought it was a Marquee and walked right in.....Oooops, sorry!

ROY BUSH, after a bad stroke, has been left blind in one eye. All our sympathies, Roy. LARRY RUHL, of Michele and Michael, back at his old post in JIMMY HETZER's office..... SID KELLNER booking his variety show

(Continued on Page 15)

THEATRE SHOW Ok

.....by PAT BISSONETTE

A total of 26 performances were presented in ten days at New York's Beacon Theatre by the Panamericana Circus (Sept. 26-Oct. 5) and local papers gave the circus good reviews. The show ran 2 hours with a ten minute intermission and prices ran from \$1.75 to \$4.50.

The program was backed by a six piece band and featured four clowns working in front of the stage curtain. They were: Mike (Kosco) Naughton, producing; Pat (Hunky) Bissonette; Marco and Elsie Zapata.

The program featured:-

Miss Anita - foot juggling
 Clown Magic - Kosco and Hunky
 Alfred and his dogs
 Zapata's Spanish clown number
 The Doady's - juggling
 Clowns - Artist in the Park
 Lucio Cristiani - leopards
 Clowns - Funnel gag - Pat & Mike
 Medro Twins - head balancing
 Tino Wallenda - high wire
 The Fornasari clown band
 -- Intermission --
 Miss Olinka - single trapeze
 The Clowns - Long Shirt
 Jerry Lipko's chimps
 Zapata's Spanish clown number
 Mr. Goldfinger - one finger
 Clowns - Irish Washerwomen
 The Benny Troupe - trampoline

Show's Guest

Included among those seen visiting the John Strong Circus and Wallace & Rogers during the past week were: Tom Upton, Don Marcks, Larry Pisoni, and Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Ramsey.

XMAS PLANS (Continued)

"The present tour," says John, "will wind up at Simi on Nov. 23, and then we'll go right into our Christmas show operation. The 1976 tour starts just as soon as the holidays are over."

There will be three Christmas show units operating under the John Strong name this year. One unit, managed by Betty Wendany and Danny Williams will open at Lexington on Dec. 6 and closes at Gary (Ind.) on Dec. 21.

One unit, with John Strong and Gene Holloway at its helm, opens at Fort Worth on Dec. 7 and closes at San Bernardino (Calif.) on Dec. 21st, after playing the mid-western states.

The third unit, managed by Bill Birchfield, will play the west coast. Opening date has been set for Dec. 7th and the show closes in Southern California after merging with the Mid-western unit.



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Animal acts endangered

The "Zoo Control Bill"—HR 6631 still is under the care of the congressional Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee and has yet to come up for public hearings. A committee spokesman said the bill probably will not come up for hearings "before the first of the year (1976)."

The bill was introduced in the House of Representatives last May by Rep. John Dingell (D-Mich.) and it was reported that hearings would be held on it this summer (AB, June 14.)

However, the hearings reportedly have been delayed because of other hearings on the Endangered Species Act and committee personnel changes.

At present, persons wishing to comment on the bill are invited to write James Spensley of the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee, U. S. House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.

The bill as it now reads could put animal trainers out of business and make it impossible for circuses to include wild or non-domestic animals.

The bill's provisions note that any person, corporation, show, etc., owning or exhibiting one or more zoological animals would be subject to federal zoo laws. Also, the bill would be more restrictive and demanding than the previously introduced HR 70 bill which also would have created a Federal Zoo Accreditation Board.

Thus, the bill essentially could put out of business most traveling animal circuses, shows, and animal operations, etc. because it would put them into a zoo category.

Other provisions include:
- Each circus, animal trainer, etc., would be required to carry a licensed zoo curator.

- Persons handling or taking

care of animals would be required to be licensed—and licenses would come after written examinations. Licenses also would specify which animals the handlers and trainers would be qualified to care for and to train.

- The bill would regulate all importation and interstate commerce of all exotic (non-domestic) animals—controlling facilities (standards set for minimum space, enclosures, cage requirements), research, breeding and the exhibition of animals.

- The bill would authorize license fees at \$100 for individuals and institutional or show license fees reportedly as high as \$1,000.

- The bill would create a "zoo control board" and would transfer authority for overseeing the transportation and maintenance of marine mammals, endangered or threatened species to the board. However, permits for taking or importing still would be obtained from the agencies (Interior, Commerce, etc.) presently in charge of permit applications.

- The bill would authorize its newly created zoo control board to preempt Department of Agriculture regulations under the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act and Department of Interior regulations under the Lacey (Injurious Wildlife) Act.

The bill also includes zoo assistance provisions:

- A matching fund grant program would authorize the zoo control board to grant up to 75 per cent of the cost of any program for personnel training or research into animal health or welfare. The provision does not limit applicants solely to licensed zoos, but does restrict research to that which does interfere with the health or welfare of the animals.

- A provision for 50 per cent matching grants to any licensed zoo to enable it to meet licensing standards. Another program would make grants to any zoo or "any non-profit organization" to establish pilot zoo operations projects or survival centers for endangered species.

The bill would limit the authorization of grants to not more than \$3 million each year for the next five years. And these grants still would only be given as the money is made available by Congress in another appropriations bill. The bill also would all guaranteed loans up to \$15 million for zoological construction or rehabilitation projects.

It also authorizes citizens' suits to challenge the board's issuance of a license to any person the citizen does not feel is qualified to have one.

The bill presently provides no exemptions for traveling circuses, animal shows or trainers.

Frank Potter, a counsel to the Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee and one of the measure's authors, said, "We don't intend for this bill to put circuses out of business, but we are out to make it tough for roadside zoos, menageries and schlock outfits that run sub-standard operations..."

"No—there aren't any exemptions to the bill to help traveling shows or circuses. Of course, that doesn't mean there shouldn't be...but we'll find out about that when the bill comes up for hearings," he stated.

Coming

A weekly series of end of the year reports by shows from around the country. Watch for the factual accounts coming in future issues.

A CLOWN STAR

One day, while working for the Chesapeake & Ohio Railroad, as a brakeman and switch tender, Emmett Kelly, Jr., got the urge to perform. Not long afterwards he made his clown debut at the Circus City Festival in Peru, Ind.

"I started working department stores, walking around and shaking hands, but that got boring. My break came when a friend invited me to work a furniture show in Chicago. I must have posed for 3,000 Polaroid photographs then."

From Chicago, Kelly, Jr., went to New York for an office furniture show. Then he was with Swanson's Thrillcade, as well as working for beauty pageants, fairs and hootennies.

There was a time when Kelly laughed at the idea that to be a clown it had to be born in you. Today, he says, "part of that is true." Then continuing he added, "I didn't realize when I was watching Dad so much, I was really learning from him."

According to reports the elder Kelly hasn't been pleased with his son's career and has even complained he was "stealing the act."

Kelly, Jr. says he was surprised at the hassel at first, but "it's being resolved" and declined to comment further.

"The makeup is the same, but he outweighs me by 95 pounds today. If you look at pictures taken around 1940 when he was as thin as me, the resemblance is stronger."



EMMETT KELLY JR.

For the past several years Kelly, Jr., has been featured as the star of his own circus, a one ring European-type show, with top circus stars. He also works ahead of the show handling publicity, etc.

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Show Dates

An impressive list of show dates have been signed for 1976 by Glenn Parkins for Tommy Hanneford's Royal Hanneford Circus, undersponsorship of the Shrine and Grotto. Other dates are now expected to be signed this week and will be announced soon.

Dates already signed are: Detroit, Jan. 30-Feb. 15; Cleveland, Jan. 19-25; Greenville, S. C., Feb. 18-22; Charleston, S.C. Feb. 27-29 and Cincinnati, Ohio March 14-21.

In Memoriam

ROGER BARNES (79) a former partner in the Beers-Barnes Circus which he started in 1934 and continued its operation until the show closed in 1966. Survivors include his daughters Doris Davis, Lois Hoover and Barbara Clark, as well as his nephew Harold Barnes. Mr. Barnes died last month in Florida.

HOWARD KING, co-founder of King Bros. Circus, died on Sept. 15th at Oceanside, Calif. He got his start in show business on the John Robinson Circus in 1917 then in 1919 he and his brother, Floyd, started King Bros. Circus. He retired several years ago and moved to California. Survivors include his brother, Floyd and a brother-in-law James Taulbee.

MORE BILLS (Continued)

duced as replacement bills since they are so similar.

Three other bills HR-5351 (Frey of Florida) and HR-5808 and HR-6583 (Foley of Washington) have been introduced and if passed would make-up the amendments to the Animal Welfare Act of 1970.

Two additional bills HR-4467 and HR-7622 (Whitehurst of Virginia) relate to the care and treatment of animals and birds in pet shops, and zoos, and increase the protection of animals in transit.

There is a need to stop all these bills now. You and your friends can help by writing to your Representatives and Congressmen in Washington. Do it today.

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Pictured here is Sylvia Seymore, who toured with Cole Bros. Circus in 1938. This picture was taken during a backyard rehearsal session.

CIRCUS SENTINEL (Continued)

for December dates....Rumors with solid foundations say a certain major tenter will soon have some really fine music. All I can say is they're getting the best.....Suez in Baltimore in November, a former Polack stand, but in a new building....Hunt's Circus closed abruptly in mid-season.....What ever happened to aerial super star DON DORSEY?

Former showgirl June Russell Woolrich is in the hospital send her mail at Box 386, Gibsonton, Fla. 33534.

Last, but not least Dowager Mother Kate Hanneford, looking spry, sparkling and spritely at 87, fully recovered from a broken wrist in April... older than MAE WEST and just as witty.....What an incredible woman!