



6th Year

May 16, 1977

Number 20

CIRCUS ODYSSEY

Wrapping up a highly successful Puerto Rican tour (Apr. 3), producer Ed Migley brought Circus Odyssey back to its home state of Rhode Island where it played under a heavy statewide State Police sponsorship and promotion in Kingston (Apr. 19-20) and Providence (Apr. 24-27). The twin engagements were played in college facilities and three shows a day were scheduled to accommodate the heavy ticket sale.

Let it be noted, Circus Odyssey is not just another hurriedly put together arena attraction. Tons of money have been spent, and is being spent, which shows in the quality of the production

A lowboy semi, crammed with equipment is all show owned, used at every stand. Additional equipment, now under construction, includes a very ornate and unique set with chaser lights (Browadway style), an equally unique combination water-color-light set of fountains (to be unveiled next season in Puerto Rico), a special girder frame (squared off) from which the aerial ballet will be suspended and which will contain myriad new special effects for the spec and finale, and a second lowboy will be implemented to carry these new features. On the drawing boards also is an intricate "black Light" spec for the 1978 season and negotiations are underway with Circus Creations of Daytona Beach (Fla) to design the spec and the floats.

Circus Odyssey, in its first season out, can at this point rival long standing touring shows, with its spectacular lighting techniques

(Continued on Page 19)

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Show Report

The Famous Hunt Circus opened its 1977 tour at Burlington, N.J. on April 25th to an enthusiastic audience. The program ran 105 minutes, with about 15 minutes being cut when functioning fully.

The program included: Overture; Amy Herriott, web; Mary Ruth Herriott, mixed animals; the Barry Miller Troupe, comedy trapeze; Color Book Pitch; Mary Ruth, horse; Clowns, levitation; Mary Ruth, dogs and pony; Clowns, the chair gag; Miller Troupe, Gorilla parody; Los Latinos, tightwire; Clowns, the carpenters; Mary Ruth, dressage horse; Amy Herriott, juggling; Norman Miller, single trapeze; Clowns and cannon gag; The Herriotts, elephant; Great Huberto, slide for life; Exit March.

The show travels on 3 semis and 3 straight bed trucks, each pulling trailers. New this year is a bus for the workingmen.

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A ticket booth is centered in the marquee and a free petting zoo is carried.

The show has one elephant (Dolly), two horses, a camel, llama and a variety of sheep and goats, for the petting zoo.

In addition to the large overhead marquee cover, the show's big top is a square end tent, has bale rings and is red, white and blue.

Visitors seen on the lot included John Herriott, from Ringling; Dave Mulaney, also of Ringling; Mr. & Mrs. Dime Wilson, from Hamid-Morton; the Hermann Family, from Great Adventure Park; Anita Conley Vonderheid, from Carson & Barnes, plus fans from the Felix Adler Tent included: John 'Tiny' Phillips, Joe Minchen, Mike Naughton, and Jim and Millicent Dunwoody, of the Chas. Ringling Tent. (They also stooged for the gorilla parody number).

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ROUTES

Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus
May 16-18 Fredericksburg, Va.
19-30 Philadelphia, Pa.

Hubert Castle Circus
May 16-19 Thunder Bay, Ont.
17 Moose Jaw, Sask.
18-19 Swift Current
20 Medicine Hat
21-22 Lethbridge

Circus Vargas
May 16-18 Carlsbad, Calif.
21 Boulder, Colo.
22 Greeley

Early American Circus
May 21-22 Belmont, Calif.

Famous Hunts Circus
May 16 Newark, Dela.
17 Chesapeake City, Md.
18 Clayton
19-20 Chestertown
21 Bridgeville

Franzen Bros. Circus
May 16 Milford, Ill.
17 St. Joseph
18 Le Roy
19 Piper City
20 Colfax
21 Roanoke
22 Wenona

Bobby Gibbs Circus
to Sept. 11 Baraboo, Wisc;

Great Y Circus
May 20-21 Redlands, Calif.

Hagan Wallace-Sells & Gray Circus
May 16 Martinsburg, W.Va.
17 Leesburg, Va.
18 Frederick, Md.
19 Westminster
20 Lebanon, Pa.
21 Lewisburg
22 Lewistown

Hamid-Morton Circus
May 17-21 Pittsburgh, Pa.

Hospital Circus
May 20-21 York, Pa.

Hoxie Bros. Circus
May 16 Danville, Ill.
17 Gibson City
18 Fairburg
19 Rochelle
20 Genoa
21-22 Crystal Lake

International 3-Ring Circus
to May 22 Fukuoka, Japan

Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus
May 17 Burlington, Vt.
18 Manchester, N.H.
19 No. Andover, Mass.

Polack Bros. Circus
May 21 Eugene, Oregon

King Bros. - Cole Comb. Circus
May 16 Vineland, N. J.
17 Hammonton
18 Willingboro

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit
May 17-22 Portland, Me.

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit
to June 5 New York, N. Y.

--- OTHER ROUTES ---

Vince Carmen Show (Int'l Entertnmt)
May 19 Borger, Kans.
20 Guyman

Century 21 Shows - Blue Unit
May 17-22 Gary, Ind.
17-22 Jacksonville, Ill.

Century 21 Shows - Red Unit
May 18-30 St. Louis, Mo.

Circus Saints & Sinners Club
May 19-21 Atlanta, Ga.

James H. Drew Shows
May 16-21 Mamet, W. Va.

Lee Grabel & Co. (Magic)
May 21-25 Spokane, Wash.

Ken Griffin Show (Magic)
May 16 Shenandoah, Ohio
17 Nelsonville
18 Logan
21 Blandchester

Prof. Miller & Co. (Magic)
May 14-15 Morristown, N.J.

2

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BILLY BARTON

NOW THAT the U.S. and Cuba draw closer to "normalizing" relations with each passing week, one cannot help but wonder which will be the first American circus to appear in Havana -- or when.

PRESIDENT CARTER's Energy Bill is, admittedly, long overdue; however, it's obvious that someone of political influence must lobby in Washington on behalf of the American circus industry, before WE become the latest to join the list of an "endangered species". One thing's for certain: when and if the proposed gasoline tax becomes a reality the one-day-stand format will fade into oblivion. Meticulous planning of routes will be a necessity, proximity to public transportation an all-important consideration. While many circuses were on rails during the gas rationing of World War II, the motorized circus still managed to function and attendance was better than ever. But war brings with it a need for entertainment. The "war" we now face is of a far-different complexion, creating far-reaching and permanent consequences. There's no sense in kidding ourselves: each and every one of us must gird himself for a new "era of show business", and prepare NOW for those problems beginning to appear on the horizon.

SNAPSHOTS: The Great Vashek may excite the public, but his intrepid maneuvers on the incline wire serves only to put his 2 yr. old daughter, YANA, to sleep!! . . . Illusionist CRAWFORD & GLORIA played one day of the Circus Odyssey at Kingston (R.I.) run when the death of her mother forced cancellation of their engagement....Feeling that the "Russian Theme" has been done to death, JIMMY HALL is revamping wardrobe and props for his KASSLE'S KINGDOM OF BEARS.....Producer ED MIGLEY is in Puerto Rico setting next year's route. Ed gifted wife, CYNDY, with a second miniature "Yorkie"....PAT ANTHONY, who had gained weight when I saw him last on Vargas in '76, is now back to his trim and wiry self, looks and works just as he did when we were together on Polack. And, speaking of Polack, I'm happy to report the new owners are actively rebuilding that show's route, which had shrunk over the years. Some people seem bemused that Carnival Kings purchased the Polack show when it must be remembered that I. J. and BESSIE POLACK and LOUIS STERN were each carnival people originally....OK, I can understand VASHEK's zest for scuba-diving in the tropics of Puerto Rico, BUT ... in the chilly waters of the Atlantic, in April, in New England, for lobster?

NEWS BRIEFS: LILLI-ANA's leopards, the FLYING

VALENTINES, the ASHTONS, VASHEK & KATHY, and PRINCE NAJVEZ - some of the talent inked for SANDY DOBRITCH's Wheaton Police Circus in June. ...It's been rumored that a long established, early winter date, held for a decade by an important circus, has now been added to another show's route....A phone promotion show ran into heat in the Philadelphia area recently when its promoter absconded with lots of loot, left lots of unpaid bills. It's a nice show and this sort of unnecessary trouble is loathsome. Phone shows have enough headaches as it is.....It's been reported that CIRCUS VARGAS will enter Canada at Vancouver then cross to the East, which, if I'm not mistaken, will be a "first" for the mammoth tenter....POLACK BROS. hosts the CFA Convention in Las Vegas in June...ROYAL HANNEFORD repeats its Baltimore and New Orleans successes this fall....Will we see veteran circus man HOWARD SUESZ back in action with a Variety show instead of a circus? Sure looks like it.

ED RUSSELL is now in Canada with PUCK's CIRCUS (they bought Wallace & Rogers)....Aerialist LU ANN JACOBS has finally unveiled her unique, lighted and rotating aerial rigging on the new WILLIAMS & COLE Circus....EDDY & JULIE VENTURA debuted their hanging perch act with Carden-Johnson....JOHNNY ZOPPE's brilliant "Space Odyssey Rocket Ship" act was paged for the R-B Columbus Fair date, but Johnny, unfortunately, had signed conflicting contracts. Johnny carries both riggings (including the SPARTON act) on the road with him....The ROYAL PALACE CIRCUS (under canvas) has been nominated as this fall's Main Event at the Sarasota Hall of Fame...VASHEK roars to the very apex of the New Orleans Astro Dome July 1st. He was set by SANDY DOBRITCH.....BARRY MILLER is working in their cradle act, replacing his injured catcher....The first two jumps for FAMOUS HUNT were 4 miles and 8 miles! That tenter is the only tenter left working a 6 day-week format, week in and week out (I remember when they all did)....Airstreamers don't bother with Jackson Center for repairs, motor on over to the BUMPY BOYS---they're expert "Airstream fixers."

THE NEXT VOICE YOU HEAR: Those persons contacting me re: roller skating show being contemplated for '78, your letters have been forwarded to the parties involved....The 1977 revival of the 1935 Circus Musical JUMBO is now scheduled for October, instead of September, as the theatre is being remodelled. Since

(Continued on Page 16)

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In Memoriam

MELVIN 'Shorty' HINKLE (60's) died in March at Tampa, Fla. He was a dwarf clown who started his circus career in the 1930's. He worked for the Pete Cortez Side Show, was with the Clyde Beatty Circus through 1974, and in 1976 he toured in Canada with Sam Alexander's side show.

MEL OLSEN, editor of the CFA magazine White Tops, died of a massive stroke on April 24th. He was a long-time circus fan and a resident of Indiana. Survivors include his wife.

CHARLES EDWARD PLUNKETT (91) died on April 28 at San Antonio, Texas. He was the famous child singer who sang "Louis, Louis, meet me at the fair" during the 1904 Louisiana Purchase Exposition in St. Louis. He was a violinist and first appeared at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893. Between the fairs he toured with the Buffalo Bill show.

At the age of 21 he settled down in Nebraska where he raised 11 children and prospered in the cattle and meat business. After the 1929

Miscellaneous

Back about 1924 or 1925, the Ringling show played under canvas for the opening of the Georgia State Fair at Savannah, writes Archie Chan. The show came in on Sunday and gave two performances on Monday.

All the show folks had a ball visiting the Datsun Night Club and Restaurant, just across from the fairgrounds. I wonder how many old-timers remember Datsons?

stock market crash he went back to show business, touring with his family as the Plunketts. Survivors include his sons, Cleo and Corky, his daughters Gloria and 'Snooks' who are still in the circus business. Another son, Melvin, is a guide and lecturer for the Lone Star Brewery at San Antonio.

BEN WEKER, of Patterson, N. J., died in April. Ben was known to show folks everywhere and was a regular circus visitor on shows that played in his area.

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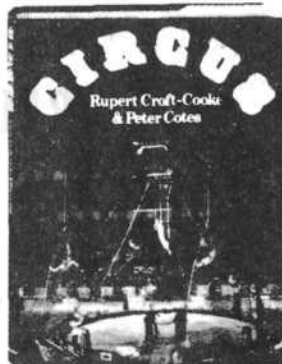
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A CIRCUS WEEK

Last month one of the grade schools at Decatur, Ill., held a circus week, which involved not only the students and teachers, but also local fans. The idea was conceived by Mrs. Kim Templin, materials center consultant, and later principal Leo LaVance said it was the most exciting week the school had ever had.

All the children helped make a huge stuffed lion, the library was filled with posters and photographs and a number of books were on display. A former Ringling clown, Wayne Weggors, talked about the circus and put make-up on several students. The writer had the privilege of showing his circus films, the Cole Marionettes came in to do a show and on one evening the students presented their own circus program. There was also a local lady who played the guitar, sang circus songs and read circus stories to the students. A number of special circus films were also shown, which came from the Circus World Museum.

..... Allen Babcock

Concert Date

A special concert of traditional circus music, featuring music written by Indiana residents for Indiana circuses, was presented at the Indiana University's School of Music on May 1st as a tribute to Merle Evans. The event was the premiere performance of the Circus Band of Indiana and the program was conducted by Merle Evans.

In addition to the musical program several local model builders displayed their shows. Robert Weaver, an Indianapolis artist, displayed his paintings, including his special art work, a painting of Ward Stauth, playing the sousaphone while dreaming of the circus.

The musical program featured: Evans Fashion Plate March, Poet and Peasant Overture, Lady of Spain, High and Mighty March, Gentry's Triumphal March, Abdallah, Royal Decree, Broadway One Step, March to Mecca, Trombone Blues, The Circus King March, Jungle Queen, Georgia Girl, The Cantonians, The Crimson Petal, Storming of El Caney and The Greatest Show on Earth.

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Musical Score

The following musical program for the King Bros.-Cole Combined Circus was compiled by Dr. Paul E. Fitzpatrick at Statesboro, Ga., on April 14th. The circus manager is "Whitey" Black and the band consists of Tex Maynard on drums with Marcie Maynard at the organ.

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Overture - Circus on Parade | Dog Act - Kids Do Rae Mi Whoop Tee Do Gentle on My Mind | Patti Antalek - chimps - Oh! By Gosh! Camelot Bicycle Built For Two Mexican Hat Dance I'm An Old Cowhand Love Makes the World Go Round California Here I Come |
| Tightwire - This is Entertainment It's Alright With Me The Breeze and I | Clown Walkaround - Robert E. Lee | Princess Yosemite - hair hang - Theme from East is West Madame Butterfly Seranoya Poor Butterfly Chinatown |
| One Finger Stand - Gone With the Wing Theme More Impossible Dreams | Web - Most Beautiful Fanfare Most Beautiful | Capt. Kline - elephants - Lohengrin Most Beautiful Girl in the World Jungle Queen Oriente March Chinese Children's March On The Square |
| Peanut Pitch - | Cole's Unforgettable I Look Pretty I Could Have Danced All Night | Juggling - Can Can I Love Paris French Theme |
| Ladders - Belle of the Ball I Give You Love Easy to Love I Could Have Danced All Night | Ponies - Theme from River Kwai Song of India In A Persian Market Go Galop | The Paddillo's flying act - March of Spanish Soldiers Wedding of the Winds Spring, Beautiful Spring A Mexican Waltz Ringling Grand Entry |
| Unicycles - Campa Sisters - Another Opening What Now My Love Samba D'Orte Sweetest Music What Now My Love Brazil Rhadsody in Blue | Rigolletto & Co. - Musical Comedy Happy Days Are Here Again No Business Like Show Business Everything Is Coming Up Roses Cabaret The Saints Go Marching In Tijuana Taxi Cherry Pink | |
| Single Trapeze - Lady of Spain Fosalie Wish You Were Here I Could Have Danced All Night Spanish Eyes | | |

YEARS AGO

Pittsfield, Mass. - May 18, 1929
Sells Floto Circus

The Sells Floto Circus arrived here this morning from Albany, N.Y., on one train of 29 cars, consisting of: 8 horse cars, 12 flat cars and 9 sleepers, with 66 wagons.

They have a four pole big top, six pole menagerie, four pole side show, eight pole horse tents, four pole dressing and ring stock tent, six pole cookhouse, two pole kitchen top, two pole band top, two pole wardrobe tent and two candy stands.

In the menagerie they have 10 cages, 15

elephants, 10 camels, 10 ponies. There are also 60 head of ring horses.

The show set up on the Elm Street grounds where two shows were given to good crowds. The cookhouse and baggage horse tents all were down and loaded about 6 p.m. The entire show was down, loaded and off the lot by midnight and soon after was on the train. However, the train did not pull out for Worcester until after 2 a.m.



CIRCUS VARGAS

Downey, Calif., April 22 - Much can be said for the truly outstanding performance of the 1977 edition of Circus Vargas. But it is the polish of the show that impressed me beyond anything since seeing Ringling-Barnum last under canvas. In some ways Cliff Vargas has surpassed anything in outdoor circus history, constantly striving for new greatness, he has succeeded.

The new 150x300 dark blue big top was used here on a blacktop shopping center (the older top is carried and used on dirt and grass lots). A new larger blue side show top was in the air along with a new matching big top marquee.

The presentation of the performance is absolutely first class. For the opening the tent goes dark, afternoon and night, and a spotlight falls on Mike Gorman, ringmaster, who welcomes the audience and then Jim Gibson and a wonderful band provide what amounts to a short center ring concert, with a medley of honest to goodness circus marches, played in a professionally excellent and spirited manner. The old favorites brought fantasies of Karl King, Victor Robbins and Merle Evans. A top-notch sound system placed a number of mikes in the bandstand, bringing out the full quality of the music and each musician.

A number of spotlights, now mounted on towers in the grandstand, played on the elevated back door bandstand, in an otherwise dark big top. An old time grand entry opened the show using sparkling new animal robes and bright costumes on the performers riding on floats. Horses, lead stock and 13 elephants are in the procession, followed by a Vargas trademark, a man with a wheel barrow and shovel, coming after the elephants.

The big top lighting is probably the best used of any American circus. The ring curbs are lighted and look impressive in the dark top. The controlled, quid, use of spots and flood lights were very effective in presenting the two rings of liberty horses, as the trainer is introduced the lights fall on that ring denoting real class.

A new wrinkle this year by owner Vargas are net fences that guide the audience through special gates into the various priced seats, saving much confusion.

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Miscellaneous

Marriott's Great American Park, at Santa Clara, Calif., will premiere its 1977 "Circus Fantastic" on June 17th. The show will include jugglers, flying act, teeterboard, webs, elephant, unicycles, double trapeze, slack wire and production numbers in a 45 minute program.

The Indiana Circus Band held a six hour recording session on May 2nd, playing music written by Indiana composers or that which had been written for Indiana circuses. It is hoped that a four record set of circus music will be available as a result of the recording session.

One elephant semi has been attractively lettered with the show title and a large tiger head, and this truck is spotted near the entrance to the lot.

Walt Matthie is very tightly spotting 74 motorized units on each lot. The show uses heavy duty expensive truck tractors and they are all in excellent condition, all trucks are loaded within highway limits and a log is maintained on each, the same as any other over the road commercial carrier. The concession stock truck is driven to each stand by show owner Vargas, just another way in which he superhumanly covers the total operation.

The final touch of the Vargas show is a team of men that returns to each shopping center lot, sweeping it clean and filling all of the stake holes in the blacktop.

Little things that are beyond the call of duty for a circus are stock and trade on the Vargas show, and it is perhaps this one factor that distinguishes this circus from all others.

.... Fred Pfening

CROWD PLEASER

Acts appearing with the Hubert Castle Circus at Dayton (Ohio) were: Aerial number produced by the Rodriguez troupe, with two loop traps, two single traps, an iron jaw and a hair hang; Tarzan Zerbini, wild animals; Rodriguez Troupe, aerial bars; Janet Burger's dogs and pony revue; the Bisbinis, balancing; Eugene and Aurelia, wire; the Carlos Duo, perch; Killer Willard, boxing kangaroo; Rodriguez Trio, head balancing trapeze (3); Linares, poodles; the Obandos, high wire; Burger's chimps; Cristine's chimps; Diano's elephants; Little John, balancing; the Flying Palacios; Bisbini's mule; Mlle. Jacqueline, trapeze; Smaha's horses; Irene, Tongo & Co., gorilla parody; the Nerveless Nocks, sway poles.

On the road

FAMOUS HUNT -

Opening week for this show was bitter cold with several days of chilling rain. A tornado in the vicinity forced the show to drop its big top before it opened in Burlington.

Business the first week was good, with two days of packed houses (Trenton, N.J. Apr. 28 and Presidential Lakes Apr. 30) plus two days of fair business and two blanks.

The help situation, by Saturday, due to the bad weather, was crucial, causing a late arrival and set-up in Presidential Lakes and almost an hour delay in getting the matinee underway.

Shrine Date

The Sesostris Shrine Circus at Lincoln, Nebr. was produced by Charles Marine and Grace MacIntosh (Apr. 26-May 1) and featured: Lilli Ana, leopards; Girl in the Moon; Alva Johnson's bears; the Carlos Duo, perch; The Gutis, comedy; Sandy's liberty ponies; Mlle. Moulin, wire; Jose Francisco, balancing; The Andrews, juggling; Victor Julian's dogs; an aerial ballet with six girls and featuring Little Lisa; the Yancis, high wire; Lenz chimps; the Navarros, bikes; Fulbright's horses; Diano's elephants; Andre & Andre & Co. teeterboard; the Flying Aztecas.

The Circus Days spec was produced by Circus Creations. Jim Douglass was ringmaster and William 'Boom Boom' Browning was the musical director. Other staff members were: Manuel Navarro, prop boss; Pauline Toth, aerial director; Vern Woerner, head clown.

CLYDE BEATTY -

The shopping center format for the Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus has proved to be a bonanza. Concessions have increased to the point that performers are butchering.

Performers and personnel are having to adjust to new rules and regulations. No long hair, no beards on the working crew. No working men in coveralls in the malls. No clowns in makeup in street clothes. No water allowed to run from the trailers. No clotheslines. Everything must be kept neat as a pin.

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In Memoriam

GORDON ATKINSON (76), a former circus owner and concessionaire, died on April 18 at Senaca, S.C.

DARIEL FITZKEE (79), magician and writer of magical books, died last month at San Rafael, Calif., after a lingering attack of pleurisy. Born in Chicago, he spent his youth working with tent shows, dramatic companies and for a time worked as a newspaper reporter. In 1921 he married Marcia Wilson and two years later they moved to San Francisco. Survivors include his wife and a daughter.

Show Work

Members and guests of the John Herriott CFA Tent honored James M. Cole at his final show of the season at Beacon, N.Y. (Apr. 2nd) with a surprise party for his 60th year in show business. Two cakes (a clown and an elephant cake) plus a plaque were presented to him in honor of his many years in show business.

On May 15th, the John Herriott Tent will hold its annual spring meet at Spruce Lodge, Rte. 17-K, Newburgh, N.Y. at 2 p.m. Guest speaker for the event will be John Herriott;

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ANNOUNCER

'77 SEASON WITH ROYAL BROS. CIRCUS

A-1 CONCESSION MGR. and SIDE SHOW MGR.

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NOTICE

Anyone knowing the present location of Victor and Linda Flores please call collect:

(608) 356-4681

PEOPLE

AL SIKORSKY, the 18 yr. old member of The Sikorsky's, suffered a broken arm and foot injuries, sustained when he took a 15 ft. fall in late April. The fall occurred during rehearsals for summer bookings. The Sikorskys are a popular juggling and unicycle troupe, which are slated to appear in many East Coast and New England theme parks, fairs and amusement parks, as well as working with various shows. In prior years they toured with Circus Kirk and are booked nearly solid for this summer season. Although Albert, the middle member of this three man troupe will be out of commission for approximately six weeks the troupe is expected to fulfill most of their present engagements.

WALLY and MARIE WINTERS are planning to visit Circus Vargas at Vancouver, BC late this month, then will spend a few days with the Hubert Castle Circus in Canada.

SANDY DOBRITCH has been producing circus dates in Southern California.

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ROUTES

Pickle Family Circus
May 13-15 Palo Alto, Calif.
21-22 Santa Cruz

Tip Top Shows
May 19-24 Wisc. Rapids, Wisc.

Miscellaneous

Royal Hanneford Circus is playing for two and a half weeks in Ontario and Quebec for Ian M. Garden.

The Emmett Kelly, Jr., Circus will be playing for eleven days at the Louisville, Ky., fair in August.

WANTED**SALES PEOPLE**

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PEOPLE

PERCY RADEMACHER, veteran clown of over 50 years, has been hospitalized for an operation. Cards and letters can be sent to him at: 910 St. James Court, Sheboygan, Wisc. 53081.

COL. E. T. BALE is training a tiger and a lion in addition to horses at Circus World Park in Florida.

ARCHIE CHAN, Jr. (RBBB 7 yrs) and **TAI (RBBB 2 yrs)** well known show drummers, are with Holiday on Ice. Archie is musical director and drummer with the show's unit in South America, while Tai is with the U.S. unit. Both are looking forward to a vacation in July.

CARL BECK recently closed with the Hawaii on Ice show, where he was featured in a trampoline number and a sponge dive.

BILLY FORD, EDDIE BUSCH and **BUCK NOLAN** handle the clowning on the Hoxie's Great American Circus. Recently during the levitation number, when Eddie said "I will put this man to sleep, float him into the air and out the tent," a member of the audience, in all seriousness replied, "if you do you'll have to give him his money back."

BILLY BARTON (Continued)

I'll be in the show, I'll keep you posted.

MONKEY BIZ: Once upon a time a young man came onto a circus lot bearing a stump-tailed Macaque which **MEL & AURELIA HALL** bought, and which is now a featured performer in daughter **JEANNINE's** new baboon act. In San Antonio (on the Texas dates) Aurelia and a fellow-Italian showman entered into a lively heated discussion regarding the macaque's ability to perform (which is almost nil due to their neurotic natures). One half gallon of whisky was the bet by the Italian showman that the monk would never ride the 6 ft. unicycle. At the end of the Texas dates, as the other Italian act was pulling out, Aurelia, cane-waving stopped his truck, shouting: "Watch!" She pointed to Mel guiding a furiously pedalling macaque across the Ft. Worth parking lot. "Now!" exclaimed the irrepressible Aurelia, "for TWO gallons of whiskey we'll teach YOU to ride the unicycle!"

See you down the road, luv's ...

ANGELA WILNOW and her collies are playing dates in Mississippi and Louisiana for Eddie Zacchini, where she was booked by the Amandis Agency. In June she will play dates in Texas and Kansas for Howard Schultz, after which she will play park and fair dates.

INTERNATIONAL ANIMAL TRAINER Col. E. T. BALE

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a great show

The All-American Int'l Circus at West Orange, N.J. (Apr. 28-May 2) was produced by Charles Coronas, Sr. and Philip S. Napolitano. The circus presented 13 shows in five days with most performances held mornings and afternoons.

The lineup of acts included: Overture by Tony Shelton's orchestra; Prince Bogino, lions; The Coronas (Stevie and Serge) aerial motorcycle; Killer Willard, boxing kangaroo; Rosa and Anita, foot jugglers; the Hernandez Troupe, teeterboard; Les Blondins, sway pole; Clowns; Janet's dogs and ponies; Rex's mixed animals; Cimse's wolfhounds and poms; Clowns; Doady, juggling; Benny & Co., juggling; Randy and Sylvia, perch; Irene, Tongo & Co., gorilla parody; Satani Demon; The Coronas, gyro-sky wheel with Serge.

In the second half were: Aerial ballet with Stevie Coronas; rola bola in end rings; Fornarsari's trampoline; Clowns; Burger's chimps; Cristine's chimps; Clowns; Rex and Ava Williams, elephants; Flag Finale, with ringmaster/MC singing "God Bless America."

Clown alley, headed by Dime Wilson, included: Connie Wilson, David Strong, Herman and Rosie. The show staff consisted of: Philip Napolitano, executive producer; Charles Corona, Sr., producer/executive director; Serge Coronas, director; Charles Coronas, Jr., prop boss/electrician; Rex Williams, animal supt.; Tony Shelton, musical director; Jackie Marns, ringmaster; George Coronas, office; Rose Coronas, wardrobe and Stevie Coronas, aerial ballet.

The West Orange engagement will be played for ten days in 1978, with a second five day date scheduled nearby.

Miscellaneous

The Stebbings European Circus, sponsored by the Jaycees, had a big day at Brandon, Fla., last month.

The Pickle Family Circus was rained out at its Berkeley, Calif., May 6-8 engagement. The show gave three performances before the local downpour came.



A special pre-season date was played under canvas by Circus Carol at Concord (Calif) on April 30 and May 1, with five shows offered to excellent crowds. An overnight downpour left the lot a sea of mud for the two final performances on Sunday.

Among the acts appearing in the program were: Don Phillips & Co., juggling; The Juggling Jewels; Los Alejandros, foot juggler; Ironberg's Dog and Pony Revue; The Lindens, one finger stand; Drake's exotic animals; Miss Loni, trick and fancy roping; Ham and Burger, plate spinning; Princess Omat, balancing; Loni and Marquese, high school horses; the Young Troupe, teeterboard; Baby Elfi, single elephant and Valentino, high wire. Clowning was handled by Cotton Candy, Celery and Floppo. An organ and drums were used for musical background.

Chuck Burnes flew in from Southern California to handle the date, serving as both Company Manager and Announcer.

Circus Carol is produced by Pacific Show Operating Co. Inc. (Rudy and Caroline Jacoby), with offices in Southern California and Maryland. The show has a few more west coast dates before heading east to pick up a new tent and additional acts for its upcoming 30 week tour.

Show Folks

The Cirque Gatini, playing shopping centers and fairs under canvas, opened at Rouen, Quebec, on May 13th. The circus is using a new big top made by Leaf and will play exclusively in the Province of Quebec. The show is making use of lavish pictorial posters as a part of its advertising campaigns.

Lineup of talent includes: Chester Cable, foot juggling; Winnie McKay, trapeze; Killer Willard, boxing kangaroo; Tino Wallenda Zoppe, high wire; Olinka, upside down walk, and trapeze; The Grimaldis, musical comedy; Irene, Tongo & Co., gorilla parody with a chimp; Welde's Bears; Gee Gee's Cossack elephants; and ponies; the Cristiani's leopards; trampoline and juggling; Sir Tony Fossett, bounding rope; Gary Henry and Zoe-Ann, dressage horse, comedy car and comedy pony.

SAWDUST TRAIL

The April 28-May 1, Sikeston, Mo., date for the new Strong & Luvas Circus was cancelled by mutual consent of both the sponsor and circus. The date is to be rest at a future time.

Rosa Gibbs gave hubby Bobby a "birthday party" complete with cake and presents during their Monroe, La., Shrine date. Most of the performers were on hand to wish Bobby all the best. When asked by this reporter how old he was, Bobby replied, "going on 27" (27 what? Among the gifts was a model Cole Bros. wagon presented by this writer.

Many members of the Shrine Circus produced by Eddie Zacchini were guests of Dodo, the Clown, and the Louisiana Purchase Gardens & Zoo.

The Zoppe troupe encountered some vandalism while passing through Tennessee. It seems someone threw a bottle through the window on the driver's side of the monkey truck, shattering the window and marking up the cab. Repairs were made at Monroe.

We were glad to learn that CFA Earl Allen did not have to undergo surgery as was previously reported. He will have to undergo a series of X-ray treatments and cancel his circus room tour programs.

Clown Tom Phelps had a close call at Terre Haute, Ind., when a premature explosion occurred during one of the clown gags. Tom escaped injury, but a hole was burned in his coat and pants.

John McKay (Yo Ho) and wife "Cookie" were featured in the Mar. 17th issue of the Chicago Tribune. Cookie and their 7 week old son were pictured on the front page, and a full color shot of clown alley was on page inside. Other clowns pictured were Happy Kellems, Stephen Gottlieb and Al Hasan.

The Carson & Barnes Circus was reportedly stopped at the Texas/Okla. border for permits. While Dorey Miller had all the proper papers, one just didn't satisfy an official, so the show had to sit alongside the road and wait for a signature to arrive from Dallas. In all four hours were lost.

PEOPLE

The ALMIROS, GUNNAR AMANDIS, the WIRENGARDS, BUSTER HAIG and KARL and CONCHITA ERICKSON were recent visitors to the Shrine Circus at Tampa, Fla.

MARY RUTH HERRIOTT visited Hoxie's Big Top Circus enroute to join the Famous Hunt Circus.

JO ANN JENNIER, in a totally revamped and restaged trapeze act, to be known as AERIALETTA II, has been signed as a feature with Circus Odyssey for its Puerto Rico tour in 1978, as well as for other dates. Miss Jennier is also restaging her seal act which will be on the Odyssey show.

LE LON LOYALE, new heel catch trapeze act, has arrived in the U. S. and is on tour with Circus Carol.

RICHARD JOHNSON (1754 Lyncrest Ave., Jackson, Miss, 39202) is seeking information about the July 13-17 Annual Juggler's Convention. Early reports indicated the event would be held at the University of Delaware in Newark.

NOTICE

Contrary to what you may have heard, Mr. Charles Clancy was not fired from the Rudy Jacobi/Carolyn Tooley, alias Circus Carol, alias Pacific Shows Operating Co., Inc., organization.

Mr. Clancy quit after finishing the promotions for Concord, Calif.

Mr. Clancy hopes that anyone hearing any of the vicious, ugly rumors currently being spread will consider the source.

... Charles L. Clancy

CIRCUS ODYSSEY

which now include 4 super-troupers with gels; 4 hanging banks of 3-tiered, 3 color mini spots, turning all red, all blue, or all amber; 4 quartz ring towers, lighted ring curb (in blue), full back drop, floor covering incorporating a new type sheeting that wears better than the celotex normally used; mirror balls, bubble and smoke machines, its own lighting communication system, sound, ring and stage carpets, music bandstand, and 21 footlight-color-boxes edging the perimeter of the arena floor. Upon completion of the Rhode Island run, Migley enplaned for points in Latin America and Europe and rumor suggests that Circus Odyssey will play more out of the U. S. dates this season and that the bulk of its 1978 tour will be played abroad. The Puerto Rican tour has definitely been re-scheduled for 1978, opening earlier and running longer and Migley informed CR that these dates will be announced

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PLEASE NOTE

The Circus Report is currently being printed at the local Quick Press plant because of a major breakdown of our own press. As a result it is impossible to provide color work at this time.

We hope to have the situation cleared up soon, but it looks as if it will be a few weeks before this is possible.

... Don Marcks

ATTENTION

Hearings are underway by the Dept. of Agriculture concerning the regulation of transportation companies who handle shipments of animals. Such regulation is required under the 1976 amendments to the Animal Welfare Act.

Under the regulations standards are to be set concerning the construction of shipping crates, scheduling of shipments, age limit of animals shipped, number of animals per each container, terminal facilities, feeding and watering of animals, handling, safety and the notification of the consignee.

In addition to household pets, laboratory animals and other small animals the regulations cover the shipment of primates and all wild animals.

by mid-summer, along with a number of surprise bookings.

Acts working with Circus Odyssey on its tour of Rhode Island were: Pat Anthony, wild animals; Les Peters, balancing; Javanna's Jungle Jubilee of Baboons; Vashek, high wire; The Stevens, comedy trampoline; Cimse's dogs; Prince Najvez, aerial; Kasse's bears; Scalzo & Co., magic; the Bumpy Family, acrobatics; Vashek & Kathy, aerial motorcycle.

The show's staff consisted of: Ed Migley, owner/producer/director; Frank Smith, promotional director; Cyndy Migley, office/concessions; Stanley Friedberg, musical director; Bob Welz, ringmaster/vocalist; Joe Caputo, producing clown; Bobby Davis, Jr., supt of props.

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