

America's Favorite Circus Weekly

Volume 3

February 18, 1974

Number 7

A GOOD START

The first month of the current tour has been on of the best recorded, reports Gary and Philip Lashinsky, producers of the Wonderful World of Horses show. From the opening date in New York City on Jan. 3 (where some 70,000 people came out to see the show) to the final day in St. Petersburg, Fla. on Feb. 3, the show had gross receipts of \$325,000.



The show's producers are anticipating an outstanding season for 1974, with many new facilities and cities on the scheduled route. The entire 1974 season is fully booked and the show is now contracting dates for 1975 and 1976.

HISTORICAL FACT

The Hamilton & Sargent's New York Circus of 1877 was using a 100 ft. round top and 50 horses.

Day & Date

With two shows preparing to play Washington, DC during the month of April, there is every indication that an old-fashioned "circus battle" could erupt at any time. However, at least one show official was quoted last week as saying "we're not entering a circus battle."



The Capitol Centre, who broke off negotiations with RBBB last fall, is now promoting its own circus. That show will be produced by Paul Kaye and Karl Wallenda and is scheduled to play the 18,500 seat Centre April 3-21.

The Ringling-Barnum Show is sending its Red Unit into Washington for an April 2-22 engagement. This show will play the 10,250 seat National Guard Armory.

RBBB has already announced they will step up their advertising for the date. They will also bring in a Side Show and Menagerie to augment the circus.

Caltech show

Anticipating an attendance of some 5,000 people, the Caltech Circus has scheduled five shows this weekend -- Feb. 23-24 (last year the total attendance came to 4,190). It is the fourth annual circus presentation at the college and will be presented in Beckman Auditorium at Pasadena, Calif. The show times are: 11 am, 2 pm, 8 pm on Feb. 23rd and 1 and 3:30 pm on Feb. 24th.

The circus features both professional performers and college students, and will be backed by a 32 piece band under the direction of Jim Rotter. At least three production numbers have been planned, with special costumes and floats. In all some 100 animals and people will participate in the circus performances.

In addition to the performances, circus model builders from throughout the Southwest will be displaying their models for the public. As an added feature circus photos and antique lithos are also scheduled for display.

Proceeds are shared by the Caltech Glee Club and Band.

THE CIRCUS REPORT is published on a weekly basis by Don Mercks, 525 Oak St., El Cerrito, Cal. 94530.

Subscription rates are: \$5.00 for six months and \$10.00 for a year. Air Mail service is \$2.00 extra. Overseas rates upon request.

NO PURCHASE MADE

In a report from Canada, Ian M. Garden, president of Garden Bros. Circus, says he has not purchased the Clyde Bros. Circus or any other show.

"Mr. Suesz and myself have been friends for some time and have on occasions, co-operated with each other when it was beneficial for both to do so. At the moment, I have agreed to assist Mr. Suesz with certain dates on his Blue Unit. I have talked to many performers regarding these dates and this could be the source of the rumor you heard."

If ever I buy a circus or make any major changes in our present show, says Mr. Garden, I'll certainly let the industry know.

HISTORICAL FACT

The Hilliard & Main Circus of 1888 was an overlend wagon show, owned by Wm. Main and M. M. Hilliard. The show's ringmaster that year was Harry Mack.

FOR SALE

Clark & Walters Collector Kit. The kit includes a choice pictorial, tickets, passes, letterheads, advance forms, route cards, herald, color book and program (the color book was drawn by Mrs. Silverlake)

While they last - just \$3.50, plus 75¢ for postage.

Barnes & Daly Circus, Box 197-A, Dept. C&W, Medora, Indiana 47260

YEARS AGO

Pittsfield, Mass. - May 25, 1918

The Barnum & Bailey Shows arrived here from Kingston, N.Y. on the West Shore Railroad.

The first section arrived at 5 am and had 3 horse cars, 17 flat cars and 2 sleepers, with 55 wagons, of which 28 were cages.

The second section came in at 11 a.m. with 6 horse cars, 10 flats and 6 sleepers, with 26 wagons and a cart.

The third section arrived at 11:15 a.m. with 6 horse cars, 14 flats, with 42 wagons, 2 chariots, two tractors and an auto in a wagon.

The fourth section arrived at 11:30 a.m. with 6 horse cars, 4 stock cars and 10 sleepers.

They have 20 elephants, 14 camels, one baby camel, three giraffees, one baby giraffe, two zebras and three sacred cattle.

The show is presented in three rings and on four stages.

In all they have 15 tents - a big top (6 poles), menagerie (only the sidewall was used here), side show, cookhouse, dining tent, a private dining top, colored dining tent, dressing room, wardrobe, band top, ring stock, two draft stock tents, blacksmith shop, etc.

The colors are: Advance Car No. 1, red with yellow trim and gold letters; Car No. 2, blue trimmed in yellow with gold letters; Car No.

(Continued on the Back Page)

'ALL-STAR CIRCUS'

Acts appearing with the Caltech Circus at Pasadena, Calif. this weekend include:

Miss Astra - sponge dive
Hollywood Canine Review
Clown Boxing number
Miss Aurora (Bambi) - iron jaw
Russ Saunders Trio
Bambi, Dale, Allison - aerials
Miss Cindy - chimp act
The Clown Dentist
Little John Strong - juggling
Miss Dale - swinging trap
"Baby Neena" the elephant

Show officials will include: Tom Lehman, producer/Director; Doug Lyon, Act Coordinator; Chuck Burnes, Ringmaster and Consultant.

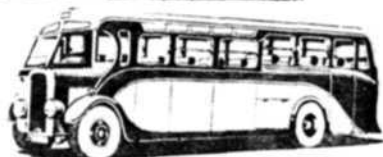
Clowns for the show are: Pops Levinson, Joey Braga, Chip Burnes, Rudy Rawls and Checkers Baker.

ON TOUR

The second half of a two year tour by Ringling-Barnum's Red Unit is well underway. The big show opened at Venice, Fla. on Feb. 8th and is currently playing at Atlanta, Ga.



Highlighting the show's performance are: Gunther Gebel-Williams, Elvin Bale, Wolfgang Holzmaier, Pio Nock, Gran Picaso and Lou Jacobs.



ROUTES

Caltch Circus

Feb. 23-24 Pasadena, Cal.

Hubert Castle Circus

Feb. 19 Las Cruces, N.M.

22-24 Albuquerque

Charles Bros. Cont'l Circus

Feb. 19-20 W. Hartford, Conn

Circus Vargas

Feb. 18-20 Miami, Fla.

21-23 West Palm Beach

24-26 Orlando

Cole All Star TV Circus

Feb. 18 Perry, N. Y.

19 Penn Yan

20 Avoca

21 Bath

22 Lyons

23 Hannibal

24 Enroute

25 Waterloo

26 Enroute

Fisher Bros. Circus

Feb. 23 Alamo, Texas

24 Enroute

25 Mercedes

26 McAllen

Great Moscow Circus

Feb. 22-Mar 11 Melbourne, Ast

Hubler's Int'l Circus

Feb. 23-24 Galesburg, Ill.

Ringling's Blue Unit

to Feb 18 Hampton, Va.

Ringling's Red Unit

to Feb. 25 Atlanta, Ga.

Royal Lipizzan Stallion Show

Feb. 18-19 Hot Spring, Ark.

21 Columbus, Miss

22 Tuscaloosa, Ala

24 Columbia, S.C.

25 Athens, Ga.

Tommy Scott-Tim McCoy Show

Feb. 18 Plant City, Fla.

19 Lakeland

20 Lake Alfred

21 Wauchula

22 Ft. Myers

23 Avon Park

24 Eustis

25 Sanford

26 Leesburg

Tripoli Shrine Circus

Feb. 19-24 Milwaukee, Wisc.

Wonderful World of Magic

Feb. 24 Binghamton, N.Y.

..... OTHER ROUTES AND DATES..

Cowboy Hall of Fame Auction

Feb 19-Mar 2 New York, N.Y.

Disney on Parade Show

Feb. 19-24 Little Rock, Ark

Holiday on Ice

Feb. 19-24 Louisville, Ky.

Ice Capades

Feb. 19-24 Saginaw, Mich.

Ice Follies

to Feb. 24 Boston, Mass.

La Fiesta de los Vaqueros

Feb. 21-24 Tucson, Ariz.

Peter Pan Show

Feb. 19-24 Syracuse, N.Y.

OAKLAND

SUNDAY SEPT. 7

SAN LEANDRO BLVD. & 66th AVE.
AFTERNOON AND NIGHT

THE GREATEST
SHOW ON EARTH



RINGLING BROS. and BARNUM & BAILEY CIRCUS

Resplendently Redesigned for 1941 — Introducing
MR. & MRS. GARGANTUA The Great

The Fabulous, Fairyland Fantasy
"Old King Cole and Mother Goose"

ALFRED COURT'S Great Wild Animal Acts
VISCONDE PONTE de BARCA, Heading incomparable
Display of Super Horsemanship, climaxed by
"EVENING IN CENTRAL PARK"

Starting New Sensations from South America
10,000 MARVELS—800 Peerless Performers—
100 Clowns—50 Elephants—**VAST RESTYLED
MENAGERIE**—**WORLD'S LARGEST TENT,
NOW 100% AIR-CONDITIONED**
TWICE DAILY—2:15 & 8:15—POPULAR PRICES
Tickets Circus Day at the Owl Dr. &
Co., Corner 13th and Broadway, As
Well As at Show Grounds

Cougars Protected

WINNIPEG, Manitoba (AP)
— The Manitoba Department
of Mines and Resources has
placed the cougar on its list of
protected species.

Dailey Bros.



...by BILL GREEN

A famous title -- Dailey Bros. Circus -- fondly remembered by many circus fans, has been revived for the 1974 season by John "Gopher" Davenport, the adopted son of the late Ben Davenport. All of the show's dates will be sponsored with some special promotional engagements also planned.

The all-new show will use a 60 ft x 120 ft. big top, with a 14 ft x 30 ft. marquee. The Side Show is 30 ft x 40 ft and will be featuring magic, fire eating, the sword box, and animal acts. A show cookhouse will also be carried and all rolling equipment will be red and white.

The circus menagerie will consist of: an elephant, buffalo, an rhea, pygmy goats, monkey, hippo, jungle rat and llama.

The tentative program will be featuring: Turtle's chimps, Dale's dogs, Gopher's dogs, Miss Rosa, foot juggler; Chintay, rola bola; Griselda, foot juggler; Senor Tortuga, Miss Kuka, Miss Carmen, on tightwire; trained llamas, Miss Carmen, Kuka, Emilda, Rosa in an aerial ballet; Capt. Dale Osborn, elephant; Turtle's whips and knife act; Turtle, Kuka, Chintay, Rosa, juggling; and finale "Circus on Parade."

Staff for the circus will be:
John "Gopher" Davenport - owner

NOTES

The Koren Shrine Temple, of Canton, Ohio, has announced they will sponsor Clyde Bros. Circus in their city on July 18-20.

Ringling-Barnum's Blue Unit will open its extended New York City engagement on March 28th.

The Perelman Antique Toy Museum, of Philadelphia, Pa., has several early day circus train and wagon toys in its collection.

Ringling-Barnum is reportedly suing Capitol Centre, at Washington, DC, because of the duo show move in that city.

MSE shows are operating on a regular schedule despite the current difficulties in getting gas to move their equipment. Some areas are worse than others, says one big showman.

The West Coast is anticipating another big season for circuses. Last year some 21 shows played in the San Francisco area.

Bill Swain - general agent
Paul Champion - special agent
Don Melhoff - superintendent
William Wilson - boss canvasman
Chas. "Termite" Davenport - mgr. ca
Kennedy Swain - side show manager
Peggy Null - band director
John Davenport - performance dir.
Ken Benson - midway manager
Dale Osborn - Supt. of Transpor.
Ralph Serratt - Mgr Privilege car
"Turtle" Benson - mail agent
Innecente Castillo - Menagerie Spt
Ken Benson - Producing clown



PEOPLE

ASHTON FARIAS, of the Flying Far-ies, suffered a broken ankle on Jan. 20th, when a spec cage he was driving overturned in the backyard of Circus Vargas at Arlington, Tex.

BOB and DORIS EARL, of Sarasota, Fla., will reportedly tour the new ROBERT BROS. CIRCUS this year.

BEV and ANTAR WAZZAN will be on the Nordmark & Hood show during the coming season.

LINDA PHILLIPS, ventriloquist, and GOEFFREY, escape artist, recently performed at the Santa Rosa (Calif.) High School.

ROGER SMITH, lion trainer, expects to be back on the road in 1975 and already has some firm commitments. He is at home in Waco, Texas due to his father's ill health.

PAULINE FOTH JULEE DUKE plans to tour with the Cardon & Johnson Circus during the coming year.

COL. BOB "Smiley" CORBIN reports he still makes some dates with his calliope, but most of his time these days is spent in promotional work.

JOE BRADBURY, Circus historian, visited the Ringling Red Unit at Atlanta, Ga. yesterday (Feb. 17).

ITALO FORNASARI and his family

will reportedly be touring with Hoxie Bros. Circus this season.

PAUL and WANDA Duke will be with the Hamid-Morton Circus for its tour.

HARLEY and JOSEPH BELMONT recently located each other after 40 years. Harley lives in San Leandro (Cal), while Joseph lives in Detroit. Their folks were the Flying Belmonts, famous in the 1920's and 1930's.



OUT IN IOWA where the tall corn grows this picture was taken in 1910 at Maquoketa shortly before bally was called. It shows the Side Show group of Gollmar Bros.' Circus.

The Side Show at the time was managed by Charlie Bell, the third one from the left, next to the ticket box (Now what do you think of that!) occupied by Doc Fitzgerald. In the ticket box to the right is Joe Chiswell.

Others in the picture include Edith Morris, sword swallower; Susie Mielt, snake charmer, and Mrs. Roberts, knife thrower, all in the top row.



YEARS AGO (Continued)

3, olive, trimmed in green with gold letters. The sleepers are all red, the flat cars are yellow with green ends, the horse cars are yellow with red ends, while the wagons are all red.

They really arrived late so no parade was given and the matinee got started about 4 p.m. The evening show started at 8 p.m. and good crowds were there for both of the shows.

They played on the Elm Street lot and the big top wasn't put up until about 1 p.m. and all of the wagons hadn't yet come down from the train.

The giraffes have three special wagons, built especially for them. The side show has two wagons for the front, with electric lights.

In the side show are: The Minstral group, skeleton dude, the albino, fat boy, wrestling midgets, bear woman, levitation, giants, man giant, snakes, midgets, cowboy giant, sword swallower Dancing Bushman and tattooed men.

The show started loading about 6 p.m. the big top was down just a little after midnight.

The first section was loaded and left about 11 pm, but the other sections were not loaded until after daylight. At 1 a.m. the wagons were all lined up on the street, from the lot to the trains.

It had started to rain just before the night show started and it rained every little bit all night long.