



8th Year

June 18, 1979

Number 25

Big One Is Signed

Glenn Parkins, Executive Director for Hanneford Circus, Inc., of Sarasota, Fla., has announced that they have signed a contract to produce the 1980 Detroit Moslem Shrine Circus. Tommy Hanneford, Executive Producer, took time off from his busy schedule at the Americana Amusement Park and made a quick trip to the Motor City for the official signing.

The seventeen-day, five-ring circus will be held in the State Fairgrounds Coliseum on March 14 through March 30th. Moslem Temple's Circus Chairman, Jim Farley, and Chief Rabban (1980 Potentate), Leo Harrowood, stated that the Hanneford produced circus will kick off the Temple's 100th Anniversary.

Hanneford and Parkins have expressed their delight at again being selected to produce this Grand-daddy of Shrine Circuses. Hanneford produced the Moslem Temple's Circus in 1976.

More Rules

The latest rules covering both performing and non-performing animals as proposed by the State of Florida consists of the following information.

Performing Animals - Definition of Performing Wildlife - The definition of performing wildlife referred to in these regulations is wildlife that has been rehearsed, regulated, and can accomplish a consistent rou-

tine under prescribed behavior conducted under the discipline of the trainer. Such wildlife is removed from cages or enclosures at regular intervals for training, performing and exercise.

Large Carnivores (lions, tigers, jaguars, leopards, pumas and hybrids). - Size of traveling cage for performing animals on the road - The animal must be able to turn around and stand up on all fours with

(Continued on Page 19)

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SPECIAL

MORE THAN 77 YEARS UNDER THE TENT
.... by Eugene H. Kirkman

On the cloudy morning of April 24th, on a small fair ground in Madison, NC, some circus fans walked on the back lot of Circus Genoa. It was their pleasure and surprise to be greeted by a short and grizzled man, the real and only Frank "Blacky" Boyd Martin. A man that has been in show business for 77 years. Since 1902 at Darlington, SC, when he ran off with the Genry Bros. Dog and Pony Show, he has been on the road with about every circus and most carnivals that have played in the U.S.A. For 16 years of this time he was with Ben Davenport. Now, "Blacky" Martin, who was 88 years old on June 12th, is training animals. "Blacky" owns three goats named Jim, Frank and Kathy, a small donkey named Dynamite, and a guanaco that is just called S.O.B. Some of us would think this guanaco was a llama, but not "Blacky". These animals are being worked in the circus by a clown, "Blacky" does the training, plus other jobs.

For us fans Circus Genoa is really tops. It has Eva Karoly with her horses and dogs; Kenny Benoit's cat act, fine looking animals; The Logan sons (sorry I didn't get their names) of Freddie Logan, are handling seven big bulls; plus many others, including two flying acts. This was a great show!

If Genoa, Italy, was the birthplace of Christopher Columbus, these circus fans on this day discovered a real jewel of a circus man after 77 years. We wish for Blacky Martin many more days of dry lots and straw houses.



DAN STAPLETON, escape artist at Circus World in Florida, successfully escaped from chains which bound him to the track of a park roller coaster last month.

THE HENNEBERRY FAMILY will be playing dates in New York State during the months of the summer season.

RUTH ANN SEBESTIAN was featured on the front page of the Toronto Sun on May 25th. The color photos showed her making a dive off the roof of the Maple Leaf Gardens.

Joseph C. Reisinger

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Show Report

The Al Azhar Shrine Circus was presented at the big Stampede Grounds in Alberta, May 23-27. The arena was decked out in red, green and yellow sawdust and the show was well accepted by enthusiastic crowds at each performance.

The program featured: Aerial Ballet with 8 webs and two single traps; Tarzan Zerbini's 18 lions and tigers; Gene Randow with a Tug Of War; Aerial Display with Robertos, Octavios and Patricia, and Sylvia; Killer Willard, Boxing Kangaroo; Derrick Rosaire with Tony the Wonder Horse; The Drougettes, Pablo and the Angels and Lee Marx, juggling; Miss Jacqueline, single trapeze; Christine's Chimps; the Maple Grove Arabians and the Marshall Camels, and Llamas; Clowns with the Levitation; Balance Display with Cheletis, the Segura Family and the Dielkas Sisters; Intermision; The Ray Luna Flyers with Enrique Luna doing the triple; Doug Ashton's Clown Band; Arturo Segura; Irene, Tongo & Co., gorilla parody; Elkardis, hair hang; Mario's Mad Hatters; Gary Thomas and the circus elephants; the Rodriguez Troupe on the aerial bars.

The show's ringmaster was Ed Russell, the musical director was Clem Toca.

On May 25th, a special show was assembled for presentation at the Alberta's Childrens Hospital. Circus performers taking part in this show were: Greg Toca; Elizabeth Toca; Lee Marx; Gene Randow; Miguel Padilla; Doug Ashton; Arturo Segura and family; Lit and Mario Drougette, John Orr and Ed Russell.



THE CIRCUS REPORT is compiled and edited by Don Marcks, 525 Oak St., El Cerrito, Calif. 94530 - Phone: (415) 525-3332

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SHOW DATES

Beatty-Cole Circus

June 18-20 Scranton, Pa.

Big John Strong's Circus

June 18-19 Mishawaka, Ind.

Carden-Johnson Circus

June 18 Lexington, Nebr.

19 North Platte

20 Mc Cook

21 Ogalala

22 Gordon

23 Alliana

24 Pueblo, Colo.

Hubert Castle Circus

June 18-19 Victoria, BC

21 Chilliwak

22-24 Vancouver

Circus Vargas

June 18-21 Medford, Ore.

22-26 Portland

Dobritch Int'l Circus

June 21-24 Wheaton, Ill.

Allan C. Hill Productions

present Great American Cir.

June 18 Montoursville, Pa.

19 Linglestown

20 Mechanicsburg

21 Pottstown

22 Myerstown

23 Schuylkill Haven

Hamid-Morton Circus

June 21-24 Norfolk, Va.

Tommy Hanneford Circus

to Sep. 12 Middletown, Oh.

Happytime Circus

to June 23 Vallejo, Calif.

Bill Kay Circus

June 18-19 Twin Falls, Idaho

21-22 Idaho Falls

Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus

June 23 Lake Elsinore, Cal.

Monte Carlo Circus

June 19-20 Columbus, Ga.

22-24 Montgomery, Ala.

Pickle Family Circus

June 23-24 San Francisco,
Calif.

Police Circus

June 23-24 Portland, Ore.

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit

June 19-20 Little Rock, Ark.

22-24 Beaumont, Texas

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit

June 21-24 Norman, Okla.

Shrine Circus

June 21-22 Popular Bluff, Mo

Wenatchee Youth Circus

June 18 Vancouver, Wash.

---- MAGIC ----

Blackstone, the Magician

June 19-24 Valley Forge, Pa

Int'l Magic Show

June 18 New Orleans, La.

19 Alexandria

20 Monroe

23 Wichita Falls, Tex.

24 Amarillo

Pf. Miller - Magic Time USA

June 20-21 Chicago, Ill.

23 Milwaukee, Wisc

Tom Ogden - Magician

June 18-30 Hollywood, Cal.

---- OTHER DATES ----

Clowns, Inc.

June 19-21 Athens, Ohio

23 Newcastle, Pa.

Cold Nose Five - Dog Act

June 21-22 Popular Bluff, Mo

Judy Collins Show

June 23 Cuyahoga Falls, Oh.

24 Huntington, W.Va.

James H. Drew Exposition

June 18-23 Richland, Va.

Ethel's Leaping Greyhounds

June 22-30 Winnipeg, Mant.

Foley & Burk Shows

to June 23 Vallejo, Calif.

Hal Haviland - Dogs & Pony

to Oct. 8 Lincoln, N.H.

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June 21-24 Wheaton, Ill.

Los Latinos - Wire Act

June 23 Lake Elsinore, Cal.

National Threshers Reunion

June 21-24 Wauseon, Ohio

Mr. Sensation - Aerialist

June 21-24 Wheaton, Ill.

Sad Buster

June 18-20 Austin, Texas



A NEW LIPPIZAN riding school, modelled after the famed school in Vienna, is scheduled to open at Niagara Falls (NY) in 1980. TREVOR BALE, who told me about it during my visit to the Beatty-Cole Circus, said the project is U. S. Government sponsored.

FROM all reports the Monte Carlo Circus has not been doing well financially. One source says the show lost a hundred grand in Chicago alone. One of the reasons cited is the expensive rail moves. A party on the show thinks it could easily have been moved on six semis. A major tenter has offered to buy the train (no it's not Circus Vargas) but that is strictly hearsay. It has been reported the Monte Carlo Circus will go to Australia for 14 weeks.

CLOSEUPS: PETEY KINOSH, back in circulation - or at least in communication, wrote he will play fairs with his diggers and is taking four out this year in the New England area. Petey was with the Monte Carlo Circus for 5 weeks, working with concession honcho ROLAND KAISER. He caught Ringling Blue and reports the fabulous BARBARA WOODCOCK is the star of the show, working alone in center ring and is always besieged with autograph seekers backstage. Well, Barbara has the sort of "star quality" which is rarely seen in the circus, so I'm not the least bit surprised. . . The QUASSARS played a New England spot for the BILLY BURR Carnival (which uses many aerial acts) booked by BETTER BOOKING of Boston. . . Diamond JIM PARKER did not return to Circus Vargas as he told me he was, but I understand is with the Gatti show. . . The SENSATIONAL LEIGHS go to Europe this winter and are booked over seas all of 1980 (and may stay longer). . . There will be no Kool Aid Circus dates this year, apparently a problem between the organization and the fairs. Hopefully they will solve them by the time fair season rolls around next year. . . RON GILL was stricken with pneumonia in April and was hospitalized at the St. Vincent's Hospital in Sioux City, Iowa. His condition was extremely serious; fortunately he survived the illness and is enroute to a full recovery. . . BAUER-HALL set the FARRELL Bros. at RBBB's "World Showcase" at Circus World from June 23 to Labor Day. . . GENEVIEVE POLACK was hospitalized in Iowa City (Iowa) three weeks for a hernia operation. She is at home now, weakened, but feeling better. Sam flew to

the dates as he hates to drive alone. Told me Richmond (Va) and Toledo (Oh) were winners and he has signed them back for '80, along with Little Rock, Canton and Louisville.

CAUGHT the Beatty-Cole show right after my return from the West Coast and thought the performance much better than it has been for the past two seasons. Many very good animal acts spark the show, among them the BALES with three rings of horses, two carriages and TREVOR in the center using long-reins; and the top-notch chimp act of SUSAN and CEMON. DAVE HOOVER added a new tiger to the act the day I was there, and JOHNNY WELDE showed me two new Grizzly Bears. Johnny says they were vicious when he first got them last year, but then he opened the cage and one came out and licked his face like a dog!

HARRY HAMMOND's not mad at me any more. I made it a point this time to march out to the office to say hello, to BILLY GRIFFIN, too! . . . JIMMY JAMES is helming several interesting clown numbers, including a Bull Fight number (very well done) and a Clown Horse Race on the track. For the most part he is using all new clowns, most of them young faces I have never seen. . . The band, which has been cut down, is still good, but the Beatty show, like the Vargas show, needs to improve its lighting. Both tenters are not bright enough.

SNAPSHOTS: While WALLY NAGHTIN was laid up with a broken leg, DORIS went off to visit Susan and Cemon on the Beatty show, but only for a day as she is still doing opening and closing productions until the bear act returns to the program, which ought to have been about two weeks ago. . . FRANK and RUTHIE CLARK (Frank & Estreleta) bought an acre and a half near Sun & Fun on Fruitville Road in Sarasota, complete with a house, of course. . . Susan and Cemon, who bought their new home this winter, did a lot of work to it before going on tour and Cemon planted 33 palm trees. . . NITA BALE is back in Venice with her mother taking care of the extra stock while BONNIE, GLORIA and TREVOR are on the road. TREVOR is still in some pain since his operation last winter, but you'd never know it to see the

(Continued on Page 16)

MAILBAG

from: Robert F. Houston, Philadelphia, Pa.

It has been my pleasure to have been a subscriber to your magazine for about four seasons now and I've found it to be thoroughly enjoyable and informative. It is for this reason it was all the more disappointing to me to read Billy Barton's column of May 7, 1979. This article refers to a Black youth being involved in malicious and criminal acts and a Black man allegedly ill advising his son to fake injuries, supposedly suffered as a result of a frightened and rampaging elephant. I feel strongly that the depicting of this ethnic group, or any ethnic group, in incidents of this nature is totally inappropriate and unnecessary. In this era when people should be trying to encourage and promote better understanding of each other, it is this kind of reporting that creates and rekindles the destructive flame of bigotry and racial disharmony.

After reading the above mentioned issue, I decided to write to you, but before I could do so, your next issue of May 21, 1979, arrived. Again it disappointed me to see a similar negative racial slant in his column. These regretful acts referred to in both issues were senseless, no matter who committed them, and did not necessitate the mentioning of any particular

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color or racial group. This is not an attempt in any way on my part to censor the news, but simply to point out that it is immaterial whether the offenders in this particular case are of Afro, Irish, English, Jewish, Indian, Spanish, Italian, etc. descent. Somehow, I do not believe that had those villainous individuals been of Billy Barton's ethnic group, the color of their skin would have been mentioned. I found it offensive and in poor taste.

At one point, I thought perhaps I was being overly sensitive because of my own Afro-American background. However, both articles were shown to several of my caucasian friends who also happened to be members of "The Circus Fans" and "Circus Model Builders" and they also found it disturbing. Keeping this in mind, I was compelled to write this letter and let you know of my deep concern.

Blacks are one more minority who have made a significant contribution to the Circus and allied arts with their talents, blood, sweat and patronage, and I assure you they also number among many of your readers. Hopefully, your magazine is intended for all circus employees and fans alike, regardless of race, creed or color.

I've been a circus fan, model builder, historian and friend for over thirty years and I truly consider your magazine to be "America's Favorite Circus Weekly" report. It is for this reason I am hopeful that these words will be taken seriously and negative ethnic statements of this nature will no longer blight the pages of your otherwise worthwhile publication.



THE NERVELESS NOCKS took delivery of a new 1979, 34 ft. Avion at Elkhart, Ind. last month, while the MANUEL NAVARRO Family took delivery of a 1979 Holiday Rambler at Omaha, Nebr.

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In Memoriam

RUDY J. HAGENE, former circus man with the Al G. Barnes Circus, and a member of the CFA and CMB died at Ashland, Wisc. on May 4th.

DOLLY JACOBS, an animal trainer and former wife of the late Terrell Jacobs, died in Washington on Mar. 22nd. She spent her whole life in the circus, working various animal acts and in later years presenting a 3 elephant act. She toured with most of the major circuses, including Al G. Barnes and Ringling-Barnum. Survivors include a daughter, Judy, and a son, Terrell, Jr.

PEOPLE

MANUEL RUFFIN (Prince Bogino) has joined the Monte Carlo Circus as the show's trainmaster.

DR. HENRY MAXFIELD, of Mason City, Ill., hosted personnel of Franzen Bros. Circus to a chicken dinner on Memorial Day.

ED RUSSELL and **LIT DROUGETTE** celebrated their birthdays while the Hubert Castle Circus played Calgary on May 25th. A special dinner was served at the White Spot nightclub, with steak and lobster dinner for everyone.

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Top name performers taking part in the June 1-3 magic convention at Charlotte, N.C. included:

Walt Hudson, Sir Gaylord, Bill De Mar, Jose de la Torres, Gene Keeney, Tom Ogden, Chiron, Ron Conley, George Schindler, Fantasio, Don Adams, John Shirley, Ed Dunhill, Carlos, Joy the Clown and Ed Collins.

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PEOPLE

DANA and DWAYNE LEBEAU are the parents of twin girls born on May 12th. Michelle Katy weighed in at 3 lbs. 15 ozs, while Shari Shavonne weighed 4 lbs. 6 ozs. (Their current address is: 20570 Verta St., Perris, Calif. 92370).

SMOKEY JONES visited the Big John Strong Circus when the show played at Redlands, Calif., in May.

REX, DARLENE and AVA WILLIAMS were pictured in a special article in the Hayward (Calif.) Daily Review on May 31st. Also pictured in the article were SILVIA, ALICE, ANNA and RAUL LANTONY.

BONES CRAIG worked with the Happytime Circus at Vacaville (Calif) late last month. His two elephants were featured in the show's program.

THE FLYING FARFANS were featured in the April 17th issue of US magazine.

CHARLIE CHARLES, rider of the world's smallest bicycle, and RON PALILLO, ventriloquist, were recently seen on TV's Mike Douglas show.

DOREY MILLER was featured in a story about the Carson & Barnes Circus, in the Denver (Colo) Post, on May 6th.

DICK OSLUN finished booking dates for Circus Girard then jumped to the west coast to join magician STAN KRAMIEN's organization.

MARLA L. LAMBKY and GARY F. NOEL were married on May 25th at Mulvane, Kans. Gary and

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his father, Frank, have the Noel Circus. Both Gary and Marla are clowns with the show.

ROY HUSTON, illusionist, now on tour with the Showtime Follies, visited with magicians PHILIP MORRIS, CHARLES MAYS and MIKE McCLENDON when he was in Charlotte, N.C.

THE CLOUD BUSTERS are back on the road once again with their high acts. Featured in the act is RICH PHELPS and BOBBY GOLDEN. They will be appearing at the Sandy Lake Amusement Park over the July 4th holiday.

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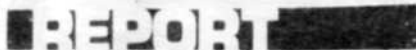
Show Report

BIG JOHN STRONG . . . by Bob McCall

The John Strong Circus played two days in Tempe, Ariz., but had to battle the fire department both days.

The lot was covered with high weeds despite promises from the sponsor that it would be freshly graded when the show arrived. Because of recent brush fires in the city, the fire department required show personnel to patrol outside the tent during each performance with shovels or buckets of water. Little concessions were sold inside because the salesmen were on fire patrol.

Acts using fire or motor driven equipment were cut. A clown act that used a small motorcycle was forced to use a bicycle instead.



A small circus played several dates in Southern California this past month and featured the following acts:

Jefferies, with 5 lions (4 female, 1 male); Michael & Co., chair balancing; Hi-Fi (Bob Emerico) with magic and Willy the skunk; Carol Cheney and Tarra, the elephant; Hi-Fi and the Chicken Plucker; The Roxies, low wire; the Winn Bros. and the Death Walk on high wire; The Wheelers, musical comedy;

(Continued on Next Page)

The Roland C. Butler Tent CFA, served dinner to the show personnel the first night in the center ring. Several tent members returned the next night to serve coffee and doughnuts to the crew during teardown.

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Pat Anthony's wild animals; the Dolly Sisters; Ethel's Greyhounds; the Arwood Dogs; Sir Chadwick Chase and his Rolls Rotten; Miss Loni and Miss Barbara, foot jugglers; Jo-Ann and Sunny, seal act; Geraldo's High Wheel; Bridgit and Gigi, sword balance; Leon and Luba; Karl's Poodles; Miss Aerialetta; the Gutis Family Fantasy; the Diano Elephants; Gilbride, fire dive and Shorty Selland, musician, all appeared on the Des Moines Shrine Circus on May 18-20.

SMALL CIRCUS (Continued)

Intermission; Roberta's slide for life; Jefferies' seal act; Hi-Fi going golfing; The Winn Troupe, on the high wire.

Visitors seen at the circus were: Mingo, Jim Parker, Tommy Bentley, Chuck Clancy and Paul V. Kaye.

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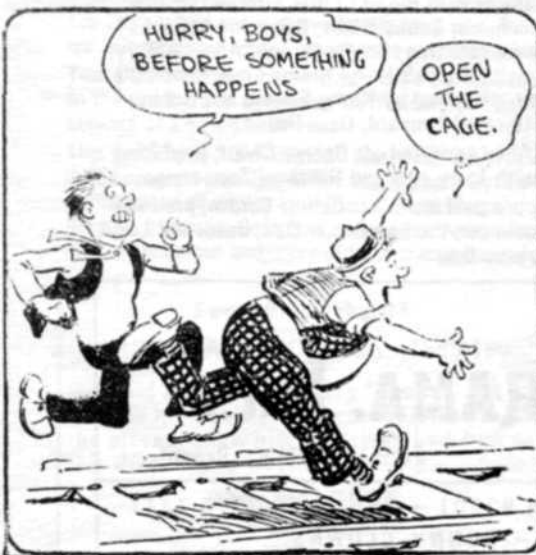
Features at the Solano County Fair, at Vallejo, Calif. June 11-23 include: the Happytime Circus, Rick Nelson, the Shley Family Puppets, Rene's Marionettes, Montezuma's Revenge, Scotty Plummer, Sunshade 'n Rain, Jose Feliciano, Dr. Michael Dean, the Minisingers, Tom Upton's Old Time Movies, Dancers of the Pharoah and the Rak Aura Dancers.

PEOPLE

FRITZ LAUBER, concessionaire, reports he had a good weekend in San Francisco with the Knights of Columbus Circus on June 2-3.

JACK WRENCH, who last year worked concessions with the American Continental Circus is playing his trombone with the band this season.

By Crane



BILLY BARTON (Continued)

old pro in action. . . **BONNIE**, by the way, is really doing a great cloud swing. I'M proud of her! . . . Met **MIKE TAYLOR**, a friend of the Bales, who is a well known Circus Fan from England. He was only over here for a few weeks and our meeting was so brief we never had a chance to exchange notes. . . **WALLY NAGHTIN**'s mother is on the road with him and Doris. She came on after Wally's father died last year . . . **EDNA ANTE**'s sister is traveling with her but complains there just isn't enough "night life" around a circus and is bored. . . **LUCY TOTH** (Lacey) is working at a bank in Sarasota, meanwhile going to school to study Tax Accounting and plans to open her own office. She is also studying Spanish as she will need the expertise in her new business venture. Husband **LAZLO** is working for the Sheriff's Dept. where he is in charge of the official fleet. He's uniformed, just like the cops, so I guess we'll call him Captain of the Cars! . . . *Hadn't seen the HOUCS since we were with Polack Bros. together in 1962. They still do a whizz bang juggling turn, fast and smooth. . .* **BONNIE & CLYDE** transferred to Int'l Magic Spectacular June 11th, which preemed at Daytona Beach. . . **UNCLE HEAVY** returned to Int'l All Star with a new Chevy Van (his other truck was stolen and burned). . . The **LA TORRES** and **Stoney** the elephant, are at **Bensons Wild Animal Farm** in New Hampshire. . . The **Hoxie Show** played Clear Spring (Md) May 20th for the first time to SRO biz and lavish publicity spreads in the Hagerstown (Md) paper. . . Thanks **SUSAN** and **CEMON** for the great hospitality PLUS the wow of a steak dinner.

MY MOTHER says **TRUDY** (Wilson) **STRONG** was NOT the good girl I claim she was, says Trudy used to let the air out of her father's tires! Phoned Trudy to settle the argument. Trudy agreed with me, naturally. **DIME**; Guess you'll get the last word! Meanwhile Trudy and I have worse problems: While our trailers were parked, mother birds flew in to build nests and raise their young. Trudy left her trailer on the farm until the birds are big enough to fly. I don't know what I'm going to do.

SEE you down the road, luvs.

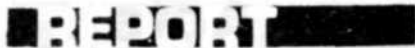
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CARDEN-JOHNSON . . . by Bill Galloway

The Canadian unit of the Carden-Johnson Clyde Br. Circus was in St. Catherines, Ont., May 19-20. The date was sponsored by the Rameses Shrine Temple, with two shows given each day.

The program line-up included: Overture; Cat Act, 6 lions and 3 tigers, trained and presented by Wayne Wagen; Single Trapeze, Miss Ivy (Upton) and Miss Kathy (English); Comedy Trampoline, with Cucillo; Display with Yoxall's Merrie Menagerie and Alberto Zoppe's Mixed Animal Revue; Hand Balancing by Gina Medro; Display with Liberty Ponies, Cucillo, High School Horses, Miss Carla (Zoppe) and Miss Vicki (Hansini), Liberty Mules, Bobby Gibbs; Clowns and Tug of War; Rola Bola, the Ferroni Duo; Aerial Ballet featuring the Diamond Duo (Dave and Ivy Upton) on the French Trapeze; Intermission; Alberto's Riding Academy with Miss Carla; Clowns with the Big Mouth Gag; Kurt Szymanski's Chimps; Display with Sword Balancing on ladders, Hansini and Miss Gina; Clowns with Big and Little Firecracker; German Shepherds, Bobby Gibbs; Balancing Aerial Ladder, the Ferroni Duo; Gorilla Parody, Adele & Gory; Display with Zoppe's Horse Riding Lion, Bimbo the Elephant, presented by Kathy English and Bobby Gibbs; Uncaged Leopard, Dave Upton.

Clown Alley consisted of: George Clyatt, producing clown with Larry Hite and Giovanni Zoppe.

The show's staff included: George Carden, producer and announcer; the Kay Parker Duo, band, and Les Yoxall, prop boss.

REVIEW

CARSON & BARNES . . . by Don Ballard

The writer caught Carson & Barnes at Columbus, Nebr. Trucks and equipment showed evidence of a cold and muddy spring, but it was exciting to see the striped big top (6 center poles) rise with man and elephant power. Always a feature with Carson & Barnes the elephant herd was impressive - 26 Asian and one African with tusks. In addition there is a nice menagerie, including a hippo, yak, leopard, hyena, zebu, camel, llamas and guanacos, rhea, zebra, and quite a few others.

Dory Miller was on hand, spotting seat trucks in the big top, etc. Things were in good shape for the 4 and 8 p.m. shows, at one of a string of one day stands.

The show also carries several side shows, rides (including pony and elephant), moon walk, etc.

This writer will make no effort to list all of the performers in the excellent show, but will merely point out some personal highlights. It should be mentioned that the program is not always accurate, but an effort was made to get correct names with great cooperation from Phil Chandler, announcer, who had his hands full keeping action in the 5 rings moving.

Early in the show, John Arthur Marrone, begins to show star quality as he works a cage of lions and tigers with spirit and touches of humor. Mr. Gebel-Williams, a favorite of the writer, must look to his laurels as this fellow shows the same verve and much personality as he works cats, horses and elephants throughout the show - including a lion on the back of an elephant.

Lee Devons had the audience spellbound as 3 "lookers" precariously walk 3 globes up a cornered ramp.

Tom Cordova, producing clown, could perhaps broaden the small group of clowns' buffoonery to suit the expanse of a 5 ring audience.

This year's spec "Old Mexico" was great. An article in the program says Isla Miller and Barbara Byrd and a crew spent all winter working on wardrobe, and the spec proves it. Costumes, elephant covers, props, etc., are gorgeous and carry out the theme beautiful-

For A Biography Of

HARRY BLACKSTONE, SR. (1885-1965)

I would appreciate hearing from anyone who was on his magic show, worked theatres where he played, knew him, or remembers him or his show in any way.

DAN WALDRON

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Miscellaneous

Elephants from RBBB's Circus World Park were all weighed on June 4th. It was an annual event to keep track of the animals growth and health.

Garden Bros. Circus played at Toronto May 25-26, while a unit of the Carden-Johnson Circus played at that same city on May 25-27.

The Gatini Circus, of Canada, advertises that advance tickets can be purchased at a saving of \$1.00 if the tickets are obtained prior to the show's arrival.

TV's "Razzmatazz" show recently featured a segment entitled "Be A Clown".

ly. Use of show kids and some of the menagerie animals adds to the color and excitement.

Chandler and his "harem" have some good illusions in the center ring. The elephants are well trained by Don Carr; they appear several times, perhaps best in groups of 3 in all 5 rings, ending in a long mount of 17. Their names on head harness are a nice touch.

Nine-year-old Rueben Bautista makes two remarkable appearances, first at hand balancing and later as a flyer with his father and sister. He attempts the double each performance and is, of course, working on the triple. The Lopez flyers had a tough afternoon with one man out with an injury. All three groups - Lopez, Caballeros and Lunas - had great costumes. In fact, the all new costuming for the show was spectacular, especially the pink and black outfits used in the large elephant display and both the entry and work outfits in Gay Paree, the web number, starring La Chona.

A bareback act with style and class features Luciana Loyal.

A listing of every fine act and performer would fill this whole issue, but surely would include Juan Garcia's foot juggling, Paulette's Puppies, and the Payaso, musical clowns, among many others.

Irving Johnson's band of seven provided real circus music throughout the show.

Out for the day with a strep throat was young center ring juggler Wally Eastwood.

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SAWDUST TRAIL

by M. L. DUPONT

It is now official - the latest Ringling Blue Unit route card shows the show will be in Lubbock, Texas, instead of playing at Fort Worth. Texas will have the Blue Unit for a total of 7 cities, includes stands at Dallas, Midland, and Beaumont.

While on the subject of route cards, the latest card from Beatty-Cole showed their date at Gettysburg for the CFA. This card noted "Beatty-Cole Circus Welcomes CFA Fans Today" and at the bottom of the card it says "CFA Greatest Convention June 10, 11, 12."

William "Bill" Hooper was set to take over the reins of the CFA, serving as their next president. Knowing Bill as I do, he will be a strong leader and will be working hard for the organization. We wish him much success.

Louisiana Purchase Zoo & Gardens had a big Zoo Day last month. Murray Hill, his staff and 3 elephants arrived May 22nd. Well over 2000 people rode the elephants, and Murray and his elephants got plenty of media coverage. My hat's off to Murray for he has a fine group of trained elephants. Also congratulation to Zoo Administrator John Hassion who had to step

in at the last minute and organize things, John was a one man committee, doing it all from front to back.

AP recently ran a picture of children on the Ringling Red Unit getting their schooling from private tutors. The life of a circus child may be thrilling and exciting but they still have to get some school work done.

I know now that this column is read in England, had a letter from Jack Niblett, a contributor to the British magazine "King Pole." I'll be in touch with Jack in the near future.

The Dallas Ed Millette Tent is preparing for its annual circus. Lots of work has been done, they recently acquired new ring curbs, plus canvas, seats and all and so they are becoming more circus every year. They spend a lot of time keeping the spirit of the circus alive in their area. They do so many things it would take pages to tell it all. We certainly salute them.

If this column should miss an issue or two it is not because I have quit, but rather that my clown work is taking me away from the typewriter. Please keep the news coming this way, for I like to hear from all of you and am still in there pitching.

BARON VON UHL reports that his recent problems with animal officials in Florida was just a case of him being "harrassed by these people."

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MORE RULES (Continued)

head clearance. Cage must be constructed of steel or case-hardened aluminum with one solid side or a portable divider panel so that no animal can harm another animal. A steel floor with wood surface suitable for drainage of urine. All cages shall have secure locking devices, must be key or padlocked. All cages shall be well ventilated. Cages exposed directly to the public must be constructed of steel or alloy bars no more than 1½ inches apart.

Bears and Hyenas — Same as above except no wooden floors.

All Primates — All animals must be able to stand up and turn around. Cage constructed of steel bars no more than 1½ inches apart. Sufficiently constructed to be escape proof. Padlocks top and bottom of the door.

Elephants — While on the road all elephants must be chained front and back legs — All performing wild animals should travel in air conditioned or well-ventilated vehicles that may be adjusted to weather conditions. All animals be provided with fresh water while in transit, twice in any 24 hours and be fed at least once in every 24 hours.

Performing acts arriving in an area where they will be present for over 30 days in a non-performing ca-

capacity, shall place their animals in facilities that meet minimum pen specifications within 72 hours. Persons moving into the state shall be given 60 days to get such facilities constructed.

Non-performing Animals — Traveling non-performing wildlife is wildlife which is exhibited to the public in a cage or enclosure and is not removed from such enclosure for regular exercise or performing activities.

Large Carnivores (lions, tigers, jaguars, leopards, pumas, wolves, bears and hybrid cats) — For single animal — cage length shall be at least double the body length (excluding tail) of the animal. Cage width shall equal or exceed body length. Cage height shall extend not less than two (2) feet above the standing animal's head to ensure proper ventilation.

For two or more animals kept together, add one-third (1/3) more cage length for each additional animal.

Large Primates - - -

Gorilla: Cage, 8 ft. wide x 8 ft. long; height, shall not extend less than 2 ft. over the standing height of animal. Shall be equipped with overhead pull bar and seat.

Adult Orangutan: Cage, 7 ft. wide x 7 ft. long; height, shall extend not less than 2 ft. over standing height of animal. Shall be equipped with overhead pull bar and seat.

Adult Chimps: Cage, 6.5 ft. wide x 6.5 ft. long; height, shall extend not less than 2 ft. over standing height of animal. Shall be equipped with overhead pull bar and seat.

Young Chimps (up to 50 lbs.): Cage, 5 ft. wide x 5 ft. long; height, shall extend not less than 2 ft. over standing height of animal. Shall be equipped with overhead pull bar and seat.

Macaques: Cage, 5 ft. wide x 5 ft. long; height, shall extend not less than 2 ft. over standing height of animal. Shall be equipped with overhead pull bar and seat.

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