

CIRCUUS REPORT

"AMERICA'S FAVORITE CIRCUS WEEKLY"

The logo for 'Circus Report' is a vibrant, stylized graphic. At the top, the words 'CIRCUUS REPORT' are written in a large, bubbly, red font with a blue outline. Below the text is a central illustration of a clown's face with a wide, joyful expression. To the left of the clown is a blue elephant, and to the right is a blue tiger with its mouth open, showing its teeth. The entire scene is set against a blue background with red and white decorative elements, including a banner at the bottom that reads 'AMERICA'S FAVORITE CIRCUS WEEKLY'.

9th Year

May 19, 1980

Number 20



REPORT

REID BROS. CIRCUS

... by Dr. David E. Reid

We had a chance to visit the Reid Bros. Circus in Albany, Ore., (April 28) where they were sponsored by the Albany Fire Dept. Muster group. They had a good house for both the 4:30 matinee and the 7:30 night show.

Clowning is handled by Hi-Fi (Bob Emerico) and Harry Ross. They work *come-in and do two numbers in the show - the TV Gag and the Cannon Number.*

The show is backed by an organ and drums, and it looked as if it were magnetic drums. The drummer also played trumpet and sang twice.

Kim Dixon opens the show with illusions and is the opening act for the second half, doing magic. He also serves as the announcer and does well with both assignments.

The show's elephants are the Murray Hill elephants who do good fast routines.

The wire act consists of three people (2 girls and one boy). The girl does a trick I've never seen before. She sets a pole on the wire which then is balanced on the boy's shoulder and she walks up the pole to his shoulders for a walk-off shoulder mount. Took balance and concentration for sure - especially considering the vibration of the wire.

The rest of the show was put on by a Hispanic family who did a one finger stand, principal riding act with audience participation with a mechanic, trapeze, which started on a ladder and then they moved to a trapeze, hair hang, gorilla parody and risley act. They also had a cat act of 2 lions, 1 tiger and 2 jaguars.

The show ran 1 hour 55 minutes including a 20 minute intermission. The run-down consisted of Overture, Illusions, One finger stand and acrobatic, Clowns, Riding act with mechanic, Ladder and revolving trapeze, high wire, cats, Intermission, Overture, Magic, Hair Hang, Gorilla Parody Clowns, Risley, Elephants.

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BY MAIL...

... by William Wotsch

When we had the Al Sirat Grotto Circus at the Cleveland (Ohio) Arena in Feb. 1940, we had a hockey game coming up on Sunday, during the circus date.

After the Saturday night performance we took all the circus equipment out, with the material used for guy weights placed in the Southwest Tunnel. Ring curbs and other floor stuff was stored in the Southeast Tunnel. Trunks in the dressing room were stacked up in a corner.

Our wooden chutes for the Terrell Jacobs cats were taken apart and piled up back in the North east tunnel by the lions. The cages were all nailed up with boards.

Guy ropes and rigging were all pulled up high, out of reach. The Wallendas dismantled their high wire rigging, cables were put up high and everything was moved, so it seemed.

The elephants were kept in the Pilsner Cellar in the back lobby. In fact people could go into the Pilsner Cellar for hot dogs and drinks, and at the same time could feed peanuts to the elephants.

Trucks were brought in to haul out the dirt and the boards were removed to reveal the ice. The dirty ice had to be cleaned and then leveled off, which was done by a little tractor pulling an ice planer. The heavy blade shaved the ice much in the same way a wood plane shaves wood. This was long before the more modern ice machines were developed.

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SPECIAL

NO SPRING WEDDING FOR TITO and LEE

Flying trapeze great Tito Gaona says the report in the National Enquirer magazine that he and Tv star Lee Meriwether were planning a spring wedding were a bit premature.

"We're going to wait until the Monte Carlo Circus finishes its engagement in Japan this summer, so we can get married in the United States" he said.

Tito and Miss Meriwether flew back to the U. S. after the Monte Carlo Circus wound up its Australian tour in mid-April.

Miss Meriwether, a star in the "Barnaby Jones" TV series, was presented the Genii award from American Women in Radio and Television for her contributions to her profession and the community.

She and Tito returned to the Far East following the Hollywood awards ceremony.

In Memoriam

JOHN CARROLL (54) who was known as "Elephant John" and had been an elephant trainer and handler all of his life, died suddenly at Jacksonville, Texas, on April 25th while with Carson & Barnes Circus. He was a cage boy for Terrell Jacobs, then joined the Kelly-Miller Circus 32 years ago and stayed with the Miller organization throughout his life. Last year he lost an eye when it was struck by a bull hook.

Services were held in the circus big top at Denison, Texas, and burial was at Showman's Rest in Hugo, Okla.

EUGENE HODGEMAN, a former circus billposter who worked on the Ringling show in the 1930's and 1940's under Babe Boudinot, died of a heart attack in Los Angeles on April 26th. He was a member of the stagehands union and worked as a grip on the Mike Douglas TV show. He had finished his work for the day, turned to thank the boss grip man for a pleasant day, then collapsed into his arms.

RUSSELL SWANN, noted vaudeville and night club magician, died of a heart attack in New York on March 17th. One of a family of ten brothers, he attained fame with appearances at the Waldorf Astoria and many night clubs and long vaudeville tours. He used a gentlemanly ap-

Miscellaneous

Boston has been selected as the site of the 1981 Convention of the Society of American Magicians, which will run July 1 thru 4. Boston Assembly No. 9, of S.A.M. will host the affair with Norman Howe serving as Chairman.

proach and patter in his act during the 30's to 50's. He was 78 and was honored with an Award of Merit by the Academy of Magical Arts and Sciences in 1979.

FRED SCHMELZ, dean of the Baltimore Yogi Magic Club, died on April 17th. He was active in many organizations and was a familiar face at magic conventions on both coasts.

Show Dates

Hubert Castle Circus
 May 19-23 Calgary, Alhta.
 24 Lethbridge
 25 Medicine Hat

Circus Vargas
 May 19-21 San Bruno, Cal.
 22-26 San Jose

Circus World Museum Circus
 May 20-Sep 14 Baraboo, Wsc

Fiesta de Circo
 May 19 Benson, Ariz.
 20 Bisbee
 21 Douglas
 22-23 Sierra Vista
 24 Safford
 25 Clifton

Hamid-Morton Circus
 May 23-26 Trenton, NJ

Hoxie Bros. Circus
 May 19 Monroe, NC
 20 Forest City
 21 Brevard
 22 Hazelwood
 23 Hendersonville
 24 Marion
 25 Wytheville

Nur Temple Shrine Circus
 May 23-26 New Castle, Dela

Pickle Family Circus
 May 17-18 San Rafael, Cal.
 19 San Francisco

Sam T. Polack Circus
 May 24-25 Jackson, Miss.

Police Circus
 May 25 Vallejo, Calif.

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit
 to June 1 New York, NY

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit
 May 20-26 Hartford, Conn.

Royal Hanneford Circus
 May 20-21 Beaumont, Texas

Roberts Bros. Circus
 May 19 Yadkinville, NC
 20 Galax, Va.
 22 Union, W. Va.
 23 Hot Springs, Va.
 24 Franklin, W.Va.
 25 Romney

Royal Lichtenstein Circus
 May 19 Davis, Calif.
 20-21 Sacramento
 22 Los Altos Hills
 23 Santa Clara
 - End of Tour -

Stars, Spangles & Thrills
 May 23-26 Jackson, NJ

---- MAGIC ----

Amazing Conklins
 to May 24 New Orleans, La.

Conclave '80
 May 23-26 Wichita, Kans.

Florida Convention
 May 24 Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

David Ginn
 May 19 Rutherford, NJ
 21 Long Island, NY
 22 Danbury, Conn.
 23 Wallingford

Kelmar's Showtime USA
 May 23 Genoa, Ohio

St. Miller's Magic Time USA
 May 19 Belchertown, Mass.
 20 Palmer
 21 Brattleboro, Vt.
 22 Orange, Mass.
 23 Danbury, Conn.
 25 Batavia, NY

---- OTHER DATES ----

Babes in Toyland
 May 19-25 Philadelphia, Pa

The Bisbinis
 May 23-26 New Castle, Dela

Billy Burr's Fun-O-Rama
 May 19-24 Warwick, R.I.

Dondi, the Elephant
 May 23-26 New Castle, Dela

James H. Drew Exposition
 May 19-24 Charleston, W.Va

Firemen's Muster
 May 24-25 Ukiah, Calif.

Gund Western Collection
 May 18-June 15 Stockton, Ca

The Gutis - Jungle Parody
 May 23-26 New Castle, Dela.

Kaye Hollywood Elephants
 May 24-June 8 Bentley Bros

Rolling Diamonds - Skating act
 May 23-26 New Castle, Dela.

Royal Lipizzan Stallions
 May 22-24 Inglewood, Calif.

Shanghai Acrobats
 May 20-June 1 Los Angeles,

The Sikorskys - Jugglers
 May 20-24 Chicago, Ill.

Harry Thomas - Tigers
 May 24-25 Jackson, Miss.

Whizzer the Clown
 May 26 Hilltop, Ohio

Carden-Johnson Circus
 May 26-27 Brantford, Ont.

Magicana Holiday
 May 19-20 Madisonville, Ky.



THE GALA GAY CIRCUS NIGHT in Los Angeles, eschewed this season by Circus Vargas, will be played instead by CHUCK CLANCY and TOMMY BENTLEY with their Bentley Bros. Circus on June 7th with two evening performances sponsored by the L. A. Gay Community. The circus will appear at the corner of Santa Monica and Vermont in L.A.'s City College Athletic Field and, if all goes well, plans are to make this date an annual event. I was invited to fly out and appear in the show and to have a first-hand report of the function but owing to previous contractual commitments was unable to accept the invitation. Maybe, next year, kids.

Bentley Bros. will come east for their regular route in August and will tour into the month of Sept. Johnson (Pa) where the show debuted two seasons ago will be played outdoors this year and has been moved up to Aug. from its regular mid-Sept. playdates. The promotional-producing team has added many new dates to their Eastern tour and I will be able to announce those new towns, plus the performance line-up, very soon, and at the same time will also be able to announce several new innovations for the forthcoming tour.

SNAPSHOTS: FRANK & ESTRELETA into Kennyswood Park July 7 thru 27. . . The TROY (NY) College date for Circus Odyssey was postponed from a date in April until this fall and I called GRACIE HANNEFORD in time to prevent her from driving down with a coterie of Circus Fans. . . The GEORGE HANNEFORD Family played the BOB SNOWDEN New England Shrine dates. . . Many of the acts driving to M&M's Omaha date got caught in a mid-western freak blizzard. . . The college dates played by Circus Odyssey this spring have all been signed back for 1981 - some of them for two days instead of one which producer ED MIGLEY will incorporate into a vastly expanded route next season - kicking off in Feb. It took three years to get this show off the ground but now. . . look out! A super-beautiful show and a welcome addition to the major circus scene. . . Producer GEORGE HUBLER reports one of the best winter and spring seasons ever and each year, George, who uses top-quality acts, increases his string of Shrine dates and what is more important increases the budget instead of under-cutting as some producers do who will find, to their sorrow, that

with riding inflation they have only been cutting their own throats. Any show cutting the budget nowadays will find expenses being paid from its own pocket! . . . FLORINE OLER says she is thinking of not going on a long tour next season, a tour, combined with their lengthy summer and fall route of fairs, is just too exhausting. But Florine has said that before and each new season finds her working as hard as ever. . . Welcome RAY SINCLAIRE and JOHN (former clowns/dog act) to the CR readership. Now! There are two names you haven't heard mentioned for years.!

HANS WINN, Roberta and Little Carl (who's not so little any more) will play the Bentley Bros Circus route in California and in the east, and Han's sons, John and Mike (The Astros) are set for the Anaheim Stadium, July 4, followed by a run at Knottsberry Farm, and then the Orange County Fair at Costa Mesa.

EUROPORAMA opens June 26 and plays until July 30, coming as far east as Kansas City. On the show will be Tarzan's second act act, the Paul Kaye elephants, the Zamperla Troupe, Rodriguez Troupe, Rudy Dockey, the Winn Troupe, and a six piece band under the baton of JOE NAPPA. Hans will be the show's supt.

I NO sooner received Frank & Estreleta's letter when INGE SMAHA called to ask me to be sure to let everyone know how well TONY, Sr. is doing and that he will indeed be back in the saddle shortly. She remarked also that young TONY is doing the "capriole" by himself.

MISS LONI took a bus to the Omaha date, grabbed a taxi, loaded her props and headed for the building. When she got there she told the driver to pull in where the animal trucks were parked. "Here?" he asked. "No," she said, "keep driving." They continued on until she wound up in the center of the main arena floor where Gracie McIntosh met her and exclaimed: "Only you Loni, could make an entrance like that!"

Loni said that everyone on the dates were just wonderful to her, saw to it she got back and forth to the hotel okay, and from Omaha to Lincoln without any problems. She has learned to drive and by the time this column is in print, will have purchased her own car and then her arrival at dates will be just as mundane as everyboyd else's!

REPORT

SMITHSONIAN MUSEUM'S PROGRAM

... by Nick Weber

The Smithsonian Museum's Spring Festival was held in Washington, DC, April 25-27, and was dedicated to American popular entertainment.

Ward Hall's side show offered a wonderful, energetic grind all day long. It was the first time some of these people had seen a sword swallower use a neon tube, not to mention the .38 revolver firing the sword down the throat.

Lou Jacobs and Bobby Kaye were in good shape and spirits even if confined to a very small area decked out as an alley. Jim Tinsman and Mark Anthony were in the outdoor One Ring Show with the Herriotts, but because of rain on Saturday and Sunday, that event didn't work. I found it odd that the Smithsonian would stage a circus event - at this time of year and not have a tent, at least standing by. But on Friday the outdoor show did work. Herriotts did dogs and dressage, Mark Anthony did his small car, and Tim Tinsman did the table rock he did on the RBBB Red Unit.

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The one film I saw was "Circus" narrated by E. Kelly. I hadn't seen it before and thought it was great. A lot of shots and sentiments that only an insider who had been there could have shared. It included sequences of the Wallendas, not long before their Detroit fall, the narrator said, there also were shots of the Gaonas of years ago when Tito was quite young and working out on a trampoline.

To me, the highlight of the whole event was the Marine Band Concert of circus music. The real classics were played in full. As a result it was a surprise to hear all of such numbers as "Wedding of the Winds", "Trombone Blues" and others. Narrator John Herriott gave a good full "steel arena" announcement before "Thunder and Blazes" and "Entrance of the Gladiators."

Following is the musical program:

MUSIC FROM THE CIRCUS played by the President's Own, The United States Marine Band directed by Lt. Col. John R. Bourgeois. Circus Announcer was John Herriott.

Caesar's Triumphant March by G. F. Mitchell (1898) as played by Ringling Bros. Circus Band
Barnum and Bailey's Favorite March by Karl L. King (1913) dedicated to Mr. Ned Brill, bandmaster of Barnum & Bailey.

Wedding of the Winds (Waltz) by John T. Hall (1899)

Robinson's Grand Entree (March) by Karl L. King (1911)

The Storming of El Caney (Galop) by Russell Alexander (1903) dedicated to the 2nd and 8th Regiments and Rough Riders of the 3rd Brigade of the 5th Army Corp.

Trombone Blues (Trombone Smear) by Fred Jewell (1918)

Garland Entree (March) by Karl L. King (1912) dedicated to W. P. English, bandmaster, Sells Floto Circus.

The Circus Bee (March) by Henry Fillmore (1908)

Spring, Beautiful Spring (Waltz) by Paul Lin-

(Continued on Page 10)

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PEOPLE

BOBBY YERKES, circus aerialist, stunt man and movie consultant, is currently working on several circus films, one of which is called "Daredevils of the Red Circle." He is also working with **PARLEY BAER** on a film about the circus which has been titled "When The Music Stops."

VIC HUNSBERGER, **BOB YERKES**, **RUSTY ROCK**, **RICHARD ROCK**, **CHRISTINE GORDON** and **BETH NUFER** recently took part in a Double-Mint Gum TV commercial, where they appear in a double-wide flying act.

BOB YERKES doubled for the star of the film "Roughnecks" a story about the oil industry in which the star is knocked off a stairway by an explosion. Also appearing in the film is **CATHY LEE CROSBY**.



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REPORT

REID BROS. CIRCUS

... by Ralph Henderson

We always look forward to seeing Reid Bros. Circus, so we were happy to hear that they would play the Coeur d'Alene (Idaho) Fairgrounds.

We drove over in a pouring rain and found the show was struggling to get set up. They had dumped two large truck loads of wood chips in the infield for the two rings. Aerial rigging was hung from the roof of the grandstand and the high wire was set as close to the grandstand as possible for protection. They never did get the flying act up.

A little after 3 p.m. the rain stopped and the matinee, playing to a good crowd, was started just about an hour late.

A run-down of the acts is: Magic opener; one finger stand; Clown gag; Voltage riding act ending with audience participation; Swinging ladder with a pump-over finish; High Wire act with 3 people; Cat act with 2 lioness, one tiger and two jaguars; Intermission with elephant rides; Dove Magic and a Six Part Girl Illusion; Hair Hang; Clowns; Six people risley act; and the show closed with a three elephant act.

MUSEUM PROGRAM (Continued)

cke (1904)

The Billboard (March) by John N. Klohr (1901) dedicated to the General Amusement Business Paper "The Billboard".

Sells Floto Triumphal (March) by Karl L. King (1914) dedicated to the Sells Floto Circus.

Kentucky Sunrise (Two-Step) by Karl L. King (1919) dedicated to Rhoda Royal

The Big Cage (Galop) by Karl L. King (1934) dedicated to Clyde Beatty, famous lion trainer

The Skaters (Waltz) by Emil Waldteufel (1911)
Olympia Hippodrome (March) by Russell Alexander (1926)

The Greatest Show on Earth (March) by Victor Young (1952) as featured in Cecil B. De Mille's Mightiest of Motion Pictures "The Greatest Show on Earth."

Entry of the Gladiators (Thunder and Blazes) (March) by Julius Fucik (1905) 9

In Storm and Sunshine (March) by J. C. Heed (1905).

The weather turned beautiful, but the performers still had to walk in ankle deep mud to reach the ring. In spite of the adverse conditions they put on a good show and everyone was friendly.



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REPORT

CARDEN-JOHNSON CIRCUS IN S. F.

The Carden-Johnson Circus presented a strong program at San Francisco's Civic Auditorium on April 26-27, for their second year with the Islam Shrine Temple. The performance offered a variety of acts, most of which had not been seen in the city before.

A full band backed the program and was directed by Mike Pike. He also handled the announcements and light cues. Bill Golden was the show's vocalist and Clown Alley, headed by Bob-O included Bob Hoagland (Hobo Bob), Richard Bal-lou and Ric Wilson (Choo Choo).

The performances were highlighted by the appearance of Cathy Lee Crosby who worked as a flying in the Flying Braytons act. After each performance Miss Crosby was kept busy signing autographs and posing for pictures for the patrons.

Featured in the program were: Bill Golden, tigers (8); Karl Winn, high wire walk; The Ferges Troupe, trampoline; Clowns and the Convicts; Chester Cable, foot juggler; Ken Willer, juggling; The Bickmores, aerial ladder balance; Jan's Baboons; Clowns with Dr. Bob-O; Veni Berosini, sword balance/fire act; Aerial Ballet with Nancy, Pam, Beth, Christine and Sheila on web, with Wini McKay on single trapeze; Intermission; the Flying Braytons, flying act; Ken Willer, balance

in the NEWS

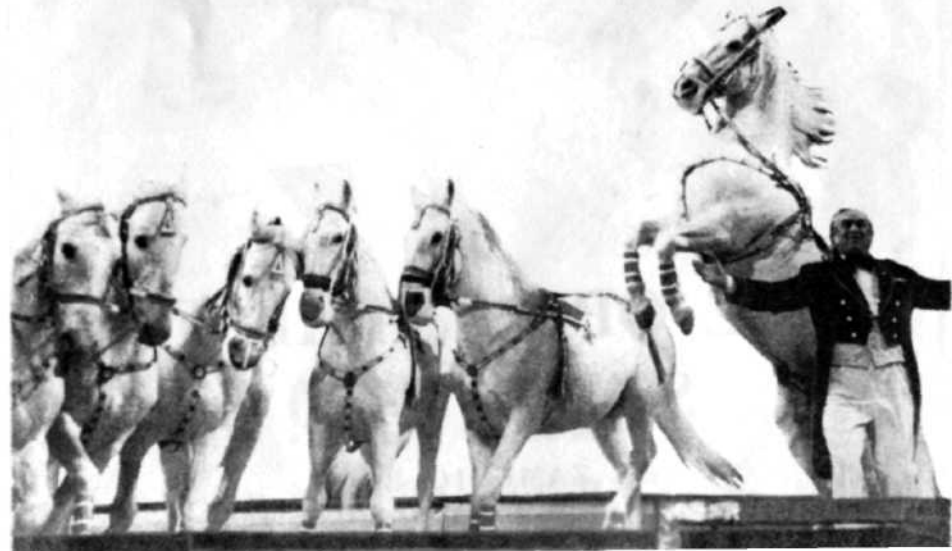
CIRCUS HANDBOOK

Joanne Joys and Bobbi Weber, of the University of Toledo (Ohio) have written and illustrated an educational package for elementary schools entitled "The Circus Is Coming to Town." It has been produced by the Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus and is being distributed to schools in cities where they will be playing.

"The reason we volunteered our services," says Ms. Joy, "is because the tent circus is an important part of American culture that has survived over the years. The circus spans American history; it has adapted itself to every change. We just wanted to help out in any way we could."

and one finger stand; Sheila, slide-for-life; Bill Golden, high school horse; Doug Terronova, camels (3); Clowns with Princess Fatima and her Camel Herders; The Bickmores, risley; The Ferges Troupe, comedy painting gag; Bill Golden, elephants (3); The Winns, aerial motorcycle.

Following the San Francisco engagement most of the C-J circus headed for a date in North Dakota. However, Bill Golden and Larry Carden took the elephants, horses and camels to Hollywood where they have parts in a new film called "Love Max." Also appearing in that film will be the Bobby Berosini Orangutans.



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REPORT**HOXIE'S GREAT AMERICAN CIRCUS**

... by William C. Shoop

Had a chance to visit the Hoxie Great American Circus on opening day at Apopka, Fla., and it was good to see the show once again.

The circus is traveling on eight show owned units. The top is the old one and is still in quite good condition, seats about 2,500 people. The band consists of drums and calliope and offers real circus music.

The side show has an old fashioned canvas banner line, which is rare these days.

During the winter the show was completely repainted and everything offers a red, white and blue look. The midway includes an elephant ride, side show, concession truck and a concession stand.

Animals on the show include 3 elephants - Betty, Myrtle and Jessie. They also have 2 goats, 2 pythons, 10 dogs and a camel.

The staff consists of: Hoxie Tucker, owner, Jim Silverlake, manager, Bill Smith, front door and Joe McMahon, general agent.

This writer also visited the show the following day at New Symra Beach, where other visitors were James M. Cole, Sandi Parratt, Judy Mc Donald.

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CIRCUS QUIPS . . .

. . . by KARL J. BISCHOFF

WHAT SHOW received a letter from an announcer applying for a job who said **HIS VOICE REGISTERS 5.1 ON THE RICHTER SCALE?**

MOST SHOWMEN can tell when summer is almost over, they're closing up the detours and going back to the main roads.

SOME SHOW PEOPLE HAVE THE SPUNK THAT GOVERNMENT HAS, they don't let a little debt keep them from spending.

AFTER PLAYING A STATE in the middle west for 5 weeks with dusty lots and no rain, the owner of the show asked a native if it ever rains around here . . . **"RAIN? There's bull frogs in this state OVER 6 YEARS OLD THAT NEVER LEARNED TO SWIM."**

SUMMER PROFITS depend on the **WEATHER** and they depend upon **WHETHER** you know what you're doing.

WASHINGTON TUBBS II

PEOPLE

HARRY C. MUSSMAN has been named administrator for the U. S. Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the USDA's regulatory agency. He has been director of Animal Production and Health at the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome, Italy.

TONY BLANCO, a member of the Clyde Beatty Cole Bros. Circus Clown Alley, specializes in mime and magic work.

JAMES "Jimbo" MITCHELL, former clown on the Wonderland Circus Revue is looking for pen pals. You can write him at: Rte. 1, Box 140 (S-1-22), Blanch, NC 27212.

AL DAWLEY, ringmaster, was presented with a "Arkansas Traveler" certificate by the Governor of the state during a recent circus performance at Little Rock.

HANABELLE, the Lady Clown's Circus Arts & Skills Program of 6th Graders were recent guests at the Booklyn (NY) Academy of Music.

KRESKIN, the Mentalist, was a guest on the Mike Douglas TV Show which was aired the afternoon of May 15th.

FRANK OLIVIER, former clown is now performing as a juggler and unicyclist at San Francisco

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CLARK McDERMOTT visited the Paul Kaye Circus at Wichita and then caught Carson & Barnes Circus at Denton, Texas.

CATHY POLICELLA, a member of the New York Clown Alley, COA No. 98, is working on the TV show "Sesame Street." She is an accomplished puppeteer.

THE HENNEBERRY FAMILY provided the April 27th show for the "Plus 60" Club at Des Moines, Iowa. Visitors there included C. Thomas Magrum, Frank Upp, Ed Freeman and Wayne Rohlf.

PATRICK JORDAN, 11 yr. old brother of **JOE JORDAN**, both of whom are jugglers, will be appearing together in an ice show in Tampa, Fla.

By Crane

GEE! TANGO, IT'S MIGHTY NICE O' YOU SHOWIN' ME THIS PLACE. YESIR — MIGHTY SWEET AN' CONSIDERATE.



Roy Crane

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.
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DON'T KID YOURSELF, HONEY. I WAS 'BROKE AN' WANTED A SANDWICH.



in the **NEWS**

CIRCUS VARGAS GAINS RECORD

"It's been a long time coming," smiled showman Cliff Vargas, "but it's been my steadfast dream for over 15 years to create the world's largest and classiest big top circus."

Circus Vargas was recently christened "America's Big Top Giant", a new and permanent registered trademark/servicemark for what the Guinness organization has authenticated as the world's largest big top circus.

In a brief address to his circus organization, at its newly-located executive offices in Los Angeles, the showman, who is often referred to as "America's Mr. Big Top", announced his continuing commitment to enlarging and bolstering the entertainment excellence that has long been associated with Circus Vargas, which was called "the classy, shiny, sparkling, sequined circus" by the prestigious Los Angeles Times.

Included in Vargas' future plans are an expanded, five pole big top, elaborate specialty acts, sophisticated theatrical effects, and many new

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production accessories.

During his concluding remarks, Vargas said, "Circus Vargas is now on a plane by itself in the world of existing circuses. There is no show that duplicates the scope, quality or reputation that this young but flourishing enterprise has to offer. With a strong, nostalgic interest in the big top circus, I see Circus Vargas making heady progress over the next five years."

PEOPLE

JEANIE ELLIS, of Sedan, Kansas, treated her Clown Club, of 15 members to the Kelly Bros. Circus at Independence, Kans. on May 1st. After arriving in Independence the children all dressed in costumes and make-up.

JERRY LUCAS, former professional basketball player, now works with people and wins lots of popularity with his techniques for memorizing the Bible quickly.

ADEN and VELMA LOWRY, of Sedan, Kansas, have returned home after spending a week with their daughter and family in Lancaster, Calif. While there a grandson from Fresno visited them and other relatives from Long Beach also came in to see them.

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..... male \$1,000.00 ea.
..... female \$2,500.00 ea.

WHITEFRONTED (*L.m. albiglans*)
1.1 b 1979 5,500.00 pr.

VARIEGATED LEMUR (*L. variegatus*)
1.1 b 1979 - unrelated 7,500.00 pr

RED-FRONTED LEMUR (*L.m. rufus*)
1.1 b 1978-79 4,500.00 pr

PRIMATES

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1.0 five yrs., trained, can be handled by anyone
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SIBERIAN TIGER (*P.t. altaica*)
2.1 b Sept., 1979, unrelated, tame male 1,700.00 ea.
..... female 3,000.00 ea.
2.1 April, 1980 male 1,500.00 ea.
..... female 2,500.00 ea.

BENGAL TIGER (*P. tigris*)
1.0 2½ yrs. old 2,000.00 ea.

BLACK JAGUAR (BRAZILIAN) (*P. onca*)
1.1 b Sept. 1979, mother raised 7,000.00 pr.
1.0 four yrs. proven breeder 5,000.00 ea.
0.1 b Nov. 8, 1979, very tame 5,000.00 ea.
1.0 b April 8, 1980 3,000.00 ea.

LEOPARDS (*Panthera pardus* subspecies)

AFRICAN LEOPARD (*P.p. pardus*)
1.0 b, 1979, leashed, very tame 2,500.00 ea.
AMUR LEOPARD (*P.p. orientalis*)
2.0 b, Feb. 10, 1979, Stud-Book #0088 5,000.00 ea.
BLACK LEOPARD (Sumatran stock)
1.0 2 yrs. mother raised 1,500.00 ea.
0.2 b, Oct. 1979, tame 2,000.00 ea.
1.1 b, Sept. 1979, mother-raised 3,500.00 pr.
1.0 ten yrs., front feet declawed, excellent breeder
..... 1,500.00 ea.

INDIAN LEOPARD

2.0 b, Sept. 1979, leashed-broke, dog tame 1,700.00 ea.

SUMATRIAN BLACK

1.0 b., April 1980, hand-raised 1,000.00 ea.
1.1 b., Sept. 1979 4,000.00 pr.

LION AFRICAN

1.0 wild-caught, Eastern Cameroon 1971, top
animal, Black-mane, proven breeder, 1,500.00 ea.

CLOUDED LEOPARD (*Neofelis Nebulosa*)

1.1 male b.3-13-79, female b. 5-13-79 13,000.00 pr.
1.1 male b.2-6-72, female b. 1980 8,500.00 pr.
3.3 b.3-27-80 & 4-5-80 if taken before 8 weeks
..... male 3,000.00 ea.
..... female 6,000.00 ea.

SNOW LEOPARD (*P. uncia*)
wild caught, 10 yrs. proven breeder. . . . 10,000.00 ea.

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2.3 wild-caught, young adult, compatible, treated
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..... female \$400.00 ea.
..... 600.00 pr.

GOLDEN CAT (*Felis temminckii*)
0.1 b. 1978 2,500.00 ea.

LEOPARD CAT (*Felis bengalensis*)
3.2 if taken before 10 weeks 1,000.00 ea.

MARGAY (*F. wiedii*)
1.0 b, 1978 1,500.00 ea.

OCELOT (*F. pardalis*)
1.1 two yrs. unrelated, compatible 4,000.00 pr.
0.1 five yrs. 2,500.00 ea.

PALLAS CAT (*Felis manul*)
2.2 wild-caught, adult 4,500.00 pr.

SERVAL (*F. serval*)
2.2 b., April 1980 male 1,500.00 ea.
..... female 2,000.00 ea.

SIBERIAN LYNX (*F.1. wrangeli*)
1.1 female b. 1978, male b. 1979, unrelated,
compatible 5,000.00 pr.

CAMEL HYBRID (*C. bactrianus* x *C. dromedarius*)
1.0 five yrs., well-trained, (couch, gives rides, etc.)
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HOTLINE

May 3 - Austin, Texas - FLO HERNANDEZ, of the Maradon Duo, high wire act, fell while getting up on a chair on the wire for a free stand. She fell 25 feet into a safety net during the performance of the Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus.

In falling she struck the edge of the safety net, did a flip and fell another 10 feet to the wooden floor.

She was rushed to a hospital and within an hour was back at the circus, shaken and bruised but otherwise OK. She suffered a small scalp wound caused by her barette, plus sore toes and face, but nothing serious.

The act was worked the next day by her partner who worked alone on the wire.

Flo was a part of the Flying Columbians act on Hoxie Bros. Circus in 1976-78 and appeared with the Kelly Circus at Oakland, Calif. in 1978, as a part of the Flying Cortez act.

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in the NEWS

CIRCUS PRODUCER WINS CUSTODY ROW

(by Robert Rawitch and reprinted from the Los Angeles, Calif., Times).

"Everybody loves Dumbo," opined U. S. District Judge Irving Hill of a 29 year old Asian elephant named by the late Walt Disney, creator of the cartoon character of the same name.

But a judge's job is to resolve legal disputes and, after a sometimes humorous two-day hearing in Los Angeles federal court, Hill ruled that Dumbo will remain the property of circus producer Paul V. Kaye, who bought the elephant in 1971. Kaye's former wife, Judy, who grew up with the elephant, was pursuing a 1978 suit brought by her mother, who claimed she only sold the elephant to Paul Kaye out of fear that he might otherwise harm the animal.

Dolly Jacobs, Judy Kaye's mother, died last year and her daughter became executor of her estate.

But, Hill found "no fraud, no duress and no menace" that had occurred either when Jacobs and Paul Kaye orally agreed to the sale in 1971 or in 1974 when a written agreement was signed by the two.

"We knew we had an uphill battle after Dolly died," said attorney Thomas L. Guyton, who represented Judy Kaye, an actress and animal act performer.

But Guyton said his client was still hopeful she might obtain "custody" of Dumbo as a result of a pending suit seeking assets accumulated by her former husband during the 12 years the Kayes lived together before being married.

CHERI SICARD has been appointed show manager of the Trotter Bros. Production "Birds of Paradise" show at Riverside Park in Cagawam, Mass., for the summer season.



by LLOYD E. JONES

JERRY LUBIN, friendly New York club performer, passed away on Mar. 28 at the early age of 48, from a heart attack. An experienced mentalist, he was a motion picture advisor for the film "The Exorcist" and worked out the 180 degree head turn that surprised many viewers. Many of his tricks were marketed by magic dealers and his best were published in "My Favorite Pastime" in 1970.

In April, we were offering the remaining copies of this book and now we have them exclusively. Priced originally at \$4.00 we will sell them for \$2.50. The book has 32 pages in a soft board cover and is mainly on electronic, tape recorder magic that one leading magic dealer in the mid-west stated was worth a fortune to the working mental magician. There is also a feature card trick, a thumb tie and a coin-less coin trick (use poker chips) that makes this an excellent value.

I'm afraid that many passed this book up because of the show girl cover which gives you the impression it is about girl chasing. No way - it is a good book, but mainly for those who like mental magic and its now at a bargain price \$2.50.

MY APOLOGIES to the many of you who ordered "Mud Show" when I mentioned it could be had at a bargain several weeks back. I sold my stock out the first day when orders came in. Immediately I phoned for more - got the run around "We don't take orders by phone. No, I don't know if we have the book. Nor, how many, etc." So I mailed an order and check. Weeks went by with no response, so I turned to a friend and asked him to check on it.

Would you believe it takes a month plus to accomplish anything? First, it was preparation for Passover; Passover and work afterwards - then a transit strike while he hastened to tell me he would take care of the matter. Finally, I contacted the shop again and this time found an intelligent young lady who had answers! Yes, they had my order - it was among some 500 (!) delayed by a computer change over and would soon be shipped. Meanwhile my friend finally got around to checking and bought all the books

(Continued on Page 24)

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REPORT

... by Dr. Paul Fitzpatrick

The Arnold Maley-Duggan Bros. Tent, CFA, No. 116, held a covered dish supper on April 10th for Shriners and show people of the Yaarab Temple Shrine Club in Atlanta, Ga.

Some of those attending were: Potentate Charles Goble; Chief Rabban, Paul Robinson; Asst. Rabben, Edward Fabian; High Priest and Prophet, H. H. "Buddy" McDonald, Jr.; Oriental Guide, Marcy Eisenburg; Treasurer, Alton White; Recorder, W. K. "Billy" Carter, plus Bob Moscow, circus director.

Also attending the event were: Mr. and Mrs. Frank Mums; Mr. and Mrs. Marlen Weaver; Mr. and Mrs. Orville LaRose; Paul Fitzpatrick; Martha Bell; Lucille Lane; Mr. and Mrs. John M. Higgins; C. Gordon Taylor (Tent President) and various other members of the local tent.

Honored Guests included: George Hanneford, Jr.; Struppi Hanneford; Nellie Hanneford and Herman Brinkley, assistant director of the Shrine.

Members of the tent attended a performance of the circus as a group and report it was an excellent show.

LLOYD JONES (Continued)

available. Finally, I am able to fill all those orders that have been waiting (\$6.48 p.p and ins.)

They, the orders, have been sitting here with checks uncashed, so I hope by now you have your copy of "Mud Show" and understand it was not intentional - just another of those things that harass a fellow trying to do business with others.

While I am apologizing, I might as well tell you of another big problem. That concerns my huge "Encyclopedia of Stage Illusions". Just as we got started distributing them there came a threat of a law suit and all books were tied up. Depositions and a court appearance came and now finally the whole affair has been settled out of court.

Seems the editor and producer transferring material furnished from the original Burling Hull Encyclopedia of some years ago, mislaid the copy. So, just took the handiest source and then added illustrations and some text from a catalog. The book was "The Wheels Are Turning," the catalog the Owen Magic Supreme No. 7, so we were just stopped short. This unintentional use of copyrighted material placed me behind the eight ball and the result is that I've been "fined" plenty and the culprits who unthinkingly clipped the copyrighted material, likewise. However, the book can now be sold and after a delay is once again available and now is even more desirable since when these 500 copies are gone there will be no more. At least not with the "borrowed" material. I have to run several full page ads in magic magazines acknowledging the error and am happy though that the book can be sold although my possible profit will be minimized.

One buyer wrote that he was disappointed since the book does not contain the illusions of Siegfried and Roy, etc.; and I can add names like Andre Kole, Chuck Jones and other innovators, but there is so much here for your \$100 that the complainer had to admit it was a good buy.

Now, because of the litigation we are NOT going to ship the book postpaid. But the postage of \$1.47 and \$1.10 a total of \$2.47, to insure safe delivery is really minimal. By air, an additional \$4.83 is required, while \$15.00 takes it overseas with insurance. If you just want a circular of its contents, just send along a stamp. (Don't forget, Californians, include the \$6.00 sales tax).



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BILLY BARTON (Continued)

CLOSEUPS: The **SWAYING STARS** will play Bellevue and Granite City for **GEORGE HUBLER**, two new Shrine dates for that producer and Belleville runs the same time as St. Louis. The dates are so close it looks like a lot of visiting between performers will take place. Also on those dates will be **BUCKLES** and **BARBARA WOODCOCK**. . . **JAMES ZOPPE RIDERS** played some spots for Hamid-Morton. . . **GRACIE** and **GRACE HANFORD** visited the Lipizzan Stallion Show when it played Glens Falls. . . The Circus World's **PRINCE OF DARKNESS (Plume)** remains on the wagon but jury duty winds up in June, so **LOOK OUT**. . . **BETTY ESCALANTE** says the doctors made her quit smoking not not one day passes that she doesn't reach for a cigarette - and stops, just in time. . . A special rocket ship is being built for **BILL & TRUDY's** spectacular "space" entrance into Circus Odyssey's major closing production number when that show bows its first Shrine date in Hyannisport, Aug. 12-14, complete with dry ice and very special effects.

RINGLING RED has been breaking all records for attendance this season. 25 out of 28 shows in Washington, DC were turnaways, and all towns have been way up and over previous years. . . **GUNTHER WILLIAMS** is breaking a Giraffe for the new season. . . and **WALLY NAGHTIN** will have two bear acts on the unit. Meanwhile Wally has a new bear trailer, 40 ft. in length, all fibreglass, which he designed himself and which was made by Southern Body of Tampa.

ITEMIZING: The three elephant acts on the Castle Columbus date were **BUCKY STEELE**, **DIANO'S ELEPHANTS** and the **PAUL KAYE ELEPHANTS**. . . Concession Mgr. **ART BARRETT** has signed 26 mall dates, all on the east coast and in Texas. The dates start the first week in June and will run thru the Xmas season. Art will also return to the Flint Shrine date in 1981

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where a new concession record was set this year. His brother **HENRY** is the annual promoter for the date and has been for years, way back when it was a Polack standby. Henry also promotes Salt Lake City and Kansas City annually. . . Following the Maine dates **LOU ANN JACOBS** and **PANCHO MAGANA** spent a few days at the writer's old Penna. homestead where the glamorous aerial star broke in a special new trapeze routine and only the neighbor's cows were privy to what was happening. . . Rumors are that the new three-spots-a-week format is working out well for the newly revamped Beatty-Cole show which has its best performance in years and which has been doing good business. . . **WALLY NAGHTIN** visited the Castle show at Columbus. . . Belated Get Well Greetings to **LUCKY LARABEE**, an old friend from way back. At least now Lucky can get in some good fishing. . . The **ASTROS (Mike and John Winn)** make the St. Louis Shrine date. Ditto the **LOS ARGENTINOS**. . . Rumorhazzit a new circus-ice show combo might be formed but it is only a wild rumor. Thus far this combination has not been too successful and several producers have tried it. . . The **SUAREZ TROUPE** is back with Gatti.

THE INFORMATION that **ALBERT** and **JEANETTE RIX** performed in Tarzan's new cable-mesh arena was culled from Ringmaster **JON FRIDAY's** letter, dated Feb. 16, from which I

(Continued on Page 26)

HOTLINE

ATTENTION ANIMAL PEOPLE

The U. S. Dept. of Agriculture has just published a new booklet that should be of interest to all animal people. It pertains to Dealers, Exhibitors, Transporters and Researchers.

Called "Licensing and Registration Under the Animal Welfare Act" the booklet provides up-to-date information on who is responsible for doing what under the law. It also details information that is designed to protect and to provide proper *comfort and care for animals of all kinds.*

Circus Report will try to have copies of this report available within the next few weeks.

Visitors

Visitors at the Carson & Barnes Circus in Jacksonville, Texas (April 23) included: Vi Hofmeister, Jo-Ann Anderson and children Austin and Staci, all of whom visited with Jimmy and Laura Herriott Walker and Mr. and Mrs. Manuel King.

BILLY BARTON (Continued)

will quote: "The Grand Rapids Saladin Shrine Circus got a second cage act with Albert and Jeanette Rix's bears - they worked in Tarzan's new cable-mesh arena that rises from the center ring curb."

I then placed a call to the Rixes, but Albert and Jeanette were on the road and Mrs. Rix was *unable to confirm whether they worked in Tarzan's arena or not but promised to have Jeanette contact me and give me that information.*

I also wrote Mr. Friday and asked him to correct that statement if it happened not to be true

This all seems rather complicated over such a minor item but I feel it's necessary if CR and even my column is to maintain a reputation for accuracy in light of mailbag comments to the *contrary.*

MARGINAL NOTE: It's rather unnecessary to point out that the Rixes carry their own steel arena when all of us in the industry are fully aware of that fact. The RIX BEAR ACT, featuring those magnificent Polar Bears, will be featured at Storytown for the summer season.

SEE YOU down the road, luvs.

SPECIAL**SHRINE CIRCUS IS BIG SUCCESS**

This year's 38th edition of the annual Yaarab Temple Shrine Circus at Atlanta, Ga., has been called "the biggest show ever" by both Shriners and patrons. The circus was held at the Cobb County Civic Center which offered improved seating, parking and other facilities when compared to the show's previous location.

Turnaway crowds were reported by Civic Center Director Liz Fields and the circus was extended a day, even though additional shows were presented throughout the engagement. As a result of this, the Shrine Temple has signed the circus for return engagements for the next three years.

In addition to the circus, the Shriners arranged for carnival rides, which were set up on the parking lot area. They attracted almost as much attention as did the circus performances. Concessions were sold from a 62 ft. square tent, as well as on the ride midway.

The rides were brought in for a flat fee and the Shriners sold tickets and then collected them at each ride. Tickets were priced at 50c per ride or \$5.00 for all day.

The circus program book was described as "a big one". Ad sales for the book came to more than \$250,00, while the advance ticket sale was somewhat over that figure.

In all the Shriners made about \$1 million for their share of the income during the circus engagement. Most of this money will go directly to the Shrine Hospital and Burn Center, for the care of children.

Officials from four other Shrine Temples attended the circus program and studied the entire operation. It is expected that they will produce a similar program for their own circus programs.

On The Cover

This week's cover picture is another in the series of circus water color paintings created by Robert B. Johnson.

The picture shows the backyard of the old Al G. Barnes Circus, a time when that show carried a great many horses and animals, with which it gained its reputation as being one of the most important of America's animal shows.

It is just prior to the afternoon performance as

REPORT**FLORIDA VISIT**

... by John C. Goodall, Jr.

While in Florida in March I visited Circus World which has been enjoying excellent business.

Unfortunately, the day I was there the high wire act of 7 people were not working as it was their day off. I did get to visit with the Stephenson Family, with Billy and Diane, who have a great dog act.

Expansion work at the park as increased the clown make-up area, one being in a railroad car. The polar bear pool area has been redone to handle Jewel New's cat act.

The Ringling Museum of the Circus has an interesting display of old wood carvings on loan from the Circus World in Baraboo. A wagon is being restored in the main exhibit area, in full view of visitors.

The Gift Shop at the Circus Hall of Fame does not have a single item other than post cards that have anything to do with the circus. Lots of glass and jewelry.

Also visited at the Hoxie quarters and spent some time with Hoxie Tucker, Joe McMahon, and Dutch Crawford. The show has been repainted and looks good.

Later I caught the Tangier Shrine Circus in Omaha produced by M&M. Two Cfa's were in their working clothes - Bill Galloway of Rochester, N. Y. and Dr. Roland Gibbs.

D. R. Miller sent the three Gibbs bulls to the Omaha and Lincoln dates. The bulls then go to Circus World Museum for the summer where they will be worked by John Herriott.

WANTED

The American Museum of Magic is trying to get a complete file of Circus Report. Anyone interested in donating their back issues to the museum should write to:

Bob Lund, American Museum of Magic
P. O. Box 5
Marshall, Mich. - 49068

both animals and performers prepare for the big opening Spec.

The original painting is a huge one which was reduced and then cropped to fit into the allotted amount of space. If you look closely you can see a great deal of activity and special features.