



5th Year

August 23, 1976

Number 34

Bronco Tramples Crowd

Fifteen persons, including a 73 year old woman, were injured while watching a performance of the Diamond S Rodeo and Wild West Show at Danbury (Conn.) on Aug. 7th. Later hospital attendants said that Elizabeth Griswald was in fair condition, suffering from cuts, bruises and broken ribs. She was the only injured person that was hospitalized. The others were all treated and released.

It was a wet day, with rain falling off and on all day, the ground and grass were, of

course wet. Shortly after the show got underway a bucking bronco threw its rider, slipped in the grass and slid under a guard rail. When the horse got up it angled into the stands, then turned and headed towards the front end of the field, bucking

(Continued on Page 15)

AVAILABLE FOR LIMITED ENGAGEMENTS

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Rail Move

King Bros. Circus is a motorized show, traveling on 11 show-owned rigs and 14 privately-owned units. When a vehicle needs towing, mechanic Charlie Rex has a tow truck available. On the lot towing is often done by the show elephants Conti and Ola, directed by either Bob Cline or Bill Lammers.

Recently, an old-time towing method was utilized during a King show move in New England. Olga and Aurelio Navarro's bus became stalled on a railroad siding, as the Claremont & Concord R.R. was switching cars. Arriving on the scene, Hal Haviland arranged for the engine to tow the Navarros down the track to safety.

Send Cards

Former showman Steve Dupors is hospitalized and would enjoy hearing from friends and fans. Write him at: 4653 Virginia St., Oroville, Calif. - 95965

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NEW ADDRESS

Circus Vargas has moved its offices to Burlingame, Calif., just a few blocks from the San Francisco Int'l Airport. The new office is located in the heart of the motel, business, restaurant area, and in fact, is served by the Anza Mini Bus.

The office address is: 1308 Old Bayshore Highway, Suite 200, Burlingame, Calif. 94010. The phone is: (415) 347-1467.

The mailing address is: P. O. Box 4356, Burlingame, Calif. 94010.

Miscellaneous

Heavy rains hit the Beatty Cole Circus at Pittsfield, Mass. (July 29) and flooded the big top. Firemen finally pumped it out and the night show started at 9 p.m.

Lipko's Comedy Chimps

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CMB Meet

Some 205 members, 8 Junior members and 167 guests were registered for the CMB's 40th Anniversary National Gathering at Springfield (Ohio) July 29-31. In all 103 model displays were set up in two buildings, with two outdoor shows.

The Friday evening banquet was attended by 300 people, where guest speaker Joe McKennon (author of Horse Dung Trail) talked about the circus. A Ladies Banquet drew 80 people, all of whom received special gifts.

On Saturday afternoon and evening a circus was presented by Jim Smith and the Springfield YMCA Circus Team. The program included acrobats, clowns, tumblers rola bola, hand balancing, magic, and unicycles. Music was provided by Herbie Head at the calliope.

WANTED....Manager for circus and magic show. Also a concession manager with equipment. Small investment necessary.

Write: CIRCUS
P. O. Box 402
Salyersville, Kentucky -- 41465

Clowns working the circus and exhibit area were: Bob (Top Cat) McDonald; Allen (Smiley) Brewer; Ron (Buzzy) Powell; Carl (The Professor) Gray; Nancy (Jodi) Gray; Harold (Jingles, the Magic Clown) Hagedon; John (Jilly) Hinebaugh; Norman (Happy) Hinebaugh and Dan (Dapper Dan) Bonner.

The event was dedicated to the late Arthur L. McCall, Circus Model Builder, who was one of the planners and assistant chairman of the gathering. He passed away on June 18, 1976.

....Don Sandman

NICHOLAS YOUNG, Sr.

Presents

"THE YOUNG TROUPE" Two woman, Four man combination double teeterboard act with trampoline. Also the four "JUGGLING JEWELS" juggling with fire torches.

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- Mailing Address -

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Laguna Hills, Calif. - 92653

Perm. Addr. 2805 Bay St., Sarasota, Florida - 33580

ROUTES

Beatty-Cole Circus

Aug. 23 Richmond, Ind.
24 Lafayette
25 Kankakee, Ill.
26 Northbrook

Carson & Barnes Circus

Aug. 23 Macon, Mo.
24 Chillicothe
25-28 Kansas City

Hubert Castle Circus

Aug 23-25 Crown Pt., Ind.
27-29 Sherbrooke, Que.

Circus Kirk

Aug. 24 Canonsburg, Pa.
25 Bridgeville
27 Fawn Twnshp
28 Greensburg
29 Armaugh

Circus Vargas

Aug 27-Sep 1 Levis, Que.

Dubois Circus World

Aug 26-Sep 6 Quebec City,
Quebec

Famous Hunt Circus

Aug. 23 Plainville, Conn.
28 Monroe

George-Matthews Circus

Aug. 23 Petersburg, Va.
24-25 Norfolk
26 Fredricksburg

George-Matthews (Continued)

Aug. 27 Annapolis, Md.
28-29 Baltimore
30 Hagerstown

Happytime Circus

Aug 20-Sep 7 Sacramento,
Cal.

Hoxie Bros. Circus

Aug. 23 Edison, N.J.
24 Clark
25 Belmar
26 Lodi
27 Morristown
28 Hackettstown

Hoxie's Great American Cir.

Aug. 23 Lewisburg, W.Va.
25 Lebanon, Pa.
26 Lititz
27 Bally
28 Hilltown

Kaye Cont'l Circus

Aug 26-29 Maui, Hawaii

King Bros. Circus

Aug. 23 Carbondale, Pa.
24 Nanticoke
25 Tamaqua
26 Mt. Carmel
27 Schuykill Haven
28 Newcastle, Dela
29 Smyrna

Mid America Circus

Aug. 24 Ottawa, Kans.

Polack Bros. Circus

Aug 27-29 Reno, Nev.

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit

Aug 24-30 Oakland, Calif.

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit

Aug 26-28 Bloomington, Minn

Royal Bros. Circus

Aug. 23 Eno, Ont.
24 Mainy River
25 Ft. Francis
26 Atikokan
27 Thunder Bay

Sells & Gray Circus

Aug. 23 Norwich, N.Y.
24 Cortland
25 Montour Falls
26 Painted Post
27 Sayre, Pa.
28 Towanda
29 Hughesville

TNT & Royal Olympic Circus

Aug 25-29 Toledo, Ohio

.... OTHER ROUTES

James H. Drew Shows

Aug 23-28 Johnson City,
Tenn.
Aug 27-28 San Diego, Cal.

Mexican Rodeo & Fiesta

Aug 27-30 Denver, Colo.



BILLY BARTON....

WHO'S THAT FLASHING THRU the G-M Big Top on set-up days chasing a chow-chow with a broom? It's INGA WILLIAMS, who also does the campiest solo juggling turn you've ever seen. When a prop is dropped Inga just shrugs and goes on her merry way and the audience loves it!

ZIPPO the CLOWN blew a matinee and KELLNER fined him \$25... a few minutes later ED RUSSELL caught up to the errant Joey and fined him \$10 more. Wailed Zippo to Ed: "I wish you had got to me first."

DO NOT DISTURB....young TIMMY BICKMORE stretched out on a hammock strung between two quarter poles....KATHY ENGLISH is breaking in a roman ring act and DOLLY JACOBS, sister of LU ANN, is now doing hers on RBBB....Lu Ann and Dolly were both trained by MARGIE GEIGER....LEE MISTER's cook house is the G-M Social Center - gossip the chief entree on the menu....RBBB clown LOU JACOBS vacationing in Germany.

Efforts to lure gorgeous MARINA RADULESCHU out of retirement having the same results as trying to entice the elusive GRETA GARBC....ANITA KEPPO home in Florida for two weeks repairing a back injury - sister IRIS subbed for her on some Hanneford dates.... Iris starts nursing school this month....MARCELLA of the Los Latinos wire act not working due to

a leg injury....UNCLE HEAVY's pigs have more sense than humans...in the sweltering heat of the deep south they flat-out REFUSED to work in the boiling big top for more than a VERY few minutes!

JOHN and ILONKA VILLAMS hosted a mammoth impromptu party for G-M and Super Circus performers in Jackson....It is unanimously agreed that these two people are just the greatest!....KAREN CRISTIANI is a carbon copy of mother MARION - stunning beauties, both!....ZACCHINIS donated a cannon to the Circus Museum in Sarasota and BOBBY and FRANCESCA HYNDS just bought a home there.

JOHN CUNEO writes that WADE BURKE is going gung-ho with the tiger act. The Cuneos go with CHARLES GERMAINE's new show when they finish at Marineland. It is rumored that the APOLLOS will also be with Germaine....DOREY MILLER's brand new big top got badly torn up in a recent storm.... SANDRA FULBRIGHT's son, JACK, Jr. broke his arm - jumping rope.

Those two boys in the Carl Wong SKYMASTERS act, which crashed to the beach when one sway pole fell into the other, were seriously injured. One boy has a broken back and is paralyzed.... NELLIE HANNEFORD, daughter of Kay Francis, is on the road with her Uncle Tommy....JENNY WALLENDIA has opened a mail-forwarding and

(Continued on Page 12)

PEOPLE

BONNIE and BILLY EARL have their "Bonnie & Clyde" act booked into the Witches Brew (Naples, Fla) for Dec. 14-Jan. 16.

BILL COTY, veteran western star, visited the G-M Circus at Owensboro, Ky. Also visiting at that date was retired circus star PAUL NELSON.

JAMES M. COLE will open his Cole All Star Circus in Penna. on Jan. 14th.

LEE and VIVIAN LLOYD, clowns have been busy visiting hospitals and rest homes in northern Calif.

RICHARD BARSTOW has been staging RBBB productions since

1949. He is the author of 25 circus songs.

BOYD KIMES (Uncle Heavy) missed two G-M dates in Kentucky because of serious breakdowns with his bus.

DON MARCKS is recovering at home from a chest operation he underwent on Aug. 10th.

BILL ATTERBURY (The Sky Master) is performing atop an 80 ft. pole mounted on top of a building at Vancouver's PNE (Aug. 21 to Sept. 6).

ERIC JAEGER (G-M's boss canvasman) was arrested for arrowing the interstate loop around Memphis and the stake driver was impounded.

FOR SALE

Members of my backyard trapeze act have moved away. As a result I am sacrificing a complete and very nice outdoor flying rigging.

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\$1900 cash or reasonable cash on barrel offer

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Ponicsan & Tom Mix

.....by BILLY BARTON

The Harvest of circus films promised by Hollywood has, apparently, been plagued by "blight" - loosely translated to mean "fear". Inasmuch as "W. C. Fields and Me", "The Day of the Locust" and "Gable & Lombard" lost money, the industry is afraid to gamble on another "early Hollywood" epic.

"What has that to do with your circus movie?" CR asked of its author.

"Nothing," Ponicsan replied "It's the Hollywood Mentality at work, that's all."

The book, called "Tom Mix Died For Your Sins," was published last year in hardcover by Delacourt Press and will be released in paperback this fall by Dell. In the first of two interviews scheduled one day apart, Mr. Ponicsan (who penned Cindrella Liberty and The Last Detail, both of which were turned into blockbuster movies), told CR the screenplay he wrote of his Mix story and sold to 20th Century Fox, had been shelved. (So has the Irwin Allen production of Circus based upon the best-selling espionage thriller by Alistair McLean).

"The budget was estimated at around \$9 million," Ponicsan said "Too expensive to make in light of recent failures."

The night of our first interview the author called to the coast to be told a columnist in the Hollywood Reporter revealed

the Tom Mix story would be filmed with Jerry Zeitman producing and Sidney Pollack directing. Pollack directed such money-making hits as The Way We Weere and Three Days of The Condor. Ponicsan also learned that only the circus portion of the book was to be filmed with a budget set at \$7 million.

The Mix story, the author informed CR, is a novel, not a biography. The book is written in three sections: the first details the star's early western years, the rodeos; the second spotlights his Hollywood career, and the third covers the circus era, the last ten years of Tom Mix's life.

Mix, it may be recalled by historians, bought the Sam B. Dill Circus, renamed it the Tom Mix Circus and promptly lost money.

"I kept within the framework of the facts of his life," Ponicsan said, "even though the book is basically fiction. I interviewed three persons who claimed to have been with Mix the day before he was killed in an automobile accident. Each person put Mix in a different place, gave a difference version." The author shrugged. "That's why I wrote a novel, not a biography."

"I did a vast amount of research on the book. It's been alleged that Mix received \$20,000 a week as the Concert Attraction on the Sells-Floto Circus. If

(Continued on Page 13)

C&B Show

The Carson & Barnes Circus gave two performances on both Aug 1 and 2 at Middleton, Wisc., to generally good crowds. This circus has real atmosphere, from the time the first truck arrives until the last one leaves.

The top is a new one and is great. The big menagerie with all its elephants is a real feature. The midway includes a gorilla show, side show, moon walk, pony ride and several concession units. The show's 8 piece band is really excellent, putting out good music for the performance.

It was a treat to visit with Dorey Miller and to see Ted Bowman back on the lot. This is "a real circus." ... Orlyn Schroeder

More Complaints

Virtually every town in Minnesota, where the Dailey Bros. Circus has played, has become a source of complaints and in most cases charges against the show have been filed with the Better Business Bureau and other agencies. The complaints include the show's program and its method of operation and care of its animals.

By the end of July the show had skipped several advertised locations and moved out of the state. WCCO-TV newscaster Susan Spencer, who is featured on that area's major TV outlet, blasted the circus on several occasions. Upon learning they had left the state she bid them a chilly goodbye and suggested they return from whence they had come.

Circus Wild West Show

FOR BIG SHOW OR CONCERT

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Fulltime Minister

Famed circus ringmaster Austin Miles has left show business to devote his fulltime to the Ministry of Jesus Christ. For 28 years Miles has been a show business performer. He began as a clown, then became a ringmaster and has appeared in films, telecasts, commercials and twice appeared at the White House. Most recently he was the narrator with the Royal Lipizzan Show.

A miniature booklet titled "The Ringmaster Meets Jesus" is being republished and distributed by the thousands in several languages. It tells of his religious awakening and his miraculous recovery from terminal illness, which lead to his studying for the ministry. He was ordained as a minister of the Assemblies of God Church in 1973, and was appointed a minister of the Glad Tidings Tabernacle in New York City. Later he was certified as an industrial chaplain, specifically as a chaplain to show business.

Miles has administered to many show people and he continues to keep an open plane ticket, ready to go anywhere at anytime, to minister to those who need him.

He continues to conduct public services throughout the nation, is a regular visitor on the PTL Club, a national religious telecast, and has invitations to speak in the U.S. and many foreign countries. He also

ROUTES

Mitchell Marionettes

Aug 26-Sept. 6 St. Paul, Minn

Rose City Rides

Aug 23-28 Farmington, Mo.

Royal Lipizzan Stallions

Aug. 25 Lethbridge, Alberta

27 Edmonton

28-29 Calgary

W. G. Wade Shows

Aug 23-Sept 6 Detroit, Mich

Lawrence Welk Show

Aug. 24 Edmonton, Alberta

28 Madison, Wisc.

40 Horse Hitch

Aug 26-29 Des Moines, Iowa

AVAILABLE

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continues to visit show folks and is constantly available to them.

IN 3'S

Accidents certainly come in threes - a fact that RBBB Blue Unit people will swear to. Early this year when the show train was in New York's Selkirk Yards the train was rammed by two huge cement hopper cars. Show car No.500 was demolished.

Later during the show's engagement at Louisville (Ky) a freight train hit three of the empty show flats, badly damaging one of them.

As the show train was being spotted in the New Orleans yard five coaches were derailed, due to a bad track and faulty switch.

PEOPLE

FAY SNYDER'S Dressage Stallions have replaced the elephants at Lion Country Safari's Circus in California. The elephants are with the Kaye Circus in Hawaii.

FRIEDA PUSHNIK, retired RB BB side show feature, now lives in Costa Mesa,

ALMOND KNIGHT (Waverly, Tenn.) wonders if anyone knows what happened to the Beechnut Circuses, in miniature and mounted on trucks that toured in the 1930's?

WANT: Small ponies for a mini-Liberty Act. PRICE MUST BE RIGHT! Write: Hal Haviland, c/o King Br. Circus route.

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BILLY BARTON (Continued)

answering service at her home in Sarasota....The JORDANS were on the Wallenda Circus.....BILLY McCABE made the costumes for Circo Togni in Peru, went down to over-see them and choreograph the show. HANS WINN showed me pictures of the car accident involving his son John and two others - it is a miracle ANYBODY survived!... The Geraldos, Zerbini Bros., Flying Valentines, Les Thinis, Roland and Janis and Miss Tina are scheduled for appearances at Riverside Park at Agawam (Mass.)... The BUMPY FAMILY and JORDANAS did 65 consecutive shows in four weeks without a rainout. The rair came either at night or between shows. Sells & Gray Notes: Billy and Bonnie Earl caught the show at Great Adventure, report seeing the Bauers and are raving about David McMillan's Flying Tiger Act - 18 tigers and 1 male lion.... BOB EARL (no relation, of Roberts Bros.) spent a day cutting up jackpots with his many friends on S&G....Producer JIMMY HERRINGTON visited manager WILSON STOREY.... BILLY RODGERS hit the lot with

his mobile "feather and stone" mart and the girls went bananas on a buying spree.

JIMMY DOUGLASS making great strides with his new Theatrical Shoe outlet - look for an announcement soon....The Gorilla-Aerial parody of the Stewarts is hilarious and Lisa Stewart is incredibly funny as the old granny!... Bobby Davis and Lu Ann Jacobs are both working in the act.

ED RUSSELL is fit to be tied and I don't blame him - he spent three days building a new lighted sign backdrop for the bandstand and, on the third town out, it was left lying near the prop truck during a hurried set-up, forgotten, and someone ran over it smashing the sign to smithereens! See you down the road, luvv

PEOPLE

THE COMMANCHEROS left the G-M Circus for a month of dates in August, but will rejoin the show in September.

HINES and PATTI RUCKER spent three weeks in Florida before starting the fall tour with Int'l All Star Circus on Aug. 6th.

THE BALE FAMILY

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At RBBB Circus World - Haines City, Fla.

IRENE, GLORIA, NITA and BONNIE "The Bale Sisters"

High School Horses on tour with "Holiday With Horses"

TOM MIX (Continued)

that is true, then he must have been the highest paid circus 'performer' of all time. I learned also that the Mix Circus was the first motorized show."

CR disputed that. "Hunt Bros. was on trucks in the late 1920's. The biography of Charles T. Hunt - Mr. Circus - shows pictures of the show loaded on Model T trucks around 1927-28. The Mighty Haag show was also on trucks."

"I won't argue the point," Darryl said.

"Back to Mix. He was a very popular star was he not?"

"That's the impression I get. He was certainly a great Hero with the kids. Matinee performances on Sells-Floto outsold the night houses."

The author doubts his treatment of the Mix story will be used as he wrote it, especially now that only the circus portion is to be filmed.

Darryl Ponicsan also did the screenplay for his novel Cinderella Liberty and CR wondered: "Does it bother you to see filmed versions of your books over which you have no control?"

"No - only when the screen writer gets raves for my dialogue And I don't mind changing dialogue for an actor who feels he can't say the lines; nor does it bother me to alter plot points to heighten dramatic effect. What does bother me is when they change my characterizations."

PEOPLE

MARK ANTHONY and BILL BALENTINE, of RBBB, visited BOBBY KAYE this past month while the show was in Southern California.

JOHN HERRIOTT and RALPH SCHAPPACKER, practice their golf shots everyday between performances of the Diamond S Rodeo Show.

ERV and FLORENCE LANG visited the Hoxie Bros. Circus during the show's date at Wildwood, N.J.

SEALO, a popular side show attraction is currently in Hawaii

Thank You

BRADD FRANK, trick and fancy rider, Hoxie Bros. Big Top Circus, for your purchase of a Yellowstone for your wife, SHEILA.

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"Do you think the Mix story will make a good circus picture?"

"Filmed properly, I think it will be the best circus picture ever made." And with that, the author, who has been traveling off and on with the George-Matthews Circus, gathering material for a new circus book, flew off to Hollywood - probably to find out whether or not those rumors printed in the Hollywood Reporter were true.

Show Goes On

When Circus Kirk arrived in Chepachet (R.I.) on July 30 they found that heavy rains had inundated the show lot. However, all the show folks worked hard to see that the circus was ready to go on time.

Several trucks became stuck in the mud and had to be pulled free by a local tow truck. The stake driver broke down and all the stakes were driven by hand. Both high and low wire acts were cancelled when a winch truck broke down, but repairs were made and they were included in the night performance.

By early evening the rains had stopped and circus fan Mrs.

RUMOR

The rumored third unit for RBBB will be an under canvas operation, playing towns that the big units don't go into. The show is to feature a program of acts, with no production numbers.

According to the latest rumors the show will be titled "Al G. Barnes Circus, presented by Ringling Bros. Circus".



Kent, whose lovely home is right next to the lot, served a hot buffet dinner for local CFA's and all the circus folks.

..... Roland Brouillard

FOR SALE

MIDGET HORSE SHOW -- Just received from factory beautiful custom built 20 ft., pull type, walk through trailer. Show is complete with the most perfect, 4 year old black mare, 22 inches short, but looks 18 inches. Something you can be proud to offer the public. Priced to sell - \$12,000.00

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In Memoriam

NICU DE BARCSY (91) one of the smallest humans in the world, he was 2 ft. 3 in. tall. Born in Hungary he came to the U.S. with his parents in 1903 and toured on many shows, including Ringling Bros. Retiring in 1932 he settled in Drummond, Okla. and entered a nursing home at Enid in 1970. He died there on Aug. 2nd.

DON FRANCISCO, owner of the Pan American Circus, died of a heart attack shortly after arriving in Newark, N.J., where his Mini Circus was opening at the Menlo Park Mall. His show went on as scheduled and Mike Naughton reports all 1977 contracted dates will be played by Pan American Circus, Inc.

PAUL VAN POOL (78) founder and former owner of the Coca Cola bottling co. at Joplin, Mo. and founder of the Joplin Federal Sa-

BRONCO TRAMPLES CROWD (Cont'd)

and kicking all the time. After it passed by the concession wagon it was caught and taken to a backyard corral.

All those injured were sitting in the first row of the grandstand. At least eleven of the injured were children. The grandstand was filled to capacity for the show, which was sponsored by the Police Benevolent Assoc.

The Diamond S. Rodeo and Wild West show travels on eight or ten show owned rigs and about ten private vehicles. Each unit has colorful western pictorials on its side. Observers report it makes a flashy appearance on the lot.

vings & Loan, died on Aug. 9th of a heart attack. He was an active CFA member, founder of the Merle Evans Tent and owned a large collection of circus posters and promotional material.

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