



7th Year

April 24, 1978

Number 17

BAN PROPOSED

California Assemblyman Henry Mello has introduced a bill in Sacramento, which if passed, will prohibit the private ownership of exotic cats within the state. It would also prevent the movement of such animals across the state borders.

The bill (AB 2840) reads as follows: "This bill would make it unlawful to capture, possess or confine any live cat (*familia felidae*), except house cats (*Felis domesticus*), and would require any such cat to be seized by the Department of Fish and Game. This bill will become operative January 1, 1980."

The bill exempts zoos, veterinarians and scientific institutions. It would also issue permits for temporary confinement for exotic cats utilized in the production of commercial motion pictures.

There is no Grandfather clause in the bill to cover the ownership of exotic cats now residing within the state, so after Jan. 1, 1980, any such animals would be subject to seizure. In most such cases the Dept. of Fish and Game destroys the animals seized.

Those people who would like to voice their disapproval of this bill should write letters, and ask their friends to do so too. Write to: Assemblyman Eugene Gualco, Committee

Chairman, Room 2016, State Capitol, Sacramento, Calif. 95814.

It is important that you write at once and be sure to mention the bill — AB 2840.

You should also write the following assemblymen: Kapiloff Rm. 4116; Berman Rm. 3142; Boatwright Rm. 3091; Kline Rm. 3104; Perino Rm. 4134; Statham Rm. 6007 and Mello Rm. 5168.

Opening Delayed

Despite last minute efforts to solve some so-called problems Circus Vargas was forced to cancel its opening show at San Diego (Calif.) when the City Fire Marshall refused to OK the circus seats. Even a plan to bring in 3,000 folding chairs was turned down and so the show was called off, with the circus giving patrons rain checks or refunds.

Finally metal pipe frame type bleachers were located near Los Angeles, then rental arrangements were agreed to. The seats were trucked to San Diego and erected by local union crews, then late on Saturday afternoon the Fire Marshall approved the seating arrangements and the show got underway, about a half hour late.

Prior to the show's first performance circus personnel all pitched in to help get things organized. As a result there was plenty of good old "cherry pie" for everyone during the engagement in the Southern California city.

The Fire Marshall's office said the action was based on a combination of things - complaints from last year, the rain soaked ground and the fact that a section of seats had collapsed in Riverside on March 31st. That accident resulted in injuries to ten people, all of whom were treated at a local hospital and released. The most serious injury was a broken ankle.

The Fire Marshall said the circus did not have

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BULL DIES

Zooella, an ailing elephant who terrorized her keepers at the zoo in Grand Rapids, Mich., when the one keeper she loved left, was quietly killed on April 7th with an injection of anesthetic. The elephant had refused to eat since January when her keeper for 13 years was forced to give up his job due to ill health.

enough lighted exits, standards for emergency lanes around the tent and that there were problems with the seating.

"I don't want to have to close the circus down," said the Fire Marshall, "but I've got an obligation to the people to make sure this structure meets fire safety standards."

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| 2) Lion, Franzen, Franzen Bros., 1976 | 5) Tiger, Carr, Carson & Barnes | 1976 | |
| 3) Lion, Uhl, Apollo Circus | 1976 | 6) Lion, Cecere, Hoxie Bros., | 1977 |

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Show Dates

Aahmes Temple Shrine Circus
Apr. 28-30 Oakland, Calif.

Big John Strong Circus
April 24 Auburn, Calif.
25 Oroville
26 Red Bluff
27 Redding
28 Woodland
29 Pleasanton
30 Monterey

California Circus
April 30 Concord, Calif.

Carden-Johnson Circus
Apr 28-30 Grand Forks, N.D.

Carson & Barnes Circus
April 24 Kaufman, Texas
25 McKinney
26 Gainesville
27 Durant, Okla
28 Medicine Park
29 Duncan
30 Yukon

Hubert Castle Circus
April 24 Mitchell, S. D.
25 Chamberlain
26-27 Yankton
29-May 1 Minot, N. D.

Circus Vargas
Apr. 25-27 Santa Barbara, Cal.
28-30 Bakersfield

Great American Circus
April 24 Franklin, N. C.
25 Bryson City
26 Sylva
27 Waynesville
28 Hendersonville
29 Brevard

Holiday Hippodrome
April 24 Sheboygan, Wisc.

Hoxie Bros. Circus
April 24 Havolock, N. C.
25 Wilson
26 Goldsboro
27 Siler City
28 Hickory
29 Wytheville, Va.

M&M Circus
Apr. 25-30 Lincoln, Nebr.

Pickle Family Circus
Apr. 29-30 Pacifica, Calif.

Sam T. Polack Circus
Apr. 28-29 Little Rock, Ark.

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit
to June 4 New York, N. Y.

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit
Apr. 25-30 Providence, R. I.

Roberts Bros. Circus
April 24 Matthews, N. C.
25 Wax Haw
26 Huntersville
27 Cherryville
28 Jonesville
29 Galax, Va.

Royal Lichtenstein Circus
April 24 Rochester, N. Y.
25 Oneonta
26 New Haven
27 Bethlehem, Pa.
28 Kutztown
29-30 Washington, DC

Shrine Circus
Apr. 25 Clarksburg, W. Va.
28-29 Traverse City, Mich.

Wonderful World of Circus
April 27-29 Durham, N. C.

---- OTHER DATES ----

Century 21 Shows - Blue Unit
Apr. 24-30 Memphis, Tenn.

Century 21 Shows - Red Unit
Apr. 26-29 Paris, Tenn.

Dondi, the Baby Elephant
Apr. 24-30 Lincoln, Nebr.

James H. Drew Shows
Apr. 25-30 Greensboro, N. C.

Fred, the Cockatoo
Apr. 26-30 Madison, Wisc.

Holiday on Ice - Int'l
Apr. 26-30 New Orleans, La.

Holiday on Ice - Nat'l
Apr 28-June 4 Mexico City, Mex.

Ice Capades - Eastern Unit
Apr 25-May 7 Los Angeles, Cal.

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THE NEW ORLEANS POLICE CIRCUS, produced by SANDY DOBRITCH, was one of those super-fun-filled dates. The acts lolled in 80-plus degree temperatures (gratefully) after the long winter of ice and snow. Many of us remained in town after the engagement to enjoy the beautiful city, to canvas the sights and sounds of the French Quarter, sample the fine restaurants, and hit as many high (and low) spots as we could. Seen having a ball were Sandy, Jimmy Dougless, Vern Woerner, Ethel and Horst, JoAnn and Rocky, Bobby Davis, Bruce Warner, David Chabira, Lee Maloney, Slick Valentine, and Paul Kaye (stopping over enroute to his father's funeral in Indiana). Sitting with a group one night at the Golden Star (a steak house on Rampart St) I noticed a familiar face and was astounded to see LEE MISTER, Le Grande Chef of the defunct George Matthews Circus. Lee is an old buddy, and stayed and visited throughout the run, guiding us at night to some of the more "in" spots. Lee is now cooking on a boat that delivers supplies to oil rig towers along the Gulf Coast but says he misses the business.

SNAPSHOTS: ETHEL JENNIER and HORST GEYER dropped in on JIMMY ILLES who was playing in a Jazz Joint on Bourbon Street. . . JIM SWAFFORD writes that many people on the West Coast tried to call Sarasota on the day of Karl Wallenda's funeral, but could not get through. . . MARSHA HUNT went through the entire winter without a cold, the minute it turned warm she caught one. . . SABOS CHIMPS made the Baltimore date for EMMETT KELLY, Jr., . . . Attendance for HAROLD VOISE's Hospitalier Circus in Lansing (Mich) was up over previous years despite the bitter weather. . . LILLI KRISTENSEN garnered a story and two pix which took up half the local paper's front page (Harold said it was a "fist") . . . KIM KRISTENSEN is attending Tampa's Technical Institute, studying electronics. He will spot date Sam Polack, M&M, Bill Kay, Carden-Johnson, Emmett Kelly, Jr. this season. . . TONY SMAHA, Jr., has been "wifeless" since JEANNETTE RIX SMAHA has been so long in Mexico. . . HOXIE TUCKER has 3 pit shows on his midway and no side show. . . MIKE CECERE has lost weight and so has PAUL KAYE, looking svelte and slim (last time I saw him in 1974, I called him King Farouk - especially in a Shrine Fez) . . . BRIDGET BALLENTINE has returned to Circus Vargas. . . PETEY (the Wild One) KINOSH has a route of German Octoberfests - at least 7 - prior to his fair

season which he booked for his "diggers" . . . Add MY-IMBA's Baboons and NORBU to the Dobritch Circus line-up in Wheaton in June. . . The GREAT ALZANA still going strong, played Wichita for PAUL V. KAYE. . . Ringmaster PHIL MacDONALD to Circus Circus. . . The ARMORS to Japan, booked by Sandy Dobritch. . . LISA CANESTRELLI to wed ROSS HARTZELL. . . It's a boy for VASHEK and KATHY, born Mar. 22 (9 lbs 5 oz). . . There's a new bar in Los Angeles Paul Kaye told me about and it's name is - RUMOR HAZZIT (No Joke). . . And rumor hazzit down any rumor road that a brand new ice show is being framed for next season by a successful producer who now has two shows on the road (hint, one is a circus). The new sectional (Chessboard Squares) rink has been tested and it works and will be used for the new icer geared to play small towns that never see a first class Rink Production.

JERRY BEEMAN took a buster in Orlando during the Shrine date produced by Carden-Johnson. Jerry (Cynos, aerial rocket ship act), who has been off all winter was out of shape and somehow could not make it back to the trap bar after the revolving neck-loop spin. Witnesses say he simply let go. . . DAVE SMITH fell in Spokane descending to his cradle rigging from the girders and SLICK VALENTINE flew to Portland to catch in the Rock-Smith Flying Act until RON BRAUN took over. Slick was in New Orleans, catching for the LUNAS and gave me this report, telling me also that the catcher who was filling in for RAY MAREK of the Lar-Rays was knocked out of the catch trap in Amarillo, either missed or bounced out of the net and slammed into the concrete floor. I am told he was badly injured.

MORE BAD NEWS: CONNIE WELDE was bitten through the hands by the puma she acquired from GEE GEE Engesser, while in the process of doctoring the cat. Understand she is healing rapidly and will be able to make the opening date of her season.

RAY VALENTINE, Jr. is on a Hubert Castle unit with a three person flying act, including TONY STEELE and DIANE BERRY. In Huron (SD) a car whizzed out of a side street caught the corner of Ray's camper and rolled his pickup. Fortunately no one was injured, but Ray still suffers from whiplash.

GIL MILLER, who was in San Juan the day Karl fell, returned to the States with widow, Helen, Patsy Jordan and Carla Wallenda, said it was a sad flight (Karl's



ROYAL HANNEFORD CIRCUS

Syracuse, N. Y. - Mar. 30-Apr. 2

by Dave Davis

The Hanneford Circus came into the War Memorial Auditorium at Syracuse (NY) for the Tigris Shrine Circus, offering six performances from Mar. 30 to April 2.

Ringmaster Senor Rai's whistle opened the show at 8 p.m. with nearly a full house. Gene Hume and the 12 fine musicians filled the auditorium with plenty of happy notes.

The Great Humberto ascended the slant wire to descend in his famous "Slide for Life" followed by a fanciful Star Wars - Space Odyssey setting which introduced Tanaja and her 8 tigers.

The Castro Brothers climbed the diagonal wire to the high wire, from opposite ends, to perform various stunts including in mid-wire the mounting of one brother and jumping from his shoulders to the wire.

Isabella's bike balance on a high pedestal and the Anthony's trampoline work was overshadowed by the 8 Francesco's four high in the center ring,

The Bisbini Mule Ceasar amused the audience as a "volunteer" tried to ride him. Clowns Molly and Dolly, stuffed with balloons did the wash gag, then four beauties on webs were eclipsed by the artistry, beauty and dazzling radiance of Lou Ann Jacobs, a real pro and a crowd pleaser.

Patti and the Bisbini ladders combined with Los Latinos in the center ring. He on the low wire continues to be a faultless and very competent pro.

The Shrine Clowns held a tug-o-war, using kids from the audience, and were followed by the Hanneford Riding act, as always outstanding with the Hanneford Matriarch, 89 year old Mrs. Kathryn H., whip in hand, joined by Tommy and the youngest family member, 8 year old Nellie, riding bareback. Mark Karoly was truly outstanding in his riding mastery and gymnastic expertise on horseback.

Sir Victor Julian and his Little Stars, what more can be said of this Star of Superstars - a meticulous act, well paced, beautifully groomed, radiantly gowned, thoughtfully choreographed - an act a person does not tire of - a fine example for all acts.

The extensive spec, designed and executed by Phillip Morris was a joy for all. Nellie as Dorothy in this Wizard of Oz number, complete with pastel colored pigeons brought down the curtain on the first portion of the show.

Following an intermission, Chimps and the magic of Senor Rai filled the end rings, followed by the Flying Gaonas. The Shriners had a bike give-away and Struppi Hanneford worked the elephants in the center ring.

With flashing lights the Urias Troupe from Brazil daringly rode their motorcycles in dizzying movements inside a huge steel mesh globe with a lovely gal standing inside the sphere as the cyclists crazily zoomed past her.

The final spec, a flag waving affair featuring Uncle Sam and all of the Stars of the show was again beautifully choreographed, designed and costumed by Philip Morris - a fitting finale - especially with Philip Morris in person acting as ringmaster with his dazzling display of resonant dulcid tones.

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- NO COLLECT CALLS -

PEOPLE

CHARLES GERMAINE called long distance to report that **CLIFFORD VARGAS** recently underwent open heart surgery at St. Vincente Hospital in Los Angeles, Calif. He is making a rapid recovery and expects to be back on the show soon.

SIMONE FINNER, artists representative, has been on a circus tour visiting shows opening in the east.

LIPKO's Comedy Chimps will appear in Cincinnati and Nassau this next month, after having completed several show dates in April.

JON FRIDAY plans to tour with the Ward Hall and C. M. Christ Show during the summer season.

EDDIE BUSCH and **BILLY FORD**, clowns, have been signed to appear with the All American Circus at West Orange, N.J. The booking was arranged by **ROSE ADAIR**.

MARTHA SUAREZ, with the American Continental Circus, is recovering from an arm injury suffered when she slipped and fell during the riding act.

MARC W. SCHULTZ, of the Howard Schultz

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IN MEMORIAM

JIMMY (Cash) CARTER (42) prominent west coast concessionaire, died in Los Angeles, Calif., on April 4th, after a brief illness.

Agency in Chicago, has set **HAL HAVILAND's** English language comedy with 5 dogs for the tent show opening of the New York School for Circus Art's second annual Big Apple Circus in Mid-town Manhattan on June 6th.

HARRY ELLIS was the victim of a theft when thieves broke into his car and stole his CB during a visit to the Shrine Circus in San Francisco (Calif.) on April 9th.

JOANNE VARNER is in charge of wardrobe with the American Continental Circus, and on the show's outdoor dates she handles tickets on the front end.

LARRY RICH, clown, is working school dates in the Tampa Bay (Fla) area and reports that business is good with several mall dates set.

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SRO

The Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus came roaring into Charleston, from Columbus, Ga., for April 7-9, and thousands of school kids were at the circus grounds to watch the big top go up.

Famous circus clown Toby Ballentine came in four days ahead of the show and he held his Clown School, Breakfast with Toby and his many visits to the Day Care Centers, helped to bring out sellout crowds for each performance. Many hundreds of people were sitting on the ground and anywhere they could find an open spot.

Capt. Fred Logan started the show with the elephant long mount. He told this reporter that this was the first time the show had started with the long mount.

Mary Johnson, marketing director for the circus, did a superior job with promotions, from the elephant race to putting a diaper on an elephant. They are all attention getters.

If business continues to be an SRO for each performance the show will have to get bigger just to handle the crowds. Jack Hunter

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IT'S NEW

Royal Shows Ltd. of Dunn, N.C. has purchased the total assets of Circus Kirk and moved all equipment to winterquarters in Dunn.

The show's title has been changed to "Hix Bros. Circus" and its planned 25 week tour is scheduled to open at Dunn on May 12-13 with an evening performance.

George Hicks has been named president and executive director of the company, while Jim Hand has been named general manager.

Several acts are already signed for the upcoming tour, and several others are expected to be signed soon. The performance will include a number of animal acts, making it a strong and well balanced program.

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A REVIEW

M&M Productions
by George Da Deppo

On April 8 and 9, the Plymouth, Mich., Community Chamber of Commerce presented Circus Internationale in the Plymouth Community Cultural Center.

The program, produced by M&M Productions, Grace McIntosh and Charles Marine, began as Ricky, the Clown, worked come-in. He sang two numbers in the style of Al Jolson and also did a slap-stick routine.

After the national anthem, the show's spec entitled "Land of Mother Goose on Parade" was presented. It was produced and staged by Jimmy Douglass.

The acts included: Danny Daniels, juggling; Kelly Arwood, juggling; Clowns; Johnson's bears; Clowns; The Willys, balancing; Pietro & Joyce, balancing; an aerial web number with Miss Canestrelli, Miss Elaine, Miss Joyce and Miss Lisa.

PEOPLE

JANICE CHANDLER, former circus performer, is in Portland, Oregon, where she is busy training race horses.

IRWIN KIRBY, associate publisher of AB, and who authors a weekly column, will leave the show business publication as of July 1st. Kirby is well known throughout the outdoor amusement industry.

After intermission the program featured: Col. Jerry Lipko's chimps; Carmen del Molino, on the tightwire; Victor Julian and his Little Stars; Clowns; Les Waltem's, hand balancing; Dainty LaVonne, aerialist; Clowns; The Canestrellis, teeterboard.

The show staff was made up of: Grace McIntosh and Charles Marine, producers; Danny Daniels, musical director; William Fenton, prop boss; Irvin (Rickey) Romig, producing clown, with special features staged and directed by Jimmy Douglass (Douglass Circus Creations).

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CARSON & BARNES CIRCUS

The following list of rolling equipment is being used by the Carson & Barnes Circus as it starts its 1978 tour.

Semis - - -

- 52 - 8 elephants
- 53 - 5 elephants, 1 hippo
- 54 - 4 elephants
- 56 - 8 elephants
- 40 - 2 camels, 2 zebras, 1 highland cow
- 50 - 2 llamas, 2 guanacos, 2 rheas, 1 emu, 1 camel, 8 pygmy goats, 6 sheep and a Fallow deer.

6 liberty horses, 8 ponies, 1 rosinback, 3 donkeys, 1 yak

- 94 - Seat Wagon - props and ring curbs
- 95 - Seat Wagon - menagerie cages (lion, jaguar, hyena, leopard, sun bear, pumas)
- 98 - Seat Wagon - performing cats (tigers, lions) and a fork lift

100 - Seat Wagon - props and ring curbs

129 - Seat Wagon - reserved seats

147 - Seat Wagon - poles
Seat Wagon - pay loader

60 - Light plants

65 - Cookhouse and Commissary

68 - Concession stock

71 - Shop Truck
Marquee Truck
Stateroom sleeper

Straightbeds - - - -

- 25 - spool truck
- 22 - Tire truck/ 48 wardrobe trailer
- 28 - Stake driver/Donikers
- 29 - Stake driver/cat props, arena

10 - Gas truck

141 - Tow truck

Morales bus

Big top bus

Prop/Butchers bus

Pick-ups - - - -

Green - Peanut trailer

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The total number of units traveling with the circus consists of:

20 semis; 9 straight beds; 3 trailers; 6 pickups; 5 trailers and 13 privately owned units. Making a total of 56 units.

MERLE EVANS was guest conductor of the Sarasota (Fla) Concert Band at its Easter Concert in Sarasota on Mar. 26th.

TALENT

The program for the Eddie Zacchini produced Kool Aid Circus at Tampa (Fla) on March 29-April 9 featured:

Bill Boron, ringmaster; Keith Killenger, musical director; John (YoHo) MacKay, producing clown; Eric Adams, chimps; the Segura Family, trampoline and bounding rope; Jack Cook's comedy car; Acadis, balancing; the Pinsons elephants; The Gutis Family, comedy; the Flying Ramos and Leigh's Space Wheel.

..... M. L. Dupont

Show Acts

A Vaudeville show called "Salute to Chaplin" was presented at the Avenue Theatre in San Francisco (Calif.) on April 15th.

The program featured the Chaplin film "A Night at the Show", plus Vivian Duncan, of the Duncan Sisters; John Romano, tap dancer; the Pickle Family Circus clowns; Kristavo, juggler and slack wire; Joe Bellan, actor, com-

Show Staff

The Dobritch Int'l Circus, produced by Sandy Dobritch, played the first of a series of Police sponsored dates at New Orleans, La. (Mar. 31-April 2):

The program, presented at the auditorium, included: Lilli-Ana's leopards; Aerialetta; Prof. Shappi's Crazy Piano; the Great Vashek, inclined wire walk; Ethel Jennier's Greyhounds; the Flying Lunas; Prince Najvez, aerial; Jo Ann & Sunny, seal act; Dante, one finger stand; The Vashek Duo, high wire; the Paul Kaye elephants with Ben DeWayne, and clowns Bruce Warner, David Chabira and Vern Woerner.

The Dobritch Circus utilizes equipment provided by Circus Creations (ring curbs, lights) and its staff included: Sandy Dobritch, executive producer/director and ringmaster/announcer; Jim Douglass, program coordinator; Vern Woerner, lighting; Lee Maloney, musical director and Bobby Davis, Jr., prop boss.

edy; Christina Jaqua, vocalist and the Golden Spike Orchestra.

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Show Report

GARDEN BROS. CIRCUS

Toronto, Ontario - April 1-3

by Dave Davis

For three days and six performances the folks of Toronto were thrilled with the Rameses Temple Shrine Circus produced by Ian Garden of Garden Bros. Circus.

Charlie Schlarbaum directed the spirited 23 piece Shriners band, opening at 8:15 p.m. with the National Anthem and a rousing overture.

With a musical background of 'When You Wish Upon A Star' and other familiar childhood songs a darling little girl was led to many beautifully costumed story book characters replete with music, including Old King Cole, Three Blind Mice, Little Red Riding Hood, etc., and around and through the magnificent magic castle - a real voyage through "Melody Land" for all of us.

The Reginine Duo presented a graceful and flowing cradle number, followed by King's Exotic Animals (llama, camel, pony), with the Hollywood Horses and Powell's Ponies.

Miss Erendira on the trap and her champagne girls on webs (4) made the music in action to that melody. Then came the famous Fornasari Musical Clowns who were superb in the traditional European fashion.

Alberto Zoppe filled the center ring with fun and laughs as his 'volunteers' tried to ride horse back. All three rings were next filled by masters of the juggling art - namely Miss Anita, The

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Drouettes, Miss Italo.

A Clown Walkaround preceded the Flying Armors, with Reggie as the catcher, plus two female and a male flyer. During the performance I visited this fine act was cut short due to some rigging problems.

At intermission time a huge stuffed Snoopy was given away. Mr. Garden really added a great deal of interest and pizzazz by having a real wedding take place in the lion's cage - complete with lions, wedding music, the bridal procession and all the attendants - all very well done and the event received plenty of publicity.

After the wedding party left Roy Wells put his lions (4) and tigers (2) through their paces. The outstandingly professional Reynoso Duo performed their aerial gymnastics high above the floor, climaxing the event by rotating around a bar in opposite directions, in a rigid (pike) position, adhering only by their feet.

The Fornasari Clown Troupe returned to perform on the trampoline with a three man high trick, and were followed by the Four Marios, who amazed the audience with their hat throwing (boomerang) ability as they circulated thru the three rings.

Then came the Lipko Chimps, Zoppe's K-9 Review and Tibor Alexander's performing Canines. The circus clowns were given the spotlight with the Dentist Gag, after which came the elephants in each end ring. Notable was Gee Gee with her control and enthusiasm.

The performance concluded at 10:15 p.m. with the Albanis and the Deetlefs (Armors) high above the floor on wildly rotating motorcycles in two directions with performers doing hand stands and trap tricks with a wild background of colored lights and fireworks.

Yes, a very satisfying show.

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The Circus

The 4th annual Internationale Circus was presented at Plymouth, Mich., on April 8-9, under the sponsorship of the Chamber of Commerce.

The show was produced and staged by Grace McIntosh and Charles Marine. Danny Daniels was musical director, James Douglass served as ringmaster and Irv Romig (Ricky) was producing clown.

Acts here included: Land of Mother Goose spec; Danny Daniels, juggling; Yoxalls Barnyard Review; Kelly Arwood, juggling; Alva & Co., whips; The Orestes, rope spinning; The Freddys, plate spinning; Clowns; Johnson's performing bears; Clowns; The Willys, balancing; Pietro & Joyce, balancing; Aerial web;

BILLY BARTON (Continued)

body was also aboard). "I watched the Wallenda Troupe," writes Gil, "get one of the greatest hands I ever heard when they did their act that evening, following the accident. Jimmy Harrington had an excellent show. He was doing fantastic business, whereby the show is being held over an extra week. It's held under a tent. I saw some fantastic acts in the show. I'm glad that I went there, but sorry that I went on such an unexpectedly sad day."

SCOOP: The SZCZEPANSKI TRIO finally arrived in America (imported by Miller) after two aborted trips by their Government to join Polack Bros. two years ago. They opened in Nashville for EDDIE ZACCHINI and Word is that it is the most fantastic rola-bola act of all time.

After being off the road for 9 months, and then coming back to rehearse with the Luna Flying act without injury or incident, SLICK VALENTINE returned to Texas, only to smash his fingers in the cash drawer of a cash register! Seems Slick was picking up deposits from his grocery stores to tote to the bank, when the undignified damage occurred. That'll teach ya, Slick, to keep your hands OUT of the till! I

See you down the road, luvs.

Lipko's Comedy Chimps; The Ricardos, tight wire; Sir Victor Julian's dogs; The Kursawes, bicycle act; Clowns; Les Waltems, hand balancing; Dainty LaVonne, aerialist; Clowns and the Canestrellis, teeterboard.

... Clarence Hastings

SAWDUST TRAIL

In the South they say when the Pecan trees start to bud then, Spring has Sprung, well it's official now because that's what is happening. Another way we Southerners know that it is Spring is that we start bumping into circus advance agents and they are here too.

By the time this appears in print Ringling Blue will be well into its long run at the Garden in NYC, the Red Unit will be in New England, both Carson & Barnes units will be out and all of the others will be opening and on tour. The early openers included Davenport's World Wide Jungle Circus, Dixiana Circus, John Strong, Circus Vargas and others.

The indoor season knows no season and has been well into the swing of things with such producers as Paul Kaye, Eddie Zacchini, Hubler, Sam T. Polack, Hamid-Morton, Carden-Johnson, Hanneford, Fleckles and others too numerous to mention. The smell of hay, manure, peanuts, canvas and greasepaint is in the air.

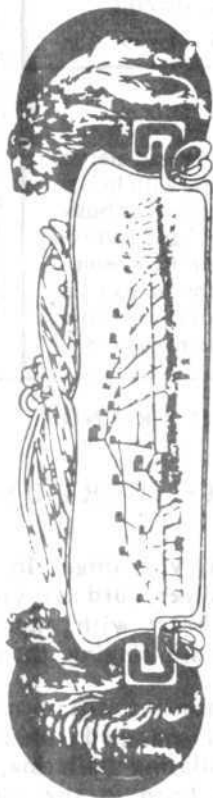
A first for all Louisiana fans - Ringling Red is to play no less than 4 cities in the state beginning with Monroe on June 20-21, followed by Baton Rouge (23-25) then New Orleans in July and Lake Charles. This is the first time a Ringling show has played Baton Rouge since the two units were formed. Also a first will be a tie-in with the Monroe Shriners with the Red Unit, who gave up their June 24-25 date so the Red Unit could come into Monroe.

Carson & Barnes opened their Eastern Unit at Hugo, Okla. on Mar. 14th then used the next day as a travel day to jump into Texas. When the show arrived at Austin they were joined by CFA'r Tex Dreyfus and Harry Lea Kingston. Tex spent three days working with the show's elephants and Harry took both movie and still photos.

Louisiana Purchase Gardens officially opens its season on April 19th and for the first time since receiving the elephant Shirley, from Dorey Miller, they will have her on public display.

DoDo, the Clown, served as technical director for a Little Theatre play - The Clown and His Circus - produced in Monroe for children of the area. Excellent crowds were on hand for the performances.

John (Yo Ho) MacKay, worked at Canton and



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(Continued on Next Page)

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IN MEMORIAM

GEORGE L. THOMPSON (76) retired elephant
man died in Florida on Mar. 21st, with burial
at Tampa. During his years in the circus busi-
ness he was known as "Red Cap" and had been
an elephant trainer with the John Robinson
Military Elephants, Terrell Jacobs, he handled
the famous elephant 'Billy Sunday' worked on
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Miscellaneous

The International Hotel in Atlantic City, N.J.,
wants showgirls, dancers and gymnasts for its
upcoming show revue. Tibor Rudos, entertain-
ment director for the hotel says they want out-
standing male and female dancers, show girls,
gymnasts and acrobats.

SAWDUST TRAIL (Continued)

for the Kool Aid date in Tampa (Mar 30-Apr.
9). Clowns working with him on that date were
Cathy Cousins, Diaao Pinson, and Al Medro.
John reports he will not be with Circus Girard
but instead will be working other summer en-
gagements.

The April issue of "Southern Living" has an ex-
cellent article on the late Harry Hertzberg and
the circus collection in San Antonio. The article
is titled "The High and Mighty Thrill Rides."

..... M. L. DUPONT

TO LOU JACOBS AND FRIENDS

"THE CIRCUS CLOWN"

Man of moods, you linger in my memory
The invisible silver cord of your laughter
Entwined my heart with enchantment,
And echoes come ringing through the years.

I remember haunting circus music,
Daring feats in spangled splendor,
Mammoth simulating ballerina,
Sound of roar born in the juggle.

When summer storm swayed leaning canvas,
And humans fled in speechless fear,
You held a crippled child with tenderness;
And in your tears shone the compassion of a great heart.

Unforgettable clown,
I salute you!

..... Rubee Rooney

CLOWN

One of the truly great silent film comedians was Harry Langdon. He rates at the top along with Chaplin, Keaton and Lloyd. Now thanks to historians many of Langdon's films are being circulated to specialty theatres across the country.

Of special interest is his film "The Strong Man" made in 1926, with Frank Capra directing. Several of the scenes were filmed at the old Al G. Barnes winterquarters in Baldwin Park, Calif.

Langdon's mastery of pantomime and Capra's skill at slapstick are combined to maximum advantage in this great classic. The film is generally considered to be Langdon's best effort.

Harry plays the part of a simpleton Belgian soldier who comes to America as a strong man's assistant in search of an American girl with whom he corresponds from the trenches. He finally locates her in a small town and finds she is blind - a scene that is directed with genuine pathos and beauty.

Langdon brought to the screen a peculiar blend

Show Dates

Ice Follies

Apr 25-May 7 Seattle, Wash.

Bob Jones Petting Zoo

Apr. 26-30 Manassas, Va.

Kari and Tika, the elephant

Apr. 28-29 Cheyenne, Wyo.

Razzle Dazzle (Vince Carmen)

April 24 Ardmore, Okla.

25 Austin, Texas

THE CIRCUS REPORT is published each week by Don Marcks, 525 Oak St., El Cerrito, Calif. 94530
Phone: (514) 525-3332.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE: \$12.00 a year; \$15.00 per year overseas via surface mail.

ADVERTISING RATES: \$5.00 minimum ad; \$10.00 Quarter Page; \$15.00 Half Page; \$25.00 Full Page (per issue).

of infantilism and senility in his "high soul" and "feeble minded" characters. One can always psychoanalyze a comedian on the basis of the fantasies his routines project. In the case of Harry Langdon, the pathology of his genius finally destroyed him.

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