



7th Year

July 24, 1978

Number 30

SHOW BOWS TODAY

An all new show will debut at the San Mateo (Calif.) County Fair today (July 24), produced and presented by Jerry P. Booker. Called "The Royal Horse Fair & Animal Exhibition" the show is a unique and different attraction designed for fairs, special events and celebrations.

A 30 ft. diameter performing ring is set-up under a red, white and blue 80 ft. round top. Actual performances are scheduled for twice each day, but the entire exhibit is to be open to the public from 12 noon to 8 p.m. every day. Show performances will include a liberty pony drill, a 22" tall horse called "The Fabulous Babe", a giant horse named "Brigadoon" and a variety of other horse presentations.

Spectators will be able to watch the performances from an area adjacent to the ring, back of a protective safety barrier. Special seating will be available for the elderly and handicapped who visit the show. At the extreme outside edge of the tent is an animal exhibit area, which can easily be seen by spectators who come to enjoy both the performance and exhibits.

The Horse Fair is geared to a continual come and go audience and has been designed

for their leisure strolling.

Interspersed with the animal displays is an educational exhibit of horse-oriented memorabilia, including a harness and saddle shop. Interesting displays of horse shoes, blacksmith equipment, unusual saddles and harness equipment is also included. A special feature will consist of a rare and valuable array of heavy studded harness and trappings

(Continued on Page 15)

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Talent

Talent working various holiday shows early this month included:

July 2 - Llanerch Country Club at Manoa, Pa. Ethel Jennier and her greyhounds; Co Co and Coconut, English clowns; The Berans, balancing trapeze and ground balancing; Marie-Louise and Prince Najvez, aerial acts. Bill Hall was announcer.

July 3-4 - Lancaster, Pa. - Otto Berosini with several animal acts, juggling and balancing; Los Latinos, tightwire; Mike La Torres and elephant; the Great Huberto, slide for life; Steve Russell, clown; Marsha Hunt, organist and a Polish team doing rola bola.

July 5 - West Caldwell, N. J. - Prince Najvez, aerialist; Sky Divers and a Fireworks display.

Miscellaneous

The Beatty-Cole Circus played Plainsville, Conn., when at the last minute the Hartford City Council vetoed plans to exhibit in that city.

The Wenatchee Youth Circus cancelled its date at Mercer Island, scheduled for July 6th.

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PEOPLE

PHILIP MORRIS' new Illusion show "Star Wars" started a two week tour in Canada on June 18th, with another two weeks set for later in West Virginia. Show members are: A. L. Leonard, Mike McLeondon, Sandra Smith and Lee Ann Hurst.

BILL KAY produced the El Korah Temple Shrine Circus at Boise, Idaho on June 13-16.

COOK's Comedy Car was featured at Rhode Island's Rocky Point Park over the July 4th holiday.

JAMES HARSHMAN, of Hagerstown, Md., has been elected president of the CFA for the upcoming year.

DENNIS LOOMIS, magician, reports his "Magic Capades" is doing well on its first northern Canadian tour.

THE CIRCUS REPORT is published each week by Don Marcks, 525 Oak St., El Cerrito, Calif. 94530 - Phone: (415) 525-3332.

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Show Dates

BEATTY-COLE CIRCUS

July 24-26 Mentor, Ohio
27-30 Youngstown

BIG APPLE CIRCUS

to Sept. 10 New York, N. Y.

BUFFALO BILL'S WILD WEST

July 26-Aug. 9 London, England

CARSON & BARNES CIRCUS

July 24 Bemidji, Minn.
25 East Grand Forks
26 West Fargo, N. D.
27 Willmar, Minn.
28 Mankato
29 Austin
30 Onalaska, Wisc.

CIRCUS VARGAS

July 25-27 Beaverton, Oregon
28-Aug. 2 Tacoma, Wash.

EUROPORAMA

July 25-26 St. Louis, Mo.
27 Springfield, Ill.
28 Danville
29 Normal
30 Kankakee

L. N. FLECKLES CIRCUS

July 24-25 Mendota, Ill.
27-30 Pecatonica

GREAT AMERICAN CIRCUS

July 24 Fulton, N. Y.
25 Auburn
26 Batavia
27 Warsaw
28 Elmira

HANEFORD'S CIRCUS INT'L
to Sept. 4 Middletown, Ohio

HOXIE BROS. CIRCUS

July 24 Scranton, Pa.
25 Berwick
26 Easton
27 Collingswood, N. J.
28 Brownsmill
29 Lyons
30 Leonardo

KING BROS. CIRCUS

July 24 Springfield, Vt.
26 Bennington
27 Glens Falls, N. Y.

RINGLING-BARNUM - Blue Unit

to Aug. 2 Inglewood, Calif.

RINGLING-BARNUM - Red Unit

July 27-30 Ft. Worth, Texas

ROBERTS BROS. CIRCUS

July 24 Pittsfield, Mass.
25-26 Westfield
27 North Hampton
28 Holyoke
29 Ludlow

TNT & ROYAL OLYMPIC CIRCUS

July 25-27 Cedar Falls, Iowa

WALLEDA CIRCUS

July 26 Clarksburg, W. Va.
29 Parkersburg

WONDERFUL WORLD OF CIRCUS

July 26-30 Elkhart, Ind.

----- OTHER ROUTES -----

CENTURY 21 SHOWS - Blue Unit

July 25-31 Decatur, Ill.

CENTURY 21 SHOWS - Red Unit

July 25-30 Superior, Wisc.

JAMES H. DREW EXPO SHOWS

July 23-28 Terre Haute, Ind.

KAYE'S HOLLYWOOD ELEPHANTS

July 24-25 Mendota, Ill.
27-30 Pecatonica

LITTLE LION LAND

July 25-29 Akron, Ohio

MAGIC CAPADES (Dennis Loomis)

July 25 Dawson Creek, B. C.

MAGIC TIME USA (Prof. Miller)

July 25 Sisseton, S. D.
26 Lisbon
29 Dickenson
30-31 Bismarck, N. D.

NASCAR

July 26 Shasta, Calif.

ROYAL AMERICAN SHOWS

to Aug. 6 Maywood, Ill.

ROYAL HORSE FAIR

July 24-Aug 5 San Mateo, Calif.

ROYAL LIPIZZAN STALLIONS

July 29 Oakland, Calif.
30 San Francisco

THE TENT TROUPE

July 24 Cumberland, Md.
25 Hagerstown
26 Lovettsville, Va.

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DESPITE THE terrible accident suffered by REGGIE ARMOR, daughter SA SA took the FLYING ARMORS to Japan, an engagement booked by SANDY DOBRITCH. At this writing the troupe will consist of SasSa, Slick Valentine, Bill Whitmeyer (an FSU flyer) and Calia Meluzzi, who was also in the motorcycle act when Reggie fell at that Festival in New Jersey.

LAST week's column lead-in featured the new ice magic show being produced by JIM NORDMARK. Now word is that Jim will (or may) delay that production until 1979, sending out the regular magic show instead.

LINDA & HEINZ SHAPPI are the proud parents of a baby boy, Heinz Gohann Pitchler, born June 15th. The baby was a week overdue, and Linda underwent 18 hours of "natural birth" before a Cesarean was performed. Eight days later, Linda was playing the Dobritch date in Wheaton (Ill.) . . . but VERY carefully!

SWB & SARA MILLER had a day off so they trucked in their entire magic troupe to the Dobritch Circus in Wheaton, parked their units, and spent the day visiting with friends. The show is doing very good business and is heading West. Glamorous MARION CRISTIANI may be "retired" but is far from "inactive". The gal is heavy into wire and stone sculpture and is also studying clay-modelling. Daughter KAREN reveals that Marion looks wonderful and is as full of pep as ever. GOOD news for those fans of trapeze great DON DORSEY (and aren't there a lot of us!) The famous star is living in Fall River, Mass., is far, far from the recluse he's been reported to be! Although Don has problems with his arm, injured in a fall on Clyde Beatty years ago, he has been seen living it up at Discos. Mutual friends tell me he looks "great".

MOVE OVER GEE GEE - - you've got company! LILLI & SVEN's tractor broke down out of Cincinnati, had to be towed to that city where a tractor was rented to take them to the Mt. Clemens date. Sven flew back after the date, leaving Lilli behind, to pick up their tractor, replaced with a new motor. Naturally the motor wasn't in yet so Sven, with 3 men, stayed up all night to finish the job. (Overtime for the labor was \$99 an hour) Sven drove back to Michigan, picked up Lilli and they arrived just after the matinee. Lilli says she doesn't know how they did it, that they were "dead" for days afterwards. Moreover the whole tractor problem cost them \$8,000!

SNAPSHOTS: Veteran agent FRANK SOPER is dead. . . High act performer ROGER DUBOIS

wrecked truck and trailer in Miss., this spring. . . BOOM BOOM's son, TOM BROWNING, will be married Nov. 10th in Washington, DC. . . Eastern gas stations are now charging for air (not the kind you breathe, but THAT will be next). . . Rumor-hazzit CUNEO goes to Hamid-Morton in '79, and meanwhile plays the Texas dates; ditto the Cristiani elephants, in for their 5th year. . . GUTIS on the Kool Aid fair circuit. . . LOTTIE BRUNN is spottading Carden-Johnson. . . MIKE CHIRRIK was featured with the DEBBIE REYNOLDS show at Lake Tahoe. . . MERLE COOK playing fairs for Gastoni, also inter-changing Trans-Canada Hell Driver dates with son JACK. . . DORIS BARNES vacationed on Beatty-Cole with DAVE & LOIS. . . WES & FLORINE have a new motor home and JIMMY DOUGLASS bought a new truck. . . HOWARD SCHULTZ took a Wisconsin vacation, able to get away now that son MARC is in the business. . . IAN GARDEN back from a heavy booking trip stateside for his Garden Bros. Circus. . . GUNNAR AMANDIS traipsing the sport show circuit setting acts. . . RED GATES had the concessions on the Dobritch Wheaton date. . . CYNDRY MIGLEY's mother ARMEDA came to visit, to see the new baby, wound up working concessions in Providence. . . BEN DeWAYNE's young son working the baby African bull in the Kaye elephant act. . . PHIL SCHACHT says he and Fran may give up the cradle. . . CHERIE TROY is still working at that night club in South Chicago. . . BONNIE & BILLY EARL ran into EVY KAROLY at a truck stop. . . MIMI ZERBINI is married to Stan PENNY, recently underwent an operation on her shoulder. . . The California dates for the Emmet Kelly, Jr. Circus were cancelled abruptly due to bad promotions. . . AL DAWLEY was made honorary member of the Moolah Temple. . . BOBBY DAVIS climbed a center pole to install a "One Way" traffic sign at the end of VASHEK's motorcycle cable - broke Vashek up so much he could not do the headstand. . . Sky-Diver DAVE VERNER has been a big hit on outdoor circus dates with his 36,000 ft. "free fall". . . CLIFF VARGAS pulled his show out of the slump and is doing OK business now.

WALLEDA WRAP-UP: RIETTA and MARIO plan a hanging perch act. . . TINO and OLINKA have a baby girl, ANDREA. . . and DELILAH is out with a new high wire act called "Del Terres". Tino did a "skywalk" in Montreal, another in Moncton, plus a PTL TV stint. He is with Gatini. The Wallenda Circus is on tour, under the direction of STEPHANIE LEE SHAW.

(Continued on Page 16)



CIRCUS KNIE

by Jack Niblett

Circus Knie, Switzerland's largest circus and generally conceded to be one of the best in Europe, this season celebrates its 175th year of show business. I saw the show with a special atmosphere all of its own.

The show starts with a back cloth in front of the band stand, depicting a Swiss street scene of 100 years ago. An old-time circus wagon is pushed into the ring, and down its steps descends bearded "Papa Knie" to introduce his great little circus, firstly a charivari of clowns, and then his wire-walking daughter Katherine (impersonated by Germaine Knie).

With Katherine's act over, Street Acrobats (Knie 1900) take over, a lively crowd which included some good clowning by Gaston and Rolf Knie, Jr. The prologue is brought to an end by Pio Nock with his comical high wire walking. Papa Knie thanks us all for our attention, the wagon rolls out to its next destination, but "Mama Knie" does not forget to come around, rattling an empty tambourine under our noses in the manner of the old time street collectors.

Then the circus proper "Knie today" starts with Fredy Knie, Jr., presenting 12 Lipizzan stallions in a ring filled with synthetic mist. Fredy has one horse, a "winged" specimen executing a fine capriole, directed from the long rein. Clowns Pio Nock, Gaston, Leandro and Little Ferry combine to present a clown entree, then Franco Knie enters to present his six Bactrian camels and two Eland antelopes, a novel combination.

The Wee Gets, three young South Americans ap-

pear in an equilibristic act, notable for some superb head-to-head balancing. Pio Nock returns, this time with white-face clown Mario in a calssical European clown act.

Mary-Jose and Fredy Knie, Jr., Erica and Rolf Knie, Jr., present their immaculate four-handed Spanish High School act, a truly aristocratic offering and a delight to watch. Columbian artists, Los Albarracines performed some hair-raising feats on the fixed trapeze high in the roof of the big top.

Back to ground level and Lee Pee Ville from Denmark with his big Magic Company brought off some incredible illusions, notably one in which he apparently dissected a young lady, and then re-assembled the boxed parts in the wrong order. The first half of the show was brought to a rousing conclusion by the Bulgarians, the Nine Pendakovi, a terrific act which involved a very large, deep trampoline, "Russian" swing and fixed trapeze and cradle.

After the interval the show opened with a big cage act, Rene Strickler with his lions, tigers, pumas, panther and brown bears. For good measure during one grouping of his animals, two St. Bernard dogs entered the cage to take up their places but did not over-stay their visit. The cage remained up for Mary-Jose who presented her tiger riding a horse, with husband Fred Knie, Jr. also in the cage to see that everything ran smoothly.

As the cage was being taken down, the Duo Schwenk displayed their skills, with dental, neck and other holds on the "swinging perch" high above the ring.

"Elephants and Catapults" was the title of the next act, a fine acrobatic affair with Franco and Louis Knie, with Mitko Dimitrov flying through the air, from one elephant to another, from seesaws manipulated by the great beasts themselves, who appeared to be enjoying the comical aspect of the act.

A frantic act by Eric Brenn, was next, who left the audience almost as breathless as himself as he dashed around endeavoring to keep the saucers and glass bowls spinning from rods or tables. The last act of all was Fredy Knie, Sr., with a superb group of Arabian, Russian and Hungarian stallions moving in liberty, with splendid contributions by individual equine stars. Here, surely was the epitome of Circus Knie, I thought, all the classical ingredients of the circus presented by a circus aristocrat of charm and skill.

All the artistes assembled for the grand finale, while high above in the roof, Pio Nock walked his highwire, with a firework cascade of golden

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(Continued on Page 19)

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IN MEMORIAM**GENE CHRISTIAN**

by Art "Doc" Miller

Gene first tasted show business during the teens as a waiter on the Barnum & Bailey show, as a punk and trouped for two seasons. The following winter, after the show closed, he went to work in a drug store, which supplied ships with the usual run of ailment needs. Not long after a ship's captain came in for some purchases and mentioned that he was short a ship's librarian and departure was 11 p.m. that night. Gene was on that ship, a luxury round the world cruiser and he spent many pleasant years visiting ports in Europe and the Orient. He also came in contact with countless numbers of theatrical performers, and titled members of royal families.

The '29 crash hurt the cruise business so Gene departed for Miami understanding that the depression was a fine opportunity to do a bit of transporting car loads of people between New York and Miami.

Some Hollywood-mad foreign gals thought Gene could take them directly to Hollywood and Vine, instead he dropped them off at Greenwich Village. He also had some hair-raising experiences carrying a bevy of prostitutes.

Next he went to work in Miami as a news scribe and often took talent scouts to night clubs where he had seen promising acts. These included a Cuban boy by the name of Desi Arnez.

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Tiring of this he contacted Beers & Barnes Circus and joined out as an agent and piloted that show for many years. Later he worked for Dailey Bros. and he worked as Boy Friday for the late Floyd King, as well as working for Clark & Walters and various Bob Couls shows. His last trouping was ahead of Royson Bros. Circus.

He had been in poor health for a long time and his recent death came as a surprise. No details of his death or burial are known.

The Beatty-Cole Circus had almost a full page story, plus photos on Page 3 of the Boston (Mass) Globe on July 4th. The story was about the big show's date at Leominster.



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CFA CONVENTION

by Don Sandman

The CFA Convention at Dearborn, Mich., was a real ball for everyone. Rain on the opening forced us to eat our popcorn inside, but then there was a circus calliope and all the Stroh's beer and coke you could ask for.

Tuesday was the Business meeting and the Ladies Luncheon, where Ted Akeman talked about Side Shows. In the evening we went to Greenfield Village where Stroh's had an Ox roast, plus more beer and coke. While at the Village we rode the horse drawn Carriage, the Steam Train, the Paddle Wheel steamer and the Merry-go-Round. We were also entertained by the Plymouth Community Band, playing music arranged by Merle Evans after which it was back to the Dearborn Inn for circus movies.

On Wednesday we went by bus to Stroh's Brau House for a buffet meal and more beer and coke, plus potato chips. Then, after donning our bright yellow and red Stroh hats we went via bus to the Detroit Zoo, where we attended the Chimp zoo, had a whirl-wind tour, boarded the bus for a trip to Carson & Barnes Circus, with packaged

FLASH

IRWIN KIRBY, former editor and associate publisher of Amusement Business magazine, has been appointed National Press Director of the Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus. He will represent the circus in such areas as TV, radio, newspapers, magazines and other national media. He will also be producing the show's annual souvenir program.

lunch of Kentucky Fried Chicken provided while enroute. Dorcy Miller had his show well painted and just waiting for us, with a fine performance.

Thursday was the final business meeting, with Jim Harshman elected CFA president for 78-79. We also listened to a tape made by Helen Wallenda telling about her final days with Karl. Prior to the Final Banquet Stroh's again hosted a Lawn Party, and then came the final banquet with special speaker Charles 'Doc' Boas.

As everyone left they were presented with a plate commemorative of the "Colossal Circus Fans of America Convention", Dearborn, Mich., July 2-3-4-5, 1978. It was designed by George DaDeppo and it listed all the circuses which came out of Michigan, a true highlight for the convention.



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REVIEW

by Don Sandman

CIRCUS INTERNATIONALE

Tommy Hanneford Coca Cola Circus presents two performances each day at the Americana Park in Middletown, Ohio. The show runs 30 minutes and is presented at 2 and 4 p.m. each day.

All acts are rotated, thus working one show or the other. Senor Rai is ringmaster and the performers are: Tajana and her cats; Lou Ann Jacobs, Pancho Magana, Marc Karoly; The Riding Hannefords with Nellie; The Riding Academy; Tommy Hanneford and the performing Hanneford elephants.

The performance is presented in an orange and blue platisc balloon type arena with a two ring set-up. Tajana's cage in one ring is permanently set-up. It is there she presents the mixed elephant and cat act. The rest of the show is presented in the other ring.

Seating is all grandstand style arranged in a horse shoe effect. The park has been all freshly painted and new construction is still underway and thanks to Tommy and the others entertainment other than rides is provided.

BIG JOHN STRONG CIRCUS

Big John Strong's Circus returned for a July 7-8 engagement at Cincinnati, Ohio, under sponsorship of the Kiwanas Club. In all five full house performances were presented.

The program featured: Poco, Pete and Crisco, the town concert band; Big John's introduction; the Bickmore's, foot balancing; Roulette Gaston Nes Rouge, webs; Sandy Strong, birds; Roulette and Alphonzo, comedy acrobatics; Bill Schrieber and Sandy, dogs; Chris Burrell, swinging ladder; Pete Moss and Alphonzo, clowns in ladder number; Bill Schrieber, liberty ponies; Poco and his Micro Auto; Color Book pitch; The Acro-Bicks, revolving ladder; Pete Moss and Alphonzo, boxing match; Poco (Don Young) juggler; Great Swami Amazo, fire eating, sword swallowing and bed of nails; Chris Burrell and Neena the elephant.

Rolick and Sasha Montblanc presented a nice side

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The Hartford (Conn.) Courant of July 9th had a photo and story about the Ringling-Barnum fire in that city and how the Beatty-Cole show had applied for a permit to play there.

show attraction with the circus. They do magic, ESP, have snakes and knife throwing.

Performers include: Big John Strong, Sandy and Terrell, The Bickmores (Wally, Czigi and Kaska); Bill Schrieber; Chris Burrell; L. J. and Marsha Griep; Don Young (Poco); John Maguire (Pete Moss); Chris (Crisco Shorts) Kennington.

Others are: Wally Wallentin, canvas boss; Ron Pace, property manager; Red Johnson, advance; Tony Woolen, animal supt.; Bill Burger, advance booking and Gene Holtoway, producer.

Members of the John Robinson/Loyal Repensky Tent, CFA, held an after performance picnic for the circus personnel on Friday evening. A buffet was set up in the big top and visiting went on into the wee hours of the morning.

Seen on the lot during the two day stay were: Harry Anderson, of Enquirer Printing; Tommy Bentley, Chuck Clancey, and members of the tent including: Francis Zimmler, president, Ward Stauth, Bob Hills, Jr., past president of Windjammers, Walt and his Florida Big Top crew, Bob Timmells, and Don and Grace Sandman.

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Hanneford

by Pittsburgh Mike

Struppi Hanneford has talents above and beyond all those that gleam in the center ring. The talent of being a working partner for a guy from the Hanneford family named Tommy, who still loves to wear his favorite red suspenders.

Struppi possesses a love for her occupation and for us circus nuts that has more power than a cannon act. At this time her goals are to continue the Hanneford tradition and make sure she's always welcome back.

Tommy is something else; he still does the Hanneford horse act like a kid in his green suit, with great horsemanship. When looking at Tommy one cannot forget his great teacher, Poodles.

When the average man travels he packs a bag and goes. Tommy starts by blowing a whistle and packing his semis with all manner of animals.

Struppi's taste buds are hard to satisfy on the road. Here's a chance to surprise her with some dark rye bread, lox, corned beef, pastrami or any German dish.

When thrills were passed out I consider myself one of the luckiest. Struppi welcomed me in and

Not Today

On July 6th, the Boston (Mass.) Herald-American reported King Bros. Circus had been unable to play in Yarmouth because the sponsors had failed to obtain the proper permits. Local laws require that an application be filed and that a 20 day waiting period be observed.

Sgt. David Kerfe, of the Yarmouth police, said the owner of a restaurant which adjoins the proposed circus lot had complained. He also said the city had an ordinance which prohibits anyone from sleeping overnight in house trailers.

The local Jaycee's, sponsors of the circus, are "between a rock and a hard place" concerning financial arrangements and contract. They sold advance tickets and agreed to a contract - but there was no performance.

gave me coffee and some of her precious time. I was privileged to meet her mother, aunt and sister, who were visiting from Germany.

There are lots of dolls on this earth, but few who possess the courage to go into the steel cage.

Here's hoping that all circus people get to see the Hannefords at the Americana Park, Middletown, Ohio. And please, give them my best!

Thanks To

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MISSY THE CLOWN

REVIEW

WENATCHEE YOUTH CIRCUS

by George N. Bukota

The Wenatchee Youth Circus played to rain and wind reduced, but still enthusiastic crowds June 24th at Washington's Tri-Cities.

The 75 member circus, brainchild of Wenatchee school principal Paul K. Pugh, played two fast-paced performances at SunDowns Race Track in Pasco. Pugh, as Guppo the clown, led the 18 member circus band which includes a portable, baby calliope.

Actually it was difficult to tell exactly how many people were in the band. Several of the young people playing instruments during the spec, "Circus on Parade," left the bandstand as their acts came up. Many were seen later in roustabouts' gray coverall, spotting for other young trampoline and high-wire artists, or changing show props.

The acts, all performed by persons ranging from 5 to 18 years of age, included:

Jugglers; Swinging ladders; Double trapeze, including a toe hang and a spinning mouth-to-mouth hang; Clowns and computer dating gag; Inclined cable walk; including a lay-down halfway down

IN MEMORIAM

PAUL PYLE, circus man, died at New London, Conn., on June 16th, while handling public relations work for King Bros. Circus. Burial was in Sarasota on June 19th. Survivors include his daughter, Donna McMahon, a sister Mrs. Darlene Porter of Sarasota and two grandchildren.

COLLECTORS ITEM

The balancing pole used by Karl Wallenda in his tragic walk has been cut into one-inch pieces and these mentos can be purchased from the Showfolks of Sarasota (P. O. Box 1476, Sarasota, Fla.)

All proceeds from the sale of this pole will go to the Karl Wallenda Memorial Fund, which is to be used for the Showfolks' new room that will be named "The Karl Wallenda Room."

the cable; Trampoline; Tightwire; Teeterboard; Clowns and camera gag; Spanish web; Clowns and strong man in the middle of a tug-o-war; Roman ladders; High wire; Intermission; Tumbling; and vaulting; Clown boxing match; Whips and fire eaters; Clowns and exercise gag; Adagio; Slackwire and the Flying trapeze.



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PEOPLE

KRISTAVO, juggler, is touring with the Happy-time Circus this season, where he is featured in the show program.

BILL BRICKLE recently added several new dogs to his collection and he is gradually working each one into the Poodle Revue act.

TIM COONEY handled the DeWayne Bros. Circus elephant for a parade and elephant rides at Acton (Calif.) on July 4th. Tim is working on the animal film "Roar".

PAT DERBY, animal trainer and author of the book "The Lady and Her Tiger" has moved her animals to "Howling Wolf Lodge" at Leggett, Calif.

ZANITA (Anita Keppo Desimini) held a circus school in San Francisco early this month, teaching juggling, wire walking, trapeze, web and rolling globe. She recently visited the Pleasanton (Calif.) Fair and joined **MESHA T. CLOWN** in an identical wardrobe to amuse and entertain the public.

ELVIN BALE's aerial motorcycle act was filmed outdoors at San Diego, Calif., for a TV special "Circus Superstars" which will be aired in Nov.

SPECIAL

SPECIAL TREAT

by Clarence Hastings

An extra treat was in store for fans at the CFA Convention in Dearborn, Mich., on July 5th when they attended the evening performance of the Carson & Barnes Circus. Ned Judge, producer and director of "The Week End" program was on assignment for NBC-TV, spending ten days to two weeks with Carson & Barnes, filming what he called "The Last of the Old-Time Circuses."

He is only interested in tented circuses and how they move in and out of lots and towns. With his crew and head photographer Ed Matney, he joined the circus in Bowling Green, Ohio, where the circus was on a muddy lot due to heavy rains. They filmed the show moving in and off that lot.

In Dearborn they filmed day and night, getting angles of the tigers jumping through fire hoops and on high standards were taking films of the high wire and aerial acts.

Again in Jackson, Mich., July 6th, they were filming and Ned told me they were filming every segment of the show, with much time spent in close-ups of performers and animals.

This show will be aired in the fall, but the exact date has not yet been set. It will be of interest to everyone, so be sure to watch for it.

NEW SHOW BOWS (Continued)

representative of the Golden Age of horse drawn America. Horse drawn displays will include an early 1900 beer keg delivery wagon and a circus parade cage wagon.

The Animal Exhibition offers a look at many special horses, such as the giant "Brigadoon" and the tiny "Fabulous Babe." Also to be exhibited is "Hapiso" a full grown African hyena, African Nubian goats, pony mules, peacocks from around the world, a new born pony and mother and a variety of horses and ponies.

ATTENTION

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PEOPLE

THE THREE SIKORSKYS, ages 17, 19 and 21, all brothers, appeared at the Symphony Hall in Boston, Mass., on June 26th, booked by Abott Adams. They worked their combined juggling and unicycle act, then joined Roberts Bros. Circus for June 29-July 11 in the New Jersey area, doing three separate acts - juggling, unicycling and their new rolling globe act.

During this period they presented their own Mini-circus review at the Heritage Fair in Dundalk, Md. and did three shows at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC on July 3rd, plus a pair of dates for Phil Smyser in the Harrisburg, Pa., area.

Coming up for them are dates with Roberts Bros. Circus, plus fair dates at Altamont, N. Y., Rhinebeck, N. Y., Chatham, N. Y., and Tunbridge, Vt., all booked by Al Martin Agency.

Billy Barton (Continued)

BOUQUETS: To AURELIA HALL - The Bionic Godmother. Indestructible and Indefatigable - combining the Wisdom of Solomon with the Warmth of Mother Earth, with a dash of Mischievous Puck thrown in for good measure. She is a fine, great lady whom we all love . . . dearly.

HEADING West on the Indiana toll road, passed FRANK & ESTRELETA heading East to Rocky Point Park from Denver (Colo). It was so windy I couldn't "honk" so I am "honking" now. See you down the road, luvs.

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BEATTY-COLE CIRCUS

During the show's engagement at Plainville, Conn., (June 30-July 2) a local ruling forbid the use of fire hoops during the acts. Dave Hoover strung colored lights around his hoop and for the opening performance Charley Bertini's band struck up "Jingle Bells" and Hoover nearly went to pieces. The next day Hoover found a gaily-wrapped gift box beneath the hoop.

On July 2nd, when Jimmy James came out in his exaggerated nurse outfit during the boxing gag his derriere dropped out from under his skirt (two beach balls in a pillowcase). Clown Alley, the band and even Count Nicholas, announcer, were absolutely destroyed with laughter. There was James, all bulging top and no bottom!

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New Loan

A \$20 million loan has been obtained by Circus World, of Florida, at 9.5% interest for a term of five years. The loan has been guaranteed by the Circus World's parent company, Mattel Toy Co., and secured by the capital stock and certain personal property of Circus World.

The loan is to be used to prepay existing bank term loans and certain mortgages totaling about \$32,800,000. Prepayment of the bank term loans and the replacement of last year's \$100 million domestic revolving credit agreements eliminates all the restrictive covenants and the pledge of assets associated with those agreements, according to Mattel.

Meanwhile things are improving for Mattel and its directors have declared a 7.5c dividend payable Aug. 7th, to shareholders of record on July 7th. This is the first dividend since Dec. 21, 1972 and represents a record high quarterly dividend distribution to Mattel shareholders. The dividend resumption reflects the company's overall improvement conditions.

Mattel's income before extra-ordinary credits for the first quarter ended April 29 was \$1,802,000 or 10c per share, representing an increase of 62% over the \$1,111,000 or 6c per share, for the same period last year. Net income, including extra-ordinary income tax credits for the first quarter was \$2,902,000 or 16c per share, as compared to \$1,911,000 or 11c per share a year ago.

The company reports that restructuring of its domestic seasonal working capital credit lines and longterm debt had been completed. Effective May 31st, individual letter of credit lines totaling \$130 million have been made available by the firm's domestic banks. New letter of credit lines, which are for the one year period through May 31, 1979, are at prime interest rates.

Special Day

Opening night for Ringling-Barnum's Blue Unit at the Forum (Los Angeles, Calif. - July 18) included a special pre-show party and dinner celebrating Project HOPE West's 20th anniversary.

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I REMEMBER

by Dwight Moore

The Dwight Moore's Mongrel Revue (dog act) has performed with Polack Bros. Circus in every decade since the early 1940's. During the '40s they were with the show for five years.

Although I am now retired, the act is still going strong, trained and worked by my son Bobby, and his wife, Jeanne. They recently completed a year with a "Holiday On Ice" unit, and are presently on tour with Barry Ashton's "Les Girls", a variety type production with a big name headliner; performing in Theatre in the Round.

A few events that occurred while I was with the Polack Bros. Circus are:

In the late 1940's a tragic fall by Don Dorsey, a sensational single trapeze artist, in Vancouver, Bc, brought on another young man who did a cloud swing, named Billy Barton.

The passing of I. J. Polack in the summer of '49. What a loss and what a revelation to learn that his terrific exterior "bark" was only to cover his lack of bite. Also during that summer the act and I were packed up and shipped to Soldier's Field, Chicago, to perform before 80,000 people. The head liner on that show was President Harry S. Truman.

During the summer of 1966, the Polack Show had some time off, in the Northwest. A friend, Morgan Berry, had an ideal place for animal acts in Woodland Wash. We had become acquainted in the '40s at the Palomat Theatre in Seattle. Morgan was a musician in the band, and the Mongrel Revue was on the vaudeville bill.

Another animal act from the Polack show staying at Berry's place that summer was Eloise Berchtold. We really enjoyed that beautiful wooded country. It was while there that I observed and learned of her genuine affection for animals. I couldn't help but marvel at the friendly relationship between Eloise and the herd of elephants.

Mrs. Robert Stack, wife of the actor, served as honorary chairman for the party event.

For seats in the Ringmaster's Golden Circle and the "Topless Tent Party" were priced at \$125 for adults and \$25 for children, while seats in the Royal Ring were priced at \$75 and \$25. The prices included the dinner, plus hot dogs, hamburgers and of course the circus.

Seats in the special Project HOPE section of the circus were priced at \$25 and \$10.

SAWDUST TRAIL

by M. L. DUPONT

Take a look at a map of British Columbia if you want to see what country Carson & Barnes No. 2 Unit is playing in. Many of the towns aren't even on the map and you wouldn't believe some of the jumps they have to make. My information from show people who have played in Canada say it is not worth the hassle. Might just be something to it since the big shows don't go back anymore.

CARL WONG, on the RBBB Red Unit, does a 75 ft. high break-away sway pole act. Carl was unable to work at Little Rock as the ceiling was too low. In Monroe he could only work at 54 ft. He says so far this year only 11 buildings had the height he needed. In Monroe he worked with a cut finger, which he injured while setting up his rigging. AP carried a story that Dubsky's Wonderful World of Circus was searching for their huge boa that had gotten loose. There has been no word if the snake was recaptured.

Ringling Red played 4 performances in two days at Monroe, yet at the Super Dome in New Orleans they scheduled 6 shows in 4 days. Ringling grossed over \$80,000 for their Monroe date.

DoDo, the Clown, Little Doe and a new addition to the act called Little Bo will do a tour of libraries in North Louisiana beginning the end of July and into August. Little Bo is the second grandchild to join the clowning tours. Ten year old Little Doe is a veteran of 7 years of troupeing and has worked Shrine circuses the last three years with DoDo.

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PEOPLE

REGGIE ARMOR will reportedly be hospitalized for a period of some 8 months.

FRANK and JANET BURGER recently added several new dogs to their act which is currently appearing at Fantasy Island in New York.

JUDY JOHNSON, is the first girl to do a sponge dive in Scandinavia and is appearing daily at the Grona Lund Tivoli (July 10-30).

EDDIE HOWE and Famil recently returned from a nation-wide train trip, which included visiting friends and shows along the way.

Miscellaneous

The Happytime Circus played the Redwood Acres Fair at Eureka, Calif. on June 21-25.

RBBB will be host for a party at the annual Int'l Association of Auditorium Managers which meets at Louisville, Ky., on July 23-27.

The July 4th parade at Sheboygan, Wisc., featured a circus calliope drawn by six horses and played by Norman Wilbert.

Speaking of clowns, as I often do. Tim Holt, performance director of the RBBB Red Unit collects clown photos, past and present. Anyone wishing to add to Tim's collection can send him photos via the show's Washington, DC address. Fans will remember Tim as a former singing ringmaster, he took over Bob Dover's job on Ringling.

Good fortune smiled on this writer when a phone call indicated a young man knew I collected circus items and he had something for me. The gift was a 1928 Sparks Circus pictorial, of 24 pages, with most of the work done by Roland Butler. It is one of those rural mail outs, has a pre-paid 1c permit on the back and is in excellent condition.

Circuses in Ohio are suffering from rain and thunderstorms, while there are no tent shows in Louisiana, we have 90 degree heat, hot and dry. But let a circus come along and what do we get, rain! My thanks to Les Schmitt for his aid in my behalf. Les who is a first class clown and will soon be making a name for himself in the circus, is one of a kind. He offered his services to me in a debate with the VA at his own time and effort. It isn't often that someone else puts themselves out for another party. Kind of makes you have faith in your fellow man.

YEARS AGO

Oakland, Calif. - May 11-13, 1934

The Al G. Barnes Circus came into Oakland after playing in Woodland and are set up on the golf grounds at 45th and San Pablo Ave.

The show was in early and everything was up by noontime. Their tents are 4 pole big top, 4 pole menagerie, 4 pole side show, 2 horse tents of 7 poles each, 3 pole dressing top, 7 pole cookhouse, 2 pole kitchen top, 2 pole blacksmith shop and 2 candy stands of 2 poles each.

Some of their equipment includes 3 light plant wagons, 2 cookhouse wagons, 2 ticket wagons, a big top canvas wagon, 13 cages, big top poles, etc.

They have 16 elephants, 11 camels, 3 cattle, a hippo, 15 zebras, cages of lions and tigers, bears, and monkeys.

The train consists of 29 cars to move the circus with one car working ahead for advance.

They left here for Fruitvale, which is just a few miles away, and then go to Vallejo.

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EDWIN and LILLYAN PAPE and TONY CHAYKA took part in the ceremony of placing a wreath on the grave of JAMES A. BAILEY during the CFA Convention.

CIRCUS KNIE (Continued)

rain showering down from a frame on his shoulders.

To mark their 175th year, Knie held a stunning street parade in Zurich on the first Sunday of their four week stay. Three bands and a street organ, artistes, staff, all the lead stock and some of the caged animals; and the Knie family mounted on thoroughbreds, or sitting in open carriages receiving the plaudits of the crowds in the manner usually reserved for royalty.

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