



8th Year

June 25, 1979

Number 26

NO ELEPHANTS

LIVE WITHOUT ELEPHANTS

A near catastrophe recently occurred in Decatur, Ill. We must learn a lesson from this incident and learn to live without elephants!

On March 31, 1979, in Decatur, three circus elephants broke loose from their trainers and escaped onto the city streets. Eight people were injured by the rampaging animals, including a young girl who was picked up by one of the enraged animals and thrown to the ground.

We were lucky this time that the circus technicians were able to regain control of the situation before more people were injured or even killed. But must we wait for a major disaster before we face up to the fact that we are dealing with an elemental force of nature - and that we really don't know what we are doing?

The pro-elephant lobby has of course tried to minimize the likelihood of the re-occurrence of such an incident. Yet the fact remains that nobody knows with certainty the level of danger that elephants pose to the public health and safety. It is therefore a matter of common sense to conclude that we must learn to live without elephants. There are alternate forms of circus entertainment we can substitute for these dangerous beasts. Indeed, we as a people over-consume and

(Continued on Page 15)

(This is an editorial by Al Rock, publisher of "Broadcaster" the weekly newspaper, which appeared on May 23, 1979)

FIRE !

All equipment of Circus Berlin and much of the Berger Bros. Circus was destroyed or badly damaged as the result of a fire at its winter quarters on May 23rd.

Most of the personal possessions of both Norman Berger and Elton Berlin were lost, including furniture and antiques. Their personal collection of circus items, consisting of posters, photos, programs and old Billboards were ruined by water damage.

(Continued on Page 15)

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CIRCUS DAY . . . by Ron Sanford

This writer visited the Jungle Wonders Circus at Crete (Nebr.) on May 26th.

The show was using a two pole (one ring) big top, of blue canvas. Seating consisted of bleachers and all of the equipment looked to be in good shape.

The midway had a petting zoo with goats, llamas, small donkeys, zebra and Clyde, the clumsy camel. There are also two cage trucks, one with the white rhino and the other carries a lion, tiger and bear.

Seven elephants were on the show, with Gary Johnson handling the elephant rides. The midway also has a snake show, pop corn wagon and ticket wagon.

The performance includes: Single Trapeze, Soanish web, swinging ladder worked by Miss Lee Ann; Dogs, Frosty the pony, worked by Miss Yvonne; Juggling by Miss Lee Ann; Gopher Davenport worked with the clown act, and also worked the llama and camel acts, plus a chimp act. Sandy Fulbright has a pony drill, and Jack Fulbright has high school horses; Tex Texas does rope tricks and the 3 male elephants are worked by Gary Johnson.

The costumes are beautiful, and the performance runs about 1½ hours. Marie Pettus has the novelties and concession dept.

Seen visiting on the lot were Dorey Miller, Barbara Byrd, Christie and Traci Byrd, all from the Carson & Barnes Circus.

On May 27th, I visited Carson & Barnes at Brownville (Nebr). The lot was next to the Missouri River and was very sandy. They had to use a caterpillar to pull trucks onto the lot. (This is a small town of about

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BILL and EDDIE BACKSTEIN, along with ALLEN BABCOCK visited the Monte Carlo Circus and the Hubert Castle Circus this past month. Later Bill and NORMAN SCHULER visited Franzen Bros. and also Kelly Bros. Circus.

COL. LUCKY LARABEE blew the engine in his motor home enroute from Thunder Bay to Lethbridge. He called in ED RUSSELL to substitute for him for five days at Calgary.

JIMMY COLE and BOB EARLE, show owners, visited Circus Genoa at Edwardsville, Pa.

DALE LONGMIRE, Ringling Red Unit clown, was feted by New York friends, to a gala rooftop garden party recently.

CHET SLUSSER displayed his model circus at the fair in Porterville, Calif., this past month.

170 population).

I was on the lot before the top was set up, so got to see it raised into the air. It is a push pole top. Their performances were at 2 and 4:30 p.m. Attendance was under a half house.

When the show was over and loaded all the trucks were pulled off the lot and parked on the side of the road.

Circus Fans on the lot included: John Thiele, Jim McRoberts (Topeka); Mark Anthony (Omaha); Roman Fleskoski (Falls City) of Royal American Show. Also seen on the lot was Gopher Davenport and Gary Johnson, of the Jungle Wonders Circus.

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

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SHOW DATES

Carden-Johnson Circus
 Jun 25-26 Scottsbluff, Nebr
 27 Newcastle, Wyo
 28 Gillette
 29 Sheridan
 30 Hardin, Mont.
 July 1 Wolf Point

Carson & Barnes Circus
 June 25 Jerseyville, Ill.
 26 Hannibal, Mo.
 27 Quincy, Ill.
 28 Fort Madison, Ia.
 29 Burlington
 30 Mt. Pleasant
 July 1 Ottumwa

Hubert Castle Circus
 June 26 Trail, B. C.
 27 Nelson
 July 1-2 Billings, Mont.

Circus Genoa
 June 23-24 Jackson, Mich.

Circus Vargas
 June 27-July 1 Eugene, Ore.

Allan C. Hill Productions Present
 Great American Circus
 June 25 Bloomsburg, Pa.
 26 Berwick
 27 Summitt Hill
 28 Bangor
 29 Easton
 30 Copley

Tommy Hanneford Circus
 to Sep 12 Middletown, Oh.

Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus
 Jun 29-July 4 San Rafael,
 Calif.

Lani's Mini Circus
 Jun 25-July 1 Pleasanton,
 Calif.

Monte Carlo Circus
 June 27-29 Hollywood, Fla.
 July 1-3 Lakeland

Pickle Family Circus
 Jun 30-July 4 San Fran,
 Calif.

Police Circus
 June 25 Eugene, Oregon
 Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit
 June 26-27 Mobile, Ala.
 29-July 1 New Orleans, La.
 Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit
 Jun 27-July 1 Tucson, Ariz.
 TNT & Royal Olympic
 Jun 27-July 1 Englewood,
 Colo

Wallenda Circus
 June 30 Philadelphia, Pa.
 ---- MAGIC ----
 Blackstone the Magician
 Jun 26-July 1 Westbury, NY

Int'l Magic Show
 June 26 Midland, Texas
 28 Richardson
 30 San Antonio
 Prof. Miller - Magic Time USA
 June 28 So. Lyons, Mich.
 29 Penfield
 30 St. John, Ind.

Tom Ogden - Magician
 Jun 25-30 Hollywood, Cal.

---- OTHER DATES ----

Century 21 Shows - Blue Unit
 Jun 25-30 Decatur, Ill.

Century 21 Shows - Red Unit
 Jun.27-Jul 1 Du Quoin, Ill.

Cold Nose Five - Dog Act
 June 28 Breckinridge, Mich
 30 Six Lakes

July Collins Show
 June 26 Norwich, Conn.
 27 New York, NY
 29 Westchester
 July 1 Shelton, Conn.

James H. Drew Exposition
 Jun 25-30 Oakwood, Va.

Hal Haviland - Dogs & Pony
 to Oct. 8 Lincoln, N.H.

Los Latinos - Wire Act
 Jun 29-Jul 4 San Rafael, Ca.

Sad Buster - Clown
 June 27-30 Waco, Texas



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FLASH... FLASH... FLASH

The Monte Carlo Circus will close at Columbus, Ga. on June 20th, then goes into Circus World Park. to open there under canvas on July 1st. This gives the park an indoor and outdoor show.

The Monte Carlo Circus will be presented under a Harold Barnes big top (150 with one 50 ft center piece).

THE FARRELL BROS. high wire act has been booked into Circus World Park for the summer.



THE GENERAL feeling of unrest and uncertainty in the industry lately may, in part, be attributed to ballooning inflation and the gas problem, but whatever the reason there exists an ambience of overall "sadness" which is impossible to ignore. Certainly things are changing and, unfortunately, NOT for the best. And now, from Sweden, comes word that Circus Scott after 365 years of continuous operation, has folded its tent. Director KATE BRONETT said the reason for the show's demise was that Stockholm's Fire Officials had ruled the circus tent constituted a fire hazard and there was simply not enough money to buy a new one.

TRAGIC news comes from LARRY CARDEN's circus unit where the three elephants (originally the Clyde Bros. three-some) were poisoned and only one of the animals could be saved and then after extensive and expensive treatment. Thus far the poisoning remains a mystery. It was an excellent bull act, well presented by BILL and CAROL GOLDEN and is a great loss. Further tragic news is that JO ANN JENNIE's brilliant sea-lion SUNNY is dead. At this writing news is sketchy and I have been unable to contact Miss Jennier for details. It was the finest seal act in existence today and the loss is irreplaceable, beyond which Miss Jennier was attached to the animal and its sudden death has affected her profoundly. My personal regrets to both Mr. Carden and Miss Jennier.

A VISIT with STEPHANIE SHAW reveals the WALENDA TROUPE will be featured for a 14 week tour with Gran Circo Atayde this winter. Rumors that the famed troupe would be with Circus Vargas are hereby spiked. Apparently it is the Del Terres who will be with the tent - Delilah and husband Terry.

JOE BAUER informs me the entertainment program at Great Adventure is altered this season. A Jamboree is interspersed with the circus acts, each doing 3 shows daily apiece. Acts at Great Adventure include the FEARLESS BAUERS, AL's LEMON-ZINE and DAVE McMILLAN's Fabulous Flying Tigers.

MORE RUMORS TO SPIKE: Those stories that FED and LONI VAN VOORDEN have split are erroneous. Freddie has an excellent job with a pipe organ company in Highland (Ill) and is in love with his work. He goes out with Loni and Barbara only when their engagements do not conflict with his schedule. All three

were in Mt. Clemens for the M & M Circus. The dynamic duet of foot jugglers will play the M & M Circuit in 1980.

THE building in Flint is kaput insofar as the Shrine Circus is concerned and word is that the 1980 Shrine date will be held at the Arena. The Cincy Gardens, as had already been noted, has shuttered thereby sending that city's Shriners scouting a new location. It's rumored they may go under canvas which, if true, would certainly mean a shuffling of dates as April in Ohio is too unpredictable for a canvas operation.

AS impossible as it sounds, the diesel tractor on Carden-Johnson's No. 3 unit was wrecked - in a garage! The tractor was taken in at Kalamazoo to have a leaky hose repaired and when it was jacked up was overturned and demolished! In addition to the wrecked tractor BOBBY GIBBS (looking wild with his new beard by the way) lots a TV set and CB unit. The garage claims they weren't responsible (!) but GEORGE CARDEN feels they are and contacted his lawyer poste haste!

CLOSEUPS: IRMA PALACIO FERRONI tells me the FLYING PALACIOS are currently at Blackpool in England for the summer. Last summer saw the act at Italy's Circo Americano for the season. The circus venture in Mexico proved a fiasco for the renown flying troupe which proves once again that performers, for the most part, fare badly as circus entrepreneurs. . . KATHY ENGLISH suffered a hairline fracture of the spine during a rehearsal several months ago but is OK now. . . JOHNNY JORDAN is, at this writing, still in Syracuse, out of the hospital and getting about on crutches. He was scheduled for new tests, however, as he was experiencing problems with blood clots. . . BONNIE ARMOR, who has lost a lot of weight, is with REGGIE on the Garden Circus in Canada. . . SANDY ZOPPE totalled their carry-all and house trailer on Canada's 401 in Toronto when a car veered up on her right and sent her into a skid on a snow covered highway. . . LUCY ANN JACOBS will not return to Royal Hanneford according to reports. . . Unofficial word via official sources in Detroit confirm persistent rumors that Royal Hanneford has the Moslem Temple Shrine Circus. . . CHRISTOPHER JAMES and the PLUNKETT's Comedy Trampoline

(Continued on Page 16)

Fire!

First on the scene at a roaring mobile home fire was performer/retired fire chief Happy Davis. The Davis', Karin and Hap, were in Grand Junction at the KOA for several days, in preparation for the Shrine Circus there on June 8-9.

When the loud "pop" of breaking glass was heard, Happy was only 100 yards away, by his own trailer chatting with neighbors. Not knowing if the trailer was empty or not, the two times decorated "Fireman of the Year", Davis scaled a 7 foot board fence to assist in any way possible. Before reaching the trailer the front had become engulfed in flames which were then rolling out of the broken glass well over 15 feet into the air.

The only fire dept. servicing the area was a volunteer department. The local officer in charge deferred to Retired Chief Davis' authority while Happy directed the extinguishing of the blaze. Thanks to Davis' thorough knowledge of and experience with trailer fires, the blazing inferno was extinguished in less than 5 minutes from the time the flames "popped" the glass.

As many performers know, Happy spent over 24 yrs. in the fire department, working his way through the ranks with the last 9 years being spent as Chief of the Montgomery County Fire Department, Pennsylvania's second largest county fire department consisting of 155 stations which were all under his command. He was also the second youngest officer (Fire Chief) in the U. S. being promoted to that office at the age of 32.

The one bit of comedy relief that surrounds this tragic ruination of a young woman's first home was personified by the only volunteer fireman of the Clinton Volunteer Fire Department to arrive on the scene, clothed with the proper equipment to protect himself from the heat, smoke, fire and falling debris. While Retired Chief Davis and the volunteers put out the fire dressed in shorts appropo for a scorching hot day, the ever so proper Clinton volunteer stood with helmet, bunker coat, and boots holding his hose with clenched teeth and a death grip waiting for that fire drenching stream of water that never came.



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SPECIAL

On May 19th, in Wichita Falls, Texas, Carden-Johnson Circus premiered its "fourth unit". After the last show, the Muskat Shrine Temple served a hearty covered dish dinner for the circus, which was attended by 300 Shriners and their families. Afterwards, in honor of Larry and Betty Carden's 27th wedding anniversary, a hilarious one hour show was presented by the Carden-Johnson personnel, in which the performers and crew exchanged acts and duties.

The program included: Coloring Book pitch in Polish by Mike Wolsky; Organ overture by concessionaire Janice Streib; Tiger act by George Rosales (the cats looked a lot like the Rosales kids); Trampoline by Marion Shores, Eddy and Markey Steeples; Dog Act by Edna and Royce Top and Frankie Galumbo; Comedy tramp with a one and a half somersault to the head by David Conners, Doug Terranova, and Royce Top; Trapeze with almost a head stand by Miss Sissy; Clowns, Larry Rich and Lurtch Kendall; The Spin of Death on roller skates high atop an elephant tub by Frank and Doris Galumbo; Juggling by Bob and Edna Top; very low wire by Bill and Carol Golden; Foot juggling by Angela Winow; Aerial ballet featuring an attempted helicopter spin that looked more like a web dangling in a Texas windstorm by Vance Riordan, Dean Francis, David Conners, with accompaniment by Bob Top singing "I Left My Heart in San Francisco"; Comedy duo by Mike Pike and Larry Carden; the Finale was transportation director Any Streib singing what vaguely resembled "No Business Like Show Business."

The Staff consisted of: Mike Pike and Sissy Risoli, Co-Producers; the Cortez Family, props; Edna (Tummy) Top, drums; Show Attorney Jerry Sokolosky, musical director, and Bill (Tiny Scott) public relations.

Miscellaneous

The 50 car James E. Strates Show passed the Monte Carlo Circus train at Richmond, Va., while enroute to their opening date at Landover, Md.

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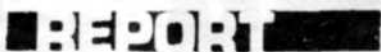
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CARDEN-JOHNSON . . . by Clarence Hastings

The Saladin Shrine Temple presented its first annual circus and brought in the Clyde Bros.-Carden-Johnson Circus at Kalamazoo, Mich., for June 4-10.

The performance was an outstanding one and featured: Circus Overture; Spec "Circus on Parade"; Lions and Tigers presented by Wayne Ragen; Aerial Ballet featuring Kathy English, Olinka and Miss Ivey; Trampoline with Cuccillo; Perch acts with Hanzini and Rene; Clowns with Fireworks; Yoxall's Pigs; Alberto Zoppe's Mixed Animal Revue; Upton's Cougar; Giovanni, drunk pole act; Bobby Gibbs, mules; Maria and Janie, dressage; Cuccillo, ponies; Capt. Boxcar Young with his Bucking Ford and Cannon Act; Aerial Ballet with Mr. Sensation (Billy Barton); Intermission.

In the second half were: Alberto's Riding Academy; The Flying Lanes; Kurt Szymanski's Chimps; Alfredo and his dogs; Bobby's Dogs; Zoppe on the high wire; The Berans, balancing; The Ferroni Duo; Gina Medro; Clowns with Duck Hunting; Adele & Gory, gorilla parody; The Berans, trapeze; Rhalfy's ladder balance; the Diamond Duo, aerial; Bobby Gibbs with Bimbo and Dorothy and Paul Kelly's elephants.

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- 3 -

FOR OPEN TIME

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The show was produced by George Carden; ringmaster was Al Leonard; Kay Parker directed the band of 9 pieces; Rex Young was the producing clown and Bobby Gibbs was animal supt.

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On The Lot

... by Joni Larabee

The Flying Espanas attempted the quadruple in Indianapolis and again in Winnipeg and came so very, very close..

Irene Fossett is delighted with her new washer and dryer that Tony just installed in their camper. She now claims she has the cleanest chimp wardrobe on the road.

Our special thanks to Ed Russell for staying over to be Ringmaster at Calgary when Lucky Larabee blew the engine on his motor home enroute from Thunder Bay.

And, Conductor Clem Toca blow the clutch on his recently purchased bus. When they tore it down they

SETTLEMENT

A settlement was made by the court in the divorce trial of Robert and Georgetta Steele.

District Judge Annette Stewart, of Dallas, rendered the decision, giving Mrs. Steele three elephants and six horses. Mr. Steele is to have two elephants and three lions.

found some of the parts had been made and installed in Mexico and had to be hand made to fit.

Lots of long jumps on this route, but the weather is good, the attendance is excellent, and gasoline is expensive but plentiful.

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In Memoriam

MERLE COOK (55) of Cook's Comedy Car, passed away following a heart attack on June 11th at a small town in Quebec, Canada. He was working fair dates for Gastoni in Canada and had just finished the evening show and was putting his car into the trailer when he suffered the heart attack. Merle's father originated the comedy car routine, and the act is being continued by his son. Survivors include his wife, Pam, son, Jack and a daughter Leesa. Burial was at Waterford, Pa.

SIEGFRIED & ROY, illusionists, **GARY LARRIMORE**, ventriloquist, and **CHRIS CHALEN**, illusionist, were all featured on the **MERV GIFFIN TV Show** this month.

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Miscellaneous

Circus Fun, a high school feature and the Clyde Bros. Circus played Cedar Rapids the weekend of June 1-3.

The Karl King Ring of the CMB held its annual show at Wahoo, Nebr., on June 22-24.

Garden Bros. Circus gave three performances at Sydney, N.S. last month, where they also gave a parade.

A kangaroo escaped from a carnival cage at Nashua, N. H. on May 26th and was last seen jumping off towards the wooded area of that city.

Kelly Bros. Circus played to two straw houses at Junction City, Kans. on May 12th, then played to straw houses for both performances at Manhattan, Kans. on May 14th.

By Crane



New Arrival

CAROL and ROBERT SEAY are the parents of a daughter born June 1st, at Sarasota Memorial Hospital.

The mother, Carol (Stebbing) Seay is a featured aerialist with the Stebbing Royal European Circus. The father, Robert, is prop boss.

The new arrival's grandparents are Francis (Bill) and Lillian Stebbing. Mr. Stebbing operates the Stebbing Royal European Circus and Polack Bros. Circus.

Show Date

M & M Internationale . . . by Clarence Hastings

On June 2nd, some 20 members of the Joel Warner Top met and attended the M & M Internationale Circus at Mt. Clemens, Mich.

The show was sponsored by the Macomb Sheriff's and was presented under a huge white and blue big top (300 ft. x 150 ft.) for its June 1-3 engagement.

Produced by Grace McIntosh and Charles Marine, the circus program featured: James Douglass, announcer; Boom Boom Browning, musical director; Vernie Woerner and Rickey Romig, co-producing clowns; Circus Overture; Soec "Holiday Hullabaloo"; Pat Anthony, lions and tigers; The Berans, trapeze; Miss Brenda, web; Clowns; King's Liberty Animals; Princess Mafalda, sword balance; Bridget and Fifi, sword balance; Poppino & Co., comedy wire; The Berans, balancing; The Charlies, balancing; Mr. Sensation (Billy Barton), cloud swing; Intermission; Ethel's Leaping Greyhounds; Clowns; The Tadeaus, perch act; the Carlos Duo, perch act; the James Zoppe Bareback Riders; Miss Lon, foot juggler; Miss Barbara, foot juggler; The Gutis Family, jungle fantasy; Los Castros, high wire; Barbara and Walt King, elephants; Ma-Ho-Pin, slide for life.

Graduates

CINDY and HEIDI HERRIOTT both graduated from high school recently in a unique fashion.

While at Circus World in Haines City, Fla., they attended the high school there under a work program which allowed them to work as full time dancers at Circus World, after attending school in the early morning hours. They received high school credits for their work.

Cindy graduated from Haines City High School in 1978, while Heidi graduated half a term early from Sarasota High School in Jan. 1979. They are both currently with their parents on Circus Vargas, where Cindy presents high school and liberty horses, while Heidi rides high school horses.

NOTICE:

Rumors now circulating that Circus Report is going to fold following the introduction of the weekly magazine "Midway" are certainly false and untrue. CR has no intention of folding up and in fact plans to be around for a long time to come.

We continue to need your help for news, routes, advertising, subscriptions and that sort of thing. No publication can survive without such help from its friends. We hope this statement will put an end to all rumors concerning the future of Circus Report. Watch for us each week, we'll be there with news, routes and a variety of information for each and every one of you. Tell your friends about CR, they might like to become subscribers, we'd appreciate it.

. . . . Don Marcks

Acts

ALL STAR CIRCUS . . . by Don Sandman

The Nordmark and Hood Int'l All Star Circus presented their annual show at Beavercreek High School, at Beavercreek, Ohio, on June 5th. The date was sponsored by the local Kiwanis Club.

The show looks nice with a Gold Backdrop, and there is good lighting effects. Hines Rucker is the manager, while Lee Ketchum directs the band which includes drums, organ, sax, trumpet and trombone.

The program featured: Overture and vocal by Bonnie Earl on "Love Makes the World Go Round" and "Magic of Love"; Raphael's Poodles; The Cycling Terry's; Hines Rucker and Miss Linda, magic; Popcorn and Ecetera, clowns in "See The Stars"; Miss Tanya, hair hang with juggling; Popcorn and Ecetera; Rucker's Uncaged leopard "Targa"; Bonnie & Clyde, musical novelty; Intermission; Uncle Heavy's Pork Chop Revue; Popcorn the clown; Miss Mary and Miss Cherie, web number; The Vasquez Chimps; Clown number; Terry O'Brien & Co., slack wire; Billy Earl, ventriloquist.

As always circus fans were treated royally by the show personnel. Visitors seen were Art and Mary Dicken, Al Conover, Jake Conover, Don and Grace Sandman.

Borger Bros. Fire (Continued)

A treasured possession, an oil painting of the late Emmett Kelly, Sr., escaped damage because it had recently been sent out to be framed and was not at the house at the time of the fire.

Borger Bros. Circus had closed its winter dates a few weeks prior to the fire, so not all of it had been put away and thus some things were saved. However, the show's sound system was destroyed and their cotton candy machine was damaged. It has since been repaired.

Their present address is: Norman Borger and Elton Berlin, 1524 No. Bosworth, Chicago, Ill. 60622.

Miscellaneous

The Int'l Jugglers Assoc., will hold its annual convention July 17-22 at Hampshire College in Amherst, Mass.

A special advance registration package has been announced for \$70. This will include five nights of dormitory space, all meals including the banquet, registration fees, a convention button and T-shirt.

For full details about the convention write to: IJA Convention '79, 149 Larch Road, Cambridge, Mass. 02138.

NO ELEPHANTS (continued)

waste enough entertainment that we could, with proper attention to conservation, get along without elephants.

Nor is it just a matter of the danger to the individual that is involved. Elephants also consume enormous amounts of resources and are costly to maintain. In addition, they generate huge amounts of waste that pollute the environment and present a disposal problem to which nobody has come up with a safe solution.

Furthermore, there is the question of what to do with the remains when they die. Simply to bury them poses too much of a health hazard to present and future generations. To have them embalmed and stored in underground caverns in leak-proof coffins would entail enormous expense. Finally there is the question of terrorists. Suppose they should get possession of a herd of elephants and hold us up to ransom with the threat of turning these beasts loose to trample the citizens of some great city?

All of these considerations dictate that we over-ride the special interest pleadings of the peanut lobby and immediately take steps to create a non-elephant future - a cleaner and safer future - for the American people.

Show Date

MINI CIRCUS . . . by Don Sandman

The Hamilton Mini Circus, of Hamilton, Ohio, played the Dillsboro Indiana Street Fair on June 2nd. The youngsters, 6 years of age to 17 years, put on an hour performance of Unicycles of all sizes and heights, German Wheels, Globes, Limbo, Teeterboard, Tumbling, Vaulting, Regulation two wheel bikes (9 on one bike) and Roman ladders, with 21 youngsters all performing at once on the two ladders.

Performers for the evening were: Don Bubemyre, Beth Hurst, Lisa Tegge, Rob Tegge, Billy Goins, Kathy Goins, Kerry Gregory, Renay Gregory, Briana Gregory, Tracy Hume, Matt Johnson, Kay Fuerst, Jannelle Russo, Steve Bauman, David Williams, Rick, Williams, Mike Williams, Andy Kidwell, Jenny Kidwell and Angie Ash.

Director for the Hamilton Mini Circus is Jarvis Goins and the ringmaster is Ted McQuire. Prop handlers are the Sawdusters Mary Hurst, president, Mr. & Mrs. Tegge, Mrs. Gregory, Mrs. Bubemyre, Mrs. Goins and Mr. and Mrs. Royce Williams (all parents).

The group is located in Hamilton, Ohio, and has quite a set up for practicing at their sponsor's place, The International Brotherhood of Paper Workers. In addition to the above acts they also have a high wire, flying trapeze, webs and a trampoline. They travel in Ohio, Indiana and Kentucky to perform.

BILLY BARTON (Continued)

will be part of the Monte Carlo Circusfest. . . The SENSATIONAL LEIGHS begin their lengthy European tour with a date in Dec. . . ROSE ANN BATY gave birth to a son on June 3 - his name is Patrick Robert. . . CASEY GIBBS is the stage manager for the rock group JETHRO TALL, has recently returned from the Hanna Barbera Aussie tour and will be on the STAR TREK arena show when it begins its tour either the end of this year or the start of next. . . GIOVANNI ZOPPE was picked by producers of "The Big Blue Marble" TV show for a special program. . . LAURA and JOHN WALKER are no longer with Cirque Gatini. . . WALT and BARBARA KING and MS APRIL are part of a back-end circus with the World of Pleasure shows for the summer. . . BOBBY GIBBS, who sold his animals to Carden-Johnson agreed to stay with the show one year to work the stock. . . The GUTIS drove within 140 miles of the Grand Fork (ND) Shrine date to discover quite by accident at a truck stop, that owing to flood conditions the date had been cancelled. Worst of it is they turned down dates in the east, closer to home!

MAD AS HELL! PAT ANTHONY, with several new tigers in his act, asked a photographer at an Eastern Circus date not to come close to the arena. The man ignored the warning, actually put his camera up to the bars of the cage. The photographer was dragged

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back from the cage but too late for Pat to untangle the damage done by skittish new cats rushing off their seats while older cats lay in wait for them. Pat said he went through a harrowing few minutes trying to restore order and the incident could have been very serious. After the act Pat returned to his trailer to dress and then went back to the building looking for the cameraman. When the man was found Pat calmly punched him out, "I thought about it," remarks Pat, "and came to the decision it was something I just had to do."

SEE you down the road, luvs.

JOHNNY FULGHUM, of Vega Amusements, visited with train master JUNIOR RUFFIN when the Monte Carlo Circus played Richmond, Va.

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Dear Harry:

At the close of our successful week of dates, let me take time to thank you for helping me to please all of the sponsors involved and all of the audiences who attended the ROYAL PALACE CIRCUS.

It was a pleasure doing business with you.

Sincerely,

Dave Murphy

Attention!

CIRCUS FANS — If anyone knows the route or location of the Jungle Wonders Circus please call Robert or Barbara Commerford, collect at:

(203) 491 - 3421

Show Report

Despite some 13 days of heavy rain, the Great American Circus, under the auspices of Allan C. Hill Productions, has been racking up record breaking business in western Penna. The first three weeks resulted in mostly straw houses in every town, regardless of the weather. Jim Silverlake has had to build additional seating to handle the big crowds.

The circus is now heading to the larger central and eastern towns in Pennsylvania which have been traditionally strong for the Hill family. The balance of the 75 day route will unquestionably be even bigger than the first three weeks.

It has been reported that Allan C. Hill is negotiating with "Hoxie" Tucker and Joe McMahon for additional dates in the fall.

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JAMES (Jim Bow) **DECKER** and **KIMO SCHULZ**, clowns, were featured at a recent '79 Art Festival.

NICK BENGOR, of Kelly Bros. Circus, now has a big spool truck to load the show's canvas. It is a faster and easier job now.

MILONGA CLINE, who became a school teacher in Florida rather than a wardrobe lady on a circus, was in charge of wardrobe for a school variety show just prior to graduation time. She is spending the summer with her daughter in Baraboo.

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SAWDUST TRAIL

by M. L. DUPONT

My sincere apologizes to Martin Lamberti and his lovely wife, Bennita, for not mentioning the birth of their second child, a beautiful girl, born March 12th. Her name is Marina and she travels with the family. The entire show acts as a "baby sitter" when her parents are performing. It was quite a sight to see Joe Sherman, the boss clown "baby sitting" in clown alley when the Lamberti's were performing.

The Lambertis have been asked to go on Bob Hope's tour to China. We don't know if they will, but this is one act that is as good as there is anywhere in the entertainment world today.

Visitors seen at the Sam T. Polack Circus at Shreveport were: Jack Painter, former CFA president, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Stone, CFA's and clowns, Hank Fraser, CFA and collector and Lorraine MacKay, former clown known as Cookie. She has retired since her divorce from John.

News from an article by Helen Griffith, columnist for the Sarasota Herald Tribune, that Readers Digest magazine will run a feature story about the Wallenda high wire group. Word has it that the story will appear in the July issue of that magazine.

Helen Griffith's column is full of show news. In May she reported about the fact that Joseph and Marian McKennon entertained over 100 Ringling Museum employees on a Sunday afternoon. There were colorful tents on the grounds and the guests enjoyed punch

and cookies. By the way, Joe has several excellent books on the market.

My thanks to Al Dawley, circus ringmaster, who gave me 17 programs, covering circuses that he has been with for the past couple of years. This was in excess of those he mailed me earlier. Can you imagine 17 at one time?

Alvin H. Jones, formerly known as "Bosce the Clown (Tramp)" was the electrician and light man with Sam T. Polack's circus at Shreveport, June 1-3.

The May 20th issue of the Richmond Times Dispatch carried a "Last Time Today" ad for the Shrine Circus, plus a 5 in. ad for the Monte Carlo Circus. They were advertising for a date just 14 days after the Shrine circus engagement.

Reports reaching this writer about the Polack produced shows at Little Rock were that the arena was so full chairs had to be set up on the main floor to handle the crowd. Once again Kentucky Fried Chicken bought out a show.

The Richmond News Leader carried a story about the Monte Carlo Circus with a photo of Prince Rainer. And just under that story was a two column photo of clown Joe Sherman with his dog, advertising the Shrine Circus.

Correction! In a recent column it was stated that CFA member Tex Dreyfus now has a circus room since his son left. That was a printer's error, as Tex does not have a son. I mentioned my son and the printer made it appear as though it was Tex's son.

Wow! You may have a fortune in circus lithos and not realize it. I recently visited a 'high class' flea market, which had the usual jewelry, toys, bottles, etc. In two places I saw a 1937 issue of the Billboard "World Fair" listed at \$35, but then I came upon several circus lithos for sale. A 3 yr. old Beatty-Cole and a 3 yr. old King Bros. litho, and many single one sheets with the title cut off, leaving the word circus. All were on a cardboard backing with a plastic cover. Several lithos I examined were priced at \$25 and when I asked why the titles had been cut off the woman said she didn't know they had titles. Seems she bought them from an advertising agency.

.....CIRCUS SOUVENIR SPECIALS.....

CIRCUS PROGRAM PACKAGE: With assorted tickets, route arrows and cards. Cristiani-Methodist Church Circus - full multi-color art cover, full page photo of EMMETT KELLY, Sr., suitable for framing. See M. L. Dupont's column of June 4, pg. 17.

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RECALLING THIS and THAT!

by Art "Doc" Miller

Kansas City, in the old days, to me, was a great place for a trouper to winter or visit. Until the depression loused up show business in general, the city was a real center for show business equipment.

Foremost as the largest supply organization was the Horne Zoological Arena Co. Whether you needed harness, trappings and a reach for an eight up hitch, a kangaroo, or a combination RR car for a minstrel show, they had it. Their sales sheets included hundreds of items such as carnival wagon fronts, flats, stocks, sleepers or a complete menagerie at most attractive prices. At that time I did not wander around very much, not being a prospective buyer, but I sure wished I had toted a camera for much of the parade equipment eventually rotted away. In later years I noted some wagons on the Christy Show as well as the tiny four foot tableau dog and pony wagons I saw on Ed Harrington's Tom Show parade.

Beggs wagon works last circus order had been with Charley Sparks but if one was lucky to land at the barn, working men, between bites of their noon day lunches could spin many an interesting tale of by-gone circus orders. There were many shelves of carvings but at the time orders consisted of commercial wagons and some truck bodies.

I was thrilled to again meet Mr. Rodabaugh of Baker Lockwood, another giant supplier of circus tents, seats and all or any portion of a tent theatre. His job was to chase down and collect from dozens of firms that had been trusted with equipment. When collections had been good on his trip, he was a storehouse of true circus tales, usually stranger than fiction.

The giant Ackermann-Quigley Lithographing Co. also called KC home and was the number one supplier of Tom Show, musical comedy, dramatic and tent show pictorials. On one wall of the plant was a daub of their latest and most daring burlesque sixteen sheet -- a most daring display of chorus girls with skirts so high their knees were in plain view. Wow!

Of course there were many more suppliers to the show world, the Gordon Howard candy company,

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PEOPLE

WALLY NAGHTIN visited the Beatty-Cole Circus early this month.

BEVERLY HOGAN and **DEON AUMAIER**, clowns at Circus World Park in Florida, were married at the park on June 23rd.

THE ROLLING DIAMONDS and **DIANA**, foot juggler, have been signed for the March 4-9, 1980 Sports Show at Oklahoma City and the March 16-23 Sports Show in Dallas.

BRUCE ANDERSON, swaypole act, was featured in the Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus when the show played at Lake Elsinore, Calif. on June 23rd.

JOHNNY and **LAURA WALKER** have left the Circus Gatini in Canada and are now working concessions on Carden-Johnson Circus for **BUZZY CUTTIN**.

famous for their bally flash boxes, pressurized gasoline lamps guaranteed to throw more light than electric, wardrobe houses, to say nothing of a score of theatrical hotels and restaurants. I recall with joy my favorite restaurant, serving a heaping plate of short ribs, three vegetables and bread pudding with maple syrup for a paltry 30¢. Never to be forgotten was the life sized elephant which stood up on his hind legs, then sat down again, and this on the roof of the burlesque theatre's marquee.

We oldsters admittedly have aches and pains, but no millionaire can buy our memories.