



7th Year

June 26, 1978

Number 26

## Tentative OK

A tentative agreement on a new five year contract has been announced between Anaheim, Calif., and Ringling Bros. Barnum & Bailey Circus for the show's appearance at the Convention Center. Final approval is to be made later this year. The previous five year contract will conclude with this year's Aug. 3-14 engagement of the circus and was signed in 1973.

Under terms of the new contract the circus will continue to be charged 10% of its gross admissions or \$1,250 per day, whichever is larger. Other Convention Center tenants are charged 12.5% or \$1,500 per day.

The Center's director Tom Liegler says the circus is one of the building's biggest drawing attractions. They would probably go elsewhere, he added, if they were charged the higher rates.

Liegler stressed that 100% of the parking fees go into the city funds, as well as all "normal" food and beverage concession income, which is generally higher for circus events. The exceptions, he said, are circus novelties.

"The circus has been one of the most successful continuing attractions we have scheduled with close to 150,000 'boys and

girls' seeing the show in Anaheim each year.

"Due to the increasing high cost of travel and operations, it would be impractical for the circus to schedule the Anaheim Convention Center arena on their annual tour with the minimal number of seats we have," he said.

Liegler said the circus grossed \$700,000 at Anaheim last year.

## Miscellaneous

The Kool Aid Circus, produced by Eddie Zacchini, will be featured at the Wisconsin State Fair, Aug. 10 to 20.

The No. 2 unit of the Gatini Circus has a new orange and white big top.

Memorial services were held on June 24th at the Grove Hill Cemetery in Lisbon, N.H., for Jerry Bangs, who passed away on May 9th after a long battle against cancer.

## PEOPLE

GEE GEE ENGESESSER has a pony ride on the midway of Circus Gatini. She also presents her animal acts as part of the show's performance.

EDDIE HOWE, Jr., oldest son of press agent EDDIE HOWE, Sr., was recently promoted to Senior Supervisor of the set-up and tear-down crews at the Anaheim (Calif.) Convention Center and Exhibit Halls. A few years back he toured with a Ringling unit.

JOHN CUNEO has his animal acts at the Marine-land & Game Farm Park in Niagara Falls, Cana-

## MAIL-BAG

The Tour Department of the American Federation of Musicians salutes Mr. Hines Rucker, owner of the International All Star Circus, who signed the AFM Pamphlet B covering his employment under all-union conditions, of John Epperly and his six-piece band, who are all members of the American Federation of Musicians.

Many musicians touring this circus season are not under union contracts despite their membership in the A.F.M. It is hoped that their employers will follow the lead of Mr. Rucker in signing up to observe the minimum Federation wage and tour standards in behalf of the musicians they employ.

We say, "Thank you, Mr. Rucker!" "We endorse your circus!"

Ted Dreher, Assistant to the President  
AFM Tour Department

da for the summer, where both WADE BURCK and ROY WELLS are working cat acts. JIMMY HALL's bear acts are also at the same park.

THE WILLERS played a June 8th date at the Fair in Vallejo, Calif.

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Big John Strong Circus  
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Carson & Barnes Circus - No. 2  
June 26 Vanderhoof, B.C.  
27 Burns Lake  
28 Houston  
29 Smithers  
30 Hazelton  
July 1 Terrace  
2 Port Edward

## Europorama

June 26 Visalia, Calif.  
27 Porterville  
28 Bakersfield  
29 Thousand Oaks  
30 Oxnard  
July 1 San Clemente  
2 Chula Vista

L. N. Fleckles Circus  
June 29-July 9 Milwaukee, Wisc.

Great American Circus  
June 26 Medford Farms, N.J.  
27 Atco  
28 Turnersville  
29 Princeton  
30 Keypoint

Hanneford's Circus Internationale  
to Sept. 4 Middletown, Ohio

Hoxie Bros. Circus  
June 26 Lorain, Ohio  
27 Mansfield  
28 Norton  
29-30 Warren, Pa.  
July 1 Titusville  
2 Beaver Falls

Emmett Kelly, Jr.  
June 29-July 2 Santa Cruz, Cal.

King Bros. Circus  
June 26 Middletown, N. Y.  
27 Tarrytown  
28 Wilton, Conn.  
29 Valhalla, N.Y.  
July 3 Fall River, Mass.

Pickle Family Circus  
July 1-3 San Francisco, Cal.

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit  
June 28-July 4 Phoenix, Ariz.

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit  
June 30-July 1 Biloxi, Miss.

Roberts Bros. Circus  
June 26 Duncannon, Pa.  
27 Millersburg  
28 Dalmatia

Wenatchee Youth Circus  
July 4 Oak Harbor, Wash.

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June 28-July 2 Grand Rapids,  
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A FEW MINOR disagreements erupted between movie mogul IRWIN ALLEN and the FELDS, when Allen wanted the new circus film to be a "pure disaster epic" and the Felds did not and were protective (and justifiably so) of the Ringling image. At any rate, all has been resolved and preliminary footage of the Ringling units will be shot this season. . . BUT. . . the bulk of the major filming will be done NEXT year when both units are in California.

Following up on last week's report that SVEN KRISTENSEN was clawed by a leopard, his son KIM filled me in on the details. During the Maine dates, Sven, suffering with a virus and not paying attention, did just what he warns everyone else NOT to do - passed too close to a cage wagon and a leopard reached out, drew Sven's arm to the bars and bit through it. The wound is healing well and Sven has regained the use and strength of the injured limb.

Ringling trapeze star ELVIN BALE visited Famous Hunt at its Civic Center engagement in Philly and raved about AERIALETTA. Said, Elvin: "She's the best. Her open one hock catchescascars hell out of me. I don't know how she does it, how she can do it!" Praise indeed to a gal who positively idolizes the heel-catch great.

BENNY WILLIAMS (profiled in After Dark) had an operation on a dislocated knee, caught in time by the medics and the Tarzanic Benny is as good as new. . . JUNE DEWSBURY, bound to a wheelchair, visited Ringling Blue in New York, escorted by good friend and benefactor BILL BRADLEY. June is now being fitted for leg braces and everyone says she is happy and cheerful despite the terrible physical agony she has undergone.

HERBIE WEBER, while playing the New York area this spring with Royal Hanneford, went to visit LEO GRUND only to discover the veteran agent had died in his sleep. His death, which went almost un-noticed occurred on March 8th.

THEY'LL DO IT every time! Ringling Red switched its Capitol Centre dates to May because of the Bullets' Basketball playoffs which cost the show two days last season. Wouldn't you know, the playoffs were ALSO switched to May, causing the unit to lose two days - again!

SNAPSHOTS: Rumor hazzit TITO GAONA is heading for Marriageville. . . SERGIO RAMOS into the Richmond Sam T. Polack date to fill in for ROSA of the FLYING LUNAS who fractured her arm landing in the net during a rehearsal session. ENRICKA told me his wife will be out of the act until July. . . CHUCK MELTZER, of Philly, has a great circus room, with miniature circus and tons of hard-to-find posters. He is also selling off costumes owned by the late CHUCK SATEJA.

There's a cute "closet story" making the rounds from a Ringling unit, which I can't print (nor am I telling which unit the story belongs to). . . Dashing 21 year old ARTHUR STOVEALL (of the ALEXANDRA illusion act) is making his debut as Ringmaster with Famous Hunt this season. His partner, DANA, is a health-food nut and Astrology Buff, held sessions on both during the Hunt Philly run. . . LOUIS STERN was on hand for the Sam T. Polack Richmond (Va) date which was promoted by long-time Polack staffer KRIS KRENGLE. . . HERBIE WEBER suffered a slight "bustler" when a greenhorn roustabout united the laccings on his "deadman" during an early Hunt date. The perennial wire walker was uninjured. . . When one of the ARIA bears decided to "go home" early before the act was finished JO ANN JENNIE headed for the seats and Yrs. Truly climbed the NAVARROS' Sword Balance ladder, forgetting bears can also climb. . . THE GREAT SEBASTIAN and his unique "bullet-catch" garnered lavish newspaper coverage for Famous Hunt in Philly. . . Lots of credit to plucky and pretty BONNIE BALE, now doing a fine, loopless cloud-swing featuring a lay-across drop to one-knee and a leg-wrap-ankle dive. . . Add the LOS LATINOS, BONNIE BALE and COL. TREVOR BALE to the Texas dates. . . Famous Hunt featured an "old fashioned" free circus side show in the basement of the Civic Center during its May run in Phila. . . Sarasota gossip columnist HELEN GRIFFITH reports that ABE SAINER has bought part-interest in the Stebbings Circus. . . Did you know that ELVIN BALE collects riggings from retired aerial performers? I didn't either until he offered to buy mine when I retire (if I ever do). Incidentally, his motorcycle rigging (used on Ringling) is for sale. . . MIKE ARIA (bear act) says he's not afraid of being trapped in an elevator but he'd just as soon be trapped with companions other than an irate elephant, camel, llama and pony!

NEW FACES: Mike and JANICE ARIA with a very good bear act fast gaining professional ground due to be seen on the majors soon. The kids are young, good-looking, well costumed and were recently on the MIKE DOUGLAS show. . . ALEXANDRA the GREAT and Company, a new Disco Illusion trio, two handsome youths and one very glamorous chick: PAULA ADRIANI. Look for this act, refreshingly different, to go places.

WILLY LENZ has been quartering his family and chimps in Alberta but is looking for property in the USA. The chimp act has been playing dates with Zacchini, Sam T. Polack, Carden-Johnson and is now out on fairs. The LENZ Family are very proud of their 7 month old baby chimp, SAMBA, and are looking forward to the birth of another in August.

(Continued on Page 16)

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**AL MARTIN**, well-known agent, is not dead as has been reported. It was another man with the same name that passed away.

**HEIDI BOLZ**, who has been seen on Franzen Bros. Circus as a trapeze star, recently underwent surgery on her right knee, to repair torn muscles damaged while playing baseball.

**HUGO ZACCHINI**, human cannonball, has been granted a new trial in Ohio as the result of his suit against a Cleveland TV station who filmed and showed his act in 1972, without his permission.

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**WADE BURCK** is currently working the act act for **JOHN CUNEO** at Marineland & Game Farm in Niagara Falls, Canada. Enroute to the park, he and **MARGARET** visited the Garden Circus in Buffalo, then visited with **BILLY BARTON** in Toronto.

**C. P. (Chappie) FOX**, circus author and historian, was the subject of a feature article in the Milwaukee (Wisc) Sentinel on June 7th.

## NEED ACTS

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## OLYMPIC INTERNATIONAL CIRCUS

by M. L. Dupont

Following a successful two day stand at Jackson, Miss. (May 26-27), Eddie Zacchini brought his Olympic International Circus to Shreveport, La. (June 2-4) for the El Karubah Temple. It was the 32nd annual Shrine Circus here and Zacchini's second big hit in a row, with performances presented at the Hirsch Memorial Coliseum.

Five shows were originally scheduled but six were given when the TG&Y Stores bought out the Saturday morning show. Good crowds were on hand for all performances, except the Friday matinee, while over 7500 people were on hand for the Sunday matinee. A free show was staged at the local Children's Hospital by several performers and all of Clown Alley.

The only repeat act from 1977 was Jack Cook's comedy car, brought back by popular demand. The show was kept at a fast pace by ringmaster Bill Boren, while Al Vernon directed the band.

The program featured: Pre-show warm-up by the clowns; Pat Anthony, wild animals; the Pinson Duo, aerialists; Clowns and the Long Shirt; the Clodox Duo, comedy; The Aguillar Troupe, perch;

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Clown Alley featured: John MacKay, producing clown, with Les Schmitt, Lorraine MacKay, C. Watkins, Dodo the Clown and Michelle Watson "Little Dodo".

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## MAILBAG

Under the heading "More Woes" (CR, June 12 - Page 20) you mention what amounts to an alliance between "The Musician's Union" and AS CAP.

If you are referring to the American Federation of Musicians (AFL-CIO), your information is totally incorrect.

The A.F. of M. is in no way whatsoever, financially or otherwise affiliated with, aligned with or associated with ASCAP, BMI, or SESAC. The A.F. of M. is not planning any such campaign.

The A.F. of M. is, and has been, and will continue, pressing for uniform, fair and protective working conditions for its members who work for circuses. We do not regard this endeavor as piling up woes for anyone.

We hope you will print a correction in your next issue in order that your readers will not be confused as to the relationship between the A.F. of M. and the performing fee societies who represent songwriters.

Sincerely yours,

Ted Dreher

Assistant to the President

AFM Tour Department

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## NOTICE

Stephanie Lee Shaw, vice president of the Great Wallenda's, Inc., reports the Wallenda Circus summer dates will continue as usual.

The Only troupe legally able to use the Wallenda name must be booked through "The Great Wallenda's, Inc." and presently consists of Rietta Wallenda (Karl's 17 year old granddaughter), Farrell Hettig, Ted Gikas and Mario Bogino (Karl's grandson).

The troupe taped the Mike Douglas show in Nashville on May 10th, then was in Los Angeles for a thrill show and appeared at the Americana Amusement Park in Middletown, Ohio - May 27-29. The troupe's next date is June 29-July 4 at Landover, Md.



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# CARSON & BARNES

by Ron Sanford

Visited the Carson & Barnes Circus at falls City (Nebr.) on May 25th, where they played a lot on the west edge of town. It was a narrow lot, but everything was set up when I arrived.

On the midway they have a side show, pony ride, Moon walk, refreshment stand, snake show and a Geochelone Elephantopus show.

This year the show has the truck marquee with a ticket window at the side of the walk-through. Just in back of this unit was the menagerie with 23 elephants, a hippo truck, two zebras, llamas, three camels and a variety of caged and penned animals.

The circus has a far stronger performance than the last time I saw it. Costumes are beautiful and all 5 rings work most of the time, backed by excellent music. Both the matinee and evening show drew strong ¾ house crowds.

Seen on the lot were Mr. and Mrs. Jim McRoberts, of Topeka, Kans. and Roman Fleskoski, of Falls City. Roman is with the Royal American Shows now. (was told that C&B had a blowdown while playing in Kansas).

## In Trouble

On June 7th, the Seattle office of the Associated Press reported the Okanogan (Wash.) County Sheriff had confiscated three elephants and \$1,300 in cash from a small circus, and arrested the show's owner. The action came about as a result of complaints by local citizens after a performance at Tonasket, Wash., on June 5th.

County prosecutor Stephen Henley said the elephants were held for 12 hours, until an impounding fine was paid. The confiscated gate receipts, he said, would be returned to those people who had paid to see the performance.

The arrest and confiscation action, Henley said, were based on charges of "false advertising" by the circus.

Henley said the circus advertises itself as "the world's largest zoological show with more than 150 animals and performers." However, he added, when the circus was presented in Tonasket the performance included only 12 animals and performers.

Note to Circus Fans, when Carson & Barnes plays in your city take the time to go out and see it, it is one of the better shows on the road today.

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## REVIEW

### KING BROS. CIRCUS

by Herman Brandmiller

Visited King Bros. Circus at McKeesport, Pa., en-route home from a CFA meeting. The show had to change lots upon arrival as the contracted lot was a mess due to road and park construction.

In fact the road was blocked off two blocks from the lot. The new lot was a park about two miles out, but Whitey Black had plenty of newspaper and radio announcements about the new location. The matinee drew about a half house, with the evening show 90% full.

The program featured: Wire Display with Sonya Campa, Elizabeth Campa and Beth Boatman; the Clowns reading a newspaper; David and Ivy Upton, cradle; Peanut sale; Dog display with Kathy Rex, Patti Antalek and Rosie Wright; Juggling by Sonya Campa and Elizabeth Campa; Bradd Frank, ropes and whips; Color Book sale; The Campa Girls on Unicycles (with 10 yr. old Carlos); Liberty ponies presented by Dave Knoderer, and Rosie and Joe Wright; Clowns with trained fish; Aerial Ballet with Beth, Liz, Sonya and Frances on web and Ivy Upton on single trapeze; Patti Antalek, chimps; Dave Knoderer, high school horse; Bradd Frank, long rein horse and liberty; The Rigalito Musical Co.; Clowns, Sharp Shooting; Capt. Robert Cline, elephants.

The show's staff includes: H. H. "Whitey" Black, manager; Harry Hammond, office/tickets; Donald Riley, supt.; Ira Lackey, prop boss; Charles Rex, transportation/electrician; Robert Cline, elephant supt.; Jack Jackson, musical director; Mike Miller, concession mgr.; Arlene Miller, Bubble bounce; Bill Anderson, cook house; Dolores Rex and Babe Jackson, front door; Marshall Green and Paul Pyle, advance press and Brian Galvano with three men, brigade mgr.

The clowns are Warren Torzewski, Joe Lee and Henry Whitman.

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## Acts Named

L. N. Fleckles produced the Ainad Temple Shrine Circus at Belleville and Granite City (Ill) June 3 thru 9th, with a program that featured: Anthem; Overture; Miss Elizabeth and Miss Lydia, on the single trapeze; Jorge Barreda's lions; Miss Tina, loop walk; Pam Rosaire, dogs; Cimsie's wolf-hounds; the Kneisleys, cradle; Burketts, cradle; the Pharoahs, cradle; Lamberti, balancing; Los Argentinos; Pablo's Pretties; Herman & Petunia; the Rodriguez Troupe, bars.

In the second troupe were: the Flying Lar-Rays; Clowns; Pam Rosaire, chimps; Clowns; Johnny Luxem, Wheel of Destiny; Martin, juggling; Hor-tobagyi Troupe, teeterboard; Veno Venito, sword balance; Col. Marvin Seabright, sway pole; the Zoppe Arabian Riders; Joselito, high wire; Ben DeWayne with the Kaye Hollywood Elephants and the Quassars, rocket ship.



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**MAGIC**

We were laying off in the NYC area while a big magic special was being taped for home box TV at the Ed Sullivan Theatre on Broadway. The show is called "Dick Cabot presents Hocus Pocus" and featured such top talent as Mark Wilson, Blackstone, Jr., Tomsini and Slydini. My long-time friend Larry Weeks supplied hard to get tickets for my wife, Sara, myself and circus fan Fred Bradshaw. Many local magicians were at the tapings, a few I chatted with were Al Delage, vent Stan Burns, Harry Crawford and Jack London.

We spent some time in the Flossie-Hornman Magic Co., at 304 West 34th St. with proprietor Jack Flossie. It is the oldest established magic house in the country and has been our "NY headquarters" for many years.

On May 20th, in Jefferson, Ohio, we opened up our summer tour for promoter Mearl Johnson. We are headed west and have enjoyed visits by several magicians and friends.

In Lansing (Mich) Bill Baird spent a lot of time with us. Bill was a top vaudeville act for many years with his outstanding billiard ball act. Mike Conklin (who was our stage manager last year) was also by in Lansing. He says he is off the road and to be married soon. We hope his new wife will consent to go on the road, he is one of the great magic show stage managers and the business can't afford to lose him.

In Valparaiso (Ind) Richard Greeno (Tops Magic Magazine reporter) visited as well as Lloyd Fengel, of Windjammers.

In Bradley (Ill) we were visited by Bob and Kay Parker and Henry Tompson from Sells & Gray, and fan Edith Johnston.

In Chicago we stopped by Magic, Inc., on north Lincoln Road. We enjoyed chatting with Jay Marshall, John Shirley and others. Our sessions with

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Contact JOHN PUGH, General Manager as per route or phone:  
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**PRESTIME NEWS**

That reported fine against the Beatty-Cole Circus (CR, May 29, 1978) was thrown out of court by the judge. The Police used the wrong forms in filing the charges.

- \* -

Reggie Armor reportedly fell while presenting his aerial motorcycle act with the Garden Bros. Circus and was seriously injured. He is hospitalized at Hershey, Penna.

**IN MEMORIAM**

JIM MARSHALL (86) magician and father of Jay Marshall, magician and dealer in Chicago, died at a church dinner on May 6th. He is survived by his son Jay, a daughter and several grand-children.

Jay Marshall are always too brief, he has to be one of the most interesting persons in magic.

Be sure to watch for Dick Brooks' new publication "Hocus Pocus" out of NYC, it should be on the news stands now.

We are heading west with bookings in the Dakota states and Montana. Our route is in CR, so visit when you can.

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## Billy Barton (Continued)

ALL OF NEW YORK was talking about the Fabulous BARBARA WOODCOCK [as haven't we all, been - for YEARS!] when Barbara knocked jaded old New York on its rear by becoming the Circus Celebrity Queen of the Century during Ringling Blue's New York run. La Barbara went to After Dark's PLUSH Ruby Awards Party at the Waldorf Astoria and was immediately besieged by other celebs such as BOBBY MORSE, Ad Editor BILL COMO, the star from "Ain't Misbehavin'", "Timbuktoo", "Chorus Line" (et al). Barbara was upstaged ONLY by the incomparable EARTHA KITT who was carried in by a near-naked MR. UNIVERSE . . . But, Barbara forgives her!

Maybe the detergent "Duz" does everything, but . . . even so, it has competition from Elmer's Glue, used by MIKE and JANICE ARIA to patch up the handlebars on their wheelbarrow (and that's no joke!).

See you down the road, luvs.

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 Date

Grace MacIntosh and Chuck Marine produced their first Police Circus at Mt. Clemens (Mich) on June 2-4, using a Florida Tent Rental big top. In all 7 performances were presented, with large turn outs on hand for each show.

The program featured: Overture, Mother Goose spec; Lilli-Ana's leopards; Carmen del Molino, and Francero, balancing trapeze; Clowns; Kim Kristensen, dressage; Marie-Louise and Jose, balancing display; Jo Ann and Sunny, seal act; Clowns; Sir Victor Julian and his Little Stars; the Great Vashek, inclined wire walk; the Obando Troupe, high wire; Aerialetta, single trapeze; Johnson's bears; Ethel Jennier's Greyhounds; Clowns; Frank & Estrelita, hanging perch; the Tony Diano elephants and the Vashek Duo, aerial motorcycle.

The show was produced by M&M Productions; Jim Douglass was announcer/ringmaster; William 'Boom Boom' Browning was musical director; Bill Fenion was in charge of props, and the spec was created by Circus Creations.

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## Show Dates

- CFA Convention  
July 2-5 Dearborn, Mich.
- Century 21 Shows - Blue Unit  
June 26-July 1 Gary, Ind.
- Century 21 Shows - Red Unit  
June 28-July 2 DuQuoin, Ill.
- James H. Drew Expo Shows  
June 29-July 8 Prestonburg, Ky.
- Billy Graham Crusade  
July 1-5 Las Vegas, Nev.
- Bob Jones Petting Zoo  
to July 2 Wheaton, Md.
- Kaye Hollywood Elephants  
July 1 Morris, Ill.
- Lin-Rich Animal Circus  
June 28-July 2 Merrillville, Ind.
- Magic Time USA (Prof. Miller)  
June 28 Barrington, Ill.  
30 Beloit, Wisc.

## PRESSTIME NEWS

A Hunt's Circus trailer which disappeared while enroute from Rome (NY) to Bridgeport (Conn) on June 11th, was found at Florence, N.J., according to Rome Police where theft charges were filed.

However, the trainer, a lion, a tiger and a variety of equipment, valued at about \$8000 are still missing. Officials said they believed the missing driver, animals, etc., were possibly heading south, perhaps to Florida.

- PCAM Meet  
June 29-July 2 Hollywood, Cal.
- The Tent Troupe  
June 25-27 Kensington, Md.  
29 Waynesboro, Va.  
30 Staunton  
July 1 Salem  
3-4 Greenville, Tenn.
- Victor, the Rasslin' Bear  
June 28-Sept. 5 Park, N. C.

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## SAWDUST TRAIL

by M. L. DUPONT

This reporter has been on the Sawdust Trail for a couple of weeks, out of the four that I have been away from home. I wish to state at this time that much of this column is from news passed on to me from other sources and is as accurate as it can be, but I must warn all performers, producers, fans and others **DO NOT USE IT AS A BIBLE**. For example I may report that a certain circus is booked to play a certain date and in the meantime the date is cancelled. This happened on an Arkansas date. Also I may report that a certain act or person may not play with a certain circus, well if you have a contract with said person then contact that person who is involved for the facts before you replace an act based on what you may or may not read in this column. Also sometimes a word or line is deleted by the printer in error making a statement appear entirely different than as originally written. A word to the wise should be sufficient.

**AL DAWLEY**, ringmaster extraordinary, is spending some time at Savannah Beach completing the first part of his successful season. He will take off July 6th for his last half of the year. Al reports he will do some Wallenda dates and some dates for Eddie Zacchini. The Richmond Times carried a quarter page photo and article on Al (May 20) - The Ringmaster Sets The Tone.

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**KEN BENSON**, has informed this writer that he is no longer with Davenport's World Wide Jungle Circus, but left them in Washington and he is now with Carson & Barnes No. 2 unit that is in Canada. Benson states that prior to leaving Davenport's circus he added a few more animals including a white rhino.

**AS REPORTED** in the route section of CR, Carson & Barnes No. 2 Unit is in Canada. I understand it took 4 hours for the crossing into Canada by boat. Word has it that a side show formerly with Circus Vargas will join the C&B unit in Canada.

**A NEW NAME** in the Clown World that will soon  
(Continued on Page 19)

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## SAWDUST TRAIL (Continued)

be popular is that of Les Schmitt. Les hails from Evansville, Ind., and is known as "Backwards the Clown" and has been working the Clown Alley headed up by that excellent producing clown John MacKay (Yo Ho). Les' background is based on an old time black face minstrel, his father was one of the old time end men.

WHILE ON the subject of Clowns I'd like to make the following statement: It is a constant source of irritation to me to read a program run-down and find listed only "Clowns" neither name or act they used. Why is it all other acts get their name and type of act listed but not the clowns? They're the first to be called on to extend a program and the first to be cut to shorten a program. Also when they do mention the clowns it usually only mentions the producing clown. I admit this isn't always the case, but it does happen in 905 or more cases.

BY THE TIME this appears in print CFA'r Jim Forrest will have taken a trip to Calif., and if luck will favor him he should catch some show activity as he will be in the San Francisco area. Jim, who makes his home in Hartford, Conn., caught the Ringling Red Unit recently.

HERE IS A NEW wrinkle for Ringling. They are allowing the Shriners to sell tickets for the June 20th matinee performance in Monroe (La) plus sell Cracker Jacks at the same show. The Shrin-

## Miscellaneous

Swan Bros. Circus played the May 10-14 May Fair at Dixon, Calif., a show officials report was booked as a last minute replacement for another circus.

The Eh-Capa Bareback Riders of Boise, Idaho, will be featured at the annual Rodéo in Salinas, Calif., which begins on July 13th.

Carson & Barnes Circus will play Sheboygan, Wisc on Aug. 4th as part of that city's 125th birthday celebration. At that time a monument will be dedicated to the memory of the three Lindemann Bros. of circus fame who came from that city.

ers gave up their date to Ringling so the Big One made the concession to them. This was the first time Ringling ever booked Monroe mid-week rather than a weekend.

DODO, the Clown visited George Hubler's show in Cleveland, visiting Wayne Liikala and Joe Sherman, producing clown. From there he and his granddaughter "Little Doe" joined Clown Alley on the Zucchini produced circus in Shreveport. John MacKay was producing clown, backed by Les Schmitt, Cookie MacKay and Chuck Watkins, a strong alley.

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