

America's Favorite Circus Weekly

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RAIN PELTS SHOW

Heavy rains turned the lot at Hayward, Calif. into a sea of mud, forcing the Miller-Johnson Circus to play the same spot at San Lorenzo they had last year. However, attendance was good at every performance, despite the bad weather throughout the Nov. 9-14 stand.

Sawdust, straw and plywood were used to provide a semi-dry entrance to the circus for the patrons. But the backyard was wet and muddy. Inside the big orange and white tent (and it is a big one) it was comparatively dry, and the center ring boasted of a wooden platform floor.

Because of the bad weather the Spec was cancelled at some of the performances. One seat truck got lost for a few days, which meant they had seats on only one side of the tent for a few shows.

The band, consisting of an organ and drums, is mounted in a new
(Continued on Page 2)



STAR HURT

Two accidents marred the RBBB Red Unit's stand at Ottawa, on Oct 25-28. An investigation is reportedly underway to determine if the accidents may have been connected.

On Oct. 26th, a trapeze performer, who failed to be caught, fell into the net at which time a supporting pole gave away. He was not injured.

During the early morning performance on Oct. 27th, trapeze artist Mary Gill fell 23 feet to the concrete floor. She was tossed off the aerial platform when a guy wire snapped under the impact of a somersault into the net.

Miss Gill, a member of the Flying Waynes, was hospitalized with a fractured skull. After undergoing brain surgery hospital officials reported her condition as being fair.

HISTORICAL FACT

Buffalo Bill (William F. Cody) resigned as president of the Showmen's League of America in 1914.

cutting back

By using new seat trailer units, the Carson & Barnes Circus hopes to eliminate seven trucks for its 1974 tour. Work is currently underway at the show's Hugo, Okla. quarters on construction of seven 40 ft. seat trailers, which will also serve as vans for transportation of canvas and other show equipment.

Last year C-8 used two seat wagon semi-trailers, plus five units mounted on house trailer bodies. None of the units were capable of carrying other equipment.

The cutback of trucks (in 1973 C-8 traveled on 40 trucks) will provide a multiple variety of savings. Major savings will be in the use of gasoline and the need to hire truck drivers.

WEDDING DATE

Wedding bells rang out on Thanksgiving Day (Nov. 22) for Bonnie Turen and Kenneth Feld, who is vice president and co-producer of the Ringling-Barnum Circus.

The couple were married by Rabbi Marius Ramson, in the Valencia Room of the Doral Hotel, at Miami Beach, Florida.

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a long dive

During this past month, while doubling for a star, Dar Robinson achieved a new record by diving from a building to the street below -- a distance of 127 feet.



The exceptionally high dive will be a part of the pilot film for a new TV series called "Harry O". It will star David Jensen.

In April of this year, Dar, Marilyn Baer and Bob Yerkes set new diving records during a Fire Dept. test in New Orleans. At that time Dar made a 106 foot dive, while Marilyn made a dive of 60 feet.

RAIN PELTS SHOW (Continued)

trailer unit, complete even with a red carpet. The announcer (Sandy Dobritch) handles his chores from a spotlighted platform, backed by a series of lighted arches.

The show ran into rain again at its Santa Rosa and Sacramento stands, in fact had about only one day of non-rain during the San Francisco Bay Area dates. They'll wind-up the season with a date at the Salt Palace in Salt Lake City, then after a holiday show or two there will be a brief rest for the show folks. Using the title "Circus Vargas" the show will open its lengthy 1974 about the middle of January in Louisiana or Texas.

Overseas tour planned

We spent an enjoyable evening with the Emmett Kelly, Jr., Circus at Emporia, Kans. (Nov. 13) writes Velma Lowry. "This is one of the cleanest and nicest shows we've seen. It is one that all of the parents should take their little ones to see."

The show was celebrating Emmett Kelly, Jr.'s birthday at this stand, and during the show he was presented with a big birthday cake. The Lowry's provided the fried chicken for an after show meal.

During the show, says Velma, it was announced that the entire circus is going to Djakarta for a nine week tour. Cost of transportation over and back, plus trucks to move the show upon arrival is to be borne by that government. They will also provide work crews to set up and tear down the circus.

AN OPERA DATE

Yvette (Fay Snyder) worked her Poodle Act at the Lakeside Country Club in San Francisco, Cal. on Nov. 1 and 2nd. She now has her white horses booked for the Operas "Carmen" and "Polliachi" this month.

Before the month is over she will be back in the Bay Area with her animals for Christmas dates. A feature of the holiday season is Yvette's "Rudolph, the Red Nosed Reindeer." She'll be assisted at the dates by George Bruno, the sway pole man.

CAN'T SET UP?

Circus is banned by city council at Croydon, Australia.

The City of Croydon recently banned the circus from showing in its city and now Ringwood is taking similar action. Both Perry Bros. and Ashton's Circus were refused sites in Croydon, and now Ringwood has refused a site for the Ashton Circus.

Ashton's wanted to play Ringwood on set dates in October, November and December, but the Ringwood City Council has advised the show that "no suitable land is available."

The Council has, however, made an effort to provide an alternative. They suggested that the circus approach the Haig Mills regarding land owned by them on a nearby highway.

If the land is available, the council insists that a number of provisions must be met. The circus will be required to submit a formal application in accordance with Public Building Amusement Park Structures regulations. They will also have to acquire a certificate of approval and safety from the Commission of Public Health, and all application forms must be filled in time for approval before the actual show dates are scheduled.

..... M. L. Dupont

ROUTES

Beatty-Cole Circus
 Nov. 26 Plantation, Fla
 27 Naples
 28 Fort Myers
 29 Lakeland
 30-Dec 2 Orlando

Hoxie Bros. Circus
 Nov. 30 Tallahassee, Fla
 Dec. 1 Lake City
 2 Daytona Beach

Hubler's Int'l Circus
 Dec. 1-2 Canton, Ohio

Int'l Boys Circus
 Nov. 23-25 El Paso, Texas
 27-28 Tucson, Ariz.
 30 San Diego, Cal
 Dec. 1-3 San Diego

Miller-Johnson Circus
 Nov. 26-27 Salt Lake City

Ringling's Red Unit
 Nov 27-Dec 2 Springf'ld, Mo

Royal Lipizzan Show
 Nov. 28 Madison, Wisc
 29-30 La Crosse
 Dec. 1-2 Milwaukee

John Strong's Int'l Circus
 Nov. 26-27 Tucson, Ariz.
 Dec. 2-3 Kansas City, Mo

Tripoli Productions
 Nov. 26 Iowa City, Iowa
 27 Kankakee, Ill.
 28 Evanston
 29 Peoria
 30 Decatur
 Dec. 1 Springfield
 2-3 St. Louis, Mo.

..... OTHER ROUTES

Annual Int'l Rodeo
 Nov 29-Dec 2 Albuquerque
 Canadian Assoc. of Expos
 Nov 28-30 Edmonton, Alhta
 Canadian Rodeo
 Nov 27-30 Regina, Sask.
 Marlene Dietrich Show
 Nov. 28 New Orleans, La
 Fiesta Folklorico
 Nov. 27 Manhattan, Kans.
 28 Oklahoma City, Okl
 29 Wichita Falls, Tex
 30 Dallas

Holiday on Ice (Nat'l)
 Nov 27-Dec 2 Omaha, Nebr

Ice Capades
 Nov 28-Dec 2 Seattle, Wash

Ice Follies
 Nov 27-Dec 2 Hershey, Pa

Indoor Rodeo
 Dec. 1-2 Fresno, Calif.

Kovaz Auto Daredevils
 Nov 27-28 Reynosa, Mex.
 29 Linares
 30 Ciudad Victoria

Dec. 1-4 Ciudad Victoria

Small World (Disney)
 Nov 27-Dec 2 Cincinnati, Ohio

Wonderful World of Magic
 Nov. 30 Schiller Park, Ill
 Dec. 1 Elkhart, Ind.
 2 Jackson, Mich.



finale

Ernesto Cristiani, father of the famous cristiani family. Died at the age of 91 in Sarasota, Fla. on Oct. 23.

LOTTIE CRONIN, widow of S. L. Cronin, died at Los Angeles, Cal. on Oct. 23rd. Her husband was manager of the Al G. Barnes show for years and at one time had his own show.

Russell Rea, a long-time showman died at Highland, Ill. on Oct. 30th. He worked for a number of carnivals, and also the Kelly-Miller Circus.

names

MIKE "Kosco" NAUGHTON and CARL "Bumbletonia" TRUCHEL were guest clowns on the Miller-Johnson Circus at New York City. They both rode the elephant "Colonel" in the show's spec.

M. L. DUPONT (Do, Do, the Clown) reports he has received several Australian circus lithos and some feature LOU JACOBS, the clown. Dupont will be appearing as Santa Claus during the coming holiday season.

OLYMPIC INTERNATIONAL CIRCUS

by M. L. DUPONT

"Hi Kids" in big lettering. The colorful appearance was the work of prop boss Bela Ezsius. He and his crew had all props and steel arena in place for the Friday (Nov. 2) 4.p.m. opening, despite a few riggings problems, with some acts arriving just a few hours before show time.

The show opened with a small afternoon house, mostly children, but was well received. Gary Strong, the ringmaster/announcer kept things moving at a fast pace. The band, a group of local musicians were doing excellent by the second day.

Show opened with Roger Smith's mixed cats (6 lions and 3 tigers) with shades of "Clyde Beatty" vary much in evidence. All of the cats were very clean, as also were the show's elephants.

This act is one of four that ought to have been publically announced. Proper publicity of this number and Gina's uncaged leopards would have made a real sell-out here. They did use TV and radio, but everything was the usual Shrine Circus copy.

Gina's uncaged leopards were excellent, as were the Flying Armors, Johnson's elephants, the Dubskey Family, the Olmedas' and the Kimris Duo. This latter act is done with an airplane rigging, which dropped two feet opening night, but was continued after riggers went up and readjusted the thing.

(Next Page Please)

The 16th annual Northwest La. Shrine Circus was produced at Monroe, La. by Eddie Zacchini and his Olympic Int'l Circus. It was a strong indoor show with many fine acts. The show was billed as "the only circus for Monroe this year." (King Bros. played in Monroe in April).

The civic center arena was decked out with colorful banners, plus two huge clowns at the entrance with

CIRCUS LINEUP

An interesting and well attended circus was presented at Des Moines, Iowa on Oct. 20th, sponsored by the Knights Templars. Col. J. E. Marsengill, the circus chairman served as the show's ringmaster. J. Floyd Productions produced the circus program.

Featured in the show were:

Duane Ellet and Floppy - TV stars
 Susie DeBertlo and The Van Cleave
 Girls - acrobats
 Torino Bros. - jugglers
 Davis & Co. - trampoline
 Berosini Troupe - balance ladders
 Ray Grant - puppets
 Aerial Cookie - trapeze
 The Olmedas - cycles
 Ray Grant & Co. - illusions
 The Ottinis - juggling
 Erv's (Lang) chimps
 Barbara-Michael Rice - elephants
 Karen Stewart - slide for life

Frank Cain was producing clown, while James Selland directed the 12 piece band.

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OLYMPIC INT'L CIRCUS (Continued)

Clown Alley had five clowns under Dime Wilson, not Tom Phelps as mentioned in the program. They all worked balloons before the show started. Two or three more clowns would have helped since they then could have worked the ends of the building. Clowns had four numbers in addition to the warm-up act.

The program and staff include:

Olympic Int'l Circus - producer
Eddie Zacchini - Exe.Prod/Direct.
Alfred Vernon - Music director
Gery Strong - ringmaster/announcer
Dime Wilson - producing clown
(Connie Wilson, Tom Phelps, Jay
Armor, William Speath)

Program.

Roger Smith - mixed wild animals
The Reginine Duo - aerial cradle
Clowns - The egg gag
Torino Bros. and The Stephens -
juggling routines
The Dubsy Family
The Aristocrats and The Bonnats -
trampoline
Don Johnson's elephants
Clowns - the firecracker
Ralph's canines
The Pisani Family - acrobats
The Flying Armor Troupe
Clowns - the 3x3 gag
Gina's uncaged leopards
Christa's chimps
Jeannis' trained chimps
The Olmedas Troupe
Clowns - trampoline strip
The Hungarians - foot juggling
The Kimris Duo - aerial feature



CIRCUS ACTS

Among the acts listed on brochures advertising the Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus are:

Derrick Rosaire - TV animals
Gentle Ben, the bear
Judy and Thoto - Daktari chimps
Tony, the wonder horse
Pamela's dogs
Emmett Kelly, Jr - clown
Leonard Green - producer
Austin Miles - director

NOTE

We need news of shows and routes for this paper each week. Send 'em now.

New Clown CLUB

A unit of the organization "Clowns of America" was formed at Topeka, Kans. on Nov. 19th. Known as "Kansas Alley" the newly formed club was hosted by Kansas Governor Robert Docking, who is himself a member of the National Clown group.

Among those attending the organizational meeting were: Herbie Joslin, who clowns for the Shriners, and Aden and Velma Lowry. Chairman for the event was Gene Dolan, while Dusty Doldman is the club secretary.

FOR SALE



- | | |
|---|---------|
| 8 x 10 picture of the 1927 Christy Bros. Circus Banner Line | \$ 1.00 |
| Half sheet - Robbins Bros. pictorial | 4.00 |
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No orders for less than \$5.00 -- All orders of \$10.00 or more will be sent First Class mail and will include extra items.

Art "Doc" Miller, Box 1073, Gibsonton, Fla. - 33534

HE'S FREE

An acquittal and two fines were announced last week by the USDA in regards to alleged violations of the Horse Protective Act of 1970.

At Birmingham, Ala., horse trainer Knute Christian was acquitted after a jury found him "not guilty" of exhibiting a "sored" Tennessee Walking Horse. The event was supposed to have taken place at a Charity Show in Tuscaloosa.

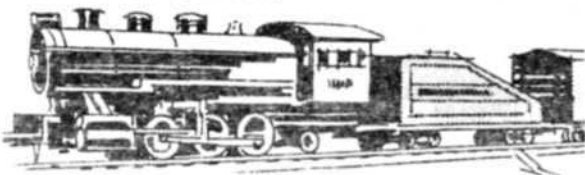
In the meantime Mrs. Iris E. Weekley, of Pensacola, Fla., paid a \$50 civil penalty to settle charges that had been brought against her.

Donald Paschal, of Rudyville, Tenn., paid a \$500 civil penalty to settle charges that were made against him.

YEARS AGO

The Mollie Bailey Show of 1919 used a 70 ft. round end top with two 30 ft. middles. They also had an 80 x 70 ft top, two sleeping tents and a cookhouse.

Boones Mexican Ranch Show of 1919 played in Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma. They had 12 wagons, about 65 people, 2 side shows, and 7 concessions, 40 horses, an eight piece band and carried 10 workingmen on the show.



notes

Foremost Foods (of California) recently received a plaque from the Oakland, Calif. Fairyland, for its continual support of Popo, the Clown

The RBBB show grossed \$159,500 during its Oct. 25-28 date at Ottawa, Canada.

The State of South Carolina imposes a 10% surtax on all entertainment within the state.

The Wallenda Circus played New Orleans, La. on Nov. 17-25.

Wallace & Rogers Circus is advertising for 1974 dates at fairs and for promotional programs.

The Doela Co., a fund raising firm selling candy, is reportedly backing the Emmett Kelly, Jr. show.

A brand new book "The Art of P. T. Barnum" has just been published by Little, Brown & Co. It sells for \$10.00

An old book store in San Diego, Cal. reportedly has an old theatre litho of Grace Cunard in the show "Peg O' the Ring."



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PEOPLE

GEORGE CULLICOTT, the Chicago Daily News critic, reports the R888 show is "spectacular."

ELOISE BERCHTOLD and MORGAN BERRY visited the Miller-Johnson Circus at its Portland, Ore. date.

EL REBOUNDS, trampoline act, is currently touring in Australia with the Int'l Ice Follies.

GEORGE KELLNER has been named a director of the Telephone Promoters Assoc. He is replacing BILL GARDEN, of Sarasota, Fla.

PARLEY BAER and family left the Miller-Johnson Circus at San Lorenzo



Send holiday greetings to all your friends via the Dec. 24th issue of Circus Report.

It's just \$2.50 for this special issue, so get your order in at once if you want to be sure of space.

to return to their Southern California home.

WILLIAM SPEATH (ko, Ko, the Clown) played the Shrine Circus date at Monroe, La. and is now with the Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus

DIME WILSON, clown, has a date to play Santa Claus during the holiday season.



THIS PICTURE was taken in 1914 when Buffalo Bill (Colonel William F. Cody) made a personal appearance with the Sells-Floto Circus. The complete title was Sells-Floto-Buffalo Bill Shows.

In the picture, from left to right, are: Pete Staunton, who was side-show manager; Bow Robinson, ticket seller; Bill Cloud; William F. Cody; Jack Croake, ticket wagon; Joseph Wilson, assistant in ticket wagon.

BOB YERKES provided equipment for the recent "Love American Style" TV show, which had a circus segment.

TIM MCCOY is planning an around the world trip next April for his 83rd birthday

JAMES CHILDS, a free lance critic, is writing a musical on the life of P. T. Barnum.

ELDEN DAY is in a New Haven, Conn. hospital for a throat operation.

WAYNE LARRY, former flyer, is now a purchasing agent for R888.

TEXAS SHRINE

The annual shrine show at Dallas/Fort Worth, Texas was produced by L. N. Fleckles for the period of Nov. 14-24.

Acts booked for the show included:

Bill Golden - tigers
 The Hawthorne elephants
 Herta Klauser - bears
 Johnny Luxem - revolving wheel
 Nerveless Nocks - sway poles
 The Suez elephants
 The Rock Smith Flyers
 McCausland and Los Galambos -
 aerial cradle acts
 Satani Demon - fire manipulator
 Lemke's chimps
 Trevor Bale - horses
 Ralph Duke - ponies
 Terry O'Brien - wire/unicycle
 Becky McClausland - wire
 Syd and Dwight Moore - dogs
 Lacy's California seals
 The Drougetts - juggling
 The Dionnes, Los Argentinos and
 Navarros - perch acts
 The Keppos - ladder balancing
 Hugo Zacchini - cannon act
 Wanda Ward, La Norma - aerial
 Princess Olga and aerial ballet

Clowns on the show included: Gene Randow, Mike Klucker, Albert White, Ernie Burch, Brad Ward, Joe Schmitt, Jr., Neil Kay, Jerry Digney and Dave Schwinkendorf.

Al Youngman was the musical director, and Ernie McClean, was the show announcer.

. . . .Pat Bissonette