

CIRCUS REPORT

"AMERICA'S FAVORITE CIRCUS WEEKLY"

The logo for 'Circus Report' is a stylized, high-contrast illustration. At the top, the words 'CIRCUS REPORT' are written in a large, bubbly, outlined font. Below the text is a central illustration of a clown with a wide, open-mouthed smile, wearing a patterned jacket. To the left of the clown is a circular inset showing an elephant's head and trunk. To the right is another circular inset showing a tiger's face with its mouth open. Below these elements is a decorative banner with the text 'AMERICA'S FAVORITE CIRCUS WEEKLY' in a smaller, outlined font. The entire logo is framed by a decorative border.

9th Year

January 28, 1980

Number 4



Joseph C. Reisinger

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in the NEWS

DIVING HORSES SAFE

Two of the famed Steel Pier diving horses are alive and well, and not dog food as their former owner thought.

A gelding "Gamal" has been located on a farm in Maryland, while a mare "Shiloh" was found at a stable in Pennsylvania and may be in foal. The whereabouts of a third diving horse, a gray gelding "Powder Face", are unknown.

The horses were sold last June by Walter Hammell, who cared for them every winter and bought them when the Steel Pier closed in '78. He said they had been sold to a slaughterhouse.

The diving horses, with a young woman rider, were a feature attraction at the famous Steel Pier in Atlantic City. They jumped from a 40 ft. platform into a tank of water 12 ft. deep.

MAILBAG

... from Eddy Ventura

Our industry is once again threatened by the people in Washington. They are once again talking seriously of rationing gasoline and you and I both know they will leave everyone in this business out in the cold.

At the moment the only recourse open to us is to write our Congressmen and Senators and urge them to vote against this plan.

As a spokesman for the industry, I urge you to tell people through your paper that they should write their representatives and not just sit back until they finish us off.

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

Cole All Star TV Circus

Jan. 28 Cooperstown, NY

30 Newfield

31 Oxford

Feb. 1 Tioga, Pa.

2 Avoca, NY

Holiday Hippodrome

Jan. 30 Prescott, Ariz.

Int'l All Star Circus

Jan. 26 Thomaston, Ga.

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit

to Feb. 4 Miami Beach, Fla.

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit

Jan. 29-30 Lakeland, Fla.

Feb. 1-4 Augusta, Ga.

---- MAGIC ----

Blackstone Magic Show

to Feb. 3 Chicago, Ill.

Andre Kole's World of Illusion

Jan. 28 Ellensburg, Wash.

29 Corvallis, Ore.

30 Eugene

Feb. 1-2 Eureka, Calif.

Showtime USA - Magic Show

Jan. 30 Ottawa, Ohio

---- OTHER DATES ----

Sports Show

Jan. 26-Feb. 3 Philadelphia, Pa.

James E. Strates Shows

Feb. 1-18 Miami, Fla.

Leckvold Magic-Arama

Jan. 28 Bostell, Wash

29-31 Issaquah

Feb. 1 Renton

4-5 Lynnwood

Circus Vargas

Jan. 25-28 El Cajon, Calif.

29-31 Carlsbad

Feb. 1-4 Riverside

Mammoth to be created in test tube

MOSCOW (AP) — The world's first test-tube mammoth, a 12-foot tall elephant-like creature, may be less than two years away, the Russians say.

A Leningrad scientist, Viktor Mikhelson, said Monday that Soviet scientists, using cells from mammoths found preserved in ice, have begun a program to create a mammoth of the type that became extinct 10,000 years ago. He said the sole purpose of the project is scientific study.

So far, Mikhelson said, scientists have not found a suitable live mammoth cell. Once they do, they plan to use laboratory dishware to mate a preserved cell from a male mammoth and one from a modern-day female elephant, then implant the result in the female.

Conway Twitty Show

Jan. 27 Charleston, SC

Feb. 1 Terre Haute, Ind.

2 Louisville, Ky.

Shrine Circus

Jan. 24-27 Roanoke, Va.



PUBLICIST JACK RYAN writes that the situation in Las Vegas concerning the DUNES is not as I reported earlier. Several months ago an announcement was made that the "Casino de Paris" show would close owing to planned remodeling. At the eleventh hour, according to Jack, a reprieve was announced. The show is still running and has, in fact, missed not a single nightly performance. Currently on the show scene I am advised are the FERCOS with a newly developed illusion act utilizing wild animals (at the Dunes, along with Stand-up comic FREDDIE SALES) while the "Razzle-Dazzle" revue features another big cat-magic turn by CARLTON & CO. . . Meanwhile SIEGRIED and ROY, who started the whole thing, remain the strip's superstars in this milieu which seems to me to be another case of "Monkey See, Monkey Do" . . . Oops! didn't mean to give myself the publicity!

MR. RYAN who has opened his own private publicity enterprise has been retained by RBBB as a year-round consultant and wrote and edited the program books for their various shows - including Ice Follies, their double edition of Holiday and a 98 page book for RBBB's Blue Unit, the 110th Edition. In addition, Jack recently finished a souvenir program book for HARRY BLACKSTONE's magic opus which has embarked on a Continental Tour and which opens on Broadway in the spring.

SNAPSHOTS! TREVOR BALE, in the pink of health (thank God) dropped a card that he enjoyed his trip to Monte Carlo to watch his favorite son ELVIN win the coveted Silver Clown Award. . . Also on the Monte Carlo scene were the Plunketts watching their intrepid wire walker son, JAMES, trip the light fantastic without a single "trip". Bravo, James! Unfortunately, the card June sent from Monte Carlo was obliterated by a messy postmark and most of the message was indecipherable - which seems to be a trait of the Post Office worldwide! . . . MAGICTIME USA opens in March in Florida and will feature INGE WILLIAMS' dog act, MIKE WILLIAMS, juggler, and HAL HAVILAND, so informs STU MILLER . . . JOHN CUNEO sold four lions to DAVE HOOVER. The Cuneo Wild Animal acts will feature only tigers henceforth. John says their new baby African elephant is coming along very nicely. . . DR. WILLIAM STANDRING, acts' chairman of the Hadi Temple Shrine Circus, reports that their 1979 circus was the most power-

ful yet. Not surprising because that temple, I know for a fact, really cares about the quality of their shows and has my vote as being one of the finest Shrine Circus presentations in the country, bar none, and let the chips fall as they may! . . . MIKE CHIRRICK bought a home in Las Vegas, is now a happily married juggler. His mother, the incredible LOTTIE BRUNN, told me the girl he married is a sweetheart. Brother FRANCIS is show-stopping crowds in South Africa, fulfilling one of the most lucrative contracts he has ever had, according to Lottie who finally made that long awaited appearance with him recently at a hotel in New York City, an event I am sorry to have missed. Not much excites me about this business, having been in it so long and having seen the best and the worst, often simultaneously, but to see LOTTIE and FRANCIS together again simply has to be the greatest juggling treat the eyes could ever wish for. . . ROD MacKENZIE is busy with his sundry activities in Chicago, his aerial circus which he has taken all over the world, and other show biz endeavors; has meanwhile been moonlighting at a male-strip-disco in Wisconsin hanging by his heels to an admiring female audience. Rod says "it's interesting" but he thinks he's now getting too old for that sort of thing! Not, my friend, if those palpitating females are still ooing and aaahing you're not! . . . Globe-hopping FRANK CURRY came back from Europe Christmas Day, spent 48 hours in New York and took off again for parts unknown. . . Ex-Dobritch office man BOB REED has FIVE stores going in Southern California. He's the man who started that "used levi" fad, started it in his garage and is now worth a fortune. Apparently clothes do indeed make the man! . . . STRUPPI HANNEFORD lost her favorite bulldog terrier Skippy just before the holidays. . . GEORGE HANNEFORD, hospitalized about that time, is doing better and ANGELO BISBINI, who was shut in for a tumor operation, is happy that the tumor was benign and the doctors caught it in time. So are we.

COURAGE IN CAPTIONS: The invincible JUNE DEWSBURY, out of the hospital six months and wheel-chair confined also has my vote for her courageous sense of humor and remarkable ability to smile in the face of the most dreadful sort of adversity and come up the

(Continued on Page 20)

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REPORT

1980 TOUR PLANS

Roberts Bros. Circus will begin their 1980 tour in late March. The show has two big tops and is going to carry a brand new 70 with two 30's and a 40. The other big top is for rentals and is set up at the Circus Hall of Fame in Sarasota.

Acts slated for this season include: Oscar Macias Family, one finger stand, cloud swing and foot juggling; Miss Jennie (Ehler), Lisa Macias and Miss Sharon (Schleentz), aerial ballet, Menage and production. Jeff Earl will repeat with his Canine Pals and Pasha, the performing elephant. Also set are The Great Tino, Rola bola; Moises, eccentric balancing; and from Las Vegas - The Great Kalamar (George Rowe), Exploding Casket and Double Bullet Catch.

Joe Meyers will headline Clown Alley again this year; and other acts are to be announced. Summer tour will total over 26 weeks. The show played Christmas Day at the Breakers Hotel in West Palm Beach, and plays other hotel and spot dates throughout the winter.

HOIN

STANLEY PETERSON, a maintenance man at the Hogle Zoo in Salt Lake City, was gored by an elephant early this month.

Zoo Director Lamar Farnsworth said Peterson was hired to do repair work at the zoo. He went into the female elephant's quarters alone, and against the orders of the elephant trainer.

Hospital officials said Peterson was in good condition and was being treated for arm and chest punctures.

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PEOPLE

WADE BURCK has added a leap-frog routine with three tigers to his cat act. He and MARGARET will be touring with the Hamid-Morton Circus this year.

LILLI-ANA's leopards and quarters were filmed on Jan. 17th for material which will be used in publicity for the annual Shrine Circus at Tampa.

WILLY KEO, comedy diving act, and MURILLO & ULISES, balancing act, were featured at the annual Sports and Vacation Show in Anaheim, Calif., this month.

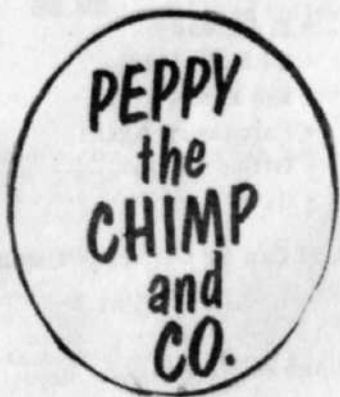
CAROL BUCKLEY and "Baby Tarra" recently made a commercial for Metropolitan Life Insurance. They also worked on the Dinah Shore TV Show where "Baby Tarra" debuted her roller skating act (the only roller skating elephant there is).

GENE McDONALD worked the first week of the season with Circus Vargas in Arizona. He helped BILL BIGGERSTAFF working seats.

KIKI PAIGE, vocalist, a former unicycle star, will be at the Vapers Supper Club in Hot Springs Ark., on Feb. 13-25.

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*Signed
Peppy the Chimp
Ilo & Erv Lange*

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PEOPLE

LOU JACOBS, popular clown, was honored by the Ringling Museum of the Circus on Jan. 17th.

DIANNE WILSON, seal act, has been working shopping center dates for Si GOLDEN. She is planning to work a seal in a water tank this year.

HARRY BLACKSTONE was a guest on the Bozo TV Show in Chicago (Jan. 11) where he did his vanishing bird cage and the girl to tiger illusion. He also brought along his pet elephant "Misty".

Miscellaneous

The Int'l All Star Circus presented a special preview show at the Roberts Sports Arena (Jan. 12) with much of the Sarasota show population in attendance. The show opens its season at Thomaston, Ga., on Jan. 26th.



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REPORT

HANNEFORD CIRCUS REVUE

..... by Allan Babcock

Much to our surprise the "Hanneford Circus Revue" was advertised as a feature part of the Central Illinois Sports Show at Springfield, Ill., on Jan. 12-13. So Norman Schuler and I dashed off to see the show and upon arriving at the Prairie Capital Convention Center we ran into Mr. and Mrs. LeRoy Davis and Mike Sorrell.

The circus performance ran a good 45 minutes and was well received by the audiences. Performances were presented at 2 and 8 p.m. on Jan. 12th and at 2 and 6 p.m. on Jan. 13th.

The program included: Killer Willard, boxing kangaroo; Mike Wright, clown; Hunky Johnson and his Bears; Senor Rai, magic and announcer; Carmen and Hunky Johnson, whips; Christine's Chimps; Henry and George Castro, high wire; Miss Lavon, cloud swing; Bob and Kay Parker, musicians. Tommy Hanneford was the show's producer.



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January 13, 1980

Don Marcks, Editor and Publisher
THE CIRCUS REPORT
525 Oak Street
El Cerrito, California 94530

Dear Don:

This is in response to the "Mailbag" statement (January 14, 1980) about the Fornasari trampoline act playing the Circus World Championships at London this fall past, and Doady Fornasari declaring that "Bauer-Hall (Enterprises) had nothing to do with it (the booking) whatsoever."

Obviously, Doady Fornasari is unaware of the part Bauer-Hall played in the Fornasari Family winning an invitation to the annual championships. To authenticate our role in such negotiations, I refer you to the copies enclosed of our letter recommending the Fornasari's of July 16, 1978 (for the 1979 Championships), and Roberto Germain's correspondence to us of October 9 and December 6, 1979. As you can see from the latter letter, we did receive a commission from the act's appearance in the championships.

To give you some additional background, Mr. Germain, who is one of our key contacts in overseas bookings, was unknowledgeable about the Fornasari Family's trampoline expertise until we advised him of same in a June, 1978 trans-Atlantic telephone call. When the booking was offered in mid-1979 for the late November Circus Championships, the Fornasari's said they wanted to book directly with Mr. Germain. This subsequently transpired, but as you can see from the enclosed correspondence, Mr. Germain honored his commitment to Bauer-Hall, and, obviously, remembered from whom he had first heard about the Fornasari's championship potential.

The Fornasari's championship was good news to us, since it justified our recommendation of their act for such competition. I must add that Bauer-Hall only sends first-class acts abroad, and those that have award-winning potential for circus competitions.

Thank you for the opportunity of setting the record straight, as well as enlightening Doady Fornasari on our activities in behalf of the Fornasari Family.

Cordially,

William B. Hall, III
BAUER-HALL ENTERPRISES

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Magic

by FRANK HERMAN

Ok . . . the Holiday Haints is over . . . let's get back to work. This week's column is prompted by "Suds" (Ted Sudbrack) who sent me some tricks and props for review. "Suds" is a working performer, clown and manufacturer of props and tricks. The subject is light bulbs for fun and mystery.

At the end of this column I'll give you a routine that is very commercial. For the moment let me indulge in a little nostalgic history. For almost a hundred years, various magicians featured the floating ball effect. Harry Blackstone, Sr., updated the effect by changing it to a light bulb that not only floated under his control but remained lit with no visible connections. It was the kind of "new" thing that brought him reams of publicity. Encouraged, Blackstone developed the effect so that he could even walk through the audience with the bulb floating around him. Burling Hall, "Volta the Magician" was among the first to offer a similar effect for sale to the magic trade. Novelty and Joke store manufacturers jumped on the item and offered it for sale to the public as a gag item.

My old friend Marvin Roy was undaunted by the exposure and built his "Mr. Electric" act

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around the theme. Marvin ignored the scoffers and built the act into a sensational routine that has continued to win him world-wide fame and fortune. A recent letter from Marv and Carol Roy reveals that they will be touring Europe in 1980 with Liberace, culminating with a fantastic engagement in Monte Carlo.

Ted Sudbrack developed an innovation for the light bulb that many performers use as an incidental gag. Suds has two versions. A single light sock with a pull chain. Extending from the socket is a short length of electric cord that goes nowhere. When you pull the chain switch the light goes on or off as you desire. It is a surefire comedy prop to show a box or tube empty or look for a "lost" item. He also manufactures a similar item "Light Fantastic" . . . a single cord with a socket on each end. Pull one chain and the other lights or both bulbs will light according to your routine.

Here is the promised routine using Suds' single

WASHINGTON TUBBS II



light bulb, cord and socket. I have used it on TV, as an MC bit and in my regular act. A square circle production box is labeled "Top Secret". The patter is built around alternate sources of energy. Production box and tube are shown to be empty and a beer bottle is produced. Sticking out of the beer bottle, like a long stem rose, is the single cord and light socket. A member of the audience is invited up and I hand him the bottle. For the moment I ask him to hand me the cord and light bulb and request him to blow across the mouth of the bottle to produce a fog horn sound.

Next, I hand him the bare end of the light cord and instruct him to blow on the bottle every time I tug on the cord. After a few tries I get him a hand for his "Tug Boat" impersonation. Now the patter turns to Gasohol and how his breath has energized the few droplets of beer remaining in the bottle. End of light cord is placed in the bottle and the whole works inverted. The light cord mysteriously remains suspended in the bottle. Finally, I pull the chain on the light socket and invert the whole works. The bulb is now lit and the bottle is suspended from the end of the cord. "And . . . that's how 'LIGHT BEER' was invented."

I use a dark brown bottle that has foil around the neck. The gimmick is from the time worn "Chinese Vase" trick. For kids I use a pop bot-

On The Cover

The cover picture on this week's issue of The Circus Report was taken on the Ringling-Barnum Circus in 1938, and was loaned to Circus Report by Western star Frank Dean.

tle that has lettering near the neck and the patter is changed to "Sugar-ahol". If I want more time I use two bottles and keep changing with the volunteer. His will not cling to the cord but mine will. With the blowing biz and the lighting bulb there are plenty of situation comedy laughs. The spectator is handling everything which adds to the real magic of the routine. It can be performed under any condition and is a real audience pleaser.

For more info on his trick light cords and props write: "Suds", 3203½ West Ball Road, Anaheim, Ca. 92804.

I will be at the IBM Hollywood Cavalcade of Magic, Roosevelt Hotel (Los Angeles) Feb. 16-18. Will have a booth in the dealers room and hope a lot of "Circus Report" fans will drop by and say Hello. Andre Kole's fantastic illusion show will be featured and I'll give a first hand report.

In the meantime send books and tricks for review to: Frank Herman, 185 - 8th St. West, Bandon, Oregon 97411.

By Crane



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PEOPLE

JERRY DIGNEY is now the full-time public relations director for Circus Vargas. He works out of the show's office, ahead of it and with the circus itself.

LILL'S Chimps were listed as a feature with the Merv Griffin TV Show on Jan. 14th. But the show, at least on the west coast, was pre-empted by a basketball game.

JERRY LIPKO and his Comedy Chimps will be at the Fair in Peoria, Ill. on July 11-19.

DONALD YOUNG (Poco) and JO McMILLAN (Slo-Poke) have been booked for the Hamid-Morton Circus tour this season.

HARRY BLACKSTONE and his wife are the parents of a baby girl born in Chicago at 8:19 p.m. on Jan. 9th. The new arrival weighed in at 8 lbs. 1½ oz.

THE SIKORSKY's (Tom, Al and Larry) juggling, Unicycle, rolling globe act, has been merged with the FANTASTIC FLYING Y's of Norristown, Pa. and will offer all new routines this season.

BOB LANGE and Family are with the James M. Cole Circus, their 4th year with this winter show.

DINO & ANITA the "Wizards of the Wire" are not with the Ringling-Barnum Circus, but will be touring with the Beatty-Cole Circus this year. The popular act writes that a South American wire act on RBBB is using the same name.

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MAIL BAG

... from Emmett Kelly, Jr.

Late last year Nancy and I drove to Peru, Ind., to visit my mother and other relatives.

While there we discovered the old Peru Motor Lodge, which was originally the old Bearss Hotel, was being torn down. (What stories that place ought to be able to tell).

Also slated to come down, on North Broadway, is the old Bert Bowers home. He was president of the Wabash Valley Bank and had a big say in the Circus Corp. of America, along with Jess Adkins, John Muggavin and Ben Wallace.

My mother says that two factories were shutting down and many old buildings are being torn down there in Peru. They're building banks, but there is no one with money to put into them.

HOTLINE

SVEND KRISTENSEN was bitten on the hand by a leopard during a training session early this month. His hand is healing and he is now back at work as usual.

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from
DON MARCKS

There has been some confusion about copies of The Circus Report that were published for December 1979. So a brief explanation is in order.

There are actually only 51 issues of Circus Report published each year. Normally this means there is one week off without a paper - the week between Christmas and New Years.

The way things worked out last year the usual 51 issues were published and for once we had a two week vacation.

The last issue of each year is always marked No. 51-52 and the year ends with the big Christmas issue.

The first issue for 1980 was dated Jan. 7th and it was then followed on scheduled with copies dated Jan. 14 and Jan. 21st.

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NAMES in the NEWS

SPEEDING VIOLATIONS DOWN

American motorists have reduced their average
highway speed from 56.3 mph to 55.8 mph for
1979.

In the past year, violations dropped almost 3%
over that of 1978. Virginia had the lowest per-
centage of speed violations, 28%, while Texas
had the highest with 72.5%.

Under terms of the 1978 Surface Transportation
Assistance Act, states that show more than 70%
of their motorists exceed 55 pmh risk losing up
to 5% of their federal, primary, secondary and
urban road funds.

Each year the terms get stiffer. In 1980, funds
will be cut in states where more than 60% of the
motorists exceed 55 mph.

The study and report is prepared by the High-
way Users Federation, made up of 450 corpor-
ate and industry association members working
for safe highway transportation.

Motorists sped into the 1970's at an average of
59.2 mph and 70% of them were violating the
speed laws.

weddings



SHARON LeGARIE and V. C. ARIVETTE were married under the Circus Vargas big top on Dec. 1st. Mr. Clifford Vargas gave the bride away and a reception followed in Ring 1. V. C. is the show boss canvasman.

PEOPLE

MIKE DOUGLAS, TV talk show host, will not have his contract renewed in June. He will tape his final show sometime that month, after that he will be replaced by JOHN DAVIDSON, popular vocalist. Douglas has been doing his talk show for 18 years.

JOHN LEWIS, former circus owner, is reportedly recovering at home after an operation to remove his appendix.

GEORGE BURNS has recorded a country-western record called "I Wish I Was 18 Again." it is rapidly climbing towards the top of the chart lists.

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Mailroom

Circus Reports mailed to the following people have been returned by the Post Office who reports they have incorrect addresses:

Bill Vergis

Marie Boxley

Joe McMahan

David Watkins

Miscellaneous

"Morganetta", the elephant at the Forest Park Zoo in Springfield, Mass. has left that facility for an undisclosed destination. The action now leaves the zoo without any animals.

In Memoriam

WES WESTLEY, concessionaire, was killed in an auto accident about Jan. 1st. No other details are known. He worked concessions with Circus Vargas since its beginning, then retired two years ago.



MAGIC LIMITED - LLOYD E. JONES - 4064 39TH AVE., OAKLAND, CA 94619

by LLOYD E. JONES

Each week we will try to tell you something about current magic books of value. Naturally, for the first few weeks we'll tell you about our own publications (Magic Limited, 4064 - 39th Ave., Oakland, Calif. 94619).

In March of last year we started a series of books titled "Thayer Quality Magic Catalog Instruction Sheets" and were delighted with their reception. Floyd Thayer was a builder of fine wood magic and seller of excellent apparatus during what is called the Golden Age of Magic. Today, his magic is a desirable collector's item and many an old-timer will recall how avidly and frequently he poured over the pages of a Thayer Catalog and dreamed. Now, the instruction sheets for these choice items are being put into print - unchanged from their original printing, along with the catalog description.

Vol. 1, has 334 pages, is a hard-bound book and has a dust cover, measures 6x9 in. and sells for \$20.00. The postage is \$1.03 and insurance is a good idea. The magic is described under 14 categories and includes: Escapes, Illusions and Mental Magic.

The series is expected to cover four volumes with most tricks of other dealers excluded along with such standard items as common card tricks and decks.

In Dec., Vol. 2, was published (Vol. 3 will follow in mid-1980). This too has over 320 pages and an index, with 17 divisions of magic being covered. It sells for \$20.00, the postage runs \$1.03 and insurance would be an extra 85c. All Californians are required to include \$1.20 for sales tax.

Notice

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Acts

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champion she has always been. The operation performed on June, who suffered a spinal injury was so new nobody knew whether or not it would work. They took bone from her hips, ribs and pelvis to build a new spine. Well, it worked to where June can sit up (she might have been flat on her back the rest of her life had she NOT undergone the chancey operation), feeling has returned to her legs which she can move and more than that the gallant GAL can STAND and walk a bit with the aid of special canes and a "walker". June says she fully intends to be walking without support and knowing her I have no doubt. She shares with AURELIA HALL a kind of super-determination which should inspire us all.

A DELIGHTFUL letter from our plucky Lilliputian prompts me to share it with my readers. Writes June: "What do I do with myself? Well, I can do almost everything from the waist up that I could always do, and as for the lower half I am exceptionally clever at improvisation! As you know, Billy, I am the same height sitting as I am standing and all my life I have had to compensate in some measure for the lack of height! I have a "live-in" companion who sees to my needs and thankfully does the cooking. You KNOW what a lousy cook I am! My TV dinners look like re-runs!"

THROUGH the offices of good friends, of whom June has many, she is taken to the theatre and to the opera, where she contrives NOT to all asleep, and, in general, has a full and active life.

CLOSEUPS: DARRELL WALLEN and Mr. Rhythm spent Christmas at BILL and TRUDY STRONG's Ohio farm as he had an engagement Dec. 27 and 28 at Washington's Ulta Kennedy Center with the EMMETT KELLY, Jr. Circus. This makes the third such appearance at that prestigious center for the circus. . .IAN GAR-

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CIRCUS QUIPS....... by **KARL J. BISCHOFF**

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THE BEST THING about spring to an outdoor showman is that it comes when it is most needed.

SOME SHOW PEOPLE still do as much as they did 30 years ago, but don't get as much accomplished.

DON'T KNOCK the last show you've seen, it may have **IMPROVED** since you were there.

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DEN has broadened his TV commitments to include a new musical-variety prime-time program along with the top-rated **CIRCUS!** The Garden Circus season gets underway in late Feb. with a four day engagement at Toronto's Maple Leaf where the **QUASSAR's** rocket ship spectacular will be featured, having been completely rebuilt after its destruction during the Miami engagement last fall. Beautiful **MICKEY GARDEN** reveals she has "good and bad days" days without that painful back problem but she fully intends to go on tour lending her golden voice to the show's production numbers. . .**JOE** and **ELIZABETH BAUER** and family returned from their European tour (Monte Carlo among the spots they visited) and Joe informs me his agency has booked **THE FLYING ESPANAS** with **CIRCUS KNIE** in 1981. . .**LOMI VAN VOORDEN** advises me that she, too, is off for Europe this summer. **THE SENSATIONAL LEIGHS** are booked in Europe for two full years and this season will be toplined with Circus Knie. The way things are going I shall probably see more of my old friends while I am in England than I do when I am at home.

ON THAT NOTE . . . I'll see you down the road, luvv, and in this case on all roads "leading to Rome".

Note:
A bout with pneumonia has caused a delay
with the orderly production of Circus Report.
We will be back on schedule soon.
..... Don Mareks

WANT

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