



8th Year

October 29, 1979

Number 44

Debts Hurt Show

Creditors of the Cottle Circus, of England, have, at least for the present, agreed to help keep the show going and thus prevent it from going into bankruptcy. Over expansion, bad weather and a losing trip to Iran have contributed to the show's financial problems, as has inflation.

Jerry Cottle, the son of a stockbroker, who has been a clown, juggler and horse rider, started his circus four years ago. He says that he wanted the biggest and best show. "I gambled and I failed," he added.

The circus grew rapidly and in 1977 it started to expand considerably. A second unit was put on the road and a show was taken to Tehran.

The Iranians failed to pay the fees that had been agreed upon and since the Ayatollah came into power there is no possibility of collecting the money that is owed the circus.

Cottle told his creditors the show could go on and ought to show a profit by 1981. He proposed that the circus be cut back to just one unit and that the overhead be reduced by cutting the staff from 120 people to just 50 people.

The acts won't be as big or as flashy,

there will be fewer clowns and a smaller band, he added. But the animals will all be kept, as an important part of the circus performance.

At the moment Cottle's bills are well in excess of his cash on hand and he's been given three years to turn the financial situation into a profit. But the operation will be under the direct supervision of a three man committee appointed by the creditors - Inland Revenue, Customs and Excise and Barclays Bank.

ALLEN BABCOCK, TOM PARKINSON, RON HURST, LEROY DAVIS, and CHARLES SWAN were on hand to watch the Ringling Blue Unit arrive, then unload and set-up for its Sept. 27-30 date at Champaign, Ill.

SPECIAL

Circus Report announces "first" publishing rights to **BILLY BARTON's** Circus Mystery Short Story "MONKEY SEE, MONKEY DO" - the first story with a circus background from the pen of a brand new mystery writer.

Meet a new author prior to publication of his first mystery novel in 1980 - the circus world's own **BILLY BARTON** - In Circus Report. An exclusive.

Acts

The program produced by the Hubert Castle Circus for the El Maida Shrine Temple at El Paso, Texas (Oct. 3-7) lists the following acts.

Tarzan Zerbini, lions and tigers; Los Robertos; The Glorions; The Octavios; Killer Willard, the boxing kangaroo; Lee Marx, juggler; the Martinez Trio, balancing; The Drouguettes, jugglers; Rosaire and Tony, the Wonder Horse; Mlle. Jacqueline, aerialist; Irene, Tongo & Co., gorilla parody; Arturo Segura, bounding rope; The Flying Lunas, flying trapeze; The Chelitis, rolling globe; The Segura Family, risley; The Dielkas Sisters, rolling globes; Marios Mad Hatters, hat juggling; Marhal Camels and Llamas; Maple Grove Arabians; Christine's Chimpanzees; Ron & Mitzi Gill; The Elkardis; the Circus Elephants; the Pablo Rodriguez Troupe, aerial bar act.

The show's staff is listed as: Ringmaster, Col. Lucky Larabee; Electrician, Hector Martinez; Band Director, Prof. Clement E. Toca; Supt. of Props, Pablo Martinez; Producing Clown, Gene Randow.

Acts

The following acts were set for the Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus at Wilmington, Del. on Oct. 14th by Rose Adair, artists representative in New York. Hunkie Johnson's Bears; Carmen del Molino, low wire; Miss LaVonne, cloud swing; Cimse's Russian Wolfhounds and Pomeranians; and The Great Erick, high wire.

Ken Sherburne was booked into "Paradise On Ice" (Oct. 8-Nov. 25). The show plays hotels.

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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CLOWN FOR XMAS

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MAILBAG

... from William Watsch

In reading of Ringling Bros. Barnum & Bailey Circus now owning the Ice Follies and two units of Holiday On Ice, it brings back some memories. The Ice Follies opened the brand new Cleveland Arena on Nov. 10, 1937, 42 years ago. It was a great night. The ice was painted in large red and black squares, like a checker board (you don't see this anymore). It blended in with the red, white and blue seats.

Oscar Johnson, Roy Shipstad and Eddie Shipstad skated in their show in those days. Plus of course, they had many fine stars.

The first circus there was the following year. The Hamid-Morton Circus. I recall seeing George Hamid and Bob Morton around the building.

"Mitzi" and "Fritzi" were the first two elephants in the building. One was a tusker and one night before the start of the show the tusker had one of the elephant hands pinned against the wall in the tunnel leading to the main floor. His cries for help brought some other circus hands and we all helped to release him, then took him to the First Aid station. He was lucky he wasn't seriously hurt.

The tusk marks were on the cement for a long time and we always showed them to people and told them the story.

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Show Dates

Beatty-Cole Circus

Oct. 29-31 Merritt Island, Fla.
Nov. 1-4 Orlando

Carson & Barnes Circus

Oct. 29 Tullulah, La.
30 Winnsboro
31 Ferriday
Nov. 1 Natchez, Miss.
2 McComb
3 Biloxi.
4 Slidell, La.

Hubert Castle Circus

Nov. 2-4 Chattanooga, Tenn.

Circus Vargas

Oct. 30-Nov. 1 Tyler, Texas
Nov. 2-4 Shreveport, La.

Hoxie Bros. Circus

Oct. 29 Opp, Ala.
30 Chipley, Fla.
Nov. 1 Daytona Beach
2 Vero Beach
3-4 Deerfield Beach

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit to Nov. 5 Boston, Mass.

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit to Nov. 18 Chicago, Ill.

Royal Lichtenstein Circus

Oct. 29 Memphis, Tenn.
30 Birmingham, Ala.
31 Atlanta, Ga.
Nov. 1 Jacksonville, Fla.
2 Winter Park

Shrine Circus

Oct. 30-Nov. 4 Baltimore, Md.

TNT & Royal Olympic Circus

Oct. 30-Nov. 3 Ft. Worth, Texas

Texas Shrine Circus

Nov. 4-10 Ft. Worth, Texas

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--- MAGIC ---

Kim Dixon Magic Show

Oct. 30 Albuquerque, N.M.
Nov. 1 Phoenix, Ariz.
3 Salt Lake City, Utah

Tom Ogden - Magician

Nov. 1-3 Pittsburgh, Pa.

--- OTHER DATES ---

Disco Fever

Oct. 29 Savannah, Ga.
30 Charleston, S.C.
31 Augusta, Ga.
Nov. 1 Columbia, S.C.
2 Florence
3 Fayetteville

James H. Drew Exposition

Oct. 29-Nov. 3 Augusta, Ga.

Grand Nationals

to Nov. 4 San Francisco, Calif.

Holiday Hippodrome

Ice Capades - Cont'l Unit

Oct. 31-Nov. 4 Wichita, Kans.

Ice Capades - Eastern Unit

Oct. 30-Nov. 4 Buffalo, NY

Ice Capades - Western Unit

Oct. 30-Nov. 4 Tucson, Ariz.

Kaye Hollywood Elephants

to Nov. 3 Charleston, S.C.

Joe Schmitt, Jr. - Clown

Oct. 31 Arlington, Texas

Tommy Scott Show

Oct. 29 Elwood, Ind.
30 Newcastle
31 Richmond
Nov. 1 Edinburg

(More Show Dates on Other Pages)



SPECULATION as to which direction Circus Vargas will take now that it is in the deep south is over. The big tent will nose back west and end its season in Las Vegas.

JANICE ARIA finally gave birth to a baby girl on Sept. 28th at 10:30 ayem in Florida. The new Aria weighed in at 7 lbs. 5½ oz. and is named **AMBER**. Husband Mike was at his wife's side during the birth. Mother and child doing fine.

At last I have details on the **ROBIN MEDINA** deportation. The aerialist was with the Castle show last season and with Circus Vargas this year. Apparently he was working without proper papers and authorities caught up to him and sent him back to Colombia. **LOS GAUCHOS** (with C.V.) spearheaded a movement to collect funds to assist the performer, put up his bail and sent the remaining money to him. The performer has an engegament pending in Europe but when he was arrested his trailer and vehicle were confiscated along with his rigging. Performers with C.V. are now attempting to get his rigging and ship it to him so he can resume working.

CLOSEUPS: **BRUCE ANDERSON** writes that he is doing a solo high act, was once part of the Three Milos mentioned in a piece on old high acts done in this column Sept. 3rd. . . **MILLIE WARD** is no longer on the road with Circus Vargas. . . **ERIK ADAMS, Sr.** plans to stay off the road, says it is just too expensive to keep two units in operation and Erik, Jr. has taken over the chimp act (along with a dog and balancing acts). Erik, Jr. made the Miami date for **ZACCHINI**, makes the Flint Shrine date for Castle, the Lansing date for **HAROLD VOISE**, then goes, for 30 weeks beginning in March, with **BILL GARDEN**. . . **ERIK, Sr.** is feeling fine after a recent operation. His wife, also in the hospital, is out and feeling better. . . **Plucky NANCY GIORDANO** spent a total of 8½ weeks in traction following her recent freak fall during a practice session in a local health club. Here's the story: the lyre was hanging only 5 ft. from the floor. She was trying to strengthen her left leg (injured in the first fall) by hanging by her toes. The weak leg gave out and she came down. Shattered her pelvis and right hip, which she says was "really unbelievable" considering the short fall. "However," quips Nancy, "one can drown in an inch of water if one's nose is in it." Nancy advises she'll be resuming her aerial career by Dec/Jan without pushing herself. For my part and all her many friends as well I wish Nancy would take up another endeavor, in or out of show business! No career is worth being

hurt TWICE. . . **WALTER PATERSON** did the TV show **CIRCUS!** and played a fair date for **IAN GARDEN** in early October.

READER'S CIRCLE: TITLES, by Peter Evans in paperback. Interesting Roman-a-clef involving thinly disguised portraits of actress **GRACE KELLY** and **PRINCE RANIER**. Escapism, strictly; but fun to read.

PAPAL VISIT: HERTA and **JOHN CUNEO** attended the Pope's visit and mass at Grant's Park in Chicoo where over a million and a half people gathered. Herta said it was impressive. The altar was festooned with 17,000 chrysanthemums. Likewise **LISA BAUER**, **ZEPELY**, and **TINA** and **VIVIAN SCOTT** attended in Philadelphia where they arrived at 2 ayem (slept on the sidewalk) and waited for the Pope's appearance at 4 p.m. in the afternoon. His arrival was delayed. The Bauers and Scotts had front row seats.

IN-DEPTHS: HERTA CUNEO has as her house guest recently **NANCY OSTERMEYER**, wife of the famed horse trainer. Herta now has **EIGHT** baby tigers in her beautiful Frank Lloyd Wright home! . . . **ELIZABETH BAUER** flew to Switzerland in late August to attend the funeral of her brother-in-law Arthur Nock, a well-known clown with Circus Knie for 30 years. Nock was called **KNIELY** after the prestigious Swiss Circus. . . **PAUL MacCAUSLAND** phoned from the Texas dates where he is working for **BOB ATTERBURY** who's very upset over rumors floating about that he is quitting the business and that his cradle rigging is for sale. He has asked me to report that neither is true. . . **TOBY REED** is also on the Texas Circuit. . . British Circus Producer **DAVID SMART** arrived in New York the week of Oct. 8th and conferred with agent **JOE BAUER**. . . **JOHN CUNEO** has hired a new German trainer to present the Baby Elephant act; the man is in quarters now. . . Since **JANICE ARIA** has had her baby girl, the Arias are prepping their bear act for Christmas dates for **BAUER-HALL** and the **HOWARD SCHULTZ AGENCY**. . . Now that the Chicago Opera season has begun **CORKY CRISTIANI** is among the Chicago Socialites seen often in attendance . . . ditto the **CUNEOs**. . . The latter by the way are adding exotic geese and ducks to the wildlife area of their estate which already has deer and white elk. . . At this stage of the game **MIKE ARIA** says he is very UNimpressed with

(Continued on Page 20)

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REPORT

CONVENTION TIME

The Showmen's Convention and Trade Show sponsored by the Western Chapter of the Pennsylvania State Showmen's Association gets under way this weekend (Nov. 1-3) at the new Kensington Holiday Inn.

The three day convention will feature exhibits and seminars of interest to all those involved in fund raising events. Exhibitors will include talent agencies, carnival owners, manufacturers and suppliers, entertainers, concessionaires and independent ride owners.

Seminars include "Publicity for your Fund Raising Events", "How to Book a Carnival", and "Fund Raising Ideas".

The exhibits will open at 2 pm each day, with the Showmen's Banquet to be held on Saturday, Nov. 3rd. Featured will be a talent showcase from top member talent agencies.

The Pennsylvania State Showmen's Association is open to anyone who has a related interest in show business. Prospective new members are asked to call World Famous Magician Harry Albacker, convention chairman, for further information. (Phone: 412 - 781 - 5166).

The three day program includes:

Thursday, Nov. 1 - 11 a.m. Membership Meeting followed by a 12 noon lunch. Exhibits open at 2 p.m. At 7 p.m. a seminar "Publicity For Your Fund Raising Events" by Garcia and Assoc. Introduction of Exhibitors is at 8 p.m., followed by refreshments and late night events.

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REPORT

THE KAY BROS. TENT . . . by C. H. Rowland

The Kay Bros. Tent met on Sept. 15th at the Shepherd Stadium meeting room in Colonial Heights, Va. A reporter from the Petersburg Progress-Index was there to write a story about the group.

Johnny Nugent (affiliate member) was on hand to perform before the meeting for members and their guests. Johnny has worked with a lot of circuses in his life time. He trouped with Brinson Bros. Circus in the 1920's. It was an all-wagon show, owned by Sam Dock, Ray Brison and Ed Davidson.

Johnny is well known as a sword swallower, trick roper, knife thrower, fire eater and magic performer. He is retired now, but still loves to talk about the circus with everyone.

Friday, Nov. 2 - Directors Meeting at 11 a.m.; Lunch at noon; Exhibits open at 2 p.m.; Seminar "How to Book A Carnival and Other Unrelated Subjects"; Introduction of Exhibitors; Refreshments and late night events.

Saturday, Nov. 3 - Exhibits open Noon to 5 p.m. Seminar at 2 p.m. "Fund Raising Ideas"; Cash Bar and pre-Banquet Entertainment; Banquet, followed by Professional entertainment; Showmen's Raffle.



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REPORT

TNT & ROYAL OLYMPIC . . by Don Sandman

The TNT & Royal Olympic Circus performances were part of the Grand Opening features at the New Greenwood Mall, in Bowling Green, Ky., Oct. 10-13.

The show played to large crowds with performances at 1, 4 and 7 Wednesday thru Saturday, and 1, 3 and 5 on Sunday. The Mall had a courier supplement which ran in six newspapers in nearby cities. This supplement included a full page ad with photos of Twinkles. Also a full page photo of Twinkles the clown, saying color me. This promotion went over big and the wall space the mall had allotted for entries wasn't big enough to hold them all.

The performances were as previously reported with the Patricks, Carlos Trio, Pat and Gwenn, Twinkles and Grinn & Barrett, plus Earl and Louise, for a fast moving 30 minute show.

Happenings on TNT & Royal Olympic since I last wrote about them are as follows:

Carlos Obando finally got the cast off his ankle, then Vickie Hendricks broke her wrist. They are thinking of changing the name of the show to Plaster Bros. Circus. Both are working, even if under difficult circumstances. The Carlos Duo will be back to Carlos and Brenda by the time this is printed.

The Obandos totaled their 2 month old trailer when a deer ran out in front of them on the way to Cedar Falls from Denver. They swerved to miss the deer and ditched the trailer. Carlos says they'll get a new Kountry-Aire trailer for Carol's anniversary present.

When the show was in Rockford, Ill., Walter Hohenadel, editor of White Tops visited, and picked up art work done by Tim Tegge, for the new sponsor's brochure.

Coming out of Austin, Minn., Earl noticed that smoke was coming from his trailer. Investigating it he found there was a burned out bearing, and it was a Sunday evening. Temporary repairs were finally made and Carlos showed Tim how to replace and pack bearings and repair broken springs.

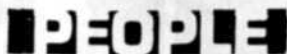
By the way Tim, does Colorado have different laws about Stop signs then in Garden Grove,? In Denver, Vickie Hendricks (Barrett, of Grinn & Barrett) was visited by her parents, who hosted the show to a Mexican Fiesta.

The Waterloo Courier (Oct. 5) had a half page item on the circus with two pictures of Twinkles the clown. The article was by Mary Lee Hagart, and was after the Cedar Falls date.

It was discovered at Greenwood that Carlos is the number one supporter of the fast food outlets in the mall. Especially the popcorn store.

Earl Tegge reports that bookings for 1980 are already ahead of that of last year. July and August are almost full with repeat dates.

Visitors at Greenwood were: John Lindsey, retired clown, Otis Cooper, Mr. & Mrs. John Anderson and Don and Grace Sandman.



DARRELL WALLEN and his horse "Mr. Rhythm" were pictured on the front page of the Oct. 3rd issue of The Minot (N.D.) Daily News with N.D.'s Gov. ARTHUR LINK.

DAN WALDRON visited the Ringling Blue Unit during that show's engagement in Detroit,

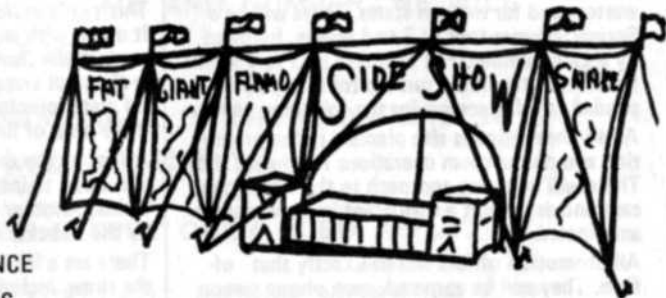
BOB MITCHELL filled in as ringmaster on the Beatty-Cole Circus for a few days early this month when JIMMY JAMES was ill with the flu.

AVAILABLE FOR 1980 SEASON



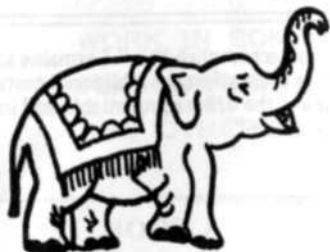
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SPECIAL

NEW ICE SHOW TO DEBUT

This past week show producer Charles Germaine announced that he will be devoting most of his efforts in the future to the promotion of an all new ice show. He will, however, continue to do promotions for an occasional variety show with top name stars.

A great many sponsoring organizations, he said, have become tired with the variety show format and some circuses that are offered them. Every one I've contacted thus far, he continued, has expressed a genuine interest in sponsoring the ice show. It is a show that is non-competitive and therefore has even more appeal to sponsoring organizations than one might realize.

The show will open in 1980, touring the mid-western and far western states. There will be a Spring/Summer tour of 3 to 4 weeks, followed by a Late Summer/Fall tour also of 3 to 4 weeks time. After the initial run the tour may be expanded to a full season for the following year.

A new innovation is also planned in the promotion and phone room operations for the ice show. There will be a new approach to the whole concept and as a result a significant improvement is anticipated.

All promotion offices will be exactly that - offices. They will be carpeted, each phone person will have an individual desk, etc. There will be no drab offices operating with card tables, the old metal chairs or just long tables made up of raw lumber on saw horses.

The idea, according to Germaine, is to make the offices as appealing as possible to prospective personnel. This will give them a feeling of actual working in an office and it is expected that a higher calibre individual will be interested in working and that the turnover in personnel will be greatly reduced. Thus sales increases will be achieved.

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REPORT

CLYDE BEATTY-COLE BROS. CIRCUS

... by Russ and Judy Bryan

The Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus gave a super spectacular big top performance at Youngstown (Ohio).

The show is owned by Frank McClosky and Jerry Collins, who for many years have presented a very clean show for children of all ages. We hope they will continue to do this for many years to come.

The performance under the big top was great, with a lot of new people and some new acts too. Jimmy James has taken over the announcing since Col. Bale returned to his home due to illness. Musical director of the show band is Gene Nichols and his group does a fine job.

This year's performance runs about two hours. It opens with an overture, followed by the incomparable Dave Hoover and his wild animals in the steel arena. The Ruwills present a colorful plate spinning act, and the Bale Family has three rings of fine horse numbers.

A first on the show for many years are the Russian Bears trained and presented by Johnny Welde. Another fine act is the juggling number by the Haucks.

There are a lot of new faces in Clown Alley on the show, including one from New Castle, Pa. The writers visited Clown Alley, since we are in the clown business. Enjoyed visiting with old friends and meeting the new people.

Also had a chance to visit with Edna Antes in the white wagon, plus many friends with the mechanical and welding dept.

A fine young lady, Miss Mary L. Johnson, did the marketing promotion for the Youngstown engagement.

"If we can accomplish this," Germaine said, "it will more than offset the additional costs required to make the offices presentable and interesting to work in."

A BOOK

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REPORT

ICE FOLLIES

Changes are very much in evidence in this year's edition of the Ice Follies, which recently played the Forum in Southern California. Spectators all seemed to feel this was a more dazzling show and that it moves faster than in the past.

One thing for sure, performers now get one quick bow and then the lights are out. In previous years they would take several bows before the lights started to dim down.

Especially noticeable is the "Sells Floto Concession Corp." operation with its stands in the Ice Follies colors, bearing that show's title and logo. The stands are similar to those seen on the Ringling show units, and snow cones, floss and a variety of other items are offered, all new to the Ice Follies patrons.

The program book is a large format book, similar to the Ringling show programs, and sells for \$2. In addition to its many pictures and reading material, there is a full page color reproduction of an old RBBB litho which shows the four trains unloading.

The huge center spread includes photos of Irvin and Kenneth Feld, with the show's staff on the back pages. The book also carries the routes of both Red and Blue circus units for 1979 and 1980.

available

AS OF NOVEMBER

RAY HARTZELL, Show Organist

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In Memoriam

WALTON D. KING (68), died Oct. 2nd, of a collapsed lung. He had been in the amusement business for over 50 years and founded King Amusement Co. in Mt. Clemens, Mich., which manufactured carnival and other amusement equipment. During the past years he owned and operated many carnivals including World of Pleasure Shows, King Shows, King Exposition Shows and Big City Shows. He retired in 1976 and moved to Dallas, Texas. Survivors include two sons, Walton D. King, Jr., and Edward F. King, and a sister-in-law, Marie Yandell, of Dallas, Texas.

S. J. PERELMAN (75), a comedy writer who provided material for Groucho Marx and also wrote articles for The New Yorker magazine, died at his room in the Gramercy Park Hotel in New York City on Oct. 17th.

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PEOPLE

CURLY 'n CUE, former circus clowns, now live in Spokane, Wash. and along with RALPH HENDERSON (Koto) devote their time to "Project Toy" a program for Senior Citizens.

BILL BIGGERSTAFF and his crew reportedly sold a record number of program books during Circus Vargas' turn-away engagement at Beaumont, Texas, Sept. 28-30.

BILL SLATER is recuperating at home after a stay in the hospital. He would enjoy hearing from friends. Write him at: 1219 Ashland Ave., Louisville, Ky. 40215.

WADE BENSON is the musical director with the Ice Follies show this season.

BILL BURGER handled the booking of dates in Montana and Idaho for the Big John Strong Circus this year.

LARRY ALLEN DEAN worked the Wallenda

Circus, Hubert Castle dates and the New York State Fair during this past summer.

HAL HAVILAND taped a segment of the Canadian TV Show "Circus" at Montreal on Oct. 19. He jumped in from Elmira, N.Y. for the date.

TARZEN ZERBINI will reportedly produce and stage the 1980 edition of the Hubert Castle Circus. The show's trucks are already painted and trimmed with blue and white.

SAD BUSTER, clown, worked the Oct. 20-21 Art Festival at Houston, Texas, and the Oct. 25-26 Antique Show in Bellaire, Texas.

JACK RYAN, former RBBB press man who most recently was at Magic Mountain, is the editor of the new Ice Follies program book.

ROSA DOUGLAS and PHIL KAVANAUGH, clowns, joined the John Strong Circus for the latter part of the season's tour. Also joining the show for its last few months was LENNIE MAZELL, juggler.

By Crane



FOR SALE

PROGRAMS ---

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30 Xenia

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Nov. 1-2 Pikesville, Md.
3 Baltimore

Felix Snipes - ESP/Magic

Nov. 2-3 Homer, NY

Frank Strout's Animals

Nov. 4 Angola, La.

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REPORT**LABOR CHARGE FILED**

(Written by Lou Messina and reprinted from the "Hollywood Reporter" of Oct. 16, 1979)

Members of the Ice Follies have filed an unfair labor charge against AGVA with the National Labor Relations Board complaining that the union "conspired with management in coercing employment contracts before the details of the collective bargaining agreement were revealed to the employees."

The Ice Follies is owned by Mattel, Inc., and there was no one available for comment from either Mattel or AGVA in response to the charges.

The complaint alleges that AGVA entered into the agreement with Mattel "with hostile discrimination, unfairly, without impartiality, without good faith, causing financial hardship upon employees."

The skaters are asking that the agreement be voided and that AGVA and Mattel be ordered to renegotiate a new contract under the supervision of the U. S. Dept. of Labor.

Unconfirmed reports suggest that members of

PEOPLE

VAL VOLZ and TINA DUNDAS, both of Montana, have joined the Royter Magic Show. Also touring with the show is TOM LYONS, known as "Bingo the Clown."

MIKE MARTIN, magician, plans to present an all escape show the night of Oct. 31st, to commemorate the death of HOUDINI on that date in 1926.

In Memoriam

BOYD "Heavy" KIMES, of Uncle Heavy's Pork Chop Revue, died in his sleep last week in San Antonio, Texas, while traveling with the International All Star Circus.

Kimes had been ill for some time and his wife, Linda, and son Grumpy have been working the act without him. They will continue to book and work the act.

The Ice Follies may go on strike unless their contract is renegotiated and that members of the Ice Capades will follow suit as an expression of sympathy with their fellow performers.

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SPECIAL

The Historical Museum of the City of Southfield, Mich., has proclaimed the month of October as "Ricky the Clown Month." Irv Romig, will have many props, costumes, etc., photos of himself, his father and mother (Carl and Elizabeth) of Romig & Rooney Attractions, with different circuses as far back as Ringling 1913.

Grace McIntosh, of M&M Circus, will have many photos of their Internationale acts on display boards. George DaDeppo, circus artist, will have several art pictures on display. Ricky and his College Clowns, will appear on special days, doing shows, with his Callyano Music Wagon. School tours will also be arranged.

PEOPLE

EDDIE EDWARDS, former clown with the Big John Strong Circus, now lives in Jamestown, N. Y., where he works for J. C. Penny. He and his family live on a small farm just outside the city.

FRANK B. UPDEGROVE, Jr., provided photos for the Sunday Republican's (Waterbury, Conn.) story about the years when Ringling-Barnum kept their horses on farms in Connecticut.

JAY JOHNSON, ventriloquist, was featured on the Mike Douglas TV Show on Oct. 18th.

JOHNNY NUGENT, sword swallower, was pictured along with a n article about the Kay Bros. CFA Tent in a Colonial Heights, Va., paper this past month.

TINO WALLEDA ZOPPE's Maranatha Circus, featured in two TV Specials for the PTL Club in July are to be reshown. It was the first time that a circus was featured on Christian television. AUSTIN MILES was the host and ringmaster.

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new
ARRIVALS

GINGER ANN GRIEP, daughter of Marsha and Lu Griep, was born at home in Southern California on Sept. 13th. She weighed in at 5 lbs. 6 oz. Her parents were both with the Big John Strong Circus, and her father worked as "Swami" doing fire eating and also handling the press.

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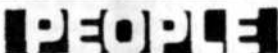
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ARMANDO GAONA suffered a minor shoulder injury when the end of the net collapsed as he dropped into it at the conclusion of a performance the night of Sept. 28th at Champaign, Ill.

THE WHEELERS, musical comedy act, worked a variety show in Oakland, Calif., on Oct. 20th, which featured comedy star **RONALD TYLER** and singer **CHRIS WILLIAMS**.

RONALD MacDONALD, clown for the Mac Donald Hamburger chain, makes a guest appearance tonight (Oct. 29) at the Grand Nationals in San Francisco.

MIKE WINN recent established a Guinness Book of Records achievement by staking chairs 9 high. At the same time his inclined wire walk record was re-established (no trickery). Watch for him on TV's "Guinness Games" show.

ROYTER the Magician, reports he passed **JERRY CONKLIN's** rig on I-94, between Battle Creek and Kalamazoo not long ago. There was no time to stop and visit, so he'd like to say "Hello" via CR. Royter had to replace an engine in his truck when it blew two rods.

ALLEN BABCOCK, **CHARLES** and **AGNES HILL**, **CHARLES SEVERIN**, **GENE HALL**, **JACK** and **CLIFF ALBEA**, **MAX MORRIS**, and **BOB PHEBUS** were on hand to watch the tear-down and train loading operations of the Ringling Blue Unit at Champaign, Ill., on the night of Sept. 30th.



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TRADE — Have small lot in the City of Dallas, Texas, will trade for concession trailer or whatever. Phone: 205 - 757 - 3501.

CAN USE HELP in All Depts. for 1980 season. Williams Bros. Circus, 2635 Norton Road, Kent, Ohio -



MIA ARNOSI, daughter of **JULIAN** and **MIR-ELLE ARNOSI**, made her trapeze act debut at the Showfolks of Sarasota early this month. The Sarasota Journal of Oct. 10th, devoted almost a full page to the event, with a special report, plus four photos. She was trained by **LANORA FOX**.

SEMON'S CHIMPS, **WELDE'S BEARS** and the **BALE SISTERS** have been signed for the Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus tour in 1980.

Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros.

Reviewed in Beckley, W. Va. - Oct. 2, 1979
by Magician, Felix Snipes, of Atlanta, Ga.

The favorite joke of a friend of mine is to walk up to a teenager and say, "Tell me, Bill, as an outsider, what do you think of the human race?"

As an outsider of the circus world perhaps my evaluation will be somewhat different from an insider. However, possibly it may be closer to the customer's view point. Having been in professional entertainment for many years I feel a very close kinship with the circus world and may tend to overlook the faults and glorify the good points, but we will try to be objective.

I was scheduled into Beckley for two magic shows and was thrilled upon arriving early to find that the Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus, advertised as the "World's Largest Circus Under the Big Top" was in town for a 3-day, 6-performance run.

Advanceman David Hundley had done a superior job of letting the community know about the coming circus. Though he has only been in the circus business for 3 or 4 months, he has a great enthusiasm for his job and has endeared himself to the folks in the local media. He is one of 10 advance men C-B keeps on the road. Each spending a full month in each town in advance of the performance.

This hard work paid off with near capacity crowds in the 4,500 seat tent for each of the 6 performances. Even though it was raining the day I went, almost every seat was filled and the enthusiasm of the crowd again testified to the fine way that Hundley had created anticipation in the community.

The big top was beautifully located on a hill top which gave it a majestic Camelot-type appearance. The ticket sales "at-the-gate" must have been heavier than usual because long lines necessitated opening additional ticket booths.

We were graciously greeted by Ms. Edna Antes who arranged front-row, center-ring seating and program information for us - though I insisted on paying for my own seat so that my review would be impartial.

Running late because of the mile of heavy traffic approaching the circus grounds, we didn't have time for side show visits before the main show but did catch it afterwards.

The side show was extremely disappointing. I found it incredible that a show as big as C-B

would have such a "rinky-dink" side show. About six short acts (?) lasting from 2 to 3 minutes each. The "Fat Man" being the only one interesting. But the rest of the acts performed with an indifference to the crowd that those of us in Magic find unforgivable. This really left a bad taste in the mouths of those around me. None of the acts approached the professionalism of even the Roustabouts in the main tent. C-B deserves a better side show.

I found most of the personnel, such as ticket takers, clowns, usherettes, etc., above average in cordiality and attitude. A pleasant surprise. However, evidently management must not realize the negative vibrations that the local people receive from dirty clothes, disheveled hair and general run-down appearance of these vital personnel. The clean uniforms and high standards of appearance of the Ringling shows really pays off in attitude of the local people. People distrust dirt. Clothes do make the man and cleanliness, I believe, would pay off in people's feelings about the total show. Again I say, though, that the attitude of the personnel was good.

With the exception of the very end seats, it looked as if everyone in the tent could see all the acts reasonably well. This is a miracle in itself when you consider the six miles of ropes and cables that are hanging "everywhere".

The big top brass band (the program lists Gene Nichols as the musical director) though small did a very fine job of building the excitement before the show began and in giving accurate and timely support to the many acts.

Jimmy James, though listed as the "Boss Clown" (a veteran of almost 20 yrs with C-B) acted as Ringmaster or announcer. An unusually pleasing set of vocal chords on this big gentleman gave the introductions and commentary an almost musical quality. A wonderful warmth and friendliness was communicated by his tone of voice and attitude. He is a real "plus" to the overall performance.

The show began with the big cats under the control of Dave Hoover, successor to the late Clyde Beatty and himself a veteran of over 20 yrs in the great steel cage. Using about 4 or 5 Bengal tigers (beautiful) and 4 or 5 lions, he moved them thru a short but effective routine that combined a little comedy with the acrobatics. There was nothing "sensational" about the routine, but the people were satisfied. Hoover handles himself

(Continued on Page 21)

FOR SALE

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Performer shows two gleaming, chrome metal whistles. When one is tooted, the other jumps two feet in the air. Performer explains that the whistles will also jump invisibly. One whistle vanishes and travels to performer's pocket. Easy to do and tons of laughs. \$3.00

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NOTE: All the above comedy magic effects are suitable for Clowns, Emcee's, Comedy Jugglers and Magicians. All may be used as basis for two person skit. Price includes First Class Postage.

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REPORT

THE DANBURY FAIR

Magician Harry Albacker and Col. Jerry Lipko completed the Danbury Fair on Columbus Day. The total attendance at this year's fair was well over 400,000 and the two entertainers pulled excellent crowds to the Orange Bowl Theatre at the 1979 fair.

Lipko's assistant, Greg Demmel, had an accident when he slipped off the stage while performing in the rain and was hospitalized. Albacker stepped in and did the announcing for Jerry Lipko for the remainder of the ten day engagement. Lipko and Albacker both did 60 shows in the

BILLY BARTON (Continued)

babies . . . they're not very pretty, all red and wrinkled and AMBER is all nose and black hair (he sez) and all she does is cry and you-know-what. . . Herta Cuneo agrees that baby bears are cuter and easier to care for at that early age. Thank God, I wouldn't know (about either).

SEE you down the road, luvs.

ten days at the fair. Many of the shows were in the rain with crowds sitting in rain coats and holding umbrellas.

Albacker also appeared in the daily street parade which was held rain or shine.

Greg Demmel will rejoin Jerry Lipko and his Comedy Chimps at New Orleans late this month.

BEATTY-COLE REVIEW (Continued)

with authority and enthusiasm which the people sense and appreciate.

Between each set of acts of course came the clowns. Most of the sketches were new to me. This you can't say of some of the larger indoor shows. I was very pleased to see new comedy material by what appeared to be a crew of younger clowns. I understand that one is only 19 yrs old. They did a fine job at each appearance.

By the way, I heard all over town, glowing reports of the work of advance clown Elmo Gibbs. He really had helped advanceman David Hundley pull the crowd in.

Next followed the Aerial Cradle with the Flores Duo and the Aerial Perch with the Ferreria Duo. Both enjoyed by the crowd.

Then all three rings were filled with jugglers. Mlle. Angela and Mike Williams, with the Haucks in the center ring. All performed standard type routines but the Haucks showed that the years of practice and experience they have has lifted them a little above the competition.

One of the "classiest" looking acts of the entire show was up next in Trevor Bale's High School Equines. Three really beautiful horses and two carriages filled the three rings with their various manoeuvres. One of the highlights of the evening was when they turned on the lights to the carriage wheels and riggings. This beauty brought "oohs" and "ahs" from the audience. The girls (I think they were Col. Bale's daughters) who exhibited two rings, had what appeared to be "genuine" smiles on their faces that gave the impression of real love for the animals and for the audience. This act came closest to the Las Vegas type of beauty and class.

More acrobatics followed with the Romeros Duo and Julio and Antonio, with head perches.

The plate spinners have a way of capturing the enthusiasm and participation of the crowd as all who have seen it know. They were Walter and Ingrid (Haucks) and the Ruwills.

Semon's Chimpanzees followed with well costumed and routined performances. "Outstanding comedy" and the "spectacular" were missing but nevertheless good entertainment with a quality "look" to it.

We were brought up to the Intermission time by the Aerial Ladders in Ring 1 and 2, with the Revolving Trapeze by Marie Christine in Ring 2.

The clowns did a lively business selling coloring books during intermission. They also graciously autographed the books and bantered with the kids in a relaxed, friendly manner. Nice people. The second half was excitingly kicked-off by the

Alvarez Troupe on the flying trapeze. Beautifully costumed and enthusiastic in appearance, they gave a short but thorough demonstration of the art. Headed by father, Raul (he must have a 48" set of shoulders and 22" hips - unbelievable) and working with precision catcher DeWayne Pittenger, young 12 yr. old son Martin has perfected the elusive Triple Somersault. I understand that he is the youngest flyer in the world to perform this. The Flying Trapeze is probably the predominate image that folks have of the circus so this act was very well received - deservedly so!

Some of the more impressive costumes of the evening were worn by the next two acts; the Apollos in Ring 1 and Hans and Sigrid in Ring 3 - both with the Adagio - well performed.

One of the favorites of the evening was Johnny Welde and his Russian bears. These 700 lb plus bruins (2 browns and one Himalayan) delighted the crowd with dancing, a bicycle-built-for-two ride, driving a motorized car and finally an incredible ride on a regulation-type motorcycle, by the Himalayan black. The act has an exciting end when the bears appear to run away from their trainers - but instead of racing into the audience as it seems they will, they run over and open their own cage doors and jump in. A delightful climax to a big act!

The Cloud Swing with Miss Bonnie and the head balance trapeze with Senor Valdez follow.

Then the ever-favorite teeterboards fill all three rings with the Estradas in Ring 1, the Martin Trio (Alvarez family) in Ring 3, with Orlando and Celina (plus daughter) in Ring 2. Orlando and company were especially good.

The climax of the show was the performance by 9 of the 13 elephants with C-B. Trained by Capt. Fred Logan and displayed by him and several young ladies, they moved gracefully through a series of stunts that really pleased the audience. Their finale is by racing, in line, out of the rings on one side of the tent, half-way around to the other side of the tent where they stop and form a line with each successive elephant with his front legs on the back of the elephant in front of him. This happened right in front of me - less than 5 feet away. It was so frightening to the lady sitting next to me that she almost turned over our set of connecting chairs. An exciting end!

Two last impressions: first, I was tremendously impressed with the efficiency of the support crew - the Roustabouts. Not only did they do everything right - at the right time - but they also acted as if they were really enjoying what they were doing. I don't know how manage-

(Continued on Next Page)

REPORT

COOL CIRCUS . . . by Pat Bissonette

The Minneapolis-based Jose Cole's International Circus played two performances at Anoka, Minn fairgrounds on Oct. 13th. The two hour show had plenty of high-powered acts, the hardy ones performed in regular wardrobe, while others appeared in jeans and sweaters in the 42 degree temperature, with wind velocity of 15 mph.

Music was by Leo Machitto, leader/cordovox, Lenny Pink on drums, with Roy Pratt, the MC and magician. The audience was treated to pre-show rousing circus tunes by Elinor Davison on a Tanglely air calliope, owned by Gary Davison who was on the front door. Alice and Jeff Cole were on concessions.

Displays were: Frank & Estreleta (Clark), aerial head balance; Bridgette & Petey, sword dagger balance; Carol, Shane and Wayne Wainwright, trampoline; The Skating Diamonds (Hansen), roller skaters; Joyce Rice, lariat, whips and baton twirling; Diana, foot juggling; The Bertini Duo, low wire, with Valla assisting; Erna's chimps; The Clarks, aerial perch; Roy Pratt, magic; Carol, trapeze; Unicycles; Ethel Jennier's Greyhounds; Acro-Disco; Aerial act by Francaroro; the Hawthorn Elephants presented by Wade Burck.

A ten minute intermission split the presentation and the P.A. system was good and clear. The acts gave their best to jacket and blanket covered three-quarter houses.

Upon inquiring "Sitting thru a circus in this weather?" I got a, "It's no different than a football game."

Tickets were \$3 for adults and \$2 for children, It is producer Jose Cole's fifth season, and dates preceding this spot were Virginia, Bemidji, Thief River Falls, with Worthington to go. All were outdoors in Minn.

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BEATTY-COLE REVIEW (Continued)

ment makes them feel and act so much a part of the show, but that joy and enthusiasm is sensed by the crowd and I know it must be deeply appreciated by the other performers. These in the support crew are a vital part of the show and deserve much credit.

Second, the heavy emphasis on Las Vegas type "pagentry" of some of the indoor shows was missing. I appreciated this. Frankly, I felt as if I was witnessing a circus the way they were many years ago.

The Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus is really worth experiencing. I feel this crew, under the direction of Jerry Collins, Tim Stinson, John Pugh, and Edna Antes, are bringing back to American children (and adults) an exciting form of entertainment that was almost lost in this TV age.

To the 150 performers and to the 75 to 100 support partners in the Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus, I say, "Thank you and may the Lord richly bless you!"



MEL HALL visited the Houston, Texas, Shrine Circus on Sept. 12th.

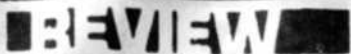
PAUL LUCKEY, former ringmaster at the Circus World Museum in Baraboo, was hospitalized early this month with pleursy. Letters from his many friends should be addressed to: 115 - 5th St., Baraboo, Wisc. 53913.

JACK FRANKLIN visited the Big John Strong Circus at Gilroy, Calif., earlier this month, and reports the show was sponsored by the Police.

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BANQUET

The Second annual Banquet sponsored by the Rudynoff Tent CFA and Rudynoff Ring CMB was held at the Reese Fire Hall near Westminster, Md. on Oct. 13th. Banquet Chairman was Charles Amereihn, president of Ring 60.

Following the Invocation by Rev. Carroll R. He-trick, a beautiful new cookhouse flag designed by Barry Gentry and made by Leona and Bill Cope, and their son, Doug, was raised by Randy Adams and Scott Gebhart. The 86 fans, model builders and guests in attendance enjoyed an excellent dinner featuring fried chicken and roast beef.

MC and Tent 127 president, Howard W. "Pete" Adams, Jr. opened the program with the unveiling of a 1936 RBBB poster showing Rudy Rudynoff with his animals. The tent recently acquired the poster from Fred Pfening, Jr. Pete then introduced J. Allen Duffield, CFA National Secretary-Treasurer and James L. Harshman, CFA National Past-President for brief remarks. Both Allen and Jim commented on the excellent participation by Tent 127 and Ring 60 members at the Gettysburg convention last June. Circus Great, Mrs. Erna Rudynoff entertained the audience with her witty and interesting comments about circus life.

The Guest Speaker was Frank O. Felt, former manager of Circus Kirk and the 1979 CFA Convention Chairman. Using the actual sideshow bally from Circus Kirk as a basis, Frank told about the show in a clever and unique presentation. He also stressed the need for routing, management, and publicity before a show even thinks of hir-

ing performers and framing the performance. Frank concluded his remarks with a tribute to Dr. Charles Boas, owner of Circus Kirk, who gave Frank and numerous students the realization of a lifelong dream - the opportunity to troupe with a mud show.

Entertainment was provided by "Dapper Dan" Bonner and Wilma Whitmore of Allentown, Pa. with their excellent "Dondi, the Elephant" act which uses the original elephant costume from the Hunt Circus. The routine was well received by the entire audience.

Following the speakers and entertainment, Robert Weigel, Sr. "The King of Door Prizes" conducted a drawing which enabled everyone in attendance to go home with a souvenir of the occasion. John Paul Roberts, Sr. conducted the raffle drawing.

In addition to the official banquet program, each person received a copy of the new Tent 127 newsletter, "The Equestrian". Edited by David Baruch, the newsletter detailed numerous events including the acquiring of the Rudynoff poster, the upcoming Ring 60 display at the Harford Mall in Bel Air, Md., Nov. 23-Dec. 1, and plans for a new book about the Rudynoff family now in the preparation stages by Kathy and Clark Beurlen. A detailed history of the founding of Tent 127 was also featured.

Following the showing of a film by Dick Hemphill and the opportunity to inspect displays by Charles Amereihn, Kathy and Dick Beurlen, Dick Hemphill, John Paul Roberts, and Bob Weigel, it was "All over and all out" until the next banquet, scheduled for Oct. 11th, 1980.

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