



4th Year

March 31, 1975

Number 13

Cow Palace in Debt

In an exclusive story last week, the Oakland (Calif.) Tribune reported that the Cow Palace is in financial trouble, despite the fact that since 1967 the State of California has provided some \$4 million in operating subsidies, loans and outright grants to the San Francisco facility.

For three of the past six years the Cow Palace has failed to make its scheduled \$100,000 loan payments to the state. A spokesman for the Cow Palace said they obtained permission to skip loan payments in 1970, 1971 and 1974 because of emergency situations that arose in those years.

The Cow Palace still owes \$497,243 on what was to have been a 10 year, \$797,243 loan from the state, made in 1966. Since then the Cow Palace has paid back only \$300,000 of the principal and \$171,294 of the interest.

Despite its problems Gov. E. G. Brown, Jr., has proposed in his budget that the state now
(Continued on Page 12)

Show Dates

The Gatti-Charles American Continental Circus finished up its pre-Easter tour at Arlington, Texas last week (March 24-26). Business was described as "excellent" with people coming out enmasse at every stand, despite weather that ranged from bright sunny days to rain, duststorms, hail, wind and even snow.
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great tax dodges

The Los Angeles Times

ORANGE, Calif. — Income tax deadline is nearing, and if you have an elephant that earns money you should remember to depreciate him.

That goes for your lion, dog, horse, monkey, ostrich or just about any other animal that somehow or other brings in a little cash.

"It's amazing how many people overlook the tax benefits they can get from their pets, under the proper conditions," said Mrs. Grace Rados, a tax consultant who specializes in the rather esoteric field of animal write-offs.

She thinks she is one of maybe two or three such specialists in the entire country, because she has clients from all parts of the United States, some of whom make flying trips from other states to see her.

"It's kind of funny how it works out sometimes," Mrs. Rados said. "A few years ago, a couple in San Diego bought a Chihuahua dog and taught it a few tricks.

"Quite by accident, or at least with no planning or effort on the couple's part, the dog came to the attention of a pet food manufacturer and was hired to make some television commercials.

"And some similar unplanned events brought them to me. Well, we depreciated that little dog."

It was estimated he had a working life of about one year,

but they figured out the depreciation on a five-year basis.

"The dog cost \$185, so we got a \$37-a-year depreciation on him," Mrs. Rados said. "Then they bought him a special little house with carpeting and everything for \$52; it cost about \$650 a year to feed him, and there were vet bills and transportation to the TV studio. Well, they got enough credits to have a good effect on their tax return — and they were both working people."

Mrs. Rados' involvement with the animal side of tax forms came about quite naturally. For a number of years she was a trick rider on the rodeo circuit, and soon learned that her own horses, as well as the horses and cattle used by the cowboys, were perfectly legal tax-deductible items.

The trouble was in finding a sympathetic financial consultant or certified public accountant who could grasp the possibilities. So in 1951, she left the rodeo circuit and joined her former husband in the tax business in San Diego.

"By 1963, when I went back on the circuit for a couple of years, I had 5,000 clients with animals,"

she said.

Mrs. Rados, a native of Oklahoma, and her daughter, Lori, recently opened an office for Quigley and Co., Inc., income tax service in Orange. In addition to regular services, her animal-owner clientele includes a number of cowboys who are regulars on the rodeo circuit; a group of Mexican cowboys, members of the California Charro Assn.; and individual owners of elephants, lions, a jaguar, tigers, ostriches, monkeys, skunks, dogs and cats, plus an Orange County man who has a trained bear.

"A lot of other people with working animals just don't seem to realize the benefits they can get," she said. "For example, a couple might buy their little girl a horse, and she enters gymkhanas, and goes on to professional-amateur shows, for which her parents pay entry fees.

"Maybe she picks up a couple of cash prizes. Her folks may not know it, but right then they are probably eligible for some write-offs, like entry fees, transportation, feed and so on."

Show Guests

Recent visitors to the Wallace & Rogers Circus include: Tom Upton, Harry Ellis, the Amazing Monahans, the Twomey Family, Tommy Bentley, Charles Mason and Lyle Scott.

lots of traveling time

Dave and Judy Twomey, owners of the Happytime Circus, had a busy day on March 19th. Early that morning they made a 125 mile trip from their home to Sacramento, with some of their show equipment, then drove back to catch the Wallace & Rogers Circus, which was playing at Healdsburg (Calif.).

They were guests of the Hartzell family and report "this is one of the best small show's we've seen - bar none." Full houses were reported for both performances.

Later that day they made a second trip to Sacramento, this time taking along the tent and additional equipment for their own upcoming engagement at the California capitol. After arriving in Sacramento they visited the George-Matthews Circus, at the Arden Shopping Center.

This was followed by a return trip home, after which Dave and Mike headed for a special engagement in Concord, where Judy and Kenny joined them on Friday evening. By Sunday night the whole family was enroute to their Sacramento engagement.

The Wallace & Rogers Circus program features:-

- Cradle act
- Bird act - five macaws
- Hi-Fi, the clown and motor bike
- Aerial web
- Magic and illusions
- Intermission --
- Trampoline
- Clown - camera number
- Loop-the-loop
- Clown - playing golf
- The circus elephant
- Human Yo-yo

SEND CARDS

Circus enthusiast Bernard Carroll recently suffered a severe heart attack and needs a great deal of encouragement. He would appreciate hearing from circus folks and friends.

Send cards to: Bernard Carroll, 2209 Mt. Vernon St., Waynesboro, Va. - 22980.

In Memoriam

RALPH SMOOT, died at University Hospital in Birmingham, Ala., on Feb. 20th, from injuries received while changing a tire.

He was a performer with the Hall-Christ Side Show, which is touring with Circus Vargas. He had been with side shows for many years and toured with numerous shows.

HISTORICAL FACT

Bird Millman, tight wire artist, appeared at San Francisco in the Orpheum Theatre the week starting March 5, 1911.

ALL NEW HAMID-MORTON ...by RON PERRY

Paulette and I are currently with the Hamid-Morton Circus and we have a show that is certainly being well accepted at all stands. We'll be out until June 22nd and the program features:-

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CLOWNS

Clowns appearing with the M&M Circus at Rochester, N. Y., on Feb. 19-22 included: --

Jimmy Douglas, producing; Vern Woerner, assistant; Herb Chambers, June Dewsbury, Ernie Lanterman, Mike Kinnamon, Mike Klucker, John McKay, Buck Nolan, Chuck Sateja and Antar Wazzan.

PEOPLE

RAYMOND DUKE is working advance for Fisher Bros. Circus this year. The show's manager is JIM DAVIS.

BOB THAIN and DAVE JOHNSON (circus promoters) were guests of SID and MATT KELLNER when the George Matthews Circus played at Campbell, Calif.

POPSICLE, the Magical Clown, has been working dates in Louisiana for the Minute Man Restaurants.

Spec - "The Animal Train"

Bill Golden - tigers

Miss Pauline and Miss Yolanda

-- trapeze

Miss Herta - white tiger riding an elephant

The Perrys and The Andrews - juggling

Clowns - producing clown is Dime Wilson

Mixed Display - Spanish dressage with El Cid and Miss Barbara, baby elephants shown by John Cuneo

Aerial web features Wanda Ward
The Clowns

Moore's Mess of Mutts

The Clowns

Klauser's bears

-- Intermission --

The Flying Armour's

The Clowns

Mixed Display - Andre & Andre on teeterboard; Rianos Duo on slack wire; The Bisbinis on unsupported ladders

Beeswax, the Mule

Reginnie Duo - aerial cradle

The Aerial Amazons - double trap

John Cuneo - elephants

The Clowns

Hugo Zacchini's cannon act

Grand Finale

DWIGHT MOORE had his dog act at the Junior Grand National feature at the Cow Palace (San Francisco) on March 24th.

Fisher OK In Texas

by
M. L. Dupont

For its first month of the current season the Fisher Bros. Circus played to straw houses for half of its engagements, with attendance at the other dates being well above what could be considered average. From Feb. 13 to March 13, the show played 26 towns, presenting a total of 52 shows, with but just two days off.

Weather during the month was very good, with sunny but cool days. Rain fell on the show only twice during that period, and both times it was during set-up or tear-down time and not during a performance.

The show is using a 70 ft round top with one 40 ft center section, which is capable of seating 1200 people. They are traveling on eight show owned trucks, plus some trailers. The side show is a 30 x 50 ft square end top; the cookhouse is a 20 x 20 ft top and the marquee is 20 x 30 ft.

The show equipment consists of:--

- No. 10 - Pole truck and seats
- 20 - Canvas spool
- 40 - Snake show - pulls a sleeper unit
- 50 - Cook house - pulls the office/concession
- 60 - Elephant/lead stock
- 80 - Hippo (Ava)
- 90 - Light plant/sleeper
- 100 - water tank/stake driver pulls side show unit

The numbering system allows for the additional of new units at any time. With the show trucks and trailers this is an impressive layout for a small circus.

PEOPLE

THE MONAHANS (risley act) recently worked a date for the Oakland (Calif.) Shrine Club.

DAVID ROSAIRE is currently appearing at the MGM Hotel in Las Vegas (Nev.) with his mixed group of animals.

BOB GRAY (Circus Fan) is currently on tour with the Freedom Train show.

The circus program has:--

- Spec - "Spangleland on Parade"
- Don Jose - cloud swing
- Sargent Eddie - Military ponies
- The Clowns
- Joe & Gloria - juggling
- The Clowns
- Miss Diane - swinging ladder
- Brownie Silverlake - monkey
- The Clowns
- Don Jose - anchor perch
- Peanut Pitch
- Miss Gloria - Spanish web
- The Clowns
- Miss Diane - Canine revue
- Sargent Eddie - trained llama
- Single elephant

ROUTES

Allen's Pet Zoo
 April 2-6 Salinas, Calif.

Hubert Castle Circus
 Mar. 31 Pendleton, Oregon
 April 6 Watertown, S. D.

Hubert Castle Circus - Red Unit
 Apr. 3-12 Columbus, Ohio

Circo Americano
 to Apr. 6 Mayaguez, P. R.

Circus Vargas
 April 1 Ontario, Calif.
 2 Barstow
 3-8 Commerce

Clyde Bros. Circus
 Mar. 27-29 Tampa, Fla.

L. N. Fleckles Circus
 Mar 27-Apr 6 Freeport, L.I.

Gatti-Charles Amer. Cont'l
 April 5 Albuquerque, N.M.

Hamid-Morton Circus
 Mar 31-Apr 5 Wilkes Barre, Pa

Hanneford Circus
 Mar. 31 Salisbury, Md.
 Apr. 3-5 Wagner College, NY

Happytime Circus
 April 3-6 Santa Rosa, Cal.

Holiday Hippodrome
 Mar. 31 Elmira Heights, NY
 Apr. 1 Rome
 2 Watertown
 3 Auburn
 4 Lewiston
 5 Jamestown
 5 Erie, Pa.

Holiday Hippodrome (Continued)
 April 6 Salamanca, N.Y.

Hoxie Bros. Circus
 Mar. 31 St. Augustine, Fla.
 April 1 St. Marys, Ga.
 2 Jesup
 3 Sylvania
 4 Orangeburg, S. C.
 5-6 Florence

Kaye Continental Circus
 April 3-6 Syracuse, N. Y.

Emmett Kelly Jr. Circus
 Mar. 29 Providence, R. I.

Mid-America Circus
 April 1-2 Albuquerque, N.M.
 4-5 Midwest City, Okla.
 6-7 Tulsa

Polack Bros. Circus
 April 3-5 New Orleans, La.

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit
 to Apr. 6 Washington, DC

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit
 to May 26 New York City, NY.

Sells & Gray Circus
 March 31 Perry, Fla.
 April 1 Apalachicola
 2 Fort Walton Beach
 3 Milton
 4 Daphne, Ala.
 5 Bayou La Batre
 6 Ocean Springs, Miss.

Shrine Circus
 Mar. 27-29 Tampa, Fla.

Tigris Temple Shrine Circus
 Apr. 3-6 Syracuse, N.Y.

Wallace & Rogers Circus
 April 4 Lodi, Calif.

ROUTES

Wallace & Rogers Circus
 April 4 Lodi, Calif.
 5 Tracy
 6 Manteca

.... OTHER ROUTES

Ice Capades (Eastern Unit)
 Mar. 27-30 Kansas City, Mo.

Ice Capades (Western Unit)
 Mar. 26-30 Halifax, N.S.

Hobby Show
 Apr. 4-6 Oakland, Calif.

Longhorn Rodeo
 Apr. 4-6 Roanoke, Va.

The Magic Show
 to April 19 Cleveland, Ohio

Royal Lipizzan Stallion Show
 Mar. 31 Jackson, Tenn.

Miscellaneous

Some 25 members of the Felix Adler CFA Tent, of Princeton, N.J., attended the Ringling-Barnum Red Unit's opening performance at New York City on March 25th.

Disney On Parade has no units on tour in the U.S. but they do have a unit touring in South America and one in the Far East.

The American Revolution Bicentennial Administration has granted official recognition to



The above picture of Milonga Cline was taken on Russell Bros. Circus in 1941. The dog was one used in an act presented by Jorgen M. Christiansen.

the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus Bicentennial program, which will be toured in 1975 and 1976.

The CFA Convention at Providence, R. I., is set for May 24-26

New Law Can Hurt SHOWS

A law that has already gone into effect in many American cities could be the death blow to outdoor advertising for circuses and other special attractions who depend on this sort of thing to bring out crowds. The law, aimed at making a city beautiful, is the one that prohibits business firms from displaying signs at their establishments, other than the name of the business. Even then the sign can only be a small percentage of the total store front.

According to some the law will prevent super markets from advertising their specials by means of window signs, service stations will be unable to display signs that offer their special services, and so it goes. This means it could become virtually impossible for circuses to find a suitable location for placement of their window cards, lithos and that sort of thing.

Just this past week, at Tequesta, Fla., a resident was fined for displaying a "For Sale" sign on his camper, which was parked in his own driveway.

At Gainesville, Fla., billing had just been completed by Art "Doc" Miller, when officials ordered it taken down. A special permit is required for this type of advertising and, says Miller, it was just luck that our sponsor was one that could jump on City Hall and get some action.

Several cities are also passing laws that prohibit door-to-door advertising of any type. This idea seems to be backed by newspapers who feel it infringes on their advertising programs. It could result in the stoppage of door-to-door mailers and any other type of advertising that

shows put out.

So zealous are some of the do-gooders that they have even cut down billboards and other advertising mediums, which have been costly to the advertiser and those who select the sites for billboards, etc.

Since most laws are enacted quietly, without publicity, it is important that every citizen remain alert and help to defeat these silly and often pointless rules and regulations.

Less you tend to scoff at the idea, consider the animal control laws that are causing so many problems. Even the man who introduced that bill says he did not mean that circuses would be lumped into the bill, as are dealers, zoos, etc. Yet, they are and he does nothing to help amend the bill.

The Four De Kock Bros (balancing act) played the Charles Theatre in San Francisco the week of March 5, 1911.



The above picture was taken on Russell Bros. Circus in 1942 and was used as a publicity stunt, with show girls giving the elephant a bath in Oakland's (Calif.) Lake Merritt.

Takes Tumble

The famous Ziegfeld Follies elephant "Ziggy" fell into the moat at his Brookfield Zoo (Chicago) home on March 23rd. Keepers had to build a gravel ramp so the huge animal could be pulled to safety.

Zoo officials reported the seven ton elephant was lifted to his feet with the aid of two big

cranes. He remained calm and was immobile, zoo director Peter Crowcroft said.

Ziggy apparently was reacting for something when he fell into the 10 ft. deep moat. He was wedged in on his left side for 8½ hours while workers cooled him with water, fed him apples and encouraged him to get up on his own.

School Show Dates Completedby JOHN LENKER

The Big John Strong Circus finished its series of school dates in the Redlands-Colton area (Calif.) at a Colton Elementary School with one performance after school on Mar. 18th, then headed north for the 1975 spring season under canvas, where the show played Merced (Mar. 21) and Fresno (Mar. 22-23).

Heavy rains forced the cancellation of some dates since the performances are sidewalled on school grounds.

Important Note!

This issue of Circus Report has been prepared by a friend because I have been unable to do it. My mother is seriously ill and we did not want to miss an issue, so my friend has consented to do this issue and the next few coming up. As a result some news may be delayed, but we trust you will understand.

Don

GATTI-CHARLES (Continued)

At one Texas date (Lamesa) the Gatti-Charles Circus played there on March 17 and was followed on March 18 by the Franzan Bros. Circus and by the Dailey Bros. Circus on Mar. 23.

The anticipated long summer tour will get underway at Albuquerque, N.M. on April 5th, and on April 11th the circus is scheduled to present two shows -- 4:30 and 8 p.m. -- at the fairgrounds in Ventura, Calif.

The show's clown alley this year features Toby Circus Ballantine, Dave Herrington, Mike Davis and Greg Dean. Also

Cheryl Sawyer, an animal trainer from "Born Free" joined the Strong show to handle Baby Neena, replacing William C. Rivers who left to join the Holter show and animal raides at National Orange Show. Cheryl, who has already trained her 3-year old African elephant, a female named "Sambo", imported from Uganda, will present both young elephants in the circus program.

The acts of the final school show will all be seen, with others, on Strong's annual 1975 tour, which includes dates in California before heading east to New York and Canada. They include Pony Drill by Betty Wendany, who also clowns and is MC; trained macaw by Tom Bishop; hand balancing and juggling by Heidi Wendany; audience contest by Betty; Robin and Tom on the tightwire; Betty with balloon gag and hula hoop contest; Heidi comes back with her trained dog act and then a pony, and Cheryl presents the elephants.

appearing with the circus is Rudy Dockey, who presents his European Musical Clown number, his dancing doll and his Basketball Playing Boxer dogs.

CLYDE BEATTY (Continued)



WHILE THE ASSISTANTS ARE BATTLING WITH THE OTHER TIGERS . . .



CLYDE RUNS TO RED'S AID



CLYDE YELLS, AND CRACKS HIS WHIP AT THE BIG CAT . . .



AND GETS TO HIM, JUST AS SNIP CROUCHES TO SPRING ON A WOMAN . . .

(Continued Next Week)

THE COW PALACE (Continued)

loan the Cow Palace \$218,000. Under the proposal the Cow Palace would be granted a three year time extension on the original 1966 loan, and a start on repayment of the new loan would be deferred until one year after the first loan has ultimately been paid off.

The Cow Palace pays interest of 4.43% a year on the original loan, based on the average yield of state investments at the time the loan was made. Interest on a refinanced state loan today would amount to 8.97%. The new loan, proposed by the Governor, would come on top of a one-time, outright grant of \$648,000 given the Cow Palace this year. Last year local assemblymen tried to secure \$292,935 for the Cow Palace, but their efforts were vetoed by former Gov. Ronald Reagan.

The Cow Palace is technically owned by the state and is operated under the same rules as are county fairs. It gets a flat \$250,000 a year in operating subsidies from the state.

The Cow Palace can ask for and get additional outright grants and loans - subject to legislative and executive approval. What it gets depends pretty much on who is in office at the time a request is made.