A.I.P. Offers Help

Representatives of the American Independent Party recently attended a meeting of Southern California professional animal owners and trainers and pledged A.I.P. support in opposing the new state Wild Animal Control Law.

Appearing on behalf of the A.I.P. were Dotty McCurdy, George Shea and Mr. Andreari. The meeting was held at Margaret Holter’s and was attended by over 30 local owners and trainers.

CARSON & BARNES CIRCUS

Circus fans from Des Moines turned out to visit the Carson & Barnes Circus at Oakland (Iowa) reports showman C. C. Day. The show pulled two full houses here and in fact has been doing well this season. They’re playing in small farm towns that haven’t seen a circus in many years.

This year’s program is very good and no doubt is one of the best shows being presented. The (Continued on Page 6)

In addition to the A.I.P. speakers, the meeting featured tape recordings of TV appearances by Kari Jones and Ray Chandler during which they spoke out against the law.

A.I.P. is the first nationally recognized political party to publicly take a stand against this controversial law.

Among those owners and trainers attending the meeting were: Margaret Holter, Bob Kel- (Continued on Page 14)
The Circus Report

William Kay Circus

by RALPH HENDERSON

A group of us, including the youngsters who live at St. Joseph's Childrens Home (Spokane, Wash.) recently visited the Wm. Kay Shrine Circus at Lewiston (Idaho) and had a great time.

They had a nice program with some good come-in numbers. William Kay was the announcer, while John Malet served as musical director. Clown Alley included: Blinko, Bubba Hastings, Al Ross and Joe Sherman.

The Program featured:

- The Yano chimps
- Missouri, the unrideable mule
- Geronomo - sponge dive
- Bisbinis - unsupported ladders
- The Four Dubskys - perch act
- John Cline - liberty horses
- The Jordanas - upsidedown cycle
- Miss Yolanda - single trapeze
- The Royal Hungarians - risley
- John Cline - elephants
- The leaps - over elephants
- Gina's Uncaged leopards
- The Wallendas - high wire.

FOR SALE

SURPLUS ANIMALS

Young camel, halter broke $2250
Dog act with all props $500
High School Horse with a complete routine $450
Young male lion $75

ANIMALAND,
Richmond, Michigan 48062

Phone:
Days (313) 749-5572
Nights (313) 463-1561

CIRCUUS VISIT

The Big John Strong Circus played here in Atlanta (Ga.) for two days (June 19-20) and encountered driving rain and bad winds. The show was set-up on an asphalt lot and looked impressive, but the bad weather kept the crowds small.

Members of the Duggan Brs CFA Tent held a meeting and picnic at the circus (June 19) between shows, sharing the meal with the circus personnel. Those attending included: Mr. & Mrs. Bill Laney; Mr. & Mrs. M. Sullivan; Charlie Hanson; Charlie Campbell; Bob Brisendine; Paul Fitzpatrick and John Cooper.

.... Paul Fitzpatrick

THE CIRCUS REPORT is published every week by Don Marcks, 525 Oak St., El Cerrito, Cal. 94530.

Subscription rates: $5.00 for 6 months, $10.00 per year. (Air mail service $2.00 extra)

Advertising Rates: Minimum ad is $2.50; Quarter Page $5.00; Half Page $10.00; Full Page $20.00
Ready For '75 Season

California has produced its share of circuses and probably will continue to do so for years to come - but a new, one ring, two man circus has appeared this summer.

The circus - none other than Swan Bros. Circus - complete with clowns, trapeze, magic, wire acts, juggling and animals - is real and circusy. It is produced by Mike and Andy Swan, and is no doubt, the only two man show on the road today.

Mike Swan toured with the Fisher Bros. Circus in '74 and also appeared with other shows. He decided, this year, to return home and attend college, his brother was already in school and also had previous circus experience.

So now on weekends and during the summer, Andy and Mike take their Swan Bros. Circus on the road - playing fairs and at shopping centers.

Mike says they do it all - it's hard work, but helps keep the overhead down.

Their program includes:
- Juggling - Andy
- Clown gag - Balloons - Mike
- Trapeze - Mike
- Long Shirt Gag - Andy and Mike
- Plate Spinning - Andy and Mike
- Rola Bola - Mike
- Albino Jargo act - both boys
- Magic - Mike
- Clown Levitation - both boys
- Low Wire - Andy
- Balancing act - Mike
- Juggling - Andy and Mike

PEOPLE

ROGER SMITH, animal trainer, has joined the Clyde Bros. Circus Red Unit. He has taken over the tiger and elephant acts during the absence of ANDRE SKARBECKI.

BOB GOLDEN and CURT NEVIN claim to have the highest sway pole act ever. Their poles are mounted on top of the 300 ft. observation tower at Six Flags Park in Arlington, Texas.

STEVANA SCOTT (aerialist) and SERGE (Landkas) CORONA were recently married.

CHARLIE CAMPBELL reports that PETE CRISTIANI and JAKE (Rosy) ROSENHEIMER are planning to take out their own circus.

BILL HOOPER recently returned to his home in Mesquite (Texas) after attending the CFA Convention in Providence, R.I.

Dog act - Mike
- High wire - Andy and Mike

...... M. L. Dupont
Enthusiastic About Circus

Those who have seen the 1975 Sole Bros. Circus are enthusiastic about the show and in fact have called it "Australia's best big top entertainment."

The circus is said to be clean and neat, both inside and out. The show moves on a minimum number of trucks, which requires compact loading of each unit. The trucks are painted white, with red and blue lettering. Admission prices are $3.00, $4.00 and $5.00.

ACTS SET

Several acts have been set to appear with the Frank Brown's Int'l Circus at Mexico City for the period July 25-Aug. 31.

These acts include: The Nerveless Nocks, Pio Nock Family Stephenson's Dogs, The Dymeks and Pat Anthony's lions and tigers.

sawdust trail

A vacuum cleaner company is using Emmett Kelly, Jr. in its TV commercial. Kelly does an act with broom and spotlight, ending when the vacuum sucks up the light.

Franzen Bros. is back in Wisconsin, after a tour that got started in March, in Texas.

Hunt Bros. Circus has not released its route, but this reporter has learned their 1975 season is fully booked and already they have planned their 1976 tour, with many signed engagements.

This year's program features:
Joseph Eroni - lions (4)
Bobo and Phil Lennon - comedy
Fire Dept. number
Jenny and Jan - swinging ladder
Lindsay Perry and "Mustard" the novelty pony
Mervyn and Phyllis Nairn - performing poodles (5)
Bobo and Phillip - clowns
Carl Harrison - juggling
Joseph Eroni - camels (2) and three ponies
Duo Revelles - iron jaw number
--- Intermission ---
Phillip Lennon - Crazy Muldoon
Miss Susan - rope descent
Bobo and Babs - trampoline
Phil Lennon - whip cracking
Lindsay Perry - liberty horses
Marveen and Phyllis - juggling
Clown Entree
The Revelles - high perch
Clown Entree
Lindsay Perry - elephants (4)

Clown Danny Chapman and his aerialist wife, Sarah, formerly with RBBB, are currently working for the Circus Museum in Florida.

...... M. L. Dupont
Circus Kirk

Circus Kirk 1975 is an experience and a half, especially if you have spent the first half of the season attending the slick professional shows. The back lot is clean and neat, the entire complement - performers and work hands - small and somehow new-looking. Why? Because Circus Kirk is a "student circus," hiring college students with an ambition to travel with the circus.

With three rings this year, they still retain the intimate atmosphere of the early one ring show. The standard ring curb, of the center ring, almost touches the stringers on both sides of the tent. It lends a sense of "immediacy" to what you see.

The most outstanding "difference" with Circus Kirk though is their total determination not to "con" you into thinking you see something that isn't there. In the side show, the more mystifying illusions are explained. The ones, like "The Electric Girl" that any college freshman should be able to figure out are left as exercises for the student.

Perhaps the most noticeable instance of the philosophy of the show is visible in the performance itself. And this may be the show's greatest fault or its greatest strength, depending on your point of view. It is a total lack of "professional polish" among the performers.

There is a universe of difference between being able to accomplish a feat and being able to "perform" the feat to an audience. At the former, few could really fault the Circus Kirk troupe, at the latter, few professionals would consider them unusually talented.

I had the feeling, though, that they could learn if it were called for by the underlying philosophy of the show. "Professional polish" is mostly a matter of making the relatively easy thing look difficult and a relatively difficult thing look easy. It is a matter of being able to generate such an intensity of joy within what you are doing that you are able to project that joy to the audience. But most performers do not find this joy in everything they do, and thus they learn to "fake it"

Circus Kirk is no fake. And I don't feel they would fake it if they could. However, in this new showcase of student talent, one day we may find a gem such as a Lillian Leitzel or an Alfredo Codona. The very reality of their charisma will be all the more exciting against
FOR SALE
RARE OLD CARNIVAL PHOTOGRAPHS
FIRST TIME EVER OFFERED
Two birds-eye photos of the 1931 J. L. LANDES SHOWS on the main streets of Washington, Kans. Shows the entire carnival setup - joints, rides and shows. Taken by a professional.

8x10 enlargements only
Price: $10.00 each or both pictures for $15.00
Allow sufficient time for photo to be made.

"CALLIOPE BILL" GREEN
823 Elk Street
Beatrice, Nebr. - 68310

SHOW TALENT

The program currently being presented by Circus Royale, in Australia, features:

Los Tonaris - balancing act
Clown Entree
Miss Sonia - ladder ballet
Clown Entree
Duo Anthony - high perch
Fraspa - single trapeze
Las Someros - slack wire
Clown Entree
Miss Pearl - solo trapeze
-- Intermission --
Performing group of camels
Clown Entree
The Great Silvanos
Clown Entree
Sandros - plate spinning

CARSON & BARNES (Continued)
music is excellent, with Emil Hahn directing.
The program features:
Circus Spec - Entire company
Donald Carr - lions and tigers
Teresa, Joanna, Irene - loops
Don Carr - lion riding elephant
Ramos Duo and Andreas Duo - jug
Ricci Macias and Alfredo Morales - tight wire
Juan Mendiola - foot juggler
The Circus Clowns
Spec - Around the World
Lucianna, Andreas Ramos, and Rebecca - aerial feature
Morales Family - teeterboard
The Oscarians - risley
Beauty and the beasts
The Circus Clowns
Aerial Ballet
Connors and Wrights - dogs
Rosario - contortionist
Fernando Ramos and Manuel Ramos - one finger stands
The Condorals and The Constellations - tight wire
Riding Ramos Family - bareback
The Circus Clowns - act
Three rings of elephants
Ampara, Rosalba, Magdelene - a hair hang display
Trained miniature stallions
Vincente, Ricci, Roberto, David and Juan - rola bola
The Meteors and The Aztecas - flying acts

Clown Entree
The Flying Royales (Anton Gasser, catcher; Frank Gasser, flyer; Julie Peterson, asst., and Paul Haersany, clown)
When Tex Murray gave up his human-cannonball act after a particularly bad shot and decided to turn his 13-year-old daughter, Dannielle, into a sideshow snake handler, he came to Gibsonton, Fla., where he knew he could get it together. Fred Lulling did the same thing when he gave up a career as a teacher to hit the carnival trail. All winter long, Dannielle has been working out every afternoon after school with a 10-foot, 60-pound boa constrictor in the yard beside her father’s cramped house trailer, while Lulling sits under a tree in another part of town eating fire and perfecting his moves to become “Mephisto.” “You want to learn a sideshow act,” says Murray, “you got to come to Gibtown. There’s no place like it in the country.”

There isn’t. For a half century, seedy little Gibsonton, an unkempt knot of cinderblock buildings and house trailers along U.S. 41 just off Tampa Bay, has been the winter haven of the carny people. They start rolling south in November, when the last of the northern fairs close, an exotic invasion of campers, trailers and trucks piled high with folded midway rides and pulling brightly painted wagons. Until March, they double the town’s population to nearly 5,000, packing the bar at Showtime, U.S.A., or filling the chairs in the Magic Mirror Beauty Salon to swap summer tales of dusty midways and a hundred tiny carnivals.

Here are the sword swallowers and fire eaters, people who keep chimpan-
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Circus Name</th>
<th>July Dates</th>
<th>Locations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Allen's Pet Zoo</td>
<td>9-13</td>
<td>Gilroy, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beatty-Cole Circus</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Portsmouth, N.H.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Laconia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Manchester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Fitchburg, Mass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Worcester</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Holyoke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carden-Johnson Circus</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Wolf Pt., Mont.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Willsington, N.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carson &amp; Barnes Circus</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Slayton, Minn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Glenco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Benson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Glenwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Sisseton, S.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Breckenridge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Phoenix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoxie Bros. Circus</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Camp Hill, Pa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Harrisburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Myerstown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Epharta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Lancaster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>York</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King Bros. Circus</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Springville, NY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Chambersburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Cristiana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Birdsboro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Southampton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>South Hampton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Brockport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Phoenix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lewis Bros. Circus</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Waynesboro, Pa.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Chambersburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Birdsboro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>South Hampton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Southampton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Southampton Lakes, N.J.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pickle Family Circus</td>
<td>4-6</td>
<td>San Francisco, Cal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit</td>
<td>8-16</td>
<td>Houston, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit</td>
<td>8-13</td>
<td>San Diego, Cal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Lip-kan Show</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Long Beach, Cal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10-13</td>
<td>Anaheim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Palace Circus</td>
<td>1-3</td>
<td>Bridgeport, Conn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Royal Rar. Circus</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Webster, NY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Dansville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Caledonia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Dundee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Skaneateles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Minoa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jr. Barnett Shows</td>
<td>9-12</td>
<td>Laredo, Mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Big J. Amusements</td>
<td>8-13</td>
<td>Wheaton, Ill.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence Carr Shows</td>
<td>to 12</td>
<td>Lewiston, Me.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central States Show</td>
<td>9-12</td>
<td>Lebanon, Kans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Century 21 Shows - Blue</td>
<td>11-19</td>
<td>Peoria, Ill.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Century 21 Shows - Red</td>
<td>11-19</td>
<td>Peoria, Ill.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Clapton Shows</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Minneapolis, Minn.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Madison, Wisc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Kansas City, Mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>St. Louis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Indianapolis, Ind.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Continental Shows</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>Plattsburgh, NY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cumberland Valley Shows</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>Scottsboro, Ala.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dell &amp; Travers Shows</td>
<td>9-19</td>
<td>Glen Burnie, Md.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James H. Drew Shows</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>Vincennes, Ind.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evans United Shows</td>
<td>10-13</td>
<td>Waukon, Iowa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foley &amp; Burk Shows</td>
<td>to 13</td>
<td>Pleasanton, Cal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fun City Amusements</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>Ontario, NY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goodings Midway</td>
<td>11-19</td>
<td>Bangor, Me.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great Catskill Fair</td>
<td>to 13</td>
<td>Monticello, NY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Happyland Shows</td>
<td>7-12</td>
<td>Tomah, City, Mich.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circus Kingdom</td>
<td>July 1</td>
<td>Gene Autry, Okla</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circus Vargas</td>
<td>July 7-8</td>
<td>Waukegan, Ill.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9-10</td>
<td>Benton, Mich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Mason</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12-14</td>
<td>Mt. Clemens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dailey Bros. Circus</td>
<td>July 2</td>
<td>McCall, Idaho</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diamond S. Rodeo</td>
<td>July 7</td>
<td>Asbury Park, NJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Hazelet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Carteret</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europorama</td>
<td>July 7</td>
<td>Fargo, N.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Watertown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Sioux Falls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Sioux City, Iow.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Omaha, Nebr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Council Bluffs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Des Moines, Iwa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Happytime Circus</td>
<td>July 9-14</td>
<td>Novato, Calif.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rudy Bros. Circus</td>
<td>July 9-13</td>
<td>Minneapolis, Minn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schmidt Circus</td>
<td>July 10-11</td>
<td>Browerville, Minn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12-13</td>
<td>Miltone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sells &amp; Gray Circus</td>
<td>July 7</td>
<td>Janesville, Wisc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Whitewater</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Menomonee Falls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Watertown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Port Washington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Sheboygan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Fond du Lac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Strong Circus</td>
<td>July 7</td>
<td>Richmond Hghts, Oh.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8-9</td>
<td>Cleveland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>10-11</td>
<td>Buffalo, NY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>13-14</td>
<td>Mississauya, Can.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wenatchee Youth Circus</td>
<td>July 5</td>
<td>Lake Chelan, Wash.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Richland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Happyland Shows</td>
<td>July 7-12</td>
<td>Travers City, Mich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. H. Harden Shows</td>
<td>July 7-12</td>
<td>Canton, NC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kramien's Magic Capades</td>
<td>July 7</td>
<td>Great Falls, Mont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>11-12</td>
<td>Missoula</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magnolia State Shows</td>
<td>July 8-13</td>
<td>Canton, Miss.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-South Shows</td>
<td>July 7-12</td>
<td>Calvert City, Ky</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Millers Great Shows</td>
<td>July 10-13</td>
<td>Union, Mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reithoffer Shows</td>
<td>July 8-12</td>
<td>Trumansburg, NY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8-12</td>
<td>Baltimore, Md</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru Circus Festival</td>
<td>July 11-12</td>
<td>Peru, Ind.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rose City Rides</td>
<td>July 9-12</td>
<td>Clarence, Mo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tip Top Shows - Blue</td>
<td>July 10-13</td>
<td>Two Rivers, Wisc</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**.... OTHER ROUTES ........**

| American Freedom Train | July 11 | Grand Rapids, Mich |

---

*Note: The above text is a snapshot of a Circus Route Map for the month of July, listing various circuses and their itineraries across the United States.*
The Circus Report

CARNIVAL (Continued)

zees and lions, and one man who exhibits a menagerie of two-headed calves, extra-limbed farm animals and fur-covered chickens. A few sly-eyed pitchmen mix in with the sign painters, gypsy mechanics and concessionaires, with their stocks of buttons and posters and banners and plastic jewelry. Here, too, the freaks—those unfortunates who could find no other work but to exhibit their bizarre bodies—have chosen to live together for half the year in a community that barely notices their specialness.

Eddie's Hut: It all began one winter in 1924 when Grace and Eddie LeMay—who had been running cook houses on carnival midways—stopped along the Alafia River to do a little chub fishing. They liked it, built a restaurant called Eddie's Hut, and invited down their friends, who were all carnival people themselves. Soon, the carnis were making annual pilgrimages to Gibtown, as they called it, and a small seasonal community of tents and trailers and leaning, slapdash houses sprouted around Eddie's place.

In those days, sideshows were heavy with performing freaks, and so the population of Gibstonon began to grow curiouser and curiouser. Al Tomaini the 8-foot giant came and built a fishing camp; he was followed by Col. Caspar Balsam, the midget; "Happy Dot" Blackhall, the 602-pound "fat lady," and the tiny Tracey couple, a pair of midgets who traveled with a collection of dwarf cattle. Soon, pinheads, legless acrobats and men with clawed limbs were settling in, because it was a place where they could be with their own. Some, like Percilla and Emnet Bejano, married and appeared as "The Monkey Lady and the Alligator-Skinned Man." (Long, black hair covers her face and body; most of his skin is layered in scales.) "Why, you never thought anything about seeing a man with no legs or a lady with a beard," says Grace LeMay, now 81 and something of the town's first lady. "They were just plain folks and this was their hometown." Down at the post office, in fact, the postmaster built a tiny desk to serve the dwarfs.

Sealo: A lot of that has changed in the last few years. Al the Giant, who ran the volunteer fire department, is dead and so is Colonel Casper, who served as town constable. Happy Dot and Bobby Jean Taylor, who once worked the sideshows billed as the Dog-Faced Woman, both are gone too. Others have quit. Stanley Berent, 72, who was billed as Sealo the Seal Man for 52 years because of the tiny, flipper-like hands that grow out of his shoulders, lives in a tiny retirement cottage behind the Showman's Club. Not far away is the home of Johann Peturs-son, another 8-footer who left the business a few seasons ago.

This month, as the carnis begin their northward trek, there will be only seven sideshows, with less than twenty freak acts among them. And some will be buttressed by newcomers like Dannielle Murray and Fred Lulling, normal people doing freaky stunts. "With the advances in medical science," says Ward Hall, who has packaged sideshows for 31 years, "it's difficult these days to find new freaks."

'My Own Way': Those that remain, like the Bejanos, who have been at it 50 years, are fiercely independent and react angrily to pity. "I have made my own way," says Percilla Bejano.

But even as the freaks pass into an unmourned history, Gibstonon will remain a carny town. Two factories to build and repair thrill rides have sprouted on the edge of town, and there are new shops to handcraft carnival games. A degree of permanence has come about. There is a new elementary school and some folks are even beginning to discuss incorporating Gibstonon as a village. And though few appear to have become wealthy in the sideshow game, the enterprising carny folks do keep trying. If all goes well this summer, Lulling, 28, will swallow fire all over the country for Ward Hall. And Tex Murray will open an act called "Dannielle and the Silent Killers of the Jungle."

—WILLIAM SCHMIDT

Newsweek, April 7, 1975
The above picture was taken at Scranton, Pa., on June 22, 1938, it shows workmen dismantling the Ringling-Barnum Circus in preparation for its trip back to winterquarters after the show folded because of a strike, when employees refused to take a wage cut.

FOR SALE

VERY REASONABLE

3 Yearling Lions - 2 males and a Female.

Hand-raised and people trained

CALL COLLECT: (505) 873-0708
(505) 266-0969

CIRCUS KIRK (Continued)

this very painfully honest background.

A round of applause for Circus Kirk - playing to full houses (about 1400) on an all-sponsored route. Don't miss it if they hit your town - especially if you are saturated with professional glitter to the point where you take polish for the norm.

Currently touring with the Circus Schreiber in Sweden.

FRANCIS BRUNN, juggler, is...
FOR SALE
--- A COMPLETE CIRCUS ---

Will include approximately two months route already booked in the State of Washington.

First Class equipment for complete outdoor sidewall unit and indoor unit.

Equipment is inter-changeable for either unit. All new this Spring. Built for easy up and down. Meets all codes. Everything needed to open is included.

Will sell complete or separate. Cash Only. Will also sell our animal acts, or book on show.

Two 5000 Watt generators mounted in small wagons with 150 ft. of three wire No. 4 copper cable. Coils in top of wagons. Fire extinguishers.

Six small cage and baggage wagons. Cage wagons are two compartments each, six feet long. Baggage wagons are seven feet long. All on heavy duty wheels.

20 sections of seating. 10 ft. seat boards, 5 high, stringers and jacks are glued and bolted. Stained natural fir.

Eight 40 ft. sections sidewall. Six ft. orange and pink stripe with air vents and blue scallop on both sides.

Junction boxes, lights and poles, extra cable, ring curbs, awnings and lots of miscellaneous equipment and props. Front banner and pictorials.

Antique birch popper, floor model and new Sno Cone machine. Wurlitzer Organ, wardrobe and props for several acts.

Write for list, prices, pictures. Call or come and see it.

CONTACT

ROBERT MOCK - 1776 Dog & Pony Circus
14034 - 24th Ave., South
Seattle, Washington - 98168

Phone: (206) 243-2160
FOR SALE

ANIMAL ACTS FOR SALE, LEASE OR HIRE

Beautiful, oustading Macaw and Cockatoo act. Six birds and all props. Act works 12 minutes mute or 30 minutes taling act. Rollerskate, ride bike, etc.

Dog Act: 7 dogs, some older, some young, very good workers and happy animals. Lots of outstanding tricks. Two double in Jockey dogs.

Ponys: Two small blacks work drill and specialty. One carrys riding animals. One pony, Bay Champion Masterpiece Highlander, started drill, will be good hind-legger. Very good high jumper.

Llama: Works liberty drill on lunge or will work in mixed animal act.

Riding Animals: Jockey Monkey Stumptail Macaque; African Pygmy goat, rides and does hurdles and jumps hoop. Two dogs from dog act also ride.

These animals are all quiet, tame, easily handled and worked and will be sold only to someone who can demonstrate their ability to handle and care for them.

Specially equipped truck and trailer also for sale to haul the above animal acts, with space for living quarters. Truck equipped with stainless cages for animals.

Will sell separately or together. Will not ship.

Write for prices and photos.

CONTACT

ROBERT MOCK - 1776 Dog & Pony Circus
14034 - 24th Ave., South
Seattle, Washington - 98168

Phone: (206) 243-2160
AN ELEPHANT TAKES A WALK

When the Al G. Clark Bros. Circus set up on a vacant lot at Shelley (Idaho) for their June 23rd engagement, they didn't bother to chain down their elephant. As a result "Susie" was free to roam and feed in the open field, but things looked greener elsewhere and so Susie took a walk - to look over the town.

Susie peeped into a bedroom window, dragged a lawn mower through a yard, chewed on various trees and shrubs and helped to trim a few lawns. She was soon discovered and reported to the local police.

Two officers tried in vain to coax Susie back to the circus lot and in fact ended up being dragged across a field. Then when it seemed that the policemen would be unable to cope with the situation a circus man arrived on the scene.

He spoke to Susie, took hold of her ear and they both ran off to join the circus folks who were getting ready to start their performance.

A.I.P. OFFERS HELP (Continued)

Satisfying Show

The first of several shows scheduled to play Indiana during the next few weeks arrived for an engagement at Elkhart on Jun. 17th. This was the always interesting Int'l All Star Circus.

They gave one show, at 7:30 p.m. with the program that ran as follows:--

Color Book Pitch - Popcorn the Clown (Ton Sink)
Circus Overture
Craig Carlson - tumbling
Patti Rucker - foot juggling
Terry O'Brien - wire act
Randon Sink - two baby chimps
Clown number - The Telephone
Hines & Patti Rucker - magic
Craig Carlson - hand balancing
Hines & Patti Rucker - leopards
-- Intermission --
Tom and Randon Sink - dogs (6)
Craig Carlson - ventriloquist
Terry O'Brien - Unicycle act
Clown number - Strativario
Hines & Patti - trunk illusion
Craig Carlson - stilt walking

..... Eric J. Beheim

..... Kaye Scheiman
**W&R Notes**

As of today (July 7) the Wallace & Rogers Circus entered the Northwest Territories - the first circus to ever play this area.

Late last month the show received its custom-made concession trailer. It offers a combination of space for concession equipment, office and ticket window, and living quarters.

The circus also added a new truck for the seals and bird act. It replaces the one that was damaged sometime ago in an accident.

**Send Cards**

Former circus man Ray Johnston continues to be confined to a Southern California hospital and needs your encouragement. Although he is unable to write, he would appreciate hearing from friends in the circus world.

Write to: Ray Johnston, Long Beach General Hospital, (Wing 400) 2597 Redondo Avenue, Long Beach, Calif. - 90806.

Bob Enrico reports his side show has been doing well. He's added a silky chicken to his animal collection and expects new magic to arrive soon.

---

**ACTS WANTED OPENING MICH. SEPT. 10**

APPROXIMATELY 8 WEEKS OR MORE IN MICH.

"Fall Color Tour INDOORS
PREFER ACTS DOING TWO OR MORE SPOTS.
NO DRINKERS - POT SMOKERS OR TROUBLE MAKERS TOLERATED.

REPUTABLE ANIMAL & CIRCUS PERFORMERS WANTED
SEND "RECENT" PHOTOS OF YOUR ACT
STATE YOUR 'LOWEST' ASKING PRICE!
WARDROBE & TRANSPORTATION AND PROPS MUST BE A-1 SHAPE.
DESCRIBE YOUR PERFORMANCE IN FULL DETAIL

MAIL TO

Col. Bill Voorheis

3925 MACKINAW ST. SAGINAW, MICH. 48602