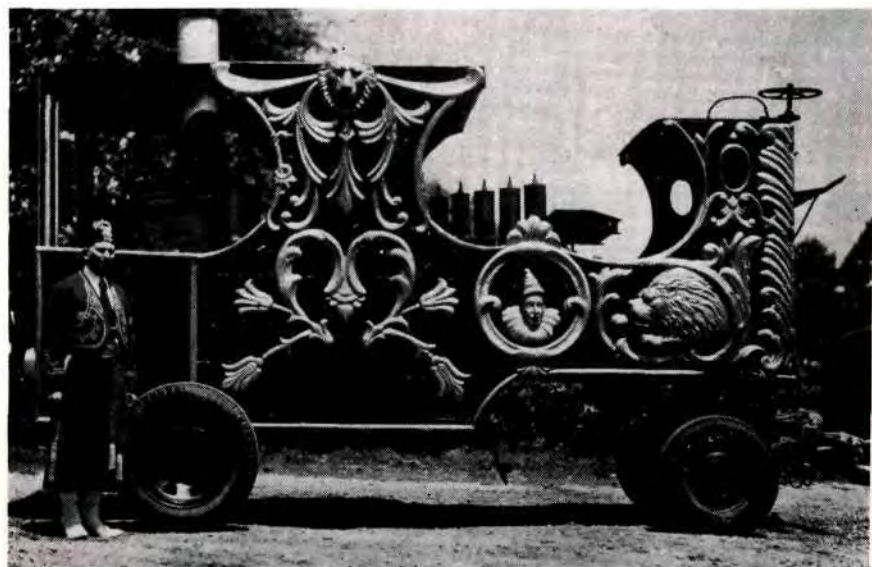


HOBBY

# Bandwagon

AUGUST 1949

15c



Another parade wagon has been saved! Above photo show Dr. C. S. Karland Frischkorn and the Gentry Bros. calliope which he recently purchased and repaired.

— The Circusiana Monthly —

HOBBY

# Bandwagon

122 South Main Street  
Camden, Ohio

AUGUST 1949

Vol. 4 No. 7

HARRY M. SIMPSON  
Editor — Publisher

15c a single copy.  
\$1.00 a year in U. S. A.

Display advertising rates sent upon application.

Permission to copy articles in this Magazine must be secured from both the author and publisher.

## Circus Photos

FROM ORIGINAL NEGATIVES

Many from the Wm. Koford Collection

Partial List Now Ready

## SHANK PHOTOS

Clarence R. Shank  
Member of CHS and CFA

Camden, Ohio

HOBBY-BANDWAGON, published monthly by Harry M. Simpson, Camden, Ohio. Entered as second-class matter at the post office in Camden, Ohio, under the act of March 3, 1879. Printed in U. S. A.

The  
Publisher  
Says



Joseph T. Bradbury of Atlanta, Georgia, writes that during his vacation travels he has located old circus wagons and suggests that if all readers would send in the names and location of the wagons known to them, that this list could be published in the Bandwagon to help others while planning their vacation trips.

I believe Mr. Bradbury has a grand idea and when completed this list would be a valuable directory of circus wagons as well as an asset to circus history. Everyone knows where one or more circus wagons are located today, their names and condition. Send this list to Joseph T. Bradbury, 4315 Wieuca Rd., N. E., Atlanta, Georgia and upon completion, this list will be published as a part of the Hobby-Bandwagon. Don't put this off until tomorrow . . . do it today.

Similar recordings have been attempted, but have died, because someone would say, "I'm not going to send my list as they no doubt have it." This isn't the case and all duplications will be eliminated. This directory can't be complete unless everyone takes part . . . send your list now, so we can enjoy a directory of circus wagons.

Please cooperate with the listing of the old circus wagons . . . you will be doing yourself and others a great favor.

Your Hobby-Bandwagon has been reaching you late and will continue to be late until our lost time can be regained. Every effort is being made to put this magazine back on schedule and until it can be done, please be patient.

Sincerely,  
Harry M. Simpson

# Al G. Kelly & Miller Bros. Circus

"THE SHOW YOU KNOW"

---By Bill Green

Our first impression of the 1949 Al G. Kelly & Miller Bros. Circus might well be compared with that of the farmer in the ancient joke, who upon seeing a giraffe for the first time, loudly exclaimed, "There ain't no such animal!"

For the Al G. Kelly-Miller Bros. Circus of today is something which one must see to believe. That any circus traveling on trucks could offer the public a menagerie of wild animals comparable to that of a railroad circus sounded to us very much like a press agent's dream, even though we had been hearing about it from fans and showmen alike.

After spending a very busy and pleasant day on the lot in Fairbury, Nebraska, June 3rd, we hasten to add our praise to that of the many others whose good fortune it has been to see this circus and to state emphatically that all we have heard is true—and then some! We have never seen anything on trucks that can equal it.

Always known for its clean, attractive appearance on the lot, the show would pass anytime for a railroad circus to the observer, with its long, well-lighted midway, flashy double-decker bannerline and beautifully decorated wagons.

The performance—as always—is good, and this year strengthened by the addition of a number of new acts, all of which results in the strongest and well-balanced performance the Millers have yet offered.

But good as the performance is, it is, in our opinion, the menagerie which is making this circus the "Big One" of the motorized field.

The majority of the animals are in the side show with the exception of the giraffe which is to be seen as a separate attraction on the midway and the eight elephants and some forty horses and ponies which are in the menagerie proper, connecting the big top.

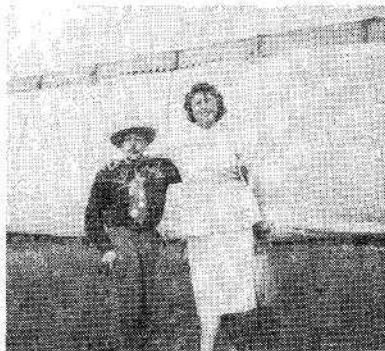
Five huge and well-lighted cages in the side show contain "Miss Oklahoma," the baby hippo, a rhino, tapir, ostriches, several

lions, including a lioness and cubs, a tiger, monkeys and four species of bears. Also two camels, three zebras and a llama. Nobody minds paying 25c to see such an excellent variety of wild animals, which are in the best of condition.

Nor is this all to be seen for one's two bits, for several of the usual side show acts are presented including the always popular colored minstrel band.

We must correct ourselves in using the term usual, for this is not true—each act is of unusual

Next Page, Please



Top Photo—Bill Green, publisher of "Call of the Calliope" and Ione Stevens, concession mgr. Both are members of CHS. Bottom Photo—Evalina Stevens, featured aerialist. —Bill Green Photos.

merit, and much above the average in side show entertainment. Take, for instance, the magic act—truly baffling tricks, presented in a showmanlike manner by a real magician. We have always had a weakness for magic and as a rank amateur we know a little about the gentle art of now-you-see-it now-you-don't, but we'll be frank in admitting that after watching Professor Kuhns no less than three times, we are still scratching our head and trying to figure out how he does those amazing rope tricks.

Mel Lewis, in charge of the side show, "sells" the show so effectively outside that we doubt if second ballys are often necessary.

The big show's performance opens in true circus style with the Grand Entry so loved by every circus fan. After that it is rather difficult to keep track of things the performance moves so swiftly.

Highlights of the show are little Karen Kay Miller, who, besides doing the ladder and rolling globe, now has a single bull act in the center ring, which is proving our prediction of a season or so ago that here is another Circus Star of Tomorrow. Then there is the Gallagher Family—ten brothers and sisters, ranging from 5 years to teen-age—who could, we believe, if necessary, put on an entire circus performance by themselves—feetboard, juggling, trampoline, contortion, riding act—you name it and they will probably be doing it.

Eveliana Rossi, featured aerialist, and lovelier than ever, provides thrills galore doing single traps without a net and also lends her charm to the riding act. We must confess that we were not able to fully appreciate this act since our attention was delightfully diverted a good share of the time by the cute little blonde from the Gallagher troupe who provides the comedy element (ala "Poodles" Hanneford) sometimes from the seats and sometimes in the ring. She is a real show-stopper.

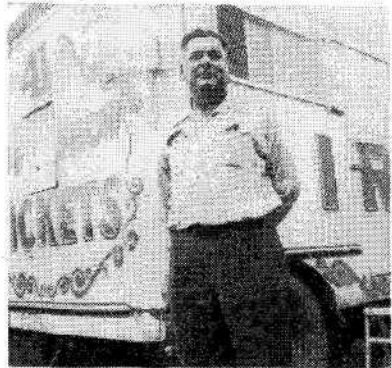
The Mexican troupes—whose names we unfortunately failed to get—provide the excellent quality of wire-walking which only our friends from below the border seem able to acquire so perfectly, while the show's four clowns furnish a variety of non-sensical an-

tics which brings appreciative laughter from young and old alike.

The show is in no way devoid of animal performers—there are dogs, ponies and monkeys; the famous Miller liberty horses, presented by Dorey Miller, and the elephants take part at numerous intervals, climaxing the show with the ever-popular long-mount.

Obert Miller, equestrian director, announces the acts with a style of showmanship, which we have—we regret to say—found sadly missing on many other circuses and the six-piece band, under the capable direction of leader W. A. Stevens, provides an unusually good musical program for the entire show.

It would be difficult to find any real criticism of the performance—which is real CIRCUS from start to finish—and our only sug-



Top Photo—Kelly Miller, co-owner of Al G. Kelly-Miller Bros. Circus. Bottom Photo—Karen Kay Miller, rising star of the circus world.—Bill Green Photos.

gestion would be that more clowns be added as the four with the show, while doing a bang-up good job, seem hardly enough for a show of this size.

In addition to the quality of its show, this organization has always been known for two other things—its courteous treatment of visitors and its complete lack of graft.

We are happy to say that both of these policies still hold good. Notwithstanding the fact that the show is now definitely in the big league, the Millers are still the same friendly, genial hosts that we found them to be when the show was a much smaller one and they were never too busy to extend a welcoming hand or to stop and visit or point out with pardonable pride to something which they thought we might find of special interest.

We also enjoyed a splendid visit with our fellow CHS member on the show—Ione Stevens, who is in charge of all the midway concessions, candy pitch, etc. and just about the busiest girl on the show. We found her small "top" near the back door an excellent headquarters for our stay in the backyard during the matinee and more than a little circus gossip was exchanged between snapshots.

The circus fan who has never seen the Al G. Kelly-Miller Bros. Circus is in for a real surprise when he pays it a visit. We have seen it before, but we are still marveling over "The Show You Know." If you don't know it yet, take a tip from us, it's time you made its acquaintance!

#### STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

Management, etc., of the Hobby-Bandwagon, as required by an act of Congress, August 24, 1912; Hobby-Bandwagon, published monthly at Camden, Ohio.

Owner, publisher, editor and manager, Harry M. Simpson, Camden, Ohio.

Mortgagee: None.

HARRY M. SIMPSON,

Publisher

Subscribed and sworn before me this 6th day of September, 1949.

LOUISE SEMPSON

Notary Public

Does your friend take Hobby-Bandwagon? Tell him about it.

## Circus Articles

July—1949

CHARM—"This Is The Circus" by Inez Whiteley Foster, 7 illus.

TRUE—"Most Elephants Are Respectable People" by Armond Denis . . . HOBBIES—"American Elephant Shrine" by A. Morton Smith, 2 illus. . . .

ACROBAT—(May-June), "Greatest Show On Earth", 39 illus., also "Gem-Gems" by Ray Van Cleef and other articles . . . WHEELS

—(pub. by American Car and Foundry Co.) "Rolling the Circus Train" by Phillip H. Bailey, 5 illus. . . . CORNET—"An Elephant Is His Pulpit", story of Doc Waddell by Morton Barrett . . .

THIS WEEK—"Show 'Em Who's Boss!" by Ken Jones, 4 illus. . . . LIFE, 7-11—"Clowns," 25 illus., 19

are the finest clown color photos ever published . . . BILLBOARD

7-9—"What's In A Title?—Plenty" by P. M. McClintock, fine story with 7 illus., also "Hunt Bros. Circus Real Family Affair" by Jim McHugh, 1 illus.



Advertising Copy For

**Christmas Issue**

must reach this office by

**November 1st**

# The Bandwagon

News and Activities of the  
**CIRCUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY**  
Founded in 1939  
By Don Smith

HARRY M. SIMPSON.....EDITOR

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## NEW MEMBERS

436—Robert Buffenbarger, 1208 W. Mulberry St., Springfield 16, Ohio.  
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438—John W. Swann, P. O. Box 127, Portland, Tenn.  
439—Malcolm D. McCarter, 355 East 6th St., Peru, Ind.  
440—Earl Chevrette, 937 Washington Ave., Escanaba, Mich.  
441—Forrest Brown, R. R. 2, Delphos, Ohio.

Sid Baker, CHS members of Australia, has sent CHS a one pound note to be used to buy flowers for some member in a hospital. This was greatly appreciated by the Circus Historical Society and will make some unfortunate member happy.

## THANKS

Received the post card with greetings from the CHS convention and I hasten to thank all the folks concerned. Believe me, I sure appreciate everybody's autograph and this post card will be placed in my circus album. I note with interest the autographs of most of the CHS officers, and also, that of Chas. H. White, who surely must be the 91 year old lion trainer of P. T. Barnum Circus 1872-78. My what a wonderful old fellow. Another name I note is Henry C. Moeller, builder of Ringling Bros. parade wagons, together with John M. Kelley, author and attorney of the five Ringlings.

Eddie Hawthorne,  
Surrey, England

George L. Chindahl of Maitland, Fla., writes, "John A. Hayward was a pioneer circus man of Illinois. About 1882 or 1883, he had a circus and menagerie, with winter quarters in Pana, Illinois. After running a couple of years he gave up on account of financial losses. He also had a minstrel show. Can anyone supply additional information about this circus?"

## CIRCUS PHOTOS

Postcard size, clear and sharp, in sets ONLY. Returnable if not satisfactory. Ringling Bros., Barnum & Bailey, ranging from 1930 to 1948.

Sparks Circus—8 sets 1927, 28 & 30; Downie Bros., Hagenbeck-Wallace, Robbin Bros., Cole Bros., Dailey Bros., Bailey Bros., Kelly-Miller, Col. Tim McCoy Wild West, Al G. Barnes, "Barnes-Sells-Floto & RB&BB" and Beatty-Russell

I do not exchange sets or sell individual pictures.

**EDDIE JACKSON**

Box 477, Macon, Ga.

# Greenville, Ohio Museum Features Annie Oakley

During June, the Ohio Historical Society opened a beautiful museum in Greenville, the county seat of Darke county.

Annie Oakley was born not far from Greenville, and the Darke County Historical Society has greatly honored her by planning to erect a statue of the world's greatest shot of her time. The monument will be placed in the grove just to the north of the museum.

Annie Fern Swartwout, author of the book, "Missie," an historical biography of her aunt, Annie Oakley, has given or loaned to the museum a room full of pictures, lithographs, guns and many other things that belonged to her famous aunt. Other members of the family have also placed the things they had in the museum for the enjoyment of the public.

The town of Nutley, New Jersey, where the Butlers built a home in 1893, has presented the Historical Society the Church street school building that will be remodeled soon and opened as a museum. The friends of Annie Oakley and her husband, Frank Butler, have given to the museum many things that had been given to them by the Butlers.

Mrs. Swartwout plans to give a number of things to the museum as well. Around the building has already been started a Colonial garden, and next spring there will be growing in the garden, flowers from seeds taken from Annie Oakley's old home garden on Route 12, one mile south of North Star, Ohio.

Members of C. H. S. are always welcome to visit the Greenville Museum, now open to the public.

Little Butch, baby elephant, on the Dailey Bros. circus, died early in July while the show was playing Victoria, B. C.

Chris K. Audibert, CHS 14, of New York City, has been working his way through files of the BILLBOARD and DRAMATIC MIRRORS to compile the history of the Sells-Floto Show. He has been unable through refusal of original owners of the Floto Show to accept publicity to find out their true origin or routes. In an early interview with Tammen, the BILLBOARD states only that Tammen and Bonfil started by purchasing a small dog and pony show, but name of this dog and pony show was not given. It is believed that this was the Busby Bros. Dog and Pony Show. Can any of the readers render Mr. Audibert some assistance. When he completes this task, he will have a stack of photostats to loan or to place in a museum where they can be used by others.

Limited number of back issues of Hobby-Bandwagon available for 20c each postpaid or 10 numbers for \$1.50. Fill those gaps in your files while they last. Hobby-Bandwagon, Camden, Ohio.

## "MISSIE"

The life and times of Annie Oakley, written by a niece of the World's Greatest Woman Rifle Shot.

The author will autograph and mail the book anywhere, price \$3.50.

Supply Limited

28 pictures of Annie Oakley, Frank Butler and Buffalo Bill—\$1.00 each.

Annie Fern Swartwout

Greenville, Ohio

# Where Circuses Wintered In 1903

As taken from the CLIPPER files of Walter W. Tyson

As copied from the New York Clipper "Under The Tents" department—issue dated January 31st 1903.

## Show Winter Quarters

|                             |                     |                                |                     |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Adell's Dog and Pony Show   | Fort Recovery, O.   | Gray's, Jas. N.                | Luverne, Minn.      |
| America's Favorite Pavilion | Concordia, Kans.    | Great Buffalo and Wild West    | Missoula, Mont.     |
| Barr Bros.                  | Easton, Pa.         | Gollmar Bros.                  | Baraboo, Wis.       |
| Bayne's Dog Circus          | Pueblo, Col.        | Goodrich & McLaughlin          | Bridgeport, Conn.   |
| Bailey Twin Sisters         | Urbana, O.          | Gibb's Olympic                 | Wapakoneta, O.      |
| Barlow's                    | South Milford, Ind. | Gaskill's, Col. Frank W.       | Canton, O.          |
| Buchanan Bros.              | Des Moines, Ia.     | Hall & Long's                  | Muncie, Ind.        |
| Busby Bros.                 | Pana, Ill.          | Haag                           | Le Compte, La.      |
| Bonheur Bros.               | Augusta, Okla., Ty. | Hall's, George W. Jr.          | Evansville, Wisc.   |
| Bailey & Sons               | Houston, Tex.       | Harris' Nickel Plate           | Valdosta, Ga.       |
| Barnum & Bailey             | Bridgeport, N. Y.   | Hargreaves                     | Chester, Pa.        |
| Buffalo Bill's Wild West    | In Europe           | Hagenbeck's, Carl              | Chicago, Ill.       |
| Buckskin Bill's Wild West   | Paducah, Ky.        | Hall's Shows                   | Fond du Lac, Wis.   |
| Brott Bros.                 | Milwaukee, Wisc.    | Kemp Sisters' Wild West        | El Paso, Ill.       |
| Barber Bros.                | Portsmouth, O.      | Kennedy Bros.                  | Perry, Okla.        |
| Barker, Asa                 | Terre Haute, Ind.   | Lambrigger's, Gus              | Orville, O.         |
| Bartines', Chas.            | Connersville, Ind.  | Lee Bros.                      | Cranston, R. I.     |
| Colorado Grant              | Oswego, Kan.        | Lowry Bros.                    | Shenandoah, Pa.     |
| Clark Bros.                 | Atoka, Ind., Terr.  | La Place, Mons.                | Cambridge, O.       |
| Carlisle's Wild West Show   | Kansas City, Mo.    | Lemon Bros.                    | Argentine, Kans.    |
| Clark's United Shows        | Alexandria, La.     | Lee's Great London             | Wilkesbarre, Pa.    |
| Cullins Bros.               | Concordia, Kans.    | La Mont Bros.                  | Salem, Ill.         |
| Campbell Bros.              | Fairbury, Neb.      | Main, Walter L.                | Geneva, O.          |
| Conklin's, Pete             | Coney Island, N. Y. | McCormick Bros.                | Gallipolis, O.      |
| Clark's, M. L.              | Alexandria, La.     | McDonald, Walter J.            | Abilene, Kans.      |
| Conkling's, Will            | New Orleans, La.    | Norris & Rowe's                | San Jose, Cal.      |
| Downie's, Andrew            | Medina, N. Y.       | R. Z. Orton                    | Ortonville, Ia.     |
| Dixon, Bowers & Dixon       | Watertown, N. Y.    | Perrin's, Dave W.              | Eaton Rapids, Mich. |
| Dock's, Sam                 | Fort Loudon, Pa.    | Pawnee Bill's Wild West        | Carnegie, Pa.       |
| Dashington Bros.            | Danville, Ill.      | Perry, Frank L.                | Yates City, Ill.    |
| Ely's, Geo. S.              | Belmont, Ill.       | Redan & Hale's                 | Parksley, Va.       |
| Ewers Bros.                 | West Point, Ia.     | Reed's, A. H.                  | Vernon, Ind.        |
| Franklins Dogs and Ponies   | Huron, Kans.        | Robinson, Happy Bob            | Fulton, O.          |
| Forepaugh-Sells Bros.       | Columbus, O.        | Ringling Bros.                 | Baraboo, Wis.       |
| Gentry's Dog and Pony       | Bloomington, Ind.   | Robinson's, John               | Terrace Park, O.    |
|                             |                     | Rice's Dog and Pony Shows      | New Albany, Ind.    |
|                             |                     | Reno & Alvord's Combined Shows | Kaukaee, Ill.       |
|                             |                     | Silver Bros.                   | Acme, Mich.         |
|                             |                     | Sells & Downes                 | Topeka, Kan.        |

**Show**

Smith's, E. G.  
Stewart's, Capt.  
Sautelle's, Sig.  
Sun Bros.  
Shott Bros.  
Swift Bros.

Tanner Bros.  
Tedrow & Gettle's

Teets Bros.

Charlotte Furnace, Ky.  
Thomas, John and Pearl

Trout & Foster

Welsh Bros.  
Wallace Bros.  
Wintermute Bros.  
Whitney  
Waldo & Co.'s Show

**Winter Quarters**

Buckstown, Pa.  
Ft. Wayne, Ind.  
Homer, N. Y.  
Norfolk, Va.  
Bluefield, W. Va.  
Golden Gate, Ill.

Lincoln, Neb.  
Nelsonville, O.

Mausdale, Pa.  
Elmira, N. Y.  
Lancaster, Pa.

Peru, Ind.  
Hebron, O.  
Attica, O.  
Chicago, Ill.

Jack Lynch of Harrisburg, Pa., has issued an attractive program for his miniature circus **LYNCH'S CIRCUS**, now touring the state, exhibiting at churches.

Raymond Moreau of Niagara Falls, N. Y., recently spent a wonderful week-end with Pat Lowell, on the Cole Bros. Circus.

Bette Leonard, president of the Circus Historical Society, has announced the appointment of Burt L. Wilson, J. A. Havirland and Dr. Harrison Powers on a committee to investigate the possibility of the Society purchasing one of the Chicago Railroad Fair circus wagons. All wagons used on the Fair, except the John Robinson calliope, has been reported for sale.

Note—As long as I have collected circusiana there are many names in the above list that have never come to my attention. Here should be plenty of history for CHS members to get busy in their own localities and see what can be dug up on some of these "little known" shows.—Sent in by Walter W. Tyson, CHS 2—27 Green St., Guelph, Ont., Canada.

**NOT SO DUMB**

Al Priddy, former circus trooper, has published a booklet, entitled, "Not So Dumb." The book tells of his many experiences and holds your interest from cover to cover. The booklet sells for only 35c, four for \$1.00 and is a must for your circus library. Mr. Priddy's address is Box 101, Oconomowoc, Wis.

Through the courtesy of Co. W. H. Woodcock, Bill Kasiska of Baraboo, caught the Al G. Kelly-Miller Bros. Circus at Reedsburg, Wisc., Sept. 12th. Bill Kasiska states, "all who are devoted to circuses should make a special effort to visit this fine, clean show." Col. Woodcock put the eleven elephants through their paces before a good noon-day downtown crowd. Other visitors on the lot included F. E. C. Welk, Ed Gollmar and August Moulton of Baraboo, Cliff Cowan of Oshkosh, John Wilson of Ripon, Dean Thomas of Madison, and Mr. Somers of Reedsburg.

Does your friend take Hobby-Bandwagon? Tell him about it.

**1949**  
**3½x5**

**CIRCUS PHOTOS**

**1949**  
**3½x5**

Clear and Glossy Photos.

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| 15—Dailey Bros. ....            | \$1.50 | 20—Cole Bros. ....  | \$2.00 |
| 15—John Pawling .....           | \$1.50 |                     |        |
| 15—Ayres & Kathryn Davies ..... | ..     |                     | \$1.50 |
| 20—Ringling Bros. & B. B. ....  | ..     |                     | \$2.00 |

Also have a few Programs, Route Cards and Letterheads.

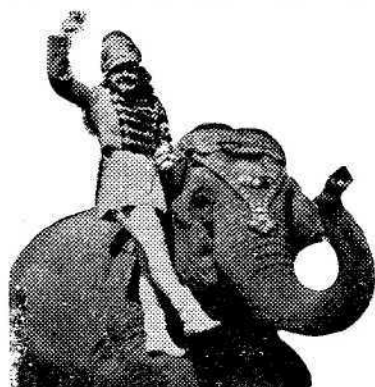
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**Johny Vogelsang**

Niles, Mich.

THE SHOW YOU KNOW

**Al G. Kelly &  
Miller Bros.  
3-Ring Wild Animal  
CIRCUS**



Bill Green's Review In This Issue

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CIRCUS BALANCING

# Clowns

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Copy and remittance must be mailed at once to insure publication.

## HOBBY-BANDWAGON

Camden, Ohio

Advertising pays in the Hobby-Bandwagon.

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Most Unusual Motorized  
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All pictures taken this spring while equipment was fresh. Everything artistically painted.

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**PHOTOS—BARNUM & BAILEY.**  
In Europe, list on request. Jake Posey, 549 North Maine St., Baldwin Park, Calif. **347**

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A COMPLETE 3 ring circus tent with blue canvas, 4 mail tent poles, 14 middle poles, 32 side poles, 4 American Flags. A beautiful main entrance made from striped canvas—this extra-ordinary circus tent has all the seams machine sewn. Tent ropes are securely fastened to canvas. This CIRCUS tent is NOT A KIT but completely finished job. Takes only a few minutes to set up, and you have a beautiful addition to your model.

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