

# H O B B Y

## BANDWAGON



—A Walter J. Peitshmann Photo

Bette Leonard receives rare 1891 silk Adam Forepaugh program at C.H.S. convention.

Left to right—Burns Kattenberg, Harry M. Filbrick, Bette Leonard,  
John J. Crowley and John Van Matre.

Sept. 47—The Collector's Monthly—10c

# Hobby-Bandwagon

"The Collector's Monthly"

(Formerly Hobby-Swapper)

122 South Main Street  
Camden, Ohio

## September 1947

Vol. 2 No. 8

**HARRY M. SIMPSON**

Publisher

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## The Publisher Says



If we were to select a man or person that has done the most for the Hobby world, there is but one candidate for that position and he is O. C. Lightner, publisher of "HOBBIES."

A pioneer in the field of collecting and hobby publications, Mr. Lightner has done more than anyone to make hobbies and collecting a universal pleasure and the height of popularity that it is today. Mr. Lightner started when there were few hobbyists and the job of publishing a hobby magazine for the purpose of publicizing collecting was a hard and discouraging undertaking, but by mere determination he attained his goal, and today hobbies has reached the highest peak in its history . . . thanks to this great man of the hobby world.

Just recently Mr. Lightner purchased and gave to the city of St. Petersburg, Fla. the Great Alcazar Hotel, to be remodeled and made into a museum for the preservation of his great collection as well as other collections . . . this was a fine gesture, and although it will be named the Lightner Museum, I'm certain that this is only a small or initial part of the tribute that will be given to the man that has done and will do so much for the collectors of yesterday, today and tomorrow.

"You can fool some of the people all of the time, and all of the people some of the time, but you can't fool all the people all of the time."—A. Lincoln.

Yes, you can fool some of the people all of the time, but in time you will certainly get caught and then your days as a hobby dealer are over. I speak of those who make it a practice of selling newly made antiques, ten cent store glass and copies of photo-

. . . . . turn to page 11

# The Bandwagon

News and Activities of the  
**CIRCUS HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

Founded In 1939  
By Don Smith

Harry M. Simpson ..... Editor

## OFFICERS

Bette Leonard ..... President  
Maurice Alaire ..... Vice-Pres.  
Walter Pietschmann ..... Treas.  
John Crowley ..... Secretary  
William Green ... Election Comm.

## PAST PRESIDENTS

Don Smith  
Walter Tyson  
Arthur Stensvard  
John VanMatre

Dear Hobby-Bandwagon:

The Welsh Brothers Newest Great Railroad Shows was a favorite circus in limited territory half a century ago when the big shows covered the country and certain smaller shows confined themselves to a few states. The Welsh Brothers had winter quarters at Lancaster, Pa., and traveled Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Maryland and possibly Delaware and New York state.

It was owned by John and Mike Welsh and when I was advance press agent (and solicitor for the program advertisements) in 1902 was in its 15th year. It opened the season at Lancaster April 12 and played there seven days appearing at three different locations. My name was on the program as publisher and my home address was given as Fairmont, W.

Va. I had edited newspapers at Fairmont and Morgantown in West Virginia, and Welsh Brothers had exhibited at both places and was considered "good."

Clinton Newton was "director of amusements" which was the term used in that program for the man in charge of the program. Herbert H. Whittier was "originator and director" of Welsh Brothers Military Band and Arenic Orchestra. Dr. D. E. Dickson was cornet soloist, O. W. Dilworth, trombone soloist and W. J. Newmeyer, xylophone soloist.

Display No. 1—Grand inaugural tournament.

Display No. 2—The Clowns Carol led by Bobby Derue.

Display No. 3—Miss Mammie Forepaugh and Cake Walking Horses.

Display No. 4—Big revolving tub—Sho and To. Double Barrel Kicking Massa and Tora.

Display No. 5—Comical Colby's trick donkeys "Fast" and "Slow."

Display No. 6—John and Harry La Rue, perch pole equilibrists and the Kitamuras, Jap double perch.

.....turn to page 7

## 5x7 Enlargements

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## SHANK PHOTOS

Clarence R. Shank  
Camden, Ohio

## CIRCUS — WANT TO BUY — MAGIC

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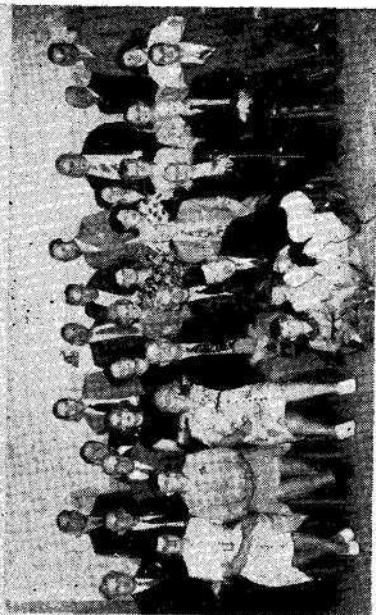
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# Convention Photos

The pictures below, taken by Walter J. Pietschmann, Detroit, show gatherings in the Green Room and Gretchen's Kitchen of the Jamestown Hotel Samuels, during the recent C. H. S. convention.

Reading from left to right—

group one: John VanMatre, Joseph Tracy, C. Spencer Chambers, Don Smith, Harry M. Simpson. Group two: Elmer Jones, Walter L. Main, Charles B. Kistler, Clyde Wixom. Group three: Murray Guy, Elmer Jones, Bette Leonard, Clyde Wixom, Walter L. Main. Group four: Members that attended the banquet.



# THE ANNEX

By Joseph L. Tracy

## CAPTAIN CONSTENTENUS

Tattooing is older than anything except people. The oldest piece of actual tattooed human hide was dug out of an Egyptian tomb dated 2000 B. C. Our American Indians tattooed themselves until the Pilgrims made them stop. Japanese tattooing dates from approximately 500 B. C. But it was the one and only Phineas T. Barnum that brought tattooed people to the attention of the American public, that was in the year of 1890.

Barnum knowing a hot thing almost before he saw it, imported from Vienna around 1890 a tattooed Greek named Georgius Tone Constentenus, one of the most



CAPTAIN COSTENTENUS

genuine exhibits that Barnum ever had. Whether or not Constentenus had been tattooed by Burmese torturers (as he and P. T. solemnly vowed) it was an undeniable fact that Georgius had an awful lot of somebody's ink under his exterior. It was said that he was 22 years old when imported to this country and it was 1906 when I saw him, then about 38 years old, at Coney Island, N. Y. After talking with some of the old timers with Barnum & Bailey Circus I was told that many people fainted

when they first laid eyes on him. He had 388 separate designs upon his person, complete even to his eyelids and between his fingers.

P. T. Barnum paid him \$1,000 a week (so it is told) and people by the millions flocked to see him and in no time at all, a line of not too bright citizens were waiting to be tattooed "all over" so they could make a lot of money.

**EDITOR'S NOTE**—This is a part of the fine story by the author entitled "Skin Game Michaelangelos or Getting Jittery Over The Jig Needle." This complete story may be purchased from Mr. Tracy at 172 Riverside Ave., Buffalo, N. Y. Mr. Tracy is a leading authority on the human oddities and will conduct a regular column in this magazine.

## MEMORABILIA REPAIRED

Damaged Lithos, Posters, Heralds, Programs, Prints, Hand Bills, etc., cleaned, repaired and restored. Expert work.

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306 Eighth Ave. So.,  
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## "THE SECOND OPENING"

Ladies and gentlemen we take great pleasure in announcing on this most auspicious occasion, "The Headless Lady," a mystery, written by Clayton Rawson and on sale at all magazine counters in a paper bound edition for twenty-five cents, one fourth part of a dollar. For this decided minimum in admission prices, you receive an entertaining narrative that flows from the author's pen in an interest-holding consistency from the initial sentence to the last and final paragraph. During this time he rewards you for spending your varicous and sundry occasional reading time with him and his endeavor, with an entertainment par excellent on each and every intermin that you may acquire.

This paper bound edition is so handy that it may be carried around in the individual's pants pocket. Now it isn't necessary that the individual be wearing a pair of pants the size of Lou Jacobs or Felix Adlers, but just the normal pair of pants that anybody might be wearing at anytime. Of course, a menage rider might have difficulty in locating a pocket in the ones she was wearing when she wasn't working but the hand bag that is an integral part of milady's dress will handle this deficiency most gracefully. We're in a position to guarantee entertaining interest for each and every punk working on the lot to the top rank Kinker whose contracted remuneration is the must item to be met by the boys in the white wagon as per schedule.

Just step in a little more closely now folks and I'm going to give you the real history of our fascination with Mr. Rawson's display of genius. Doc Powers of the Circus Historical Society infoed that here was something different and by all means anyone remotely interested in Circusiana must be sure to catch and perhaps thereby place a polish on his circus lingo. In the course of our following the Doctor's orders we discovered to our amazement that the circus language is correct in form and detail and not a lot of irrelevant jargon that may have been dreamed up by a writer that went to see a circus once and didn't bother to buy a ticket for the concert—Mac.

## NEW CHS MEMBERS

- 329—A. R. Jischke, 860 Egge St., Allentown, Pa.  
330—Harold Moyer, 1620 Utica St., Allentown, Pa.  
331—Ray Williams, 540 N. Fountain St., Allentown, Pa.  
332—Paul W. Morgan, 309 Hamilton St., Allentown, Pa.  
333—Dr. Lloyd Sample, 108 Fairmont St., Jamestown, Pa.  
334—Happy Oakley, 405 Rebecca Ave., Hattiesburg, Miss.  
335—Mrs. Eunice E. Simpson, 279 N. Main St., Camden, Ohio.  
336—Clarence R. Shank, 18 N. Main St., Camden, Ohio.  
337—Mrs. Grace V. Smith, Lock Box C, Montezuma, Kans.  
338—Joe R. Smith, Lock Box C, Montezuma, Kans.  
339—Robert C. King, 1117 Main St., Richmond, Ind.  
340—Mrs. Agnes W. King, 1117 Main St., Richmond, Ind.  
341—Mrs. Annette Donewirth, 621 N. Forest Rd., Williamsville, N. Y.  
342—E. Deacon Albright, c/o King Bros. Circus.  
343—John C. Kunzcg, 36 Norton Ave., Jamestown, N. Y.  
344—Jack Livingston, Brooks Apt., Second St., Jamestown, N. Y.

## DECEASED

- 233—John T. Follansbee, Brooklyn, N. Y., 11-22-46.

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

- Dr. Harrison Powers, 110 East Washington St., South Bend 6, Ind.  
Jack Price Robinson, 321 S. Roam St., Webb City, Mo.  
Anthony Gudancowski, 649 Central Ave., Camden, N. J.  
Edwin Hillhouse, P. O. Box 74, Chillicothe, Ohio.  
A. J. Koveliskie, 736 Moosier St., Scranton 5, Pa.  
Fay F. Reed, 424 S. Warwick St., St. Paul 5, Minn.  
Gordon E. Borders, 1626 N. Harvard Blvd., Hollywood 27, Calif.  
Joseph L. Tracy, 172 Riverside Ave., Buffalo 7, N. Y.

This is the report to August 10th.  
—John J. Crowley, Secy.

—o—  
Burns M. Kattenburg of Jamestown, N. Y., spent several days in New York City where he expected to meet George Hermann, old time contortionist and also the Great Johnson.

## CHS PHOTO

The circus photograph being mailed under separate cover, was furnished by Walter J. Pietschmann of Detroit, Mich. Walter is No. 3 member of the CHS and holds the position of treasurer.

The picture shows the John Robinson Callicpe, built in 1917 and used until the early twenties by J. R. and later used by Walter L. Main and the Gentry Bros. The callicpe was purchased and restored by Henry Ford in 1931 and is now located in the Ford Museum in Greenfield Village. Deacon Albright of King Bros. was most familiar with original keyboard.

## JOHN T. FOLLANSBEE

It is with deep regret that we report the death of John T. Follansbee, 234 Berkley Place, Brooklyn, N. Y., who passed away Nov. 22, 1946. Mr. Follansbee was a member of C. H. S. and word was just recently received through his sister, Bess B. Follansbee of Brooklyn, N. Y.

## CIRCUS ARTICLES

Articles of the circus have recently appeared in the following publications: July—True, page 13; Life (21st) page 41-46; Cosmopolitan, page 21; Fortune, pages 106-115. August—American, pages 48-49; Police Gazette, pages 12 and 14; Hit, pages 5-7. September—Laff, pages 18-19.

Hobbies, White Tops and the Billboard every month. Should you find an article in a recent publication, please advise by post card so we can keep this column going.

## DEAR HOBBY-BANDWAGON

...from page 3

Display No. 7—Prof John White's 60-horse act, "moving in harmony in the most complicated, intricate and difficult maneuvers."

Display No. 8—The Great Marinella, "extraordinary exposition of physical culture—an act without a parallel in amusement history."

Display No. 9—Frederick Welcome—equilibrist and "Little Ont To" block pyramid contortion exercises."

Display No. 10—Convention of clowns.

Display No. 11—Pearl Forepaugh, Prince Katamura and Millie Zanta in feats in mid-air.

Display No. 12—William La Rue and Harry F. West barebacking dogs and a goat. Introduction of "Black Bess" "jumping through blazing hoops of fire while running at full speed."

Display No. 13—The Kitamuras (risley) and Prince Sho (high wire).

Display No. 14—John White's Twentieth Century Dog Show.

Display No 15—Frederick Welcome and Pearl Forepaugh, aerial exposition.

Display No. 16—The La Rue Troupe of Acrobats.

Display No. 17—Grimaldi Brown and his Mule 'Nickodemus.'

Display No. 18—Albert Sylvester and The Only Marinella contortion.

Display No. 19—Miss Mannie Forepaugh and her "wonderful jumping and perpendicular walking horse."

Display No. 20—La Rue Bros. and the Kitamuras.

Display No. 21—Grand ensemble.

I traveled on the advance car after the show opened and Vic Woodward had charge of the car.

Vic Woodward was manager of the advance car on which I traveled and his wife was the cook.

Welsh Brothers went into partnership with Sig Sautelle later and after that venture had out a wildwest show, then Hobson's "Uncle Tom's Cabin" and finally a U. T. C. picture which was exhibited on Long Island.

Clinton Newton was announced with the Welsh Brothers for a decade and when last heard of was a night clerk in a Philadelphia hotel.

H. Stanley Lewis, a colorful picture in circusdom, broke in as banner salesman for Welsh Brothers.

—E. E. Meredith

Walter L. Main has completed his autobiography, this book should be available early in 1948.

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# The Shell Collectors Department

By Dorothy L. Freas

8935 86th St. Woodhaven 21, N. Y.

## A Big Family

Let's look at a really large family—the Murex group. There are about 250 kinds and they live in rocky sections of warm seas. Their houses are usually very pretty and well decorated outside with varices. It is an interesting fact that the more difficult life has been, and the oftener rations have been short, the more lovely the shell, because the little Murex adds a varice, to strengthen his doorway when times are hardest and rations are scarcest.

The Murex shells are lined with various colors, but are not pearly at all.

Four of the Murex family have space on my "special shelf."

The Murex ramosus is the "ivory palace." A very good friend sent it to me recently and it is one of my favorite shells. Its range is the Indian ocean and the South Pacific. It is five inches long—purest white, with graceful ruffled fronds curving back from the aperture. This opening is edged with a delicate orange-pink. There is a spot or two of brown on the outside of the shell, darkest where the varice joins the body whorl.

In perfect contrast is the M. Radix, or Root Murex, which is a stubby white shell with black varices on it. The shell is almost covered with a dozen rows of short wavy fronds, giving the appearance of having been scorched in a fire. It grows to about five inches and comes from Panama.

The next shell, M. Haustellum, has the common name "Snipebill Murex" and its outline as I look at it is like a bird's head, with a long, thin bill. It is over five inches long from spire to tip, of a mottled brown, but smooth, exterior. The aperture is of a light salmon color. It lives in the Indian ocean, Red Sea and near China and the Philippines.

The Murex bicolor also comes from Panama but it has short

fronds, which give it a knobby appearance. It is smaller, about three to four inches and the exterior is all white. The aperture is the main beauty for it is like brilliant pink china. It is an attractive, not too expensive shell for the collector.

The Venus Comb, Murex Tennis-pina, lacks color, as it is entirely ashy in appearance, but it is striking in form. Like the Snipe-bill, it also has a canal twice as long as the body of the shell. However, this canal has the continuation of lines of inch long spines which grow on the three varices on the body. They look like the teeth of a comb, altho widely spaced.

There are two Florida species, M. Rufus and M. Pomum. The latter grows two to three inches and is a grey and chestnut color on the varices. Murex Rufus is attractive with a long thick canal, red-brown to dark brown on the exterior and white inside. Large varices cross the whorls and make this a nice specimen for the shell collector.

—o—

## CHS NOTES

Bette Leonard caught the Cole Bros. circus at McPherson, Kansas, and visited with CHS Bill Woodcock and other members of the Cole Bros. personnel.

Two photographs by Walter Pietschman along with a fine story of the convention, appeared in the August 16th issue of "THE BILLBOARD."

August 16th issue of the "BILLBOARD" has a picture of CHS Jake Posey, who recently visited the Polack Bros. Circus at Long Beach, Cal. Jake Posey, one of the greatest of circus drivers, who gained fame as a driver of the famous 40-horse hitch. Mr. Posey has the appearance that he could still handle the forty horses.

The name of Mrs. E. D. Donewirth was unintentionally omitted from the list of those attending the C. H. S. convention banquet.

Although too late to mention in the August issue, it has been decided to mail the circus photographs under separate covers. This is due to the delays of having prints made and the chance of losing photos if mailed with magazine.



Geo. Evans, Pres., L. E. Brown, V.P., C. J. Tripp, Treas

D. W. Denton, Secy., Lancaster, Ohio

Anne L. Denton, Asst. Secy.

DIRECTORS: A. O. Brown, Chas. McClintoch,

Karl L. Denton, Emer-Jackson, Perrin Hazelton,

J. Lester Haberkorn, Oak Shannan.

Official Publication: HOBBY-BANDWAGON

## BATTELLE PLAYERS CLUB

By Charles F. Lucks

If your hand itches you are going to get something—if your head itches you've got it! These old lines could well be applied to a few Burnt Corkers employed at Battelle Memorial Institute, Columbus, Ohio. In the fall of 1943 they had the "itch" for a Minstrel Show. Something came of it in June, 1944, when the first show went into an extra performance. The hearty reception given their efforts "elevated" the "itch" to their heads and getting these together they decided that they had not only "it", but also an audience that liked the grand old entertainment, the Minstrel Show. Another show was a must. In the fall of 1944 the participants of this first show got together and formed the "Battelle Players Club." The purpose of the club—to produce shows for the entertainment of their associates on the basis of not-for-profit.

In organizing the club an interest also was found for legitimate stage productions. This activity was initiated in the fall of 1945 when "You Can't Take It With You" was staged. This was followed in November, 1946, with "Room Service." About the time you are reading this, rehearsals shall be going on for "The Pursuit of Happiness" to be given this November.

Ah no! the Minstrel shows were not sidetracked. They still pack the house. Successful productions likewise were staged in the late springs of 1945, 1946 and 1947. Each year has found "some-

thing new has been added to." In 1945 an original Second Part skit entitled "Southern Comfort" was arranged by club members. In 1946 a tap dance first appeared in the show. In the same year an orchestra played for the overture, the opening and closing choruses, and the intermission for the first time. In 1947 we had "everything" including orchestrations for the vocalists and an original Second Part "The Genie With the Low I. Q." In case you have been wondering "bones" situation, it has been tops in all of our shows.

The club now has a set of scenery, a set of stage parallels, a cyclorama (club made), complete lighting facilities, including variable autotransformers (300 Amperes Maximum) for dimming and minstrel costumes for an entire First Part. These are the result of the finest type of cooperation among club members, both in finance and plain hard (but enjoyable) work.

The story would not be complete without a word about the personnel involved. The club membership numbers about 40 and is open to all male staff members of Battelle. This group forms the "working body" for a show. All staff members are invited to try out for a production and lend assistance with the technical work. About 90 staff members, a little more than 10 per cent of those employed by Battelle at the time, were active in producing the 1947 Minstrel Show. It was an all-staff production from start to finish and from top to bottom. The house (about 900)—well it was a sell out without special effort and was practically 100 per cent staff members and their families (a few Burnt Corkers from Lancaster and Columbus did get in). In our case, Minstrelsy is serving as a grand way of getting acquainted with a good number of our daily associates and at the same time providing a clean, high-type, live form of inexpensive entertainment for an even larger number of them.

### CASH — MINSTREL — CASH

Highest prices paid for Minstrel Programs, Heralds and Photos. List issued each month.

C. SPENCER CHAMBERS

P.O. Box 722. Syracuse 1, N. Y.

## THE PUBLISHER SAYS

... from inside front cover

graphs that are owned by some other collector or dealer.

No doubt the greatest violator of this practice is in glass and photographs. Rare glass is easy to duplicate and unless the collector has a keen knowledge of glass, he or she has purchased a 20th century Woolworth model and not the genuine glass that it was represented to be. Photographs are not faked, but some purchase original photographs, make copies and then peddle to those waiting to buy such pictures at a reduced price . . . . but they have only bought a copy and anyone with a fair knowledge of photography can recognize these at first sight, or the original owner can spot them by secret marks, etc.

When a collector discovers that he has been fooled the fun begins . . . . he tells other collectors . . . . they tell others, until the news has spread so far that that dealer finds himself without a trade, a trade that could have brought him money and friends had he played the fair way. The fair way is to sell photographs that you have made or purchased the original negative, glass that is genuine and you know is genuine.

I hope that there is no one taking this magazine that is guilty of this practice, but if there is, take my advice and be fair with yourself and fellow collectors . . . . you can't fool all of the people all of the time.

Sincerely,

Harry M. Simpson

### CHAMBERS PURCHASES RARE CIRCUS LITHO

C. Spencer Chambers recently purchased a circus litho showing the 40-horse hitch attached to the Two Hemispheres Band Wagon. The litho is in three sheets and there are only two known copies of this famous litho.

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**THOMAS BURNETT**

621 N. Ninth St. Camden, N. J.

# Oppenheim Zoo

In Niagara Falls, N. Y., circus collectors and fans can enjoy a circus menagerie the year round without consulting route cards or the newspapers for dates, this show goes on every day. We speak of the Oppenheim Zoo located on Niagara Falls Blvd. in Niagara Falls, N. Y.

Max M. Oppenheim, curator of the Oppenheim Zoological Society, purchased in 1941 a tract of 83 acres, which he has deeded to the Society since its organization in 1943. The Zoo now has the following exhibits: American Bison, American Elk, Deer, Sheep, Goats, Peacocks, Pheasants, Mexican Burros, Ducks, Canadian Geese, Pigeons, Rabbits, and Guinea Hens. During the past year three newborn white fallow fawns were born and on July 18th the stork delivered two Japanese sika deer, so this young Zoological Gardens is rapidly growing.

Mr. Oppenheim, a member of the Circus Historical Society, is always glad to have collectors of the circus to pay him a visit while visiting Niagara Falls. Remember every day is circus day at the Oppenheim Zoo.

—o—

## Expensive Toys?

After a series of arrests at Brooklyn, N. Y. last month (Aug. 8) Vicent Wendzneski, proprietor of a Brooklyn Book Shop, was again in possession of his valuable coin collection, but some are now in the East River from the results of two boys using the gold, silver and copper coins to skip across the water. Many of the gold coins had a value of \$50.00.

—o—

### THANKS

I wish to thank Mrs. C. Spencer Chambers, Dr. H. Powers, M. L. Frisbie, Murray Guy, C. H. White, Walter Fietschmann, Col. B. J. Palmer, James Livingston, Burns M. Kattenberg, Bette Leonard, John J. Crowley, Don Smith, George Churchill and Bill Woodcock for items that have been added to the publisher's collection.