



4th Year

September 1, 1975

Number 33-34

PLEADS TO KEEP PET

Animal Control officials of Sacramento (Calif.) County want to take away an 18 month old, 270 lb. African lion that is owned by Harold Ball, a resident of Fair Oaks, a suburb of Sacramento, Calif.

According to Ball his pet, named Chinook, got out of the yard once and went next door. There he begged to be petted and went to sleep on the front porch. The only complaint we've ever had, says Ball, has come from that neighbor.

NAME CHANGE

The former Keno Lane, in Las Vegas (Nev.) was recently renamed "Circus Circus Drive" as a more appropriate name since the Circus Circus Hotel/Casino is located on the street.

At Circus Circus Drive, near Las Vegas Blvd. So. the famous Circus Circus carousel offers entertainment for all.

Chinook was purchased as a cub and has been declawed. As a result, says Ball, he couldn't live in the wild. The animal, he adds, is the last surviving son of TV's "Clarence, the Cross Eyed Lion."

Animal officials say that Ball hasn't lived up to conditions of the Exotic Animal Permit he was given on Jan. 27th. They charge the animal is housed

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THE CIRCUS SHOW

The Carson & Barnes Circus was late getting into Ripon, Wisc on July 25th, because of a 100 mile jump from Prairie du Sac. Most of the run was made over country roads, but everything was in place for the 2:30 afternoon show.

There wasn't a cloud in the sky and the temperature was in the mid 80's. This plus the highly attuned and wonderful rhythm of the band and the constant flow of action and color provided a glittering kaleidoscopic flow of sight and sound. The pageantry, wonderful aerialists and exciting animals sent a tingle down the spine and made the pulse beat a little faster, giving the public their money's worth.

The wonderful menagerie of animals, including 20 elephants could all be seen prior to the performance, at no extra charge. It was certainly a fine zoo and performance - the best we've seen in many years.

..... W. W. Frederickson

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TAX WOES

American shows and performers are finding that Canada has a tough tax law for non-resident show folks this year. As of Jan. 1, 1975, Canadian tax officials started withholding 15% of the gross earnings for taxes (See Circus Report for Feb. 24, 1975)

In the past non-Canadian residents have filed a tax declaration and then paid their taxes at the end of the year, at a figure less than 15%. Those earning less than \$5,000 were

(Continued on Page 15)

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high spot of season

..... by KAYE SCHEIMAN

Little did we know that when we made plans to visit with Bert and Marie Pettus on the Schmidt's Circus that the weather would make national headlines. We arrived in Hankinson, N.D., in time for the rains that caused major flooding of the state.

Despite the rains, which necessitated moving the show to more solid ground, we thoroughly enjoyed meeting Phyllis and Byron Osander and Mrs. Osander's children, Darlene, Jolene and Edward Schmidt. This little known circus comes from Dalton, Minn., and travels through Minnesota, as well as North and South Dakota.

PROMO PLANS

A massive project costing as much as \$20 million, which could take ten years to complete was recently announced by the Springfield (Mass.) Performing Arts Center. When completed the facility would include a Show Business Hall of Fame, Museum of American Show Business, movie theatre, children's theatre, a dance theatre, playhouse and an outdoor concert stage.

To get the project off the ground the Center has a tie-in with the Hunts Circus, a plan that was worked out by long-time circus buff Wally Beach. The center will receive 50% of the circus earnings at each specified engagement, while the local sponsor gets 10%. In all some \$20,000 is expected to be raised via the circus.

Officials say that with the sum collected by this means the center will be able to get going on fund-raising events that will bring in even larger amounts of revenue.

Unfortunately, the circus performance for Hankinson had to be cancelled because of the flood, humidity and mosquitos. Normally the circus program features:

Phyllis Osander - whips/ropes
 Darlene Schmidt - clowning,
 fire baton, acrobatics
 Jolene Schmidt - vocals/dance
 Edward Schmidt - guitar/vocals
 and dog act
 Bert Pettus - pony drill and
 elephant "Alita"
 Byron Osander - musical back-
 ground on the Accordovox

The show's midway features a merry-go-round, swinging gym, mixer, sea-cruise, mini-mixer, moon-walk and ferris wheel. In addition there is a pony ride and elephant ride.

Concessions on the show were handled by: Marie Pettus, novelties and pop pitch; Darlene Schmidt, food and drinks; Harold "Pop" Schmidt, ball game darts, etc.; Harold and Marian Anderson, jewelry and a shooting gallery.

CIRCUS VISIT

Enjoyed Franzen Bros. Circus when they played a suburb of Minneapolis (Minn.) in July. Reporters and photographers from the magazine "People" were on the lot, interviewing the show folks for an upcoming feature article.

Also caught Carson & Barnes Circus (Wahpeton, N.D.) in July, but missed seeing the Gatti-Charles Circus and RBBB.

..... Harold E. Flint

TURNED DOWN

The Contra Costa County (Calif.) Board of Supervisors have refused to accept a suit for \$2 million filed against them on behalf of a 2 yr. old girl. The child lost an arm when a bear bit her (see Circus Report for Aug. 25, 1975).

The suit, filed by the youngster's parents, charged that county officials knew the bear was being kept caged within the county. They claimed the bear was dangerous and that officials did nothing to have it removed and did not require that warning signs be posted.

County animal control officer said at the time that the bear had no record of vicious behavior.

SAWDUST TRAIL

The Hanneford Family Circus had to give two extra shows at Madisonville, Ky., on July 22-23 for a total of six performances.

A girl rider on the RBBB Blue unit was injured at Monroe (La.) when she fell and a horse stepped on her knee.

Mike and Andy Swan report they've purchased a new tent for their circus.

A recent Jack O'Brien column stated that Irving Feld was off to Europe for another talent search.

Sells & Gray reportedly have been pulling good crowds in places that have already had one circus this season.

Do Do, the Clown, will be working advance for the Hanneford Family Circus in Louisiana. He is well known throughout the area for his clowning and promotional work.

..... M. L. Dupont

PEOPLE

SMOKEY JONES and family were regular visitors to RBBB's Red Unit during the show's Los Angeles (Calif.) area dates.

MOPEY, the Clown, recently worked the Marion (Ind.) County Fair as well as a Stokley Van Camp Employee's picnic.



The Edmondo Zacchini rocket cannon is pictured above, as it appears with the Clyde Bros. Circus which is currently playing at the Nueva Arena in Mexico City.

SHOW GETS OK

When the Charles Bros. Circus was here at the fair-grounds in Topsham, Me., they had an excellent program. Their music is all circus, with Chas. Moyer on the trumpet.

Among those appearing in the performance were: Max Chamberly, Mitzi LaForm, Kuzac, a great magician, Mike Rice and a

single elephant, plus some good clowns.

The big top shows signs of use, but the seating was all good, as is their lighting. The whole thing proves that Moyer, if given the breaks, will have an excellent show.

They have two show owned trucks -- a spool wagon and a semi. Their generator is mounted at the rear of the semi.

..... Hugo Marquardt

New Rules ?

Opponents are hoping the California Senate will kill a bill that would permit movement of 14 ft wide trailer homes over the state's highways. Current regulations restrict mobile homes to a width of 10 ft. including lights and other devices.

The proposed law, already approved by the State Assembly, would allow movement of trailer homes that are two feet wider than existing traffic lanes. It would mean that house trailers up to six feet wider than the largest trucks now permitted would be allowed on the highways.

The bill is opposed by the Calif. Highway Patrol, the Calif. State Automobile Assoc. and the Calif. Dept. of Transportation. They claim the law would create safety hazards and could lead to the introduction, in California, of the "supertrucks" that are permitted in some states and which cause damage to the highways.

The CHP says such wide trailers would interfere with the normal flow of traffic and would thus create a potentially dangerous highway condition.

Cards and Letters . . .

Many thanks to all those who recently sent me cards and letters. They, along with your support and good wishes, are all very much appreciated.

It will take some time, but eventually we will answer everyone of them.

..... Don Marcks

IJA Meet

The recent Int'l Jugglers Convention (Youngstown, Ohio) was probably the greatest in our history. It was like heaven in an air-conditioned YMCA.

Several TV crews were there - one as much as a week ahead and I understand they are making a rather lengthy documentary on juggling. The convention will be a good part of it.

Everyone was intent on juggling as much as possible and swapping ideas, for some 16 hrs. each day. Am sure that everyone went home with enough new ideas to keep them busy for the coming year.

There were a considerable number of young people at the convention this year, and they certainly were able to hold their own in competition with the others.

The entire IJA staff is to be congratulated for their very fine convention.

..... William Jenack

Girl Badly Hurt By Elephant

A woman animal trainer - Beverly Lamping - was gored by her elephant during a practice session at Magic Mountain (Valencia, Calif.) in late July. Officials have since said that Mrs. Lamping is recovering satisfactorily.

According to Mrs. Lamping, the elephant (Bamboo) just decided to kill her and she was unable to fight him off. It was the first time the 500 lb., 5 year old animal had ever attacked its trainer.

The animal knocked Mrs. Lamping down several times, then pushed both tusks through her neck, leaving the jugular vein exposed. She finally managed to get into a nearby car to escape the animal.

Mrs. Lamping has been working with animals for seven yrs. Her husband, who is manager of the exotic animal section of the park, has been a trainer for 20 years. The couple has a nine yr. old daughter and lives in nearby Piru.

Grizzly Bears

The grizzly bear has been added to the "threatened species" list by the U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service. The move will provide some protection to the bears, which officials report, have been reduced to just a few hundred within the U.S. mainland area.

It is now unlawful to kill, capture, harass, harm, import, or export a grizzly bear or to sell any products of a grizzly

ATTENTION

The Floyd King Tent No. 126 CFA has the following collector's item for sale!

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bear in interstate or foreign commerce.

Although the grizzly is still relatively widespread in Alaska, its habitat has shrunk so severely in the lower states that only three small areas now support grizzly bears. These include areas in Idaho, Montana and Wyoming.

ROUTES

Allen's Pet Zoo
Sep. 4-7 Reno, Nev.

American Freedom Train
Sept. 4 Fargo, N.D.

Carson & Barnes Circus
Sep. 1 Indianapolis, Ind
2 Brownsburg
3 Whiteland
4 Rushville
5 Aurora
6 Florence, Ky.
7 Paris

Hubert Castle Circus
Aug. 18-20 Crown Pt., Ind

Circus Vargas
Sep. 1-4 Commack, NY
5-6 New Britain, Conn
7-10 Nashua, NH

Clyde Bros. Circus
Sep. 1-2 Tyler, Texas
5-7 Alexandria
to Sep. 16 Mexico City, Mex

Diamond S Rodeo
Sep. 1 Pikeville, Ky
4 Bellefontaine, Oh.

Franzen Bros. Circus
Sep. 1 Marathon City, Wis
4 Edgewater, Iowa

Grt. Amer. Bicentennial Cir.
to Sep. 2 Dothan, Ala.
Sep. 3 New Brockton

Hanneford Family Circus
to Sep 4 Van Wert, Ohio
Sep. 6 Eminence, Ky.

Happytime Circus
Sep. 2-7 Sacramento, Cal.

King Bros. Circus
Sep. 1 Fishkill, NY
2 Honesdale, Pa.
3 Towanda
4 Pittston
5 Shamokin
6 Harrisburg

La Torres Animals
Sep. 5-10 Topeka, Kans.

Lewis Bros. Circus
Sep. 1 Steelton, Pa.
2 Camp Hill
3 Elizabethville
4 New Tripoli
6 Union Bch, N.J.

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit
Sep. 3-7 St. Louis, Mo.

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit
Sep. 3-7 Fresno, Calif.

Roberts Bros. Circus
Aug. 23 Elmira, NY

Royal Bros. Circus
Sep. 2 Rimley, Alta.
3 Rocky Mt. House
4 Sylvan Lake
5 Lacombe

Royal Lipizzan Show
Sep. 2 Great Falls, Mont
4 Butte
5 Bozeman
6-7 Billings

Schmidt Circus
Sep. 4-6 Benson, Mich.

John Strong Circus
Sep. 1 La Grande, Ore.
2 Pendleton
3 Walla Walla, Wash
4 Pasco
5 Yakima
6 Wenatchee

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CFA members of the John W. Pugh Tent No. 177 celebrated their fourth birthday with the Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus at Wilmington, Dela (1975). Alice Stapleton (left) presented circus personnel with red roses. Those receiving the roses were: Kay Hanneford Ille; Edna Antes; Bridget Pugh; Ora Logan and Mrs. Arnold Maley. In the background is tent secretary Chet Pomeroy.

PEOPLE

MISS JACKIE MITCHELL, RBBB Clown College graduate, recently joined the Mid-America Circus to work in the show's clown numbers

WILLIAM BURGER is currently handling concessions with the

Big John Strong Circus.

NEIL KAHANOVITZ, an intern at Los Angeles (Cal.) General Hospital spent the past year as a clown on various shows.

AUGUSTIN, juggler, is now touring with the Hungarian Nat'l Circus in Europe.

A REAL FIND

For years I have tried to trace down the old Ky Hotel were various troupers used to winter. The cellar and store room was reportedly well stocked with trunks of wardrobe, posters, etc., left for later pick up, but many times the owners had passed away.

Well, this summer I located the owners of the now closed hotel and purchased a quantity of musty wardrobe, two Taylor trunks, faded photos, route cards, etc.

I have also been successful in locating an old retired pressman who worked for Donaldson and other show printers. When certain posters struck his fancy he would lug home the tail end of a run, or paper on hand that shows failed to pick up, or who missed a shipment.

After considerable haggling and assuring the gentleman that his collection would always be in a good home, I purchased several boxes including burlesque, wild west, minstrel, musical comedy, plus, of course, circus.

A hurried glance through one box unearthed dates for the Heritage Bros. Circus, Zeidman & Pollie Midway, Dan Rice Circus, Real Cheyenne Days Wild West, Sheesley Greater Shows, and many others.

New Law

The U.S. Dept. of Agriculture recently amended its regulations concerning the importing of zoological, research and performing birds.

The new provisions authorize quarantine of zoological birds at USDA operated import centers, clarifies conditions of import and extends the time period for which bird import permit remain valid.

Authority for zoos to import small numbers of zoological birds, by prior arrangement, through quarantine stations provides an alternative to import-

(Continued on Page 12)

Remember

You can still renew or extend your present subscription to Circus Report at the current price of \$10.00 per year, up to the time postage rates increase.

When the postage rates go up the subscription costs for Circus Report will have to be adjusted upward.

When the season is over I will catalog the material and will put out an elaborate price list, for those who might like to buy.

.... Art "Doc" Miller

THE CIRCUS KINGDOM

.... by
GENE MASCIOLI

The Rev. David Harris, his wife, Trudy, and 32 young performers - mostly college students - are 'The Circus Kingdom', a group of performers affiliated with the Capitol Hill United Methodist Church in Washington, DC.

The troupe spent Aug. 7th performing for hundreds of Vietnamese at the refugee camp at Ft. Indiantown Gap, Pa. There, in an outdoor arena, marked off by white tape, the performers clowned, rode unicycles, juggled and flew through the air with considerable ease. Though the tape didn't separate performers from the crowd, they shook hands with adults, lured participants into the "big top" area to test their trampoline and dance with the clowns, and exchanged greetings with children in the sort of ritual the Vietnamese boys and girls, with their limited English, have humorously adopted.

The purpose of the troupe, which has about 175 regular performances and 90 free shows - such as the one at Indiantown Gap - scheduled for the summer, is to show people that they care by sharing their talents with them.

The audience responded warmly, in spite of problems in the amateur troupe. Several riders found it difficult to stay on their unicycles on the rough ground, and a couple of acts, such as the fire-eating, had to be cancelled because of the winds.

But while the Vietnamese

Miscellaneous

Australia's Ashton's Circus is looking for animal trainers.

were applauding the performers - even adding a few 'oohs' during a parallel bar act - the performers themselves were busy praising the audience.

"They're the best audience you could ask for," the Rev. Mr. Harris, founder, originator and producer, said.

"Look at these children. You don't see them running around or getting into fights. You don't see them putting on temper tantrums because they aren't getting popcorn. They're the most appreciative, polite audience you could have."

The Circus Kingdom, which is the only circus in the country to receive a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, according to Rev. Mr. Harris, is an attempt to live "the Kingdom of Heaven" in the context of a circus.

ONLY A FEW MAKE IT

Hundreds of horses and ponies bought in the U.S. for shipment to France and Italy die from disease or injury, according to a recent New York Times report. The animals are purchased for slaughter and other purposes and are shipped out of the East coast in lots of 700 to 900 at a time.



The U.S. Dept. of Agriculture is investigating the practice, but officials admit that once the horses are loaded aboard a ship there isn't much they can do. On the average 15 to 20 animals die during a voyage, while others die after being unloaded. One report indicates that some 200 horses died on one ship last summer.

The horses are bought from a variety of sources and then are held in corrals until there are enough to make a shipment worthwhile. By the time they are unloaded in Europe the animals are hungry, tired and have sores, bloody injuries, all because of a lack of proper care.

After an investigation of conditions the Government of Canada banned exports of live horses from that country last July. Since then the foreign shipments have been originating here in the U.S. The animals bring approximately 63¢ a pound at the dock in France, or \$1.12 per lb. at a slaughterhouse.

An official for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in Richmond, Va., says "generally speaking, the horses are in pretty good shape when they are loaded, but there are sheet me-

Miscellaneous

A European circus magazine has done a cover special on the polar bear trainer Ursula Bottcher.

NEW BIRD REGULATIONS (Cont'd)
ation of these birds through commercially-operated quarantine stations, which usually handle large numbers of birds.

The time period in which bird import permits will remain valid is extended 14 to 30 days for commercial birds, zoological birds and research birds; and to 90 days for theatrical and performing birds.

tal ducts and what not. The horses in those compartments get cuts and bruises.

"We have been able to reduce the cruelty on this side, but we have no control over what happens in the crossing or on the other side."

THE MUSICAL SCORE

The following musical score for the Mid-America Circus has been submitted by Harry J. Jenkins, Sr., the show's musical director and organist.

Overture -

Cyrus the Great
Barnum & Bailey's Favorite
Bravura
Sells Floto Triumphant
The Billboard
Oh You Circus Day

Spec -

Jungle Queen

The Frauensteins -

Mambo Jambo
Jungle Queen
Serenata
Siboney
Fine and Dandy

Miss Dale - web number

Knights and Ladies
Stairway of Dreams
Falling in Love with Love
Galop Go
Knights and Ladies

John Dailey, Jr. - bicycle

Alley Cat

Ernestine Clarke - ponies

March of the Toys
Circus Echoes
Waltz You Saved for Me
Thank You Very Much
Purple Carnival

Sparky, the Clown - Magic cane

The Entertainer
Mad Mad Mad Mad World
The Entertainer

Hajam - juggling

Yes We Have No Bananas

Limehouse Blues
Oh Lady Be Good
That's A Plenty
The Juggler (Jenkins)

Miss Dale - Single trapeze

Paree
Symphony
Prince of Decorah

Frauensteins - spinning plates

Cumana
Hold That Tiger
Mama Ynez

Circus Elephants -

Royal Decree
Spring Beautiful Spring
Sadar's Procession
London Bridge
Show Me The Way to Go Home
Song of India
Yankee Doodle
Salome
Hindustan

Winnie McKay - Silver ring

The National Processional
My Beautiful Lady
Wedding of the Winds
National Processional

Gorilla Parody -

Chant of the Jungle
Zallah
Furioso
Funny Gorilla (Jenkins)
Ain't We Got Fun
Aba Daba Honeymoon

Exit -

Thunder and Blazes

Problems & Plans

Union and building contracts are the two things that threaten the Ringling-Barnum Circus, according to Irvin Feld, who discussed both subjects at a recent Auditorium Managers Convention. At the same time he talked about plans for the future and made some recommendations for buildings that would help his circus.

Most of the unions we can work with, Feld said, "because they don't want to kill the goose that laid the golden egg."

However, he added, the musicians are the biggest faulters. "The musicians union has reached the point where they're featherbedding so bad that, actually, they should be put out of business. I mean, if someone ever grabbed hold of that

"They set impossible minimums - Bloomington, Minn., San Francisco, Oakland -- they do it arbitrarily. Our show is scored for 15 musicians, that's what the book is written for, and we carry three AFM musicians, but that doesn't mean a thing. Local jurisdiction is what they all want, and it's rough.

"We go in for only a week and we have to pay vacation pay, and other benefits. If the public and the Federal government knew about that. You say good morning to them and they come back at you with \$50 a man plus fringes, which jacks it up to \$100 a man. Then they even stick you with non-playing contracts."

The problem with renting some buildings, according to Feld, is they want to big a percentage. Many of them want 15% which is "unfair" and because of the show's costs we can't pay that much. "I cannot and will not pay that 15%." Feld said he will pay 10% or anything within reason. The minimum fees never frighten me.

A third circus unit is a real possibility, says Feld, and we are giving serious thought to a non-circus family type of show. Also under consideration, Feld states, is a foreign unit, which has already received firm offers from abroad. However, he feels the earliest a foreign or third unit can be ready would be in 1977/78.

In Memoriam

EMMETT (Rex) RONSTROM (82) died at Galva, Ill., on July 26. He had been a drummer with Ringling-Barnum and Polack Bros. and was in the film "Greatest Show on Earth" with Merle Evans. Survivors include a daughter, Jeanne Meyer, of Peoria, Ill.

CIRCUS TALENT

Acts appearing with the Clyde Bros. Circus at the fairgrounds in South Bend, Ind. on June 28-29 included:

Milton Zamudio - trapeze balance
 Roger Smith - tigers (6)
 The Paulos Troupe - cradle act
 Curt & Kalea - aerial cradle
 Cucuillo - trampoline
 Margaret's goat and dog
 Raffles and Brad Ward - clowns
 Danny Carey Duo - rola bola
 The Patricks - rola bola
 The Clowns
 Princess Kalea - trained doves
 Mimi Zerbin - trapeze
 Anden's poodle revue
 Ronritas - Wheel of Destiny
 -- Intermission --
 The Flying Dels
 Kirby's chimps
 The Clowns - boxing match
 Patrick & Quen - juggling
 Danny Carey - balance act
 Zamudio - high wire
 The Clowns
 Roger Smith and Margaret Duke -
 the circus elephants
 Ernie McLean - announcer
 Mike Pike - band leader

.... Kaye Scheiman

TAX WOES (Continued)

exempt from taxes.

Under the current plan 15% of the gross earnings are withheld for taxes. If taxes are owed the money is taken from the 15%, if there is money left over it is to be sent to the performer or show.

Miscellaneous

A new book about the CIA and the Circus has been released by Doubleday and is now on sale at your local bookstore. The volume was written by Allistair MacLean.

The July 3rd issue of the Wall Street Journal had a long article on Deggeller Amusemets, with some show business memories by Art "Doc" Miller.

The Hunt's Circus played Bridgeport, Conn., on Aug. 16th sponsored by the Volunteer Fire Dept.

PLEADS FOR PET (Continued)

ed in an inadequate cage, without locks. Ball even took the lion to a nearby lake for a swim, they charge.

Ball, who owns a downtown bar, takes Chinook into town each Sunday, where he sits outside his cage, letting people pet him.

Ball has promised to confine Chinook to the backyard, in a stronger cage, with double locks, if they let him keep the lion.

There won't be any more swimming trips, Ball promised, but I'll still take him down to the bar on Sundays and to various schools for talks about the endangered species.