



America's Favorite Circus Weekly

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Number 9

CIRCUS WORLD SHOWCASE OPEN TO PUBLIC

Several hundred guests attended the premiere opening of Circus World Showcase at Barnum City, Fla., on Feb. 20th. The striped tent-like big top, which covers 25,000 sq. ft. will eventually become a permanent part of Circus World, a unique entertainment complex and city of the circus in motion.

CIRCUS IN FLASHY BOW

The Pen American-Corona Int Circus, managed and MC'd by Don Francisco, was the first show to play the Westchester (N.Y.) Sports Arena this year. They were in for a Feb. 16-18 engagement and pulled crowds that nearly filled the seating area each time.

The show ran 1½ hours, with an intermission. It was backed by an excellent band, with a local guest conductor for one show.

The clowns, headed by Ho-Po the Maine Clown (he made the props included Ernie Lanterman (with a three legged walk and some beautiful jackets), Jim Gourley, Frank Wilson, Laurence Selken, Wayne Miller, Mike Naughton. They had a
(Continued on Back Page)

Showcase is now open to the public, seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$1.95 for adults and 95¢ for juniors, while those under six are admitted free. The single admission price permits visitors to enjoy all the rides and attractions, and parking is on a free basis.

Those attending the premiere were welcomed by Harold Ronk, veteran RBBB ringmaster, and greeted by bands and clowns. After flag raising ceremonies, famous clown Lou Jacobs was introduced and entered the scene riding the huge elephant Anna May.

Assisted by Michu, the world's smallest man, Jacobs and Harvey Cotton, executive assistant to Florida's Governor, and Irvin Feld, RBBB president and producer,
(Continued on Page 3)

big R/B visit

Ringling's Red Unit played here (Atlanta, Ga.) to good business at the Omni. I caught the and thought it was very good.

On Feb. 19th, CFA President Mel Olson stopped while enroute to Orlando for the opening of the RBBB Park and to West Palm Beach for the first meeting of the Flying Geese Family Tent.

While here, Mel, Joe Bradbury, Bill and Lucille Lane, Chas. Menson and myself enjoyed a get-together dinner at the local "Mouse Trap" restaurant.

Both Mel and I visited backstage at the circus, talked with George Strongman, Charlie Smith, Bob Dover and Doc Henderson.

.....Paul Fitzpatrick

notes

Last week Mattel, Inc. reported they had sold their subsidiary, Audio Magnetics Corp. to a group of private investors in the New York area.

Gulf Oil has delayed their decision about buying the RBBB Circus.

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Clark & Walters Collector kit. The kit includes a choice pictorial, tickets, passes, letterheads, advance forms, route cards, herald, color book and program (the color book was drawn by Mrs. Silverlake)

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Lipizzan show....fabulous

The Royal Lipizzan Stallion Show recently played Lake Charles in Louisiana (Feb. 15) and I'd recommend it to everyone. They have a very beautiful and superb performance.

There were easily 5,000 persons attending the show, which was presented at the Civic & Convention Center. Prices were \$2.00 for children and \$3.00 for adults while reserved seats were \$4.00 and \$5.00.

The program, narrated by Austin Miles, featured:

A Ride Through the Turn of the Century with Horses

Pas de Deux

A Touch of Elegance

Friedel Paster

Pas de Trois

The Regal White Stallions

Los Charros de Mexico

Steps and Movements

Miss Bonnie Bale

Hollywood's Horse Star

Pas de Quatre

Chas. Skelton and his horse

Col. E. Trevor Bale

Steps and Movements

Airs Above the Ground

Grand Quadrille

Grand FinaleJoe K. Vernado

NOTE

The New Yorker magazine for Feb. 25, 1974, has a circus type cartoon on Page 35.

notes

The News-Chronicle of Thousand Oaks, Calif. (Feb. 17, 1974) had two pages of pictures and stories about the John Strong Circus and famous circus star Dorothy Herbert

CIRCUS WORLD SHOWCASE (Cont'd)

cut a 12 ft. wide ribbon that was wrapped around the Showcase structure, to officially open the facility.

Featured at Circus World Showcase is a display of circus posters, a huge circus mural, the James A. Bailey Theatre, a variety of circus food goodies, an old-time carrousel, elephant and camel rides and an intimate view of a circus backyard. Everything has been designed as an exciting introduction of what to expect when Circus World is completed.

"Wherever one walks he will be surrounded by a life-like panorama of The Greatest Show on Earth," said Irvin Feld. "There has never been anything like Circus World Showcase to equal its effect, until of course, we present Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus World.

"Like the Greatest Show on Earth, Circus World is unquestionably The Greatest Place on Earth. It is a living, breathing miracle of excitement and wonderment, a testament to Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus' past, present, and future."

ROUTES

Allen's Petting Zoo
Mar. 6-10 Whittier, Cal.

Hubert Castle Circus
Mar 1-9 Minneapolis, Mn
7-10 Portland, Oreg
11-12 Salem

Circus Vargas
Mar 4-5 Savannah, Ga.
6 Macon
7-10 Birmingham, Ala
11 Opelike

Cole All Star TV Circus
Mar 4 Dundee, N. Y.
5 Watkins Glen
6 Fabius
7 Chenango Bridge
8 Harpersville
9 Oneonta
10 Enroute
11 Sherburne
12 Morris

Great Moscow Circus
to Mar. 11 Melbourne, Aus.

Hamid-Morton Circus
Mar 5-10 Kansas City, Mo

Hubler's Int'l Circus
Mar. 7-10 Lansing, Mich.

Fisher Bros. Circus
Mar. 4 La Joya, Texas
5 Rio Grande City
6 Roma
7 Freer
8 Three Rivers
9 Aqua Dulce
10 San Diego
11 Sugarband
12 Columbus

King Bros. Circus
Mar. 9 Apopka, Fla.
10 Mt. Dora
11 Leesburg
12 Cross City
13 Live Oak

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit
Mar. 5-10 Richmond, Va.

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit
Mar. 5-6 Savannah, Ga.
(Convention Center)
8-10 Columbia, S. C.
(Caroline Coliseum)

Royal Lipizzan Stallion Show
Mar. 4 Mobile, Ala.
5-6 New Orleans, La.
8-9 Columbus, Ga.
10 Macon

Sells & Gray Circus
Mar. 9 Mt. Dora, Fla.

Tommy Scott-Tim McCoy Show
Mar. 4 Savannah, Ga.
5 Hampton, S. C.
6 Charleston
7 Orangeburg
8 Manning
9 Sumter
10 Georgetown
11 Myrtle Beach
12 Cerro Gordo:

World Pet Expo
Mar. 9-10 Westbury, L.I.N.Y

..... OTHER ROUTES

Dallas Sports Show
Mar. 10-17 Dallas, Texas

Holiday on Ice
Mar, 5-10 Memphis, Tenn.

Ice Capades
Mar. 5-10 Ottawa, Ont.



If you cannot win,
make the one ahead
break the record.

people

JUDY MUHE wants to buy a web rigging. Write her at: 2639 Calle Olivo, Thousand Oaks, Cal. 91360.

Laura Post, widow of Charles Post, circus band leader, recently returned to her home in Wisconsin after a visit with ex-show troupers on the west coast. RAY HARRIS, former stilt walker on Barnes and Ringling shows, was her chauffeur during the tour.

JOE VARNADO reports he visited with FLOYD BRADFORD when the Holiday Hippodrome Show played Nederland, Texas (Feb. 13).

VIVIAN GRAHAM underwent an emergency operation on Feb. 13th for a ruptured appendix. She is still confined to the hospital, but is improving rapidly.

CHARLIE FRANK, elephant trainer, is now working for Louis Goebels in Southern California.

BOB GARDNER, drummer, will reportedly be back on King Bros. Circus for the '74 season.

TIMMY BICKMORE (12 yrs old) was featured on John Strong's winter dates as the world's youngest magician. He was assisted by his 4 yr. old brother, Toby.

SUZIE MOSLEY and ROBERT GOTHARD were married in North Hollywood, Calif. on Jan. 20th. She is the daughter of the own-

PREPS FOR BUSINESS

The advance promotion for Big John's 1869 Circus got underway here at Canton, Ohio last week. The show is scheduled to present five performances in two days (July 8-9), at a downtown shopping center, sponsored by the Canton Firefighter's Benevolent Assoc.

Last year some 10,000 persons attended the show during its two day stand here. In fact the crowds got so big that the sidewalls had to be taken down, cars were driven in close to the tent and people sat on the hoods and roofs to watch the circus performance. The candy butchers actually worked outside the tent, because they were unable to move about inside.

.....Tom Morrison

ers of the De Wayne Bros. Circus. He is the show's electrician.

BOBBY JOHNSON is Concession Manager on RBBB's Blue Unit this season.

MERLE EVANS was one of the guests attending the premiere opening of Circus World Showcase last month.

SWEDE JOHNSON is the producing clown on RBBB's Blue Unit this year. One of the featured clowns on the show is MARK ANTHONY.

HIPPODROME

HOLIDAY

by M. L. Dupont

Monroe, La., had its first indoor circus of 1974 when the Holiday Hippodrome Circus came to town on Feb. 16th. The show was sponsored by the Monroe Sertoma Club. This was a promotional date and only two small ads appeared in the local paper. It is a pity that more publicity wasn't given the show as this reporter found it to be one of the best "stage" type circuses he has seen. The advance ticket sale was excellent and the matinee only performance was well received.

The show opened with the Dionne Troupe - Raymond and Yolanda and their son Michel -- doing balancing and rolls bolla. They appeared again right after intermission with their high perch pole act. Michel does a head stand atop one pole and Yolanda does a series of swivel twirls atop another pole.

Floyd Bradbury followed with his magic and illusion act. He is assisted by his wife, Marlene and their daughters Sherri and Meledy. The feature illusion has Sherri going into a box, with swords pushed through the box and a cane placed in the center. When the cane comes flying up the swords are removed and the box sides opened to show that it is empty.

Floyd Bradbury also serves as

the show's announcer and its organist. He also does balloon sculpturing, which is a real crowd pleaser, then is on stage to present the mysterious levitation number.

The Ashton Family, who are relatives of the people that operate Ashton's Circus in Australia, have an interesting and unusual act, which offers comedy, risley and music. Featured in the number are Morgan, his wife Jackie, their daughter Golda and son Mike. This number is certainly worthy of the center ring of any show.

The second half of the show opens with Mike juggling balls and hoops, assisted by his sister,

The final act on the program was Bill Brickle's Poodle Fantasy, assisted by John Meyers. In all 17 dogs are used, all of whom wear fantastically beautiful costumes. The dogs work on a red carpet, lined with lights and it all reminds one of the Ziegfeld Follies. Bill wore an Irish Green outfit and hat, with white gloves, while his assistant is also dressed in green. He has some comedy in the number with dogs dressed as an Indian, kangaroo and penquin.

This is Floyd's sixth year as manager of the show and he reports that business has been very good. Most of the dates are repeats and a tentative date has been signed for the show at Monroe in 1975.

(Continued on Back Page)

Madison Square Garden Corporation

At the close of its second quarter (Nov. 30, 1973) the Madison Square Garden Corp. reported a net income of \$1,504,000, equal to 31¢ per share on revenues of \$41,422,000. For the same period a year ago they had a loss of \$130,000, equal to 3¢ per share.

For the six months period, which also ended on Nov. 30, the firm had revenues of \$69,000,000, as compared to \$58,540,000 for the same period a year earlier. The current figures reflect a loss of \$78,000, equal to 2¢ per share.

YEARS AGO

June 13, 1920 - Pittsfield, Mass

Ringling Bros. Barnum & Bailey Circus went through here today enroute from Syracuse, N.Y. to Boston, Mass.

The first section went through at noon and had 22 cars - made up of: 3 horse cars, 16 flats, 3 sleepers and 50 wagons (20 of the wagons were cages), also an auto.

The second section went through at 4 p.m. with 22 cars, made up of all flats, with 64 wagons, 4 autos and two chariots.

The third section went through at 6 p.m. with 24 cars, made up

CIRCUS CLASS

Full-time classes in circus direction have been scheduled by the Lunachersky Institute of Theatrical Arts at Moscow. The Institute has been enrolling students who want to be artists and directors for the past several years.

According to the Institute director, Mark Mestechkin, the new class opened with 14 students, most of whom are expected to "prove an adornment to the profession in five years time."

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of 11 horse cars, 4 flats, 7 sleepers and nine wagons.

The fourth section went through at 7:15 p.m. with 25 cars, made up of 7 horse cars, 6 stock cars and 12 sleepers.

Wagons and sleepers were painted red, the other cars were all yellow and red.

Advance Car No. 1 was in the local railroad yard and all of its people were out to watch the circus trains go by. The Advance car is yellow and dark green.

SHOW IN FLASHY BOW (Continued)

field day appearing in seven numbers, plus the pre-show warm-up and two circulated during intermission, shaking hands and posing for pictures.

The program here featured:

The Burgers - dog and pony revue
 The Clowns - levitation number
 Steve Scott - trapeze
 Bulgarian Luben Duo - perch act
 Clowns - doing their own things
 (long sleeve handshake, cane balance, plate spinning, sword swallowing, three legged clown)
 The Caddy and the Pro - balance
 The Clowns - the hair grower
 George Scott - unridable mule.
 The Clowns - take a picture
 The Coronas - high wire
 The Stoyanoff Troupe - bar act
 Clowns - the fire crackers
 The Blondinos - twin sway poles
 The Burgers - comedy chimps
 Clowns - The washer women
 Van Downens - trained seals
 The Clowns - The Flapper
 Norbu, almost human gorilla
 George Surge Duo - Aerial motorcy.
 Exit March by Circus Band

.....Pat Biesonette

HOLIDAY HIPPODROME SHOW (Cont'd)

The show has been making some long jumps and reports they've had no real trouble, thus far, in getting gas. Their ticket price was \$1.50 for everyone and the show is well worth every penny of that price. It is indeed a show that will always be welcome to come back again.

...M. L. Dupont



Important Note!

This is a special pictorial supplement to the regular issue of *The Circus Report*. This new idea is in answer to many requests for additional pictures of some old-time show members and scenes. We hope you will enjoy this new added feature, which we will try to produce on a weekly basis.

Coming up soon is a new feature - an old-time cartoon featuring circus as drawn by such well known artists as Webster and others. Most of these appeared in various newspapers around the country some years back and we are going to try producing them here.

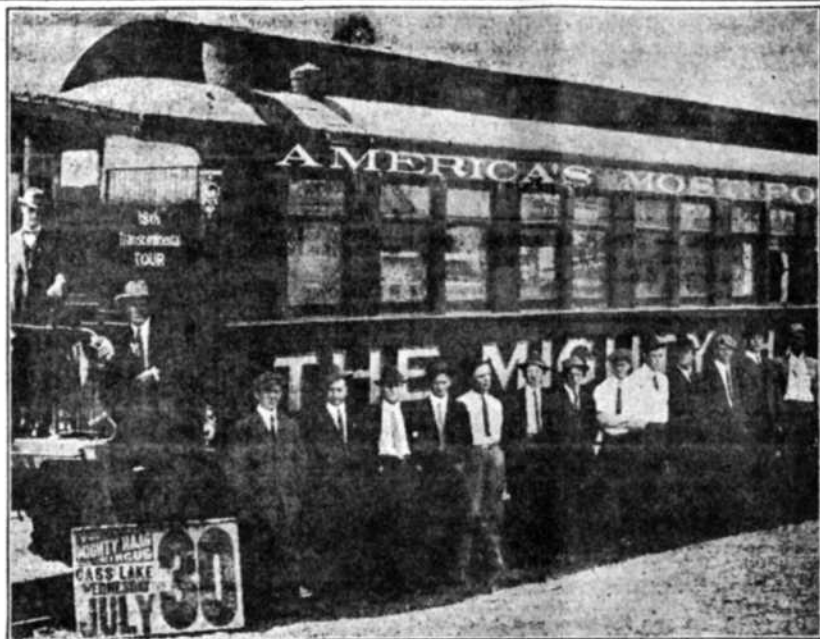
Another feature in *The Circus Report* will be the big list of summer schedule circus routes - we'll soon be back to the big full page listing, so watch for it soon.



BAND MEMBERS of John H. Sparks' Circus, season of 1911, snapped shortly after returning from parade in Claremont, N. H. Seated, left to right, are G. Givens, V. L. Sutton, F. Pratt, F. Smith, G. Cohen, E. Tuttle, T. Gardner and J. W. Donahue. Standing are J. C. Broadley, J. W. Gratton, H. Craybill, C. H. Cooper, Harry D. Barney and R. W. Gossett.



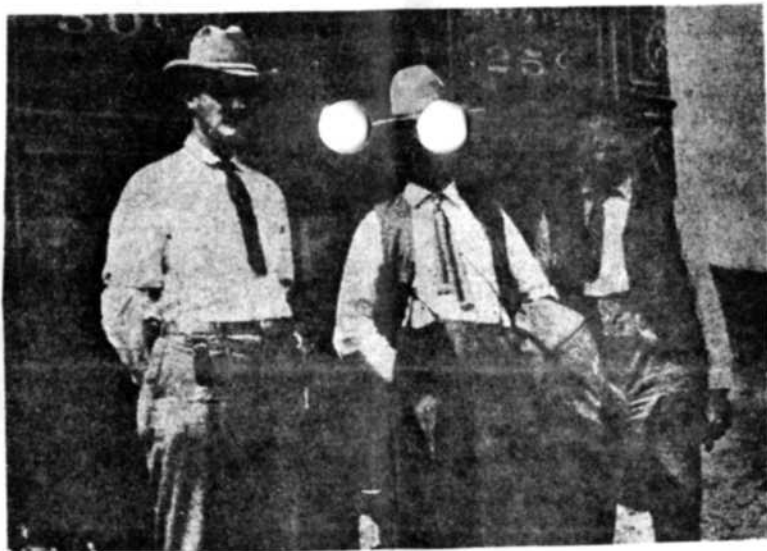
THIS PICTURE of band members of the Norris & Rowe Circus was taken season of 1905. In the front row, left to right, are Homer Dean, James Morley, Jerry Donovan, Joe Von Wile, D. C. (Pop) Smith, leader; Ed Ray, T. P. Fallon, Henry Auerback, U. Verman and Joe Meehan. Second row: F. Hutcheson, Earl Ewing, Frank McStay, F. O. Stuckey, Guy McReynolds, Fred Reed, Alfred Pozzo, J. C. Goetz and A. B. Hahn. Name of the musician on the end is unknown.



Members of the Mighty Haag Shows advertising car include: Vic Stout, car mgr; Judge Hayes, billposter; Joe Rowan, special agent with Goodman Wonder Shows some years later; Jack Hinas; Sam Levine; O. Ramage; T. Cobb; Red Welch; William Spain; Chick Henry D. Murphy; Frenchy Miller; Bob Healey; Arthur Hopper (was on R888 for many years) and Dave Williams.



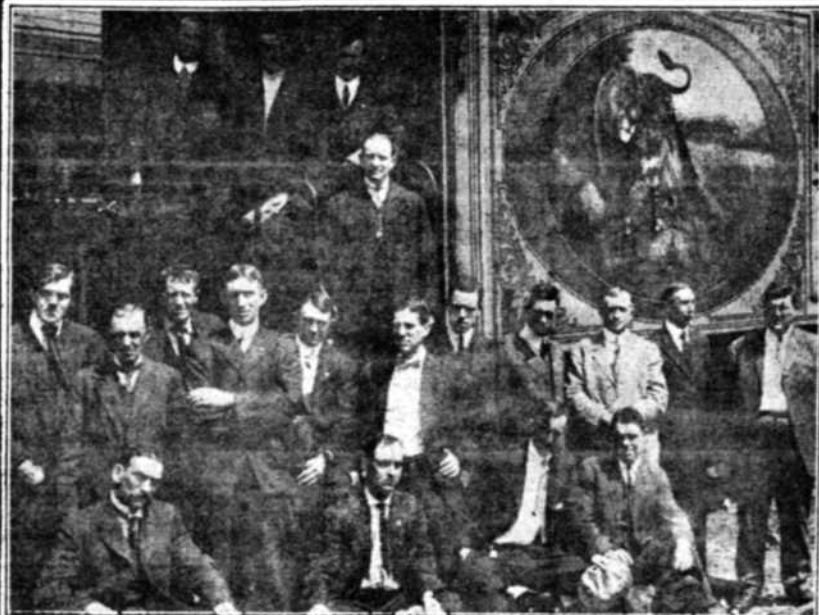
Band members of the Rhodus-Whitely Dog and Pony Show of 1909 included: Rear l.t.r. Ed Shreve; Keith Brumback; John T. Kyle; Charles Gillispe; Joe Turner, Dave Lowry, leader. In the left foreground is George Howk. The name of the bass drummer is not remembered.



THREE officials of the Buffalo Bill-Pawnee Bill Wild West Show, season of 1909. From left to right are Dr. Hayes, show physician; Tom Smith, superintendent of stock and part owner of the show, and Charles Metrius, treasurer. General admission to the show in those days was 50 cents for adults and 25 cents for children under nine years of age.



MEMBERS of Sparks' Circus Band, Jack Phillips, leader, taken season of 1923. Standing, left to right, are Henry Baske, Ed Younger, Jack Phillips, Frank Kible, Tony Lamb and Henry Blank. Seated are August Rutch, John Griffin, Pascal Hays, Charles Dirr, Paul Matheson, Leon Forsythe, a Mr. Stewart; Charles Wetterman, a Mr. Putman, James Norman, E. J. Ewing and Bert Proctor.



Members of Barnum & Bailey's Advertising Car No. 2 in 1913 were: On the platform are Mike Boiling and Babe Mulvihill. Doc St. Clair, car manager is on the steps. On the ground are: Mr. Ross; Col. Librant; John Holland; John Ryan. Seated are: Col. Schellcross (later paste-maker on RBBB); Mickey Vernie and at right is William Funk.



McCALL'S CONCERT BAND snapped while with the La Tena Three-Ring Wild Animal Circus in Portland, Me., June 12, 1915. Standing, left to right, are Frank Reeser, J. Louis Sanderson, Irene Kober (soprano), Ed Hemhauser, Ed Bostwick and M. C. Sherman. Seated: M. M. Baker, E. E. Larson, R. Tronty, C. H. Richardson, Billy Taylor, Ed Phelps, Pascale Perry and W. W. Allen. J. Albert McCall, director, is in front.

Letters

We certainly enjoy The Circus Report and look forward to its arrival every week.

...Jack B. Rounder

I wouldn't ever want to miss a copy of Circus Report so let me know when my subscription is going to expire.

..... Wm. Culley

Circus Report gets better and better with each issue. You are doing a superb job.

...William G. Caldwell

I like your paper and am happy that I've subscribed.

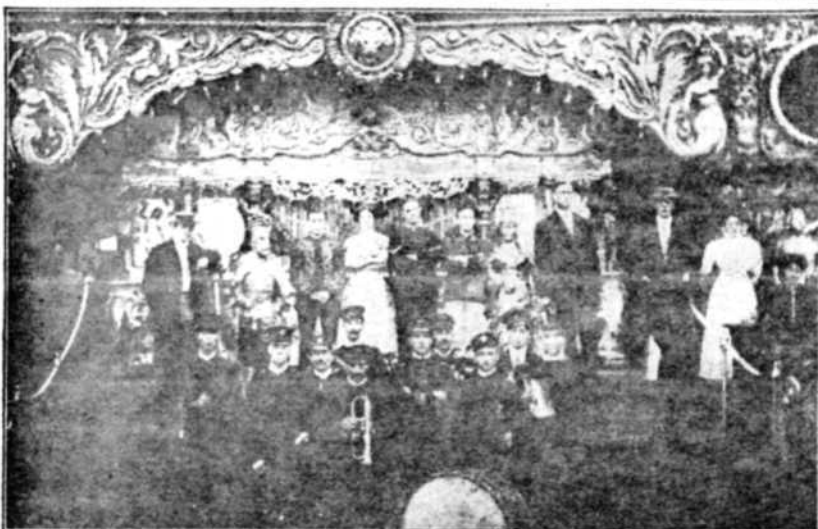
....Harry

Those old-time photos are great can you give us more of this sort of thing?

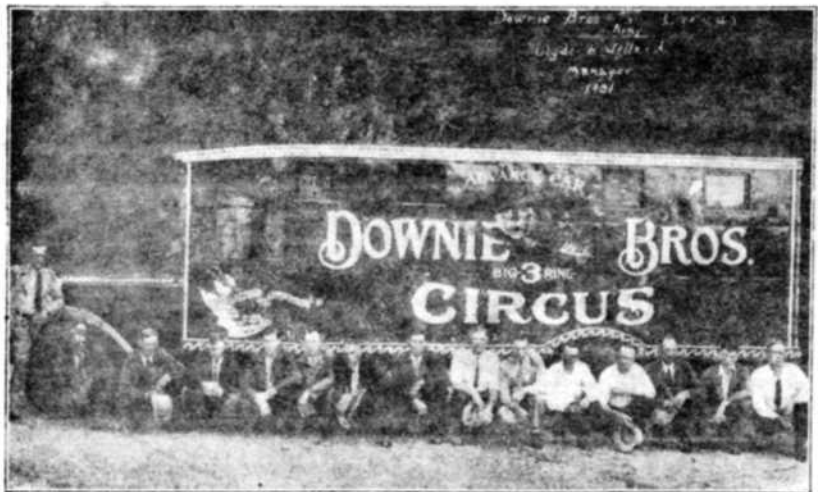
.....Wm. Ruskin

If the gas problem gets worse we may just have to depend on Circus Report for our news and visit to the circus.

....Barbara Garden



PERSONNEL of King Edward Trained Wild Animal Show in King Edward Park, Montreal, season of 1912. On the front are Harry Bentum, general agent, now manager of Bench Bentum's Diving Sensations; Herr Bertino, Mlle. Flora, Capt. Charles Martin and Bert DeRenzo, animal trainers; Carl Turnquist, superintendent; B. H. Patrick, general manager, and Mrs. Patrick. Mrs. Turnquist is in the ticket box. Joe Cicardo's Band is in front. The organ was a \$25,000 Gaviola, imported by Louis Berni.



ADVERTISING CAR NO. 1 of Downie Bros.' Circus. On car, reading from left to right; are Clyde H. Willard, manager; James R. Ramsey, boss billposter; Robert Thatcher, William Falconberry, Winton W. Holloway, Harold Kilpatrick, Pete Rivers, Frank Ford, W. J. Wedge, Harry Patterson, Robert Hiatt, Earl Blackford, Walter Skelton, Jimmie Healey and E. C. Ward.