



America's Favorite Circus Weekly

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STAR LINKED TO CIRCUS THEFT

With just two weeks still remaining for the Gatti-Charles Circus tour of 1973, of a 32 week run, George Hanneford has been accused of stealing circus property.

There was just no reason for it, M. J. Gatti, manager of the circus, said. "I think there are good grounds for a nice suit."

According to reports the show finished up its date at Yuma, Ariz. on Oct. 25th, then after everything was loaded, the show personnel had openly discussed an upcoming two week tour in the Caribbean. Final plans for the shipment of animals and equipment, to the islands, were to be discussed the following morning.

About 3 a.m. on Oct. 26th, the Hanneford trucks pulled off the lot says Mr. Gatti. Then it was discovered that a considerable amount of circus equipment had been dumped in the middle of the field. Further investigation revealed that Hanneford had allegedly taken the show's concessions and equipment, along with the canvas backdrop, all of the stakes, the sound system and the show costumes.

(Continued on Page 5)

DeWayne finds good business in Northwest

As the season comes to a close this week in Arizona, officials of the De Wayne Bros. Circus report 1973 has been one of the show's better years. Business was good, says Cliff Mosley, with some strong dates in both Alaska and in Canada. Often extra shows were required, he added.

At least four towns -- Tok, Watson Lake and Haines, in Alaska, and Ucluelet in British Columbia, had never before had a circus. We had to give extra shows at each of these towns, Mosley said.

Many major cities in the far north area have been played regularly by the circus for the past several years, still to good business (Continued on Page 3)

DEBUT AT FAIR

Some 70,000 persons attended performances of the Stebbing's Royal Circus during its debut at the Virginia State Fair (Sept. 21-30). The show is using a brand new big top (European style) made by the U. S. Tent & Awning Co., which has seating for 2,000 persons.

The show is currently at its winter home in Sarasota, Fla., but hopes to start touring early next year. According to reports both tented and outdoor dates have already been booked for 1974. Advance phone promotional activities and sell-out dates are scheduled.

The show's staff includes:

Francis and Lillian Stebbing - owners/directors
 Anita Stebbing - gen. manager
 John Stebbing - admin. assist.
 Bill Stebbing - equest. director
 Rita Seagraves - wardrobe
 Florine Oler - musical director
 Ross Taylor - publicity
 John Francis - canvas supt.
 Bill Johnson - animal supt.
 Vicky Lynn - secretary
 Guss Luppe - show photographer
 Carol Stebbing - aerial produc.

The program, as presented at the Virginia Fair featured:

Al Vidbel's elephants (3) →

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AUSTRALIAN notes

(From The Outdoor Showman)

The combined presentation of Ashton's Circus and Circus Royal at Newcastle drew rave press notices. The show was hailed "as a new era of circus in Australia." In addition to playing other Australian cities it is now expected that the show will also tour New Zealand.

Alberto's Circus and Zoo is no longer a mini-circus, but has developed into a full-fledged show. They've been playing in the Queens land area.

Sole Bros. Circus made a quick trip into New South Wales where they were featured at the Royal Adelaide Show (August) and at the Royal Melbourne Show (September). They do two shows a day, and feature only ground acts.

Scott's Unrideable Mule
 Princess Tiana - trapeze
 Rosco, the Clown
 Vidbel's liberty horses (8)
 Gus and Ursula - juggling
 Stebbing's Circus bears (3)
 Clown Number
 Zarack - football horse
 Clown Number
 John Stebbing - chimps
 Stebbing's Family trained dogs
 Stevana - high wire
 Donald - plate spinning
 Miss Sharon and Al Mara Raffada
 - high school horses
 Carol Francis - aerial web
 Clown Number
 Stebbing Family's whips/roping

FILM DEAL

Negotiations are underway between R888 president Irvin Feld and producer Irwin Allen for the production of a movie which will be called "Circus." The film will be based on a story now being written by Alistar Maclean, and is to be released for Christmas 1975 by 20th Century Fox.

Budgeted at between \$6 and \$7 million the film will be loaded with sales angles. It will be filmed in a 3-D process that does not require viewers to wear special glasses. The Ringling-Barnum Circus will serve as the background for the movie.

Approximately eleven major stars will be featured in the new movie, with admission being setup on a hard-ticket program. Cost of outfitting some 62 theatres across the country to handle the 3-D process is expected to run about \$18,000 per house.

DE WAYNE (Continued)

Show officials are: Cliff Mosley, owner/mgr; Gerry Mosley, business mgr; Dottie Morris, concessions and Doug Morris, general secretary.

For a review of the circus and a list of its program acts see Circus Report for Oct. 29, 1973 - Page 7.

NOTICE

Posters for sale - R888, Cole and truck shows, as well as foreign and carnival units. Write: Circus Memories Museum, Fryeburg, Maine.

NEW SHOW TO BOW

Rumors were confirmed last week when it was announced that Hoxie Tucker and John Lewis will operate a show on a partnership basis next year.

For some time John Lewis has wanted his own show and so in 1974 he will have the "Hoxie's Lewis Bros. Circus" on the road. The show will use an 80 ft. round end top with three 30 ft. middles, capable of seating 1,800 people.

JOINS ALLEY

Both Billy Ford and Eddie, the American Clown, joined the Sells & Gray Circus for that show's closing dates in Georgia. They helped sell coloring books, worked in the production numbers and then also took part in the walk-arounds at Roswell, East Dublin and McRae.

Bob, Doris and Jeff Earl worked concessions on the show and like most of the other show folks have headed for their homes in Florida. Later this month Billy and Eddie will be in Florida where they'll visit with the Campa Family.

The Hillenos, who between them represent some 90 years of show business, announced their retirement last month. They presented dogs, chimps and monkey acts on the circus. It was a sad center ring farewell when all the show folks gathered to offer them their best wishes. Wilson Storey presented flowers and gifts on behalf of the circus and its personnel.

ROUTES

Beatty-Cole Circus

Nov. 5 Selma, Ala.
6 Opelika
7 Atlanta, Ga.

Clyde Bros. (Blue Unit)

Nov. 8 Snyder, Texas
9-10 San Angelo
11 Brownwood

Clyde Bros. (Red Unit)

Nov. 9-11 Macon, Ga.

Fisher Bros. Circus

Nov. 5 Nixon, Texas
6 Kandy

-- End of Season --

Happytime Circus

to Nov. 11 Phoenix, Ariz

Int'l Boys Circus

to Nov. 22 Mexico City

Keye Continental Circus

Nov. 7-11 Kansas City, Mo.

Emmett Kelly Jr. Circus

Nov. 10 St. Paul, Minn.

Miller-Johnson Circus

Nov. 2-5 Portland, Oreg.
6 Salem
9-12 Hayward, Calif.

Ringling's Blue Unit

Nov. 6-11 Detroit, Mich.

Ringling's Red Unit

Nov. 7-19 Nassau, L.I., N.Y.

Royal Lipizzan Show

Nov. 7-8 Raleigh, N.C.
9-11 Richmond, Va.

Tommy Scott-Tim McCoy Show

Nov. 5 Maryville, Tenn.
6 Harriman
8 Livingston
9 Cookeville
10 Pikeville

Wallace & Rogers Circus

Nov. 6 The Dalles, Oreg.
-- End of Season --

..... OTHER SHOWS

Cattle Call Rodeo

Nov. 10-11 Brawley, Cal.

Circle D Rodeo

Nov. 10 Marianna, Fla

Fiesta Folklorico

Nov. 5-7 Kansas City, Mo

Golden Spike Rodeo

Nov. 8-10 Ogden, Utah

Holiday on Ice (Int'l)

Nov. 6-11 Green Bay, Wisc
13-17 Lansing, Mich

Holiday on Ice (Net'l)

Nov. 9-18 Indianapolis, In

Ice Capades

Nov. 7-11 San Diego, Cal.

Ice Follies

Nov. 6-18 Chicago, Ill.

Indoor Rodeo

Nov. 9-11 Bismarck, N.D.

Kiwanis Rodeo

Nov. 9-11 Sioux Falls, SD

Longhorn Rodeo

Nov. 8-11 Greenville, SC

Model Train Exhibit

Nov. 3-5 Emeryville, Cal

Pacific Int'l Livestock Expo

Nov. 9-11 No. Portland, Ore
Small World (Disney)
Nov. 6-11 Baltimore, Md.

..... CARNIVALS

Big H Rides

to Dec. 23 Charleston, SC

Century 21 Shows

Nov. 6-11 Lake Charles, La

FunFair Amusements

Nov. 6-10 Andrews, SC

Page Combined Shows

Nov. 5-10 Millen, Ga.



Sula

GATTI-CHARLES (Continued)

The police were notified and the Hannefords were apprehended about 9 miles down the highway, reports M. J. Gatti. "We only recovered a portion of the missing items," he added, "as they claimed some of the things were their personal property."

"The local sheriff was a witness to the confrontation," Gatti told The Circus Report. "The man was on hand to hear the discussion which followed after he was apprehended, including the charges and a request that all items be returned. He has also been given a list of the missing show equipment."

In response to a question about the 1973 season, both M. J. Gatti and Al Charles agreed that it had been "a good season."

Several new plans are already underway for the show's 1974 season, which will feature an all new program and a tour of some 30 or more weeks.

ORDER NOW

There's still time to order your copy of the 1973 Merle Evans concert recording, because of a deadline extension. The record was made at Clayton County College in Georgia and features Merle and his famous horn in at least one number.

The recording is available at just \$5.00 from: The Secretary, Duggan Bros. CFA Tent No. 116, Box 63, Jonesboro, Georgia - 30236.



It's not too early to start thinking about the coming holiday season. Why not send your friends a greeting via The Circus Report?

We can arrange an attractive holiday greeting for you at the small cost of just \$2.50. Get your order in now and be a part of the Dec. 24th special issue.

SEARCH ENDS

A search for a missing young tiger at a circus in Alexandria, Egypt, ended late last week on a sad note.

The tiger's remains were said to have been found in a cage with two young lions -- who had eaten the animal.

MOSCOW CIRCUS TOUR

The Great Moscow Circus has announced plans for a four month tour of Australia early in 1974. While the program itself has not yet been completed, the tour dates have already been set.

The schedule will be --
 Jan. 1-14 Christchurch, N.Z.
 19-29 Wellington
 Feb. 2-12 Auckland
 22-Mar. 11 Melbourne
 Mar. 15-24 Adelaide
 29-Apr. 7 Sydney.

'BIG JOHN' GOES EAST

A complicated series of early holiday bookings has been announced by John Strong, which will start on Nov. 16th. Two show units will be operated by John Strong, while a third unit is under the direction of James Hargrove.



The units will work alone, but on occasion will merge with one or the other group for a major date. Perhaps the biggest date for the season is that scheduled at St. Louis, Mo., for Dec. 5th.

John Strong's Int'l Circus will be playing the Southwest and Mid-west areas. This show will be featuring May Kover, Lee Noblitt, The Wal-Tims, Miss Jan, Irena and David, Bob Rawls, Bucky Steele, Gee Gee Engesser, Ron Perry and Miss Paulette. Clowning on the big show will be: Sparky, Patches, Bob Rawls and Steve Baker.

Murray Hill's Great London Circus will play Mid-west and Eastern dates booked by James Hargrove, and will merge with the J. Strong unit for the St. Louis date. In addition to Hill's animals, the show will be featuring Gus & Ursula, The Johnsons, The Alberti's and the Fenton Kids.

Playing in California is the "Santa's Christmas Revue" show which will merge with the John Strong unit at the start and end of the holiday tour.

Dates for this letter show were booked by John Strong, while

FINALE

CHARLES CHRISTIAN (79) died at Lynchburg, Va. on Oct. 10th after a long illness. He had worked on Ringling Bros. Circus, Royal American Shows and was stage manager at the old Trenton Theatre.

BERT LINDSAY, husband of Mary Sole and a partner in the Sole Bros. Circus, of Australia, died at Sydney in early August. He was a member of the Charlebert Bros. acrobatic and balancing duo, and was featured in the Storey and Lindsay knockabout number.



It might be new on the scene, but it's the best way you can get show news - that's The Circus Report.

Why not subscribe today and start getting a copy each week - it's only \$10.00 for the year.

Write: Don Marcks, 525 Oak Street, El Cerrito, Cal. 94530

Ruth Strong will manage the front end and work with the sponsors. Betty Wendany will be the show's program director.

Appearing in the program will be Ed Russell, the Wendany Family, John Strong's children, plus clowns Zippo, Ted Tutwiler and Phil Shear. Music for the big show will be provided by Dick Cross at the organ.

THE RATINGS**CIRCUS OWNER**

Leaps tall buildings in a single bound

Is more powerful than a locomotive

Is faster than a speeding bullet

Walks on water,

Dictates policy to God.

MANAGER

Leaps short buildings in a single bound

Is more powerful than a switch engine

Is just as fast as a speeding bullet

Talks with God

PERFORMERS

Leaps short buildings with a running start

Is almost as powerful as a switch engine

Is faster than a speeding BB

Walks on water in an indoor swimming pool

Talks with God if special request is approved.

MUSICIANS

Barely clears a Quonset hut

Loses tug of war with a hand car

Can fire a speeding bullet

Swims well

Is occasionally addressed by God

PROP BOSS

Makes high marks on wall when trying to leap buildings

Is run over by locomotives

Can sometimes handle gun without inflicting self-injury.

Dog Paddles

Talks to animals

CIRCUS visit

Although RBBB's Red Unit started its Chicago engagement on Oct. 2nd, it wasn't until the 13th that I was able to get down to the show. They were playing in the International Amphitheatre and offered a colorful and good program.

My visit to the circus was made even more enjoyable thanks to Bob Dover, Lou Jacobs, Frosty and Frankie Saluto. During intermission I visited backstage and also met the three lady clowns -- Peggy Williams, Barbara Nadel and Sandra Totman.Ted Tosky

CONCESSIONAIRES

Runs into Buildings

Recognizes locomotives two out of three times,

Is not issued ammunition

Can stay afloat with a life jacket

Talks to walls

PHONEMEN

Falls over doorsteps when trying to enter building

Never rode a train

Wets himself with a water gun

Plays in mud puddles

Mumbles to himself.

PROMOTER

Lifts buildings and walks under them

Kicks locomotives off the track
Catches bullets in his teeth and eats them

Freezes water with a single glance

Is God.....

....Submitted by Jan Bickmore

PEOPLE

TERRELL JACOBS, Jr. reports his Candyland Circus has completed a "really good season in the Pacific Northwest area."

JIM DANDY, juggler and unicyclist, has signed to appear on several big Christmas shows this year. He is changing the name of his act to "Jesse Monefeldt" which is his real name.

HOLLY LYNN STEBBING, daughter of John and Vicky Stebbing, was born at Richmond, Va. on Sept. 21st.

JOE LEMKE is playing Shrine circus dates at Dallas, San Antonio, Austin and Fort Worth.

FRANKIE SALUTO, has been clowning for some 45 years. He plans to retire when RBBB winds up its current tour.

TAD TOSKY (former clown) reports his wife is home from an extensive hospital stay. She is starting to show signs of improvement, he said.

JACKIE ZERBINI, serialist, broke an ankle when she jumped from a horse at the Arabia Shrine Circus in Houston, Texas.

LOU JACOBS, lead clown on RBBB's Red Unit, is currently teaching at the show's College for Clowns.

RALPH DUKE has been working the Bobby Gibbs 6 pony drill on the Texas Shrine dates.

JACK and SANDY FULBRIGHT are on their farm near Athens, Texas for the winter season.

Pot-Pourri

A company in Africa is working to build-up a market for elephant meat. The first shipment is set for meat markets in Britain.

A Beloit, Wisc. reporter recently turned out two circus stories. One about Hoxie Tucker, and the other on J. F. Beardsley, circus fan and collector.

A gorilla was born at the San Diego, Calif. Zoo on Oct. 15th. It is the second such birth recorded at the zoo.

An amusement park in St. Louis, Mo. was damaged by fire on Oct. 17. Officials say the park will reopen next year on schedule.

De Wayne Bros. Circus presented two performances at Casa Grande, Arz on Oct. 28th.

It is now legal to haul 14 ft. wide trailers on streets and highways in Missouri. The new law was approved in October when the Missouri State Highway Commission voted 4-2 in favor of the ruling.

That elephant the Circo Blue Star recently purchased is "Sis" the Glen Henry bull.



BEN DE WAYNE has reportedly taken over the handling of the Paul Kaye Circus elephants. The animals were formerly worked by PEE WEE PENSION.

RANDOM RAMBLINGS

by ART "Doc" MILLER

Recall the old-fashioned umbrella stands that were sort of a status symbol and graced the front hall in many houses? The majority were made of embossed polished brass, others colorful glazed tile and a very few were made from elephant's feet. Sounds amazing, but it's true.

Back in the spring of 1913, the Wabash River went on a rampage at Peru, Ind., home of the then famous Great Wallace Circus. While most of its animals were rescued, eight or so elephants did drown and thereby hangs the tale. A taxidermist, sensing a golden opportunity at hand, hit upon the idea of making umbrella stands out of the elephant's feet and ankles.

Just how popular these weird stands became, I'll never know, but the imaginary history of these, as time marches on, has become fantastic. One proud owner assured me HIS FOOT came from the very elephant shot by Robert E. Lee, when the Damn Yankees seized the John Robinson Circus and attempted to train their elephants for cavalry mounts. Another owner whispered HIS FOOT was stolen from the mounted hide of a sacred elephant in a guarded Persian temple. Still another, unaware that the real article is still on display at Tuft's College, in New England, explained with gusto that HIS FOOT came from P. T. Barnum's Jumbo, killed back in 1882, in Ontario, Canada.

SHOWBIZ Cowboy

Jimmie Groves, cowboy rope spinner and his wife, visited Frank and Bernice Dean, at their home in Palmdale, Cal. on Oct. 21. The Groves were on an extended vacation trip that started in Ellsbury, Mo. and covered eleven western states.

Jimmie was a cowboy on the Clyde Beatty Circus and Russell Bros. Circus concerts, and was with the Fort Peck Wild West Rodeo for three years. Now, Jimmie is staying close to home and confines his performances to the St. Louis area where he can be seen occasionally when his railroad job schedule permits it, doing a rope spinning and joke telling act in the style of the famed Will Rogers. In fact Jimmie says he uses some of Rogers' comments about Washington and they are just as true today as they were 40 years ago.

Now if you collect the rare, the ridiculous, the sublime and are on the look-out for an elephant foot umbrella stand, beware of some crafty person who just might confidentially advise you that HIS FOOT came over on the May flower, was smuggled off the ship in the dead of night, right under the nose of the Narragansett Indian Immigration and Customs House, sneaked inland and hidden for many years in a Hoosick Falls cave. Beware! For he speaks with a forked tongue and possesses just another 1913 Peru, Ind., product, authentic of course.

Bears, Alligators, Monkeys, Cheetahs and Even a Zebra ...

5,000 Exotic Animals Were Captured on Los Angeles

By DAVID KLEIN

Interested in seeing lions, tigers, monkeys, alligators, bears and foxes roaming around loose? Visit the streets of Los Angeles.

A boom in "exotic pets" plus owners' failure to control them at times has turned Los Angeles County into an outdoor zoo, says William Preston, supervisor of the county's Dept. of Animal Control.

"Last year alone we had to take into custody nearly 5,000 exotic animals," he reported.

"They included three brown bears, at least 30 alligators, dozens of monkeys, a cougar, a tiger, a boa constrictor, a couple of cheetahs, ocelots, foxes, a timber wolf, a leopard, and even a zebra.

"Dogs and cats are outmoded as pets around here."

When the exotic animals get loose they frequently cause an understandable uproar among local residents, he said. "A woman in Panorama City

(Reprinted from the "National Enquirer" of late September 1973)

YEARS AGO

About 63 years ago, the Two Bill's Show was playing at Green Bay, Wisc. A previous rain had soaked the lot and wagons were all sinking to the top of their wheels

I saw 69 horses pulling, with two bulls in back pushing, to get a stringer wagon off the lot. The sod was piled up to the driver's seat at times and had to be kept shoveled away in order to keep the wagon moving.

By the time they got finished that lot looked like a stripped surface coal mine.

.....Tad Tosky



Streets Last Year

here was hanging out her wash in the backyard last year when she looked up and saw a 14-foot python nearby. You can imagine the state she was in when she called us. Two of our men captured it.

"A wolf that was supposed to be domesticated got loose, bit a boy and led us a chase for four hours until we netted it, still biting and fighting.

"In another incident, someone going past a construction site looked down and saw an Indian cobra, whose bite is usually fatal. Four of our officers wearing heavy protective clothing netted it. It had been the pet of a Hollywood man."

Every year hundreds of mountain lions, snakes and other wild animals come out of the foothills surrounding the city and into residential areas, he said.

"Last summer a woman in Granada Hills near here looked out of her bedroom window. A mountain lion was having a drink out of her swimming pool.

"We cornered it and gave it a tranquilizer shot, then took it back into the wilds and released it.

"Rattlesnakes appear often on our streets. We usually have to kill those."

Just about any animal can be legally owned by permit in Los Angeles County, Preston said. "There are at least 10 privately-owned elephants being kept in the county right now.

"If a citizen can show he can care for his animal and that it's not a nuisance to anyone, he has a perfect right to own it."

One of the toughest jobs his department had was to capture a small but determined sparrow, Preston confessed.

"You've heard of a bull in a china shop? This sparrow had somehow gotten into a downtown L.A. drugstore and was flying around, diving at customers, knocking bottles off shelves and doing a lot of damage.

"Our best men couldn't catch it. For about an hour we were utterly frustrated.

"Here were animal officers who can capture deer, bear and wildcats — and a little sparrow was defying us.

"Finally it landed on a flat surface and we were able to get a net over it. We all breathed a sigh of deep relief. Later we let it fly away outdoors, unharmed and as lively as ever."



Bandmen with the J. Augustus Jones's Cole Bros. Circus included: Doc Spurrier, who went on to become a physician in Fort Smith, Ark.; Glenn G. Geneva, who later had his own orchestra, and Teddy Cook. (1916)

APPOINTMENT

The appointment of James G. Hergen as vice president of corporate market for RBBB's Circus World (Florida) was announced last week.

Mr. Hergen is a former NBC-TV executive and in his new position he will be responsible for the development of the corporate program whereby major American business firms will be invited to participate in the sponsorship of activities at Circus World. He is to initiate sales of corporate sponsorship and maintain liaison with corporate sponsors in Circus World areas of transportation, shopping and dining, as well as in the games, rides and arcades on the exciting and colorful Circus World Midway.

Show Date

Acts appearing on the Dr. Pepper Circus at Dallas, Texas (Oct. 6-22) included:

Henry, Gibbs, Connors
- trained ponies

The Luvas - perch act
Los Stilletos

Rucker's chimps

Senorita Rosa - ironjaw

Pete and Petrova

Miss Pauline - web

Connors, Ralphs, Henry
- trained dogs

Frausteins - globes

Aguars - foot juggle

Eddie & Eddie - trap.

Rucker and Gibbs -
trained elephants

Clowns on the show included: Dime and Connie Wilson, Abe Goldstein, Dave Harrington and partner.

HELP WANTED

An introductory Circus Arts course is planned for the upcoming Spring Semester at Nassau Community College in Garden City New York. They are interested in obtaining books concerning circus subjects and equipment (teeterboard, perch pole, trapeze, wire rigging, etc.)

If you have any such items available or can assist the college in any way contact: Dr. Kenneth Veselak, Dept. of Health and Physical Education, Nassau Community College, Garden City, Long Island, N. Y. - 11530

SHOW VISIT

Visited Hubert Castle and his circus on Oct. 13th, writes Paul Fitzgerald. They have a "truly great show."

The Zoppe Riding Act got an ovation that shook the rafters. They deserve it for their's is an "outstanding act."

Also visited with Bert and Marie Pettus, says Paul.

On Oct. 15th, I saw Sells & Gray Circus at Covington, Ga. and then went back to see them at Roswell, Ga. on Oct. 20th. Several fans were on the lot -- Joe Bradbury, Robert Peckham and son, and Arthur Morrison. We certainly enjoyed the pre-show concert by the band, as presented from the center ring.

GATTI-CHARLES . . .

Circus fans in Arizona visited the Gatti Charles Circus at Montgomery on Oct. 21st and report it was a nice show. The show played in the stadium and drew good crowds. The elephant act was one of the outstanding features, they report, while the band was good and the whole program was well-paced.

Fans attending the circus included: June Curry, Mack Helman, Bill Jameson, Fred Reed, and Carl and Ginny Helbing. They brought along coffee and goodies -- a welcome break for the show folks during tear-down time.