

THE CIRCUS REPORT

Number 28

July 13, 1981

AMERICA'S
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Our 10th Year



ROBERT LOCKE LORRAINE

Show Dates

Carson & Barnes Circus

July 13 Owatonna, Minn.
 14 Austin
 15 Mason City, Iowa
 16 New Hampton
 17 Waukon
 18 Dubuque
 19 Clinton

Castle Int'l Circus

July 12-13 Pasco, Wash.
 15 Miles City, Mont.
 16 Lemmon, S.D.
 17 Deadwood
 18 Dickinson
 19 Mobridge

Circus Arts Troupe

July 15-18 Cleveland, Oh.

Circus City Festival

July 15-18 Peru, Ind.

Circus Vargas

July 17-19 Rockford, Ill.

Great American Circus

July 6 Elizabethtown, Pa.
 7 York
 8 Lampeter
 9 Ephrata
 10 Red Hill

Hoxie Bros. Circus

July 13 Hazlet, NJ
 14 Point Pleasant
 15 Haverstraw, NY
 16 Ellenville
 18 Kingston
 19 Saratoga Springs

Ringling-Barnum - Blue

Ringling-Barnum - Red

July 14-19 San Diego, Cal.

Royal Crown Circus

July 15-17 Wichita, Kans.

Royal Imperial Circus

July 16-19 Englewood, Colo

Swan Bros. Circus

July 17-18 Chico, Calif.

TNT & Royal Olympic

July 17-19 Bemidji, Minn.

Wenatchee Youth Circus

July 16 Tacoma, Wash.
 18 Portland, Ore.
 19 Salem

--- MAGIC ---

David Copperfield

to July 20 Las Vegas, Nev.

I. B. M. Convention

July 15-18 Pittsburgh, Pa.

Krystali's Kavalcade

July 13-15 Peoria, Ill.
 16-18 Springfield

Prf. Miller-Magic Time USA

July 13 Alexandria, Ind
 14 Kendalsville
 15 Logansport
 16 Rochester
 17 Crawfordsville
 18 Elmwood
 19 Rushville

Starfire

July 13-19 Kansas City, Mo

---- OTHER DATES ----

Burr's Fun-O-Rama

July 13-19 Orleans, Mass

James H. Drew Exposition

July 13-18 Olney, Ill.

Poco Plus -

to Sep 20 Des Moines, Iowa

Tent Troupe

July 13 Endwell, NY
 14 Wyalusing, Pa.
 15 Troy
 16 So. Williamsport
 17 Sunbury
 18 Shippensburg

Tip Top Shows - Blue

July 14-19 Seymour, Wsc

Tip Top Shows - Green

July 14-19 Baraboo, Wsc

Whizzer the Clown

July 19 Castalia, Ohio

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REPORT

CIRCUS ARNADO in Norway

BY DOUGLAS MAC-VALLEY

Taking advantage of some time off from the 'Playboy Fantasy' show in Atlantic City, due to an N.B.C. Sports World boxing event, I traveled to Norway to visit Circus Arnado.

The European-styled circus, one ring under a big top, was beautifully set against the valleys and mountains of Norway. The show was excellent and very well received.

The program included: Apnig Skocert, orchestra; Posna and Kornelia (juggling on unicycle); Manesjen Klareres; Anita & Brandy; Miss Isabella (unique trapeze classic); Barbereren; Duo Carrington (poodles); Nock and Nock (high wire); Los Alamos; Trio Sibero (high perch); Six Maciva (Richter horse back riding); Les Brumbach (equilibrist on trapeze); Pio, Mario, Pio (comedy fantasy); the Richter Troupe (classic teeterboard with the elephants); Finale.

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Highlight of the show that brought the crowd to it's feet was the fabulous performances of The Richter Troupe and their incredible teeterboard with elephants act. The act was a great ending to a fantastic show.

Another high spot was the Nock family. Both troupes have performed in the U.S. at Circus World and have been featured in the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus.

The Richter Troupe has also appeared on every television program in Norway and have received excellent write-ups in the newspapers.

Mr. Arnado expressed his happiness in this year's edition and commented that a search for acts, in the U.S. for his next production, would begin in April and conclude in Oct.

ROGER and MARY ANN GOODWIN visited STU MILLER's show at Bellows Falls, Vt. and report the show had big crowds, and the show is a fantastic one.



BILLY BARTON

Donna Wallen gave birth to a boy, Eugene, June 5, weighing in at 6 lbs. 14 oz. The announcement came to me from the Wallens, postmarked Fort Wayne, Ind.

Mike and Janice Aria, along with brother Gil, are really enjoying their park date in Japan. In one, very long letter to me they enumerated the many advantages of playing the date and remarked how considerate are the Japanese. They will be there through the summer, perhaps longer.

Tommy Bentley called to say his California tour was not so profitable as in previous years, but did not go into details. When he talked with me he was enroute east and partner, Chuck Clancy, was already in Cincinnati kicking off their annual promotion in that city.

Wally Naghtin reports business for the Red Unit continues good and that everything is smooth and quiet on the show. He returns in 1982 and Doris is busy making new wardrobe.

Closeups: Juggler Joey Jordan writes he is enjoying his run at the Playboy Hotel Casino in A.C. . . . A truck driver, Mel, was killed on Circus Vargas in a jump from Idaho to Montana. In the accident two other show workers were hospitalized. . . When the Vargas show played Reno many attended the MGM show "Hello, Hollywood"; next night went to Harrah's to see "Heat's On". Acts at Reno's MGM are Dolly Sisters (bikes), Hans Pantar and Maureen (crossbow marksman), Bobby Berosini, Dewert (cloud swing). At Harrah's: The Stupids and Sammy King, comic/vent. Also visited was Circus Circus where Vargas folks chatted with the Hartzells and the Waltens. They watched the flying act with Billy Woods and Tony Steele. Exchange Reno visitors to the Vargas lot were The Dolly Sisters, The Klementis, the Waltens and Dewert, plus others whose names were not caught.

Cliff Vargas is driving a new El Dorado . . . Ava Williams and Bruna Macaggi had a sumptuous birthday party for Ava's daughter,

Darlene, and Bruna's son Ariz. Ava hired a disc jockey, Bruna had everyone's ovens full of lasagna.

Brilliant caricaturist, Pat Davison has kept up with his cartooning and made masterpieces of Vince Carmen, Dale Longmire and Joe Muscarello. . . Rumor has it Cliff will be using one of those Italian tents next year.

Emmett Kelly, Jr. sent pictures of his wife Nancy in flashy costume riding an elephant in spec on their recent L.A. date. The Kelly's are now living in Tombstone, Ariz. and loving it. They opened in Las Vegas with another Leonard Green Circus production. . . Emmett also filmed a "Chips" segment which will be released in the fall (more about that some other time).

Snapshots: Rumored that Michon was injured in Italy. Jim Swafford had a call from Carol and Josip Marcan who in turn talked to Ursula Bottcher on Ringling Blue. Jim says he's scouting the details and will let me know.

The Cuneo bulls that were with Gatti are no longer there, I hear . . . More white tigers were born on CV. . . Herta flew out to pick up two in Reno; then Wade called when she got back to Chicago and she had to return to fetch two more . . . At Niagara Falls, with Cuneo are the Marcans, Dieter and the Pinsons. . . "Cheek to Cheek" revue with Mike Chirrick closed. . . Valdez, who committed suicide and who was found by his wife, Anna, in addition to working with Sergio Ramos also worked dates for Paul Kaye as a juggler. Anna is staying with Bridget Ballentine.

Antonio is at CC, along with Betty Woods, the Cavarettas, Esquadas and Ernie and Maran. . . Carmen Hall's new husband, John, worked the baboons a few shows in Detroit when Carmen was hospitalized. . . Jimmy Hall has re-signed for 6 months with Ataydes tent unit; closes Nov. 6.

At the San Diego Sea World are the Zultan-

(Continued on Page 10)

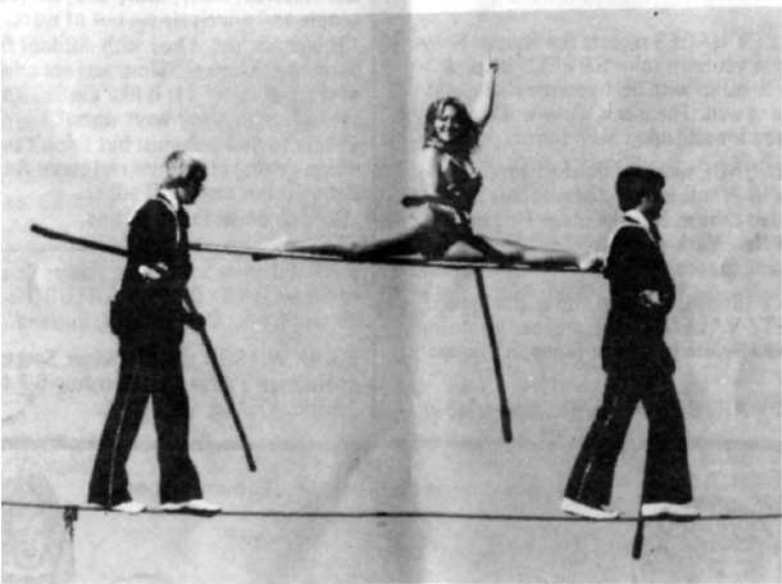
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PEOPLE

TED MEGAARDEN, of 77 Park Ave., Penthouse 16-B, New York, NY 10016, wonders if any readers can provide him with information about the Light's Bros. Circus, which played on Long Island in the 1920's.

BOBBY MOORE's "Mongrel Revue" is appearing at King's Dominion Park in Virginia for the summer season. His phone number there is: (804) 876-5264.

HARRY ANDERSON, magician, was featured on the John Davidson TV Show on July 3rd.

MICKEY HADES reports the Raveen Show has not yet been sold. **RAVEEN** is currently in England with his hypnotic show, and is doing well. The magic show will again be offered for sale upon his return.

AL DeLAGE recently finished a tour of fair dates in Penna. with his magic, plus Punch and Judy show. Now he is working in upstate New York with his 'Magic Fun Revue' working sponsored dates.

TONY (Boo) LYLE and "Joey the Clown" **GOETZ-VALENCIANO**, planned to clown in the July 4th parade at Brandon (Tampa) Fla.

PEPY ARTURO is currently appearing in

BILLY BARTON (Continued)

as, high wire; Chipperfield's lions and the Staneks. . .Siegfried and Roy are back in Vegas after a two week vacation. . .On NBC, aired June 29th, was the All Star Royal Circus from Sweden.

Performers in Vegas are running scared. Many shows are closing. And long running revues, too. The Dunes shuttered the Casino de Paris Revue, which had been there 17 yrs, Hacienda closed its icer, in for 3 yrs, Flamingo locked out Razzle Dazzle (3 yrs), plus the Marina Hotel show in which Mike Chirrick was featured. Many, many acts, chorus people and principals are out of work.

Things are just as bad with outdoor show-business this season. More acts are now out of work than ever. It is like the 1930's all over again. In many ways worse!

I hate to be a pessimist but I don't see things getting any better real soon. And inflation is not easing off either.

See you down the road, luvs.

the Holiday on Ice and Ice Follies Combined Shows, while **COOKY ARTURO** is doing his trapeze act at Blackpool, England.

MARK WILSON taped a 'Magic Spectacular' at Houston's Astroworld on July 6-7 for the Japanese TV network NHK.

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PEOPLE

CATHY FLETCHER, EVA DUNLEAVY and DENNIS and JOANNE SHERMAN (The Flying Volares) returned from Japan on June 18 after a successful 3 month engagement at the Portopia '81 Expo in Kobe. They were given the royal treatment by Mr. Kinoshita and other members of the Kinoshita Circus with whom they performed. Cathy successfully completed 59 triple somersaults to catcher Dennis during the 3 month engagement.

WANDA the Clown, worked a pre-July 4th program in Hayward, Calif., June 26-29.

MILONGA CLINE and her sisters, **ESTHER ESCALANTE** and **CHATA WEBER** are making a tour of the states which will end in Los Angeles sometime this month.

AUSTIN MILES reports the Zondervan Family Bookstore Chain has stocked his book "The Real Ringmaster" which was published by New Leaf Press.

LARRY WILSON, magician, was a guest on the Merv Griffin TV Show the afternoon of July 2nd.

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MAILBAG

from William Wotsch

That Tom Mix Festival, in Dubois, Pa., Sept. 17-20, should really be something.

In one movie Tom Mix played the part of 'Dick Turpin'. This was sort of an old English setting. The men were dressed in those fancy lace sleeves. We kids had always seen him in his western outfit and seeing our hero as 'Dick Turpin' made him look different.

The Matinee Theatre on East 55th St. in Cleveland was our favorite place for seeing Tom Mix movies. Upstairs there was a bowling alley and in the quiet of the theatre we could hear the sound of the bowling pins as they fell over. It mixed in with the piano player, who played that 'gallopin' music' in the chase scenes. But that theatre and the bowling alley are long gone now.

We did see our western hero in person. It was in 1934, when we were all young and ice cream cones and newspapers were just 5c each.

The Sam B. Dill-Tom Mix Circus appeared on a West Side street in 1934, on West 110th and Laramie, in back of Sears Roebuck & Co. The dates were May 18-22.

On one of those days my brother and I rode two street cars to get there. You transferred at Public Square for a Laramie Ave. street car. A couple of long street car rides, three transfers too.

Walking down to the lot we saw Tom Mix sitting in a canvas-back chair. We yelled his name, he turned and waved at us.

There was our western hero right in front of us, in person. I don't remember too much about the circus, but it was a long ways back home.

On one of these dates Tom Mix made a personal appearance in an empty lot next to the Cleveland News newspaper plant. He stood on a platform and talked to the kids. There were a lot of them there.

We had a good spot, right next to an old bill board, with even a back rest. Once again we had an opportunity to see our hero in person.

This time we walked from our neighborhood because it was on the East side.

Those were some wonderful days and I have fond memories of having seen Tom Mix, both in movies and in person.

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REPORT

INT'L ALL STAR CIRCUS

BY ALTON L. JONES

The Int'l All Star Circus came to Muncie, Ind., on June 13th, for a one show presentation for the benefit of the Muncie Humane Society. In addition to the inclement rainstorms and the area's yearly Renaissance Fair presentation, the performance put on in the National Guard Armory had five hundred chairs filled by adults, plus 200-250 children seated on the floor in front of the one circle circus area.

The first act was Dr. Yanas with his chimps and dogs, followed by some fascinating magic acts by Hines & Co. The Ruckers, with their trained leopard, astonished the action, held only by a small leash. Dusty "The Clown" pulled some magic and illusionary features that amazed the crowd. DeMille on the medium height slack wire did all the "impossibles" shown regularly in many of the big time circuses - double flips, over and thru the hoops - really a delight. Then came Belinda Maynard on the single trap, capable of being elevated to medium height. Not only was she a sight to behold, she was most capable in this segment of the program.

Following the intermission with the usual pitch for the concessions, the Spiker group put on a series of illusions that were quite different. This was followed by Cinderella's Birds of Paradise - pigeons well trained and a spectacular performance.

The Zackerys, with their juggling act was a treat - most capable and worth seeing any-

place. Followed by Miss Patti's masterful performance of foot juggling, really pleased the attendees.

Then came Chirstiana La Deon with her excellent presentation of poodles walking on their back legs only but exquisitely clothed in costumes.

The final act was most novel and well done, Gaylord Maynard with his trained horse called Chief Bear Paw - the act was on the motif of a drunken Indian, and the horse went along with the act full time. Whenever this act is displayed, the writer suggests you try and see it.

CARDEN INT'L CIRCUS

Larry Carden's, Carden Int'l Red Unit, is currently enjoying a successful tour of the western U. S. Attendance has been good at all show engagements.

This year's show features: Overture by Mike Pike and Scott Emerson; Joe Via's lions; the single trapeze artistry of Maryse Begary; the Carden elephants, trained and presented by Bobby Gibbs and Janie; David Conners & Co.; Alberto's lion; Robert's white malmutes; The Musical Grimaldis; Vino Berosini; Alberto Zoppe's riding academy; The Flying Cortez; Bertini's chimps; Adele & Gory; Beinda with sword balancing; The Bertini Duo; the Carden Int'l camels and llamas, and the circus clowns Nino and Cho Cho.

The show's staff consists of: Larry Carden, president and general manager; Betty Carden, comptroller; Mike Pike, musical director and performance director; Larry Rich, ringmaster; David Conners, prop supt., and Bobby Gibbs, animal supt.

in the Headlines

SHOW CLOSED - SECOND TIME

Late last month Monte Montana's Buffalo Bill Wild West Show was shut down for the second time by Santa Clarita County officials in California. County Engineer Stephen Koonce says the show could reopen soon, if numerous violations are taken care of, including wiring draped about the place, cables on which there is no information and equipment that does not have an underwriter's approval.

The wild west show opened in Newhall, Ca. on June 6th, and was closed on June 8th. A few days later it reopened, but was shut down for the second time on June 23rd.

Thus far most of the employees have gone without pay. One worker, Ray O'Connor, a carpenter, filed bad check charges against Montana after a check bounced. O'Connor promised to drop the charges when Montana promised to make the check good.

"Things have been tough," Montana said, "but most people have understood my position. I can't pay anyone if I don't have the

PEOPLE

MIKE MARTIN reports his magic show has been on the road since January and is presently booked thru November. An audience favorite is the 'Garganta, the Giant Gorilla' with a different twist, when the unmasking of the gorilla turns out to be the magician who was just seen on stage.

BILL LANE's trained animals were featured at the June 27th grand opening of Cassidy's western store in San Francisco.

money from the show coming in.

"The moral support and the financial support from the community has really been rewarding."

That support can be summed up in the attitude of one of Montana's better-known acts, an animal show headed by George Scott. The Scotts came straight from a show on Broadway to work in the wild west show.

"What can you do if the man is fighting permits?" he said. "You've got to stay, you have got to work, you've got to help."

in the Headlines

CIRCUS PROMOTER SOUGHT

Several small Indiana towns were cheated out of thousands of dollars, collected during ticket sales, according to a front page story in the Indianapolis (Ind) Star, for June 25th. The money was collected in at least a dozen towns and then the circus performance was cancelled, just hours before the scheduled show was to start. In Brazil, on June 15th, some 300 people were lined up waiting for the circus when they received the cancellation notice.

White County investigator Gene Houston said the circus promoter was charged with theft by deception after he wrote several bad checks. He said the promoter failed to appear for a scheduled court hearing in Monticello. In addition to the theft charges the promoter has been named in lawsuits filed by various Jaycee groups.

Houston estimates that \$500 to \$5000 was collected in each city. John Bardon, of the state office of the Jaycees, says "he just left 'em high and dry."

Most of the circus dates were being sponsored by the Jaycees. However, in at least

one town - Monticello - the Little League was the sponsor.

The Lebanon Jaycees report they received 20% of the ticket sales. However, they had no revenues to reimburse ticket holders when the show was cancelled. They plan to file a \$2000 suit against the circus and its promoters.

At Lebanon one Jaycee official said the local people were taking the thing in an understanding manner. They think there is a good chance they can get their money back, he added.

PEOPLE

KEN and BETTY WILLER did not appear with the Swan Bros. Circus in Northern California last month. It was another act completely.

TOM INABINETTE, of the Beatty-Cole Circus, visited with ROGER and MARY ANN GOODWIN, of 'The Goodwin Chimps' with the act appearing at Mountain Park in Holyoke, Mass.

LILLI-ANA and her Leopards are appearing at Benson's Wild Animal Park in New Hampshire. Their son KIM is an instructor for the Caterpillar Diesel Motors in Tampa

Report

MATTEL REPORT

(The following information has been taken from the Mattel Report to Stockholders for the three months ending May 2, 1981 and from the Summary of the Annual Meeting on June 12, 1981. To fully understand the Mattel picture one should read the full report and other pertinent information).

Entertainment segment revenues were lower due primarily to an overall 17% decline in attendance levels and discontinuance of the Monte Carlo one-ring circus at the end of its foreign tour in fiscal 1981. Attendance declined 9% at the circuses, 24% at the ice shows and 28% at the circus theme park. Reduced attendance at the circuses was attributable to ticket price increases. The circus theme park attendance decline was largely attributable to a general decline in Florida tourism. The ice shows' attendance decrease is due in part to discontinuing one of the three travelling ice shows in the first quarter this year.

The Entertainment segment's operating losses of \$371,000 as compared to operating profits of \$2,020,000 last year were caused by the combination of lower attendance levels and the absence of the Monte Carlo Circus.

It had been expected that with the start of the new tour season last fall the new Holiday on Ice and Ice Follies Combined Shows operation would become profitable. Attendance and revenues were anticipated to increase as a result of investment in extensively revised traveling shows. This improvement did not materialize.

In the fiscal year ended January 31, 1981, we failed on a consolidated basis to achieve either our planned sales or profit targets and, although sales in fiscal 1981 were higher than in fiscal 1980 in total and for all units except Circus World, profits in fiscal 1981 were far below prior year levels. The exceptions were Monogram Models, Inc., and Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Combined Shows, Inc. both of which operated higher earnings in fiscal 1981 than in the prior year.

The Entertainment segment, which accounted for 9% of Mattel's sales last year, fared poorly overall in fiscal 1981 and is continuing to lag behind in fiscal 1982.

The Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Combined Shows, Inc., profit performance in fiscal 1981 exceeded the prior year, but this was due to the one-ring Monte Carlo circus unit that toured Australia and Japan on a profitable basis during the first half of last year before being disbanded. The domestic traveling circus units were negatively impacted by the prolonged transit strike in New York City.

This year the Circus units are being negatively impacted by the same elements that are affecting many segments of the entertainment business. Less disposable income available to consumers at the time when ticket prices have been increased to offset rising costs has led to decreased attendance. It is doubtful that this pattern will be reversed until the economy improves.

As reported to you earlier in shareholder communications, the expected increase in Ice Show attendance, particularly during the fourth quarter, did not materialize in spite of excellent reviews by the critics for the one totally new show and the two improved shows. The net result was a greater than anticipated loss for the year.

This pattern has continued for Ice Follies and Holiday on Ice Combined Shows in the first quarter of the current fiscal year. However, two of the three unprofitable traveling ice show units were discontinued at the end of their seasons and will be replaced by the new Walt Disney Productions' World on Ice unit that will begin its tour this summer.

Last year, the Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus World theme park in Orlando, Fla., encountered increased competition when competing parks in the area opened five new major capital additions to their parks. The impact on Circus World was lower attendance and profits than in fiscal 1980.

Although the new management team which was installed last fall has done an excellent job in refurbishing the park and improving the quality of the shows and operations at Circus World, attendance during the early months of fiscal 1982 is below prior year levels largely due to the decline in tourism in Florida as the economy has weakened.

In Memoriam

LLOYD BARKER, circus fan of Roseburg, Oregon, died on April 12th, after a long illness.

SPECIAL

ABE GOLDSTEIN - A LIFE OF CLOWNING

(by Ray Richmond - L. A. Daily News)

"Clowns today aren't like they were in my day," says Abe "Korky" Goldstein, and indeed they don't make them like him anymore.

Slight of frame and wrinkled of skin but still unbelievably sharp of mind at age 85, he is probably the world's oldest living (and still practicing) clown. And he maintains he is the only surviving Keystone Kop from Mack Sennett's original troupe.

He also claims to have played a clown at every world's fair from Seattle to New York at circuses from Philly to Fargo and at every amusement park this nation has built.

His confused, egg-shaped face, tattered off-blue police coat, badge and constable hat graced the silent screen in more than 150 comedy films - some of which were one reel and made in a single day on a budget of not more than \$100.

Indeed, they destroyed Korky Goldstein's mold long ago. He is one of the last of a breed, a living relic, an antique of the rarest form. But hey, don't take our word for it that he is one-of-a-kind. Ask him.

"I've been in the business since 1905," says Goldstein in his craggy, grizzled voice while lounging in his vintage two-bedroom Hollywood home. "A lot of guys worked in pictures when I started. And a lot of guys are supposed to have been Keystone Kops. But they're no more Keystone Kops than that thing over there (he points across the room to a table).

"Anyone can put on makeup. But they have to be in the business to really be one. I was one."

Thinking his visitor should get some first hand proof, Goldstein bounces up from the couch to get one of what he says are "a ton of" scrapbooks and photo albums. His eyes sparkle as he turns the tattered pages, his tongue reeling off the years as if they were just last week. To him, they are.

There is a photo of Goldstein with a score of other clowns at the St. Louis Police Circus years ago. His eyes lose their sparkle and his mouth turns to a frown as reality once again sets in.

"Yeah, I worked with the best of them; got all these clips to prove it," he reassures. "I've got pictures you wouldn't believe."

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He complains a bit. He even complains that there just isn't enough to complain about anymore because life is really pretty good - not great, mind you, but still not too bad.

His work these days is mostly for charity. Goldstein has been clowning for the John Tracy Clinic going on 30 years. He still gets together with his old gang of retired boxers with Hollywood's Cauliflower Alley Club and with the Hollywood Comedy Club, in which he is a lifetime member.

At Christmas he dons the greasepaint for St. Joseph Hospital.

He was born in Cincinnati, on Oct. 14, 1895, and was the second of eight children. His father moved the family to Los Angeles in 1905 and later to Gopher, Nev. where he operated a grocery store. It was there that he got his start in show business, earning \$35 to \$40 a day tumbling on the streets.

In 1909 he joined the rodeo circuit, working as a rodeo clown and from there he joined the circus - John Robinson Circus. Later he traveled with Ringling Bros. and then found himself working for Sennett. He appeared with such names as Harold Lloyd, Laurel & Hardy, Al St. John, Ben Turpin.

"I only got \$2.50 a day and a box lunch," he recalls. All the Kops in those days were clowns and acrobats. Any guy who could do a prat fall got a job.

His Keystone coats still fit Goldstein like a glove, as is obvious when he models a pair of them for a visitor. He wore one coat, which he purchased in 1914, to impersonate Charlie Chaplin at fairs, much like everyone else was doing at the time.

"But I had it over them all because I could tumble," he emphasizes with a nod.

Goldstein also lays claim to being the first clown to work in Hawaii - in 1926, and being the first and only clown ever to work for Walt Disney Studios over the years.

Circus

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The above ad appeared in San Francisco papers on April 5, 1915

SPECIAL**CIRCUS HALL OF FAME**

Roberto A. de Vasconcellos, the Albert Hodgini Family Troupe, and Harry 'Cheerful' Gardner were elected to the Circus Hall of Fame by the National Awards Committee. The committee met in Prescott, Ariz. on June 20th, prior to the Circus Fans Association of America's annual convention there.

The Circus Hall of Fame, now owned by John and Jan Zweifel of Orlando, Fla., is

to be located in the Orlando vicinity.

..... Mary K. Hoppe

Notice

Someone impersonating a County Sheriff has mis-lead Circus Report by providing some inaccurate information.

The Alameda County Sheriff's Office reports they are not now and have never sought to contact Larry Jeffries. Any such information is false and there is no reason to indicate that a problem ever existed.

REPORT**HOXIE BROS. CIRCUS**

BY PAUL TAYLOR

I caught the Hoxie Bros. Circus in Laurel, Md., on Saturday, June 27th, being the first time I have seen the show this year.

It was to my surprise walking into the big top, to hear a band that sounded like a show band on Broadway. Florine Oler was at the organ, with Charlie Moyer directing and playing his trumpet. Al Gouge on the 2nd trumpet and Mark Glasel on the trombone. John Smith, son of the show's mechanic, was playing drums. This was John's first time to ever play drums in a show and he was doing on terrific job. I don't think that I have ever heard a band so loud, and so great as this one.

The show is clean, with no working men hanging around the midway, the front and back doors. All the employees wear coveralls, making the entire show look as it is, Professional!

The management, John Lewis and Billy Griffin, were in suits and ties. This is also a first that I have experienced, to see people in suits and well dressed.

I have been on the Hoxie show many times and this is the first time that I have ever seen the show look so professional. The people are friendly and seem happy. There is no signs of discrepancy among the members of the show.

This is John Lewis' first time as General Manager and I automatically must give him credit for the "up-grading" of this organization. He is constantly on the move like his teacher, Hoxie Tucker.

He seems to always know what's going on and be at the right places at the right times. He is courteous to everyone, and has the operation organized. Hoxie apparently was in the process of grooming Lewis for this position, and the move on Mr. Tucker's part was a wise one.

I was impressed with the entire operation, as you will be when you visit the Hoxie show. It's worth traveling 100 miles to see.

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The above advertisement appeared in The San Francisco papers on March 3, 1901.

SPEAKING OF

by JIM PARKER

Ken and Bernie Berwin, magicians, are now at the Parc Safari in Hemmingford, Quebec, for the summer with their magic show. Earlier they had worked the Velladrome in Montreal and then arrived early at Parc Safari and have been busy ever since.

Parc Safari is about 40 miles south of Montreal. They will feature about 40 animals in their illusion show, including their new feature, Ali, a bengal tiger. In addition, they will have two male assistants, two girl box jumpers, a bi-lingual M.C. plus themselves.

The staff and management has been extremely cooperative in preparing their performance area and added a new roof over the stage, all new drapes, new lighting, new floor and refurbished the back stage area.

Incidentally, Gee Gee and Roy Wells and her elephants also are enroute to the same park so there should be a lot of jack-potting when they arrive.

Recently in an article in CR on the Ringling Red Unit, the author extolled about the 'new' western clown number, however, veteran clown Dennis Stevens of Sarasota, verified that the late great Paul Jung produced the number not only once, but twice on Big Bertha - once under canvas in the 1950's and again in the 1960's.

I remember seeing it once myself under Paul Jung's direction, and of course the only masters of mirth left from it are Lou Jacobs and Duane Thorpe, who both play a very active part in the current edition. It is a very wild, colorful and active number and I hope the forerunner of a return to the big clown production numbers, like the revived fire house number was.

Judy Baker reports that recently Jesus Renato and Bobo Fuentes and Victor Gaona were in Florida and purchased two elephants and a giraffe as well as a brand new special Cadillac. Additionally, Renato acquired 12 new liberty horses over 16 hands high and Billy Baker is currently breaking them in South America. Also five more baby elephants are on order, and Jesus Fuentes obtained a new dog and pony act. Judy is one busy gal and keeping up with her is a full time job!

Tommy Bartlett's Water Circus program is very well done and features a full page on the following circus kinkers - Dave Merrifield's

Helicopter Trapeze (he has two full pages with fabulous color photographs, which he so well deserves), The Nerveless Nocks (also a beautiful two color page spread), famed juggler Dieter Tasso, Jim and Heidi Grogan and Mark Pilger (two page spreads) and the Classic Contortionist Rudolph Delmonte.

Unfortunately, I have never been able to catch either of the two Water Circuses, one at Pigeon Forge, Tenn. and the other at the Wisconsin Dells, however, judging from the program, photos and stories it should really be a must see.

Anna and Pinky (Delmonte/Fritz) write they are in Pigeon Forge and it is absolutely beautiful and that three shows are given per day but everyone is so nice and congenial and professional it is a pleasure to go to work. Pinky is glad for the three shows as that means less time to practice with Anna and if you ever witnessed a practice session you know why he is so happy at not having that extra practice time. However, as he well knows, because of Anna's strictness he is the classic contortionist that he is.

Alfonso and Lydia Burkett enjoyed their Japanese engagement but are happy to be back stateside. While they were in Japan, their faithful dog, Chow Chow, passed away at the age of 16 years, leaving them only Togo. We animal lovers know what it is to lose such a companion. They have been spot dating and now are back at Fantasy Island Park in Grand Island, NY, for the summer.

Bill Garden's Showtime Follies appeared in Tampa on May 27th and provided a nice clean stage circus. Music was provided by Joe and Bobby Eddy taking turns on the drums and Danny Daniels on the organ. Acts included: Ruwill's plate spinning, Joe Eddy, magician; Jackie and Sharon Burke's dogs; Robert Fairchild, sword balancing; Campa Family, comedy music; Joe Eddy, balloon artist; Intermission; Joe Eddy, magic; Hans and Sigrid Ruwill, adagio; Robert Fairchild, juggling; Burke's Chimps and the Carlos (Campas) unicycles. All acts had outstanding wardrobe and flashy props and the show was well received. Visitors on the lot included Billy Rodgers and the Wiregards whom I had not seen since the Wally Yee Circus in Hawaii in 1960. They are nice people.

Stu Miller, Magic Time USA, reports he is having a good season, and at the same time has been able to visit with a number of folks

(Continued on Page 26)

SPEAKING OF (Continued)

on various circuses.

His huge company includes 13 people (five show girls and a 3 piece band), a lion and a newly acquired leopard. Stu has an extensive route and both he and his lovely wife, Sara, are congenial show folks, so be sure to catch Magic Time USA when it is in your area.

Walter Hall, six foot, seven inch sword swal

lower, is no longer at Circus World, but is now back on the Clyde Beatty-Cole Bros. Circus side show eating fire, thus giving veteran Jim Windland an even stronger side show this year. "Wally" trouped on the Beatty show last year and makes an impressive bally as always has fantastic wardrobe and showmanship. Incidentally, I understand the Beatty show continues to pack them in.



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Circus Holiday could not pay for equipment. Have for sale: 60 ft. round end tent, 3 - 30 ft. centers, side walls, poles, stakes - both wood and iron. All is 90% good as new condition.

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in the NEWS

AMERICAN TENT SHOWS FEATURED

Eighteen former tent show musicians, comedians, actors and magicians were in Washington recently, to take part in the Smithsonian Institute's "A Celebration of the American Tent Show" held on the Washington Monument Grounds on June 24-28 and July 1-5.

During a 60 year period, around the turn of the century, the most popular form of entertainment in American small towns was the tent show. A tent repertory group would come into town, set up their tent and parade down Main Street. That night, they'd perform a series of skits, musical numbers and a dramatic presentation, and sell candy or medicine when the crowd was big and good natured.

The show in Washington featured such performers and entertainers as:

Marcy Maynard who grew up in her parents horse-drawn tent show. Her first acting role was as an infant in "Uncle Tom's Cabin." She and her husband Tex, met as teenagers and at one time had their own show. Today

they are touring with Hoxie Bros. Circus.

Ken and Roberta Griffin, are old-style magicians. They do big illusions and have toured all over the U.S. as well as overseas. Their assistant, Ed Doherty, is a magician and entertainer in his own right.

Betty Bryant, worked on her father's show boat, floating down the rivers of America in the 1920's and 1930's.

Dale Madden and his wife, Lois Stillian, performed in repertory for many years. Today, Madden is a circus organist and is credited with being the one who introduced the organ to the circus as a replacement for bands.

Howard and L. C. Armstrong, and Ted Boggan, play infectious, bouncy, swing music. They were one of the few black string bands to play in large tent medicine shows.

The "Hired Hands" are a blue-grass group who performed in the south. They spent a number of years traveling with tent shows.

Fred Foster "Doc" Bloodgood, was a medicine show pitchman for 11 years during the Depression.

Mary McClain "Walkin' Mary" is a gospel singer who once sang the blues in minstrels and medicine shows on the road.

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RINGLING RED

BY SALLY PAYNE

The Greatest Show on Earth, played Freedom Hall at the Kentucky State Fairgrounds June 17-21 (Louisville). The weather was comfortable for the stand, with a light shower or two, but on Sunday (21) there were severe storms skirting the area, but passing East to hit the Blue Grass Fair at Lexington, Ky. Bob Meyers Carnival had the date for the Lions Club.

The Ringling Blue Unit was due in Lexington June 23-24, but the routing was changed on short notice and they went on to Huntsville, Ala., instead. Heard it had something to do with the Lions Club holding its fair.

Ringling Red closed in Philly, June 14th but the train did not get away until early on Monday a.m. and did not get to Louisville until Tuesday, at 4 p.m. The overland vehicles made better time as most of them were in at 2 p.m. Tuesday, but they said it was a rough trip, The penna mountains and lots of curved roads the rest of the way.

When the train got in at 4 p.m. they started bringing the 'wagons' over, it's a 4 mile haul from the runs. The 'cats' were the only animals brought over, because they waited 'til Wednesday a.m. to bring over the lead stock. At 7 pm Tuesday we went back over to the Auditorium and itn as closed up, no rigging started, so they had a night off and needed it. It was a 767 mile jump and they were tired and had a hard day ahead of them, to be ready for the 7:30 opening on Wednesday night.

This is the first time we can remember that Ringling-Barnum has made Louisville two consecutive years, and also the very first time Louisville has been on the route the first year out with the new performance, so that was a special treat for us who Love the Circus.

The only TV coverage we saw was paid for by the circus and no TV station's remote equipment was seen at the circus. The local newspapers, the Courier-Journal and Louisville Times, were stingy with their space and both of those papers are owned by one company, who also owns a TV station WASH Channel II.

We need some "Dexter Fellows" again, to bring in copy and have those City Editors

on their "Friendship list" and "cross their palm" with tickets, maybe then the circus could get some space, and with copy by someone who knows what the circus is all about.

Speaking of Dexter Fellows, looks like Ringling has been reading "This Way to the Big Show." The adjectives they used to describe the show must have been borrowed from the book, but I am glad they did, because all of them were needed to describe this year's production of the Red Unit, so be sure and buy a program and read it all, it is very interesting.

If you take movies, take your camera or a still camera or something that will take stills fast - click, click, click - to get pictures of the elephant blankets in "The Circus Street Parade," spec. Each of the blankets has a word - Ringling - Bros. - Barnum - and - Bailey - Circus, all done in sequins. A brilliant idea of the designer and a monumental task to sew them on - but beautiful beyond words.

The show runs 2½ hours. Activity in the back yard started to jump during the 5:30 show and moved along fast as soon as it (the equipment) could be headed for the runs. The next stop was Oklahoma City, another long jump - 810 miles.

"A Long Way To Go and A Short Time to Get There" as Jerry Reed's song goes.

Goodbye/au revoir/adios/adio/ auf Wiedersehen/do widsenia/istenhazzad/ila-la-laqaa.

Briefs

LAST OF THE MED SHOWS

BY PAT BISSONETTE

Tommy Scott's Old Time Medicine Show played a 2:30 matinee, Sunday, June 28th, in St. Cloud, Minn. The sponsoring Knights of Columbus had the Cathedral High School Gym three quarters full.

After a balloon and Chinese yo yo pitch the show got off to a rousing start filling the hall with snappy western music and modern tunes through a good P.A. system.

The band featured Mike Harris, a one handed banjo picker and 12 string guitar player. Darrell Sayer is a good upbeat drummer and guitarist and doing a dog to gorilla illusion amid screaming moppets. Debbie

(Continued on Page 30)

MEDICINE SHOW (Continued)

McMann's specialty is a sharpshooting act with hubby Jack on targets. Dry humor is supplied by "Ole Bleb" a 30 year veteran of the show, he also does an audience participation whip act as the Masked Rider.

Two circus performers add comedy relief; Rick 'Bernie the Clown' Parrot is an excellent gymnast, juggler on and off his two unicycles and working pocket magic with kids from the audience. He's also a ventriloquist, but not in this show. Rally Knice does a clever perch act from a table performing magic a-top the pole.

Wardrobe for band are black turtle neck sweaters and pants with yellow smocks and sequined arm bands and top hats. Performers were rewarded with appreciative crowd

People

AUSTIN MILES has been signed to be the ringmaster for the Christmas Circus in St. Croix, Virgin Islands, Dec. 20-21.

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2 Baby Spotted Leopards, Hand-raised (5-18-81)

1 Male Black Leopard, 1½ years, Leash broken/gentle

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In Memoriam

MEL MILLER (54) who was connected with the circus from at least his early teens, died on Mar. 5th in the Washington, DC area after suffering a stroke. He was one of the early Circus Model Builders, and handled public relations and publicity for various circuses.

He was a clown with Ringling-Barnum in 1945-46, was with the press dept. of Dailey Bros., and worked with the Wallenda Circus, the Bartok Circus and the Continental Circus

at the New York World's Fair. He became the second curator of the Ringling Museum of the Circus and later was RBBB's Director of Special Exhibitions and the first Director of the Clown College.

Miscellaneous

A movie about animal trainer Dave Hoover has been completed and is presently scheduled for airing sometime in September or November.