



America's Favorite Circus Weekly

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Balance Sheet

Speaking at a recent meeting of auditorium/arena managers, Allen Bloom, of RBBB, said:

I'd like to have standard rental and labor contracts across the country, "but everybody doesn't have the same problems. As each city is different, each show is different. We have more people and animals to feed. We have 175 performers, plus a crew of 110 to 120, a 30 car rail-road train and several hundred animals. Municipal buildings weren't built to generate profit dollars -- but we must make money."

He said he gets the argument from managers that if they give in to Ringling, they have to give in to everyone else. "But I don't buy this. We have different problems. Each act should be treated individually."

Bloom said concessions are a vital part of the income of the circus. "On 80% of our dates the money we make is from concessions. Program, novelties, cotton candy and snow cones have been part and par-

hawaii-bound

Acts seen in the Los Angeles, Calif. area preparing for the trip to Hawaii, where they are now appearing with the Keye Continental Circus were:

Tiny Gallagher, Santos, Lottie Brunn, Adela Smaja and Smokey Jones. Clowns included: Laurence Cross, Albert White and Chuck Satsja.

A Partial Tally

Incomplete reports indicate that business for the Buffalo Bill Wild West Show, at North Platte, Nebr., is about 35% ahead of that of last year. The show is produced by Montie Montana, Jr. and runs from Jul. 21 to Aug. 26.

Several guest performers -- Stan Sweet, quick draw; Joyce Rice, baton twirler; Neal Schmidt, Roman rider, the Clark Bros., rodeo clown (Continued on Page 6)

cel of the circus for years and we must have the right to these in the buildings."

Who's Who

LAURA POST, widow of Charlie Post former circus band leader, suffered a stroke and is hospitalized at Bernanwood, Wisc. 54414. She'd enjoy getting cards from old friends.

HEIDI WENDANY has named her birth day gift, a Morgan horse, "Billy."

BOB YERKES recently returned from New York where he taught actors and actresses simple trapeze work for an upcoming Leggs stocking commercial.

MOVEY BURGESS and wife recently spent three weeks in San Francisco, Calif. He is the editor of the Int'l Juggler's Assoc. newsletter.

WALTER BERLIN, juggler, magic, etc. has been in the San Francisco, Calif. area for about a month.

THE COLUMBO's acrobatic act used to be known as the Gimma Bros.

SPARKY, the Clown, (D. W. Washburn) is playing three fair dates for Ed Russell's Circus Side Show.

AARON, ventriloquist, opened at Harrah's Club at Lake Tahoe, Nev. this past week.

THE FLYING APOLLLOS visited relatives at Fremont, Calif. before going to Hawaii with the Paul Kaye Circus. They recently bought a new truck for their equipment.

BOB OWEN, clown at Storyland at Glen, N.H. visited the Circus Memor-

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Program Notes

A varied group of performers are featured in the Canadian Follies show, which is currently touring Canada's "B" fair circuit. The show was produced by the Tom Drake Agency of Kansas City, who reports that capacity crowds are attending all performances.

Featured acts include:

The Tribune - gospel group

La Simone - slide for life

The Cassidy Sparkelettes - roll.Gl

Dave Sabo's Comedy Chimps

The Henneberry's - unicycles

Frisky's miniature horses

Chiquita & Pedro - live marionettes

Sir Chadwick Chase - comedy car

Happy Davis - trampoline

The Cassidys - acrobatics

Lee Henneberry - announcer/juggler

ies Museum at Fryeburg, Maine.

DAN WEISEN and his trained horse will be on NBC-TV's "Cycle of Life" program on Aug. 30th.

ED PHILLIPS, a CFA Director, recently visited the Sells & Gray Circus.

BILL STEBBING reports his new circus tent is being made-up by U. S. Tent & Awning Co. of Sarasota.

DON BIRDWELL (Whizzer, the Clown) has taken a leave of absence from the Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus to play some free-lance dates.

CAPT. WHITEY BAKER, elephant supt. on Sells & Gray Circus also serves as boss of the side show canvas and the show's menagerie animals.

Rivals in Town

Ringling-Barnum's Blue Unit will play Seattle, Wash. on Sept. 4-10 for the Nile Shrine Temple. This is the temple's 32nd annual circus program.

Also playing the same area (Renton) will be the John Strong Circus. The show is set to play there on Sept. 9-11.

a big thanks

The 20 KW light plant that Big John Strong donated to Blue Star looks and sounds brand new as we write this by its light. Now we know why they say he's the "man with more friends than Santa Claus!"

On loan from Big John Strong is the circus-size popcorn machine and miscellaneous items.

Mama, Mario, Jorge and Armando will always remember the "big man who gave us a big hand."

Hnos. (Bro's.) Presiado Masias

party time

A combination Birthday and Homecoming Party was arranged by Dr. James Reilly, of Tucson, Ariz, for Jack Landrus on Aug. 7th.

The retired clown was 72 yrs. old and had just returned from a stay in the hospital. At last report he was steadily improving.

Among those attending the party

NEW NAME DUE

As the 1974 season approaches the Miller Johnson Circus is planning a series of reorganizational and reorganization changes. Perhaps the major change being planned is the putting forth of a new show title. The corporate title will remain unchanged, but the new show name -- Circus Vargas -- will be used on the circus, letterheads, advertising and publicity.

Combining the best of American and European tenting methods the 1974 "Circus Vargas" will feature an elevated bandstand and a theatre type performers entrance. New lighting has been devised and the use of ring carpets is expected to add to the enhancement of the circus.

The Miller Johnson Circus has established a self-imposed task of returning the circus to its golden era. This year they brought back the "grand entry" a number that was common on all circuses just a few years ago.

In April 1973, the circus went into Los Angeles, Calif. and pulled good business without advance promotional activity. A highlight of that stand was the declaration of "Circus Day" in Los Angeles by the then Mayor, Sam Yorty. This was in recognition of the fact that the Miller Johnson Circus was the first tented circus to play Los Angeles in some 15 years.

were Ruby Landrus (Jack's wife), Carl and Mrs. Helbing and June Curry.

ROUTES

Albacker Magic Circus
 Aug. 22-26 Allegheny, Pa
 Beatty-Cole Circus
 Aug. 20 North Bend, Ill
 21 Kankakee
 22 Arlington Hghts
 23 Madison, Wisc.
 24 Sheboygan
 25 Appleton
 26 Green Bay
 Canadian Circus
 Aug. 20 Simcoe, Ont.
 21-22 Niagara Falls
 23-25 Hamilton
 Carson & Barnes Circus
 Aug. 20 Monticello, Ind.
 21 Portage
 22 Chesterton
 23 Mishawaka
 24 Goshen
 25 Plymouth
 Hubert Castle Circus
 Aug. 20-22 Crown Pt, Ind.
 Circus Kirk
 Aug. 20 Williamsport, Pa
 23 Plymouth
 25 Susquehanna
 Clyde Bros. Circus
 Aug. 20-21 Victoria, Texas
 23-24 Galveston
 25-26 Beaumont
 Diamond "S" Wild West
 Aug. 25 Lisbon, Ohio
 Europorama
 Aug. 20 Ventura, Calif.
 Fisher Bros. Circus
 Aug. 20 Belen, N.M.
 21 Moriarty
 22 Mountainair
 23 Socorro
 24 Truth or Consq.
 25 Hatch
 Hall's Circus Side Show
 to Aug. 26 Indianapolis, In.
 Happytime Circus
 Aug. 23-26 Gridley, Calif.
 Haviland's Dog & Pony Show
 Aug. 20-25 Pittsburgh, Pa.
 Hoxie Bros. Circus

Miller Johnson Circus
 Aug. 20-21 Winston Salem, NC
 22-23 Charlotte
 24 Roanoke, Va.
 25 Huntington, W.Va
 26 Charleston
 Poleck Bros. Circus
 Aug. 25 Redding, Calif.
 Ringling-Barnum Blue Unit
 Aug. 22-28 Salt Lake City, U
 Ringling-Barnum Red Unit
 Aug. 23-28 Oakland, Calif.
 Royal Bros. Circus
 Aug. 20 West Port, Ont.
 21-23 No Show
 24 Bancroft
 Royal Ranch Circus
 Aug. 20 No. Andover, N.H.
 21 Westford
 22 Williamsburg, Mass
 23 Enroute
 24 Jamesville, NY
 25 Kingston
 Royson Bros. Circus
 Aug. 20-21 Whitewell, Tenn
 Rudy Bros. Circus
 to Aug. 22 Oklahoma City, Ok
 Aug. 24-26 Amarillo, Texas
 Tommy Scott-Tim McCoy Show
 Aug. 20 Angola, Ind.
 21 Plymouth
 22 Neppanee
 23 Huntington
 24 Wabash
 25 Logansport
 26 Lafayette
 Sells & Gray Circus
 Aug. 20 Battleboro, Vt.
 21 Manchester
 22 Rutland
 23 Burlington
 24 Ticonderoga, NY
 25 Plattsburg
 John Strong Circus
 Aug. 21-22 Salt Lake City, U
 23 Provo
 24 Ogden
 25 Idaho Falls, Id.
 26 Pocatello
 Wenatchee Youth Circus

Pot-Pourri

During the month of May three shows -- DeWayne, Gatti-Charles and Candyland -- played at Yakima, Wash.

Ringling's Red Unit is reportedly drawing poor crowds in the Los Angeles, Cal. area.

During their Denver, Colo engagement someone broke into a trailer and stole some \$8,000 from Jett's Petting Zoo.

Lewis Bros. reportedly is doing good business now that they've got out of the rain.

Some 135 people are expected to register for the CFA Convention in Seattle, Wash. this week.

The Wenatchee Youth Circus didn't make that trip to Europe as was announced early this year.

Allen's Petting Zoo will be at Cal Expo in Sacramento Cal. for two days this month.

Hamid-Morton Circus played the Milwaukee, Wisc. Summerfest on July 13-22. They gave three shows each day.

Europorama played Vallejo, Calif. on Aug. 14th, not at Manteca as advertised.

J. P. Harvey Amusements provided rides and many attractions for the annual Fiesta Days in Union City, Calif. on Aug. 8-12.

Ringling's Clown College will start its sixth annual session at Venice, Fla. on Sept. 24th.

Happytime Circus
 Aug. 23-26 Gridley, Calif.
 Haviland's Dog & Pony Show
 Aug. 20-25 Pittsburgh, Pa.
 Hoxie Bros. Circus
 Aug. 20 Bricktown, N.J.
 21 Leonardo
 22 Edison
 23 Somerset
 24 Clinton
 25 Hackettown
 26 Flanders
 Jett's Petting Zoo
 Aug. 20-26 Fremont, Calif.
 Keye Continental Circus
 Aug. 22-26 Hilo, Hawaii
 King Bros. Circus
 Aug. 20 Tecumseh, Mich.
 21 Howell
 22 Charlotte
 23 Hillsdale
 24 Three Rivers
 25 Angola, Ind.
 Lewis Bros. Circus
 Aug. 20 Pineville, W.Va.
 21 Oak Hill
 22 Crab Orchard
 23 Bluewell
 24 Athens
 25 Matoaka
 M & M Circus
 Aug. 19-22 Jackson, Ohio

24 Ogden
 25 Idaho Falls, Id.
 26 Pocatello
 Wenatchee Youth Circus
 Aug. 26 Bothell, Wash.
 Wallace & Rogers Circus
 Aug. 24 Mercer Isld, Wash
 SPECIAL ROUTES
 CFA CONVENTION
 Aug. 23-27 Seattle, Wash.
 Ice Classic
 Aug. 23-26 Riverside, Calif.
 Peggy Fleming Ice Show
 Aug 21-Sep 2 Dallas, Texas
 FAIRS
 Cal-Expo
 Aug 24-Sep 9 Sacramento, Cal
 Colorado State Fair
 Aug 25-Sep 3 Pueblo, Colo
 Del Norte County Fair
 Aug. 24-26 Crescent City, Ca
 Eaton County Fair
 Aug. 23-28 Charlotte, Mich
 Evergreen State Fair
 Aug. 25-Sep 3 Monroe, Wash.
 Golden Father Fair
 Aug. 22-26 Gridley, Calif.
 Grant County Fair
 Aug. 23-26 Carson, N.D.
 Josco County Fair
 Aug. 25-28 Hale, Mich.
 Kalamazoo County Fair
 Aug. 20-25 Kalamazoo, Mich

Ringling's Clown College
 will start its sixth annual
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 Sept. 24th.

Kitsep County Fair
 Aug. 22-26 Bremerton, Wash
 Michigan State Fair
 Aug 23-Sep 3 Detroit, Mich
 Minnesota State Fair
 Aug 24-Sep 3 St. Paul, Minn
 Morton County Fair
 Aug. 25-26 New Salem, N.D.
 Modoc District Fair
 Aug. 23-26 Cedarville, Cal
 Nevada County Fair
 Aug. 23-26 Grass Valley, Ca
 Ohio State Fair
 Aug 23-Sep 3 Columbus, Ohio
 Oregon State Fair
 Aug 25-Sep 3 Salem, Ore.
 Ottawa County Fair
 Aug. 23-28 Holland, Mich
 Ransom County Fair
 Aug. 24-27 Lisbon, N.D.
 San Bernardino Fair
 Aug. 22-26 Victorville, Ca
 S. F. Flower Show
 Aug. 23-26 San Francisco
 Trinity County Fair
 Aug. 23-26 Hayfork, Cal.
 Van Buren County Fair
 Aug. 23-28 Hartford, Mich
 Western Idaho Fair
 Aug 25-Sep 1 Boise, Idaho

a good show

The 1973 edition of Europorama is an interesting and entertaining show that owner John Winn can well be proud of. The performance runs about 2 hours and is presented in front of a red, white and yellow striped backdrop. In the center is a canvas awning for the protection of musicians. The band includes: drums, trumpet, trombone and accordion.

Large black letters spelling "Europorama" are mounted on the backdrop curtains. The ring curb is red and white, but forms a square. The ring carpet is yellow with a red square in the center. Five or six prop men are carried, each is dressed in deep blue coveralls, with the show's name on the back.

The sound system is exceptionally good for a show of this type, and they are using an Electro Voice System. Announcing and vocal numbers are handled by Harry Hambley.

The program as seen at Napa and Vallejo, Calif. (Aug. 13-14) featured:

Otto Berosini - juggler
Frio Trio - trampoline
Miss Karen - slide for life
Leslie, the clown - sharpshooter
Aerial Ballerinas - web (4)
Triska - high wire
The Flying Astros - (5)
Davey, the clown - balancing
De Miller - bounding wire
Leslie, the clown - wire walk
Braun Duo - aerial cradle

He is a professional

Ask almost any rodeo performer and they will tell you they'd prefer to have clown Chuck Hanson in the arena with them, more than anyone else.

Chuck comes from a rodeo family, and as a child his favorite people were the clowns. At the age of 17 he was winning money from rodeo events. Then after a stint with the Army he attended the University of Arizona. In 1957 he started his clowning career, and along with some movie stunt work he's been at it ever since. He works about 45 to 50 rodeos a year, earns about \$150 per day and is currently well booked through 1974.

It is a hard, tough life that he has chosen, but it is a challenging one that he probably wouldn't change. Clowns must be there to divert a bull's attention anytime a rider is thrown - they get hurt sometimes too, but that's all in the game.

PARTIAL TALLY (Continued)

and Montie Montana, Sr. -- were credited with the boost in attendance this year.

Admission prices were \$3.75 for adults and \$2.75 for children in the reserved seat sections, while general admission prices were \$2.75 and \$1.75

Otinig the Great - hand balancing
Sky Cyclists - aerial motorcycle
Entire Company - finale

circo blue star

Circo Blue Star has completed its extend tour of the Tijuana, Mexico suburbs. It was a great success and the show left the area with a considerable amount of new equipment.

Roserita Beech (Jul 20-26) was the third best week in the show's history. Ensenada (Jul. 28-Aug. 1) was another high point, following three major circuses into that city this year. The amusement tax was 24% of the gate, plus \$20 a day inspection fees, plus the usual licenses. It was a good experience, but the net only slightly exceeded that of the Tijuana suburbs, after radio, TV, sound cars and the parade expenses, plus taxes.

The next chapter should be written by Starr D'Bell. What we thought would be a nice two hour run from Ensenada to Tecate, turned into an 8 hour nightmare. In over 100 degree temperature, every car, truck and trailer was stranded on the Baja mountain grade. "Flamo" (Rex Horton), looking for the show, found them in this predicament. He made a number of trips back and forth, carrying water, men and gasoline. The working men were able to get the show ready, but since they are also the performers, they were too exhausted and the opening performance was cancelled. However, some 3,000 people attended a dance in the city's park, across the street from the lot, and the show's lighted marquee was visible to all.

Open Season

Although the show has not yet been booked, Don Bridwell and Fred Marco have announced they will re-vive Bridwell's show "Dawn Bros. Circus" for 1974. Plans are currently being planned for a tour of indoor dates in the East and Midwest areas.

Bridwell last used his Dawn Bros Circus title in 1967.



This and the parade generated lots of interest so that Sunday's shows easily made the nut for the week.

Contrary to what was reported in another paper, by spending one day a week sewing the holes, the only stars seen in the tent are the performers.

Recent visitors included Smokey Jones and his daughter. All recalled 20 yrs. ago when Smokey was with Circo Union. Percy Turner counselled the owners about lettering the show.

The future expansion of the circus calls for the addition of young leopards, 2 llamas or guanacos, pony drills, 2 small chimps and 2 elephants.

Finishing Tecate, the circus must descend the legendary La Rumorosa grade and cross the desert to the next three towns -- east and west of Mexicali and Puerto Penasco in Sonora.

Hns. (Bros.) Presiado Masias

YEARS AGO

Sells Floto Circus - Pittsfield, Mass
June 15-16, 1919.

The show's menagerie featured: 9 lions; 6 camels, 8 elephants, 4 ostriches, 4 leopards, 2 tigers, a hippo, a zebu and 3 monkeys (in 10 cages). There were also two concession stands in the tent.



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Spend a moment

Some added information is now provided by Bill Ruesskamp about the P. T. Barnum date at St. Louis, Mo. on July 17, 1893.

"P. T. Barnum's great traveling circus and exhibition arrived here for a long heralded engagement. Fully 50,000 persons turned out for the great parade of clowns, acrobats, equestrians, rare beasts and strange eccentricities of humanity, such as Fiji cannibals, an armless boy, and a bearded woman."