



4th Year

June 23, 1975

Number 25

Show Doing OK

A combination of bad weather and routing problems that caused a drop in business for Fisher Bros. Circus early in the season have been overcome and things are running much smoother for the Texas-based show. The circus will reportedly play in Oklahoma, Tennessee and Kentucky during the summer months, then in the fall will start its swing back towards Texas.

Owned by Mel and B. K. Silverlake, the circus is traveling on six trucks less this year. This was accomplished by replacing small straightbed trucks with semi units and trailers.

The CFA

Some 270 delegates registered for the May 27-30 CFA Convention at Providence, R.I., including representatives from England and Canada. The convention was held in conjunction with the Ringling-Barnum Blue Unit's engagement at Providence. Showmen Irvin and Kenneth Feld addressed the CFA at its closing banquet.

Dr. Paul E. Fitzpatrick, of

(Continued on Page 11)

New this year are a worker's dormitory truck that sleeps seven men; a new light plant with sleeping accommodations for eight and a trailer for the Side Show equipment. A new pole and seat semi has also been added.

The midway features two pit shows, concession trailer, elephant ride, jewelry and novelty trailer and the circus zoo. The latter is housed in a 30 x

(Continued on Page 11)

Federal zoo body proposed

Final version of HR 6631, referred to as the "zoo control bill", was introduced in the House of Representatives May 2 by Rep. John Dingell (D-Mich.). The bill provides for the establishment of a Federal Zoo Control Board to license and regulate zoos, animal dealers, menageries, private breeders and circuses.

Commenting on the bill, Rep. Dingell said, "I am not stating at this time that I believe that the approach of this bill is the proper one, but it is not an unreasonable one."

The bill retains the authority to license and regulate any persons having one or more zoological animals, and the Board would be authorized to charge up to \$1,000 a year for a zoological license.

The bill would also require the licensing of personnel caring for or in charge of zoo animals. The Board would be able to charge up to \$100 a year to license zoological personnel and may require written examinations to obtain a license.

One change from the original draft is that the bill would

transfer authority for overseeing the transportation and maintenance of marine mammals, endangered and threatened species to the new Zoo Control Board. Permits for taking or importing would still have to be obtained from the agencies presently in charge of those functions.

Other new provisions in the final version would allow regulations by the new Board to preempt Dept. of Agriculture regulations under the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act and Dept. of Interior regulations under the Lacey (Injurious Wildlife) Act. Also, zoo assistance provisions have been added to the bill.

A matching fund grant program would authorize the Board to grant up to 75 per cent of the cost of any program for personnel training or research into animal health or welfare, but the section does not limit applicants solely to licensed zoos and restricts research to that which does "not interfere with the health or the welfare of the animals."

There is also a provision for 50

per cent matching grants to any licensed zoo to enable it to meet licensing standards. Another program would make grants to any zoo or "any non-profit organization" to establish pilot zoo operations projects or survival centers for endangered species.

The Board would also be authorized to make no more than \$3 million in grants each year for the next five years. However, this provision permits the Board to spend that amount only if the money is made available by Congress in the proper appropriations bill.

The bill would also allow the Board to guarantee loans up to \$15 million for zoological construction or rehabilitation projects.

The final bill retains the provisions of the draft version that allow citizens' suits to challenge the Board's issuance of a license to any person the citizen does not feel is qualified to have one.

No firm date has been set for hearing on zoo control bills, but they are expected during the summer.

Sets Record

Good crowds attended the Al Menah Temple Shrine Circus at Nashville (Tenn.) and the Cahaba Temple Shrine Circus at Huntsville (Ala), officials report. Both shows were produced by Eddie Zacchini's Olympic Int'l Circus, and both dates have been resigned for 1976.

According to Zacchini, the Nashville auditorium was filled to capacity for three of the

eight performances, with turn-away business on the last day.

All shows were near capacity at Huntsville, where the circus played the Civic Center for the first time. Attendance was said to be up about 27% over that of last year, with the show playing the fairgrounds.

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THE
Royal Lipizzaner
 STALLION SHOW



THE ALL NEW Royal Lipizzan Stallion Show launched its sixth annual tour at Troy, N.Y., on May 16-18, before enthusiastic crowds. The show features talented riders, traditional and colorful costumes, exotic lighting effects and a host of breathtaking horses that appeal to both adults and children. The program is produced by Gary Lashinsky, with staging and direction by John Finley. The music has been arranged and is conducted by George Weedon.

The 1975 show features several new acts and production numbers, including "Western Jamoree with a hoedown on horseback and "Paris" which depicts Paris at the turn of the century in a Parisian musical ride on horseback.

The equestrian exhibitions of the famous Royal Lipizzan Stallions have also been changed to emphasize their entertainment value, yet maintains the rigorous demands of classic dressage. Riders from ten countries are represented, along with new acts featuring American saddlebreds,

Arabians, Andalusians, Morgans, Palominos and Appaloosas.

On June 13th, the famous Albert Ostermaier rejoined the show with his three Lipizzaner presentations including a rare black Lipizzan and classic movements on the long line.

The Royal Lipizzan Stallion Show is currently enroute to its annual west coast dates, with engagements scheduled for Los Angeles, Long Beach, Anaheim, Oakland, and San Francisco.

Polack Bros. CIRCUS

The Las Vegas (Nev.) Shrine Club brought Polack Bros. Circus into this city for the 26th year on June 13-15, with performances at 2 and 8 p.m. in the rotunda of the Las Vegas Convention Center.

This writer and his mother caught the Friday night performance, and while the crowd was not a sell-out, the audience was responsive to and appreciative of the fine program. I had not seen Polack Bros. for a couple of years and had forgotten how superbly suited this show is to an arena such as the Las Vegas Convention Center, when compared, for example, to Ringling, which has played here a couple of times (although not regularly) in the past.

Wardrobe was excellent and all equipment appeared to be in good shape. Some local help was used in moving props and for the band, with fair results. Ringmaster Don Nothdorft did an excellent job in keeping the show moving.

Many fans lament a circus without canvas, but with hot weather in the desert in June, I am certain the performers and fans as well appreciate an air conditioned arena.

All in all, however, the circus offers two hours of everyone's favorite entertainment at prices of \$2.50 for reserved seats, or \$2.00 and \$1.00 for general admission. It is a real bargain.

The program offered here featured the following:

Lazlo Donnert Family - Clowning
 The leaps over elephants
 Rix Bears (10 bears, including
 4 polar bears)
 The Apollo Duo - aerial cradle
 The Clowns - plate spinning
 Bill Brickle's Poodle Fantasy
 Don Nothdorft - trunk illusion
 Pom Pom and "Baby Mike"
 Lazlo Donnert - one man band
 The Stinehoffs - horizontal bar
 Geronimo - sponge dive
 -- Intermission --
 The Flying Artons - flying act

Baron Von Uhl - wild animals
 (5 lions and 2 tigers)
 Lazlo Donnert and funny car
 The Luben Trio - perch pole
 The Jordanas - upside down cycle
 DeMiller - tight wire
 The Great Ivan - single trap.
 Miss Francesca - single trap.
 Tom and Pom Pom Donoho and
 the Polack Bros. elephants

Miscellaneous

The Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus date at Chicago on June 14 to 16 was underwritten by the Burger King Co.

Illinois Report

There was quite a storm at Springfield (May 19) when Hoxie Bros. arrived in town, but it ended just as the 6 p.m. show was ready to start. The spec was called off because the lot was so muddy, and there was a small river running alongside of the ring curb. Lots of fans were on the lot and business was good.

At Bloomington (May 20) Hoxie Bros. had a beautiful lot with sunny skies. Both performances were packed houses.

When the Mid-America Circus came into Decatur (May 30) they were greeted by a bad storm, that raged right up to the 4 p.m. matinee starting time. By the time the matinee was over the winds had stopped and there was no longer any sign of rain. The night show drew a full house and everyone enjoyed the program.

Mid-America was in Lincoln on June 2nd and again had bad weather right up to show time, then it improved quickly. The matinee drew a 3/4 house, while the evening show had people packed in to the ring curbs.

The Holiday Hippodrome Show came into Decatur on June 8th, playing to good business. Once again I had an enjoyable show visit.

Other shows playing this

solano county fair

A variety of stage performers were signed for the annual Solano County Fair at Vallejo (Calif.) for June 16-28. Good crowds were on hand each day of the first week, with every indication that the final week would be a record.



Kobelt Sisters

Acts working at the fair were:

June 16 - Harris Nelson, musical comedy

June 17-19 - Los Latinos Dancers; Dr. Michael Dean, hypnotist.

June 20-22 - The Pearce Sisters, vocalists and dancers.

June 23-25 - Roy Aubrey, Lee Roy Harold and the Kobelt Sisters.

June 26-27 - Taf Arnold, The Rudenko Bros. and San Luis Jazz.

Other stage features were:

The Two Party Line; Rakhs Araby, Egyptian dancers; Naila, dancer;

Also featured at the fair, presenting two performances each day, was the Happytime Circus.

area, which I was unable to see because of the bad weather were RBBB's Blue Unit, Kaye Cont'1 and Clyde Bros.

..... Allen Babcock

ROUTES

Allen's Pet Zoo
Jun 25-29 Vallejo, Calif.

Beatty-Cole Circus
June 23 New City, N.Y.
24 Milford, Conn.
25 Newtown
26 Meriden
27 Norwich
28 Groton
29 Fall River, Mass

Carden-Johnson Circus
June 22 Cody, Wyom.

Carson & Barnes Circus
Jun 23 Jefferson, Iwa
24 Madrid
25 Colfax
26 Traer
27 Independence
28 Charles City
29 Iowa Falls

Hubert Castle Circus
Jun 23 Penticton, BC
24 Trail

Hoxie Bros. Circus
June 23 Titusville, Pa
24-25 Warren
26 Ponxsutowney
27 Du Bois
28 Clearfield
29 Philipsburg

King Bros. Circus
Jun 23 Weiston, W. Va.
24 Taylorstown, Pa
25 McKeesport
26 Brownsville
27 Pittsburgh
28 Allison Park
29 White Oak

Lewis Bros. Circus
Jun 23 West Union, W.Va.
24 Glenville
25 Parsons
26 Grafton
27 Belington
28 Kingwood

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit
Jun 24-29 Dallas, Texas

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit
Jun 25-29 Tucson, Ariz.

Farmer's Fair
Jun 26-Jul 6 Honolulu, Haw.

Foley & Burk Shows
to Jun 28 Vallejo, Calif.
Jun 29-Jul 13 Pleasanton

Gooding's Midway
Jun 26-Jul 5 Brockton, Mass

Kramien's Magic Capades
Jun 23 Miles City, Mont
24-25 Billings
28 Bozeman

Magic Mardi Gras
Jun 26-28 San Mateo, Cal.

RBBB - Clown Auditions
Jun 24 Haines City, Fla

Rose City Rides
Jun 24-28 Elsberry, Mo.

Star of Stars Show
Jun 21-22 San Jose, Calif.

Tip Top Shows - Blue Unit
Jun 26-29 Oakdale, Wisc.

Tip Top Shows
Jun 26-29 Brown Deer, Wisc

Hubert Castle Circus
 Jun 23 Penticton, BC
 24 Trail
 25 Nelson
 27 Shelby, Mont.
 28 Havre

Circus Kirk
 Jun 24 Oakland, N.J.
 25 W. Patterson
 26 Mahwah
 27 Hamburg
 28 Fairlawn

Circus Vargas
 Jun 23-25 Calumet Prk, Ill
 26-30 Rockford

Europorama
 Jun 23 Lewistown, Id.
 25 Boise
 26 Twin Falls
 28 Butte, Mont.
 29 Missoula

De Wayne Bros. Circus
 Jun 27-28 Haney, BC

Franzen Bros. Circus
 June 14 Montello, Wisc
 15 Rosholt
 16 Matton
 17 Merrill

Gatti-Charles Amer. Cont'l
 Jun 26-28 Cleveland, Ohio
 29 Pt. Huron, Mich

Greeburgh Police Circus
 Jun 7 White Plain, NY

Happytime Circus
 to Jun 28 Vallejo, Calif
 29 Sacramento

Holiday Hippodrome
 Jun 23 Sandusky, Ohio
 24 Lorain
 27 Ashtabula
 28 Painesville
 29 Champion

- End of Spring Tour -

Jun 24-29 Dallas, Texas
Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit
 Jun 25-29 Tucson, Ariz.

Royal Lipizzan Show
 Jun 24 Boise, Idaho
 26 Reno, Nev.
 27-29 Sacramento, Cal.

Schmidt Circus
 Jun 26 Grackle, N. D.
 29 Litchville

Sells & Gray Circus
 Jun 23 Pontiac, Ill.
 24 Manteno
 25 Mendota
 26 Chillicothe
 27 Genesco
 28 Mt. Carroll

Shrine Circus
 Jun 24-27 Boise, Idaho

John Strong Circus
 Jun 24-25 Louisville, Ky
 26-27 Cincinnati, Oh.
 28-29 Dayton

TNT & Royal Olympic Circus
 Jun 27 Orland Park, Ill
 28-29 Racine

Wenatchee Youth Circus
 Jun 28 Ephrata, Wash.

..... **OTHER ROUTES**

American Freedom Train
 Jun 24 Detroit, Mich.

Barnum Festival
 Jun 26-Jul 6 Bridgeport, Conn

Century 21 Shows - Blue Unit
 to Jun 28 Ft. Wayne, Ind.

Century 21 Shows - Red Unit
 Jun 27-Jul 6 Cedar Rapids, Iowa

James H. Drew Shows
 Jun 23-28 So. Williamson, Kentucky

Tip Top Shows
 Jun 26-29 Brown Deer, Wisc

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Orpheum

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The above ad appeared in an Oakland, Calif., newspaper on Sept. 5, 1909.

Views Aired

In response to an invitation by KHJ-TV, a California Fish and Game Commission warden appeared on "The Tommy Hawkins Show" to answer questions about the state's new Wild Animal Control Law.

Appearing on the same program was 17 yr. old Kari Jones, daughter of Robert "Smokey" Jones, and her little elephant Tika.

Lt. Greg Laret, represented the Fish & Game Commission, and briefly reviewed the law and said it was intended to prevent endangered wild animals from being mistreated by ignorant owners. He went on to say that the law was still "rough" in a few places and that there were still many "grey areas" that needed to be clarified.

The second half of the TV show featured Kari and Tika. Kari related some of the problems this new law will create for California's professional animal owners and trainers; most notably the restrictions on importing wild animals into the state, difficulties in obtaining permits to own and transport wild animals and the statement animal owners must sign giving the state permission to seize and destroy their animals for the least infraction of the law.

Lt. Laret was then asked

Show Visitors

Visitors seen on the Gatti-Charles Circus during its recent weeks in California were Dwight Moore and family, Dave Twomey and family, Charles Cox, Tom Upton, Pat Arieta, Don Marcks and Charles Mason.

to comment on Kari's remarks. He acknowledged that certain wild animals could not be imported into California unless there was proof that they were from "domestic stock" and had not been taken from their natural environment.

Laret also acknowledged the Fish & Game Commission was having difficulties processing requests for permits. Regarding transportation of wild animals within the state, Lt. Laret said that a permit would be required each time the animal is transported. When Kari pointed out this could mean a permit would be needed just to take the animal to a veterinarian, he again commented that the law still had many "grey areas" which need to be clarified. He went on to say that only in cases of "extreme negligence" on the part of the owner would an animal be seized by the state.

Lt. Laret closed by stating that persons who wished to comment on this law could write to the Fish & Game Commission, 350 Golden Shore, Long Beach, Calif. 90802.

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BARON NOWAK was a popular circus feature in the early 1930's and appeared with many big shows, as well as touring in various vaudeville programs.

IN CANADA

Acts currently touring on the Garden Bros. Circus in Canada include:-

- Tajana - tigers
- The Young Troupe - juggling and teeterboard
- Satarie - fire/swords
- The Hanneford Riding Act
- The Keppo Sisters -
- Tommy's elephants/boxer dogs
- The Winn Troupe - high wire
- Marma - Russian aerialist

PEOPLE

NAPOLEONE ZAMPERLA's riding act recently joined the Gatti-Charles Circus.

PAUL VAN POOL visited the Sells & Gray Circus at Miami, Okla. and says the "lot was a sea of mud."

Performer Falls

Michael Fossett (26) fell some 50 to 70 feet to his death during a performance of the big Shrine Circus at Denver (Colo.) on June 11th.

Spectators said that Fossett and his sister were working on an aerial ladder when one of the two apparently lost their balance and Michael fell to the arena floor.

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PEOPLE

ARLO and ERMA SPARTAN WACH have moved to 8111 East Garvey Ave., Rosemead, Cal. 91770, and would like to hear from old circus friends.

CLYDE BEEBOW is now back working for RON HENON on the Foley & Burk Shows.

CHUCK and BAMBI BURNES quit the Gatti-Charles Circus on Jun. 13th and returned to their home in Southern California.

JOE SCHMITT, Jr. reports he will be clowning on the George Hanneford, Jr. Family Circus, opening in Cincinnati on July 14th.

THE NERVELESS NOCKS, THE OBANDOS and HUGO ZACCHINI have been signed to appear at Seven Seas Sea Life Park in Arlington, Texas for the summer.

WILMA RENCH, organist, is touring this year with the Gatti-Charles Circus. She was with Polack Bros. last year.

REX WILLIAMS has his elephants at the Lion County Safari park in Grand Prairie, Texas.

BOBBY GIBBS recently visited the Circus Kingdom, at its show date in Baraboo (Wisc.) early this month.

JIM DANDY has joined the Happytime Circus program.

In Memoriam

FORREST DEAN FREELAND (70) freelance artist for newspapers movies and circuses, died at Miami, Fla. on May 29. He was art director for the Detroit Free Press, then joined the Fox Theatres. In 1939 he worked for RBBB designing posters and advertising. Later he worked for various carnivals and circuses.

GLADYS KING (75) died at Oceanside, Calif. on May 18th. She and her husband (Howard) at one time operated the Walter L. Main, Harris Bros. and Dan Rice circuses. In 1923 she was a show girl with the Ziegfeld Follies. Survivors include her husband, Howard and a brother, James Taulbee.

EDWARD (Red) MAYNARD died at Gainesville, Fla. on May 14th he ran away at the age of 15 to join Gollmar Bros. Circus. Later he worked with various shows including RBBB until they became an indoor circus. His last show jobs were with the Beatty-Cole and Sells & Gray Circus. He is survived by a brother, Harold, of Mineral Point, Kansas.

Miscellaneous

The John Strong Circus was day-and-dating the George Matthews Circus in New Orleans on June 14th.



A cold steady rain fell on Hunt's Circus during its opening day engagement at Florence, N.J. observers report. It was a 12 hour hassle to get the new top into the air the day before and as viewed on circus day, an observer said the red, white and blue tent stood proud and majestically in a sea of mud, surrounded by colorful circus wagons, while it leaked like a sieve.

The show's work crew is under the direction of Che Che White Cloud, who says he is short several men. He also is a knife thrower in the circus, using his wife as the target.

Famous magician and illusionist Saul Shafton is the show announcer. Other acts with the circus include: Miss Olga and Miss Tina, aerialists; Bonnie and Clyde, musical act and vent; Ethel Joyce, Greyhounds; Pizza and Spiff, clowns; Los Argentino on the high wire; Theresa Bush, elephant.

By the end of May the show

FISHER BROS. (Continued)

50 ft top and includes two elephants, four small cages, the hippo and several freak animals all for 50¢.

Other canvas consists of a 20 x 30 ft. cookhouse; a 20 x 30 ft marquee and the big top, a 70 ft round end top, with one 40 ft. center. Admission prices are \$1.50 for children and \$2.00 for adults.

THE CFA (Continued)

Morrow, Ga., was elected president of the CFA for the coming year.

Those elected as Regional vice-presidents were: Howard Coleman (Western), Davis, Cal., Herman Brandmiller (Central), Grand Rapids, Mich., Dr. Wm. E. Hooper (Southern), Mesquite, Tex

Directors elected for a two year term are: Richard H. Vachon of Bennington, Vt.; Albert F. House, of Oakland, N.J.; Paul F. Hoy, of Sioux Falls, S.D.; Alton L. Jones, of Joplin, Mo.; Ralph E. Decker, of Tacoma, Wash.; Carl B. Helbing, of Phoenix, Ariz.; Hardy A. O'Neal, of Shreveport, La.; Forrest A. Traylor, of Colonial Heights, Va.; and Alva Johnson, Jr. of Sarasota, Fla.

was said to be operating smoothly and well. They had gotten away from the rain, but were now experiencing a heat wave.