



America's Favorite Circus Weekly

Volume 2

September 24, 1973

Number 38

COULD'VE BEEN ROSIER **CIRCUS CAPTURES**

In its annual report the Madison Square Garden Corp., lists revenues of \$126,476,000 for the fiscal year ending May 31, 1973, as compared to \$112,820,000 for the previous year. Net income for fiscal 1973 amounted to \$3,162,000 (66¢ a share) compared to last year when income of \$4,092,000 or 86¢ a share was recorded.

The decline in income, the company said, was due to increased costs, particularly labor and real estate taxes, a reduction in atten-
(Continued Page 3 - Column 2)

OWNER MISSING

A big assortment of animals are reportedly grazing on the Mediterranean Coast of France, after being released by a circus.

The animals, which were part of the Cirque Amar, were released after the circus went into bankruptcy and there was no money for food. Some animals were acquired by private zoos, but about 30 animals are still roaming the coast.

Critics in the Philadelphia area were impressed with the Int'l Boys Circus which opened its U.S. run in that city on Sept. 6th.

The performers range from 6 or 7 to 21 years of age, while the performance includes a whip act, flying trapeze, illusions, clowns, bagpipers, marching units, unicycles, high wire and riding act.

The reviewers say.....

The circus performers, orphaned boys from 15 European countries, will delight and amaze you and steal both the show and your heart.

Their show has all the heart stopping feats, anticipatory drum rolls, laughs and sawdust of a classical circus. But it has an atmosphere of excitement and devotion all its own.

Good fun and a warm inner glow are guaranteed rewards for spending two hours at the Int'l Boys Circus.

The trapeze acts, with exchange in mid-air is just as thrilling as when performed in adult circuses.

Along the Midway

A number of outstanding people are being featured on the Wanous Family Show this year.

Acts include: Doc Richmond, magic; Hugh Bailey, pretzel boy; Esther Blackman, alligator girl; Stella, bearded lady; Manuletta, Upside Down boy; Emmett Speights, swords; Tweetie, Bird girl; William Ingram, Pop-eye; Kit and Raymond Wanous, inside lecturers; Barbara Morrow, Miss Electra;

Other personnel on the show includes: Craig and Lynn Wanous, inside managers; Walter Wanous, show manager; Averill Wanous, bookkeeper; Roseann Koetz, Sherr Long and Pam John, belly; Tommy Blackman, Raymond Burnett, Larry Goser and Morrie Wykle, ticket sellers; Virginia Melvin, manager; Kim and Elaine Wanous, talkers.

FINES IMPOSED

Two horse trainers - Doug Wolaver, of Cornersville and Don Bell, of Fayetteville (Alabama) were fined on Sept. 7th for exhibiting "sored" Tennessee Walking Horses.

Both men pleaded "nolo contendere" to criminal charges filed by the U. S. Attorney on behalf of
(Continued Page 3 - Column 2)

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FINALE

Three well-known circus personalities passed away early this month. They were:

Preston Duncan - who worked for Ringling-Barnum's Side Show band prior to establishing his own international band. He is survived by his wife and two daughters.

George Paige - Concession manager for Polack Bros. Circus died at Sacramento, Calif. He is survived by his wife, Opal.

Richard Shipley - well-known animal trainer. He worked elephants with RBBB, Clyde Beatty and the Carson & Barnes circuses. He was also seen in the film "Ring of Fear". Five brothers and three sisters survive.

new book

The history of the cattle industry in the Pacific Northwest is brought into sharp focus by author Virginia Paul in her new book "This Was Cattle Ranching."

Produced by the Superior Publishing Co. the volume contains some 350 rare photos, and offers its readers an opportunity to ride along on an early day cattle drive - "just man, horse, bedroll and a sack of beef jerky."

The volume sells for \$13.95 and can be ordered by writing to: Superior Publishing Co., Box 1710, Seattle, Wash. - 98111.



NEW CIRCUS OK

by CHUCK MELTZER

Want to add my name to those of the others who have raved about the Int'l Boys Circus, which closed here (Philadelphia, Pa. Sep. 6-9) not long ago.

This show is on a par with any circus on the road today. They have the best clown productions I have ever seen and their carpet clown beats anyone alive today. The dressage number, with four young men, reminds one of the Schumanns.

This is a superb show in every way. The whole group, including the management, is friendly and welcoming to the circus fan backstage.

SHOW FOLDS

Those recent rumors have proved to be true for the Canadian Circus, Inc., has folded. The show, produced by Ross Marshall, gave its last performance at Barrie, Ont. on Aug. 29th.

The total loss for the venture is in excess of \$150,000. All receipts for the final day were turned over to the performers. Most of the show folks scattered, but some were signed for dates with the Garden Bros. Circus.

Dates booked, but cancelled included: Quebec, Ontario, Montreal, Kitchener and Toronto. The show was troubled with bad weather from its opening day, along with strikes that made some buildings unavailable. All dates were being sponsored by the Canadian Arthritis Society.

Readers Please Note!

The Paul Eagles Circus Luncheon Club will hold its birthday party on Oct. 29th. in Los Angeles, Cal.

FINES IMPOSED

the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture. The court accepted the plea, found the men guilty and fined each of them \$1,000 for violation of the Horser Protective Act of 1970. It was the first time criminal convictions had been handed down for "soring" horses.

Mr. Bell was charged with the "soring" of his horse's front legs and transporting the animal across state lines. Mr. Wolaver was charged with exhibiting two "sored" horses, as well as transporting them across state lines.

COULD BE ROSIER

dance at race tracks and reduced attendance at Madison Square Garden shows. Competition for the entertainment dollar was cited as a major cause of the decline.

The report noted that Michael Burke has been named a director and Senior Vice President of the corporation. He has an extensive background in sports and entertainment, the report states, including 15 yrs with CBS and president of the New York Yankees (no mention is made of his years with RBBB).

Madison Square Garden Corp., owns 80% of Int'l Holiday on Ice, which last year presented over 100 performances in Europe, Central and South America. This year the show is visiting Russia and the Far East

ROUTES

Beatty-Cole Circus
 Sep. 24 Victoria, Texas
 25 Corpus Christi
 26 Brownsville

Cerson & Barnes Circus
 Sep. 24 Perryville, Mo.
 25 Fredericktown
 26 Rolla
 27 Houston
 28 Bolivar
 29 Lamar

Hubert Castle Circus
 Sep. 27-30 Phoenix, Ariz.

Clyde Bros. Circus
 Sep. 28-30 Salina, Kans.

George Matthews Circus
 Sep. 24-25 Spokane, Wash.
 26 Off
 27 Seattle
 28 Olympia
 29 Longview
 Sep. 30-Oct 1 Portland, Ore

Hell's Circus Side Show
 Sep. 27-Oct 6 Atlanta, Ga.

Happytime Circus
 to Sep. 29 Bakersfield, Cal

Hoxie Bros. Circus
 Sep. 24 Leitersburg, Md
 25 Beltsville
 26 Rockville
 27 Springfield, Va.
 28 Chester
 29 Danville
 30 Durham, NC

Int'l Boys Circus
 Sep. 24-26 Johnstown, Pa.
 28-29 Detroit, Mich.

Emmett Kelly, Jr. Circus
 Sep. 29-Oct 8 New York, NY

Lewis Bros. Circus
 Sep. 24 Monterey, Tenn.
 25 Gainesville
 26 Rickmen
 27 Carthage
 28 Lebanon

M & M Circus
 Sep. 28 Purdue, Ind.

Miller Johnson Circus
 to Sep. 30 New York, NY

Ringling's Blue Unit
 Sep. 27-30 Bloomington, Minn

Ringling's Red Unit
 Sep. 26-30 Cincinnati, Ohio

Royal Lipizzan Stallion Show
 Sep. 27-28 Bangor, Me.
 29-30 Augusta

Wallace & Rogers Circus
 Sep. 24-25 Wilmermine, Ore.
 26 Off
 27 Fayette, Idaho

..... SPECIAL ROUTES

Albacker's Magic Show
 Sep. 29-Oct 8 Danbury, Conn

Chinese Opera Theatre
 Sep. 26-27 San Francisco

Holiday on Ice (Int'l)
 Sep. 25-30 Carbondale, Ill

Holiday on Ice (Nat'l)
 Sep. 25-30 Hampton Rds, Va

Ice Spades
 Sep. 28-Oct 2 Tulsa, Okla

Ice Classic
 Sep. 26-29 Lexington, Ky

Renaissance Fair
 Sep. 28-30 Novato, Cal.

Small World (Disney)
 Sep. 25-30 Montreal, Queb.

..... CARNIVALS

James H. Drew Shows
 Sep. 24-29 Cartersville, Ga

Rose City Rides
 Sep. 24-29 Sikeston, Mo.

Reithoffer Shows
 Sep. 24-29 Bloomsburg, Pa

Louden Amusement Co.
 Sep. 24-29 Edenton, NC

Gold Medal Shows
 Sep. 24-29 LaGrange, Ga.

Big H Rides
 Sep. 24-29 Burgaw, NC

Amusements of America
 Sep. 25-29 Sumter, SC
 24-29 Wilson, NC
 24-29 Lumberton, NC

Alle City Amusements
 Sep. 24-29 Warner Robins, Ga

Murphy Bros. Expo
 Sep 27-Oct 7 Tulsa, Okla

Jay-Belle Amusements
 Sep. 24-29 Louisburg, NC

Little Richard's Expo
 Sep. 24-29 Hendersonville, Nc

Farrow Amusement Co.
 Sep. 24-29 Marvell, Ark.

Myers Amusement Co.
 Sep. 24-29 Hope, Ark.

Diamond State Shows
 Sep. 24-29 Franklin, NC

Razorback Amusement Co.
 Sep. 24-29 Stamps, Ark.

W. D. Stanley Shows
 Sep. 25-30 Bastrop, La.

Gene Ledel Shows

people

LOLLY, The Clown, played the Kalamazoo, Mich. Fair on Aug. 20-25.

PAUL HUDSON has been named boss canvasser for the Miller Johnson Circus.

JAMES A. HALEY, for RBBB president, is now a Representative at Washington, DC from the State of Florida.

TOM ORE (Bono, the clown) recently worked the fair at Crescent City, Calif.

DAVE TWOMEY visited the Wallace & Rogers Circus at St. Helens, Ore. on Sep. 10.

CHERIE VALENTINE recently visited with ETHEL and JACK JOYCE on the Beatty-Cole Circus.

HARRY L. KINGSTON visited with Bobby Johnson, head Beatty-Cole biller at several Texas stands.

BOB MOCK had his trained dogs on the Wallace & Rogers Circus at Burien, Wash. on Aug. 29-Sept. 1.

BOB MATTHEWS is still in Hollywood Community Hospital after suffering two heart attacks.

BOBBY BAXTER, clown, is working on the Conneaut Lake Park Midway. He's been there since 1970.

ZAMPERLA was bitten by a lion during his act with Pollock Bros. Circus at its Sacramento, Calif. stand.

DEIRDRE FLYNN, daughter of the late movie star Errol, has been working with The Flying Viennas. She hopes to join the RBBB show.

CHARLES GERMAINE, former owner of Miller Johnson Circus, announces he will be returning to the circus field.

Ringling's Red Unit
 Sep. 26-30 Cincinnati, Ohio
Royal Lipizzan Stallion Show
 Sep. 27-28 Bangor, Me.
 29-30 Augusta
Sells & Gray Circus
 Sep. 24 Masontown, Pa.
 25 Waynesburg
 26 Westover, W.Va.
 27 Grafton
 28 Enroute
 29 Harrisville
 20 Belpre, Ohio
John Strong Circus
 Sep. 24 Oroville, Calif.
 25 Roseville
 26-27 Antioch
 28 Dublin
 29 Napa
 30 Milpitas
Voorheis Bros. Circus
 Sep. 25 Frankfort, Mich.
 26 Traverse City
 28 Howell
Wonderful World of Animals
 Sep. 20 Hamilton, Ont.

Razorback Amusement Co.
 Sep. 24-29 Stamps, Ark.
W. D. Stanley Shows
 Sep. 25-30 Bastrop, La.
Gene Ledel Shows
 Sep. 22-29 Lubbock, Texas
Louden Amusement Co.
 Sep. 24-29 Edenton, NC
Royal Amusement Co.
 Sep. 24-29 Durham, NC
Cumberland Valley Shows
 Sep. 24-29 Dalton, Ga.
Capell Bros. Shows
 Sep. 26-30 Las Cruces, NM

THERE WILL BE A TRIAL
Regarding the Animal
Welfare Act of 1970.

Trial will be this fall, sometime
 after Oct. 7
 All interested parties who desire
 to speak in behalf of their rights--
 I need your testimony!

Contact me, so that I can contact
 you when the time comes.

HAL HAVILAND

P.O. BOX 1222
 LANDOVER, MD. 20785

CHARLES GERMAINE, former
 owner of Miller Johnson Cir-
 cus, announces he will be re-
 turning to the circus field.

DON ARTHUR brought his
 illusions to the Wallace &
 Rogers Circus for the CFA
 convention shows.

DEBRA STEWART (14 yrs of
 age) was killed when she fell
 from a midway ride at the Mid
 America Fair at Topeka, Kans.
 on Aug. 10th.

PETE CRUM, clown, has been
 working with the Loudon Amuse-
 ment's Midway this summer.

ROBERT PERRY, manager of
 Australia's Alberto's Circus
 had lunch with DON MARCKS
 last week (Sept. 20)

IAN GARDEN has put toge-
 ther an interesting show of
 animals and plans to tour it
 through Oct. 6th.

WEST COAST: *DATE OK*

by DAVID L. HAMMARSTROM

Here's a show that looks like it's going somewhere. Kays Continental Circus, seen at San Jose, Cal., fairgrounds, bore much of the unmistakable showmanship for which its owner-producer Paul Kays is known.

Kays is the wizard of sight and sound who whipped together some magnificent three ring spectacle in Los Angeles during the 60's for the late Al Dobritch. His gifts for arranging and pacing circus acts in a complimentary order, and his stunning achievements in the area of lighting and music are exceeded by no one. Kays is also a top ringmaster, a chore that, regretfully, he no longer assumes.

His show should be seen indoors to be appreciated, in its outdoor setting it suffered the usual esthetic problems to be expected -- inadequate lighting and acoustics and a greater than healthy distance between performer and audience. Also the absence of a backdrop to separate the performing area from the trucks and trailers behind cause further distractions, with performers and clowns warming up "in the wings" often visible.

The circus offers a solid roster of spirited acts, scored with ear catching zest and imagination by Jack Carvone's band. Carvone, with a rare knack for mixing traditional music with current melodies, is possibly the number one windjammer on the road.

Much of the lure of this show is in the air: wire walks, loop-the-loops and novel aerial twists provide an appropriate overture for the resounding second-half appearance of 68 year old Karl Wallenda. The high wire super-star of half a century shows no signs of aging. Wallenda is King, and his vigorous, unrelenting prescence alone, conjuring up rich memories of more glamorous and heroic circus days, is a thrill to behold.

Other nifty air-borne gymnasts included -- Great DeMille; bounding stylishly on a low wire; The Flying Astros; The Kimris Duo, working on single traps from their
(Continued Page 7 - Right column)

TALENT LINEUP

Have you ever wondered what has become of former top-name circus performers? Well, we know of a few who are now working on the big Royal American Carnival.

Teo Zacchini, who helped develop the human cannonball act, builds self-contained fun houses and is operating his own unit on the midwestern carnival.

Estralene Repinski, an outstanding bareback rider who was the top mounter in the family's act on Ringling-Barnum, is married to Joe Galasso.

Joe Galasso, once thrilled audiences with his fine balancing act, now he does all the art work for Royal American's wagons. He and his wife also exhibit the world's smallest horse.

YEARS AGO

Barnum & Bailey Circus - Pittsfield Mass. - May 25, 1918.

The show's first section came in at 5 a.m. and had 3 horse cars, 17 flat cars, 2 sleepers and 45 wagons of which 28 were cages.

The second section arrived at 11 a.m. with 6 horse cars, 10 flat car units and 6 sleepers. Included were 26 wagons and one cart.

The third section arrived about 11:15 a.m. with 6 horse cars, 14 flat cars; 42 wagons, two chariots, two tractors and an auto in a wagon.

The fourth section came in about 11:30 a.m. with 6 horse cars, four stock cars and 10 sleepers.

They have 14 camels, 20 elephants, 3 giraffes, one baby giraffe, one baby camel, two zebras and three sacred cattle.

Their tents include: big top with 6 poles; menagerie (sidewalled); side show; cookhouse; dining top; private dining tent; colored dining tent; dressing room; wardrobe; band; ring stock; two draft horse tents; blacksmith shop and some small tents.

The show's colors are: advance car No. 1 is red with yellow trim and gold letters. Advance car No. 2 is blue with yellow trim and gold letters; Advance car No. 3 is olive with green trim and gold letters.

The sleepers are all red; the flat cars are yellow with green on the ends, while the horse cars are yellow with red ends. All of their wagons are red.

No matter where you are you'll enjoy reading The Circus Report each week.

Order your subscription now and get in on all the news.

Send \$10.00 to: Don Marcks, 525 Oak Street, El Cerrito, Calif. - 94530



WEST COAST: DATE OK (Continued)

space age aerial plane; and the Great Bruno, standing up with dizzy nerve on the tip of a 75 foot sway pole.

There was less excitement on the ground, though Niccolini's chimps commanded good audience response with clever routines; The Great Huston offered an interesting illusion display, while the Fulbrights gave us a refreshing glimpse of classy dressage.

Clown alley, led by Blinks, was at least above average, no hard feet these days. Ringmaster chores are handled by Phil McDonald, whose overly slow and long announcements give the show a sluggish pace, a major disappointment considering the rapid way that Kaye kept things moving when he announced for Dobritch.

Incidentally, McDonald, a former Polack announcer, is using many of the phrases he picked up on that show, which makes Kaye Continental sound like an even more likely candidate for some old Polack dates. Shriners should be pleased with this one. Kaye is delivering and the phones, we suspect, will be ringing in his favor.

WINTER UNITS SET FOR STRONG

Four show units, operated under the direction of John Strong and James Hargrove, will get underway late this year in time for the holiday season.

The big unit, with John at its helm, will be called "Big John's Int'l Circus with Santa Claus." This show opens Dec. 2nd at Kansas City, then goes into St. Louis, Mo., for the county police on Dec. 5th. Other dates already booked for the unit include: Tulsa, Dallas, Oklahoma City, Houston, Fort Worth and Albuquerque.

A second unit, headed by Ruth Strong and Betty Wendany, opens on Nov. 16th. It will play indoor show dates in Northern California, and will feature the three Strong children.

A third unit will feature the Wal-Tims, acrobat/risley, Miss Jan on the trapeze. Playing dates booked by James Hargrove, the unit is to be managed by Wally Bickmore.

Details of the fourth unit are being finalized and will be announced soon.

Business for the John Strong Circus this year has been termed "excellent" by John himself. The show suffered a blowdown at Tulsa, Okla. in 80 mile an hour winds, but no performances were lost. Record dates were reported at Oklahoma City, Dallas, Tulsa, Omaha, and Seattle where the show day-and dated R888. "They actually helped us," says John, "and so too did the Beatty-Cole show when we played several towns at the same time with them.

Other outstanding dates were Akron, Columbus (3 and 4 shows per day), Chicago (sponsored by the Jaycees with a \$100,000 advance

promotion), Cedar Rapids, Boise (6,600 people in one day) and Vancouver, BC.

Early in the year John purchased a trained chimp and a new truck from Bob Lennard, well known animal trainer. At the same time Ruth purchased a horse and trailer, and the animal will be worked by Heidi Wendany.

Bob Rawls and Steve Baker, of King Bros. will soon join the Big John Strong organization. Sebe is going to be show supt., while Steve will be assistant to John in 1974. Also signed for the full '74 tour is the Wendany Family.

James Hargrove, who heads the Hargrove Productions, has announced his retirement effective Jan. 1974. The move is necessitated because of ill health.

His complex operations will be taken over by Gene Holloway, an executive with the organization. The firm will henceforth be known as "Holloway Productions" and Bob Dunham will be assisting. During 1974 he will tour with the Strong Circus, although he will maintain an office in San Diego.

(Continued next page - Lower right)



Pot-Pourri

The Hubert Castle Circus will be sponsored by the El Zaribah Shrine Temple at Phoenix, Ariz. this month.

Miller Johnson Circus has taken delivery of a new tent -- 163 ft with three 50 ft. center pieces.

Wallace & Rogers plans to tour under canvas until November then will go indoor for a series of winter dates.

A horse in the stage show at the Stardust Hotel (Las Vegas) jumped into the audience after throwing its rider on Sept. 9th. No injuries were reported.

A new law in Michigan forbids advertising on barns within the state.

Fisher Bros. Circus has moved back into Texas. On Sept. 22nd they were at Alpine.

Circus Kirk used an orange and blue tent this season. They even have an old-fashioned canvas banner-line for their side show.

Western Pacific Shows provided rides and games at the Lodi (Calif) Fair last week.

FINALE

Death claimed the lives of two show people this past week:

D. H. Frank Biron - old-time trick roper who worked for Larry Sunbrock and Hunt Bros. Circus. He died on July 7th at St. Cloud, Fla.

Clarence Stroud - Former circus and vaudeville acrobat. He died at Dallas, Texas.

FOR SALE

We're making room for all new diesel trucks and other equipment for the 1974 season and therefore have the following items for sale.

All show trucks -- side show and big top -- including all poles.

For details write: Mel Silverlake, Fisher Bros. Circus, RFD #1 - Box 452, Donna, Texas - 78537.

NEW SITE WANTED

Plans for an Interstate Highway have forced Ralph Emerson to vacate his wild animal farm at Newington, Conn. Emerson has operated his animal farm at the same site for at least 23 years, and now says he is not sure where he will be able to find a new location.

The animal farm covered some 27 acres and was a favorite spot for circus acts laying over between engagements.

NOTE . . .

Four old circus newspaper advertisements just \$1.00. Order from: Circus Memories Museum, Fryeburg, Me.

John Strong will continue to work for the new firm and in fact has already signed for next year, with a guarantee of additional dates. The tour will move into new eastern territory as well as playing Canadian towns.

"The coming year will be a good one," says John, "for it offers a financial increase and a longer season. At the same time I will be sharing in the profits of the company."

ALBERTO'S CIRCUS

by M. L. Dupont

Word received from Vern Ellis, a CMB member and performer with Alberto's Circus (Australia) has cleared up a few facts reported earlier about the show. We reported that ABC spent a week with the show filming a TV program. Now we learn that this was "Australian Broadcasting Commission," and that it was not ABC of this country.

Vern reports that business has been very good and the prices are reasonable, with full houses most of the time.

Their tent is a 2 pole top -- 120 ft. x 80 ft, with seating for 2,000 people. The color scheme is red and white; stringers and jacks are yellow. The show moves on tent trucks, 6 vans, a station wagon and car. They have a monkey cage, wolf cage, baboon cage, lion cage and two tiger cages.

Vern is a model builder and a collector of circusana and has hope of securing some American items. Since postage to Australia is 17¢ each $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce, this reporter will forward anything within reason if desired. Write for details to: M.L. Dupont, Box 6131, Monroe, La.

HAVE AVAILABLE

OPEN TIME THROUGH DECEMBER

Elephants, dogs, Ponies

BOB GIBBS

Rte. 2, Box 550

Mission, Texas