



America's Favorite Circus Weekly

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Number 17

## R-B Still Looking For That Buyer

"We're still actively seeking a buyer for the Ringling-Barnum Circus," a spokesman for Mattel, Inc., told Circus Report late last week. "There have been some offers and they are all being carefully considered," he added.

In a telephone conversation, Spencer Boise, vice president of corporate affairs for Mattel, said the circus was a money making operation and provided income for the company. However, he added, because of heavy commitments for Circus World Park, in Florida, it was impossible for Mattel, in its current financial position, to continue on as owner of the circus and the Florida park.

## The Fight Goes On

Although Hal Haviland has lost the first round in his fight against the government, he plans to continue his efforts by going to the U. S. Court of Appeals. His motion for a summary judgement was turned down by U. S. District Court Judge William B. Jones, who ruled in favor of the government's motion to dismiss the case.

According to Haviland, the government has exceeded its authority by including "animal  
(Continued on Back Page)

Despite the fact that Gulf Oil called off its plans to buy the circus, Mattel was able to meet its April interest payment with Wells Fargo Bank. Money for the payment was obtained through the sale of subsidiaries and by using company funds. Another \$30 million payment is due next July.

When asked about the stockholder's suit against the company, which charges that Mattel did not offer a correct financial report at the time the circus was sold, Mr. Boise said "no comment." There is no way  
(Continued on Page 2)

# people

J. M. MUNTER (Front Door Red) who was with Sells Floto in 1914, now lives in Klamath Falls, Oregon.

DON REY and JIMMY GOFF are currently touring with the Gatti-Charles Circus.

JOHNNY PACE, former performer with the Great Y Circus, fell while working on a telephone pole and cracked six ribs, chipped his elbow and hurt his shoulder.

LA NORMA (serialist) has reportedly announced her retirement and is selling her rigging to Johnny and Betty Zoppe.

## R-B LOOKS FOR THAT BUYER

of telling what effect the suit might have on the company, and as an officer with Mattel, he said, it is impossible to comment on the action.

Business at Circus World Park seems to be generally holding up, Boise said. Some days are better than others with the weekend business showing an increase.

There is sort of a wait and see attitude being adopted at the present time. There is no question but that whoever buys the circus will have their own ideas as to how the park should be developed and what amounts of money will be available for it.

# CAPSULES

Ringling-Barnum's Blue Unit lost some days at New York due to a basketball schedule.

Ringling-Barnum's Blue Unit lost some days this past month due to a basketball game schedule at New York City.

The March 1974 issue of the Real West magazine had an item about Buffalo Bill's Last Days.

The Circus Historical Society will hold its 1974 convention at Bridgeport, Conn. on Aug. 10-11.

De Wayne Bros. Circus is sporting a new red and white big top this season.

There were 11 elephants on the Hubert Castle Circus at its Columbus, Ohio date (Mar. 28-Apr. 6). They were: Cline (3), Diane (5) and Vickel (3).

## NOW AVAILABLE

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## SAWDUST TRAIL

Lewis Bros. Circus will be in Springfield, Ohio, in June as the CFA Convention Circus.

Carl Conley, owner of the Circus Williams, is currently on the King Bros. Circus.

The Beatty-Cole and Suarez Circus has several new elephants coming in from Europe.

"Models, the clown" was in Monroe, La. for two days while working the local K-Mart store.

Vern Ellis, of Australia, reports the Alberto Circus is drawing good crowds and has a new blue and white big top.

The Northwest La. Shrine Club has booked the Olympic Int. Circus (Eddie Zachini) for Nov. 1-3, with a local circus fan to handle promotion of the show.

Do-Do, the Clown and his grand-daughter "Little Doe" have been working a Library circuit and will be working Louisiana Libraries in June.

Cliff and Dorothy Day, on Carson & Barnes, report business has been good for the show.

A new show called "Franzen Bros. Circus" may come out of Wisconsin, according to rumors now circulating.

The circus season starts in the San Francisco area April 26-29, with Polack Bros. in Oakland

## SHOW PLANS

There'll be some changes in this year's presentation of the Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show at North Platte, Nebr. according to Montie Montana, Jr. who runs the event. The annual presentation will be in an area alongside the original ranch house of Buffalo Bill, from July 13 to Aug. 18th.

Approximately 41 events will be presented in each show, which is expected to last about 2½ hours. Included in the program will be quick draw artists, a Civil war cannon race, Fort Carson horsemen, the Marvells from Texas, a trained horse, Roman riders, baton champ Joyce Rice and an Afghanistan warrior game.

Opening day will feature a hot air balloon race, the arrival of a train from Omaha, Montana's three youngsters doing trick riding and an appearance by Montie Montana, Sr. A portable railroad track will be put down in the arena, so an actual train can come into the performing area, for the finale.

Later on Montana expects to take some acts to Europe, Hawaii and South Africa. He will also make appearances at Seoul, Malaysia, Tokyo and Guam.

and the George Matthews Circus in Santa Clara.

M. L. Dupont

# routes

## Allen's Pet Zoo

May 1-4 Bakersfield, Cal.

## Barnes & Daily Circus

Apr. 29 Spencer, Ind.

30 Open

May 1 Mitchell

2 Washington

3 Petersburg

4 Sumner, Ill.

## Beatty-Cole Circus

Apr. 29 Newport News, Va.

30 Richmond

May 1 McLean

2 Dover, Dela.

3-5 Wilmington

## Carson & Barnes Circus

Apr. 29 Douglas, Ariz.

30 Lordsburg, N.M.

May 1 Deming

2 Truth or Consq.

3 Socorro

4 Belen

## Hubert Castle Circus

May 2-4 Saskatoon, Sask.

4-11 Winnipeg, Mant.

## Circus Vargas

Apr. 29-30 San Bernard, Ca.

May 1 Ontario

2-5 Commerce

## Continental 3-Ring Circus

Apr 30-May 1 Daytona Bch,

May 2-4 Orlando Fla

5-7 Jacksonville

## Dailey Bros. Circus

May 4 Sedan, Kans.

## Garden Bros. Circus

Apr 29-May 2 Montreal, Ont

May 1 St.Catherines

## Gatti-Charles Circus

Apr 29-30 Victoria, BC

May 1-2 New Westminster

3-4 Abbotsford

## Lewis Bros. Circus

Apr. 29 Grayson, Ky.

30 Moreland

May 1 Flemingsburg

2 Falmouth

3 Cynthiaana

4 Covington

## Prof. Miller & Showtime Fol.

Apr. 29 Meriden, N. J.

30 Enroute

May 1 Stamford, Conn.

2 Bristol

3 Johnston

## Polack Bros. Circus

Apr. 30 Chico, Calif.

May 3-5 Tacoma, Wash.

## Ringling-Barnum Red Unit

May 1-5 Kitchener, Ont.

## Ringling-Barnum Blue Unit

to May 27 New York, N.Y.

## Royal Lipizzan Stallion Show

Apr 29-May 9 Rehearsals

at Troy, NY

## Royal Ranch Wild West

May 7 Dennieville, N.J.

## Royson Bros. Circus

May 1 Ft. Gaines, Ga.

2 Cuthbert

## Rudy Bros. Circus

May 5-9 Milwaukee, Wisc.

## Tommy Scott-Tim McCoy Show

Apr. 29 Meridian, Miss.

30 Columbus

May 1 Tupelo

2 New Albany

3 Milan, Tenn.

4 Camden

5 Clarkesville

## Sells & Gray Circus

Apr. 29 Graham, N. C.

30 Sanford

May 1 Monroe

2 Hickory

3 Morganton

4 Canton

## .... OTHER ROUTES .....

### Antique Show

Apr. 24-28 San Fran, Ca.

### Century 21 Shows (Blue)

Apr 28-May 4 Millington

Tenn.

### Century 21 Shows (Red)

May 4-11 Memphis, Tenn.

### Disney on Parade

Apr. 30-May 5 Memphis, Tenn.

### James H. Drew Shows

Apr 29-May 5 Beckley, W.V.

### Fiesta Brazil

May 4 Cupertino, Cal.

### Frazier World Fair Shows

Apr 24-May 5 El Paso, Tex

May 8-12 Roswell, NM

### Merle Haggard Show

May 2 San Angelo, Tex.

### Holiday on Ice

May 1-Jun 2 Mexico City

### Ice Capades

May 2-12 Honolulu, Haw.

### Ice Fellies

Apr 30-May 5 Portland, Ore

### Marcel Marceau Show

May 1 Berkeley, Cal.

2 Cupertino

3-5 Berkeley

### Peter Pan Show

May 1-5 Ft. Worth, Tex

### Rose City Rides

Apr 29-May 4 Troy, Mo.

### Spring Garden Show

May 4-12 Oakland, Cal.

### This Was Burlesque Show

Apr 29-May 5 Nannet, N.Y.

### World's Fair

May 4-Nov 3 Spokane, Wash

people

May 1-3 New Westminster  
3-4 Abbotsford

Hamid-Morton Circus  
May 3-5 Atlantic City, N.J.

Hannaferd Circus  
May 6 Russellville, Ky

Hoxie Bros. Circus  
Apr. 29 Charleston, W. Va.  
30 Vienna  
May 1 Cambridge, Ohio  
2 Martins Ferry  
3 McConnellsville  
4 Athens  
5 Marietta

Kaye Cent'l Circus  
to Apr. 30 Omaha, Nebr.

King Bros. Circus  
Apr. 29 Pleasanton, Tex.  
30 George West  
May 1 Peersall  
2 Fredericksburg  
3 Brady

Pan American Circus  
May 3-5 Newark, N.J.

3 Morganton  
4 Canton

John Strong Circus  
May 4 San Jose, Calif.  
5 Watsonville

Syrien Shrine Circus  
May 2-11 Cincinnati, Ohio

Trans-Continental Circus  
May 1 Potsdam, N. Y.

Voorheis Bros. Circus  
Apr. 29 Alpena, Mich.  
30 Osceola  
May 1 Texas  
2 Enroute  
3 Kingston  
4 Harbor Beach

Wallace & Rogers Circus  
Apr. 29 Moscow, Idaho  
30 Coeur d'Alene  
May 1 Wallace

# people

EDMUNDO ZACCHINI suffered a broken leg when he was struck by a trailer at Circus America in Washington, DC

PUG HARPER and ART LESTER are with the Frazier Show. Pug (formerly with Foley & Burk) has a tip top, while Art (formerly with Fiesta Shows) is the show electrician


FRANK CURRY, a former RBBB vice president, has moved to New York City.

ELOISE BERCHTOLD and MORGAN BERRY visited with BARON VON UHL at a truck stop near East St. Louis.

MICKY KING (aerialist) is recovering from a recent operation.

# CLYDE BEATTY COLE BROS. CIRCUS

WORLD'S LARGEST

 hockey play-off game schedule forced the Beatty-Cole Circus to delay its opening at Commack, L. I., (New York) until Tuesday, April 9th. The loss of three days was not widely advertised and as a result there were several disappointed people on hand for what would have been normal showtime dates.

More than half of this year's show is new and they have a good fast moving program with all acts in flashy wardrobe. Roger Boyd is the ringmaster; Charles Schlerbaum, musical director; Ken Dodd, producing clown; and Tom Ogden is in charge of the side show. This year's Clown Alley includes: Bernie Kallman, Jimmy James, Lou Nagy, Buck Molen, Chris Minot, Shorty Hinckle, Dody Daniels, Dennis Stevens, Bernard Crespo and Mike Ferreira.

The program of acts are:

- Dave Hoover - lions and tigers
- The Clowns - walk-around
- Phil & Francine - aerial cradle
- Elbe & Rita, Aerial Glorions - iron jaw number
- Miss Ruth - dogs and ponies
- Droguett Troupe and The Gracielas Sisters - jugglers
- The Clowns - The atom stretcher
- Mrs. Gill - slide for life
- La Verdus Troupe - rolling globe
- The Maries - comedy hat tossing
- The Diaz Family - unicycles
- Rodriguez Troupe - aerial bars
- John Herriott - liberty horses
- The Clowns - walk-around
- Ron and Mitzie - iron jaw
- Miss Karin and Marge Michelle - hair hang jugglers
- The Ferrerires - perch pole
- Marlene and Don Mauricio - wire
- The Clowns - Football skit
- John Herriott - dressage

## FOR SALE

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Miguel Ayala and The Great Moises - tight wire  
The Doritas - acrobats  
Clowns - walk-around  
The Flying Apelles - flying act  
Fred Logan - elephants

For this date only a cowboy called "Woo Woo" appeared with the show, working with the band in various audience participation features, His specialty was sing-alongs and vocal solos.

..... Pat Bissonette

## PHONE WORK

Dates currently being played in Indiana by the Barnes & Daily Circus were all promoted through the use of advance phone work. The advance sale tickets were priced at \$1.50 for both children and adults, with a family ticket offered for just \$5.00 and good for five persons. At the door admission prices are \$1.50 for children and \$2.00 for adults.

The circus, which opened on April 21st, at Freetown, Ind., is moving on five trucks, all painted orange. Their big top and side show have been enlarged for the current tour.

Among those listed on the show's staff are:

Jim Silverlake - owner  
 Billy Silverlake - manager  
 Marilyn Silverlake - secretary  
 Bobby Green and Dave Knoder - music and calliope  
 C. L. Ratley - concessions  
 Jim and Sandi Windland - side show and ape show  
 H. Orr - big top  
 Myrna Ratcliff, Lou Kretschmer  
 Jack Corum, Ron Bacon-agent  
 Billie Grubb - billposter

## A Pet Lion

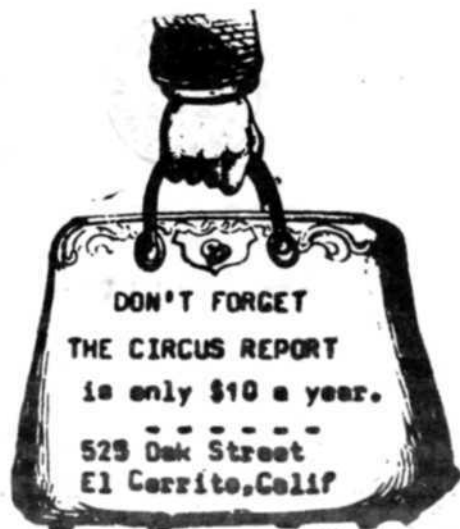
Emperor Caracalla, of Rome, kept a pet lion beside him at mealtimes and in his bedroom at night.

## two kids hurt

Parents of two children, hurt when an elephant knocked over a row of seats, have filed law suits in an effort to collect damages. The unfortunate incident occurred during the first performance of the Hamid-Morton Circus at Topeka, Kans., on March 1st.

According to reports the elephant, a young one, was working alone for the first time and became confused when a request for lights was misunderstood. Instead of turning the house lights on, spotlights were zoomed in on the center ring.

The frightened animal took off for the back door and in so doing knocked over some seats that were filled with children. Only two injuries were reported.



# NOSTALGIA

During the winter of 1916-1917, the Atterbury Bros. Circus stayed at the old fairgrounds in Beatrice, Nebr. At that time the show was using farm type wagons, which were painted blue with red lettering.

A feature on the circus in those days was the elephant "Black Diamond" who was later executed in Texas for attacking a woman. That winter the big animal was featured in a parade for Charles Evans Hughes, who was in town campaigning for the Presidency.

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## FINALE

LOIS ENGFORD died on Mar. 5 at Chicago, Ill. She was the widow of Harry Engford, and both were circus people. She is survived by a daughter Mrs. Frank (Ruth) Clark, of the Francorro & Estreleta aerial act.

MURRAY NEVELS, known as both Windy, the Clown, and Murray the Magician. Death came at San Antonio, Texas on March 25.

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## HAVILAND SUIT (Continued)

acts" among its lists of exhibitors covered by the Animal Welfare Act of 1970. He also charges as the law, as implemented by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, is unconstitutional and that they have acted illegally in trying to regulate animal acts.

## photo titles

No. 1 Picture - This photo was taken on the Charles Lee London Shows, an old wagon circus. Among those seen in the picture are: (1) Chas. Lee, mgr.; (2) Mrs. Lee; (3) Mr. Saltzman; (4) Wiley Ferris, a barrel kicker; (5) Charles Lovell, contortionist; (6) Frank Devere, clown; (7) Otis Loretta; (8) Charles Kinnean; (9) C. John Blanchard; (10) Lon Moore and (12) Mrs. J. Blanchard.

No. 2 Picture - This picture is of Mr. and Mrs. Rube Nixon, who operated a Monkey Speedway on the Rubin & Cherry Show of 1915. They also worked on the Johnny J. Jones Exposition.

No. 3 Picture - This picture is one taken on the Henry W. Link's Thelma Company in 1914. The show played 42 weeks of one nighters that season. From l.t.r. are: Lee Orland, manager; Tom Richardson; Frank Hodge; Beatrice Earle (Thelma); Mrs. Tom Richardson and Harlan Talbert.

You'll get a copy of The Circus Report each week via mail - but you'll have to get that subscription order in now. It's just \$10.00 a year. Write: Don Mercks, 525 Oak St., El Cerrito, California.



## R-B Bull Herd

The following elephants make up the 1974 herd of Ringling Bros. Barnum & Bailey Circus.

| Blue Unit - Axel Gautier, Supt. |             |
|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Marcella                        | Icky        |
| Siew                            | India       |
| Calcutta                        | Jewel       |
| Lucy                            | Betty       |
| Rani                            | Suzanne     |
| Jenny                           | Targa       |
| Kernaudi                        | Rosa        |
| Puteis                          | John (Male) |
| Core                            | Keren       |

Red Unit - Gunther Williams, Spt.

|                 |        |
|-----------------|--------|
| Puppe           | Nellie |
| Tichi           | Mary   |
| Assam           | Banana |
| Sara            | Baby   |
| Kongo (African) | Cita   |
| Rani            | May    |
| Suzie           | Jenny  |
| Eve             | Toby   |
| A Baby African  | Topsy  |

Circus World - B. Woodcock, Supt

|             |                  |
|-------------|------------------|
| Anne May    | Peggy            |
| Rose        | Manja            |
| Rebecca     | Zina             |
| Gilde       | Cermen           |
| Mudu        | Tegu             |
| Minyak      | Lalee            |
| Sophie      | Berbara          |
| Bebe        | Josky            |
| Hope        | Bonnie (African) |
| Dock (male) | George (male)    |





ARMLESS WONDER!  
FORREST LAYMAN  
SHUFFLES A  
DECK OF CARDS  
WITH HIS TOES!



For a description of the  
three personnel pictures  
shown here turn to Page  
1 of this supplement.



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 OF LAUGHS!  
 NO BLACKOUT  
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 Broadway  
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The Russell Bros. and Arthur Bros. newspaper advertisements seen here were used by the shows when they were playing the same towns along the west coast in 1943.

The clown cop shown to the immediate left is Eugene Rendow, and the picture was taken at Oakland, Calif. in 1941, as he was making up for a performance of the Polack Bros. Circus



# Letters

Keep the Circus Report coming  
I enjoy every issue.

.....Ed Wurdock

Enjoy Circus Report more each  
issue. Keep up the good work.

...H. T. Dreyfus

Be sure to keep Circus Report  
coming my way. It is the best  
paper we've got.

.....Dr. David Reid

Certainly don't want to miss  
a single issue of Circus Report.  
Otherwise we wouldn't know where  
the shows are or what people are  
doing.

.....O. E. Schroeder



Pictured at top right is Snyder, the elephant lifting Mrs. William Wells into the air. The trainer is Henri Boucher. The picture was made in Mass. in 1919, when the show was owned by Harry Tammen and managed by Henry B. Gentry. Mrs. Wells was the wife of William Wells, noted pony trainer who toured with the Sells-Floto Circus.

The picture at the bottom right is that of clown Felix Adler, ready for his role as Old King Cole in the Ringling-Bernum spec of 1941. The picture was originally taken by Robert Good of Allentown, Penna.

