



America's Favorite Circus Weekly

3rd Year

July 29, 1974

Number 30

Death Claims Jack Mills

Former showman and circus owner, Jack Mills died at St. Luke's Hospital in Cleveland on July 20th. He was 68 years of age.

When Jack Mills was 11 years old he joined a circus as a water boy for the elephants, then worked his way up to advance man.

Some 34 years ago, he and his brother Jake, founded the Mills Bros. Circus. It started out as a small truck show and at one time was one of the country's largest traveling shows. They generally played in the mid-west area, and frequently gave complimentary performances for children's homes, homes for the elderly and hospitals.

Survivors include his wife Rose, a daughter Mrs. Arlene Madorsky, four grandchildren, three brothers and five sisters.

NCAT Report

In its most recent newsletter, the National Congress of Animal trainers reports the new regulations for animal cages will not effect show folks.

The newsletter quotes a statement from Senator Vance Hartke's (Ind) office...."I have learned that this proposal will

(Continued on Page 12)

A Mattel Report

The following information has been taken from the Remarks by Arthur S. Spear, President and chief operating officer of Mattel, Inc., as presented to the company's stockholders at their annual meeting, That meeting was held in Los Angeles, Calif. on May 29, 1974.

(Continued on Page 11)

NEEDS CHEER

Retired showman Carl Romig, who at one time had the Romig and Rooney Circus, is recovering from a recent stroke.

He'd like to hear from friends. Send cards or letters to: Carl Romig, 5321 Rochester Road, Troy, Mich. - 48084

ADDED ROUTE

A change in plans will now keep the new Dailey Bros. Circus in Minnesota for several dates before they move into Wisconsin and the Nebraska area. It was previously reported that the circus was going to play in the Dakotas and Montana before heading south for the winter.

According to reports the circus has been doing generally good business at most spots. They, like most shows, have had problems because of shortages of good help.

SPECIAL OFFER - A Cole Bros. 1950 program for just \$2.25 p.p. Write: Circus Memories Museum, Fryeburg, Maine - 04037

THE CIRCUS REPORT is published every Monday by Don Mercks, 525 Oak St., El Cerrito, Cal. 94530.

Subscription rates are: \$5.00 for six months; \$10.00 per year. For Air Mail service add an extra \$2.00. (Overseas rates upon request).

Business generally ahead

Because of a small advance sale the Charles Bros. Circus gave only a night show at Malvern, Ohio (July 9), using the side show tent. This tent was ample for the crowd that came out to see the circus.

Their tour through Ohio was not up to expectations, but at Smithville they had to give three shows.

Next month the circus will move into the New England states before playing coastal dates on their way south, for a November closing.

.....Tom Morrison

A TV SPOT

When the Emmett Kelly, Jr., Circus played Cincinnati, Ohio they were really in town to do a TV special. The local station, where the filming was handled, paid a church group 50¢ per person to bring out an audience for the show.

No information has been available concerning the release of the TV film.

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An Unusual Date

Early this month, in conjunction with the annual rodeo, the Early American Circus played a most unusual date at Salinas, Calif.



The two week engagement had the show set up inside the Northridge Shopping Center, complete with sawdust and everything. In addition to the caged animals, the presentation included a collection of historical lithos, old-time circus photos and a variety of actual circus artifacts.

Performances were presented several times a day in one ring and featured the show's big assortment of animals and full personnel.

Pot-Pourri

Circus America, owned by the Crowley Corp., plans to start touring at the end of the year.

Circus Vargas' menagerie top was blown down by strong winds just before the show moved into Madison, Wisc.

When the John Strong Circus played the Stark County Fairgrounds in Ohio they had three 3/4 houses and three straw houses.

She's A Booster

The following letter was received by the Oregon Police Patrolmen Assoc., of Oregon, Ohio, who recently sponsored the Big John Strong & Son Circus.

"I recently sent a remittance of \$7.00 in cash money to your association for the admittance of seven children to the circus. Unfortunately, I did not enclose my coupon with it. So under a separate envelope, I am returning my coupon to you.

"Thank you for phoning me for this needy occasion. I might add that as a patient at Toledo State Hospital one time, I was privileged to attend this very same circus and I know the joy that this brought to me. Keep up the very good work!"

Sincerely,

Mrs. Sena Glascock

A new show, the D & D Circus is expected to start touring in August. They'll play indoors at schools and colleges.

The elephant "Michelle" at La. Purchase Gardens and Zoo died last week. She was 11 years old and her death was attributed to severe arthritis.

Ringling-Barnum drew a sell-out crowd on their final night in Houston, Texas (Jul 16)

PEOPLE

ROGER SMITH recently left the RBBB quarters to return to his home in Texas.

BOB KELLOGG, CASEY GIBBS and SMOKEY JONES visited the Ringling show at Inglewood, Cal. on July 17th.

ED HOLLIS has his $\frac{1}{2}$ " model of the Hagenbeck Wallace Circus on display at "The Toy Chest" in Nashville, Indiana

JOSEPH HEISER visited the Ringling show during its engagement at Houston, Texas earlier this month.

DAVID P. DHR was in Peru, Ind., for the Circus City Festival on July 19th.

PAUL LUCKEY, of Circus World Museum, was recently hospitalized with a heart ailment.

HAYES GANIARD has a circus display at the Jackson (Miss) Museum.

JOHNNY LUXEM will be presenting his Wheel of Destiny act at the fair in Fresno on Oct. 1-6.

CHARLES SCHARLBAUM, Beatty-Cole Bandleader, was injured in an



AP Photo

Relaxing After Romp

Yeva Berberov, 9, relaxes with Simba, left, and King after a romp in the Berberov home in the USSR. The lions came to live with the Berberov family as a gift from the Kazan Zoo and are playmates for Yeva and her brother, Roman. The children and the lions are scheduled to appear in a television film entitled, "I Have a Lion."

accident that demolished his trailer early this month.

THE ZACCHINI's will be at Monroe, La., in early November.



Pictured above is Horace Laird as he appeared with Cole Bros. Circus in the 1940's. He appeared with several shows including Sells-Floto. He died Nov. 11, 1954.

ROUTES

Allen's Pet Zoo
Aug. 1-4 Napa, Calif.

Barnes & Daily Circus
July 29 Linstrom, Minn.
30 Amery, Wisc
31 Shell Lake
Aug. 1 Solon Springs
2 Hawkins
3 Cornell
4 Prentice

Beatty-Cole Circus
July 29 Milford, Conn.
30 Thomaston
Aug. 1 Northampton, Mass
2 Fitchburg
3 Manchester, N.H
4 Andover, Mass

Buffalo Bill's Wild West
to Aug 18 No. Platte, Nebr

Hubert Castle Circus
July 29 Winner, S.D.
30-31 Norfolk, Nebr.
Aug. 1 Columbus

Circus Kingdom
July 29 Erma, N.J.
30 Avalon
31 Ocean City
Aug. 1 Woodstown
2 Newark, Dela.

Circus Kirk
July 29 Somerset, Pa.
30 Indian Head
31 Derry
Aug. 1 Natrona Heights
2 Enroute
3 Indiana
4 Whitehall

Circus Vargas
July 30 Ambridge, Pa.
31 Erie
Aug. 1-4 Buffalo, N.Y.

Franzen Bros. Circus
July 29 Sheldon, Wisc.
30 Phillips
31 Hurly
Aug. 1 Saynor
2 Manitowish Waters
3 Land O'Lakes
4 Eagle River

Keye Cont'l Circus
Aug. 3-4 San Diego, Cal.

Lewis Bros. Circus
July 29 Lake Hopatcong,
30 Rockaway NJ
31 Boonton
Aug. 1 Branchville
2 Long Valley
3 Lakehurst

Ringling-Barnum - Blue Unit
to Jul 31 Inglewood, Cal.
Aug. 1-13 Anaheim

Ringling-Barnum - Red Unit
Jul 31-Aug 4 Kansas City,
Mo

Roberts Bros. Circus
July 29 Argyle, N. Y.
30 Mechanicsville
31 Clifton Park
Aug. 1 Prattsville
2 Ames
3 Greenville

Royal Bros. Circus
July 29 Stephenville, Nfld
30 Deer Lake
31 Springdale
Aug. 1 Badger
2 Windsor
3 Bishop Falls
4 Twillingate

Royal Lipizzen Stallion Shw
July 29-30 San Fran, Cal.
Aug. 2-4 Vanc, BC.

Rur Bros. Circus
July 30-31 Amarillo, Tex.

Tommy Scott Show
July 29 Berlin, N.H.
30 Littleton
31 Laconka
Aug. 1 Lawrence, Mass
2 Battleboro, Vt
3 Bennington
4 No. Adams, Mass

John Strong Circus
to Jul 30 Detroit, Mich.
31 Toledo, Ohio

Summer Circus
Jul 29-Aug 3 Taylor, Mich

Wenatchee Youth Circus
Jul 29-Aug 2 Wenatchee, Wsh
Aug. 3-4 Chelan

Rose City Rides
July 29-31 Prairie Home Mo
Aug. 1-3 Boonville

Tip Top Shows
Jul 31-Aug 4 Green Lake,
Wisc

PEOPLE

ART "Doc" MILLER has purchased a circus collection that included 300 old time lithos and other historical items.

M. L. DUPONT has been busy clowning and then was acting manager of the La. Purchase Gardens and Zoo for a two week period.

MIKE CROWLEY, gen. mgr of Capital Center at Landover, Md., is resigning to become a producer/promoter of arena events.

RED RUSSELL, trick rider and roper, recently worked at Paradise Ranch, about 4 miles north of Magic Mountain in Calif.

AL WEIR retired clown, now living in Richmond, B. C., reports he is looking forward to seeing the Wallace & Rogers Circus at the BC Exposition.

JESS MONEFELDT (Jim Dandy) recently visited the Great Moscow Circus at Tokyo and reports they had some really unique acts.

TOM MORRISON has been busy visiting the Clyde Bros. Circus at several of the show's dates in Ohio.

NOTICE!
You can get your own copy of THE CIRCUS

Circus Vargas
 July 30 Ambridge, Pa.
 31 Erie
 Aug. 1-4 Buffalo, N.Y.

Franzen Bros. Circus
 July 29 Sheldon, Wisc.
 30 Phillips
 31 Hurly
 Aug. 1 Saynor
 2 Manitowish Waters
 3 Land O'Lakes
 4 Eagle River

Garden Bros. Circus
 Aug. 2-9 Three Rivers, Qbc

Gatti-Charles Circus
 to Jul 30 Mississauga, Ont.
 31 Petersburg

George Matthews Circus
 to Aug 2 Forestville, Md.
 3 Annapolis

Happytime Circus
 Jul 29-Aug 10 San Mateo, Ca.

Haviland's Dog & Pony Show
 Jul 29-Aug 4 Elmira, N.Y.

Hill's Great American Show
 Aug. 3 Medford, Wisc.

Jett's Pet Zoo
 Jul 24-Aug 3 El Cerrito, Ca.

2 Battleboro, Vt
 3 Bennington
 4 No. Adams, Mass

John Strong Circus
 to Jul 30 Detroit, Mich.
 31 Toledo, Ohio

Summer Circus
 Jul 29-Aug 3 Taylor, Mich

Wenatchee Youth Circus
 Jul 29-Aug 2 Wenatchee, Wash
 Aug. 3-4 Chelan

..... OTHER ROUTES

C.M.B. Nat'l Gathering
 Aug, 1-4 Indiana, Pa.

Century 21 Shows - Blue Unit
 Jul 30-Aug 4 Chippewa Fall
 Wisc

Century 21 Shows - Red
 Aug. 2-11 Springfield, Mo.

Disney on Parade
 to Aug 4 Mexico City, Mex.

James H. Drew Shows
 Jul 28-Aug 3 Charleston, Ill

Festival USA Show
 Aug 23-25 Galveston, Tex.

Mitzi Gaynor Show
 Jul 29-Aug 4 Atlanta, Ga.

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Write to:
 Don Marcks,
 525 Oak St.
 El Cerrito,
 Calif. -
 94530

Nat'l Clown
 Week
 August 1-7



Pictured above are the famous English clowns Albert and Louise Adams who were brought to the U. S. by the Ringling-Barnum Circus for the 1948 tour. During a radio interview show in New York, on April 6, 1948, Albert (48) collapsed and died of a heart attack. That evening his wife was back at Madison Square Garden doing her part in the big show's final dress rehearsal for the opening of the circus on April 7, 1948.

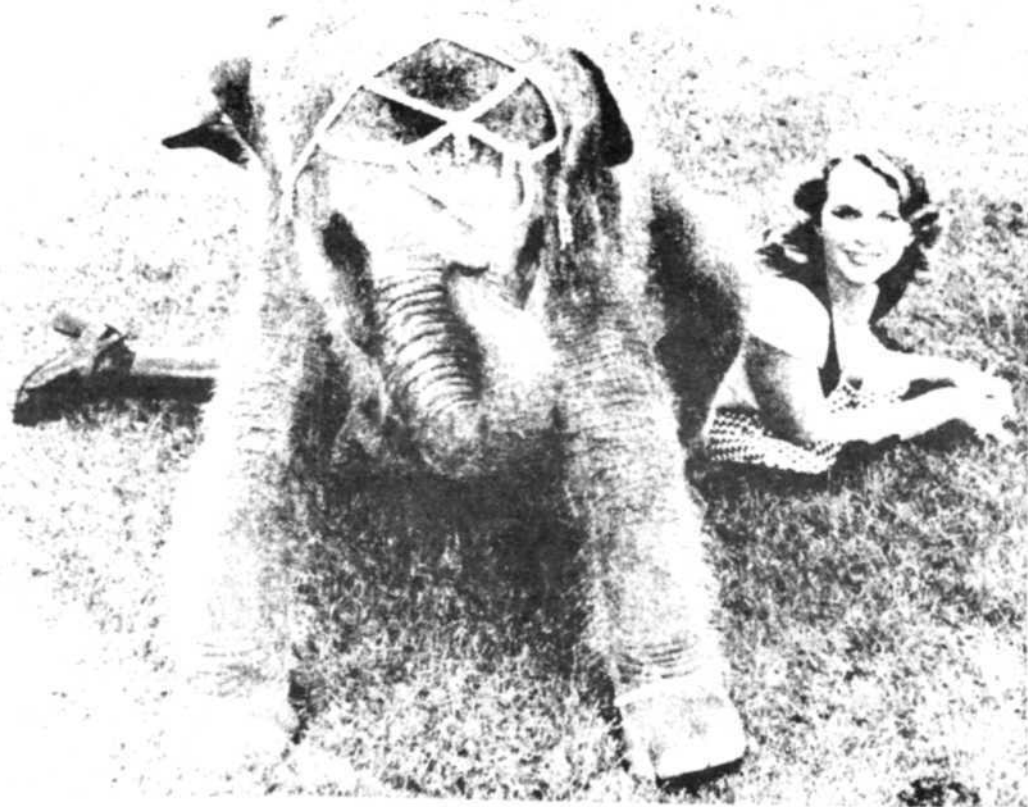
HISTORICAL FACT

The Hagenback-Wallace Circus was sold to Mugiven & Bowers on Dec. 28, 1918, at West Baden, Ind.

The show was later sold to John Ringling.

COMING

A wide variety of special features, plus up-to-the minute reports on activities of shows will be found in coming issues of The Circus Report.



Tika and Kari

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The George Matthews Circus came to Cincinnati (Ohio) for five days (July 12-16) and on the 13th, members of the John Robinson/Loyal Reppensky CFA tent held a picnic with the circus folks. About 30 fans and 40 circus people attended the picnic, held between shows in the backyard.

The circus' midway features the Russell Bros. Sideshow, plus a Moon walk, Souvenir stand, refreshment stand and of course the big show marquee.

The program, presented under the new orange and white big top, included: Spec, Salute to the Stars and Stripes; The Pollos, aerial cradle; Alphonso and his Jungle Lions; Clowns (Honky and Raggidy Ann); The Wal-tims, acrobats; The Great Lothar, balancing; Great Humberto, slide for life; Alphonso Magana, Arab-

stallions; The Clowns; Plate spinning, Charles Cable; Great London Doggies; Los Latinos, on tightwire; The Clowns; Miss Jen, single trapeze; Sparky, the Clown, floating cane; Alphonso and Cindy, elephants; The Ronritas, sky wheel.

On Saturday morning (July 13) the Cincinnati Enquirer had a half page devoted to the circus, with interviews with Matt Kellner and Sparky,

On July 10-11 the Dan Fleener Hurricane Helldrivers were at the Lawrencebug, Ind., fairgrounds. They have a really great clown Johnny (Pancho) Roberts, who has been with thrill shows for 19 years. Also with this show is The Great Boros, break-away sway pole act.

..... Don Sandman

Fair Talent

Talent appearing at the Calistoga (Calif.) Fair on July 3-7 included:

The Snyder Bros. - comedians
 The Allen Family - musical
 The Juggling Merlitts
 Tony Urbano - marionettes
 Tommy Tomato - clown

In the meantime the Fresno (Calif.) Fair has announced a portion of its specialty lineup of acts who will appear at the Oct. 1-13 fair. They are:

Man the Daredevil
 Dr. Michael Dean
 Cotton Rosser - rodeo event
 Happytime Circus
 Harold De Gerro - stilt walker.
 Wacky Willie - the clown
 Princess White Buffalo

PEOPLE

PAULA MUHE, 7 yr old serial student of DOROTHY HERBERT, was featured in a half page story in the News-Chronicle of Thousand Oaks, Calif. on April 17th.

CAPT. J. KING ROSS will discuss "The Circus in Modern America" on TV's New Mexico station KBIM on July 31st.

THE CLEMENTIS bicycle act was featured at the fair in Santa Rosa, Calif. July 15-21.

SYLVESTER and BARBARA BRAUN worked with the Red Russell Troupe at the Ascot Speedway in Southern California.

HAPPY, the Clown (Dave Twomey) was a guest on TV's Romper Room show from Oakland, Calif. on July 18th.

VONDA CABLE was working concessions with the Foley & Burk Show at Santa Rosa last week.

FOR SALE

Have many old-time circus programs to sell.

Would also like to exchange circus music on tapes.

For information and lists write:

FRANK P. GEORGE
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THE MATTEL REPORT (Continued)

"Ringling Bros.-Barnum & Bailey Combined Shows, Inc. has been classified as a discontinued operation, Notwithstanding the consistently profitable performance of the circus itself, the severe cash drain on the Circus from its Circus World Theme Park investment and the heavy debt attendant to the completion of the Circus World project created a potentially intolerable burden for Mattel with its limited capital structure and its heavy debt. The initial phase of the Circus World project has now been completed and is in operation. Steps have been taken to arrest further cash drain and we are actively undertaking to dispose of the Circus World operation with its attendant debt."

"6.) Losses from discontinued operations have been eliminated and operations of our Ringling Bros.-Barnum & Bailey Circus should be significantly improved with the elimination of certain of their peripheral operations which had accounted for approximately \$800,000 in pre-tax write-offs in the past fiscal year. Prospects for the Ringling Bros. operation, as previously stated and as indicated in our Annual Report, are subject to whatever success we have, if any, in disposing of the existing debt attendant to the Circus World investment."

BUFFALO BILL SHOW

Everyone who has seen the Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show, currently being presented at North Platte, Nebr., agrees it is an exciting and action packed program. The show, produced by Montie Montana, Jr., has been pulling good crowds and will run through Aug. 18th.

Among the featured performers are: The Warvell's trick riders; Navajo Medicine Man Jones Bennally; Joyce Rice, baton champion; Edwin Eldridge, quick draw artist; Navajo Indian dancers; the Harrisons and the Peterson's, trick riders; Connie Sonneman, vocalist; Pam Chibitty an Indian Princess,

NCAT REPORT (Continued)

not apply to traveling circuses at all, but rather to permanent exhibits such as zoos.

In a letter to Hal Haviland the USDA's Dr. B. C. Swindle states that guidelines being proposed for permanent animal exhibits are not designed to affect circus or animal acts.

Donations to the NCAT's Exhibition Animal Legal Fund may be sent to: Rev. L. David Harris Trustee, 622 Independence Ave. S. E., Washington, DC - 20003. These funds will be used to fight regulations that would hurt animal trainers and exhibitors.