

Tonight's Radio Aces



POWELL TAYLOR
WIBA at 8

Special Events

7:30 p. m.—Sen. Taft, Rep. Halleck (WIBA); reply to Pres. Truman.

Drama

6 p. m. — Mr. Chameleon (WBBM): probes strange death of former opera singer.

6:30 p. m. — Dr. Christian (WBBM): "Big Brother," prize-winning play.

7:30 p. m. — Mr. District Attorney (WMAQ): smashes narcotics ring fronted by "lonely hearts" club (on WIBA at 8:30).

8 p. m. — The Big Story (WMAQ): reporter discovers bride's "accidental" death was murder (on WIBA at 9).

8:30 p. m. — The Thin Man (WMAQ): and a misplaced memory (on WIBA at 9:30).

Music

7:30 p. m. — James Melton (WBBM): and Genevieve Rowe; "Out of My Dreams," "La Paloma," "Your Land and My Land," "It Ain't Necessarily So," Mascagni's "Ave Maria".

Variety

7 p. m. — Tex and Jinx (WMAQ): with Jane Powell, Elizabeth Taylor, Carmen Miranda, Alfred Gwynne Vanderbilt, Earl Wrightson (on WIBA at 8).

Miscellaneous

8:30 p. m. — On Trial (WGNR): James Lawrence Fly and John Harlan Amen quiz Mary Donlon, Republican, and India Edwards, Democrat, on domestic planks of party platforms.

Thursdaytime

10 a. m. — Homemakers (WHA): "Watching Him Grow"; Rural Women in the Centennial," Gunvor Johanneson.

11:15 a. m. — Lions International (WMAQ): Dr. Eugene S. Briggs, new president.

11:30 a. m. — Green County Fair (WIBA): reports from Monroe.

11:45 a. m. — Robert L. Ripley (WMAQ): and Toots Shor.

12:25 p. m. — Baseball (WIND): Cubs at Philadelphia.

12:30 p. m. — Farm Program (WHA): "Potato Crop Report," J. G. Milward; "Planning for Fall Farm Building Repairs," S. A. Witzel.

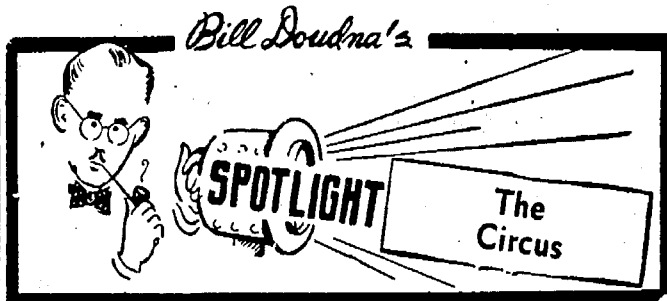
3:45 p. m. — Classroom (WHA): "Representative Americans — Samuel L. Clemens," Prof. Robert Riegel.

4:45 p. m. — Excursions in Science (WHA): "Chemical Forces Between Large Molecules".

Catherine Gross, Marie Liba—"The Teaching of Motor Skills," 4:30 p. m., Lathrop gym.
Spanish club: 7:30 p. m., Old Madison room, Union.

Sports

THURSDAY, JULY 29
Baseball: Bowman vs. Botden, 8 p. m., Breese Stevens field.
Baseball: Penn vs. Cross Plains, 8 p. m., Penn park.



When you talk about the 1948 edition of the Ringling Brothers-Barnum and Bailey circus; you run short of adjectives—unless you dig into the advertisements and start on the press agents' superlatives.

Even they do no more than justice to the spectacular performance which "the greatest show on earth" presented here Tuesday.

The two huge Madison audiences—they totaled more than 20,000 persons—loosed great waves of applause for many of the acts and, for the first time in my memory, applauded a circus "spec" or pageant. This was for "Twas the Night Before Christmas," in which toyland came to life under the big top with all the splendor of the most gorgeous of childhood's imaginings.

The huge tent was almost full for the afternoon performance, and the night show attracted so many that hundreds had to be seated on the ground in front of the grandstands rather than on the chairs or "blues."

Circus officials said that the night performance drew the biggest crowd, the show has had since it left Madison Square Garden. It was the first time this season that spectators were seated on the ground all the way around the hippodrome track.

Incidentally, one of the most attractive features of the show this year is the grandstand setup. There are really comfortable chairs, upholstered with a new plastic and mounted sturdily on sloping platforms.

This obviously expensive innovation was a reflection of the care with which the whole show was staged. Time was a factor; while the matinee made a late start because of tardy arrival of the last four trains, the night show went strictly on schedule.

Director Pat Valdo blew his whistle at 8:15 sharp, and the last act ended at precisely 10:30.

Into those 2 hours and 15 minutes were packed every conceivable variety of circus entertainment, from clowns' buffoonery to equilibristic skill and aerial daring.

Costuming was truly brilliant, and each display followed a definite color scheme; lighting was almost perfect, and most of the equipment shone with fresh paint or the result of polishing.

Sprinkled throughout the program were new acts, two of which were the best of their kind that this generation of circus-goers has seen.

One was Urus, gravity-defying equilibrist who actually balanced himself, feet uppermost, on a glass ball—on his forefinger. It's an incredible feat, but there it was. Almost as awesome was the climax of his act, in which he stood head down, with one hand on a cane which, in turn, rested on a glass globe—and then twirled

hoops around his legs, his other hand, and a mouthpiece.

The second was Francis Brunn, a juggler who made rubber balls, hoops, and so on do just about everything but walk and talk.

Other new acts include the Mandos sisters, daring aerialists; Los Onas, an excellent perch act which suffered by being spotted simultaneously with Unus; the Christians' ballet-dancing dogs; Cilly Feindt and her dancing horse; Alberty, who balances atop a swaying pole, and new tumbling turns.

Holdovers Win Applause

Two of last year's holdovers had the crowds breathless and, finally, applauding mightily. They were Rose Gould, who did daring things on a trapeze held by two unnamed men, and the Alzanas, who had added some new ideas to their high-wire act but who still climaxed it with Harold riding a bicycle across the strand while his wife and sister performed on two trapezes suspended from its axles.

Well, there were dozens of other things worth reporting — Lou Jacobs in his tiny car; the dancing elephants; the clowns' hilarious takeoff on Western movies; the trained jaguars, tigers, and polar bears; Natal, the man who climbs around like a monkey; the men who leap over elephants; the three flying-trapeze turns, and so ad infinitum.

What it added up to was a circus which still is undisputedly "the greatest show on earth."

THE STAGE: Francine Larscheid will join the Crater Players for "Noah," to be presented at Pleasure-Valley from July 29 to Aug. 1 and from Aug. 5 to Aug. 8, inclusive. Miss Larscheid played Helena in "R.U.R." and

Glady's in "The Skin of Our Teeth" with Wisconsin Players. She played Katrin in the Green Bay Community theater's production of "I Remember Mama."

Jose Ferrer will be co-producer and director of "Clutterbuck," to be given on Broadway next season. He may appear in "The Silver Whistle," a Theater Guild play.

Rumor says that, after all, Paul Lukas may not be in "April Fool."

TOUR: "Finian's Rainbow" will take the road this fall, with Joe Yule, Nan Wynn, and others of the New York production in the cast. The musical comedy opened in New York on Jan. 10, 1947.

RADIO: Bob Hawk, now among the top 15 night network shows in the hooperatings, will take a two-week vacation starting Thursday. Col. Stoopnagle will be at the mike for him.

Barbara Fuller, who plays Claudia in "One Man's Family," is doing the young widow "down the block" in the Blondie series.

Lulu Belle and Scotty will guesstar on "Grand Ole Opry" Aug. 7.

Walter Winchell will have a new sponsor beginning Jan. 2—a motor car maker.

H. V. Kaltenborn plans to broadcast from Berlin on Aug. 6.

CONTEST: The Chicago Singing Teachers guild has announced its 12th annual competition for a song for solo voice with piano accompaniment. The prize will be \$100, plus a guarantee of publication. Manuscripts will be accepted between Oct. 1 and Oct. 15. You can get details from "John Toms, School of Music, Northwestern University, Evanston, Ill." — but you must enclose a stamped, self-address envelope.


BENEFIT: To help needy musicians in Europe, the Boston Symphony orchestra and Berkshire Music center will present a 4-hour benefit program Tuesday night, Aug. 3, at Tanglewood, Lenox, Mass. The artists will include the orchestra, under Dr. Serge Koussevitzky, and Cornelia Otis Skinner and Maurice Evans in Shakespearean excerpts.

D. J. BERGENSKÉ, O. D.

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