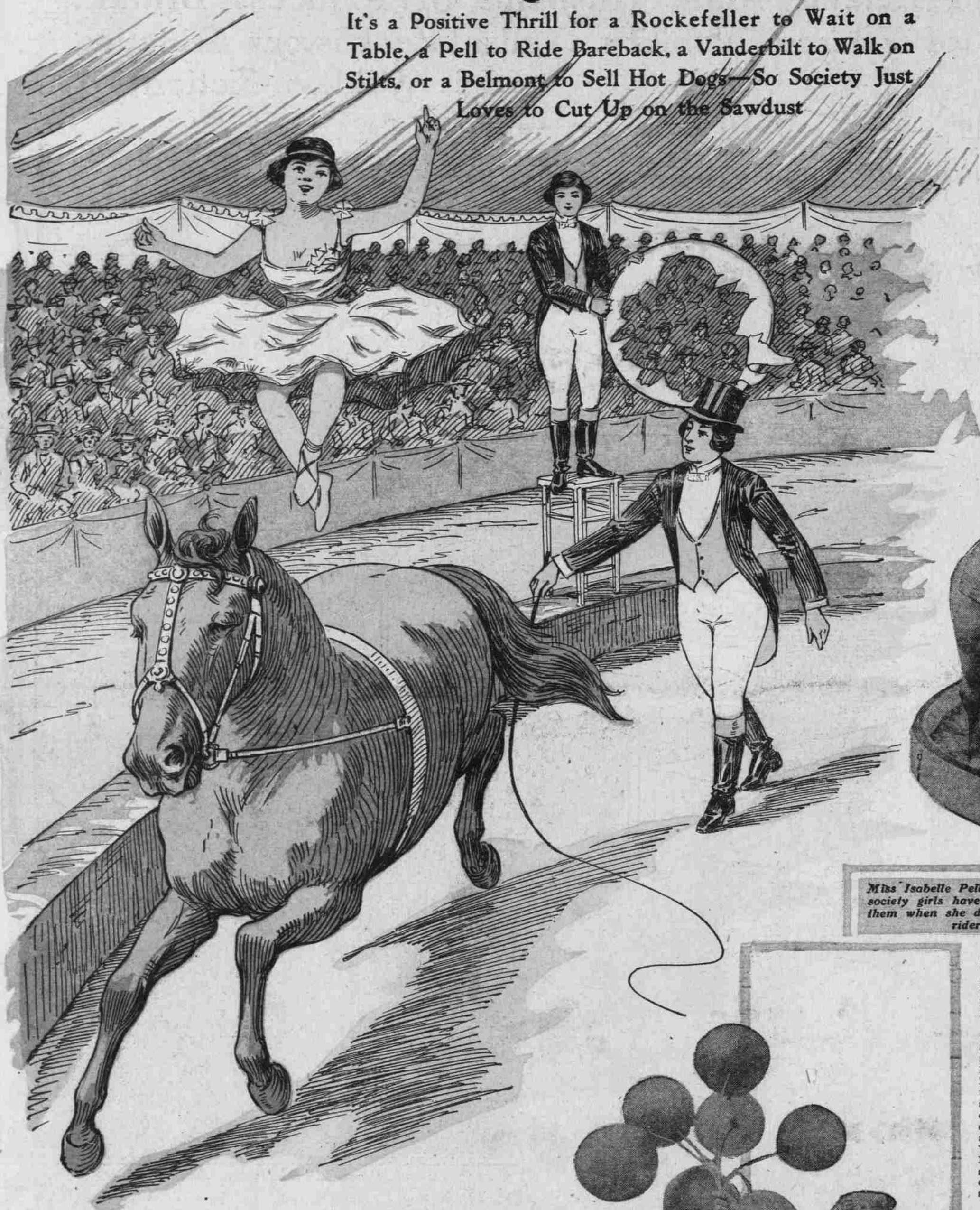
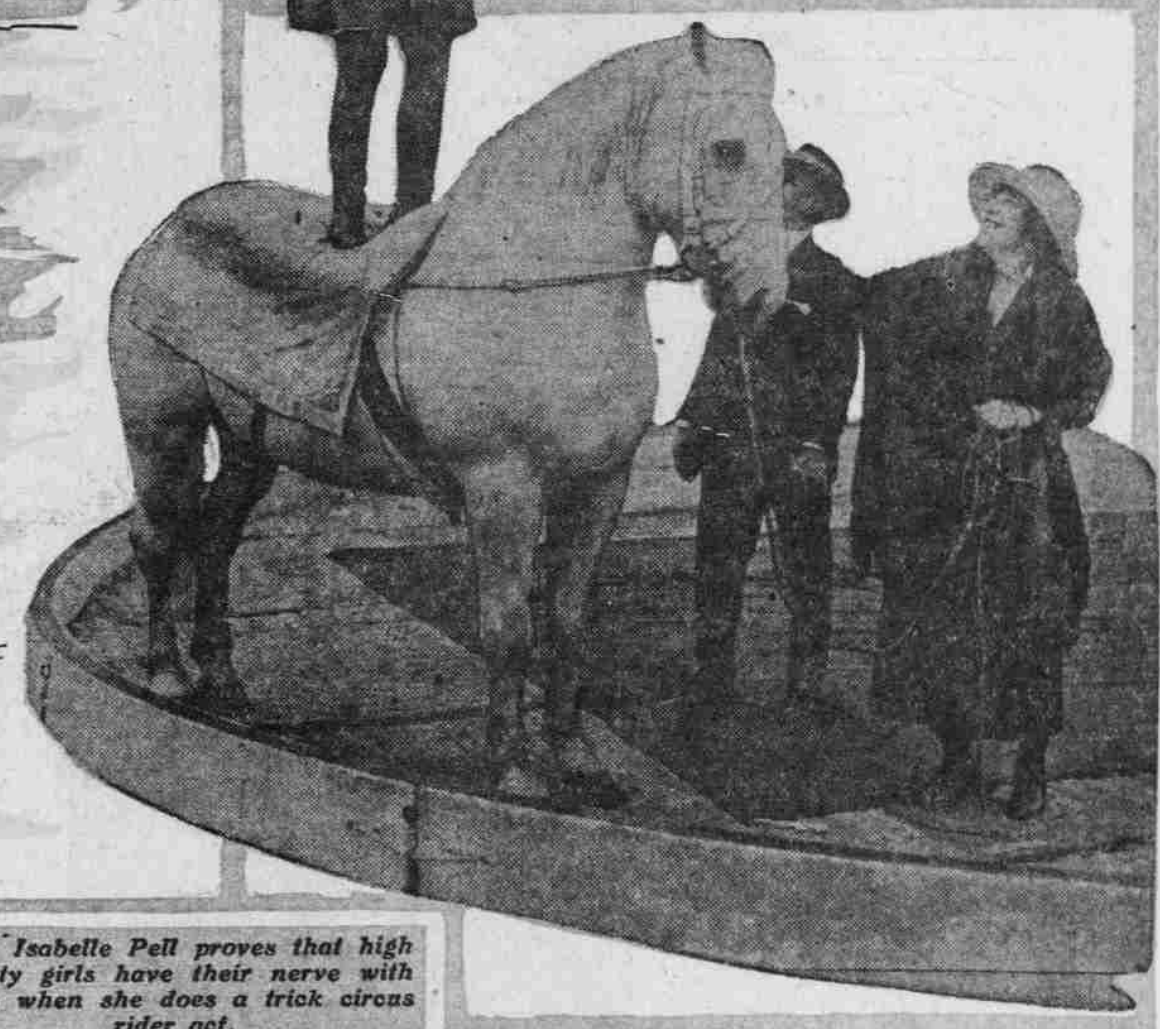


When Society Plays Circus

It's a Positive Thrill for a Rockefeller to Wait on a Table, a Pell to Ride Bareback, a Vanderbilt to Walk on Stilts, or a Belmont to Sell Hot Dogs—So Society Just Loves to Cut Up on the Sawdust



"Fred" Stone, the actor, ran a charity circus at Mineola, L. I., but his bareback riding was not half as much admired as Daughter Carol's hobby horse rough riding.



Miss Isabelle Pell proves that high society girls have their nerve with them when she does a trick circus rider act.



"Balloons! Who wants a nice balloon?" Mrs. Ronald H. McDonald Jr. at the Mineola society circus and wild west show.

HOW society does love to play circus! The smell of the sawdust was first wafted into blueblood nostrils three summers ago. This season finds it established as a serious business of fun-making, with charity the beneficiary. Through the acts pass the Rockefellers, the Astors, the Vanderbilts, the Mackays, the Belmonts. They are the clowns, the bareback riders, the wild animal trainers and the peanut vendors.

From a lark held at Southampton, L. I., in the summer of 1920, the idea has spread so that this season has seen the circuses at Long Beach, New Rochelle, Pocantico Hills, Mineola, Southampton, Greenwich, Park avenue, Manhattan; Manhasset, Bay Shore and Philadelphia. As an integral part of blueblood affairs of note the society circus makes its stand beside the horse show.

Mrs. W. K. Vanderbilt Jr., Mrs. Cornelius Blais and other society leaders have just made the circus even more of an institution by promising Herbert Evans, entrepreneur of the society circuses, to help produce something that may be taken up country-wide—a Christmas holiday circus for kiddies in New York city.

Mr. Evans really goes Mahomet one better when he stages the society circus.

Mahomet went to the mountain. Mr. Evans transports Coney Island into the gathering places of the elite. Society likes Coney Island just as much as the hot polloi. And with Mrs. Jerome Napoleon Bonaparte as a ticket-taker, Vincent Astor as a barker, Mrs. August Belmont Jr. clad in oriental costume, John D. Rockefeller Jr. as circus ringmaster, and John D. Rockefeller in the flesh distributing shiny ten-cent pieces as gratuities among spectators, Coney Island transplanted becomes Coney Island more bewitching and entertaining.

Society was suffering very badly from an overdose of ennui when Mr. Evans, amusement manager of Luna Park, Coney Island, was called to the rescue. Mrs. H. H. Rogers, Mrs. Littleton Fox and Mrs. Gallatin complained that "things were so dead." So Mr. Evans told them he'd move Luna Park to Southampton, L. I., if they would help him. And they did. He set one to work selling peanuts and another as ringmaster and another in charge of the freak show. He had the late Enrico Caruso making sketches of visitors. Vincent Astor barked about "Psyche at the Spring," and fancy prices were paid to see the spectacle. But those who paid to witness it saw a beautiful

young society maid take a medicine dropper and let fall three drops of water on her ankle—after she'd taken off her shoes and stockings. Then those who were "stung" for charity's sake went out and told everyone else how fine the show was just because they wanted someone else to be fooled, too. That sideshow was profitable.

The most spectacular circus was held on Park avenue, between Forty-sixth and Fiftieth streets, New York city, for the benefit of the tuberculosis fund. The four city blocks were converted into an immense arena. Miss Isabelle Pell as an equestrienne gave a startling exhibition, as well as Mrs. Pierce Butler, Miss Bay Morris and Miss Margaret Trimble, whose photographs, as they appeared in their acts are on this page.

Society circus performers are not content with receiving instructions from Mr. Evans during rehearsals at the places where the shows are staged. They study

the shows and the freaks and the animals so as to get local color. Mrs. Jay F. Car-

lisle, Mrs. Bayard C. Hoppin, Mrs. Gerald Vanderbilt Hollins and Mrs. August Belmont Jr. are depicted on the page "looking over" the "Daddy Long Legs" at Luna Park. The society equestriennes also trained at Luna Park.

Occasionally a group of society folk get up a circus of their own without the aid of the Luna Park animals and freaks. Such a one was held this season at Manhasset, L. I., and was highly successful. It was really the annual country fair for the milk fund of the Nassau County association, but the stunts strove to reflect the genius behind the society circuses. Miss Adele Ryan wandered about the country estate of the Payne Whiteys with a lamb on a leash and Miss Emma Louise Smith sold chances on a pedigreed calf and barked the qualities of the prize in excellent and convincing style.

At Bayshore, L. I., the South Side hospital, under construction, received much financial help out of the proceeds of the

Chinese fete and the society circus which occupied the attention of the vacationists summering there for three days. Baron Collier conducted the circus personally. Mrs. Gerald Vanderbilt Hollins, garbed as a Chinese woman, sold bird cages; Mrs. E. Duer Reeves took charge of a cute little 250-pound elephant; Mrs. August Belmont Jr. and her daughter Alice were a big hit in their oriental costumes, and Mrs. Horace Havemeyer also made an effective Chinese belle.

The idea of the circus also was taken by the theatrical profession, with Fred Stone in the role of producer. It was called the Fred Stone Circus and Motor Hippodrome, and was held at Mineola, L. I., and 6000 persons attended. Fifteen thousand dollars was raised for charity. William Collier, Mae Murray, Eddie Foy, Raymond Hitchcock, Katherine and Jane Lee and Adela Rowland appeared. But society folk were there in numbers. Annie Oakley, world champion woman pistol and rifle shot, also performed.

HAPPY MARRIAGE RECIPE IS GIVEN

BY MARY YERGER RAYMOND.

AFTER four years' absence from home I missed, on my return, the familiar face of Aunt Mandy Martin, one of the old family servants. On inquiry I found that she had been an almost helpless cripple for two years. So I went to see her at once.

Aunt Mandy's wrinkled face expressed delight and wonder when I came in and, after she had inspected me critically for a while, she said: "It shorely am 'sprisin' to see you lookin' so proud, Miss Mildred. You must be all took up with that man of yours, I specs you sets a big store by him."

I smiled. "Yes, Aunt Mandy; I'm very happy."

She nodded her head sagely. "Them's mighty nice, Miss Mildred, for there's them that is and them that ain't. Some folks when they marries puts on smoke' glasses and some folks puts on clear. Them that's happy wears smoke' glasses."

She puffed a few minutes on her corn-cob pipe, blew the smoke up the chimney, and resumed meditatively. "Now, when I marries Jim, I puts on clear glasses. Seems most like that nigger never could do nuthin' to please me. I could see right through him. I was standin' in

my own light, honey; don't fergit that.

"When Jim he'd say, 'Mandy, I'm goin' to town on a little 'sprise bizness.' Then me, stidd of figgerin' 'bout my burf-day bein' so near, stead of believin' him, I knowed all the 'sprise I'd git would be Jim crawlin' in drunk, with all the bizness and burf-day money gone till next time.

"I'd been a heap better off if I'd believed in his good intentions and let him come along, and den forgive him ebery time. But I'd stan' right up straight, n' say: 'No, you don't 'sprise me none, Jim Martin, 'and when I leveled a flat-iron at his haid, he wilted, Miss Mildred, and stayed at home. But la, how thet nigger did despise me.

"Now, your ma was one o' the trustin' kind, and now den when Marse John come home fum Norfolk sayin' as how he was most daid, and he had to take a dram fer his heart, Miss Millie'd most go wild, she'd pester 'round him like a hen with jus' one chicken. She couldn't see nuthin' count or havin' them smoke' glasses on. But me, Miss Mildred, he didn't fool me none. I could see right thru Marse John's spell.

"Now, chile, you'd better be glad you are lak yo ma; ther's some things better not seen in matrimony, and you is mighty lucky ef yo glasses am smoke'!"