

Reporter Anxious Over Pending Birth Of Giraffe On Ringling Circus Train

By H. D. QUIGG
United Press Correspondent
Sarasota, Fla. — (U.P.) — Now I know how Noah must have felt. I'm aboard the circus train with hundreds of animals, performers, freaks, snakes, queer critters, and one expectant giraffe.

The "G.S.O.E." (greatest show on earth, Matilda) hit the road for the North with all hands alerted. They were expecting a blessed event that they could tell tall tales about for years to come.

The expectant lady is named Ingrid, a native of Africa. She is handsome and, despite her delicate condition, still quite graceful and willowy for her height, which is 16 feet.

Ingrid is expected to have her

baby—I guess you could call it a calf, since giraffes are bovine—any day now, and we don't pull into our destination, New York, until Sunday morning. If she has it on the train, she'll make history.

No giraffe ever has had a baby on a train, as far as is known here. If the stork comes during our trip to New York, the train will have to stop right in its tracks and let Doc E. Y. Henderson go to work. Doc Henderson, a tall, lean Texan, has been the circus veterinarian for 16 years. But right now, because of Ingrid, he's jumpy as a Mexican bean.

Not even Albert Rix, the menagerie's superintendent, ever heard of a giraffe giving birth while riding on a train, and Rix grew up with the great Hagen-

back circus of Germany. Ingrid's present husband, an 18-footer named Boston, was born on the road in—as you probably guessed—Boston. But that was during an engagement and not while actually on the rails!

Italian Romance

Ingrid and her former husband, Roberto, came over from Europe together. Doc Henderson explains: "It was about the time or, you remember, that romance in Italy. But they were named before we got them." Roberto later died and Ingrid remarried.

It's always an event when Sarasota's main institution, the mighty "Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey combined shows" breaks winter quarters here and heads for its annual 40-day stand at Madison Square Garden and the subsequent summer under the big top.

Families say tearful goodbyes at trainside in a scene comparable with that of the early whaling days when the master of the house would embark for many months of absence at sea.



PAPER SEIZED — John Gates, editor-in-chief of The Daily Worker, prepares to leave New York office after Treasury men seized the paper's property. Sign on glass is notice of seizure. Agents carried out similar raids against the Communist publication in Chicago, Detroit, Philadelphia, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

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Britons Protesting Police Methods in Visit by Russians

London — (U.P.) — Public resentment over the scheduled visit of Communist boss Nikita S. Khrushchev and Soviet Premier Nikolai A. Bulganin to Britain next month has turned against the "police state methods" the British government is reported planning to use to keep them happy during their stay.

"Arrangements for hindering press coverage... are beginning to trickle out..." said the liberal Manchester Guardian. "The government and the police are cooperating in the game of providing 'facilities' for keeping the newspapers at arm's length."

Short of Police

"Stop this police state stuff!" snapped the conservative Daily Sketch. "If we are going to have cops as thick as blackberries around Bulganin and Khrushchev, let them be their own cops."

"This country is badly short of police. Messrs. B. and K. should find that a very refreshing change."

The latest example of the security precautions imposed by the government was the report that Alexander Nejmirok, a prominent Russian anti-communist, was refused permission to land when he arrived from France by ship Wednesday night.

Nejmirok, a leader of the Russian refugee organization NTS, had planned to spend only a few days in Britain, leaving at least a week before the Soviet

Rural School Audits Of Budgets Start

Audits of the local district budgets within the rural school district has started by the rural school board, according to County School Superintendent Alf Mekvold.

Twenty districts compose the rural district, although Kenwood and Dewey will be removed by the boundary board and placed with adjoining districts for the coming year, he said.

If West Side and Oak Grove districts are joined to the Medford district in next month's election and the move is made effective prior to July 1, they also will be removed from the rural board.

Individual districts will be notified of changes in budgets between April 10 and 20, Mekvold said. Arrangements will be made for hearings to discuss such changes between those dates.

The board must complete the budget work not later than April 20 with an election to be held in the rural district on or before the third Monday in May to vote on the excess needed beyond the 6 per cent limitation.

DEAD DOG

Raleigh, N. C. — (U.P.) — The Raleigh police blotter contained the following report Thursday: "Lady at 805 W. South St. wanted dog checked to see if he was dead. He was."

Libel Suit Hearing Opens at Oregon City

Oregon City — (U.P.) — Trial opened here Wednesday on a \$30,000 libel action brought by former Clackamas County Commissioner Robert B. Jones against J. H. Van Winkle, one-time columnist for the Milwaukee Review. The newspaper was not named a defendant in the action.

Jones claimed that his reputation was brought into "disgrace and contempt" by a Van Winkle column reporting courthouse activities.

Circuit Judge Paul R. Harris of Multnomah county presided over the trial after two Clackamas county judges disqualified themselves. They said they were acquainted with both litigants.

Pre-War Fascists Said Back in Japanese Politics

Tokyo — (U.P.) — The president of Tokyo University said Wednesday that pre-war Fascists are returning to Japanese politics.

President Tadao Yanaibara warned in a commencement address that the present emphasis on nationalism by some Japanese political leaders threatens democracy in this country. He said freedom of speech and education is being threatened by national control.

Sao Paulo, Brazil — (U.P.) — Authorities rushed plans today to evacuate 4,000 persons from this area where landslides and floods took four more lives Thursday. The latest victims brought to 69 the death toll in the Sao Paulo-Santos area this month from slides and floods caused by torrential rains.

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