



HIGH ATOP Star Lite at the circus on May 20 were Mark Walker and Valerie Hercan. They toured the circus in fashion, but obviously not in comfort.



ELLIE, THE ELEPHANT was definitely the star of the show at the circus on May 20. Ellie made her debut by eating a pizza donated by one of the local shops.

Cat steals show at the circus

A cat literally stole the show during the eight o'clock performance at the Royal Bros. circus on May 20 at Prospect Park, as performing dogs deserted their post in the centre ring and ran after a feline outside the tent.

One faithful dog remained on deck to finish the act, which was understandably cut short.

Featured animals

The first circus in recent years to come to Acton featured a lion, a rhinoceros, a bear, a llama, palomino ponies, dogs, and the traditional elephants.

Most of the animals were part of a sideshow. While vendors were outside selling candy floss and apples, dolls, elephant rides and circus souvenirs, a fire sweeper and magician were inside one of the tents performing their stunts. Forming the one wall of the tent were the animals, in their small cages.

The magician took volunteers out of the audience and revealed some of his tricks.

Inside another big tent, which seated a total of over 1,600 people during the two shows, were three rings for the different acts. Clowns lined the tent and helped sell the many goodies which were advertised between acts.

The show consisted of balancing acts, dancing horses, performing elephants, young boys on the trampoline and an elephant tractor tug-of-war. Some of the acts were performed simultaneously in the first and third ring while the centre ring was reserved for special acts.

A broken public address system hampered the first show, causing delays and wearing patience in the audience. Some people left before the show got started.

Sponsor disappointed

Mike Worthington, president of the Chamber of Commerce, was disappointed in the shows. "I was appalled by the commercialism in the circus," he told this paper afterwards.

He was also disturbed by the children who kept running from ring to ring during the first performance. "It distracted the other people trying to watch the show," he added.

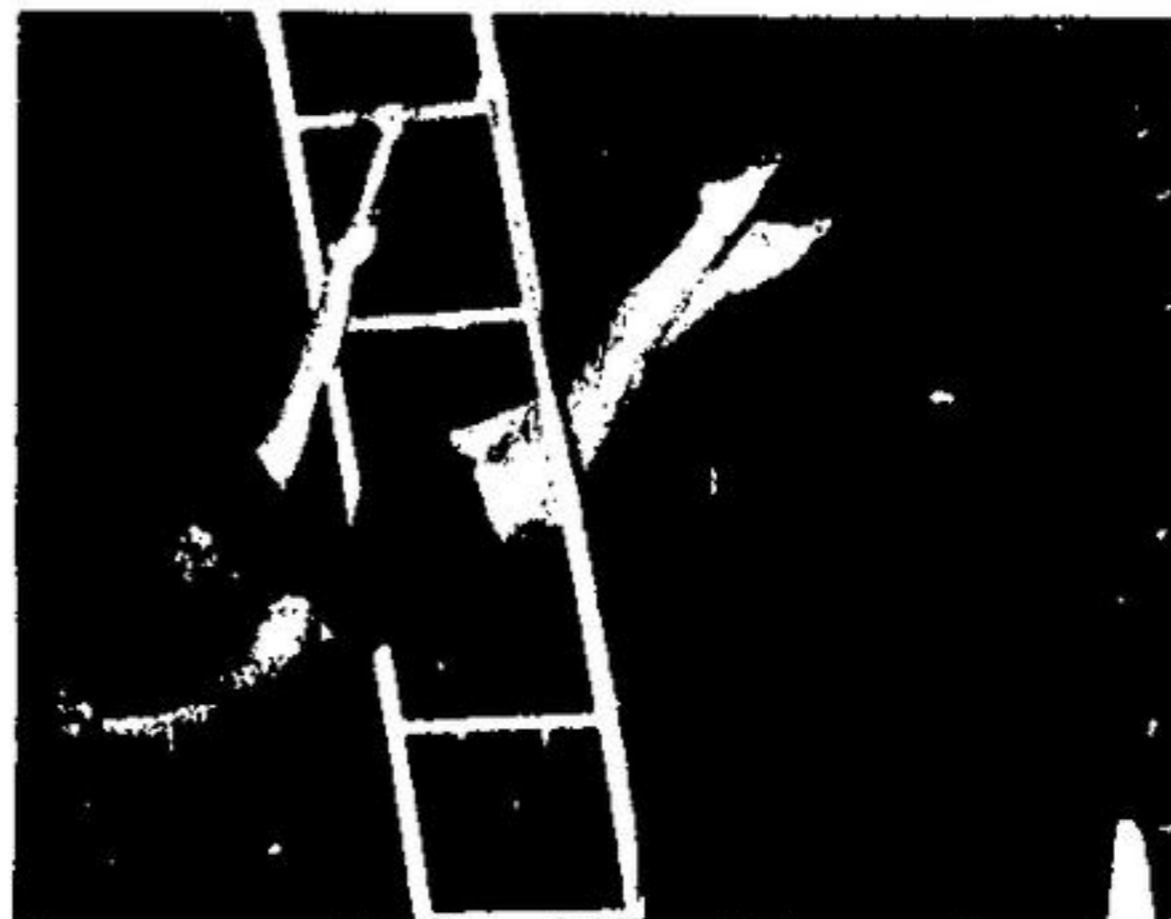
Although he has had quite a few negative comments made by adults since the night of the circus, Mr. Worthington feels the children were pleased, and that is who they were aiming at.

"None of us on the Chamber had ever seen the show before. It was all completely by the Royal Bros. We were just as disappointed as anyone else."

Advanced ticket sales amounted to 1,000, with 300 children and 400 adults buying tickets at the gate. The profit made by the Chamber

on this venture covered the \$300 loss incurred by the Clitzen of the Year banquet.

"The Chamber would have been in terrible shape if it wasn't for that circus." He continued to say that the Chamber of Commerce now has enough money, through the circus profits to keep them solvent for the year. They split the money raised at the event with the Royal Bros.



HIGH ABOVE THE crowd at the May 20 circus, this trapeze artist shows off some of her stunts.

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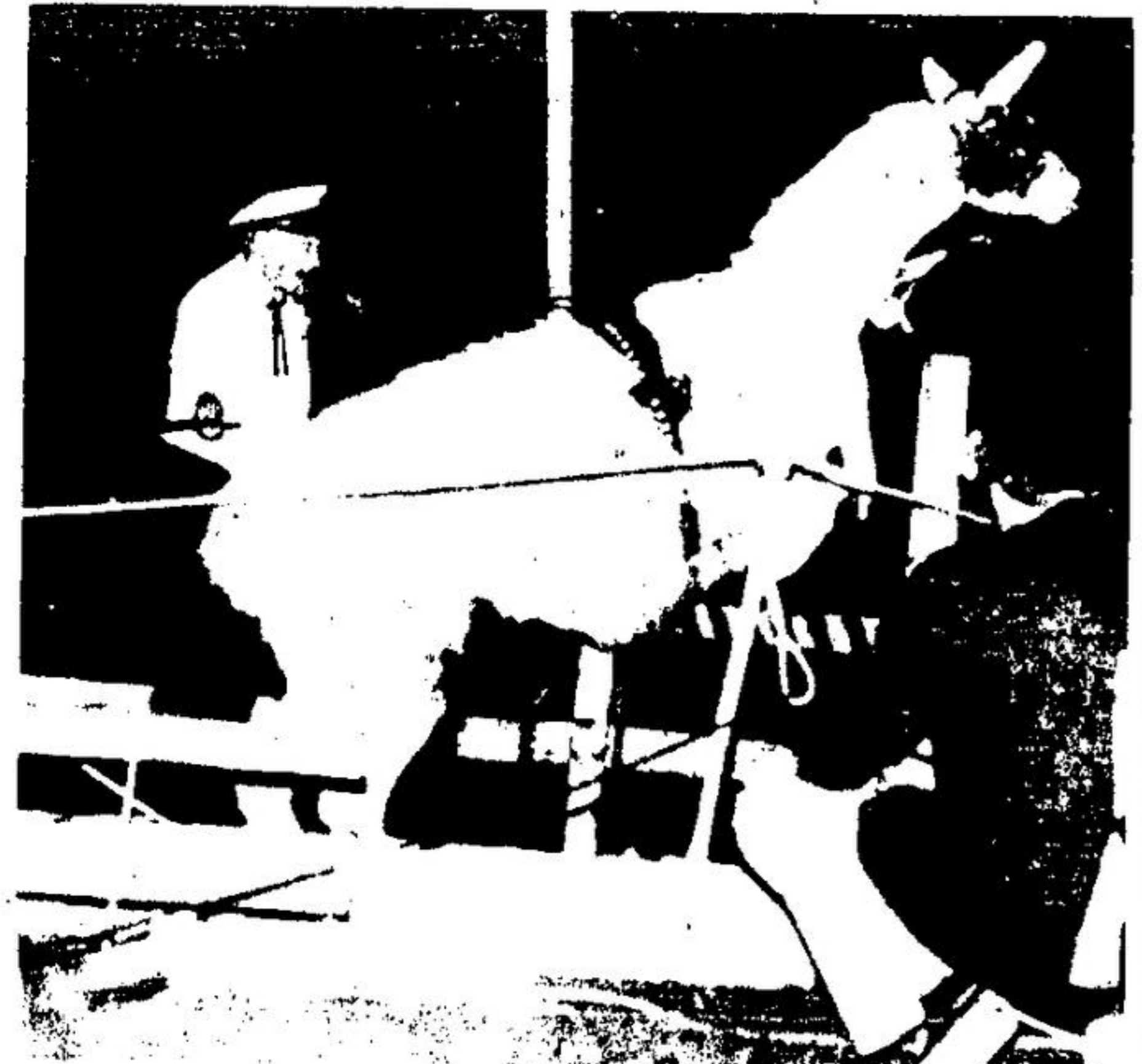


Ontario

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LEAPING LLAMAS!! It was track and field day for this llama at the Royal Bros. circus on May 20, as he jumped the hurdles in the centre ring.

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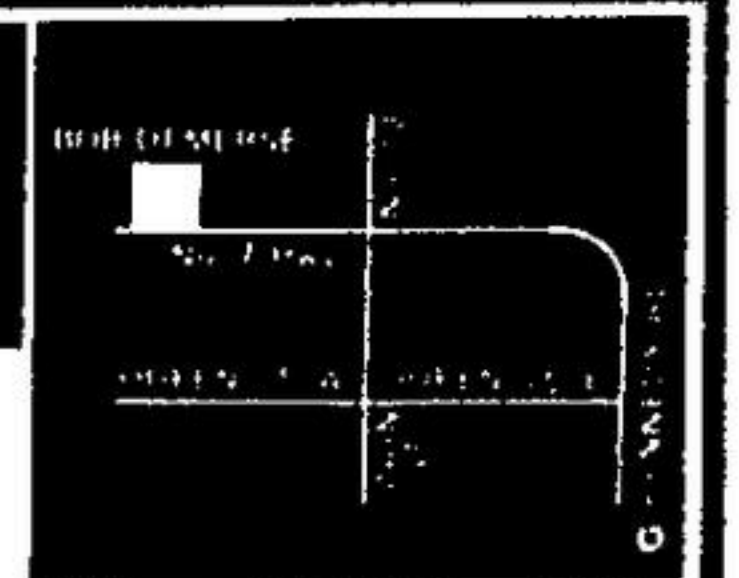
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