

She is alone and feels that she
d like to be with me.

ward says I must write you a
telling you that he is alright and
everything is fine. So when that
comes you will understand."

Awaiting your reply
Most Sincerely
Mayme Ward

May 8, 1929 Edward Ward died at
ie, Indiana after having appeared in
lying act that afternoon on the John
nson Circus. On May 13th at Deca-
ll. Mayme Ward, the widow, climbed
n the trapeze rigging where she took
ie's place as catcher while one of the
r girls in the act took Mayme's
e as leaper. A friend in a letter of
lolescence to her at that time wrote:
thing could be more thrilling and
ic than to know, as we do, that his
the day after he was laid to rest,
ad to his trapeze and took his place
ntertainment of the public so that
show might go on." This spirit was
essence of Mayme's long life and of
profession to which shw was devoted
almost 70 years.

ft as a widow with three children to
ort, Mayme continued right on
king. She appeared with one of the
ral flying acts on Sells-Flots in
31, (Irma Troupe, Three Flying
illers, Flying Wards, Flying Concel-
In 1932 the Mayme Ward Flying
went with Al G. Barnes Circus. This
was the first big aerial act ever on
Barnes Show. After this time she
er did any more flying. Associated
Ernie Clark's Clarkonians in 1934,
was with the Escalante Family in
ico in 1935 and was superintendent of
ballet girls on the Al G. Barnes Show
936.

1937 she was wardrobe mistress on
enbeck-Wallace and in 1939-40 did
drobe for Sally Rand at the San Fran-
o World's Fair. In 1941-42 she was
arold Voise's flying acts on Cole
s. Circus. Later, during World War
he did her part by driving a taxicab
San Francisco. In 1949 she joined
gling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey in
tember in the wardrobe department
l for more than a decade occupied
ilar positions in wardrobe depart-
ts on a number of shows: Mills Bros.
0-52; 1955-56); Polack Bros. (1954);
rd-Bell (1955); Gil Gray (1958-61);
ly Bros (1962); Barry Ashton Cos-
es of Hollywood (1962). While on
ls Bros. she was "generally avail-
e" for driving a semi between daily
nds.

rom 1963 until the time of her death
yme Ward was in charge of the ward-
e department of the Circus World
seum at Baraboo, Wis. and by her own
id had made some 1200 costumes for
ple, over 160 sets of horse trappings
17 elephant blankets that are used in



In recent years Mrs. Ward is best known
for her fine design and making of wardrobe
for the Milwaukee circus parades. This
photo, taken in 1951, shows Mayme at her
sewing machine in the Columbus, Ohio,
winterquarters of the Mills Bros. Circus.

the Old Milwaukee Days Circus Street
Parade on the 4th of July. This annual
event is sponsored jointly by the Jos.
Schlitz Brewing Co. and the Circus
World Museum.

In 1970 Mayme Ward was enshrined in
the Circus Hall of Fame at Sarasota,
Fla. This signal honor was a fine tribute
to a wise, kind and great lady of the
circus. William Schultz, director of the
Circus World Museum, has aptly com-
mented on her contributions in this way:
"The circus world has lost one of the
great performers of all times. We, of
the Circus World Museum, are grieved.
She was a faithful and loved employee
who gave of her vast experience and
knowledge so that people of all walks of
life could know and enjoy the history of
the circus through the Circus World
Museum."

Prepared January 11, 1973 by
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A Supplement to "Circus Rhinos" in *Bandwagon* Nov.-Dec. 1968

The following is a clarification of the
history of the rhino between the years
1830 - 1835 in the United States. The
research that Mr. Reynolds has presented
is excellent, but as in all the early

history of the circus there were a few gaps.

On May 9, 1830 an Indian rhino arrived
at Boston, and was used by the Flatfoots
in 1830 as an attraction on the American
National Caravan. There is a hint given
to the fact that another rhino was
imported by a Doctor Burrow of Phila-
delphia, and that it was a separate animal.
But the case that is made is based on an
1835 article.

In 1831 for sure there was one rhino
with the American National Caravan, and
it was taken at the foot of the Hima-
layans, and purchased from a Prince in
Calcutta. It also appears that in 1831
another rhino was showing, but this one
was in the American Menagerie, a totally
different show from the American
National Caravan. It seems that this
rhino was imported into this country
from Calcutta also, but in October of
1830. Whether this second show is
Flatfoot or not is not known, but never-
theless two rhinos did come in 1830.
There is one reference to a rhino in 1832
as the Grand National Menagerie was to
show one in Boston on January 27.

The year 1835 is when all six rhinos that
were in the United States all show up
and can be accounted for. #1 was with
the Zoological Institute of New York
City based on the fact that it was ex-
hibited on their large poster. There is a
good chance that this is the rhino
that came to Boston. #2 was with the
Menagerie and Aviary that Dr. Burrows
of Philadelphia had in Pittsburgh.
His rhino was imported in 1830, and
should be the one that came to Phila-
delphia in October of that year. #3 was
dead, as J. R. and William Howes' New
York Menagerie lost one in 1834, yet it
still had to be imported between 1830
and 1834 and is included in this group.
#4 was with the Raymond & Ogden
show since they had one in 1834 at
Marietta and one in 1836 at Piqua, so
they must have had one in 1835. #5 was
with the Entire New Menagerie that
Macomber and Welch were operating in
Boston on June 1, 1835. #6 was with the
Zoological Institute of Philadelphia, and
their's had been imported in December,
1834 to Philadelphia. In essence there
were six rhinos imported into America
between 1830 and 1835, for sure. The
only problem now is to figure where the
rhinos went after this year. One
interesting item develops as in 1830 two
rhinos were imported from Calcutta a few
months apart and the Burrampooter
River supplied one of these and also the
rhino for the Zoological Institute of
Philadelphia in 1834.

But there is still one rhino that has
temporarily been forgotten. June, Titus,
Angevine & Co. in 1834 had a rhino adver-
tised. Since this show as far as I know
did not associate with any of the other
6 shows, this would make it #7 in the list.
With this it brings to seven the number
of rhinos brought into the country before
1836.

-John F. Polacsek