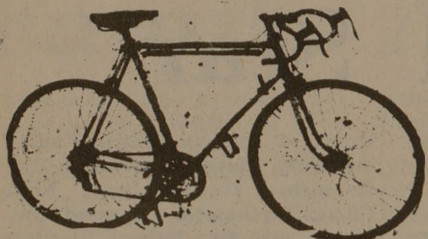


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Circus Vet Recalls Days At A&M

SAN ANTONIO—Teaching an old dog new tricks is one thing, but curing a bad case of distemper is something else, especially if the animal is one of hundreds in the Ringling Brothers Circus.

Dr. A. Y. "Doc" Henderson, chief veterinarian for the Greatest Show on Earth, feels the best treatment for circus animal ailments is prevention.

The Kerrville, Texas native, who has been curing the ills of Ringling Brothers stock for 33 years, says he'd rather immunize an animal to avoid treating it, especially if the animal is a 300-pound African lion.

"Doc" Henderson learned his stock in trade at A&M, graduating from the vet school in 1937. He practiced in Shreveport for three years after graduation and joined the circus in 1940.

"The King Ranch veterinarian, Dr. Kleberg knew the owners of the circus, the North family of New York, quite well," he explained. "Dr. Kleberg was approached by one of the owners to help them find a vet for the circus, and I got the nod."

"Doc" said he joined the circus believing he would spend a few months at the circus's Venice, Florida winter quarters. Thirty-three years later, he's still tending to everything from lions and tigers to pachyderms.

"I had no training whatsoever in circus animal practice when I joined the show," he noted. "They only taught us about cows, horses, dogs and cats at A&M. There were some good European handlers with the show, though, that showed me the ropes."

The circus vet was active in the Corps of Cadets while attending A&M. He was a member of Troop D of the mounted cavalry unit, a unit which will be revived at A&M this fall.

"I don't hear much about A&M because I'm on the go so much," Henderson said, "but I feel a part of the school. I guess it has changed quite a bit since I was there last in 1967."

The occasion for his visit to Aggieland was the graduation of his son, Donald, with a degree in architecture.

He wrote a bestseller book in 1951 based on his experiences with the Ringling Brothers organization. Titled "Circus Doctor," the book is still in print in 12 languages.

One of "Doc's" problems is getting his charges fed. He said the company spends more than \$300,000 yearly to feed stock in the Blue Show, currently winding

up a stand in Houston; the Red Show, which played its last show in San Antonio Sunday, and the show's winter quarters in Florida.

The cats in the show get from 18-20 pounds of U. S. Government inspected beef daily, with a half-dozen eggs and a half-gallon of milk on Sundays. The costly meat insures the animals

of getting good unspoiled. Horses get three gallons of each day, according to Dr. Henderson, and the elephants sume about 100 pounds daily.



"DOC'S" FAVORITE—Dr. A. Y. "Doc" Henderson, chief veterinarian for the Ringling Brothers Circus, greets his favorite customer, a two-year-old 200-pound Bengal tiger.

Instrument To Be Refined At Cyclotron Institute Here

Scientists at A&M will use an Atomic Energy Commission grant to refine an instrument produced in previous research at A&M's Cyclotron Institute.

Called a "Maggie" by its developers, the instrument is used to measure the weight of radioactive atoms. The device will be used in the extension project by Dr. Ronald D. MacFarlane, professor of chemistry, and Dr. David Torgerson, research scientist at the Cyclotron Institute.

The "Maggie," which has received international attention as being a new approach to the study of nuclei stability, measures the velocity of ions emitted in the cyclotron, and provides figures which can be used to calculate weight of the ion.

The \$61,100 grant from AEC complements the previous \$65,000 grant used in developing the instrument. The second phase of the project will be used to develop more uses for the instrument, including measurement of DNA molecules and proteins.

The "Maggie" (a bona fide

technical name for the instrument) works like this: A radioactive atom is deposited on the surface of a slice of metal. When the radioactive atom decays, it emits radiation which indicates the birth of a recoil ion.

The recoil ion is accelerated by the cyclotron in an electric field of fixed energy and the velocity

of the ion is measured precisely. These measurements are used to determine the weight of the

Dr. MacFarlane and Torgerson will be assisted in the phase of the study by graduate students Alton Hassell and Edmund Skowronski, both who advanced degrees in chemistry at A&M.

Briscoe Awards Grant To Development Council

AUSTIN — Governor Dolph Briscoe last week awarded a \$21,200 planning grant to the Brazos Valley Development Council, Bryan, to carry on its criminal justice planning program during fiscal 1974.

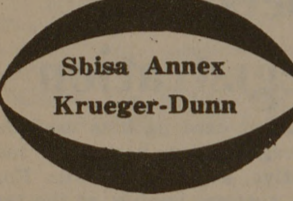
The money will come from the Criminal Justice Council, which administers the state's block grant from the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration under the Omnibus Crime Control Act.

It is conditional, however, on a new congressional appropriation.

The award is to continue employment of a full-time criminal justice coordinator on the staff of BVDC. It also will provide secretarial help and operating expenses for the planning effort.

Counties served by BVDC are Brazos, Burleson, Grimes, Madison, Robertson and Warrington.

The Brazos Valley application was among 71 for action planning funds considered by the CJC Executive Committee. Requests totaled \$4,565,876.



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| <p>FRIDAY EVENING SPECIAL</p> <p>MEXICAN FIESTA DINNER TWO CHEESE AND ONION ENCHILADAS w/CHILI Spanish Rice Patio Style Beans Rolls & Butter Tea or Coffee</p> | <p>SATURDAY SPECIAL NOON AND EVENING</p> <p>OLD FASHIONED YANKEE POT ROAST Potato Pancake Choice of one vegetable Rolls & Butter Tea or Coffee</p> | <p>SUNDAY SPECIAL NOON AND EVENING</p> <p>ROAST TURKEY DINNER Served with Cranberry Sauce & Crabapple Cornbread Dressing Rolls - Butter - Coffee or Tea. Giblet Gravy And your choice of any One vegetable.</p> |

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