



REALLY REPRESENTING a total of 11 generations in show business, the Canestrelli family appearing at the Coliseum is shown above. They are Fred Canestrelli, daughter Lila, wife Ortans (Christiani), son Belmonte and in front of them five-year-old son Marco.

Famous Names In Business Appearing At Coliseum

By RALPH CAMERON

One of the most famous names in circus history is represented in this year's vaudeville at the Coliseum when the former Ortans Christiani appears on stage. She represents the seventh generation of the famous family to be in show business.

But she is now a member of another family famous in its own right as she appears with her husband Fred Canestrelli who himself is the fifth generation of that family to belong to the circus world. He remarked on the difference in show people today as he said that both he and his wife had been born, lived and worked in the caravans of Europe. There were no

doctors present for the births then, he recalled, but every caravan had its own midwife. His own three children were all born in a hospital in Sarasota, Florida, where they make their home.

Fred was born in the old Italian village of Calabria, but Ortans was born in the ancient capital of an empire, Rome.

They have played with the great circuses of the world including Ringling Bros., Al G. Barnes and the Olympic Circus in England, and appeared in all the great cities of Europe. But of all his travels Fred Canestrelli remembers best, and with more than a hint of nostalgia, a fantastic tour of the tiny war-torn islands of the Pacific.

"No matter how small it was if you could land there we played it."

That island-hopping tour wound up in South America where they played that continent from north to south. Both Fred and Ortans have had many accidents over the years and more broken bones than they can remember. "But we try hard to avoid injury; we can't afford to be laid up."

OUTLINES TRAINING

Outlining the arduous training required, he said the basic thing is a thorough knowledge of tumbling; then comes a long period of practice in wire walking. These two are most important, he said, in order for the circus acrobat to acquire that sense of

balance which is vital to them. When they finally get it then they study ballet to obtain the grace and poise needed for "finish". But there are many other things to learn and among the most important of these is a study of music — this to aid in the timing.

How important all these things are was pointed out by Ortans when she recalled the days as a member of the Christiani family when she was the only woman in the show world who did a triple somersault from a teeter board to land sitting in a chair held by another performer.

She still has the sense of balance acquired as a young girl and proves it when she does a one-hand stand from the top of Fred's head as he stands atop a wiggling ladder which has no support at all and is only held erect by his sense of balance.

However, as the years for

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them increase they more, and more are centering attention on the act of their 15-year-old son, Belmonte, named after his uncle, the famous Belmonte Christiani — who makes every one in the audience shudder when he performs the almost incredible jump on the trampoline.

Jumping from his father's shoulders, he bounces higher and higher on the trampoline until suddenly he does a triple twist back turn in the air to land once more on the shoulders from which he started. It is something which has to be seen to be truly appreciated.

The other two members of the family, 13-year-old Lila and five-year-old Marco, provide both decoration and comedy relief. But neither one is fooling. They are both serious show people and have been practicing since they were tiny.

Florida Man Visits Premier

Hugh Pope, a travelling lecturer from St. Petersburg, Florida, and a great grandson of the Hon. William Henry Pope met with Premier Alex Campbell in the Premier's office yesterday.

Mr. Pope is visiting Prince Edward Island to film the province for a new motion picture on the Maritimes which will be

Performer Persists In Comeback Effort

The noted author Rudyard Kipling once said, "If you can meet with triumph and disaster and treat those two imposters just the same."

And just that way has Marie Hager tried to treat them in order to rise above disaster. It struck her suddenly in the form of a hit and run driver in Boston and doctors there said it was the end for her. A compound fracture of the left leg left it in such a condition they wanted to amputate. She fought against this and finally with many pins to keep bones in

place they renewed the leg by insertion of plastic tendons.

But they also told her she was through with the only way of life she knew, her stage life as an acrobat. Neither would she ever dance again. This was her disaster after having known triumph. Her husband is home ill, has been for a long time, and probably will never work again.

Marie faced the challenge with the same spirit she had refused to accept amputation. The couple had three children

born-year old Linda, Donna 10, and wee Katie 10 are starting out in the show world in a mother and daughter act of balancing and acrobatic dance routines. Marie says she is working with them only in eastern United States and Canada; falls this summer as the girls work their way into familiarity with the many facets of an acrobatic dance routine.

The strength which courage has literally forced back into Marie Hager's legs is never better shown than when she takes the part usually played by a man in a troupe and holds aloft all three of the girls. Says Marie with both truth and humor: "They weigh about 300 pounds between them and honestly I think they are getting heavier every day."

Her son, Barry, does an acrobatic dance routine, but with a real difference. He does it in and out of barrels. Her three pretty blonde daughters, six-

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SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATIONS

GRADE XII

Supplementary examinations in the subjects listed below may be written at Prince of Wales College, Charlottetown by students of Grade XII who have attained no less than 35 per cent in the June examinations.

Application to write is not necessary. The timetable is as follows:

- Algebra—Sept. 1, 1966 at 9.00 a.m.
- French—Sept. 1, 1966 at 2.00 p.m.
- Chemistry—Sept. 2, 1966 at 2.00 p.m.

Department of Education
Charlottetown, P.E.I.
August 15, 1966.



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If you like parades you'll love this one! Top floats from the Atlantic Provinces vie for honors... you'll see horses and sulkeys, saddle horses and ponies... Kate Reid and Gordie Tapp will be on parade along with bands from Saskatchewan, New Hampshire, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. Come... bring the family and join in the Cup and Saucer festivities.

- **PARADE AT 10 A.M.**
Leaving Queen Charlotte High School parade will proceed down North River Road and Brighton Road to the business district.
- **BAND CONCERTS AT 2:30 P.M.**
Hear the Estevan (Sask.) band followed by the Spartan Drum and Bugle Corps at Confederation Plaza. Other bands will play at the 4 city hospitals.
- **SCOTTISH CONCERTS 7:30 P.M.**
The North American champion Balmoral Girls' Pipe Band of Stellarton, N.S., will perform in front of the Grandstand at the Exhibition Grounds.
- **GOLD CUP & SAUCER 8:30 P.M.**
Sponsored by The Evening Patriot, this event has become one of the great harness racing spectacles of Eastern Canada. The Band of the P.E.I. Regiment will play and Miss Arlene MacDonald will sing "The Island Hymn" as the horses parade to the post.
- **GOLD CUP & SAUCER GIRLS**
8 lovely Young Ladies representing the 8 horses in the Gold Cup and Saucer, will be featured in the parade and will form the Winner's Circle during the evening races.

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