

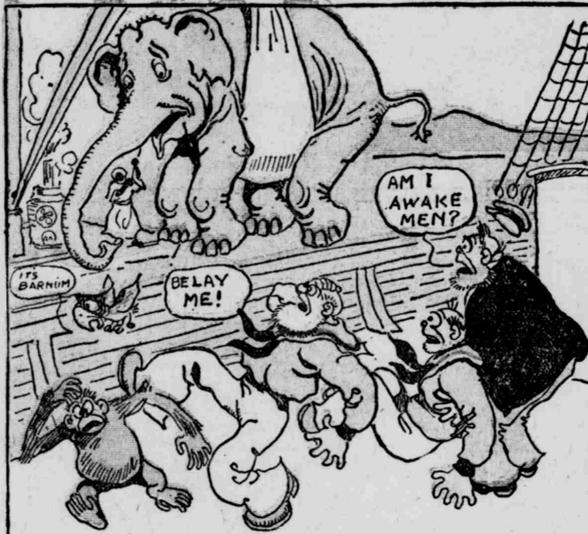
SUNDAY JOURNAL.

INDIANAPOLIS SUNDAY, MARCH 13, 1904.

BINNACLE JIM'S CIRCUS YARN



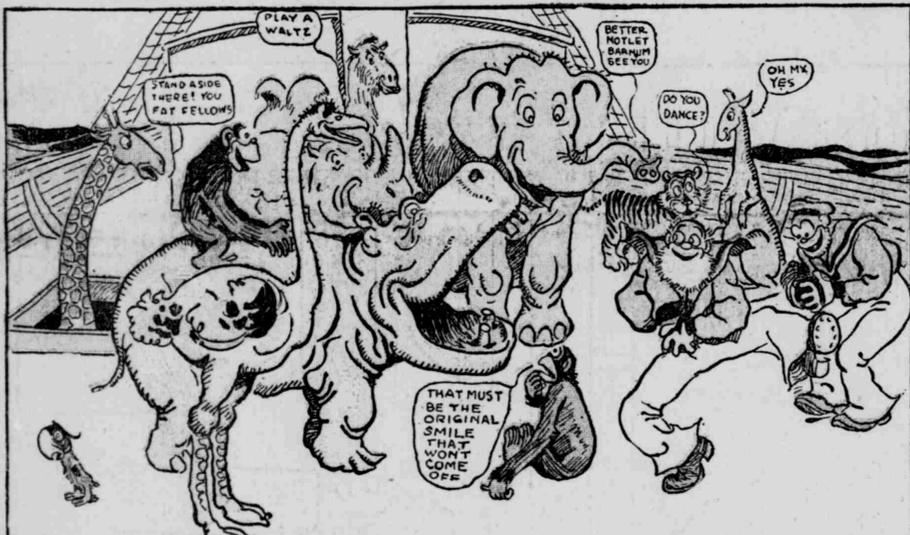
1. "Most lads run away to sea 'cept them in-shore wot runs away 'ith circuses, but I want t' say as how I've done both; you see it come about like this: Th' 'Dancin' Sal' 'us trampin' at 'th' time, an' one day while layin' in at Bombay, a feller rushes aboard an' wants to charter th' ship fer America. Cap Walrus 'us ashore, an' Bill an' me bein' in charge, you might say, signed fer th' cap at a han'som figger."



2. "When we showed Capt'in Walrus the contract with his own name wot Bill had signed he 'us froze stiff 'ith joy fer sich a rich haul, an' comin' so un-expected like an' actually treated us like ekals, almost 'til th' watch reported th' cargo. Stove me, if it wusn't Barnum's circus o' ragin' beasts an' old Pete hisself wot 'ad come aboard."



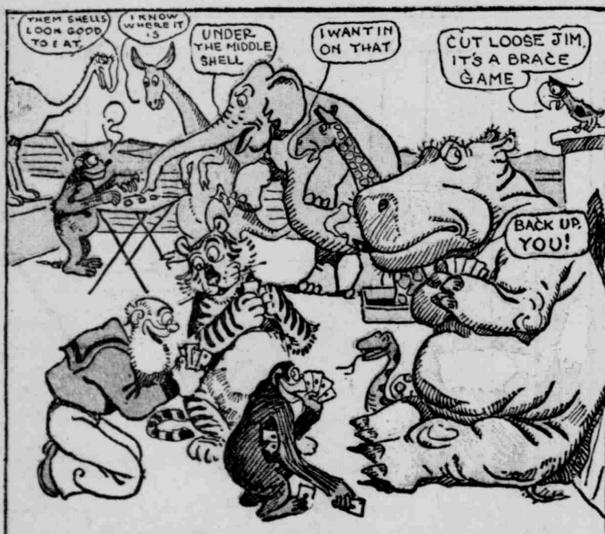
3. "Cap Walrus never let on but what he was satisfied, 'ith th' bargain me an' Bill had made but set us to work stowin' away th' savage critters below decks. You'd a-laughed t' a seen us hoist that crate o' venomous serpents, us not 'bein' over pe-tickler fond o' pets no how."



4. "Bill had read sommers in a story book 'at th' best way t' handle wild critters 'us 'P keep 'em in good spirits, so th' first bright day Bill an' me ordered th' whole mess on deck an' we went through some play actin' accordin' t' sailor fashion an' you'd be surprised t' see how pop'lar we wus with them poor dumb critters."



5. Th' next day th' weather 'us foul an' a rough sea runnin', an' th' scheme didn't work so well. You may, an' you may not a' heard o' th' man with an elephant on his hands, but he couldn't come along side o' Bill an' me. We had a whole menagerie on our hands at once an' th' lubbers 'us all seasick accordin' t' their tonnage."



6. "You'd be surprised t' hear it but afore th' vo'ge 'us half over we became so attached to them critters as if they 'us human bein's, an' many a afternoon we passed playin' cards on deck, an' many a row we had, too, over th' game. (all in good nat'er o' course), but animals is born cheats as we soon found out."



7. "They was a touchin' scene when we landed in New Bedford an' them poor critters had t' go ashore. They had become so attached to us durin' th' trip. Th' funniest part o' th' yarn wus where Davy Jones, th' ape, tried t' pack up an' jine th' circus, unbeknownst t' Bill an' me."



8. We thought it unusual 'at th' cap't'n let us have our own way all through th' trip, not interferin' once, an' when a officer come aboard we wusn't long in findin' out th' reason. Yessir, after gittin' paid han'som fer th' vo'ge wot does he do but bring charges against Bill an' me fer forgery. That's wot I call ungrateful, an' so does Bill."

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