



# PENNSYLVANIA REFINING COMPANY

REFINERY AT KANSAS CITY, PA.

PENN DRAKE PETROLEUM PRODUCTS

OHIO DIVISION  
2686 LISBON ROAD  
CLEVELAND 4, OHIO

December 21, 1956

Mr. Grant Evans, General Manager  
Animal Behavior Enterprises  
Route 6  
Hot Springs, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Evans:

Thanks very much for your letter of December 18th.

Tina the Truck Driver is of considerable interest to us. We have a few questions about her:

1. According to the photo, the hens are uncaged when they are performing. Does this prove satisfactory with a bunch of people crowding close to watch the action? Don't the hens tend to become distracted and wander off?
2. Does Tina perform actively? That is, does she make quick trips in and out of the truck, or does she loaf a bit after eating the feed?
3. Can we put some type of GUMOUT identification on the truck, rather than I. Q. Zoo, and on the background material? This is essential to the successful use of the act.
4. Does the truck run on every pull of the lever? What is the normal length of running time of the truck?
5. Can the truck lights be made to flash off and on during the running time, rather than constantly on during this time?
6. What is the actual table space required for the act?

I am anxious to give Tina a try, Mr. Evans, right along with Casey at the February Show in New York and am wondering if you could work along with us on this. The thought would be to use both acts simultaneously in our booth ... or alternate them on a half-day schedule for each. Of course we couldn't stand the normal rental on both so perhaps you can work out a special deal for us. Hope so.

We extend our best wishes for a Joyful Christmas and Prosperous New Year to all our good friends on the Keller Breland farm.

Very cordially,

Robert W. Lackner

pcy

CABLE ADDRESS: GUMOUT - CLEVELAND

CODES: BENTLEY &amp; A.B.C. 6TH EDITION

December 28, 1956

Mr. Robert W. Lackner  
Pennsylvania Refining Company  
2686 Lisbon Road  
Cleveland 4, Ohio

Dear Mr. Lackner:

We are pleased that you are interested in possible use of our Tina The Truck Driver act.

I hope the following will answer the questions of your letter of December 21, 1956.

1. The hens do perform without a cage, and as a result they are somewhat more likely to be distracted by the crowd if the people are allowed to come extremely close. However, the chickens are well trained and, if the display set-up can be arranged to prevent the on-lookers from getting closer than four or five feet, they will perform very reliably. The fact that there is no cage improves visibility, so that the act can be seen clearly from a considerable distance.
2. Normally, Tina performs actively and returns quickly to the truck after eating. However, like any other trained chicken, she will tend to "loaf around" or wander off if she is too full of food to be interested in earning more. This is true of Casey, too. We recommend that as soon as a chicken shows any sign of sluggishness she be put away for a rest and replaced with a fresh and active bird; also that the chickens, for any of their acts, be fed very little or nothing for twenty four hours before the start of a show. The birds carry an adequate reserve of fat, and are in no way harmed by a day of fasting.
3. Yes. If you decide to use the act we will ship a truck with a blank removable panel on which you can put any identification or copy you might want.
4. The truck runs for seven or eight seconds on every pull of the lever, providing the chicken is standing in it. The bed of the truck "gives" slightly under the weight of the chicken and is connected to a concealed switch that permits the truck to start and run only with the chicken on board. The chicken, of course, has learned all about this and doesn't try to start the truck without first getting in it, and she waits for the truck to stop before she gets out. Her feeder doesn't pay off unless she goes through the cycle properly.
5. A flasher device could be installed in the headlight hook-up. You have a good idea there. Our shop costs in making this change on a prop would probably run to about \$50.00 by the time we got the bugs out of it.

I would hesitate to go through with this for a single rental. If you should try out the act in its present form and find that you would like to continue to use it from time to time, I believe we could change over to the flasher without extra charge to you.

6. The act will fit on table space four feet square - just about the same as for Casey.

Our regular rental price for Tina is the same as that for Casey, however if you wish to try out the act along with Casey at your February show, we are willing to reduce the rental one hundred dollars. That is, you may have both of them for \$500.00 plus the express charges.

Our very best wishes for the New Year.

Sincerely,

Grant Evans  
General Manager