Endangered Species Bill Becomes Law

The Endangered Species bill, introduced originally in the House of Representatives by Congressman John D. Dingell of Michigan, passed the Senate in amended form in early November and was signed by President Nixon on November 21, 1969.

The new law is a victory for conservation and wildlife organizations as well as humane societies and humanitarians who fought hard for its enactment. The law will protect rare animals throughout the world from capture and cruel death and will thus eliminate a great deal of suffering in this area of animal welfare.

Letters from HSUS members and friends throughout the country have played an important part in winning this humane victory.

Related measures are being considered in some areas. New York, for example, now bans the sale of articles made of alligator skin.

The HSUS Annuity Plan normally returns to an investor a higher net income after taxes than can be obtained through securities or other investments. There is, too, the satisfaction of knowing that the investment will continue to work for suffering animals after the investor is deceased. Write today to The HSUS for an analysis of the benefits obtainable through the Annuity Plan in your own particular case.

Introduction of New Legislation Stirs Optimism and Confidence in Fight for Lab Animal Protection

Two new bills, introduced in Congress in recent months, are stirring new optimism and confidence that the campaign to help suffering laboratory animals through remedial federal legislation will be successful.

The bills are considered by The HSUS and other national humane organizations as clear evidence that public and Congressional concern for the tragic plight of research animals is growing. The new development is seen as a product of the humane movement’s education of the public to cruelty in laboratories and pressure by humanitarians and humane societies upon Congress to take steps to end abuse and misuse of animals in biomedical research.

Congressman G. William Whitehurst introduced the first of these recent bills, H.R. 13957, which was referred to the House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture. Basically, this proposal would expand the present, inadequate coverage of laboratories and animals by Public Law 89-544 (the so-called pet-napping law) to include all warm-blooded animals during their entire stay in the research facility. The bill also purports to extend the scope of Public Law 89-544 to roadside zoos, circuses, county and state fairs, pet shops, and similar establishments.

Senator Stephen Young of Ohio, who introduced humane legislation in the past, introduced the second bill, S. 3221, which is now pending before the Senate Commerce Committee.

The purpose of this bill is to assure humane treatment of animals used in research experiments and ensure that such experiments are absolutely essential and that the animals are subjected to a minimum of pain and suffering.

HSUS officials feel that both bills are reasonably good and that, if either one were enacted by Congress, much cruelty and suffering would be stopped in biomedical research activities.

The Society believes, however, that the Rogers-Javits bill, which is also before Congress, is the strongest and most comprehensive of laboratory animal measures introduced so far.

HSUS Director Oliver Evans, whose work and study of laboratory animal legislation and the political climate on Capitol Hill has been very extensive, said recently that the time is long past

(Continued on page 2)
Television Documentary Sparks Effort to Save Alaskan Wolves Threatened by Bounty Hunters

A campaign is underway to save the wolves of Alaska, largely as a result of MGM's excellent documentary, "The Wolf Man," which was telecast on November 18, 1969, on NBC stations. The HSUS distributed a special bulletin before the telecast informing humane societies of the date and time and asking that as many humanitarians as possible see the program and write letters of encouragement to the species. At least one legislator has promised to introduce remedial legislation in the coming session of the state legislature.

In another development, Congressman John P. Saylor of Pennsylvania and David Oyler of Wisconsin have introduced in the U.S. Congress a bill to stop the hunting of wildlife by airplane. The HSUS is supporting this bill, H.R. 15158, which is currently before the House Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee.

Spot Announcement for Kindness Club Planned

The National Humane Education Center, in cooperation with The HSUS, is producing a 30-second spot announcement for television that is aimed at increasing membership in The Kindness Club.

The color film will star Roger Caras, noted author, lecturer, conservationist, and television personality. It will be distributed initially to more than 100 television stations across the country. It is expected to be used frequently as part of each station's public service program.

The old myth that wolves are vicious is now exploded. They have been found to be loyal and friendly. One of the maligned animals, the wolf has been hunted to near extinction. His fight for survival is now gaining.

Lab Animal Campaign Gains Momentum With Two New Proposals

People of small vision have allowed such an abyss to develop between humane societies and anti-vivisection societies that seldom the two kinds of organizations are in agreement on how to achieve protection for laboratory animals. Recent action by the New England Anti-Vivisection Society shows that enlightened societies can help throw a bridge over the gap between these two wings of the humane movement. The New England society has endorsed the Rogers-Javits bill and is throwing its considerable strength and prestige into the campaign for that legislation.

The society justly deserves high praise for its action. The HSUS, Cleveland Amory in his letter of congratulations which is reproduced below.

New England Society Wins Praise

Dear George,

May I congratulate you on what, I believe to be not only your window and foresight but also your great courage in being the first to break the hidebound line which has hitherto prevented anti-vivisection societies from taking any practical part in the present step-by-step effort to alleviate laboratory conditions. I know well what a large part these societies have played in the past and I do not belittle their efforts in the slightest, but the time has now arrived when public hearings should be held soon. And I know, finally, that the Rogers-Javits Bill is not perfect. But, even stronger than these other bills, it says specifically that public hearings be held. Similar letters should be written to the Chairmen of the Congressional Committees considering the legislation. These Chairmen and their Committees are listed elsewhere in this News for the information of readers wishing to write them.

Humane societies interested in affiliating with The HSUS with the objective of strengthening and improving both local and national humane work are invited to write to the Director of Field Service, The Humane Society of the United States, 1145 Nineteenth St., N.W., Washington, D. C. 20036.

Lesson to be Learned From Tie-up of Rodeo Bill in Pennsylvania

Legislation introduced in the Pennsylvania legislature to outlaw pain-provoking rodeo devices is dying. The HSUS, which was tied up in its efforts to pass a bill to ban rodeo cruelty because its sponsor feels the opposition is too great for the legislation to pass.

The bill, HB 987, was not reported out of the Judiciary Committee to which it was referred even though national, state, and local humane societies supported it strongly. The HSUS, for example, had repeatedly urged its members in the state to support the bill. Other animal welfare organizations like Animal Friends, Inc., of Pittsburgh, worked very hard to develop statewide support for the measure.

The most effective opposition to HB 987 came from horsemen's associations which claimed that the proposed law would ban all horse shows and infringe upon the individual's right to own and use horses. Farmers and livestock associations also opposed the measure on the grounds that the electric prodd with which cattle and other livestock are moved would be outlawed. In fact, however, the bill would not do either of these things.

The HSUS believes the lesson to be learned from this case is that bills introduced to stop rodeo cruelties should concentrate exclusively on outlawing use of the bucking strap. This type of legislation will not provoke needless opposition from livestock and horsemen's associations that are not affected, in any event. At the same time, an anti-bucking strap law would mean the end of the bucking horse contests, without which there would be no rodeos.

Copies of a model anti-bucking strap law are available upon request from the HSUS Field Service Department. Humane societies and humanitarians who are working to have bills affecting rodeos introduced in state legislatures are urged to discuss their proposals with The HSUS before introduction.
Florida Investigation Indicates Unlicensed Dealers Still Thrive

The HSUS has just investigated an animal compound in Tarpon Springs, Fla., where thousands of animals were legally being kept under suspicious circumstances.

The investigator, Field Service Director Frank McMahon, could not legally enter the property but he was able to determine that 30 to 40 dogs were being held in a shed with an outside run. Other dogs were chained around the property which was sealed off with a high chain-link fence and locked gates.

Florida Investigation

Plight of Everglades Wildlife Largely Ignored by Authorities

An HSUS investigation has confirmed charges that thousands of deer and other wildlife are starving in the Florida Everglades. The investigation also has revealed that the plight of the animals has been largely ignored by federal and state authorities.

As far back as 1946, the U.S. Department of the Interior reported that too little water was the major problem in the Everglades. At the time, state authorities called in the Army Corps of Engineers to build dikes, dams, and water control flues. The Corps is still on the job, but its bureaucratic and systematic construction work has failed to save the wildlife and the entire area.

In October and November, 1960, the Corps pumped water into a dry area of the Everglades just south of Lake Okeechobee. The pumping was followed by a heavy rainfall and the water level rose to nearly five feet. The deer herd, already diminished by 9,000 to 1960 to 2,500, was forced to flee to the remaining high, dry mounds of land known as "hummocks." The animals began to starve to death as there was little food on the hummocks.

In spite of the dwindling herd and this further serious threat, the Florida Game Commission allowed the hunting season to open on November 1. Hunters killed between 500 and 1,000 deer before public opinion forced the Game Commission to close the area to hunting. Claims by hunters that it was better to hunt and kill the deer than to let them starve to death were denied by the fact that mostly healthy deer were being killed.

In his January, 1970 investigation, HSUS Field Service Director Frank McMahon surveyed the area along the Tamiami Trail and deep into the Everglades. He confirmed the reports of grave danger to wildlife and said that "the devastation was dramatized by the sight of flocks of buzzards and other scavengers circling the flooded area."
Multiple Activities Spread Utah Branch Influence Statewide

Utah Branch influence is increasing across the state as Branch work expands in scope and depth. The Branch reports a very successful year in 1969 with many gains in the battle for animal protection. The activities included visits to elementary and secondary schools with talks and showings of the film, My Dog, the Teacher. Thousands of children were reached with the message of kindness and made aware of the responsibilities of pet ownership.

The Branch's continuing investigative work saved many animals from suffering and helped to educate the public to legal requirements for proper care and treatment of animals. There will be an in-depth examination of laws and local government as they affect animal rescue and control work. There will be instruction on how to conduct cruelty investigations and on the principles of evidence and prosecution.

Lengthy sessions on animal care and field operations are planned. Instructions will include principles of humane care and treatment, euthanasia, cleaning and sanitation, first aid for injured animals, and recommended vehicles, equipment, and rescue techniques.

Instruction will also be given on office procedures, personnel policies, membership training, bookkeeping, and maintaining accurate animal records. Further scheduled are intensive courses on animal behavior, education, publicity, and public relations.

Animal Seizure Forces Win Canadian Struggle

The HSUS went to Canada on December 9, 1969, to help the Ontario Humane Society fight an animal seizure bill. Frank McMahon, Director of Field Services, appeared before the Standing Committee on Health of the Canadian Parliament and urged that the measure not be adopted. He testified that animal seizure laws in the United States had produced a loss of public confidence in animal control programs and a similar situation would certainly develop in Canada.

McMahon also said that animal owners, not wanting to be responsible for sending animals to laboratories, will not report strays to authorities and will abandon animals on the roadside and in the streets rather than turn them in.

He urged that Committee members not be deceived by claims that research would suffer if the bill were not passed, pointing out that relatively few impounded animals are claimed by research facilities in the United States where such laws are in effect. In any event, McMahon stressed, the average animal in a humane society or public animal shelter is not suitable for research purposes.

Similar testimony was given by General Manager T. I. Hughes of the Ontario Humane Society. Mr. Hughes had requested HSUS help in fighting the proposed law.

Despite these strong efforts, however, the bill was reported favorably out of Committee. The HSUS has therefore recommended to the Ontario Humane Society to consider testing the constitutionality of the act in a court of law.

HSUS action in the case is part of the Society's continuing fight against animal seizure proposals.

The Society has campaigned against animal seizure proposals in many communities and states including Kansas City, Mo., Ithaca, N.Y., California, Maryland, and West Virginia.

NHEC Classes Filling Rapidly; Register Now

Courses of instruction in animal shelter and humane society operation scheduled for 1970 at The National Humane Education Center are filling rapidly. Humane workers wanting to take this valuable training should register now. There are still some vacancies for the next class which will be held on March 6, 7, and 8.

Ten major subjects will be covered in these courses. There will be a discussion of the purpose, function, policies and programs of humane societies and animal control agencies. There will be an in-depth examination of laws and local government as they affect animal rescue and control work. There will be instruction on how to conduct cruelty investigations and on the principles of evidence and prosecution.

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Education of children in humane attitudes offers the real hope for propagation of the humane philosophy. Help by organizing a HSUS Club in your own area. Write for details to The Kindness Club, National Humane Education Center, Waterford, Virginia 22190.

Hickel Yields to Cattle Barons But Provokes Strong Opposition From Animal Welfare Societies

On November 25, 1969, Secretary of the Interior Walter J. Hickel announced that public land grazing fees will remain the same throughout 1970. The statement indicated that the Department of the Interior had yielded to pressure from cattle and other livestock interests not to raise grazing fees.

The announcement provoked a storm of protest from The HSUS and other humane societies and concerned organizations. Just over a year ago, the Bureau of Land Management had proposed an increase in grazing fees in annual increments over a ten year period. The announcement was to reach a fair market value of forage grazed by cattle on public lands by 1978.

The grazing on public lands is closely related to actions taken by the federal government against certain species of wildlife. For example, The HSUS was forced to bring suit against the Department of the Interior to prevent slaughter of 200 mustangs in the Pryor Mountain range of Montana and Wyoming. The Department, yielding to livestock and hunting interests, had claimed that the range would not support the mustangs.

An HSUS investigation, however, revealed that the underlying reason for the Department's initial decision to destroy the mustangs was so that the range could be opened to Big Horn sheep which would, of course, be hunted.

The same cattle barons and vested interests that pressured the Department of the Interior into its decision against the wild mustangs continue to trap and destroy mustangs and other wildlife that belongs to the public and is leased by the U.S. Government.

The problem is widespread throughout the nation. The Department of the Interior and the Agriculture Forest Service jointly manage and lease 262 million acres of public lands. This vast acreage is leased to less than 35,000 individuals with an approximate return to the government of $8 million. Even though these lands actually belong to the taxpaying public, humanitarians and conservationists are constantly at war with the Department of the Interior to protect species of wildlife that live on the land.

The HSUS has urged Secretary Hickel to reconsider his moratorium on the increase in grazing fees and follow the schedule of increased fees established in 1968. The society is also urging that money received from leasing the 262 million acres be used to benefit public land through re-seeding and re-forestation programs.

Also, The HSUS is urging that a cabinet-level post be established as a Department of Animal Welfare and Wildlife to set up safeguards for proper administration and handling of wildlife and other animals on public lands.

Drive for Tule Elk Protection Gaining Ground in Congress

The drive to gain protection for the rare and endangered Tule Elk has gained considerable ground with introduction in Congress of a number of bills to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to study the feasibility of a national wildlife refuge to preserve the species.

The most noteworthy of these bills is S. 3026, introduced by Senator Alan Cranston of California. It is now pending before the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce.

The HSUS California Branch has been especially active in the campaign to help the Tule Elk. Working closely with the Committee for the Preservation of the Tule Elk, the Branch has asked Governor Reagan to establish a new policy for preservation of this species and all native wildlife.

In view of the introduction of Cranston and other bills in Congress, it is expected that state authorities will take a closer look at the situation and the demands of the HSUS Branch and the Committee for the Preservation of the Tule Elk.

The Tule Elk is smallest of the remaining elk species. Only about 300 are in existence. Incredibly, hunting Tule Elk is still permitted.
Protests to Alabama Officials Help Stop Cruel Coon Contests

Protests to Alabama authorities allowing coon-on-a-log contests have resulted in a new ruling by the state Attorney General and an investigation by the Department of Conservation.

The new ruling makes future coon-on-a-log and similar events illegal if the animal is tormented in any way. Assurance has been given by the Department of Conservation that an animal can be tormented “without ever being physically contacted by another animal such as a dog.” It is expected, therefore, that no future contests will be held since conservation officers will be on hand and the contests stopped if the raccoons are tormented.

The Alabama legislature does not meet again until 1971, but at that time legislation to stop coon contests will be introduced.

Governor Albert Brewer and Attorney General McDonald Gallion have won praise from humanitarians and humane societies for their enlightened response to protests. The protests came from the Alabama Federation of Humane Societies, the Birmingham Humane Society, The HSUS, and hundreds of humanitarians who read about the coon cruelty in articles by correspondent James Free in the Birmingham News.

Imaginative Humane Education Concept Succeeding in West

A bold new concept of humane education revolving around a modern Humane Education Center is succeeding beyond expectations in Novato, Cal. The Center and program, which is executed in close cooperation with the local school system, is run by The HSUS-affiliated Humane Society of Marin County under the leadership of HSUS President Mel L. Morse.

Nearly 5,000 children have visited the Center since the program began. The children have come from private and parochial schools and from schools for the physically and mentally handicapped. Camp Fire Girls, Boy and Girl Scouts, and other junior organizations have come to see the animals and listen to talks on pet care and kindness.

The Center has also become a focal point for teaching and studies of conservation extending beyond animals to the problems of water and air pollution and the proper use of our forests and land. Teachers, parents, students, and conservation-minded persons are being encouraged to participate in talks, meetings and discussions relating to these and other important subjects. It is hoped that this program will add effectively to the growing public awareness of the need to protect the natural environment.

Minnesota Regulates Snowmobiles; Branch Activities Helped

Activities of The HSUS Minnesota Branch have helped produce legislation regarding the use of snowmobiles in that state.

The activities included campaigns against the deliberate chasing and running down of foxes and coyotes to death and similar abuse to big game animals. The latter species, often close to starvation in northern states toward the end of winter, are sometimes left physically exhausted and close to death after laboring through deep snow to elude curiosity seekers.

HSUS Branch officials, seeing the snowmobile as a serious threat to wildlife, have been working to regulate its use. Other humane organizations and conservation groups have also been involved in the struggle. Regulations have been issued now by the Minnesota Conservation Department that include the registration of all such vehicles and a prohibition against driving, chasing, harassing, or running down “any protected or unprotected wild animals.”

About 100,000 snowmobiles are owned by Minnesotans and the effect of the regulations is expected therefore to be widespread. It is also expected that other states will soon follow Minnesota’s lead.

LABORATORY ANIMAL PROTECTION BILLS

You will be greatly helping the campaign for legal protection of laboratory animals by writing the following influential authorities urging that public hearings on laboratory animal legislation be held promptly:

Congressman Harley O. Staggers, Chairman, House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, Washington, D. C. 20515. (The Rogers bill, H.R. 12286, is pending before this Committee.)

Senator Ralph W. Yarbrough, Chairman, Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee, Washington, D. C. 20510. (The Javits bill, S. 2446 is pending before this Committee.)

Senator Warren G. Magnuson, Chairman, Senate Commerce Committee, Washington, D. C. 20510. (The Young bill, S. 3221, is pending before this Committee.)

Congressman W. R. Poage, Chairman, House Committee on Agriculture, Washington, D. C. 20515. (The Whitehurst bill, H.R. 13957, is pending before this Committee.)

President Richard M. Nixon, The White House, Washington, D. C.