Biomedical Research: The Demeaning of Man

By John A. Hoyt

On the evening of Dec. 5, millions of American viewers witnessed on their public television stations the activities and absurdities of a group of scientists conducting behavioral research on various primates at the federal government’s Yerkes Research Center in Atlanta, Ga. Produced and directed by Frederick Wiseman as part of his critical examination of American institutions, this documentary very dramatically records the agony and humiliation of monkeys, chimpanzees, gorillas, and orangutans as they are manipulated and ejaculated for purposes that are not always clear. Yet, in spite of the humiliation and disgrace which these various animals experience, it is the scientist here witnessed—and man, in general—who is even more demeaned. It is a resounding retrospection of who—or what—we have become.

Cruelly to animals in biomedical research and testing has been opposed by The Humane Society of the United States since its founding 20 years ago. While we have been successful in helping to obtain improvements in the treatment of laboratory animals, neither legislators nor the general public has been willing to confront the basic issue raised in Mr. Wiseman’s film: What is the meaning and value of basic research?

For too long scientists have enjoyed the luxury of doing their thing behind closed doors and, most often, they are doing it with public monies. Neither their objectives nor their techniques has had to stand the test of public scrutiny. Consequently, only rarely are they required to apply to their work ethical and moral standards other than their own. And it can hardly be expected that their subjects—most often animals—can offer a very effective protest.

Thanks to Mr. Wiseman, the curtain has been pulled back, if only briefly. We have seen our scientists on stage, and, with them, ourselves. For they are most surely the product of our expectation, our permissiveness, and our ignorance.

Two critical measures which will hopefully reduce and eliminate the suffering of laboratory animals are scheduled for introduction in the new Congress. Rep. William Whitehurst of Virginia will be sponsoring a bill to prohibit the direct or indirect use of federal funds to school districts which permit live animal experimentation in the classroom. Passage of these two bills will, in the final analysis, represent only miniscule gains for animals. But their enactment could represent a significant victory for man—the recognition that he has neither the liberty nor the license to disregard the rights of other creatures for his own satisfaction and purposes without justification more clearly enunciated than we have yet heard.
At Press Time...

HSUS Saves Exotic Birds

Pressure from HSUS brought the release of a large shipment of exotic birds destined for U.S. zoos that federal quarantine officials had detained following the mysterious death of two of the birds. Fifty-nine birds, including 17 rare Humboldt penguins, died during 5 1/2 months in an overcrowded Florida quarantine station while Dept. of Agriculture officials failed to find any evidence of disease. The surviving 174 birds were released to the zoos after HSUS threatened to have quarantine officials arrested on cruelty charges for failing to provide adequate care for the delicate species.

Frank McMahon Sidelined by Illness

HSUS Chief Investigator Frank J. McMahon has been confined to a hospital bed after suffering a mild stroke shortly before Christmas. Get-well messages may be sent to him in care of HSUS headquarters, 2100 L St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037. Herbert N. Martin, who was recently transferred from the HSUS West Coast Regional Office to the headquarters office, will assume McMahon’s duties during his convalescence.

Humane Education Seminars Slated for California

John Dommers, director of the HSUS Norma Terris Humane Education Center in Connecticut, will conduct a series of five humane education seminars in five California locations in March. The HSUS West Coast Regional Office is inviting teachers, directors of humane education of local societies, and representatives of municipal animal control agencies to attend. For further information, write the regional office at 1713 J St., Sacramento, CA 95814, or call (916) 447-3295.

Houston Selected as 1975 Conference Site

The 1975 HSUS Annual Conference will be held Oct. 16 to 19 at the Houston Oaks, Houston, Texas. Members and non-members are invited to attend. Details will be announced later in the year.

Stars to Serve as Agents To Protect Film Animals

The Humane Society of the United States has recruited movie stars and film technicians to act as undercover agents during the filming of movies involving animals to ensure that the animals are treated humanely. HSUS launched the campaign after determining that cruelty to animals during the filming of movies was on the increase. HSUS officials were particularly alarmed by reports they received from members of the film crew of "Jonathan Livingston Seagull" indicating that many of the birds used in the film were injured or killed during production.

Syndicated columnist Jack Anderson publicized these cruelties and HSUS plans to prevent similar incidents in a nationwide column published in 650 newspapers on Nov. 26. The column reads in part:

"The Hollywood makeup artists who bleached Jonathan Livingston Seagull's winged pals to make them white enough for the movies, reportedly succeeded in killing many of them.

The Humane Society of the United States, which has conducted a lengthy investigation, is so incensed over this and similar findings about other films that it has begun a secret infiltration of the movie industry. The animal lovers are using movie actors and technicians as undercover agents.

The "Seagull" movie's producer, Hal Bartlett, insists he is equally militant about the birds' welfare. Bartlett claims he spent a fortune to protect them during filming, even to the point of putting rubber gloves on a hawk's talons before it attacked a gull for one scene. The battle between humane associations and the filmmakers is as old as cowboys and Indians. In the 1930s, tripwires, called "running Ws," were widely used to tumble horses, buffalo, and cattle during gunfights and other violent scenes. More recently, chickens' heads have been shot off, mice stomped to death, sheep's throats cut, donkeys shot, and a goat decapitated, all on camera.

Earlier this year, the American Humane Assn., The Humane Society of the United States, and the Fund for Animals met privately with Motion Picture Assn. head Jack Valenti. Valenti promised to work with moviemakers to get voluntary reform. The Humane Society of the United States decided, however, to conduct its own investigation.

Based on memos, signed statements and tapes, some from those who worked on the film, the Society concluded that the gulls used in "Seagull" were bleached "too fast," killing at least two and probably many more. Some 88 of 113 birds suffered eye injuries and others were crippled "as a result of strings being attached to their legs to control them while in flight," witnesses said. "Birds (were) made to do difficult flying stunts and, as a result, crashed on the rocks and bled," the Society's secret report goes on.

It charges that some of the 50 to 100 bleached birds were treated with hair spray and that others were doused with a caustic so strong it burned handlers' fingers. In all, the Society's witnesses reported that bleaching, filthy accommodations, poor feeding, and movie stunts killed dozens of the gulls and may have permanently injured more.

As a result, The Humane Society is now enlisting several movie stars as spies. And Society investigators will shortly adopt undercover poses to get close to animals during filming.

A few weeks earlier, HSUS leaders found themselves in sharp disagreement with Valenti during a speech Valenti delivered to the 1974 HSUS Annual Conference. Valenti sparked the disagreement, which he said he believed the film industry would voluntarily fulfill its pledge to prevent cruelty to animals during movie production.

HSUS Vice President/General Counsel Murdough Stuart Madden declared that volunteerism has never worked in preventing cruelty to animals. "Legislations had to be enacted to force the meat industry into humane slaughter and to protect marine mammals, mustangs, and laboratory animals," he said. "We just assume the people in the movie industry are basically in the same position. They need to be regulated when their personal conduct is dependant upon their ability to make money by cutting corners in the humane treatment of animals.

Valenti said incidents of cruelty to animals occur because a few filmmakers remain careless in their attitude toward animals. "There exists among most filmmakers a humane ethic rooted in their instinctive revulsion to inflict abuse on animals," he said. "They act voluntarily out of this inner imperative."

HSUS President John A. Hoyt told conferees it was time for HSUS to make the film industry realize that "animal work would not be accepted at any price. We have acknowledged the fact that one of our sister organizations (the American Humane Assn.) was ostensibly involved with supervising and protecting animals used in films, but we have become increasingly uncomfortable with the effectiveness of their role."

HSUS Humane Society probing Hollywood

By Jack Anderson

The Hollywood make-up artists who bleached Jonathan Liv­

ingston Seagull's winged pals to make them white enough for the film were reported killed "too fast." Bartlett claims he spent a fortune to protect them during filming, even to the point of putting rubber gloves on a hawk's talons before it attacked a gull for one scene.

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The Calf Killings—
An Unnecessary Waste of Life

HSUS’s protests and threats of legal action were instrumental in stopping the spread of calf killings by demonstrating farmers last fall and prompted the use of more humane and less wasteful tactics.

When the first plans for a protest killing were announced by farmers in Texas, HSUS Gulf States Regional Director Douglas M. Scott publicly criticized the farmers and threatened to prosecute them under Texas anti-cruelty laws. Scott’s threat was reinforced by Humane Society members attending the HSUS Annual Conference in October when they passed a resolution denouncing the killing of any animal for publicity purposes and condemning the waste of “this protein so desperately needed in today’s starving world.”

The conference action was reported by both national wire services to news media throughout the nation. Organizers of the Texas demonstration postponed their killing indefinitely.

Wisconsin farmers, however, shot or slit the throats of 658 calves in front of a battery of TV cameras before the nation knew of their plans. HSUS General Counsel Murdaugh Stuart Madden sent telegrams to the governor and attorney general urging them to prosecute the farmers under the state anti-cruelty statute and to look into the possibility that the farmers had violated state anti-trust statutes.

“While it is one thing to sympathize with the economic plight of the farmers, it is quite another to ignore the fact that hundreds of young calves were cruelly and brutally treated,” Madden said in letters to Wisconsin officials. He said calves were treated cruelly by the following actions: (a) being callously loaded, many of them in gunny sacks because they were too young to travel; (b) being bounced across rural areas in trucks long before the usual age of transportation; (c) held at execution sites for hours and even days while political and publicity decisions were being made; (d) dragged and sometimes thrown from the back of trucks; (e) frightened by the sound of gunshots and the sight of other calves having their throats slit.

Madden sent similar telegrams to the governors and attorneys general of New York, Minnesota, and California as farmers in those states announced plans for similar protests. The California farmers cancelled their plans, citing the threat of a Humane Society lawsuit. Madden urged the U.S. Dept. of Justice to issue a warning to farmers that protest killings are violations of federal anti-trust laws in that the farmers are acting together to reduce the supply of livestock in order to force prices up.

Several groups of protesting farmers turned over calves to slaughterhouses and requested that the meat be donated to charities after the HSUS actions. Although the protests stopped by the end of the year, HSUS officials resolved to remain alert for any revival of the plans.

The resolution passed by the HSUS Annual Conference reads as follows:

Whereas, certain ranchers and dairymen have threatened to conduct mass executions of healthy calves to publicize the high price of feed (which they claim makes it unprofitable to continue to raise the animals), and the lack of response in Washington to their economic plight; therefore be it

RESOLVED that The Humane Society of the United States does condemn, and stands unalterably opposed to, the needless killing of any living creature when done solely for publicity purposes, or for economic or political recognition; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that HSUS also deplores and condemns the announced proposal to bury the carcasses and thereby waste this protein so desperately needed in today’s starving world.

Photo on facing page by Ernest Anheuser courtesy of Wisconsin Journal.
Dog Fighting, on the Increase, Poses Tough Law Enforcement Problems

The Solution: A Comprehensive Federal Law with Federal Enforcement

Dog fighting, one of man’s cruellest excuses for “sport,” is on the increase in the United States. The Humane Society of the United States is one of several animal welfare organizations that have been investigating this illegal activity for many years. Yet, in spite of the fact that dog fighting is illegal in all 50 states, HSUS has found it extremely difficult to fight a means of putting fighting dog breeders and fight promoters out of business.

The illegal activity, it is operated in a clandestine manner designed to exclude “troublemakers” like HSUS Chief Investigator Frank McMahon. Over the years McMahon has succeeded in obtaining underground dog fighting magazines, has made contact with some “informers” within fight circles, and has posed as a prospective pit bull owner in order to talk with breeders. For his efforts, he has had his life threatened, and dog fighters have singled him out for their worst expletives in local and national news interviews.

By Sen. Harrison Williams (D-N.J.)

Many years ago, a Senator eulogized the one, absolutely faithful friend a man can have is his dog.

It seems to me, unreasonable to many of us that men would abuse this unquestioning fidelity by inviting dogs to fight to the death in “sport” and promote a残忍 act for which they would have placed the savage “sport” of dog fighting among practices of slavery and medieval accoutrements. Dog fighters would have placed the savage “sport” of dog fighting among practices of slavery and medieval accompaniment.

Dog fighting involves extreme cruelty to animals. During the long training periods, smaller animals are sacrificed to arouse the dogs’ blood lust. Later, in the pit, fights lasting up to several hours often end in the death of one or both dogs. Some of those who have conducted extensive investigations into this issue have estimated that 75% of fighting dogs die either in the pit or as a result of their injuries.

There is a problem magnified by the accompanying likelihood of violence. It is often used in the state of fighting dogs in order to promote and enhance the appeal of “sport.” Whenever the apparatus is not sold, it may become insensitive to the suffering of animals and develop a diminished respect for life.

Society is further burdened by the illegal production, manufacture and sale of equipment. Gambling provides a considerable financial incentive to participants and spectators, and a criminal activity in which attendance at dog fights, may become insensitive to the suffering of animals and develop a diminished respect for life.

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Williams said. “I have been a crusader for animal rights for many years. My goal is to end the cruel and unjust treatment of animals in this country.”

The Humane Society of the United States, which represents the interests of animals, has long been involved in efforts to end dog fighting. The organization has worked with local humane societies, law enforcement agencies, and other animal welfare groups to raise awareness about the dangers of dog fighting and to advocate for legislation to make it illegal.

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Dog fighting is a brutal and inhumane activity that causes immense suffering to the animals involved. It is important that we take action to end this practice and ensure that these innocent creatures are treated with the care and respect they deserve.
The photo at right, John Macfarlane is about to receive a congratulatory kiss from Dr. Amy Freeman Lee upon receiving the HSUS Joseph Wood Krutch Medal. Looking on are L to R: HSUS Vice Chairman Everett Smith Jr., Mrs. Lynn Kluter, who received an HSUS Certificate of Appreciation, and HSUS President John A. Hoyt.

In the photo below, leaders of the Charleston (S.C.) KIND Branch pose with their HSUS Youth Recognition Award. They are L to R: Lynn Wigley, Erin Hussey, and Laura Mae Fraembes. HSUS Youth Div. Director Dale Hylton made the presentation.

1974 Annual Conference—Recognition of Leadership, Calls for Action

Calls for immediate action to halt animal cruelty in a wide variety of situations and the sharing of expertise in many aspects of animal welfare charac-
terized the 1974 HSUS Annual Conference. The conference, held in Oak Brook, Ill., last October, marked "Twenty Years of Progress" for HSUS since its founding in 1954.

A highlight of the conference was the presentation of the Society's highest award to livestock expert John Macfar-
lane for his lifelong efforts to obtain humane treatment of livestock. Macfar-
lane shared the spotlight of the Annual Awards Banquet with Illinois teenagers who accepted the first annual HSUS Youth Recognition Award in behalf of the Charleston KIND Branch for obtaining improvements in the city dog pound.

Calls for action came in the final session of the 3-day meeting, when HSUS members passed 13 strongly worded resolutions dealing with specific areas of animal abuse. One of the resolutions, condemning the killing of calves or any other living creature for publicity purposes, received nationwide attention after being reported by both the Associated Press and United Press International.

Other resolutions called for quick and direct action by HSUS to eliminate dog fighting in all 50 states, to ensure the welfare of animals used in the filming of movies, to support federal legislative efforts to ban the steel jaw trap, and to continue to develop and distribute innova-
tive humane education materials. Resolutions also called on HSUS to en-
courage federal and state agencies to broaden programs for protection and propagation of endangered species, to work for an end of the traffic in exotic species, and to get the federal govern-
ment to conduct more stringent inspec-
tions of animal dealers.

Other resolutions urged the federal govern-
ment to require that laboratory animals be exercised 7 days a week, directed HSUS leaders to continue a close surveillance of the development of a pre-slaughter pen for livestock, urged the expansion of programs to train veterinary technicians, directed HSUS to petition the federal government to retox its restrictions on the acquisition of euthanasia compounds, and encouraged the use of volunteers in HSUS programs.

Macfarlane, former executive director of the Council for Livestock Protection, received the HSUS Joseph Wood Krutch Medal for "significant contribu-
tion to the improvement of life and the environment." Macfarlane has spent al-
most 50 years working in the fields of animal psychology and livestock con-


The Charleston, Ill., youth group re-
ceived the first annual HSUS Youth Award after raising money for construc-
tion of walls around the open kennels of the city pound to protect the animals

from inclimate weather. The group was also largely responsible for getting adults of the community interested enough in animal problems to form a county humane society.

Also honored at the Annual Awards Banquet was teenager Mark S. Man-
giatico of West Hartford, Conn., re-
cipient of the annual Christopher Grattan Shaw Scholarship Award. The award, named in memory of the late son of Rear Adm. and Mrs. James C. Shaw, is given to high school students who have made outstanding contributions in animal welfare to encourage them to select careers in animal related fields.

During the conference, Coleman Burke, partner in the law firm of Burke & Burke at 1 Wall St., New York, was reelected chairman of the HSUS Board of Directors. Also reelected were: Vice Chairman Everett Smith Jr., business executive from Greensboro, N.C.; Secretary Amy Freeman Lee, Litt.D., author and lecturer from San Antonio, Texas, and Treasurer Oliver M. Evans of Washing-
don, D.C., former HSUS president.

John A. Hoyt and Patrick B. Parkes were reelected president and executive vice president, respectively. Both men serve as full-time leaders of the HSUS headquarters staff in Washington, D.C. Naturalist Roger Caras of New York, a consultant to HSUS, was reelected a vice president. HSUS General Counsel Murthaugh Stuart Madden, who is dis-
banding his law firm to join the HSUS headquarters staff, was elected to a vice presidency, also. Madden, who has led HSUS legal battles for the past 18 years, is a graduate of the Harvard Law School and was for many years chair-
man of the Legal Ethics Committee of the District of Columbia Bar Assn.

Elected to the board for the first time last October were: Anna Fesmire, Greensboro, N.C., vice president of the North Carolina Humane Federation and president of the Guilford County Humane Society; the Hon. Gilbert Guda, member of the U. S. House of Representatives from the 8th District of Maryland and a driving force behind the passage of the Wild and Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act; David Jencks, Pleasant Ridge, Mich., vice president and general manager of the Detroit Taxi Company; Sam Bowman, New York, partner in the brokerage firm of Tucker Anthony.

Copies of the following speeches delivered at the 1974 Annual Conference are available without charge from HSUS headquarters:

Keynote address by Amy Freeman Lee (see page 12); "Wild Cats: The Fight for Survival" by Michael Fox; Jack Valenti on cruelty to animals in movies.
On Bringing Man a Step Further out of the Cave

By Amy Freeman Lee, Litt.D.

Dr. Lee's essay, "The Human Mind," was chosen to receive the prestigious 1974 HSUS Animal Photography Contest with this photo entry. Fifteen photographers have been chosen to receive awards at HSUS's 1974 Animal Photography Contest. Judges Robert Glick, director of photography for the National Geographic magazine, and Bill Sneed, photographic editor for the Washington Post, sifted through thousands of entries to make their final selection.

The photo entries will be used in HSUS educational publications and will be invaluable in furthering the humane ethic. The winners are:

Domestic Animals Category—1st place, Ronald McNees, Kent, Ohio; 2nd place, Michael Savin, Seattle, Wash.; 1st honorable mention, James Riebel, Kalamazoo, Mich.; 2nd honorable mention, Jon Weiss, Littleton, Colo.; 3rd honorable mention, Brad Geyock, Blythe, Calif.


The human mind responds to crisis. Arnold Toynbee's A Study of History makes the point that "the greatest of all historical forces are set in motion when people decide to pit themselves against serious challenges. Human experience is not a closed circle. It is full of magnificent detours and sudden departures from predicted destinations...."

As an artist, if I were going to paint the portrait of man, I would depict the human family standing at the door of a cave. They would be looking out and up at their world in a slightly forward position to suggest that there is a definite, perhaps a necessary, move to get at least one part of one more toe on one foot outside the cave. In order to become a reality, it means that especially those of us involved actively in the humane movement will have to work on at least two fronts: simultaneously.

We must make every effort to prevent suffering and alleviate it in every individual act of cruelty that we know about, while at the same time we must strive passionately to provide humane education for the young. When trans­lated into human terms, the young constitute the future. I dare to be teleo­cosmic, for with our help I am confident that they will take the giant step and that mankind will then be able to concave and, instead, will be sans cave for the first time in recorded history!
Phyllis Wright Commends South Bend Innovation

HSUS animal control expert Phyllis Wright inspected the South Bend, Ind. animal control program last October and commended the city's expanded use of dog wardens as being "very innovative."

Visiting the city at the request of city officials, Miss Wright praised South Bend for being one of the first cities in the nation to tap federal revenue sharing funds for community animal control needs. Local governments such as South Bend, Santa Barbara, Calif., and Madison County, Ill., have used federal revenue sharing funds to expand dog warden services, to build animal shelters, and to reimburse pet owners for spaying and neutering. She said communities can also improve their own facilities by obtaining federal Model Cities money.

Castro Elected Governor

Former HSUS Director Raul Castro has been elected governor of New Mexico.

Court Orders Houston To Improve Shelter

In a precedent-setting decision, a Texas judge has ordered the city of Houston to fulfill its legal agreement to make improvements at the Houston Rabies Control Center, the city's animal control facility, or face contempt of court. HSUS and Citizens for Animal Protection, comprised of prominent Houston citizens, had taken legal action in 1973 to force the city to improve conditions at the center. The ruling is the first one in which a court has held that city officials have a "specific and certain public duty" to comply with both the spirit and letter of state laws designed to protect animals.

HSUS Accreditation

HSUS has received more than 65 inquiries for information about the Society's new accreditation program for animal welfare organizations and animal control agencies. For detailed information, write: Accreditation Program, HSUS, 2100 L St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037.

Hoyt Elected Officer Of World Federation

HSUS President John A. Hoyt was elected vice president of the World Federation for the Protection of Animals (WFPA) at its International Congress in Strasbourg, France, last September. HSUS zoo expert Sue Pressman addressed the Congress on HSUS progress in changing the concept of American zoos. The Congress meets every 4 years.

Staff Transfers

HSUS West Coast Regional Director Herbert N. Martin has been transferred to the headquarters staff in Washington, D.C., to serve as a national field representative. HSUS Rocky Mountain Regional Director Frantz Dantzler has been appointed to fill Martin's former position.

Morse Resigns

HSUS President John A. Hoyt has announced with regret the resignation of Executive Vice President Mel L. Morse, who has accepted the position of executive director of the San Dieguito Animal Care and Education Center at Rancho Santa Fe, Calif.

The Needs of Animals Will Continue Long After You Are Gone

Man's cruelty and irresponsibility to animals will not end in our lifetime. Long after today's humanitarians are gone, animals will need defenders and protectors.

The Humane Society of the United States will be happy to send you a booklet on how to make the best use of your animal welfare bequest.

Write in complete confidence to: Murdaugh Stuart Madden, Vice President/General Counsel, The Humane Society of the United States, 2100 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037.