Opposition to Drive Against Rodeo Cruelties Stiffens as Connecticut And Ohio Become Battlegrounds

The HSUS educational campaign to bring public attention to rodeo cruelties has finally brought out the big guns of the Rodeo Cowboys' Association.

Frank J. McMahon, Director of Field Services for The HSUS, reported that at recent tension-packed hearings in Connecticut and Ohio there were more cowboy hats in the hearing rooms than are seen at most rodeos.

McMahon, James C. Shaw, Executive Director of The HSUS Connecticut Branch, and others testified in favor of a bill which would ban bucking straps in Connecticut. Major opposition was registered by Senator Clem McSpadden, speaker pro-tem of the Oklahoma Senate, a director of the Rodeo Cowboys' Association, and a former rodeo announcer. McSpadden testified that bucking horses are the "aristocrats of the horse world" and admitted that rodeo has become a 3.6 million dollar a year business. The implication that a threat to this multimillion dollar exploitation of animals is posed by humanitarians genuinely interested in the welfare of rodeo animals was quite clear.

The Connecticut legislation is still under study.

A more crucial test in the battle between humanitarians and the Rodeo Cowboys' Association is being faced in Ohio. Two years ago Ohio passed the first statewide anti-bucking strap law in the United States. Since then, hundreds of animals have been spared the agony of the bucking strap in that state.

Recently, however, two bills were introduced into the Ohio legislature. One would completely repeal the original legislation and another would amend it to the point where it would be virtually meaningless.

(Continued on page 4)

BROWN TRIAL SET

The trial of Maryland dog dealer, Lester Brown of White Hall, has finally been set for April 17 after Baltimore County Circuit Judge John N. Maguire denied a defense motion to dismiss 22 indictments of cruelty to animals. The trial will be held in the County Courthouse at Towson.

A team of HSUS field men, state police, Baltimore County Humane Society workers, and representatives of Life magazine in January, 1966 raided a junkyard where Brown was keeping animals. About 100 sick,starving, and injured dogs and other animals were rescued.

Wisconsin May Act to Outlaw Walking Horse Cruelty, Other Abuses

The Wisconsin legislature is considering bills to outlaw fights between animals and cruelties in the training and exhibiting of Tennessee walking horses. A third bill that would strengthen existing anti-cruelty legislation is also before the legislature.

Assembly bill 371 will, if enacted, enable humane societies to prosecute effectively against dogfighting, cockfighting, bullfighting, and similar spectacles in the state. HSUS field work in Wisconsin shows evidence of breeding and fighting of cocks, in particular, and the new law would quickly end this cruelty.

On March 28, hearings were held on Senate bill 95 which is aimed at stopping "soring" of Tennessee walking horses. There is much optimism that this bill will become law. The Animal Protective League, Inc., of Milwaukee is doing a spectacular job of publicizing the cruelty of such brutal training and exhibiting methods as use of burning chemicals on the horses' feet, mis-shapen shoes, chains, and other devices.

The third bill, Senate bill 91, would give humane societies greater strength in prosecuting cruelty cases. It provides for deletion of the words "intent" and "intentionally" in present humane statutes.

Wisconsin humanitarians are encouraged to write letters of support to their representatives at the State Capitol in Madison.
Hylton Will Direct NHEC Activity During Crucial Development Period

HSUS President Oliver Evans has named Field Representative Dale Hylton to direct activities and programs of the National Humane Education Center during the critical period of its development. Hylton will assume duties previously assigned to Mr. W. Scott Mahoney who is no longer connected with The HSUS or the NHEC.

Hylton's main task will be to help develop and administer the programs now being planned for the Center. He will be responsible for expediting construction of the building complex, establishing a suitable animal control program for Loudoun county, and administering the Kindsose Club program throughout a five state area.

It is now expected that the first building, the shelter for small animals, will be completed in mid-summer. It will serve as a model small animal shelter and as a national classroom for educating shelter and pound workers. It will also provide urgently needed care for an estimated 9,000 animals annually in the northern Virginia area.

Complications in installing an adequate water system during the winter months. Heating and ventilation systems were affected because they couldn't be installed, or tested, until the water problem was solved. Lack of heat also prevented completion of flooring and interior painting and plastering.

Work is now being done on a suitable water system and these problems will be resolved when it is installed.

It is also expected that the minimum requirements for the first year of operation of the shelter will be about $46,350.

California School Test May Be Next Step in HSUS Education Project

HSUS President Oliver Evans has announced that the Society's research programs for the further development of humane education programs for elementary schools will probably be continued in the Marin County (Cal.) school system.

Evans said that he had met with Dr. Virgil Hollis, Superintendent of Marin County schools, and Dr. Stuart Wassert­land of George Washington University. Dr. Wassertland heads The HSUS project which is being conducted by the university's Graduate School of Education.

Superintendent Hollis enthusiastically endorsed the program and expressed willingness to text techniques, methods, and material in his school system. A noted educator, he believes strongly in humane education and participation in the program will contribute significantly to its success. Dr. Hollis first became interested through discussions with Mr. Mel Morse, Executive Director of HSUS Affiliate, the Humane Society of Marin County.

Ban on Electric Prods Sought in California

The HSUS California Branch acted quickly in late February to support Assemblyman Leon Ralph's bill in the state legislature to outlaw electric prods and electrocution devices on animals used in public entertainment.

Branch Executive Director Belton P. Mouras charged that prods are used extensively in rodeos and similar events. He stated that the devices were often applied to sensitive body parts to make calves bolt from the chute in rodeo events and to help force horses and bulls to buck upon release from the chutes. He asked that California humanitarians support the bill, A.R. 885, by writing their state legislators.

Study of Final P-M Regulations Shows Need for Strong, Federal Law Protecting Research Animals

Protection for laboratory animals remains the primary goal of the humane movement despite release, on February 24, of the final regulations under which the Poage-Magnuson act will be implemented. The reaction to the HSUS President Oliver Evans was that the regulations were "effective in a limited way." He commented that the protection they would give to dogs, cats, and a few other species was "miniscule" in comparison to the millions of research animals in thousands of hospitals, clinics, schools, and drug firms that would go unprotected.

"Without detracting from the excellence of this law as a means of dealing with cruel laboratory animal suppliers, the narrow limits set forth in the legislation must be realized," Evans said. "Complacency at this point would be easy—a complacency that would allow millions of animals to continue suffering. It would be natural to relax now and think we had done well because the protection of the Federal government. But, such an attitude would simply show a terrible misconception of the coverage of the new law and near fatal guiltiness in thinking that it does anything worthwhile for animals used in medical research."

While cautioning that further Federal legislation is needed, The HSUS reminds its supporters that a adequate appropriation that would ensure the maximum coverage of the Poage-Magnuson act won't be made until July. The initial appropriation of $300,000, allotted to implement the new law, has already been spent on establishing an administrative agency and drawing up initial and final provisions. A request for additional funds and passage of next year's budget was denied.

It is now understood that $1.5 million has been allocated from next year's budget for implementation of the Poage-Magnuson act but letters from individual humanitarians could help make this a reality. Such letters should be written to individual Representatives and Senators.

This is a rear view of the small animal shelter as it nears completion. It shows the cat area and adoption patio as seen from the road leading to the Center's Manor House. The shelter will provide protection for animals in Loudoun county while serving as a national classroom for humane workers.

State Supreme Court Upholds Verdict in N.J. 'Chicken Case'

The New Jersey Supreme Court ruled on March 20 that high school students could experiment on live animals for educational reasons.

In one sentence opinion, the court upheld the ruling of an Essex County Court that had approved cancer experiments on live chickens at East Orange High School. The New Jersey SPCA, prompted by The HSUS New Jersey Branch, had brought suit.

The state Supreme Court agreed with the verdict handed down by Judge Charles S. Barrett that institutions authorized by the State Health Department to conduct animal experimentation could not be prosecuted under general anti-cruelty laws. Judge Barrett had ruled that it was not necessary for high schools to have direct authorization from the Health Department as long as the experiments were "properly supervised in the interests of science."
Aiding Animals and Birds

The appeal stayed the order issued for return of the animals and the case has been continued until April 11.

U.S. authorities entered the case when a Federal game warden confiscated 24 exotic birds as illegal imports. U.S. Game Management Agent Holger Larsen said that, in his inspection of Roskilly's assortment of birds and animals, he found 22 dead birds, some illegal to import, possess, or transport. Larsen's action could mean that Roskilly will be charged with misdemeanor violation of the federal migratory bird treaty.

(Continued from page 1)

Rodeo Cruelties Drive Meets Stiff Opposition

After three days of stormy hearings held before Representative Howard A. Night, Chairman of the Transportation and Commerce Committee and a co-sponsor of both bills, the Committee reported out a bill which would legalize use of bucking straps on animals.

The legislation came out of Committee in the form of expert testimony by McMahon, Hugh McNamara, a Cleveland attorney representing the National Catholic Society for Animal Welfare, Ohio by Bruce Leheke of the International Animal Charity League of Youngstown, Ohio and several others.

Particularly effective was testimony given by Mrs. Elizabeth Sakach, for-merly a musician in a rodeo band. Mrs. Sakach traveled from Reno, Nevada, with photographs and 16 mm movies.

Senator McSpadden was joined in Ohio by Senator Jan A. Rhodes and their own Representatives to the Ohio Senate who in organizing pressure in both the Ohio legislature accepted and made the trip to Oklahoma.

Oliver Evans, HSUS President, speaking of the advances made in educating the public to animal cruelties stated: "We have made great strides in protecting rodeo animals through legislation, a campaign to the states and making the public aware of the advances made in educating and organizing pressure in both the state and national legislatures to protect rodeo animals."

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The HSUS New Jersey Branch is in the midst of a hot battle to defeat animal seizure legislation in the state.

Assemblyman Brigiani and several other legislators introduced Bill No. 696, which would require release from pounds and animal shelters of unclaimed pets to medical research. The bill was first referred to the Committee on Agriculture, Conservation and Economic Development, where it languished and was never heard. The legislation was greeted by animal welfare proponents, fighting bitterly, arranged for transfer of the bill to the Governor's office, headed by Assistant S. Howard Woodson. The battle has raged fiercely since this transfer.

The New Jersey Branch reports that the pound seizure bill was introduced as a countermeasure to The HSUS supported Carlson-Marzutti bill, A-410, an excellent dog licensing and control bill described in the last News. The attack on A-410 is led by Dr. Oscar Sussman, Department of Health, a long time advocate of surrender of unwanted animals to medical research.

HSUS Field Service Director Frank McMahon is working with Branch President Jacques Stichel and Executive Director Donald Maxfield to defeat the seizure law and develop greater support for Assembly bill 410. McMahon has publicly attacked past administration of existing dog laws under Dr. Sussman, whom he labeled "no friend of pet owners." The Department of Health has consistently shown a "lack of interest in the welfare of pets in New Jersey" and that pet owners have been denied their right of reclaiming pets under state laws.

Maxfield joined with McMahon in condemning the New Jersey commercial dog-wan system. He emphasized that passage of the Brigiani bill, A-696, would force pounds to become suppliers of animals to research institutions and would establish a low price for animals that can be bought and sold.

In a late development, Governor Richard J. Hughes is reported to be arranging introduction of a compromise bill aimed at halting pet theft. The compromise bill, however, is expected to contain a provision that would force the surrender of unwanted animals to laboratories and to keep administration under the Health Department.

Humane Societies Fight Bullfight Promoters Across the Nation, Win Victories in Florida, New Mexico

Promoters of so-called bloodless bullfighting have lost two more rounds, and seem certain to lose more, in their efforts to introduce these spectacles across the country.

A firm called C. E. America, Inc., sought to stage "bloodless" bullfights in Maine, Massachusetts, and Nevada. The HSUS encourages all humanitarians in these states to express support to state legislators.

The Maine bill is identified as House Bill 3169 and is currently in the Senate. The Senate bill 152 and is worded clearly to eliminate such a state law. This means that state legislators in Washington should continue to receive letters opposing such legislation.

No public hearings have so far been scheduled on pound seizure legislation in San Diego County despite repeated requests by The HSUS California Branch and other humane societies and individuals.

Slaughter Law Passed in Indiana: Defeat Predicted in Other States Despite Vigorous State Campaigns

Indiana has become the 20th state to enact humane slaughter legislation. The Indiana Federation of Humane Societies, the Marion County Humane Society and the Tippecanoe County Humane Association (both HSUS Affiliates), and other HSUS branches and friends in the state played a prominent part in the victory.

Extensive distribution of literature on slaughterhouse cruelty was credited with awakening people in Indiana to the need for a state law. Massive mailing campaigns by organizations and individuals and a unified front paved the way for passage of the badly needed law.

The well organized campaign illustrates graphically what can be done against tremendous odds when humane action is carefully planned.

Humane slaughter bills in other states seem faced with almost certain defeat.

In New York, highly organized opposition by Jewish organizations and packers serving the kosher market has slowed progress towards elimination of packing plant cruelties. County humane societies is delaying legislation almost as much as the opposition. State legislators have been bombarded with mail in favor of slaughter legislation, but there were widely different bills before the legislature, and supporters were divided. The HSUS supported the Stafford bill (Intro. No. 732) in the Senate and the buckle bill (Intro. No. 5522) in the Assembly.

In Missouri, Jewish organizations opposing humane slaughter legislation succeeded in frightening legislators with talk about the bill being harmful to the Jewish community that their possible successors are in no position to assure the Jewish community that their possible successors...
HSUS California Branch to Host National Leadership Conference

The HSUS California Branch will host the Society's 1967 National Leadership Conference which will be held on October 13-15 at the Newporter Inn, Newport Beach, Cal. Preparations are already underway for what is expected to be the largest and most constructive meeting of humane leaders this year.

Main topics planned for discussion and action include campaigns to block pound seizure laws, outlaw rodeo cruelties, obtain legal protection for laboratory animals, expand protection for food animals slaughtered in packing plants, defend wildlife, and examine the potential of the Poage-Magnuson act with the legislation in mind.

There will be invaluable “workshop” roundtables. Experts will discuss some of the daily problems met in humane society operation, and ideas on how best to handle these problems will be exchanged.

There will also be the usual big annual banquet with plenty of entertainment and a stimulating speaker. The banquet is scheduled for Saturday night, October 14.

This is the second time that The HSUS has gone to California for an annual conference. Newport Beach was chosen because of its proximity to Los Angeles and because it offers recreational opportunities such as golf, boating, surfing, swimming, water skiing, and sightseeing.

Newporter Inn is a distinguished all year hotel with spacious rooms, each with its own lanai balcony overlooking Balboa Bay or the pool area. Room and banquet reservations should be made through The HSUS, using the coupon below. Charges for rooms, and meals other than the banquet during the Conference, will be paid directly to the Inn.

There is direct bus or helicopter service to the Newporter Inn from Los Angeles Airport. Those wishing helicopter service must make reservations at the same time that they make their airline reservations to L.A. Airport. Such reservations can be made by your airline ticket office or travel agent.

Conferes are urged to arrange their schedule so that they arrive on Thursday night, October 12.

Everyone is invited, even if not a member of The HSUS. Plan to bring some friends and make the trip a part of your vacation.

The Humane Society of the United States
1145 Nineteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

Please register me for the 1967 HSUS National Leadership Conference, reserving me a place at the annual awards banquet and requesting room accommodations as checked below.

Enclosed is my registration and banquet fee, $10.

SINGLE OCCUPANCY BEDROOM @ $13 per day □
TWIN OR DOUBLE OCCUPANCY BEDROOM @ $18 per day □

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Testimony of Dog Law Agents Helps Animal Supplier to Win Case

After hearing nearly four hours of testimony, Alderman Mahlon E. Shapiro dismissed cruelty and dog law violation charges against Dierolf Farms, Inc., a large Pennsylvania supplier of animals to research laboratories. It was at least the fifth time that Dierolf Farms, Inc., had been charged with cruelty. The court action, reported in the last HSUS News, had been filed by Dr. Robert H. Witmer, Lancaster (Pa.) surgeon and associate professor of surgery at the University of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Witmer's complaint alleged that caging facilities at the Dierolf kennel were inadequate, many dogs had open sores and conjunctivitis, and the general condition was terrible. Despite his allegations, two agents of the Pennsylvania Agriculture Department, which is charged with enforcement of the 1965 Dog Law, testified they had observed no violations when they accompanied the doctor to the kennel.

The dog law agents’ testimony and dismissal of the charges against Dierolf Farms gave new emphasis to HSUS criticisms of appointed agents and lack of enforcement of the state law. The Society has publicly and repeatedly requested that dog warden positions be converted to civil service status and enforcement be tightened. Field Service Director Frank McMahon has been sent frequently into the state to investigate cruelty cases in which action should have been, but was not, taken by dog law agents.

An earlier conviction of the Dierolf firm on animal cruelty charges was appealed and is pending in Berks County Court. In the meantime, it is understood that The HSUS will continue its attack on cruel dog dealers in Pennsylvania and bring public pressure on officials to change the present, unsatisfactory administration and enforcement of the dog law.