Congressional Committee Hears Laboratory Reform Demands as New Senate Bill Is Introduced

The humane movement forcefully presented its demand for a federal law regulating laboratory animal use to the Subcommittee on Livestock and Grains of the House Agriculture Committee on June 8 and 9. The bill under discussion was introduced by Congressman G. William Whitehurst of Virginia.

This bill seeks humane care, housing, and treatment of animals used in biomedical research by broadening Public Law 89-544, the laboratory animal welfare act. Principal supporting testimony was given by the Animal Welfare Institute and The Humane Society of the United States. Other humane societies and individuals also testified.

Your Society offered amendments to the bill to make it as strong as the Roger-Javits bill, now hopelessly hogged down in the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee. We urged provisions be included to provide for collecting and disseminating research information, reducing duplication of experiments, developing and using substitutes for animals, and encouraging improved techniques for reducing pain.

Opposition to the proposed law came mainly from Dr. Helen Taussig who represented the American Heart Association. She claimed it would put a heavy burden on medical research and cause interference with research programs.

(Continued on page 7)

Hoyt Elected to World Federation’s Council

John A. Hoyt, HSUS President, has been elected to the governing Council of the World Federation for the Protection of Animals.

The specific function of members of the Council is to help plan the direction of the Federation’s animal protective work, especially in areas where the Federation can help national humane movements. It is expected the closer cooperation that will now exist between the Federation and The Humane Society of the United States will produce significant benefits in the work of both organizations.

The World Federation for the Protection of Animals has its headquarters in Zurich, Switzerland. It enjoys consultative status with UNESCO and other agencies of the United Nations.

Other HSUS officials who are members of the Council are Mel L. Morse, Vice President and Oliver Evans, Director.

Humane Experts Band Together to Crusade For Slaughter Laws

Under the auspices of the HSUS, a national council has been formed to campaign for humane slaughter legislation in New York and other states where there is no such law.

The group is known as the Council for Livestock Pre-Slaughter Legislation. It will work to end the cruel practice of shackling and hoisting conscious animals prior to slaughter. It is expected the Council will campaign to eliminate the amendment to the 1958 Federal Humane Slaughter Act that exempts ritual slaughter of food animals.

The Council and virtually all humane groups recognize the kosher kill is humane. They do not recognize the painful packing house practice of shackling and hoisting conscious animals since it is no part of the ritual requirements of any religion. It is a modern, high speed method of bringing animals into position for the kill.

Since humane handling pens are available for processing large food animals and research is underway on a pen for small animals, the need for allowing kosher packers to be cruel in a way denied to other packers is ended. The newly-formed Council will work toward stopping suffering in all slaughter houses.

Jo Morgan, counsel for the American Humane Association is President of the Council. HSUS President John A. Hoyt has accepted an invitation to serve on the Advisory Committee.
Drive to Stop Cruel Traps Continues to Gain in New Jersey

Thanks to the good work of the Wildlife Preservation Committee of The HSUS New Jersey Branch, the drive to outlaw use of cruel traps in the state continues to gain ground. Municipalities and counties have passed the ordinance in the Township of Mahwah banning use of spring traps within the populous sections of the community. This brings to 17 the number of municipalities that have a restrictive or total ban on use of steel-jawed traps. Significantly, about 10 of these ordinances have been passed since the Branch established its Wildlife Preservation Committee under the chairmanship of Mrs. Valerie Maxwell of Oradell.

The crusade has reached into the state legislature. The Senate has already passed four bills by Senators Woodcock, Knowlton, Dickinson and Schielle that would sharply restrict and control trapping in the state. Much cruelty and suffering will be stopped if the bills are passed.

Now in the Assembly, the bills are numbered S-706, S-707, S-708 and S-709. New Jersey humanitarians should write their Assemblymen at once urging support for this important legislation. Assemblymen may be addressed at State House, Trenton, New Jersey 08625.

Humane Societies Win Big Court Victory Against Rodeo Interests

The affiliated Animal Charity League, Youngstown, Ohio, and The HSUS fought a successful court action against rodeo interests promoting a series of events in the state. In Youngstown, the board of the Animal Charity League, under the leadership of President, has already met once prior to the legislature against the bill. He worked with Dr. F. L. Thomsen, President of Humane Information Services in St. Petersburg. He worked also with officers of the Florida Federation of Humane Educators and National Humane Societies. Meanwhile, other humane organizations have come to Florida's Bloodless Bullfight Law Is Pressing Illegal

In passing a law earlier this year to allow so-called bloodless bullfighting, Florida has taken a step backward and, at the same time, given the humane movement a very serious challenge. The law permits the use of "bloodless" bullfighting, rodeos, and trained animal acts from existing anti-cruelty legislation. It removes any legal restraint in three areas of animal exploitation where cruelty almost always occurs.

With other humane organizations, The HSUS fought to prevent passage of this permissive law. Field Service Director Frank McMahon went to Florida to testify before the legislature against the bill. He worked with Mrs. Jean McMurro, Executive Director, National Humane Education Center's livestock group is a lamb, welcomed here by Roger Caras (left), HSUS Director, while Board Chairman Coleman Burke and NHEC Administrative Assistant Donna Shapiro look on.

Testimony for Horse Bills Unfolds Ugly Picture of Cruelty

The Subcommittee on Public Health and Welfare of the House Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee held hearings on September 21 on bills to end the "swining" of Tennessee walking horses. As humane society representatives testified, an ugly picture of abuse and cruelty unfolded. Time after time, spokesmen pointed to cruel training techniques used by unscrupulous trainers to force Tennessee walking horses to gait as desired. The HSUS Field Representative John Larcoue told the Subcommittee that more often than not the walking horse performing in a ring, with forelegs thrown high and white boots flashing, is doing so because its front feet have been mutilated to where it cannot bear its own weight on them.

"It has been impossible to control the abuse of these animals under state or local anti-cruelty laws," Larcoue said. "Legal action in past years under anti-cruelty laws was largely unsuccessful.

The Senate has already passed the Tydings bill, S. 2543. It is being considered by the House of Representatives along with other similar bills, H.R. 1415 and H.R. 13979. Humanitarians can help by writing to their Representatives.

State House, Trenton, New Jersey 08625.

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Humane Educators have been published.
Seal Hunt Brutality Reaches New High; HSUS Asks for Immediate Relief Measures by Government

Your Society has again asked the United States government for immediate relief measures to stop the suffering of seals taken in the annual hunt in the Pribilof Islands. The new demand was prompted by a report from the on-the-spot observer Frank J. McMahon, who witnessed the hunt this year.

McMahon was sent to the hunt to make sure recommendations to relieve suffering made by your Society in past years were carried out. He found, instead, the hunt was more brutal than ever and the U.S. Department of the Interior had complied with few of the recommendations which they themselves had agreed to.

For example, the Department had taken no steps to shorten the length of drives from rookeries to the killing fields. They had done little work in removing obstacles like volcanic rock masses which cause stress to the seals during the drive. They had not provided a “relief” club to give a rest break to men wielding the clubs so their accuracy would be improved. No attempt had been made to reduce the number of seals to be killed at one time, even though a smaller number would lessen suffering made by your Society in past years were carried out.

McMahon strongly protested the Department’s failure to provide these relief measures. He condemned especially the inaccuracy of the clubbers, pointing out that in some cases seals had to be clubbed four or five times before they succumbed.

“I witnessed one clubber,” McMahon reported, “who on separate occasions hit a seal a glancing blow and had to chase the animal through the rest of the hunting party and club it a second, and even a third, time.”

This report contradicts publications and statements by the U.S. Department of the Interior and the Foake Fur Company, which are trying to lull the public into thinking the seal hunt is humane. They both claim this so-called “harvest” is a great conservation effort, the salvation of the seal herd. As long as the Interior Department drags its feet on adopting relief measures and eliminating the present method of clubbing, your Society will continue to publicly attack and condemn it.

We have reported in past News bulletins that testing of a humane method of slaughter has been conducted by a team of scientists at the Virginia Mason Research Institute, Seattle, Washington. This testing began in 1968. Some of the tests showed promise; yet the U.S. government continues to move at a snail’s pace in this direction. Meanwhile, hundreds of thousands of seals continue to suffer.

As you know, we stoutly oppose the clubbing of seals to death. We would as firmly oppose the entire seal hunt except that its total abolition would be the worst possible thing we could achieve. The 1911 international treaty now protects the seals by strict controls and has enabled them to increase from 216,000 to 1½ million animals.

If we succeeded in abolishing the seal hunt, this treaty would automatically take effect and the herd would quickly become extinct when deprived upon by today’s modern super powered fishing fleets.

The best way we can help alleviate the suffering of seals on the Pribilof Islands is by working passage of S. 3596, a bill introduced by Sen. Charles Goodell of New York. The Goodell bill, if enacted, would require that the United States Department of Agriculture develop a humane method of slaughtering seals before the beginning of the 1972 sealing season. Everyone concerned with this major animal welfare problem should support this legislation.

As reported in earlier News bulletins, S. 3596 is currently in the Senate Commerce Committee. You can help by writing to the Chairman, Sen. Warren G. Magnuson, United States Senate, Washington, D. C. 20510. Please ask him to set an early date for hearings.

(Editors note: Lack of space does not permit us to publish the full background of the international treaty and the history of the Northern Fur Seal. We have prepared a detailed fact sheet, however, and we will gladly send a copy to anyone who requests it.)

Licensed Dog Dealers Under Investigation Following Complaints

An HSUS investigation conducted by Field Representative John Larocque indicates that some USDA licensed dog dealers are maintaining sub-standard and inhumane holding facilities.

Larocque has visited the premises of several federally licensed dealers. He found dogs being kept under cruel or insanitary conditions. Dogs which appeared to be sick were housed with healthy dogs. There were piles of trash, filth and animal excreta.

Many laboratory animal dealers licensed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture also act as dog wardens for local areas. HSUS plans to take strong legal action against USDA and dog dealers if and where necessary to require dealers to follow Federal Humane Standards.

LATE BULLETIN

Congressman Lowell P. Weicker, Jr., of Connecticut has introduced a bill to require the Secretary of Transportation to establish regulations for the humane care and handling of animals transported in air commerce. A law of this kind is badly needed since our efforts to stop abuses in this area on a voluntary basis have not been successful.

Support the Weicker bill by writing your Senators and Representatives.

Also, help us develop strong testimony for this legislation by sending us your immediate information on cases of cruelty to animals in transit, as requested on page 8 of this News.
Concern for Imperiled Wildlife Grows Popular

Many things are happening that show the public's increasing concern for imperiled species of wildlife.

The Furriers Joint Council of New York State, an affiliate of the United States Publicly agreed “no longer to cut or fashion” skins of endangered species like leopards, cheetahs, ocelots, and jaguars. It is believed this agreement will end the manufacture of coats from pelts of such species in the United States.

While New York’s Mason Act ends the manufacture and sale of these articles in that state, the significance of this agreement is that members of the Furriers Joint Council would be barred from working on such projects across the United States. Outside New York, the bulk of this work is done in Chicago and Los Angeles.

The Furriers Joint Council is affiliated with the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America. Together they have a membership of 11,000 who treat and fashion pelts for the garment industry.

In Massachusetts, a coalition of environmental groups proposed a ban on polar bear rugs, crocodile shoes, alligator handbags, cosmetics, and other products made from endangered wildlife.

The ban, in the form of a bill now before the state legislature, is similar to the New York Mason Act. Although it would not prevent the Massachusetts big game trophy hunter from going on safari to shoot endangered species, it would serve as a legal weapon that cannot be ignored.

While this is going on, designers and manufacturers of synthetic furs like Nasel and Tolk, are T.E. Timme & Sons, Inc., of New York, are spending considerable money on advertising their products, which replace natural furs.

The HSUS is encouraging promotion of synthetics because it believes, in the final analysis, curbing the market for natural furs is the best way to stop the commercial exploitation of imperiled wildlife.

Simulated furs, like cheetah-type coat featured above, are winning acceptance. Famous stylists are using them. Many fabrics outwear and outperform natural furs.

HSUS Moves to Save New York’s Mason Act

Humane and conservation organizations hailed with enthusiasm the Mason Act, enacted in New York earlier this year. The Act is the toughest passed anywhere in the world’s endangered species of wildlife.

This law decrees that sale within the state of New York is banned of items made from the skin body of alligators, crocodiles, tigers, leopards, cheetah and other spotted cats.

Your Society, and many other organizations determined to end needless exploitation of wild animals for the vanity of people, strongly supported the New York Mason Act. It was passed without passage put in the forefront in the worldwide effort to prevent the extinction of some species of wildlife.

New York Supreme Court Justice Francis Moran subsequently ruled the law unconstitutional. He made the ruling from another challenge to the Mason Act by the A. E. Nettleton Company.

We urged top legal authorities in New York to appeal Judge Moran’s ruling. In letters to the state Solicitor General Miss Ruth Toch, and Attorney General Louis Lefkowitz, HSUS President John A. Hoyt pointed out: “A. E. Nettleton Company has sold, or is attempting to sell, pelts of either alligator or crocodile hides, even though they claimed the loss of this bill would cause them a particular hardship in their challenge to the Mason Act. It is our understanding that the hides used for the shoes they manufacture come in straight from the alligator, also listed as an endangered species. We further understand the challenge of the A. E. Nettleton Company concerned the loss of current stock and not the company’s future ability to sell.

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Congress Considers Protection Bills for Laboratory Animals

(Continued from page 1)

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Dr. Maurice Vischer, President of the Animal Protection Foundation, and John A. Hoyt, the Executive Director of the Humane Society of the United States, were scheduled to appear before the subcommittee of the Senate Agriculture and Forestry Committee, headed by Senator Warren G. Magnuson.

This new move is meant to speed up passage by the Senate of the Foley bill if it is enacted in the House of Representatives. Time in this session of Congress is at a premium. The prior introduction of a bill in the Senate will hasten the legislative process.

The Cranston version, in comparison with the Foley bill, exempts local retail pet shops. This is not an objectionable exception since it is virtually certain the Foley bill would not pass with this provision.

The Cranston bill also excludes farm animals and farm animals used for nutrition work. The Foley bill excludes farm animals but does not exclude those involved in nutrition or other experimental work. At this time it is most unlikely any law would be passed that would specifically exempt livestock involved in this kind of research.

From your Society's viewpoint, the most important difference in the two bills is the Cranston bill exempts state and county fairs, rodeos, and purebred dog and cat shows. We don't feel these events are the一样 exceptional in terms of animal welfare. We do feel these events must be dealt with by state authorities.

It should be noted the House of Representatives and Congressmen Foley and Warren G. Magnuson have already promised to continue investigations and warned charges of cruelty to animals would be placed against federally licensed dealers acting under the guise of dog wardens or poundkeepers. The investigations took place in Maryland, West Virginia, California, and other states. There were no violations of state laws or questionable activities by dealers in all four states and none were revealed to the USDA officials.

USDA representatives promised cooperation in dealing with offenders. They pointed out, however, shortcomings in the law that limit their jurisdiction. They argued that violations of state law must be dealt with by state authorities.

Senator John A. Hoyt, your Society’s President, called the meeting of investigators by Field Service Department agents showed illegal and inhumane traffic in dogs and cats by federally licensed dealers acting under the guise of dog wardens or poundkeepers. The investigations took place in Maryland, West Virginia, California, and other states. There were no violations of state laws or questionable activities by dealers in all four states and none were revealed to the USDA officials.

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Educators Exposed to Humane Materials at Big NEA Conference

The HSUS and the National Humane Education Center jointly sponsored a booth at the annual conference of the National Education Association held in San Francisco in July.

The purpose of the booth was to distribute humane education materials for school use to teachers, principals, superintendents and other educators. Personnel from the national HSUS staff, the California Branch, and the Humane Society of Marin County, Cal., manned the display, talked with teachers and gave out educational kits.

About sixty percent of teachers visiting the booth signed up for additional literature. There were over 400 requests for the Teacher PETS series alone. Requests were received from 46 different states, the only exceptions being New Hampshire, Oklahoma, Delaware and the District of Columbia.

It is felt this type of exposure will greatly help to gain acceptance in school systems for material aimed at inculcating humane attitudes in children. Your Society intends to continue such displays as funds and opportunity permit.

You Can Help

We are gathering information about cases of abuse to animals during shipment by air or otherwise. If you have had such an experience, or if you know anyone who has, please write us. We need detailed information on each case—date and time of shipment, type of animal, airline or other transportation company, what happened to the animal, response to your complaint to the transportation company, etc.

We expect soon to begin a major effort to force transporters of animals to handle them humanely and provide proper accommodations for them. Any information you can give us about past abuses will be most helpful.

Courses in Shelter Management Drawing Praise Nationwide

Courses in shelter and humane society management at The National Humane Education Center continue to grow in popularity and draw praise from students who have attended from many parts of the country.

"I want to thank HSUS and The National Humane Education Center for the opportunity to again gain knowledge and help in dealing with some of my problems," writes Robert E. Reynolds, Animal Control Officer for the City of Portsmouth, N.H.

Pearl Krupp of Teaneck, N.J., tells us she returned from the seminar "all fired up with enthusiasm" and expressed thanks for a "wonderful and inspiring two days."

From Charles R. Moeser, President of the Humane Society of Glynn County, Ga., comes this praise: "Mrs. Moeser and I both agree that our trip to the Education Center was without doubt the most important contribution we could ever make to our local humane society. It was for us not only absorbing but most instructive and cannot help but prevent mistakes that we would have made otherwise."

Miss Doris J. Casey writes from Philadelphia, Pa., "I gained much insight into humane work and the dedicated people connected with it, and enjoyed it tremendously. It has proved to me what I have been thinking for quite some time—that this work can be fun as well as interesting."

If you are in any way involved in humane work and haven’t looked into this valuable course, you are missing a great opportunity to gain expertise in handling animals and effectively dealing with the many problems of humane society and animal shelter management.

The next seminar is scheduled for November 13-15. Applications are now being taken. Write to Miss Phyllis Wright, Executive Director, National Humane Education Center, Waterford, Virginia 22190.

Kindness Club Reports Show How Members Help Many Animals

Reports from Kindness Clubs across the country show that the children who are members are helping animals and spreading the message of kindness in many different ways. Many of the reports are heart-warming in their sincerity and genuine concern for the cruelties and injustices that are inflicted upon animal life.

From the Appaloosa Branch Kindness Club in Fishville, La., comes word of a big campaign to remove a state bounty on the red wolf. The children noticed the red wolf is listed by the U.S. Department of the Interior as endangered. They started a letter-writing campaign and got publicity in local newspapers. Now the status of the red wolf, the peregrine falcon, and the Florida panther is being re-examined by the Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission and there is state legislation pending to protect them.

The Harp Seal Kindness Club of Chevy Chase, Md., has been gathering petitions against the clubbing to death of seals. In addition to writing letters to authorities and Congressmen, the children were featured on television. They are now working in support of the Goodell bill which, if enacted, would stop the clubbing by 1972.

The Palominos Branch Club at Leesburg, Va., held a sale of homemade items and was able from the proceeds to make a sizable contribution for the protection of animals in North Africa.

Other clubs are distributing posters on animal welfare, raising money for humane work, writing letters on humane topics, and doing a great variety of things to help the cause.

Your Society urges you to consider organizing a Kindness Club in your own area.

Write today for full information to R. Dale Hylton, Director, The Kindness Club, National Humane Education Center, Waterford, Virginia 22190.