(No. 32) -- Alternatives to the Decompression Chamber

Humane Information Services, Inc.
Opportunity to the decompression chamber of the human being in euthanasia is so many shelters and pounds has been steadily growing. The City of Dallas, Texas, has passed an ordinance prohibiting use of the gas chamber. This was possible to improve operation of the chambers, suffering on the part of a significant number of animal and other out-of-pocket expenses of personnel competent to use some of these more humane methods of euthanasia. If he throws the switch on the decompression room run around with tails wagging, curiously sniffing the pile of dead dogs in the corner, coming over to be petted, and infuriatingly gets out of order. It is by far the most convenient method.

Convenience. This undoubtedly is the most influential criterion. Most other criteria are taken into account in choosing a method. In fact, in many cases it is a secondary consideration. Other criteria frequently assigned greater importance are:

1. Conveniences. This is the most influential of all. Cost is a related consideration. It is the cost of materials, the cost of labor, and other out-of-pocket expenses. It is the requirement per animal. Which affects the efficiency of labor and the overhead per animal.

Sodium pentobarbital and other drugs including sodium pentobarbital. Those of millions of animals. Then, does this not become the universal method for euthanasia? There are two reasons: (a) a combination of several of the criteria previously discussed; (b) the federal Drug Enforcement Administration regulations which tightly restrict the distribution and use of all narcotic drugs including sodium pentobarbital. This subject, as well as "practical" objections, may be left to the coming.

Meanwhile, we notice that shelters in this country which are determined to use this humane method somehow manage to do so. And other shelters which employ full-time veterinarians would have no difficulty in obtaining sodium pentobarbital do not do so.

(See ALTERNATIVES, page 2, column 1)

Miss Martha Cox writes: "I want to offer my most heartfelt thank you again for your help and for the very fine information you sent us regarding the decompression chamber. This was of great help to us in our (successful) fight to outlaw the chamber... So, thank you again for your help and for the very worthwhile work you're doing," Dallas attorney-at-law Robert J. Matlock wrote: "Your publications were of great aid to us in the passage of the ordinance."
ALTERNATIVES - FROM PAGE 1

We further state with great confidence that if the humane movement really wanted to see this method become generally adopted, they could take the steps necessary to make the drug available.

Actually, the professional shelter managers--their employees, the public, and people not on the directors, of humane societies learn enough about euthanasia to be able to meet these arguments. It may be that what is needed is to do more to make the people understand what is possible. Possibly the directors, of humane societies learn enough about euthanasia to be able to meet these arguments against euthanasia. But in favor of other methods will they be successful in forcing paid staffs to sub- mit to the pressures of management. How many of them will be able to find the necessary information is in this series of articles. The latter may be boring, and deal with the most intractable and most complex problems of humane care.

There are scores of other drugs the potentialities of which for euthanasia have never been considered. The potentialities are far greater than the availability of funds and qualified personnel to discover and test these drugs for this purpose.

You don't have to take our word for it. William V. Lamb, D.V.M., Ph.D., in a paper read at the 111th AVMA Annual Meeting in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1974, said "Unfortunately, little research has been done to substantiate the use of these drugs in the treatment of animals."

You could help by sending a generous donation to the 111th AVMA Annual Meeting, in case the search has been done to substantiate the use of these drugs in the treatment of animals.

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As a result of increasing restrictions on the purchase and use of barbiturates, a considerable number of non-narcotic injectable agents for euthanasia have entered the market. These include the infamous curare-like compound and other undesirable drugs. All of these are related and discussed in a recent article in this series.

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Humane Information Services, Inc.

WHAT IT IS

Humane Information Services is a non-profit humane society incorporated under the laws of Florida, and its headquarters offices are in St. Petersburg, Florida. Now and in the future, we will continue to exist despite the fact that its founders happen to live there. We are a national society with members in every state. In fact, we have more members in number of other states than in Florida.

WHAT THE NAME STANDS FOR

The name of the society was selected to distinguish us from the ordinary highly competitive national humane societies. It describes what we set out to do: provide information about humane problems and alternatives to the general public, to local humane societies and to other humane societies as well as individual humanitarians in improving the effectiveness of their activities inasmuch as that is possible. This implies a wholesale rather than a retail operation. We were set up primarily to serve the needs of those huma­nely active in human work. We do not deal with individual animals or cruelty cases. That is not our job, but is the responsibility of local societies.

WHAT IT OPERATES

The controlling officers of some of the societies have seemed to operate pretty much on the basis of some very decided personal "hang-ups", rather than a broad understanding of the humane movement to deal with them. In fact, some of these leaders at times have been involved in what amounts to an almost pathological animosity about certain subjects, losing the objectivity and calm analysis of thought that are so badly needed for improvement is to be achieved. This has been especially important in creating an unfavorable public image for the humane movement. Humane Education is one of the many areas that seem to be conducted for the benefit of their founders or officers than for really helping the animals. This animosity has been referred to as "the great animal society ripoff." We have discussed this subject frankly in a series of articles appearing in our Report to Humanitarians.

The staff members of national humane societies frequently indicated the required training. They have come, generally, from two sources: (a) workers who have gained the skills needed in the local hu­mane society animal shelters, whose problems are quite different in many respects from those of the national societies; (b) with little experience in the kind of activities necessary for successful development of humane programs. Among the deficiencies of staff have resulted all too frequently in highly atomistic organization and conduct of national hu­mane work.

The founders of Humane Information Ser­vices believed that they had much to offer in helping to correct these glaring deficiencies of the humane move­ment.

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HOW IT OPERATES

Humane Information Services operates in four fields: (1) an extensive educational program of humane programs, (2) programs to obtain adoption of these programs, (3) services to other humane societies and hu­manitarians, (4) humane education.

Research and Development of Humane Pro­grams

Effective humane programs can be con­ducted only on the basis of adequate facts, objectively and competently analyzed. For example, for decades the hundreds of local humane society animal shelters and public pounds have been destroying millions of unwanted dogs and cats each year. The methods and data used for this so-called euthanasia have been de­veloped in a more or less individualistic, haphazard fashion, mainly by people with out technical training and without any real research and analysis of alterna­tives.

Humane Information Services has under­way an ambitious program of research de­signed to develop accurate, comprehensive facts and methods of humane euthanasia and many other difficult technical prob­lems encountered by the humane movement.

Campaigns to Obtain Adoption of Programs

It is not enough to develop good humane programs. It is not enough, in most cases, only through vigorous cam­paigns to obtain public understanding of the problem and to promote action. This is done by means of our Report to Humani­tarians, a quarterly publication which goes to nearly 16,000 humane societies and humane leaders in every country and abroad, and by other contacts with local soci­eties, public officials, community leaders

animals cannot be rectified without appro­priate humane legislation. Humane Information Services, like other tax-exempt soc­ieties, does not engage in legislative or political activities. However, under the provi­sions of the Tax Reform Act of 1969, which imposes strict limitations on activities which are defined as "immoral, illegal, or against public policy", we are enabled to provide analyses of humane problems which imply the need for legislative ac­tion. All activities which may be construed as legislation, including assistance to legisla­tors in drafting bills, bringing public pressure to bear on public officials, and influencing the half of the bills, and direct lobbying ac­tivities, must be conducted by those few humane organizations incorporated espe­cially for those purposes which are not tax exempt, and contributions to them are not tax deductible.

Services to Other Humane Societies and Hu­manitarians

Humane Information Services operates on an extensive communication with other hu­mane societies, public officials, and indi­vidual humanitarians. This is designed to provide them with answers to specific questions not carried in our regular reports, to aid them in making policy deci­sions, and to help guide the activities of societies carried on by individual workers in the field.

Human Education

There are three kinds of humane education: (1) that designed to improve the understanding of humanitarians, especially society directors and officers, of humane problems and alternative methods of deal­ing with them. This is the most important kind of humane education, because without it the work of humane societies or programs in which the general public can participate. (2) That designed to educate the general public of the interrelations among people and animals, conditions which re­sult in unnecessary animal suffering, and the responsibilities in these respects of citizens, teachers, churchmen, business­men, public officials and legislators. (3) Education of children designed to in­fluence the "human ethic," as a part of
Humane societies have seemed to think that "humane education" consisted primarily of the exchange of leaflets and other materials among humanitarians. Real education of the public is very much needed, but merely to circulate literature among them regarding such things as the need for neutering dogs and cats gets us nowhere. They are already familiar with these simple ideas, and no action stirred up by any such exchange of humane literature will add to the greatness of people with sufficient force to do any good. All that is accomplished by such an effort would be to be sufficient to make any significant impression on the vast, hard-to-impress public. Soap firms spend millions on advertising just to increase their percentage share of the market by a point or two. Obviously, we have been getting nowhere with humane education of the adult public. And, although there has been much interest in the need for reaching children, so far this has been confined largely to the talk stage. Obviously, although humane education is the key to changing public attitudes toward animals, we have little or no idea of how to scratch the surface. This failure is reflected in people's attitudes toward animal cruelty, as brought out in the article in this issue, "Why People are Cruel to Animals." Humane Information Services has under development several unique projects in this important field.

INFORMATIVE PUBLICATIONS
The publications of Humane Information Services are very different in both format and content from those of any other national society. We use as our primary form of publication a simple, inexpensive newsletter format. These publications are printed on the same big offset presses that are used to print newspapers, and are disseminated free of charge among fellow humanitarians and the general public. We benefit from the same low rates paid by such publications. We are able to do all of our own typesetting, binding, and preliminary tickets of the present secretary-treasurer, who has no independent income.

NO PROFIT PROVISIONS
(Article X of Bylaws)
Section 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of these bylaws, no part of the net earnings of this corporation shall be devoted to the personal benefit of any member, director or officer.

Section 2. No incorporator, director or member shall have any vested right, interest or privilege of any kind, whether or not such right, interest or privilege may be transferable or inheritable, or which shall continue if his membership ceases, or while he is not in good standing.

EXCERPTS FROM A FEW OF THE MANY HIGHLY COMPLIMENTARY LETTERS FROM READERS
"You are producing exceedingly valuable information—much needed and very hard to come by—in the areas of humane concern."—A California humanitarian.

"I really am learning a lot from your work."—A humanitarian in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

"Human Information Services, Inc., has got to be the greatest publication in the field of humane education in this country."—A Virginia humanitarian.

"You are supplying the biggest need of the animal world. Thank you for a wonderful job."—Official of a dog club in Maine.

"As usual, your work is quite helpful. Head and shoulders above anything else. HIS is a real inspiration to us all. Thanks again."—President of a local humane society in Florida.

"Your services are unbelievably good, unbelievably useful: intelligent, informed, and honest to a degree no other humane organization has managed to reach, I believe, and I belong to a good many of your clients."—A humanitarian in California.

"The information in your reports is always available whenever I’m in a hassle on humane issues. I can depend on getting the clearest, most concise information from you. And I’ve received many helpful tips and information."—A Wisconsin humanitarian.

"I believe that yours is the kind of voice needed desperately in the humane movement."—A humanitarian in Michigan.

"Just a word to tell you how wonderfully your latest report, again!"—A humanitarian in Paris, France.

"Hang in there! Of all the organizations you surely are the best and get at the whole truth."—A French humanitarian.

"There is no doubt that the Humane Information Services’ report plays a prominent and almost unique role in providing well-balanced, informative and constructive commentaries on the many problems which beset the animal welfare movement. I think Humane Information Services deserves the moral and financial support of all individuals and groups involved in, or interested in, the welfare of animals."—General manager of a humane society and animal shelter in Ontario, Canada.

ed team. As a result, we now do, within a few days, what formerly took a roomful of volunteers working frantically for several weeks.

Report to Humanitarians
This is our principal publication, which also "carries" the inserted publications of other types. It has had an amazingly good reception, by the humane movement, as indicated by the brief comments elsewhere on this page, excerpted from one of the very large volume of informative letters we receive. These excerpts are not included just to brag about our accomplishments to ourselves, or to anyone else, but to show how others feel about the material presented. We hope you will read these excerpts.

Next About Animals
This publication is designed for the general reader who is not at all informed about humane matters, and who would be puzzled and perhaps bored by our other, more serious publication, Next About Animals. The messages it carries are simple, and more entertaining than the serious analyses. Much of the material is from the publications of humane societies located all over the world. This gives readers an insight into what humanitarians are doing in many different parts of the world. We hope you will read the following excerpts.

EXCERPTS FROM ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION AND BYLAWS
Note: These excerpts are selected as they most importantly indicate the purposes and financial integrity of the society.

PURPOSES OF THE CORPORATION
(Article II of Charter)
Section 1. The over-all purposes of this corporation are the prevention of cruelty to animals and the relief of suffering among animals.

DIRECTORS
(Article V of Bylaws)
Section 1. The concerns, direction and management of the affairs of the corporation shall be vested in the Board of Directors.

Section 2. Any voting member is eligible for election as a director, except that no person employed by or receiving a salary, or from this corporation or any other humane society, or for any significant income from the exploitation of animals, may be a director; and from this provision the Secretary of the corporation shall omit if this provision the Secretary of the present secretary-treasurer, who has no independent income.

HUMANE PROGRAMS
In trying to redirect the attention of humane organizations and humane leaders from the many minor, inconsequential episodes of cruelty to animals, toward the big, important humane problems, we have realized and extended the principle of the basic concept which should establish priorities for the use of our humane resources.

One source of animal suffering may be ranked according to its importance, based upon three facts: the total number of animals involved; the average amount of suffering per animal; and how much of the total suffering involved might be eliminated over a period of the foreseeable future by the effort of the humane movement. This concept is capable of conducting. These conditions determine the total amount of animal suffering involved, and it is not advisable, even if appropriate programs are adopted.
People are cruel to animals; not just a few individuals, but whole societies. It is not the exception, but the rule, that the most brutal acts of cruelty are directed against animals, not only by individuals, but by governments and industries. The reason for this is simple: animals have no power to defend themselves, and cannot enforce laws to protect them. Humans, on the other hand, have the power and the ability to protect themselves and enforce laws. Therefore, humans are more likely to be cruel to animals than to themselves.

In the essay "Why People are Cruel to Animals," the author argues that the reasons people are cruel to animals are manifold. They include a lack of empathy, a sense of entitlement, and a failure to recognize the value of animals. The author cites examples from history and current events to illustrate the point. For instance, the author notes that in the Middle Ages, animals were used as sources of entertainment, and that in modern times, animals are used as sources of food, clothing, and labor. The author concludes that the only way to stop the cruelty to animals is to educate people about the value of animals and to enforce laws that protect them.
Cruel to Animals — From Page 5 — personality, as a mathematical genius with a passion for clear thinking on the one hand, and a profound knowledge of the other as a loyal Catholic genuinely attuned to traditional theolo­gy. One can only speculate about what Descartes's influence can be attributed to. Perhaps, it was the particular focus on the animals' feelings that he had not been so intensely religious.

Descartes "really abandoned altogether the metaphysical dualism of man and ani­mals, " says Whitehead, "is only a differ­ence in degree."

"If the assumed degree of physical understanding is sufficiently great, it is easy to reach con­clusions as to total equality of man and animals."

The intrinsic locus of the brain in the higher order of mental ac­tivity. The difference between the cortex total to cortex, in addition to the total cortex area, might be taken as a good indica­tor of mental ability. This percentage is about 10 percent for the rat, 50 percent for the cat, 75 percent for the monkey and 85 percent for man. The whale and dolphin have a greater amount of intrinsic cortex than man, and about the same ratio to total cortex as do monkeys and chimpanzees. Whales, dolphins and porpoises are said to have brains, aside from size, that are very much like our own. The serial cortex is convoluted similarly to the brain of man. All of the brain characteristics that roughly parallel the proportional intelligence from mouse to rat to rabbit to dog to monkey to chimp to human, continue to progress to higher levels from man to whale.

Thus, the biologists and other sci­entists who have forced upon us the idea of evolution, as well as those who have developed the concept of the evolution of intelligence which brought us to study the differences in the intelligence of different species, have been of primary impor­tance in molding attitudes toward life and animals.

The neurophysiologists have explored in great detail the differences and similari­ties of human and animal brains. Various bases for the differences have been pro­duced in this area of thought if he had not been so intensely religious.

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Thus, the marriage of religious dogma and humanism, as well as the influence brought, for a time, general agreement on the ontological dualism of man and ani­mals, and the status of the latter as mere "lost souls" to be concerned with imme­diate matters. Evolutionism and Descartes's work more effectively than metaphysical critique had managed to do.

"Evolutionism assumes...there is no clear, distinct break in the great chain of animal beings. The more complex arises not Advertising for a simpler and less complex. For modern scientists the differences between man and other forms of life are more of degree of complexity than con­trast."

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ALTERNATIVES—FROM PAGE 2—
could cause the current to take an alter-
cative course and not pass through the
head, and the substitution in some of the
cases of an insulated metal, in the place of
the leg electrode (to save time in
attaching the latter) could cause the
current to bypass the brain should one of
two things happen: either the electrode
develops a short, or a Canadian shelter manager has devised a
simple restraining apparatus to
prevent the dog from engaging an electrode by
shaking the head.

According to the OBSAUV, it was only
after Ms. Ruth Harrison, well known in
the Little Book, Quarterly, published by
and, John Bryant, both lay persons, exerted
pressure on the BCSPCA did it take the
step further. Miss Harrison has been
quoting the British Veterinary
Society in defense of the cabinet's humane-
ness. Something to give pause to those who in
clude the Catholic, the American
Information Services, the AVMA panel's
approval of the decomposition humane.

Since only a few of these electrocution
devices had been sold and used in the
United States, and apparently none remains
in stock at the American Humane Association
on are concerned these events served only
to emphasize the importance of looking before
leaping into any, and adopting any
method of euthanasia.

In Canada, however, which tends more to
follow British practice, which had adopted the electrocution method.
Humane Information Services has a substan-
tial coverage in Canada, and to some
members of the organization was asking
questions about the Electrician. However, it
was one of our members in faraway
Northwestern Ontario who we are indebted for the article which
appeared in the London OBSAUV,
and the possibility that the same situation might prevail in
Canada as in Britain before the above
events, we got in touch with Tom Hughes,
executive director of the Ontario Humane Society, whom we have found to be
very knowledgeable and concerned about humane
matters. It appears that the Canadian
friends, at least those in Ontario, have
been on top of the situation.

In Ontario, dogs used in laboratories were either purchased from Britain and modified
before being put into use, or made in Can-
da's by Vancouver Industrial Controls, which
were later disposed of. We are not sure of these units. Mr. Hughes says: "I am ab-
solutely satisfied that the units we oper-
ate in Ontario are in every respect with the specifications stipulated by the
British Standards Institute pamphlet

The Ontarians have gone even farther.
The Veterinary Services Branch of the Min-
istry of Agriculture and Food has issued a recommendative circular on "Euthanasia of Dogs by
Electrocution," which goes into great de-
tail about how such machines must be
equipped and/or operated. The require-
ments apparently conform fully with
BSI 2909. (It is interesting to note that
under the authority granted to the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, the use of
decompression chambers. Chambers for-
merly in use have been scrapped.)

Moreover, the Ontario Humane Society
transquilizes the dogs before electrocuting them, which reduces to a minimum any psy-
chological trauma.

SHOOTING
Another physical method of euthanasia is
shooting.

This is by all odds the most humane
method, with the exception of properly-
administered injections of sodium pento-
barbital. It produces, as the previously-
discussed, no apparent pain at the time.

Mr. Freiligh's experience shows that
even an emotional animal lower shooting need not be a "brute" method of euthana-
sia, but perhaps on the least brutal of
all except expert injections of a barbiturate.

Some humane society people with whom we have discussed the subject object to
shooting ostensibly because of the possi-
bility of missing the animal's head with the first shot, only wounding the animal.
This can only result from lack of proper
controls. But even if the animal is not killed, the shock which would produce instant shock with little or
no pain perception. People who have been wounded, who tell us they felt no pain at the
time.

The biggest problem with shooting, if
the number of animals to be destroyed is
large, is the speed with which it can be
done. In some smaller shelters the operator merely aims at the animal's head from the periph-
eray of a circle, the man in a good marksmen, this may be satisfactory,
but in most cases care must be taken to
restrict the circle to the head before shoot-
ing. Dogs may become very excitable if
their heads are held immobile, and may
even become panicky. Humane Information Services seems to be the largest proponent of the method, for
which we have not yet found a satisfactory
solution.

The possibility of ricocheting bullets also
is mentioned as a disadvantage of
this method. But bullets are available
which flatten out when they hit a solid
object, even before reaching this danger.

Objections to shooting based on practi-
cal feasibility or volume of animals to be
destroyed, are dismissed as groundless.
The job can be done just as rapidly as by any oth-
er method, especially in small and medium-
volume shelters.

Other objections raised are the presen-
tce of some blood, the noise of the shots,
which may be as high as 15 cents per ani-
mal. Also, that the animal is not completely
out of consciousness.

Most of these objections appear to be
merely rationalizations made by humane
society people, who I believe fear public reaction. People, espe-
cially animal lovers, instinctively react
with horror at the idea of deaths by
shooting. When an item appears in the pa-
per that "officer O'Brien dispatched the
badly-injured animal on the spot by a
well-placed bullet," and the killer is a re-
volver," many people say, "now brutal!" Ap-
parently they would prefer the suffering
dog to be placed in the trunk of the offender's car and trans-
ported to the office of a veterinarian, perhaps to wait all night the fatal injec-
tion of barbiturate.

People do not object to an officer
dealing with a vicious wild dog by shoot-
ing it with a shot-gun, to put an end to the imbuc-
ually succinylcholine chloride, thence to be
transported to the shelter or pound, and
later killed with decomposition or gas
chamber. But shooting a dog in the spot? Ugh!

The real difficulty is that the public has been
brought up to believe that haphazard events that hap-
pens to their unwanted pets taken to the
shelter or picked up in the street.
"You'll do what, doctor? who the hell are you?" they ask anxiously when they bring in
the box of puppies or kittens. Until recently, shelter receptionists nearly al-
cy to tell the truth who would en-
courage abandonment (not to mention loss of disposal). What some shelter managers
and more, humane societies and public
pounds are coming around to the view that
such substrates only serve to perpetuate
the American pet animal surplus. Their
idea is to get these animals into the hands of a constantly-growing pet animal surplus.

A policy of complete frankness about
euthanasia will in the long run do much more good than harm. It extends to the method of euthanasia used.

An experienced and dedicated humane so-
ciety manager has written us that an ar-
ticle replied: "I, too, believe in being frank and honest, but at times one does
have to pay attention to the emotional re-
action of the public. I believe that writers
have a more complete understanding of this, as we, as poor devils in the field do,
and the animal welfare worker's job is to
make shooting reaches your subscribers!"

We appreciate his warning, but claim the few "poor devils" in the field who had
greater exposure to animal lovers' emotions than we have. Doc has been vil-
ified by those who disagree with his posi-
tion on laboratorv animal regulation and a
cient methods, but we still be-
lieve that the best policy is to tell the truth and let the chips fall where they may.
First, however, we make every effort to
insure that "the truth" is based on all the available facts and their honest and
objective analyses. This is why we have drafted of this articles for review by
knowledgeable people with different back-
grounds and viewpoints.

To continue using a less humane method of
killing animals merely because of se-
curity reasons is only to perpetuate the word "shooting." Some humane
societies and public pounds use the method.

We may have discussed the subj ect object to
the terms of the American Federation of
Humane Societies, which flatten out when they hit a solid
animal. The job can be done just as rapidly as by any other method, especially in small and medium-volume shelters. Other objections raised are the presence of some blood, the noise of the shots, which may be as high as 15 cents per animal. Also, that the animal is not completely unconscious.

Most of these objections appear to be mere rationalizations made by humane society people, who I believe fear public reaction. People, especially animal lovers, instinctively react with horror at the idea of deaths by shooting. When an item appears in the paper that "officer O'Brien dispatched the badly-injured animal on the spot by a well-placed bullet," and the killer is a revolver," many people say, "now brutal!" Apparently they would prefer the suffering dog to be placed in the trunk of the offender's car and transported to the office of a veterinarian, perhaps to wait all night the fatal injection of a barbiturate. People do not object to an officer dealing with a vicious wild dog by shooting it with a shot-gun, to put an end to the imbucually succinylcholine chloride, thence to be transported to the shelter or pound, and later killed with decomposition or gas chamber. But shooting a dog in the spot? Ugh!

The real difficulty is that the public has been brought up to believe that haphazard events that happen to their unwanted pets taken to the shelter or picked up in the street. "You'll do what, doctor? who the hell are you?" they ask anxiously when they bring in the box of puppies or kittens. Until recently, shelter receptionists nearly always believed that to tell the truth who would encourage abandonment (not to mention loss of disposal). What some shelter managers
Dear Readers:
The two articles found on pages 3-4 and 5 of this issue of Report to Humanearians which are now out of print, are intended for new readers.

The first article serves as our "brochure," to introduce newcomers to Humane Information Services and Report to Humanearians. It is essential that we accustom and expediently printed brochures of other societies, they may wonder whether they are still in operation. We need to present ourselves in the simplest and most direct way of introducing ourselves. The simplest way is to devote our expenditures to printing brochures not pleasing the aesthetic sensibilities of people. Our members have repeatedly expressed approval of our inexpensive but practical, easy-to-read format.

There has been a steady demand for the article on "Why People are Cruel to Animals," so those who oppose the use of live animals, so those who oppose the use of live animals, may have shorted it to run with our "brochure." Perhaps some of our long-time members also would like to re-read this discussion of some of the basic conditions affecting man's treatment of animals.

POSSIBLE FUNDS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SHELTERS

According to a letter to Stanley T. Browne, director of the Division of Animal Welfare of the Maine Department of Agri­culture, 3,000 acres of suitable land on a public health veterinarian for the City of Dallas, Texas, the Dallas City Council approved the purchase of revenue sharing funds for a new animal shelter. Although there are no federal funds specifically set aside for animal shelters, apparently, civic groups and foundations can authorize the use of federal revenue sharing funds for this purpose.

Browne observes that this might be one solution to be considered by towns and cities faced with the problem of providing an animal shelter to serve their communities.

FLORIDA BANS DOGFIGHTS!

As we go to press, the Florida legisla­ture has passed a bill to ban dogfighting and associated evils in that state.

As originally introduced, this legisla­tion would have included a ban on cockfighting. This went through the House and a Senate committee, but was eliminated by an amendment on the floor of the Sen­ate. The legislation was approved by a vote of five to one. Floor debate in both branches of the legislature disclosed strong support for fighting in some Florida rural counties and in Miami, where Cuban emigres are said to enjoy the "sport."

Our sister society, the National Asso­ciation for Humane Legislation, and the Florida Federation of Humane Societies put on a vigorous campaign for this legisla­tion.

Another bill, which was intended to ban the use of a certain animal, or a certain animal's horns, was buried in committee. An attempt to change by a floor vote. Floor debate in both branches of the legislature disclosed strong support for fighting in some Florida rural counties and in Miami, where Cuban emigres are said to enjoy the "sport."

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COST REVISION IN DICTIONARY

During the annual meeting of the 94th Congress it has been preoccupied with legis­lation relating to the economy and for­eign problems, and nothing of substance has been brought up. Legislation in the following field. Hopefully, this situation will hold during the latter half of the year and during the year 1975, and we may see more activity on humane problems.

The National Association for Humane Legislation informs us that just as soon as the 94th Congress adjourns, we will publish the 1974 edition of the National Association for Humane Legislation Digest, which will be sent to its paid members and to all humane societies on the mailing list. If anyone else wishes to receive the Digest or con­tribute to NAHL, write: National Associa­tion for Humane Legislation, 675 Third "RIPOFF" APPEAR LATER

Because of our urgent need for reprints of the two articles which appear on pages 3-6 of this issue (it costs much less this way than to reproduce separately), we had to postpone the full article in our series on "riloffs" in the humane movement. It will appear in our next issue.

A few of our readers have done some real research on humane organizations they suspected of being ripoffs, and have produced some shocking revelations. We thank them for submitting this material, which will be used in future articles. But we still have a long way to go. We simply can't risk expensive court action. If we didn't amount to much, financially and professionally, they would not be suing. Even notice the attorneys' fees, running into hundreds of thousands of dollars, for defending some of these former public of­ficials who are selling their new "headline? Even if you win, you lose!

No Ripoff Here!

The operating statement for Humane In­formation Services, Inc., for the year 1974, shown below reveals that we believe the legalists call "best evidence" that there is no ripoff connected with HIS! Only because of voluntary, non-receired, non-paid ser­vices by our principal officers, and the exercise of other stringent economies of operation, is it possible to maintain the society's high level of accomplishment. Humane Information Services spent dur­ing 1974:

- Automobile expense $ 619.48
- Building expense 92.34
- Depreciation 890.15
- Equipment maintenance 402.26
- Insurance 150.50
- Miscellaneous expense 224.00
- Office supplies 635.28
- Postage 1,851.53
- Publications -- printing 1,239.82
- Taxes -- Social Security 512.33
- Travel expense 144.97
- Utilities 311.06
- Wages and salaries 8,284.10

Total expenses 10,416,957.84
This amount came from:
- Dues and contributions $ 11,109.09
- Other income (non-recu­ring income) $ 3,246.75
quarters, interest from savings, etc.) 5,246.75
- Total income 11,652.84
- Balance of non-recurring income placed in continuum fund $ 1,177.93
- Total current and non-recurring income $ 17,835.77

When the organizers of HIS incorporated the society, and during the subsequent years in which it has operated, Dr. Thom sen gave a large donation, speci­fying that it was to be used to purchase an of­fice building and initial equipment, the remainder of which was invested in a contingency fund of cash-equivalent securities and savings. The income and principal of this fund have been augmented by annual additions from non-recurring income such as bequests, was to be used to meet temporary annual operating deficits, annual purchases of capital equipment, or other capital expenditures.

The wisdom of this conservative financial pol­icy is evident in the continuance of HIS, despite the utmost economy and maximum use of voluntary services, the regular income from the society's contributions was $5,346.75 below expenses. This amount had to be taken from some non-recurring income that otherwise would have gone into the contingency fund of the latter makes it possible for us to budget right up to or slightly beyond expected regular operating expenses without creating infrequent fluctuations in operations.

But we cannot continue indefinitely to run an annual "surplus" deficit like that of 1974, which reflected a much-needed ex­pansion of our field operations. We sin­cerely believe that HIS gives more results per dollar invested in the reduction of animal suffering, than any other national society in the country. Won't you help to avoid contraction of our oper­ations and a Senate committee, but was eliminated by an amendment on the floor of the Sen­ate. The legislation was approved by a vote of five to one. Floor debate in both branches of the legislature disclosed strong support for fighting in some Florida rural counties and in Miami, where Cuban emigres are said to enjoy the "sport."

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