Congressman Rogers Requests Letters to President on Lab Bill

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Florida Federation of Humane Societies in Fort Lauderdale, Congressman Paul G. Rogers, author of HR 13168, asked for support for his bill. Mr. Rogers said that a stronger laboratory animal law is needed because existing laws do not cover the “most critical period” for the research animal—the time it actually undergoes experimentation.

He explained further that HR 13168 would expand coverage of Public Law 89-544 from just dogs, cats, monkeys, hamsters, guinea pigs, and rabbits to all warm-blooded animals. He urged that individual humanitarians and organizations interested in obtaining strong protection for research animals should write immediately, supporting HR 13168, to President Lyndon Johnson, White House, Washington, D. C.

The HSUS and most of the humane movement support Mr. Rogers’ bill.

Discussions Now Underway to Find Ways of Stopping Cruelty in Seal Harvest in the Pribilof Islands

Since the last issue of the News, which carried an article on present methods of harvesting seals in the Pribilof Islands off Alaska, a nationwide controversy has arisen over the clubbing of seals to death and a flood of vigorous protests has been made to the responsible government agency, the U.S. Department of the Interior.

The HSUS report was picked up by television personality Cleveland Amory and ABC news. A film showing the killing of seals in Canadian waters at the Gulf of St. Lawrence was used to illustrate cruelty inflicted upon seals and similarities in the Pribilof harvest were described. Extensive coverage was given by popular West Coast newscaster Baxter Ward while Cleveland Amory also appeared on the ABC network Dick Cavett Show.

The public exposure blew up a storm of indignation and protest. Many thousands of letters and telegrams were received by both the Department of the Interior and HSUS headquarters in Washington.

Protests even came from an important furrier handling Alaska seal skins who was “appalled” at the manner in which seals were described as killed, and who did not realize it until reading The HSUS article.

The public furor produced results. Clarence F. Pautzke, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks, U. S. Department of the Interior, asked representatives of The HSUS to meet with Department officials to discuss methods of reducing suffering in the Pribilof harvest. An exploratory meeting was held on April 25 to establish...
HSUS and Local Society Rescue Starving Dogs, Maryland Dealer Found Guilty of Animal Cruelty

HSUS Field Service Director Frank McMahon and Mrs. Seth Shannahaman and Miss Margaret Long, President and Vice President of the Talbot County (Md.) Humane Society, carried out a successful and spectacular raid on an unlicensed Maryland dog dealer in late March. They found such cruel conditions that they immediately called in the Maryland state police and filed charges of cruelty to animals against the dealer, Benjamin Ballard of Somerset County.

McMahon reported there were 16 dogs chained on the premises of which three were dead. Some puppies, too young to have yet opened their eyes, were also found lying in mud. Other dogs were running loose in mud and water. Virtually all were diseased and emaciated. One was found completely decapitated. The body was eaten away by other dogs.

There was no evidence of proper food and water. Quantities of dog food in cans were found, so tainted and thin that they nauseated members completely decapitated. The body was eaten away by other dogs.

Magistrate Thomas Foxwell ordered all living dogs at the Ballard operation be taken by the Talbot County Humane Society for proper care and treatment. This was done immediately. The judge, asked by Ballard’s counsel to consider the man’s poor financial condition, fined the dealer $25 and sentenced him to a suspended term of 90 days in jail. Judge Foxwell did, however, order Ballard never to deal in dogs again and said that any violation of this nature in the future would bring a severe sentence.

Ballard was not licensed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture under Public Law 89-544. It was suspected that he was dealing in animals in interstate commerce for research purposes (which would have brought him under the federal law) but no proof was offered. Magistrate Foxwell’s judgment that he must never again deal in dogs made further investigation of this aspect of the case unnecessary.

Endangered Species, Other Wildlife Bills Now Before Congress

A number of bills which, if enacted, would protect and preserve certain species of wildlife are now before Congress.

Senator George A. Smathers of Florida introduced S. 765 to prohibit the transportation and shipment in interstate or foreign commerce of alligators and alligator hides taken in violation of federal or state laws. The bill is aimed at stopping the indiscriminate killing of alligators, which has reached a degree of slaughter comparable to that of the American bison and egrets.

Congressman John D. Dingell (Mich.) introduced H.R. 6338 to prevent the importation of endangered species of fish or wildlife into the United States and the interstate shipment of reptiles, amphibians, and other wildlife taken illegally. Another sponsor bill, H.R. 11613, was introduced by Representative Alton Lennon (N.C.).

The purpose of the legislation is to eliminate the U.S. as a lucrative market for endangered species of wildlife, a situation that has posed a serious threat to these species through widespread, illegal trapping.

Most humane societies and humanitarians are supporting these bills. They are almost unanimously opposed, however, to bills which are pending before Congress to transfer jurisdiction of resident species of wildlife on public-owned lands from federal to state wildlife agency administrators. The best known of these is H.R. 11455, introduced by Representative Al Ullman (Ore.). It is felt that such a move would open the door to needless annihilation of millions of animals under the guise of predator control, or “scientific management.”

Raid on unlicensed dog dealers continue to expose cruelty and neglect. Dog (top right) on Ballard’s premises was dead of disease and malnutrition. Below: Emaciated dog against background of makeshift housing shows terrible conditions found by raiding party.
lish a program for review and improvement of the laboratory animals dealer act, second meeting was held on May 9 and a further meeting is planned for June 6.

It was agreed at the initial meetings that a "task force" be established to review methods in use, consider improvements, recommend humane killing techniques, and visit the Pribilofs Islands in July to observe field operations and initiate experimental work. This group will be headed by Ford Wilke, director of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries marine biomedical laboratory in Seattle, Washington.

HSUS President Mel L. Morse will represent the Humane Society of the United States and the national humane movement on the task force. The Alaska SPCA, as the state humane organization most immediately concerned, will also be represented. Others will include the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, the Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife, the National Academy of Sciences and, probably, a specialist in humane slaughter techniques from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

The meetings in Washington have already produced recommendations that will be investigated. Carbon dioxide, used in slaughterhouses, and electricity will be tested. Careful consideration will also be given to the captive bolt pistol, used for stunning food animals in packing plants, light caliber rifle fire, and tranquilizer guns.

Problems in adaptation of some of these methods are anticipated. It is possible, for example, that carbon dioxide cannot be used because seals are capable of shutting off their breathing: electricity might prove to be very hazardous because of the wet conditions on the islands.

While entirely willing to help explore new and humane methods of killing the seals, The HSUS has made its position against clubbing very plain to all government personnel involved. President Mel L. Morse also raised the serious question of the necessity for the harvest in a letter to Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall.

"...All of us are agreed..." Morse said, "that steps should be taken to eliminate clubbing. As the task force was being formed, we reminded everyone that we were looking forward to this decision as soon as possible and would work toward that end. Nowhere, however, has the question been answered of why all of these seals have to be killed. Is it to control a herd? Is it to avoid overpopulating the area and thus prevent lack of sufficient food? Or is it strictly monetary, to make a profit from the skin?..."

The HSUS President also said that the Society does not intend to be just an observer to the clubbing and destructive process which is already well known. He requested that, in the absence of a more humane method of slaughtering seals than clubbing, Secretary Udall postpone for a year the Pribilof seal harvest while an investigation is launched into the need for its continuation and, if there is a need, methods of conducting the harvest humanely.

At the same time, following the task force meetings, Morse praised the Department of the Interior for its cooperation and stated that he was willing to continue discussions of the clubbing of seals in the Pribilofs. He also said he had written to the National Academy of Sciences and the National Research Council to report that a committee of experts would be formed.

Adequate Funding for P.L. 89-544 Unlikely; Few Societies Testify

Hearings on an appropriation for the next fiscal year for administration and enforcement of Public Law 89-544, the laboratory animals dealer act, were held before Congressional subcommittees on April 2. The HSUS presented testimony at both the Senate and House of Representatives hearings. No other humane society testified at the Senate hearings; only one other society presented testimony at the House hearings.

Spokesmen for The HSUS were former president and current board member Oliver Evans and Frank McMahon, Director of Field Services. Both pointed out the enforcement, with only limited funds, by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and urged that an adequate appropriation be granted. Evans pointed out some limitations in the law and stressed that a good job could not be done by USDA if dealer laws did not authorize sufficient funds.

McMahon showed photographs of the horrible conditions he found in a raid on an unlicensed dealer, Benjamin Ballard of Somerset County, Maryland. He said that such conditions were common before enactment of the laboratory animal dealer law and many operations had been cleaned up since then.

He emphasized, however, that a great deal more can be done if USDA had the funds. He also said The HSUS had conducted a "spot check" among local societies of dealers operating in their areas and recorded information that about 60 individuals and companies were selling animals for research use were not on the list approved by the USDA. The information was, of course, passed along to the Department for whatever action it was financially able to undertake.

The Senate subcommittee seemed favorably disposed toward granting an adequate appropriation. The House unit was not so inclined. It is felt that no more than the $300,700 requested by USDA will be granted.

New Book Documents Cruelty to Animals

Humanitarians everywhere will find much to cause them distress but a great deal of useful information in the recently published book, Order of the Animals, by Mel Morse, HSUS President.

The book documents the cruelty to animals accompanying scientific advance, the production of food and clothing, and the exploitation of animals in sports and entertainment. It was written expressly to expose these national cruelties and acquaint the public with them.

In the introduction, famed humanitan and writer, Joseph Wood Krutch, wrote, "is a clear, factual survey of every important aspect of the subject. It draws upon many sources and should be, among other things, an indispensable body of evidence for any individual or organization in any way concerned with the order of the animals."

Order of the Animals is published by Prentice-Hall, Inc., and may be ordered from any book store. The HSUS, or many local humane organizations.

100th Anniversary for Massachusetts SPCA

The Massachusetts SPCA celebrated its 100th year of humane work on March 23. The society was the first New England group organized for the protection of animals.

Massachusetts Governor John A. Volpe officially recognized the occasion by proclaiming the week of March 17-23 as "Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Week."

The society was organized in 1857 by T. Angell, one of the greatest humanitarians of all time.

Among those attending the celebration dinner were HSUS President Mel L. Morse and HSUS Director Cleveland Amory, who gave the principal speech.

NEED AND DEED

Even in this bi-monthly issue of the News of eight pages we have been unable to include all of the activities of your Society since our last issue. So much is happening in national humane work and The HSUS is so much a big part of it that we find it increasingly difficult to give you a full accounting of what we are doing.

We have tried here to give you a comprehensive cross-section of our current work. You will find new programs that we have initiated. You will find old programs that are receiving new attention through new approaches. You will find strong humane activity by HSUS branches.

But most of all you will find results. The Society is not floundering around in frustration and futility; nor is it tilting at windmills.

Instead, The HSUS is fighting a positive and reasonable battle against cruelty on all fronts. It is finding methods of stopping the cruel killing of seals. It is working to expose dog dealers who are mistreating animals. It is attacking cruelties in horse racing, bullfights, cock-fighting, rodeos, medical research, and many other areas where animals are abused and exploited.

But with each good deed, there comes a corresponding need—the need for more funds to continue, and often to further increase the gains made in the initial work. It is why we have to keep turning to you for continued help and support.

The Society is making inroads against cruelty only through your moral and financial help. It would make even greater inroads if we were five times as strong as we are now; and we can be five times as strong, if each member will undertake as a personal obligation within the next three months to recruit five new members. The HSUS.

Will you accept the challenge? If you do, you will be doing perhaps the most important thing you can do this year for the cause of animal welfare.

The Humane Society of the U.S.
1145 Nineteenth St., N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20036

Enclosed is $____ to help maintain and extend HSUS animal welfare programs.

I accept the challenge to recruit new members for the Society during the next three months.

NAME
STREET
CITY, STATE ZIP CODE
Washington Premiere of “Doctor Dolittle” Film Planned as Big Benefit for Education Center

Arrangements have been made for the proceeds of the Washington premiere of "Doctor Dolittle" to benefit the work of the National Humane Education Center, established by The HSUS near Waterford, Virginia.

The premiere is set for June 12 at the Warner Theatre. Tickets have been priced at $5, $10, and $35, the last named to include a black-tie buffet before the event. D. C. Transit, the local public transportation company, has agreed to provide transportation by bus from the buffet to the theatre.

Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland Amory and the Honorable and Mrs. Wiley T. Buchanan, Jr., will co-chair the entire premiere.

Patrons of the premiere include the Vice President and Mrs. Humphrey and the Ambassadors of Nicaragua, Belgium, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Ireland, the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Mexico, Denmark, Great Britain, Ceylon, France, Norway, and Italy. Also included are the Honorable and Mrs. Henry Hamill Fowler, the Honorable and Mrs. Wilber J. Cohen, the Honorable and Mrs. Orville L. Freeman, Mrs. D. Hugh Ainschloss, HSUS President Mel L. Morse and his wife, and many other notables.

The Washington committee is headed by Mayor and Mrs. Walter E. Washington and includes socially prominent humanitarians. Mrs. Smyth Beauregard, Prince and Princess Serge Belosselsky-Belozersky, Mrs. Christian Steck, Mrs. James Free are represented, as are such active humane leaders as Mr. and Mrs. Oliver M. Evans, Mr. and Mrs. Burton Parks, Vice President of The HSUS, and Miss Phyllis Wright, Director of the Montgomery County (Md.) Humane Society.

The Virginia committee includes Mr. and Mrs. Arthur W. Arundel, Mrs. Erskine L. Bedford, and Mr. and Mrs. Reginald K. Gheen who have been active in organizing the work of the National Humane Education Center. Also participating are Mr. and Mrs. Huntington Harris, Mr. and Mrs. Henry J. Kalonhahk, and Mrs. A. C. Randolph, and Mr. Dale Hylton, Program Director of the National Humane Education Center.

As this news goes to press, there are at least 19 sponsors from the United States Congress. They include such national figures as Senators Everett M. Dirksen, Robert F. Kennedy, Edward M. Kennedy, Jacob K. Javits, and Senators Everett McK. Dirksen, Robert F. Kennedy, Edward M. Kennedy, Jacob K. Javits, and Representatives Percy, and Representatives Claude D. Pepper and Paul G. Rogers.

The premiere and the participation of these personalities are important to the future of the National Humane Education Center. The Center needs funds to establish programs for training of individuals concerned with the care, protection, and control of animals, including officers and employees of public animal shelters.

The Center seeks to establish humane education as a basic part of character building in the curriculum of the nation’s schools. Its programs, so badly needed, go beyond the protection of animals and reach toward the higher ideals of human and animal dignity and mutual respect. The education of both man and animal to animals will usually be kind to his fellow humans. In other words, the National Humane Education Center will be an institution for the betterment of people.

A BEAUTY AND TWO

Minnesota Branch Hires New Executive Director

Former broadcasting executive, Quentin David Davis of Park Rapids, Minn., has joined The HSUS Minnesota Branch as Executive Director. Davis will head the state-wide branch activity, intensifying existing programs and initiating new ones.

Educated at Indiana Business College and Michigan State University, he has been chief executive and co-owner of many radio stations. He retired from broadcasting in 1964 to dedicate his life to helping his fellow man.

For several years, he was executive director of the Indian River program for the Office of Economic Opportunity and his successful efforts in this capacity brought him national adoption as a chief of the Chippewa tribe. Some of the programs he initiated are still being used on many Indian reservations.

Mrs. W. E. Chenoweth, Mrs. Phyllis Wright, and Mr. and Mrs. W. Arundel are also on the board of directors.

Successful Workshops Held in New Jersey

The HSUS New Jersey Branch held two very successful workshops in recent weeks.

The first workshop was for shelter workers, dog wardens, and humane society personnel. It covered such subjects as euthanasia of cats and other small animals, new germicide agents and other cleaning devices for control of disease, disease recognition and the humane handling of vicious and injured dogs.

About 30 people attended, including representatives of the state Department of Health.

A workshop on humane education was also well attended and highly praised. Here there was a good exchange of ideas and discussion of junior humane educational materials now available.

The program of St. Hubert’s Giralda in Madison, which works with nearly 5,000 children each year, was described. The session was fruitful enough that the group is planning to meet again in early September.

HSUS Board Chairman Makes Good Recovery

Robert J. Chenoweth, Chairman of The HSUS Board of Directors, is recovering from a heart attack which he suffered in March.

Chenoweth is in charge of Wayside Wildlife, a Kansas City humane society, as well as Chairman of The HSUS. He was one of the founders of The HSUS, and has been instrumental in his leadership work. At the 1967 HSUS National Leadership Conference, for example, he was awarded the coveted “Voice of the Voiceless” Humane Award.

Friends and well-wishers from across the country have been sending him letters and telegrams. He is at his home at 6310 Walnut Street, Kansas City, Missouri 64113.
Case of Disqualified Kentucky Derby Winner Spotlights Cruel Practices in “Sport of Kings”

It is now common knowledge that Dancer’s Image, winner of the Kentucky Derby, was disqualified because a urine sample showed that he had been administered the drug, phenylbutazone, or a derivative.

Amidst all the publicity and controversy, no thought seems to have been given to the horse itself, or the many other unsound horses that are raced to make money for their owners and trainers.

No one, except The HSUS and some humanitarians, seems to be concerned that the legs of Dancer’s Image had to be packed in ice until just before the racing of the Derby. This was done to deaden pain so that the animal could run a fast race. Little attention, in fact, has ever been given to this very common practice of using pain killers and other techniques to race unsound horses.

In this case, The HSUS protested strongly to the nationally recognized Thoroughbred Racing Association and asked the Maryland Racing Commission, which has authority over the Preakness, to bar the obviously unsound Dancer’s Image from the race. In addition to pointing out the horse’s condition, the Society charged that allowing the horse to participate showed no concern for the danger to the jockey and the other horses and riders who would take part in the Preakness.

“A weak-ankled horse,” the Society said, “is susceptible to falling at any time with grave danger to other participants in the race. We think it only makes good sense to have every horse entered checked for soundness before a race.”

The HSUS also said that top grade racers like Dancer’s Image fare better than other unsound horses. Most are sold and resold and shunted from Class A tracks right down the line to lowly country fairground races. They are medicated constantly, not to cure them but to keep them running to earn another few dollars.

The HSUS asked Senator Joseph Tydings of Maryland to consider amending his bill, S. 1765, to prevent soring or injury to show horses, to include racers. The Society also urged Maryland Attorney General Francis T. Burch to invoke Section 61 of the Annotated Code of Maryland relating to cruelty to animals if Dancer’s Image ran in the Preakness. That section forbids any act which would interfere with or injure a horse used for competitive purposes.

Replies received from the Maryland Racing Commission and the Thoroughbred Racing Association have avoided the real issue of racing unsound horses raised by The HSUS. Both organizations indicated that all horses are examined by veterinarians before racing and any found unfit to race are ordered withdrawn.

Veterinarians who make the pre-race examinations must have a strange idea of what “unfit” means. Apparently, a horse is considered “fit” if he is doctored enough not to feel pain from weak ankles or other causes in the course of a race.

Branch Elects Smith As New President at Connecticut Meeting

Everett Smith, Jr., of Greenwich, Conn., was elected president of The HSUS Connecticut Branch at the annual meeting on April 20. Smith, an attorney, has been vice president and a member of the Branch board of directors. He succeeds Thaddeus G. Cowell, who was highly praised for the energetic leadership he has given the society’s work during his tenure.

The successful annual meeting was well-attended and superbly organized. Admiral James Shaw, Executive Director, spoke of the activities of the branch throughout the year and its development into the leading humane organization in the state.

The “Humanitarian of the Year” award was given jointly to Mrs. Edward A. Thomas of Georgetown and Mrs. C. B. Naramore of Southport. Both women were honored for their extensive work in direct animal welfare.

Highlight of the meeting was a medley of songs by stage star Norma Terris, who later presented the Branch with a deed to fifteen acres of land for use as a humane education and nature center.

The HSUS has also been pressing for enforcement of the anti-cockfighting law, which has authority over the Preakness, to bar the obviously unsound Dancer’s Image from the race. In addition to pointing out the horse’s condition, the Society charged that allowing the horse to participate showed no concern for the danger to the jockey and the other horses and riders who would take part in the Preakness.

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Two States Crack Down on Cockfighting

Arkansas state and local law enforcement agencies are cracking down on cockfighting following requests by The HSUS that state law against this cruel “sport” be enforced.

So far, state police have raided a farm near Hot Springs and all cockfighting events scheduled by the Hot Springs Game Club for the rest of the 1967-68 season have been cancelled. So successful was this particular action that a notice cancelling the events was published in the gamecock publication, Grit and Steel. Promoters of fights in other places like Gray’s Arena in Paris were also notified that the spectacles, if staged, would be illegal and would not be permitted or tolerated.

In California, where the national HSUS has also been pressing for enforcement of the anti-cockfighting law, two men were arrested in Barstow on charges of maintaining a place where fighting cocks are raised and trained. Although there was no actual cockfighting in this case, fifty birds were found on the premises. They were reportedly being trained for an Arizona club.