BILL REVISIONS CONSIDERED

Since our December Report, we have received a number of important suggestions for revision of the Rogers-Javits bill. These suggestions were then discussed with members of Congress, government departments concerned, and other key individuals. The result was the joint introduction of a new bill to be introduced, probably, in March.

One suggestion has been to leave Public Law 89-544, the so-called Pettrapping Act, completely unchanged. Under last year’s Rogers-Javits bill, it was proposed that the responsibility for housing and care of the animals in the laboratories be given to the Department of Agriculture. Under this new bill, all responsibility for supervision of housing and care of the animals conferred by P.L. 89-544 would remain with the Department of Agriculture. This act, however, gives no further protection to the animals in any of the laboratories. It covers only 10 percent of the laboratories which do not use dogs or cats, and any protection to any of the animals excluding the Langley, the labors of the laboratories during experimentation. If this suggestion is followed, the housing and care of the animals would not be regulated by P.L. 89-544 would be covered under the new bill, thus giving protection to all of the animals. The situation would be the same before and during experimentation.

The Rogers-Javits bill also would cover the companies of those laboratories where tests may be conducted, and accomplish other important objectives. Thus, the new bill would not be up to P.L. 89-544 levels off with the many kinds of problems connected with the use of animals in laboratories which are not even touched by the Rogers-Javits bill. It would be used in addition to any benefits accruing from P.L. 89-544.

A major suggestion calls for changes in the wording of Sections 8 and 9 of the bill to provide more specifically for a number of changes. Congress, once more, is being asked to leave Public Law 89-544 to maximize efforts to reduce the number of animals used by the laboratories, by increasing the use of live animals in the studies of in vitro and other non-scientific media for animals, and to design experiments, and to reduce the necessity for unnecessary duplication of experiments and tests.

Other suggestions made are designed to improve the effective use of the bill. It is suggested that some humanitarian to the previous bill without at the same time incurring objectionable provisions that have led to misunderstanding on the part of many humanitarians.

Congressman Rogers and Senator Javits have been working so hard and constructively to obtain the best possible legislation for the protection of animals that the humanitarians to the humane standards set and enforced by U.S. Department of Agriculture veterinarians and (2) the exclusion of all fur trapping animals, have joined in promoting the repeal and transfer bills.

Actually, as previously noted, humanitarians behind this legislation have made a vigorous effort to do just the opposite, to correct any possible misunderstanding of the provisions of P.L. 89-544. This effort should convince any rational humanitarian that if there is a need to alter the humanitarians so that they want to protect the animals, it is a necessary prelude to enlisting humanitarian assistance in the effective program. And instead of looking at the 35 percent reduction in fur trapping claimed by the fur industry, we should keep our eyes on the total of over 65 million wild animals that are still trapped each year in the fur trade.

LETTERS

Human Information Services has received many letters from members and readers of our Reports, asking what they can do to further assistance of laboratory legislation. How kind of letters would be most effective to, we should be very sensitive, and who should be kept in order to be of the greatest help. At this time, the most effective letters would be to your own United States Representative, to the two Senators, and to the two Representatives from your state, setting them on the bill as co-sponsors. You could appropriately tell them that you understand the bill and care for objectives which were raised by some humanitarians because of misunderstanding of some provisions of the bill, and that you believe that the bill to be introduced in the present Congress by Congressman Rogers and Senator Javits is a more effective way for you to introduce the bill.

UNINFORMED OPPOSITION

Already there are signs of the same kind of irrational, hysterical opposition to any legislation which characterized the past Congressional session. When the 91st Congress convened in January, a number of Congressmen who had co-sponsored the Rogers-Javits bill immediately introduced a bill identical to the one which had failed to pass in the 89th Congress. This is a customary procedure for members of Congress to introduce

REPORT TO HUMANITARIANS

March, 1969

Furs

Decrease in Wild Fur Trapping

A recent release by the Fish and Wildlife Service of the United States Department of the Interior shows a sharp drop in the number of wild animals trapped for fur. The catch of wild furs in the United States was down almost 35 percent from previous years. In reporting this news item, a prominent humane organization noted that the reduction in the number of trapped animals noted in the news release. We are just kidding ourselves to tax credits for such developments. The explanation of the decline in trapping probably lies in the improvement in other economic opportunities for some of those formerly engaged in trapping.

To delude ourselves regarding the efficacy of past attempts to decrease public acceptance of trapped fur leads to complacency and inaction. The elimination of suffering of fur-bearing animals requires much more immediate time, but a well-planned work that has been given to this problem by humane societies in the past. Placing the hands of humanitarians over a few thousand leaflets or news bulletins telling about the cruelties of fur trapping would not have significant effects upon the fur trade, whereas it is a necessary prelude to enlisting humanitarian assistance in the effective program. And instead of looking at the 35 percent reduction in fur trapping claimed by the fur industry, we should keep our eyes on the total of over 65 million wild animals that are still trapped each year in the fur trade.

Simulated Fur

Since our last Report, No. 6, there have been additional developments in our fur animal program: (1) the promotion of use of simulated furs; (2) research to find more humane methods of slaughtering domestic animals; (3) the substitution of ranch-produced furs for those made from trapped animals.

(Continued on Page 2)
LABORATORY LEGISLATION

Continued From Page 1

We previously reported a claimed shortage of the synthetic fabrics from which simulated fur garments are made. The Foundation for Animal Protection and Laboratory Animal Legislation informs us that "it is true that there is more demand for this fabric than the manufacturers can produce. As far as we are concerned, we have always run 24 hours a day, six days a week, just to meet the requirements of our customers during 1969, but as stated, we do not look forward to the possibility of high quality manufacturers."

Humane Information Services is of the opinion, after discussions with manufacturers, that production of simulated fur fabrics will increase gradually and finally catch up with the expanding demand. As to the latter point, the manufacturers are putting more promotional efforts on the part of manufacturers of both the fabrics and the garments.

We previously reported what appeared to us to be a greater variety of synthetic fur fabrics in the market than was the case before simulating the natural furs, than in the United States. The President of the aforementioned firm commented on this as follows: "Regarding the garments that you saw in Great Britain, we are very well acquainted with the situation and we have mentioned, and in fact he uses a lot of fabrics made by our English mill. There are a few manufacturers in the United States that we do not manufacture. . . . There are several reasons for this. . . . There are almost none of our fabrics that are produced with a high-priced, simulated fur. Many of these have not been practical and have been utilized in the manufacture of our strict flammability laws. This especially applies to the mink type fabric."

As noted in our Report No. 4, dealing with the fur trade, there is a law in the United States which is known as the "Textile Fiber Products Identification Act," Section 4(g) of which reads: "For the purposes of this Act, a fabric, which is so described as to be falsely or deceptively advertised if the name or symbol of any fur-bearing animal is used in connection with the fabric, shall be deemed a simulated fur fabric."

The implementation of this Act is a function of the Federal Trade Commission, which has issued Rules and Regulations formulating it in the use of fur-bearing animal names and symbols for textile fiber products, and is a part of the existing Fur regulations. Although this has not been checked with legal counsel, we believe that Section 4(d) (5) of the Act provides that the manufacturer or distributor of simulated fur fabrics to advertise them as such provided the manufacturer or distributor of such fabrics fails to include such animals in the name in which the fabric is advertised he will be held liable. The manufacturer or distributor of simulated fur fabrics are made.

We previously reported a claim that the makers of simulated fur for garments are not necessary to employ professional lobbyists to carry on such legislative activities without incurring the disapproval of the Internal Revenue Service. Humane organizations, as this work without compensation, and get along quite well.

Our report on the cost of mailings by the SAPL indicates that during these two years over 300,000 separate pieces of literature were mailed. In this report the Rogers-Javits bill was introduced. Moreover, the leading figure in the industry has stated, "A campaign cost anywhere from $200,000 to $400,000 and upon thousands of legislative proposals during each session. It is absolutely impossible to know which legislative bill is going to be, and if the acquiring him with the purposes, major features and probable political and other effects. Even professional lobbyists are skilled legislative representatives and lobbying is a part of the democratic process in a large country such as the United States.

Interests opposing the Rogers-Javits bill have skilled legislative representatives conducting well-financed lobbying programs to defeat such legislation. Organizations opposing laboratory legislation do employ paid lobbyists and have spent thousands of money lobbying against this bill. Organizations engaged in lobbying must register with the government and report their income and expenditures. The Society for Animal Protective Legislation, which is run by the same people who control the Animal Welfare Institute, spent $12,852 in 1967 of $25,826, and in 1968 of $21,471. One person who is not a prominent humanitarian but who has been active in the fur industry for the last two years, and another $9,000 came from three other people. Expenditures in 1968, including $13,000 paid to the Washington Post, were $20,733. Although the exact distribution of these expenditures as among other lobbyist activities is not known, the Rogers-Javits bill is not given in these reports to the registry. Humane Information Services believes that most of this money was devoted to opposing the bill.

Ideals and Ideas—Eric Hoffer, the long-time libertarian whose pungent commentaries on current events have led to TV and newspaper prominence, recently said on CBS: "Ideals are a dime a dozen. What are scarce are ideas. It requires no brains to have ideas; that takes a bit of brain.

Our view is that both Ideals and Ideas are scarce. But we agree with Hoffer that Ideals alone are useless. The humane literature is full of ideals, but all too few ideas for implementing them. There are always to couple ideals with practical and constructive ideas for achieving them.
FURS

Continued from Page 2

Furs, specified as being made from trapped fur animals. For the latter purpose, it would be desirable to prominently feature this section, with a statement to the effect that there are very acceptable substitutes for natural furs.

We have carefully evaluated alternative features and potential benefits of a campaign to stimulate the substitution of synthetic furs in human societies. It has been demonstrated that, in the future, more competitive with clothing than natural furs, we felt that it was very urgent to rely entirely upon promotion of synthetic fur garments to effect the changes in the use of furs which will lead to the acceptance of substitutes. The vast majority of the large number of letters we received following publication of the article entitled "Co-operation of the Ranch Fur Industry to Improve Human Aspects of Ranch Mink Production" were in favor of the introduction of the substitution of such Ranch Mink Furs for trapped furs, which on the average, cause much greater suffering to the animals.

Since our last Report we continue to have correspondence from Mr. Low urging the formulation of an organization representing ranch mink producers. These, however, have not yet come to a head. First, it is necessary for us to demonstrate to the public the need for the humane slaughter of ranch mink. In this connection, we have been fortunate to receive the cooperation of Mr. John C. Walsh, Field Officer in the Boston office of the International Society for the Protection of Animals, and President of Humane Information Services together visited a large mink ranch enterprise in Massachusetts. In a brief submitted by Mr. Walsh to conduct some tests on the use of mink slaughtering methods during the Fall, the results of which are reported in the following section.

Humane Information Services is quite a small organization, financially and intellectually affected by descriptions of methods of euthanasia and slaughtering that they have seen in the trade publications or read about them. This is very unfortunate, because one result has been the perpetuation of information. We have seen many animals with all their paws and teeth except as elsewhere, due to lack of proper supervision by boards of directors fulfilling the wishes of humane societies and unwillingness of humanitarians to visit packing plants and other operations to observe them. It is all the more reason to attempt to educate this public.

Fur is a product that is much suffering on the part of more animals annually than any other animal-slaughtering operation. It must be understood to be neglected if humanitarians are not willing to become informed about them.

The following section on mink slaughtering methods for ranch-produced mink furnishes an illustration of the kind of information that can be obtained by co-operation between humane organizations and ranch mink producers and their organizations.

TESTS OF MINK SLAUGHTERING METHODS

Mr. John C. Walsh of IMS.

Anyone desiring more details may obtain a copy of the report from us.

We single one farm at which these tests were conducted for your Mr. Charles Low of Stoughton, Massachusetts, raises nearly 2,000 mink annually. Like a majority of mink producers, this is a small operation, dependent upon the sale of mink pelts, and it is desirable to utilize any acceptable method which will reduce the cost of production. In the course of the past, it was decided to use a new slaughtering method introduced by Dr. Charles J. Wade, director of the Agricultural College of the University of Massachusetts, and tested in Great Britain by Beauty International Society for the Protection of Animals, in a combination of三项 tests, that of testing a powder containing cyanogen gas, which, when injected into the heart, causes death by causing the blood to instantaneously dissolve into the veins of the body. The tests were discontinued at this point since birds that ingested 2.2 cc. or more immediately died. To administer euthanasia in this manner, the men were not able to restrain the mink while another feels for the heart with one hand and injects the fluid with the other. It was impossible for one person to carry out the injection procedure humanly and efficiently. From a practical point of view, it seems unlikely that this method would be taken as an acceptable substitute by other mink producers in the New England area. Tests also were made of a commercially-manufactured neck-breaker, which costs $25. Neither Mr. Low nor Mr. Walsh had used this type of instrument before and tried to use it in their work. It obviously caused the animal, as it forced the head back at a 90-degree angle, to suffer much. It might be considered "barbaric" by some, but the suffering is probably less than the suffering caused by the methods of decapitation that are in general use. Of those methods now in use, it appears that the use of mink is the best available method. This instrument can be effective only in a limited number of cases. Anytime an animal is caught and is suitable for the use of mink, it may be able to kill a large proportion of the mink quickly and without great effect.

Consideration of these and other methods of killing the mink cause human organizations to conclude that such suffering on the part of the animals can be eliminated by standardizing a slaughtering method which produces the quickest and least stressful results. Of those methods now in use, it appears that the use of mink is the best available method. This instrument can be effective only in a limited number of cases. Anytime an animal is caught and is suitable for the use of mink, it may be able to kill a large proportion of the mink quickly and without great effect.

Progress in Improving Seal Hunt

We are informed by Mr. John C. Walsh, Field Officer, Western Hemisphere Section of Humane Information Services, that the government of the Canadian government has agreed to abide by the recommendations respecting the treatment of seals made by the Canadian Task Force Off Canada, that were contained in a brief submitted by Mr. Walsh last Fall. Our further progress in the effort to eliminate the more inhuman practices on sealers.

Translators Needed - We receive foreign-language humane publications sometimes containing useful information that will be useful in foreign countries. From time to time we need the help of humanitarians able to translate and write fluently in Spanish, Portuguese and other foreign languages. If you qualify and are willing to do volunteer work, please write giving details.
Although we published provisions of our bylaws and biographies of our principal officers in Report No. 2, we continue to receive letters asking for such information.

Humane Information Services, incorporated under the laws of Florida, is a non-profit society, the bylaws of which were drawn up to prevent creative and the relief of suffering among animals. Copies of pertinent provisions of the articles of incorporation and bylaws are available upon request. The society has a determination letter from the Department of Agriculture he was executive director of the organization for a period of years. Dr. Thomsen has wished practically his entire life, and gives the greater parts of his working time to local humane societies.

Dr. Thomsen was formerly a director of The Humane Society of the United States and a director of the Florida Humane Society, as well as a director of the Humane Society of the United States and a director of the Florida Humane Society. He is now a director of the Florida Humane Society.

The Executive Secretary of Humane Information Services is Miss Emily F. Gleockler, who is the executive secretary of a local humane society and now President of the Florida Federation of Humane Societies. Miss Gleockler gave us an envelope a week ago, asking us to reserve a position for her, and that she can not be here to do her job. She is the only paid officer or director of Humane Information Services, receiving a nominal salary.

Although Humane Information Services has paid members in every state, and has received much greater moral and financial support from humanitarians than was anticipated when the society began operation two years ago, of the total contributions received, more than three-fourths were from our two active officers and directors. Our members and contributors can be assured that their dues and donations are not being used for the benefit of officers or directors! We operate with an extremely low overhead, so that all of the funds received go into actual humane work for the benefit of the animals. Many potentially fruitful lines of humane activity are underwritten with the funds now available. We are especially in need of a man to undertake technical research, laboratory and field work, and to write reports on this issue under the heading, "Tests of Mink Slaughtering Methods." If the society is to find means of financing our action programs, many contributions and bequests for the principal means of financing our action programs.

If you are interested in making a will, an attorney is available to assist you.

Our reports are received, written and prepared by Dr. Thomsen and Miss Gleockler, unless otherwise indicated.

How About a Convention-Cruise?

One of our members asked, "Does Humane Information Services intend to hold a convention-cruise that may interest our members would welcome an opportunity to meet and discuss more fully the kind of important humane problems you have been treating in your Reports to Humanitarians?"

Frankly, we have never been very enthusiastic about humane society conventions. Many seem to be more social affairs or a means of buttering up members and contributors than serious means of advancing humane problems. It is our sincere hope and intention to keep attending the same old conventions, listening to speakers who reiterate the same old subject matter. Then they go home and forget about it. After a good many years of participating in these meetings, if somebody offered $10,000 for just one example of an actual, significant accomplishment resulting from a humane convention, we would be hard put to cite a single valid case.

The ISSS tried to break out of the rut by holding its conventions in out-of-the-way places, in order to exclude distracting outside influences. It has advantages, but adds to inconveniences and inconvenience. And more important, for many people the convention is their only vacation, and they prefer a little more holiday atmosphere. We believe both of these goals -- plenty of opportunity for quiet discussion, and an enjoyable vacation -- can be realized by combining a convention and ocean cruise.

A cruise line has offered us a low-cost three-day convention-cruise which seems very attractive to us. The West Indies, which is a popular destination in the area, has an elevator service between decks, all rooms with private bath and lower beds, and comfortable meeting rooms. It leaves Miami Friday afternoon, arriving back in Miami Monday morning. The entire cost from Miami would be only about a hundred dollars, including all meals, tips and port taxes. No passport or vaccination required.

Whether or not we have the convention-cruise depends upon your wishes. If you are interested, please fill in the coupon below and return it to us for further details. This will not obligate either you or us in any way.

Return Coupon: Convention-Cruise

(Please check the items below and return this coupon in a stamped envelope to: Humane Information Services, Inc., 4521 4th Street South, St. Petersburg, Florida 33705.)

I am interested in attending the convention-cruise during 1969 and would prefer that it be on: 

16-19 September or ____________________________

19-22 September or ____________________________

October 17-20 or ____________________________

Name: ____________________________ Address: ____________________________

Clippings:

Many of our members send us clippings or copies of publications. This is deeply appreciated, and we frequently find this material to be very useful. We appreciate your sending us material of subject matter, and it is ready when we need it in the subject matter, and is ready when we need it in the subject matter, and is ready when we need it.

Cats Made Homeless

By Housing Developments

Many thousands of cats have been left to suffer and be destroyed because humane societies have not redeveloped their housing units for cats. The cats left without homes, hungry, and without limits of the food supply, and create a condition shocking to humanitarians.

Dear Mr.或Mrs. Chairman,

We have tried to keep this matter up with the Department of Housing and Urban Development in Washington, D. C., attempting to have contracts written for the housing units. We have convinced the Department of Housing and Urban Development that there is a responsibility of the city health or animal control departments, or of the local renewal and housing agencies. We suggest to any of our readers who may live in areas where such conditions exist that they take the matter up with their local officials, or with developers and local renewal and housing authorities, which can be found in the phone book, or on signs erected on such properties.

Our Officers Corner

Who's Who in H.I.S., Inc.

The President of Humane Information Services is Frederick L. Thomsen, Ph.D., a retired economist. He has been professor of economics at the University of Missouri, and Associate Head of the Division of Statistical Research, Head of the Division of Marketing and Transportation Research, and Director of the Marketing Research Branch, all in the United States Department of Agriculture at Washington.

He is also the author of two internationally-used textbooks and hundreds of report searches and articles in professional economic journals and trade and government publications. After leaving the Department of Agriculture he was executive vice president of a management consulting firm in New York City, and on semi-retirement in Florida served as consultant to banking institutions and a national firm in New York City, and on semi-retirement.

Humane Information Services, Inc., 4521 4th Street South, St. Petersburg, Florida 33705.

Our NEW FORMAT

Most humane societies in their house organs use the newspaper or trade journal. The printing for that purpose was expensive, and the conversational style of writing, and to the limitations of our own small offset presses were not equal to the job you liked the combination, because your response has been in greatly improving values.

This modest success of our Reports provided the undoing of the format. The newspaper is cut down with their readers over a cup of tea and talking, or as if we were writing a letter to a friend we had not seen for a long time. Our relationship with you is much more personal than that of the usual copywriter and reader. The printing format, and we are using the newspaper, and the delivery. The cash costs are less than our previous costs for paper, ink, printing plates, proofing, printing and collating. In making this change we have tried to keep our format as simple as possible, but we may have lost some of that personal touch. What do you think?

What-No Pictures?

Other humane societies take up a lot of space in their publications with pictures of animals, with the idea that the picture attracts the eye of many people who otherwise would not read the publications. But our Reports are intended to be a reasonably sufficiently interested in humane work to make unnecessary the use of gimmicks to increase readership. We have too much to say about pressing humane problems to waste space. When we run articles requiring photographs, ink plates, printing and collating, printing and collating is eliminated. In making this change we have tried to keep our format as simple as possible, but we may have lost some of that personal touch. What do you think?