Investigators Find Sored Show Horses

Despite pressure from The Humane Society of the United States and the American Horse Protection Assn., investigations by the two organizations have revealed that the Horse Protection Act of 1970 is not being adequately enforced by the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA).

The law, which HSUS has actively supported since its introduction in Congress, outlaws the use of blistering agents, chains, tacks, and other cruel or inhumane agents for the purpose of affecting a horse's gait. Such a practice is known as "soring."

The law was written to make owners, trainers and horse show promoters liable for any sored horses under their responsibility.

(Continued on next page)

HSUS Annual Conference Honors Wild Horse Annie

The Humane Society of the United States has awarded its second annual Joseph Wood Krutch Medal to Velma B. (Wild Horse Annie) Johnston for her 20-year crusade to save the wild horses and burros of the West from the mustangers who brutally pursued and captured them to sell to pet food manufacturers and rendering plants.

The medal was presented to Mrs. Johnston during the Awards Banquet of the 1972 HSUS Annual Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah, last month.

Honors Naturalist

The medal is given in honor of the late naturalist Joseph Wood Krutch for "significant contribution towards the improvement of life and environment."

In accepting the award from HSUS Board Chairman Coleman Burke, Annie, as she likes to be called, said she thinks of her efforts as a "gift to the generations of Americans unborn, not only to be able to see a proud stallion and his harem high on a windswept hill, or a patient little burro contentedly browsing away safe from man's depredations, but also as the proof that ours is a country in which we, the people, can fight for that in which we believe, can appeal to our lawmakers for that which is right and good."

Horses Dwindled

Before Annie's crusade culminated in passage of wild horse protective legislation in 1970, the number of wild horses and burros dwindled from an estimated 2 million at the turn of the century to only a few thousand today.

When Annie started her fight, she was almost totally alone. But, as she said at the ceremony, "I just happened to be out there first, but there are a lot of other people out there with me now."

Somehow, Annie said, her successful fight for the wild horses was highly appropriate for the daughter of a man:

(Continued on next page)
SORING (Continued)

bility. As a result, HSUS observers report, some show promoters have taken major steps to exclude sored horses from their shows. Owners and trainers have been much more reluctant to abide by the rules, according to HSUS investigators. The most dramatic example of action by horse show promoters was at the annual Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration, held in Shelbyville, Tenn., at the end of the summer. Horse show veterinarians disqualified so many horses the first night—35 out of 107 entries—that some entries were withdrawn for the remainder of the show.

Many Not Examined

Although more careful scrutiny of the entrants was undoubtedly influenced by the fact that 19 USDA officials were on hand to look for violations of the federal law, HSUS investigators reported that the sorring of horses was still very much evident and that many sored horses were not examined by either show veterinarians or USDA officials.

At one point, protesting owners and trainers temporarily closed the show and three U.S. marshals were sent to the show to maintain the peace and protect the show veterinarians and USDA officials.

HSUS Chief Investigator Frank J. McMahon attended the show with representatives of the American Horse Protection Assn. and a veterinarian, Dr. James L. Navaiaux, who represented both humane groups. “The trainers are still trying to get away with the same things they did five years ago,” McMahon said. “They won’t change until several owners and trainers are taken into federal court.”

Cites Violations

Dr. Naviaux, in a strong letter to a member of the U.S. House of Representatives and USDA officials, described USDA inspection procedures as “officially inadequate, as there was gross evidence of violation of this act at the show, inasmuch as the majority of horses being shown showed clinical evidence of being sored.”

Dr. C. O. Finch, senior staff veterinarian of the Animal Care Staff, Animal and Plant Health Service of USDA, the department charged with enforcement of the law, predicted there would be a substantial number of charges filed by federal officials as a result of activity at the show.

McMahon commented, “It will be interesting to see if such charges are filed, since only one case has been prosecuted by USDA since the law was passed in 1970 and the rules and regulations promulgated in December 1971. McMahon also attended the Fort Wayne (Ind.) Charity Horse Show in early September, accompanied by HSUS Great Lakes Regional Director John W. Irving.

No officials from the USDA were present in Ft. Wayne, but the show veterinarian, Dr. Daniel Rodgers, did an excellent and courageous job of eliminating the sored entries, in the face of the threats by horse owners, trainers, and grooms, McMahon reported. After an angry mob made specific threats against the safety of show officials, Dr. Rodgers, McMahon, and Irman, state police and sheriff’s deputies were called to the show grounds to accompany the three men during their inspection.

The anger mounted to the point that the owners of the grounds was threatened with having his barns burned to the ground, McMahon said. Although these experiences have reinforced HSUS’s belief that some horse owners will stop at nothing to continue their inhumane practices, HSUS President John A. Hoyt said he will continue to direct a major staff effort at making sure that the federal law is being enforced.

Amanda Blake Elected To Board of Directors

Amanda Blake, Miss Kitty in the Gunsmoke television series, was one of eight persons elected to the HSUS Board of Directors last month.

Miss Blake, who for many years has lived in Phoenix, Ariz., was an active participant in the HSUS Annual Conference last month.

Other directors elected were: Oliver M. Evans, D.C., former HSUS president and vice president of the World Federation for the Protection of Animals; Mrs. Robert W. Gilmore, New York City, chairman, executive committee, Publishers Clearing House, who was elected vice chairman of the board; William Kerber, Washington, D.C., who continues as HSUS treasurer; Mrs. Amy Freeman Lee, San Antonio, Texas, artist, author, lecturer, who was elected board secretary; Mrs. Thelma Shawley, Marion, Ind., past president, Marion and Grant County Humane Society; Robert F. Welborn, senior partner in the law firm of Weilbom, Dufford, Phipps & Brown; Mrs. Virginia S. Lynch, board member of the former HSUS California Branch and wife of a retired attorney general of California.

HSUS Honors Three

The Humane Society of the United States gave special recognition last month to a woman who has almost single-handedly established an animal shelter in her community and to two foundations that have provided major support for humane programs.

The three, which were recipients of HSUS Certificates of Appreciation, are: Mrs. Florence Thiele, Walden, N.Y., who for many years has pursued and prosecuted dog dealers and dogpiggers. The Thiele Foundation, New York City, Mrs. Robert W. Gilmore, president.

The Earl C. Sams Foundation, Inc., Brownsville, Texas, Leonel Garza, treasurer, which has underwritten the largest financial support to the HSUS Gulf States Regional Office, serving Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas.

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Anne (Continued)

whose life had been saved as an infant on the pioneer trail with the milk from a wild mustang. Joining in the HSUS to tribute to Anne was Mrs. Margaret A. Gregory, for her children’s book, Man of Chincoteague, who wrote Anne’s story in 1947, and Wild Spirit of the West, which was inspired by the same Society of Animals.

Gregory Gude to coax his father, Rep. Gilbert Gude (R-Md.) and other men to work for the enactment of legislation that would protect the mustang and other wild horses.

A special guest at the Awards Banquet was Gregory Gude,rep. whose humaneitarian qualities were praised by both master of ceremonies Roger Caran and HSUS President John A. Hoyt.

The Federation medal was Mrs. Joy Adamson, author of the autobiographical book, Born Free.

Mel Morse to Head –West Coast Office

The Humane Society of the United States has opened a national office on the West Coast and a regional office in Texas. HSUS President John A. Hoyt has announced that the new West Coast National Office in San Rafael, Calif., will provide the same type of headquarters assistance to individuals and organizations in western states that the Washington, D.C. headquarters has provided in the past on a nationwide basis.

Directing the West Coast operation will be Mel L. Morse, former president of HSUS, who recently resigned as executive director of the Humane Society of Marin County (Calif.). Morse has worked in the humane movement for some 35 years. He is perhaps best known as the author of Ordeal of the Animals, a book on animal abuses published in 1968 and still in print.

He served as president of HSUS from 1968 to 1970, leaving his position with the Humane Society of Marin County for that period. He has been a member of the governing council of the World Federation for the Protection of Animals.

Corpus Christi, Texas, is the site of the new HSUS Gulf States Regional Office, serving Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas.

It is one of several regional offices being opened this year, which is the 50th anniversary of the Humane Society of the United States.

Mel L. Morse

Morse

West Coast National Office

1050 Northgate Dr.
San Rafael, Ca. 94903
(415) 479-7990

Conference Speeches

Copies of the following presentations made at the HSUS Annual Conference are now available from HSUS headquarters at 254 each: (a) Dr. Tony Carding, director, World Federation for the Protection of Animals—Report on WFAP Activities; (b) Dr. Stuart R. Westerlund, director, HSUS Humane Education Project—Humaneness, Conceptions and Misconceptions; (John A. Hoyts—Report of the President.

A Trip to the Small Animal Shelter

...I'd like to say quite bluntly, if you can't commit your cat to a home, be sure you don't put it in any home because the animal will suffer.

Cite Spairsing Breeding Posters

This 22-inch by 26-inch one-color poster is now available from HSUS. You can also get the same message with a picture of a dog. Each poster is $1, postpaid. Be sure to specify whether you want the cat or the dog. Use them at home, in schools, public buildings, or shelters. They're ideal presents for animal lovers, too.

Mel L. Morse

HSUS Gulf States Regional Office

Suite 308, 1800 S. Staples St.
Corpus Christi, Texas 78404
(512) 885-2513

Mel L. Morse
Disney-Like Tale

Joe the Bear Moved to Refuge

Joe the Carolina bear has finally been freed, but his route to freedom runs like the script for a Walt Disney movie.

Last June, after HSUS had worked for more than six months to get him freed from a cage at a South Carolina bar and grill, Joe disappeared. His former owner indicated he had had enough of the protests and threats arising from publicity given Joe by HSUS and WBTV newswoman Mike Pillar in Charlotte, N. C.

HSUS members had besieged South Carolina officials, including Sen. Strom Thurmond, and U. S. Dept. of Agriculture officials with demands that the bear be freed.

Then last month Pillar, who had vowed to search the state for Joe, learned that Joe was residing at a Charlotte massage parlor, where he had become a sort of mascot.

But massage parlor life was quiet compared with Joe’s previous service with a professional wrestling troupe. A wrestling promoter had bought Joe with the idea that he would be a great attraction in the ring between fights.

Joe’s ring career was short-lived, however, because police told the promoter that Joe would have to be managed on two legs to be permitted in a public sports arena.

But show business is only a memory to Joe now. He is a permanent resident in the 50,000-acre Holly Shelter public refuge in Pender County, eastern North Carolina, where he is the guest of the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Div., which confiscated him from the massage parlor.

HSUS zoologist Sue Pressman said she is satisfied that the refuge is a good home for Joe. And she credits thousands of animal lovers with getting him there.

The Humane Society of the United States

Presents

A LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

for Local Human Society Leaders Shelter Personnel Animal Control Officers Municipal Officials Principals and Teachers

Friday, Saturday, Sunday, January 19, 20, 21
The Sheraton-Emory Inn, 1641 Clifton Rd., N. E.
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Workshop Speakers:
HSUS President John A. Hoyt Phyllis Wright, Director, National Humane Education Center Dale Hylton, Director, HSUS Youth Division Burton M. Parks, HSUS Regional Representative

Friday and Saturday sessions 9:30 a.m.—5 p.m.
Sunday session 9:30 a.m.—1 p.m.

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Act today! Fill in the coupon below, mail it with your registration fee to the address on the coupon.

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City ____________________________ State ____________________________ ZIP _______

Representing _____ (if appropriate)

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HSUS Forces Improvements In Chincoteague Pony Event

The Humane Society of the United States and the American Horse Protection Assn. succeeded in forcing major improvements in the handling of ponies during the Chincoteague, Va., pony swim and auction this year.

Officials of both organizations had been pressing for changes since observing the 1971 event and declaring it to be one of the cruelest activities they had witnessed.

Threatened Arrests
In 1971, it was a threat through the press that arrests might have to be made that brought the necessary improvements. Promoters of the tourist attraction had made no response to a long list of recommendations submitted by the two organizations last spring.

Six representatives of HSUS, including a veterinarian, and three representatives of the American Horse Protection Assn., attended the 1972 event last summer and reported that the following recommendations had been implemented:

Raised Sale Age
• Exclusion from sale of the youngest colts—although the organizations had urged that only colts older than 6 months be sold, observers saw some sold under 6 weeks old. However, that was a major improvement over the previous year when several colts under 10 days old were sold.
• Appointment and attendance of an official veterinarian, who, among other actions, had some of the youngest and weakest ponies and the pregnant mares excluded from the swim from Assateague Island, their home, to Chincoteague, where the auction is held.
• HSUS was critical of the fact that some ponies were left in a corral without care for as many as four days after the auction.

PONIES GET BETTER SHAVE—The Chincoteague (Va.) ponies were better cared for during the annual round-up and auction last summer, thanks to HSUS pressure. HSUS observers were pleased with changes such as the ban on tourists entering the corral (left), but they continue to be disturbed by the inadequate nourishment and care the ponies receive throughout the year, as evidenced by the pony in the foreground (right).

“Buyers should be required to assume responsibility for the ponies immediately upon buying them,” declared Phyllis Wright of HSUS.

Although HSUS was pleased with the improvements in this year’s round-up and auction, HSUS Chief Investigator Frank J. McMahon said he intends to continue his close surveillance of the event until all potential dangers to the animals have been eliminated.
The soleful puppy at left was alike and the amenities of unsophisticated behavior skillfully and environmental youngest of a sister, Myrtis, puppies. of the overwhelming responsibility for the care become the number of Cockleburr Dolph, realizing but where the "mammy" precludes half-blinded "mammy" dollar "caring." From there on in the book, Quarters, a community of Quarters is more- than a reward for retrieving the a concern for problems. He carries out his Dolph's con­ Charlotte to rescue Church, in the in the in the friend and cial­ly community. The book promotes the humane ethic, and clearly demonstrates the impact which a boy's concern for an animal can have on the total environment of a community.

Stuart Westerlund

HOW TO BRING UP YOUR PET DOG

Kurt Unkelback, illustrated by Sam Savitt (Dodd, Mead and Company, 1960)

This is a delightful, informative book on dog care and training written especially for young pet owners. The author's common sense approach is obviously the result of many years with man's best friend and reflects a definite desire to be dog's best friend.

The book contains all the traditional information on feeding, health care, and training of puppies and adult dogs, but the author's perceptive understanding of the dog's way of life gives an added dimen­sion so often lacking in other works.

Mr. Unkelback is definitely a friend of all human societies because he stresses the importance of ownership and the best­way for spoiling pets not intended for breeding purposes. He explodes the myth of the "fat and lazy"-spayed female. He lists human societies and reputable breeders as being good places to find "quality pups" and pet shops as the worst.

Many useful suggestions and information are included, such as constructing a proper run and dog house, ordering dogs from injuries, and training your pet to be obedient. Mr. Unkelback is a firm believer that dogs belong safely at home and not roaming the countryside. He graphically describes what can happen to pets whose owners let them run un­attend­ed.

A reference section lists many of the popular breed clubs, dog magazines and journals, and sources of free literature.

Legislative Roundup

The 92nd Congress, which adjourned in mid-October, enacted some significant animal protection legislation while water­down­ing or ignoring several bills consi­dered necessary by The Humane Society of the United States.

On this side:

- Wild Horses—making it a federal crime to kill or molest any unbranded or unclaimed wild horses or burros on public lands.
- Shooting from Aircraft—ban on shoot­ing or harrassing any animal from aircraft.
- Protection of Eagles—ban on killing, capturing, or selling bald or golden eagles, their eggs or nests.
- Marine Mammals—limited protection of marine mammals, weakened on behalf of sealing, whaling, and fishing interests.
- Responsibility to be shared by Commerce and Interior Dep­art­ments.
- Anti-Pollution—legislation enacted re­stricting use of pesticides, setting water quality standards, and regulating dumping in oceans, coastal and interior waters.

On the Minus Side:

Legislation on the following subjects was not enacted and must begin from scratch in the 93nd Congress next Jan­uary.

- Ban on steel jaw traps.
- Regulation of animals in research.
- Broadening of endangered species law.
- Restriction on predator control methods.
- Regulation of rodeos.
- Regulation of animals in transit.
- Withholding of federal funds to school districts enrolling animals in classroom experiments.
- Establishment of zoo standards.
- Special omnibus on killing of polar bears—differentery.
- Hunting for wolves—nothing passed by House and Senate but did not get to conference before end of session.

Education Development and Evaluation Project.

Mrs. Donna Truslow

Stuart R. Westerlund, Ph.D., is a pro­fessor of education of the University of Tulsa and director of the HSCS Humane Society, a University of Berkeley affiliate. He is the author of the President John A. Hoyt urged the International Assn. of Game, Fish and Conservation Commissioners in Septem­ber to resist being influenced by special interest groups in conducting wildlife management. Hoyt addressed the association's an­nual convention at Hot Springs, Ark., at the invitation of association officials.

"Be your own men and women," he said. "Don't be bought by the special interest groups. Don't play politics by giving in to bizarre hunting schemes that you, as professionals, know have little relation to the facts and still less to sound wildlife management."

He defined bio-politics as the persist­ence of public hunting in the American society coupled with the politics that conservation departments are forced to play, "often to the detriment of good game management."

"The day is long past when the titles 'sportman' and 'conservationist' can be widely held as synonymous," Hoyt said. "Don't be beguiled into believing that the high-powered and heavily financed house organs and lobbyists of the gun manufactur­ers accurately represent the increasing ecological and humane awareness of the American people." Hoyt said that, while The Humane Society recognizes the need to reduce herds of wild animals in many cases, public hunts are frequently conducted when there is no documented need for reduction.

The Humane Society would prefer to see over-population of wild animals curbed by the reintroduction of predators and the use of snares, but hold and, when it is absolutely necessary to call a herd, HSUS advocates the use of government marksmen rather than public hunts, who do not have to prove their skill to obtain hunting licenses.

"It is farcical to suggest that the public sector is lastly indifferent to the fate of the eastern elk, the grizzly bear, the polar bear, the wolf and the cougar, is temperamentally suited or skillfully equipped for the serious task of wildlife management," Hoyt said.
VET (Continued from page 1)

on a wide variety of animal concerns. His first project will be to make an in-depth study on current uses and abuses of animals in biomedical testing and research.

He will also continue to serve as chairman of the HSUS Veterinary Advisory Committee, a position he has held for the past year.

Dr. Bay has been active in national and local humane work for many years. He was the recipient of the first annual Albert Schweitzer Award for humanitarian service, given by the Animal Welfare Institute in 1955.

Last June he accompanied HSUS's Frank J. McMahon to the Pribilof Islands to observe the annual harvest of fur seals, which HSUS has opposed for many years. He has also assisted HSUS in its campaign to eliminate the cruelty to animals that occurs at rodeos.

Dr. Bay has also served as consultant to the Marin County (Calif.) Humane Society and to the City of San Antonio on means of improving the city pound.

Speaking at the HSUS Annual Conference in Salt Lake City last month, Dr. Bay said, "I frequently have to hang my head in shame because of the lack of cooperation given humane activities by my colleagues."

On the other hand, he said some humane groups have not set good examples of animal care. "Some of the most deplorable shelter conditions I've seen have been in shelters run by humane societies," he said.

Spaying Promoted on TV

This is a scene from HSUS's new public service spots on the pet population explosion, which were mailed to all TV stations in the nation at the end of September. If you haven't seen them on your station, call the public service director and urge him to use them. He should have received a 60-second spot and a 30-second spot, both on the same reel.

"But why can't we get together and work for a common goal?" Dr. Bay asked. He said he had joined the staff of HSUS because he believes HSUS is objective, willing to listen, and ready to provide necessary leadership in bringing humanitarians and veterinarians together.

Dr. Bay will be working out of HSUS's new West Coast National Office in San Rafael, Calif.