Implementation of Poage-Magnuson Act Threatened; Appropriations Battle Won as Congress Adjourns

During the last few days before Congress adjourned in late October, the recently enacted laboratory animal dealer bill, the Poage-Magnuson act, was faced with a new, unexpected threat.

The House of Representatives Subcommittee on Appropriations for Agriculture refused to grant an appropriation of $1,650,000 needed to implement the new legislation. Without a substantial initial appropriation, the U.S. Department of Agriculture would be unable to set in motion the machinery necessary to enforce the law.

Fighting against time, The HSUS protested to the members of the House Subcommittee asking that they reconsider their position. The Society also urged Administration officials to use their influence to restore the appropriation.

The Appropriations Committee of the Senate Agriculture Committee, conscious of the demand for quick implementation of the new law, restored an estimated $800,000 and this figure was then sent to a Senate-House conference committee for arbitration. The conference committee finally agreed upon an initial appropriation of $360,000 which, although not adequate, will be enough to get the program started.

It is understood that an estimate of the additional money needed will be resubmitted for consideration by Congress with the next regular annual appropriations bill for the Department of Agriculture. This is expected to be in the late spring of 1967.

Anti-Hunting Article Reprinted; National Distribution Planned

As part of its educational campaign against cruelties in the hunting of animals for sport, the HSUS is reprinting an article by the late Fred Myers, Vice President and Director of Education of The HSUS. The article, titled Lust To Kill, was originally published in 1952 and has been changed only slightly to bring it up to date.

The article has been described as an outspoken indictment of the evil of killing and crippling animals for pleasure. With inexorable logic it answers most of the common arguments advanced by proponents of hunting. It is considered a highly effective publication and nationwide distribution through interested organizations and individuals is planned.

Priced in bulk orders at 2¢ per copy, a free sample of the reprint will be sent to anyone requesting it.

Cruelty to Walking Horses Condemned; HSUS Polices Show

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Animal Protective League, Inc., Milwaukee, Wisconsin in early October, HSUS Field Service Director Frank McMahon condemned the maiming and “soring” of Tennessee Walking horses as one of the cruelest practices existing today.

McMahon said he had seen walking horses so maimed that they had to be forced onto their feet before they could enter the ring. He charged that common methods used to make the horse keep its weight off the front feet, thus producing the desired elongated gait, include driving of spikes into the hoof, wrapping chains around the feet and burning the fetlocks with acid. He recommended support for proposed Federal legislation—the Tydings bill, S. 3338—which is expected to be reintroduced in the 90th Congress. The legislation is aimed at outlawing the shipment in interstate commerce of any horse whose legs or hoofs have been made sore to alter its natural gait.

Mrs. Marie G. Thompson, President of the Animal Protective League, joined with McMahon in condemning the cruelty. She urged that a state law be enacted to stop soring and prohibit sored horses being shipped into Wisconsin.

McMahon and Mrs. Thompson subsequently policed a show staged by the Wisconsin Tennessee Walking Horse Association. Many of the horses inspected had old, healed scars on their front feet, evidence of once having been sored.
Struggle for Laboratory Animal Law Narrows to Choice of Bill; Rogers Bill Still the Strongest

The struggle for laboratory animal legislation seems to be narrowing down to a battle over which of the many proposed bills should be enacted. An estimated 32 bills were introduced in the 89th Congress and most are expected to be reintroduced in 1967.

The scientific community has supported the Royal bill, a disarmingly weak piece of legislation that would provide little real protection to animals used in medical research. However, this support is considered a tacit admission that laboratory animal legislation is inevitable and the Royal bill will probably be reintroduced next year. It is also anticipated that researchers and scientific organizations will try to stop enactment of additional legislation by pointing to the Poage-Magnuson act as a law that will protect animals in laboratories.

When Senator Lester Hill and Representative Harley O. Staggers introduced their research animal bills in the last Congress it was clear that the Johnson Administration recognized the public demand for such legislation and supported it. In testimony before a Congressional committee considering the Hill measure, the scientific community held hearings and announced its support for the Hill bill, now the Poage-Magnuson act, Dr. James A. Shannon, Director of the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., emphasized this position. Dr. Shannon said, in part, "... we want to emphasize that in our view there is a necessity for establishing national standards for laboratory animal care to be met by all institutions as a condition for receiving Federal support for research involving the use of laboratory animals.

Most humanitarians and humane societies supported the intent of laboratory animal bills in 1966 but splintered in the support of different proposals. The HSUS and a majority of the humane movement backed the Rogers-McIntyre bill which is still the strongest bill of its kind that has been proposed.

This bill also accumulated far greater support in Congress than any other bill of similar purpose and its reintroduction in the 90th Congress is expected to attract additional, new support.

Opponents of effective laboratory animal legislation are working hard to distort the issues and create fear of legislation in the minds of the public. The usual cry that the humane movement seeks to stop all uses of animals in medical research is being raised across the country. In a continuing stream of biased publicity is an article titled "Scientists vs. Animal Lovers" in the November issue of Harper's magazine. The article, written by a former physiological researcher, is filled with gross inaccuracies and distortions of fact. It draws erroneous and misleading conclusions that are clearly intended to influence readers not to support laboratory animal legislation.

The HSUS believes that the best argument against such false and unwarranted attacks is positive, aggressive work in support of the Rogers-McIntyre bill. The Society urges that all humanitarians unite in this crusade against cruelty in laboratories.

Questioned about strategy in 1967, HSUS President Oliver Evans said that the issue now is not if a laboratory animal bill will be enacted but which one. He cautioned that withholding support from the Rogers-McIntyre bill can only help to achieve passage of a much weaker piece of legislation. He urged that humanitarians write letters in support of the bill on a regular basis to their Congressmen even though Congress is not in session. "Such letters will be helpful," Evans stated, and "they may influence some legislators who have not introduced a bill to introduce one in 1967. This kind of Congressional commitment is the very best insurance we can have for achievement of the primary goal of protection of all animals used in medical research."

HSUS Affiliate Breaks Ground for New Shelter

HSUS Affiliate, the Marion-Grant County (Ind.) Humane Society, held groundbreaking ceremonies on October 4 for construction of a new animal shelter. The shelter is being built as part of an expanded program of humane work and is based on plans supplied by The HSUS.

According to the society's president, Mrs. Chester Shawley, funds to finance the entire project have not yet been raised. However, a good start has been made and the fund raising campaign will now be intensified.

Local organizations and commercial firms are cooperating by supplying building and construction materials.

West Virginia Society Becomes New Affiliate

The Greenbrier County Humane Society, Lewisburg, W. Va., was elected an Affiliate of The HSUS by The HSUS Board of Directors.

The new Affiliate had been visited by a staff executive of The HSUS prior to its incorporation and was founding Bureau of Education and maintaining high standards of humane work in all fields.

Other animal welfare organizations interested in affiliation are invited to write to The HSUS for a free copy of an explanatory folder which outlines procedures for affiliation and the qualifications that are required.

New Motion Picture Code Opens Door to Increased Cruelty

The Motion Picture Association of America recently released a revised Code of Self-Regulation governing the production of motion pictures. The section on cruelty to animals is brief and vaguely worded, opening the door to even greater abuse of animals in film making. The section reads that excessive cruelty to animals shall not be portrayed and animals shall not be treated inhumanely.

The old Code stipulated that an animal mistreatment offense could be charged and punished. Humane Association be present during the staging of animal action and prohibited contrivances for tripping or otherwise treating animals in any unacceptable manner. The HSUS has been dissatisfied for years with the enforcement of Code regulations and has repeatedly protested cruel uses of animals and movies showing scenes of violence to animals.

In early September, HSUS President Oliver Evans recommended strengthening of the existing code relating to animal welfare to Mr. Jack Valenti, President of the Motion Picture Association of America. He urged that the Association prohibit release of movie scenes in which animals are subjected to violence, regardless of whether or not production took place in the United States or abroad. He offered HSUS cooperation in any way that would accomplish the objective of humane treatment of animals used in motion pictures.

The Motion Picture Association did not respond to The HSUS offer. Instead, the new Code was released soon after, with the disappointing and ambiguous prohibition against "excessive cruelty." The wording gives movie producers wide latitude in animal action sequences and raises the question of when cruelty can be considered "excessive." The HSUS believes that all cruel uses of animals should be flatly forbidden.

HSUS New Jersey Branch Rescues Sick, Diseased Dogs from Crowded Kennel; Owner Arrested, Charged

The HSUS New Jersey Branch, working with representatives of the New Jersey SPCA, St. Hubert's Giralda and the Union and Middlesex County SPCA's, rescued 54 dogs and puppies from Masque Kennels in Gladstone, N.J., on November 1. The action followed a month long investigation of the kennel in which appalling conditions were uncovered. Owner of the kennel, Mrs. W. W. Elder, was arrested and charged with cruelty to animals.

New Jersey Branch Executive Director Donald Maxfield led the raiding party which included state police, two veterinarians, and HSUS Field Representative Dale Hylton of the Washington headquarters.

Many of the confiscated animals were sick and diseased. The veterinarian gave medical treatment where possible but had to euthanize four animals to end their suffering. Earlier investigation had disclosed filthy kennel runs and cages and dogs being without food for up to 27 hours. Arrangements were made by the Branch for proper care and medical treatment of the rescued dogs.

Maxfield reported that Branch investigation had actually started in early October when their Field Investigator Sal LaManna first visited the kennel. LaManna’s report prompted a full scale investigation leading to a public hearing on Mrs. Elder’s operation. At that hearing on October 20, the Board of Health voted unanimously to recommend revocation of Mrs. Elder’s kennel license. At a subsequent hearing on November 7 the license was revoked.

During this period the Branch took responsibility for the care and feeding of the animals. The Branch raised $2500 to help clean up the operation. Until then, Mrs. Elder had an excellent record of properly caring for her animals. That and her advanced years prompted the Branch to seek her voluntary cooperation. However, when she refused to accept free veterinary treatment, the Branch was forced to cooperate in other ways, a complaint was signed against her.

The rescue operation, though successful, was costly and the New Jersey Branch hopes that humanitarians throughout the state will help finance it. Contributions to help defray the cost can be mailed to The HSUS New Jersey Branch, 1140 East Jersey Street, Elizabeth, N.J. 07201.

Requests to The HSUS guarantee continuance of effective, long range animal welfare work. If you are planning a new will or a codicil to your existing will, write for our free booklet explaining the factors to be considered.
California Branch Fights Pound Seizure Law, Seeks Support of Humanitarians Throughout State

The threat of a pound seizure law, which aims at taking dogs and cats from pounds and animal shelters for laboratory use, is looming in California. Hearings to determine the viability of such legislation were held on September 6 before the state Senate Fact Finding Committee on Public Health and Safety.

As expected, most support for the proposal came from researchers and research organizations. Dr. Gerald A. Heidbreder, Los Angeles County Health Officer, strongly recommended a state law and explained that the city and county allow release of impounded animals to medical research. He said that institutions receiving impounded animals had to be certified by the county health officer and that about 30 institutions in the area had been cleared for this purpose. Dr. Norris Barenfus, a veterinarian working at the UCLA brain research institute also testified in support of the pound seizure proposal but admitted that UCLA, the Cedars-Sinai Medical Research Institute, and the Children’s Hospital of L.A. Research Institute were having no difficulty in getting the animals they needed for research. Senator Walter Stein, Chairman of the Committee, was swamped with letters of protest. Despite this opposition, it is expected that a pound seizure bill will be introduced in the California legislature in 1967. It can be defeated if humanitarians within the state unite against it and The HSUS California Branch is currently conducting a campaign to achieve this objective.

Belton Mouras, Executive Director of The HSUS California Branch, was a principal speaker in opposition to the proposed legislation. He testified that such legislation would increase the cost of local animal control programs, increase the numbers of stray dogs roaming the streets and countryside, endanger public health and safety, force private shelters with contracts for municipal animal control work to comply or close and, with all of this, would still be of no real benefit to medical research.

The HSUS has repeatedly pointed out that there is never a shortage of animals for research and, in any case, public pound animals are unfit for research use. The latter conclusion is evidenced by an evaluation of various immunization procedures on 2000 pound dogs by an investigative team of researchers from Western Reserve University. Apparently healthy pound dogs were immunized and observed for illness. No significant benefit was reported in use of immunizing biologicals; the serum was found to postpone disease but not prevent it. The dogs, as is virtually always the case, had been exposed to disease at the pound which developed after arrival at the laboratory, the incubation period having elapsed.

Excellent testimony opposing the legislation was also offered by animal welfare organizations. Senator Walter Stein, Chairman of the Committee, was swamped with letters of protest.

Of Mice and Mercy

The HSUS concentrates on major cruelties to animals but finds time always to see the sparrow’s fall. Its concern for all creatures is exemplified by the recent rescue of 113 mice from starvation and suffering.

The mice were shipped to Walter Reed Army Medical Center for experimental use. Delivery was refused because it wasn’t made within a twenty-four hour period, allegedly the maximum time limit for keeping them in a pathogen free condition.

REA officials, unable to cope with the situation, called The HSUS. Field Representative Dale Hytton investigated and arranged to have the mice humanely euthanized. It was all that could be done to save them from further suffering.

It is hoped that strong HSUS protests lodged with the Army Medical Center, the shipper and REA will prevent future cases.

Do you know how to judge if a humane society deserves your financial support? If not, write to The HSUS for free, explanatory booklet.

Model Laws Available

The HSUS Service Department has various model laws relating to the protection of animals available. Many of these laws are in effect in communities and states across the country.

Here are some of the considerable number that are available:

- Model Animal Control Ordinance
- Easter Chick Law
- Anti-rodeo Law
- Bloodless Bullfight Ordinance
- State Humane Slaughter Law
- High School Experimentation Spaying Ordinance

Single copies will be sent free of charge to any humane society requesting them.

African Animals Leave Quarantine in Clifton

The 53 African animals, saved from death on a ship bound for the Congo, have now been released from quarantine in Clifton, N.J., and are finally on their way to their destinations. They had been transferred to Clifton from an initial quarantine at Fort Slocum in Long Island Sound.

In August, the animals had been the subject of a sharp dispute between The HSUS and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. USDA officials had refused them entry into the country because the ship had stopped at unwholesome African ports. The refusal endangered the lives of the animals since, if a solution couldn’t be found, the animals would have been dumped overboard.

With HSUS help, the solution of sending them to an initial quarantine in Fort Slocum was finally worked out.

New Mexico Bullfight Proposal Defeated

The US joined with the Taxpayers Anti-Cruelty Federation of New Mexico in opposing a proposal by local businessmen to sponsor a series of “bloodless” bullfights in mid November. Governor Jack M. Campbell was requested to investigate the proposal and urged to deny a request for use of state property to stage the exhibitions.

Humane society opposition to the proposal was successful. Attorney General Bostom E. Witt handed down an opinion that such activity should not be permitted in New Mexico. Official permission to use state property was denied the would be sponsors.

Quick effective action by the local humane organization was principally responsible for the victory. It is recommended as an example for other organizations to follow when faced with such a situation.
HSUS Seeks Approval of Humane Education Program by NET; ALPO Pet Food To Finance New Film

The HSUS is continuing to give new meaning and dimension to humane education by exploring new media of mass education and developing new audiovisual aids to acquaint people with animal welfare work.

In accordance with a resolution adopted at the 1966 National Leadership Conference, the Society is currently investigating development of programs for telecasting over the nation's educational television stations. The Society, in cooperation with John C. Crabbe, General Manager of KVIE-TV, Sacramento, California, has submitted a proposal in outline form to NET (National Educational Television) for inclusion in NET's "What's Now" series. Acceptance of the proposal would mean that a segment of "What's Now" would be devoted to humane education and would be available to 114 subscribing educational television stations across the country.

The "What's Now" series is a half-hour program popular with children aged eight to twelve years. It is usually shown in the early evening on a Monday through Friday schedule.

Latest project in The HSUS's continually expanding humane education program is development of a thirty minute color film tentatively titled My Dog, The Teacher. The film will be simple but meaningful, expected to impress both children and adults with the meaning of humane conduct. A script is now under consideration and shooting will begin soon.

The film is being financed through the generosity of Allen Products Company, Allentown, Pa.

A dollar is a miraculous thing. It is a man's personal energy reduced to portable form and endowed with powers the man does not himself possess. It can go where he cannot go; lift burdens he cannot touch with his fingers; save lives and with which he directly cannot deal.

Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick

Clip and mail today

The Humane Society of the United States
1145 Nineteenth St., N.W., Washington, D. C. 20036
I want to help The HSUS save animal lives and suffering with which I cannot directly deal myself. Enclosed is $ ____________ to be used to make this work possible. (Gifts to The HSUS are tax deductible. A gift of $5 or more can qualify you as a voting member.)

Name ____________________________
Street ____________________________
City, State, _____ Zip Code __________

HSUS Attacks County Proposal That Could Send Animals to Labs

In early October, Prince George's County, Md., was the scene of another attempt to control the disposition of animals in the area. A proposal was adopted at the 1966 National Leadership Conference which would send unclaimed and unwanted animals to certain suffering in medical laboratories.

The County Board of Health, under the auspices of the Maryland state veterinarian, proposed an ordinance that would establish an Animal Control Commission with direct authority to decide the disposition of unwanted animals. All unclaimed animals would become the property of the commission, which could, in its own judgment, release them to medical research or even sell them to the pet industry. Under the existing ordinance, a few animals are being killed and sold to research facilities. The number could increase greatly under the new ordinance.

HSUS Field Representative Dale Hylton attacked the proposal at a public hearing before the Prince George's County Commissioners. He demanded that the ordinance be revised to include specific provisions for the disposition of animals. He pointed out that humane euthanasia or the placement in suitable homes are the only two proper methods of disposition of unclaimed animals in a sound animal control program. He also recommended including provisions for the spacing of female animals before release to adopters and maintenance of records for public inspection.

Spokesmen for the Prince George's County Humane Society and other organizations also opposed the ordinance. The Commissioners eventually agreed to consider the issue further in thirty days after the County Board of Health has had an opportunity to weigh the recommendations and possibly incorporate them in a new ordinance proposal.

New Jersey Affiliate Dedicates New Shelter

The Animal Welfare Association of Camden County, Inc., a HSUS affiliate, recently held dedication and open house for its new humane education center, wildlife refuge, and animal shelter. Mayor Barnaby W. McAulay of Voorhees Township dedicated the ceremonies, which were attended by about 300 people.

The local society has operated successfully without any animal sheltering facilities since its incorporation in 1947. It was elected to affiliate status with The HSUS in 1963 and has maintained consistently high standards of operation and conducted an outstanding humane education program. The Society's Director of Humane Education, Mrs. Charles I. Cluskey, also head Operation SPARED, a HSUS sponsored national program for reduction of surplus animal breeding.

The new combination humane education center, wildlife refuge and animal shelter is located on a 10 acre tract of wooded land and the wildlife refuge and nature trails will be developed under the supervision of the Audubon Wildlife Society. A booklet will be prepared for distribution that will identify the vegetation and wildlife in the refuge.

The animal shelter will offer 24 hour emergency service, seven days per week. Besides kennel quarters and isolation quarters for sick animals, the building will house a library and meeting rooms. A classroom has also been provided for children, teachers and others interested in planned programs by noted experts on domestic animals, wildlife and related subjects.

Opening of the triple purpose facility is fulfillment of a ten year dream of the society and its 3,500 membership. The HSUS was represented at the opening by Field Representative Dale Hylton who subsequently reviewed operational policies and procedures with the AWA board of directors.

Bloodless Bullfights Held in Texas

A series of so-called bloodless bullfights was held in Houston, Texas on October 21-23 despite strong opposition by the HSUS and other humane organizations and humanitarians. Appeals to President Lyndon Johnson and Governor John Connally to use their influence to stop the scheduled bouts were unsuccessful.

Legal counsel for The HSUS investigated the possibility of taking injunctive action but weak Texas anti-cruelty laws prevented this course of action. Still determined, The HSUS sent its Director of Field Services, Frank McMahon, to Houston to police the cruel spectacles and take any action that might be possible there.

McMahon found that a new type of banderilla was being used. It was barbless and adhered to a pad on the bull's shoulders when it made contact. The bulls were, as is usual in such exhibits, tortured and bailed. There was also some indication that the horns of the bulls had been slightly blunted. Unfortunately, none of these factors gave sufficient grounds for arrest of persons for cruelty to animals under state or local laws.

The exhibitions were poorly attended with gate receipts estimated at $250,000. Considering the staggering expenses of leasing the Houston Astrodome, the purchase and shipping of bulls, and the huge fees paid to the matadors (Antonio Ordonez alone was paid a reported $125,000), the bullfights are expected to have been a financial loss.

Upon returning from Houston, HSUS Field Service Director McMahon urged a concentration of effort on ending the barbarism of pitting man against beast for sport. "If this so-called sport is allowed to continue," he said, "treatment of the bulls will get rougher and bolder. In my opinion, we should work for a federal law to stop this barbarism."
WFPA Sponsors Successful World Congress; HSUS Officials Attend

HSUS President Oliver Evans and Mrs. Evans represented The HSUS at the fifth World Congress for the protection of animals sponsored by the World Federation for the Protection of Animals. The Congress, held on October 10-14 in Barcelona, Spain, attracted delegates from South America, Canada, Australia, Morocco, South Africa, the United States, and virtually all Western European countries.

The proceedings included lectures, technical reports and discussion of worldwide problems of animal cruelty. Cruelty in the commercial killing of seals for their pelts was condemned by a resolution which also called for support of an international boycott of articles manufactured from sealskin. The Congress urged introduction of humane methods of slaughtering food animals in Spain and other countries and development of a practical program to rescue stray and abandoned animals, reduce the world’s surplus animal population, and give humane euthanasia to aged and sick animals.

Other adopted resolutions re-affirmed opposition to all sports involving cruelty to animals, called for encouragement of efforts to develop methods of medical research not involving living animals, and expressed appreciation for the active cooperation existing between WFPA and world governmental organizations like UNESCO and the Council of Europe.

The meeting was also attended by HSUS Director Edith J. Goode and Scott Mahoney, Director, National Humane Education Center. The HSUS Connecticut Branch was represented by Mrs. John Davis Lodge, Westport, wife of the former U.S. ambassador to Spain. Mr. and Mrs. Roger Montgomery, directors of the HSUS affiliated Humane Society of Nacogdoches, Texas, represented the internationally known Kindness Club.

The HSUS recommends that all American humane societies and humanitarians join the WFPA. Annual membership dues for a society are 100 Dutch guilders (approximately $28). Individual memberships are $3 minimum. Details about the WFPA can be obtained by writing Mr. Armin Kuhnle, Secretary-General; Birmesdorferstrasse, 155; 8000 Zurich, Switzerland.

Political Candidates Bid for Humanitarian Vote in New Jersey

Humane issues became an important part of the political campaign of Lawrence F. Kramer, candidate for Mayor of Paterson, N.J. Mr. Kramer condemned the present animal control program and commended humane society efforts to improve it.

He pledged, if elected, construction of a new, modern pound, effective adoption service, humane euthanasia for unwanted animals, hiring of competent help, encouragement of veterinarians to settle in Paterson and inspection of pound facilities by authorized representatives of humane societies.

Incumbent candidates for re-election also sought the humanitarian vote, many issuing newsletters that included favorable articles on animal welfare legislation.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS


HSUS BRANCHES

HSUS headquarters receives frequent requests for information or advice on animal welfare problems in states with Society Branches. Such requests are best handled by the individual Branches which usually have detailed, specific knowledge of the problem. To help persons making such inquiries and others wishing to communicate with a particular Branch, we list below the mailing addresses of all incorporated Branches and the New York Committee:

The HSUS California Branch
2015 Jay Street
Sacramento, California 95814

The HSUS Connecticut Branch
P.O. Box 98
East Haddam, Connecticut 06423

The HSUS Minnesota Branch
10721 Humboldt Avenue
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55431

The HSUS New Jersey Branch
1140 East Jersey Street
Elizabeth, New Jersey 07201

The HSUS Utah Branch
P.O. Box 19222
Salt Lake City, Utah 84119

The HSUS New York Committee
140 West 57 Street
New York, New York 10019

If you and your humane society are not using The HSUS color film, People and Pets, you are overlooking an effective tool for humane education of children. Write for explanatory material.