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THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES



Connecticut Branch, Inc. —

ANNUAL SUMMARY —

P. O. Box 98, East Haddam, Conn., TRiangle 3-8671

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THE HUMANE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES IN CONNECTICUT IN 1965

The Society looks back on 1965 as a year of growth and varied accomplishment. Membership, activity and recognition have increased dramatically. Throughout Connecticut more and more people are aware of the need for the logical animal welfare program HSUS(Connecticut Branch) offers. However these same people have decided that beyond awareness, participation is essential. And they have participated--with their hands, their hearts, and their substance. We only wish it were possible to list individually the large numbers of volunteers for HSUS(CB) who have aided distressed animals in one way or another. This summary touches only on highlights but even so delineates HSUS accomplishment in Connecticut. The items listed below are not in any particular order of priority or category. To us, anything that concerns animal welfare is important.

HUMANE EDUCATION--Thousands and thousands of pieces of humane literature have been distributed statewide. These have dealt with surplus breeding, animal care, wild life, child-pet relationships, legislation, highway slaughter, animal theft--to mention a few. HSUS(CB) has been featured through radio, television, newspapers. Speeches have been delivered to civic, religious, educational and service organizations. Connecticut displays at the HSUS WORLD'S FAIR exhibit drew widespread attention. Under HSUS(CB) guidance and sponsorship a pilot model Children's Animal Welfare Society has been formed and is already a significant success. Our News Letter has continued to furnish our members with word of activity on the humane front in Connecticut and also to advise them on animal welfare matters of wide range. Our headquarters library in East Haddam was established and is already stocked with books, pamphlets, periodicals and files of interest to anyone studying animal welfare and the humane movement.

ANIMAL RESEARCH IN CONNECTICUT--During the year, staff visits were made to numerous Connecticut commercial, educational, research and medical establishments which conduct experiments on animals. Discussions were held with researchers. Experiments were observed. Quarters were inspected. Research programs were studied. Out of these visits has come a store of knowledge invaluable in calculating what can be done to help the lot of animals in laboratories. The knowledge acquired led to ideas now incorporated in the Rogers-McIntyre Bill for laboratory-animal care.

LIVE ANIMAL EXPERIMENTS BY SCHOOL CHILDREN--In this area, 1965 was a period of fact finding. HSUS in Connecticut visited schools and science fairs, questioned teachers and students, documented and photographed evidence all to the end that we now have a hard-hitting campaign for the abolishment of experiments in Connecticut schools which produce fear, pain, stress and suffering. We hope to win in the next year.

Directors: Thaddeus G. Cowell, Jr., President; Everett Smith, Jr., Vice-President; William Montgomery, Treasurer; Mrs. Warren Bradbury, Corresponding Secretary; Mrs. Helen M. Miller, Recording Secretary; Rear Admiral James C. Shaw, Executive Director; Mrs. Joseph Brennemann; William A. Copp; Mrs. William A. Copp; Mrs. Frederick Cunningham; Mrs. Torsten Forsberg; Howard Huntington; Leonard McPartland; Mrs. Osmond Molarsky; Harold Monoson; Morton J. Newburger; Mrs. James W. Partington; Mrs. Charles Pratt; Stanley Rockwell; John H. Roos; Mrs. Martin Wright. **Advisors:** Cleveland Amory; Mrs. Cleveland Amory; Mrs. Edmund Anderson; Dean Arnold; Robert H. Ballek; Mrs. Anya Seton Chase; Mrs. William Cuddy; Mrs. James Edgerton; L. Lawrence Frank; Rev. Charles N. Herrick; Mrs. John Davis Lodge; Dr. Charles McKew Parr; Mrs. Herman Steinkraus; Mrs. Edward A. Thomas.

MEETINGS--Membership functions last year featured distinguished humanitarians such as Cleveland Amory, Mrs. John Davis Lodge and Professor Richard Morris. These meetings afforded opportunity to present awards to the Humanitarian of the Year and Junior Humanitarians of the Year. One gathering, a benefit, saw the preview performance of the current Broadway hit Man of La Mancha, a musical play with a theme to which all humanitarians could subscribe.

COOPERATION WITH NATIONAL HSUS--The Connecticut Branch has supported vigorously the national organization in its programs. HSUS(CB) was represented at the national conference in Wisconsin. Connecticut HSUS participated in the road census of animal highway slaughter. Connecticut has publicized the National Humane Education Center and has backed national-supported legislation. Cooperation between National and State organizations is close and effective.

ANIMAL WELFARE IN BRIDGEPORT--Dedicated HSUS(CB) members who have worked long and earnestly to improve animal welfare in Bridgeport have scored such detailed points as better pound conditions, more accurate pound record keeping, improved rescue services, and additional municipal money for pound operation. Much remains to be done but, most importantly, excellent liaison has been established with sympathetic public officials.

STAMFORD SHELTER--The need for a municipal pound-shelter in Stamford prompted HSUS(CB) to initiate a citywide campaign for approval, funds and construction. At this writing, the Chief of Police, Finance Director and many municipal representatives support our efforts which are spearheaded by the HSUS Stamford Shelter Committee.

FAIRFIELD COUNTY RESCUE WORK--HSUS(CB) members in lower Fairfield County have organized The Fairfield County Animal Rescue League, a direct animal-welfare group already engaged in fine and fruitful efforts.

ADVISORY SERVICE--HSUS(CB) has advised countless people with animal problems ranging all the way from watering an elephant to patching a pigeon wing. Visits have been made to several areas to assist in the formation of local societies. Additionally, questions telephoned either to our East Haddam or Greenwich numbers have been answered with advice on where to go, what to do, who to see and in many instances have brought an HSUS representative to the scene to help out. People who write rather than call receive careful answers and help as well. Good workable relations have been established with numerous humane groups throughout the State so that cooperation and assistance may be mutually beneficial.

SCHOLARSHIP--An HSUS(CB) scholarship fund inaugurated last year will provide college tuition aid to the Connecticut Secondary School child who in any one year does the most for animal welfare. The fund is sufficiently large so that the prize can be awarded this coming year.

LOST OR STOLEN PETS--HSUS(CB) has instituted a lost-pet circular service which reaches chiefs of police, dog wardens, conservation officers, state police, state highway maintenance districts, shelters, veterinarians and others who might be likely to encounter a lost or stolen pet. Our \$500 and \$1000 rewards have been thoroughly advertised in this fashion. This service is available to anyone whether a member or not. Additionally, HSUS(CB) has supported the Resnick Bill (H.R.9743) which should halt traffic in stolen animals. Continued insistence that all dogs wear identification tags has resulted in authenticated cases of dogs being returned to their homes

from long distances. (For example, one dog lost in New Hampshire was returned to his Connecticut owner because he was wearing an HSUS tag.) Finally, HSUS(CB) has investigated and reported instances where animals were improperly obtained or disposed of.

BULLFIGHT EXHIBITIONS FOR CHILDREN--HSUS in Connecticut has persuaded a large national organization to drop bullfighting from the itinerary of high-school student tours to foreign countries.

HUNTING--HSUS(CB) has continued to alert the public to portions of the Connecticut game laws which give a measure of protection to game animals and birds. Under HSUS(CB) sponsorship a bill was introduced in the legislature to remove the fast-diminishing quail population from the game list. Although the bill stayed in committee until after adjournment, widespread publicity was given to the plight of quail. We believe we eventually can halt quail hunting either by law or regulation. HSUS(CB) further appeared at legislative hearings for other bills concerning wild life. Where pertinent HSUS(CB) testified at such hearings in behalf of animal welfare.

LEGISLATION--Aside from wildlife legislation, HSUS(CB) spoke at legislative committee meetings regarding dog pounds, dog wardens, chemical air pollution, domestic cat control, and limitation of sale of baby animals at Christmas and Easter. HSUS(CB) consulted with cognizant state and municipal officials regarding law and law enforcement in situations of concern to humanitarians.

FARM ANIMALS--HSUS(CB) investigated conditions in several farm sections and in specific instances of alleged abuse. Improvements have resulted where complaints have been lodged. A study has been started regarding the treatment of animals in automated assembly line farms.

DIRECT ANIMAL WELFARE--Hundreds of distress cases have been referred to knowledgeable HSUS(CB) members on the spot where the trouble occurs. HSUS members who desire direct animal welfare work have their wish granted. There is plenty for all to do.

ABANDONED PETS--Each year HSUS officers and directors find themselves engaged in extracurricular work rounding up and salvaging abandoned dogs and cats. The condition of some of these animals defies polite description. Something must be done. HSUS(CB) is doing it.

MISCELLANEOUS--HSUS activity has touched on a variety of other humane endeavors such as advertising rodeo cruelty, urging abolition of cruel furbearing-animal-traps, curbing Christmas and Easter baby pet sales, campaigning against air rifles and gas guns, and investigating pet foods.

WORLD FEDERATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF ANIMALS--HSUS(CB) is a member of this international group and has supported work in such fields as international animal transport, whaling, sealing, bull-fighting, humane slaughter and wild-life preservation.

LEAFLET ENCLOSED--The enclosed leaflet is part of our campaign to alleviate the surplus animal problem in Connecticut. Some 50,000 copies of the leaflet are being processed for distribution with more to come. If you wish additional copies, they may be obtained from our office for two cents each. Anyone desiring a large reproduction of the cat-dog portrait, let us know. If enough members express interest, HSUS(CB) would arrange for such reproductions.

FORECAST FOR 1966

We could say that 1966 promises "more of same" in humanitarian endeavor. And so it does. However, we list definite goals which will take a priority. Given below, but not necessarily in order of importance or execution, they are:

1. Passage of the Resnick Bill (H.R.9743) to apprehend and punish pet thieves.
2. Passage of the Rogers-McIntyre Bill (HR10049 and S2576) to provide care and protection for laboratory animals.
3. Abolishment of live animal experiments by school children.
4. Campaign to educate the public to the need for, and the means for eliminating surplus breeding of cats and dogs.
5. Protection of wild life by legislation and law enforcement.
6. Construction of shelters.
7. Improvement of pound conditions.
8. Effective unified effort amongst all humane groups in Connecticut.