Humaneness In Action: A Heritage For The Future

This year marks the 25th anniversary of The Humane Society of the United States. Founded in 1954 by a few humanitarians who were committed to an active participation in programs and to prevent cruelty and suffering to animals, The HSUS stands today as the nation’s leading advocate for the protection of animals. It is not by chance that we have grown and matured into this position of leadership. Rather, it is a direct result of the participatory way in which tens of thousands of HSUS members have responded to the challenge and opportunity to become personally involved.

There are few causes which have prompted individuals to any greater personal commitment than that which we embrace. With little or no personal gain to be realised, the dedication which has prompted so few to achieve so much is remarkable. For it is, finally, the commitment and dedication of individuals that makes any organization successful. It is a heritage of which we can be proud.

It is a heritage which must never be forgotten, an endowment which must never be depleted. For unless this kind of personal commitment and daring mark our future as it has our past, our endeavors shall surely fail.

Indeed, I am convinced that the future shall require even greater personal involvement and action. For the forces that perpetrate cruelty in the name of science, technology, recreation, fashion, and luxury are those same forces which appeal to our interest on many other levels. The foods that we eat, the clothes we wear, the recreation and entertainment we embrace, the scientific and technological advances we covet and enjoy — all these would compromise our commitment to protect animals from cruelty and suffering in subtle and hidden ways.

Personal choices and decisions shall mark the degree of our commitment to humane values each day of our lives. And though it may sometimes seem that our independent actions are too little or too late, it is those personal actions in concert with those of thousands and millions of others that shall create and sustain the effectiveness of our witness.

You are The Humane Society of the United States. The organization is but a channel through which our personal actions are concentrated into a vital and potent force for the welfare of animals and people alike. Let us hope that our future shall be worthy of our past.
Jojoba Beans
A NAHIE/HSUS sponsored California Environmental Merit Award has been presented to the fourth grade class at Chadbourn Elementary School in Fremont, California for a unique animal awareness project. The students were worried about the disappearance of the great (pronounced ho-bo) bean could be a viable fact.

They also contacted local farmers and succeeded in getting three of them interested in growing jojoba as a crop.
The children took their display with charts, posters, and flyers to a number of different meetings and events in the town, educating the public about jojoba and the need to save the whales.

The awards program, established by the California State Department of Education, is aimed at making students aware of the importance of their own field of interest.

Carter (51 West 52nd Street 10019)

Before looking for a puppy...

Convinced that responsible pet owners can bring an end to the pet overpopulation problem, HSUS is trying to make sure every kitty and puppy has one. Our latest effort in this line is two public service ads for the popular children's show Mister Rogers' Neighborhood. The pictured here urges readers to make pets. The other ad, headlined “It doesn’t hurt to pet when it’s neutered. What hurts is when it’s not.” It talks about the millions of homeless, unwanted animals and the need to neuter our pets to end this tragedy.

Both ads have been mailed to more than 350 magazines and newspapers with a cover letter asking them to consider using these ads to help make their readers conscious of the serious problem of pet overpopu-

Animals on the Air

The Humane Society News

Network executives have told him they would air more animal programs, which would provide more evidence of audience support. He suggests the most effective way to convince the networks we want more shows on animals and animal problems is to write letters urging them to give more time to these concerns. Letters to the Federal Communications Commission and major advertisers may also help.

HSUS urges you to make your views known. Here are the addresses of the three major networks:

ABC-TV
1300 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10019

CBS-TV
51 West 52nd Street
New York, NY 10019

NBC-TV
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, NY 10020

Before you go looking for a puppy, take a good, long look at yourself.

The Humane Society News

Cold Weather, Cold Pet?

Ice, snow, and freezing temperatures will soon be back in season. It's time to let your friends and neighbors know their pets can suffer from winter's chills unless special care is taken.

Outdoor dogs must have a waterproof, draftproof shelter to make it to protect it, plus the backing of the Supreme Court and a special Endan-

ered Species Review Panel, the snail darter should have been as secure as gold in Fort Knox. But special interest groups hoping to profit from the building of the dam succeeded in getting the project ex-

cepted from all law.

Leading the fight in Congress against the rare fish were Senators Baker and Sasser and Congressman Duncan, all of Tennessee.

Although experts have judged the Tellico Dam project to be economi-

cally and ecologically unsound on many grounds, the philosophical battleground during the two-year fight for its approval was the United States' commitment to save animal species from extinction. While the snail darter itself may survive in some artificial environment, without renewed fervor and outcry from humanitarians and environmentalists the Endangered Species Act may have received a mortal blow.

Mr. Stouffer produces wildlife documentaries for television. He feels television can be a most effective tool for educating the public about animals, and that if more wildlife programs were to appear on sitr, viewers would become increasingly concerned and active.

Convinced that responsible pet owners can bring an end to the pet overpopulation problem, HSUS is trying to make sure every kitty and puppy has one. Our latest effort in this line is two public service ads for the popular children's show Mister Rogers' Neighborhood. The pictured here urges readers to make sure they are willing to listen, license, neuter, feed, walk, and pay for veterinary care for a dog before becoming the owner of one.

The other ad, headlined “It doesn’t hurt to pet when it’s neutered. What hurts is when it’s not.” It talks about the millions of homeless, unwanted animals and the need to neuter out pets to end this tragedy.

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The Humane Society News

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Outdoor dogs must have a waterproof, draftproof shelter to make it through the winter. Shredded newspa-

per on the floor of the dog's house acts as a good insulator and affords more warmth than an old rug. Outdoor dogs also need more food in the winter to provide the energy for warmth. A pound of food to 25 pounds of dog is a good rule. And a pan of frozen water is as bad as no water at all, so in very cold weather, check the water supply often. Of course, the best thing to do for an outdoor dog when the temperature drops to 0° and the wind howls is to bring it inside.

Indoor dogs shed their undercoats and should never be made to stay outside in the cold for very long. Small or very short-haired dogs may need a sweater for extra protec-

tion.

The common use of rock salt or other chemicals to melt ice on sidewalks and streets can lead to paw problems. The defrosting chemicals can cause irritation and burning of the pads unless the pet's feet are rinsed after each walk. If the pet is allowed to lick its paws before rinsing, the chemistry may burn and irritate the tongue.

Cats are better off kept indoors. If you know there are cats wandering around your neighborhood in freezing weather, give the hood of your car a slap before starting it in the morning to scare out any cats that have cuddled up near the engine for its leftover warmth.

To Patricia Farrow

Seniors of your interest (R. 5, 917) are asked to send two copies of the bill in recognition of this

September 6, 1979

WASHINGTON

Sincerely,

CONVINCED THAT RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERS CAN BRING AN END TO THE PET OVERPOPULATION PROBLEM, HSUS IS TRYING TO MAKE SURE EVERY KITTY AND PUPPY HAS ONE. OUR LATEST EFFORT IN THIS LINE IS TWO PUBLIC SERVICE ADS FOR THE POPULAR CHILDREN'S SHOW MISTER ROGERS' NEIGHBORHOOD. THE PICTURED HERE URGES READERS TO MAKE SURE THEY ARE WILLING TO LEASH, LICENSE, NEUTER, FEED, WALK, AND PAY FOR VETERINARY CARE FOR A DOG BEFORE BECOMING THE OWNER OF ONE.

THE OTHER AD, HEADLINED "IT DOESN'T HURT TO PET WHEN IT'S NEUTERED. WHAT HURTS IS WHEN IT'S NOT." TALKS ABOUT THE MILLIONS OF HOMELESS, UNWANTED ANIMALS AND THE NEED TO NEUTER OUR PETS TO END THIS TRAGEDY.
**Don’t Buy Fur**

For nothing more than a fur coat, millions of animals are clubbed, trapped, sagged, tortured, and executed each year.

In some cases, animal species have been driven to the edge of extinction.

Other species are bred by the tens of thousands solely to be slaughtered for their pelts.

Countless wild furbearers fall victim to the most primitive and inhumane of all death traps: the leghold trap. The cost in suffering for each wild pelt must also include the thousands of so-called "trash" animals injured or killed in the jaws of the trap, then discarded because they were not taken from the wild, and buying a ratched fur was an acceptable alternative to wearing wild fur.

It is staggering to think of the hours of animal suffering that go into any fur coat.

**Fur Sales Down**

Why does anyone buy a fur coat? It's true they are warm, but it is certainly possible to be warm for a lot less than the $2,000 - $5,000 cost of even an inexpensive fur coat.

Furs are beautiful, but only on their original owners. Once the fur has been stolen from the animal it belonged to, it becomes a symbol of cruelty. How can that enhance a human's appearance?

Many people think owning a fur demonstrates status. Those who buy furs do seem to have money to burn, because the price of furs has skyrocketed in the last few years at a much faster rate than the price of other goods. But there are many ways to spend money lavishly without spending it cruelly.

Those who think of furs as a financial investment like gold or diamonds will be greatly disappointed. According to an article in the New York Times, Sunday, December 10, 1978, "...fur manufacturers and retailers say fur should not be regarded as a financial investment to be resold at a profit after several years. True, a woman can find that the price of a fur coat she bought at $4,000 five years ago stands now at $6,000 for a virtually identical garment. But although resale prices have doubled in recent years, the resale value is often less than her original price because fur depreciates the moment she first hangs the item in her closet."

Fur advertising emphasizes glamour. There is nothing in the ads to suggest the cruelty and suffering behind each fur. One wonders what would happen to fur sales if each ad said "brought to you by the Meatcutters and Butchers Workmen of North America" - the union which represents fur laborers. At least the reality of the "glamorous" fur's origin would be clear.

Who responds to fur advertising? A study of 350 women in a midwest city showed that the typical fur purchaser is a middle-class housewife with a high school education. The study showed that the older a woman is, the more likely she is to own a fur coat, so wearing a fur might be taken more as a sign of age than glamour.

A significant number of fur purchases are made by men buying fur garments as gifts for wives and girl friends. One wonders if these women would choose such a gift for themselves. Certainly men don't. Despite the industry's efforts to sell the idea of men wearing furs, annual sales of fur coats designed for men account for less than ten percent of all sales.

The most interesting fact revealed by the study is how few women own, or want to own, furs. Of the 350 women interviewed, only 70 currently owned a fur garment. Only 37 had any plans to purchase a fur coat in the next few years, while 292 had no such plans. Some of these said they couldn't afford fur, others said they would buy furs because they were opposed to the killing of animals for this purpose. The vast majority explained they simply had no interest or need for a fur.

That this attitude is widespread is illustrated by the steady decline since World War II in number of fur garments and items sold each year. The fur industry's claim that fur sales are on the rise is based on the fact that the price of each individual garment has gone up so steeply that sales measured by dollars are at an all-time high. This gives the illusion that furs are in fashion, in fact they are less and less popular each year.

In 1947 there were more than 2,200 fur manufacturing firms in the United States. By 1977 there were fewer than 700. The fur industry is shrinking and more people are becoming aware that pain and suffering does not make fashion.

**The Furbearers**

There are over 100 species of animals killed for their fur. The list of these animals is a real eye-opener. Mink, fox, and chinchilla are familiar fur names, but it is doubtful if most Americans realize that feral dogs and domestic cats yield popular types of fur in some European and Asiatic countries.

It takes four to five leopard skins to make a full-length coat. It takes ten lynx skins, and from 35 to 65 mink pelts to make a coat. It is staggering to think of the hours of animal suffering that go into any fur coat.

**Estimated Fur Garment Production and Sales in the United States for Selected Years**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Estimated Unit Production</th>
<th>Estimated Dollar Sales</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1945</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>$428,549,135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950</td>
<td>2,000,000</td>
<td>$244,074,730</td>
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<tr>
<td>1955</td>
<td>500,000</td>
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<td>1960</td>
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<td>1965</td>
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<td>1970</td>
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<tr>
<td>1975</td>
<td>470,000</td>
<td>$525,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1977</td>
<td>455,000</td>
<td>$613,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


**Ranched Furs**

In their concern for endangered species and the evils of the steel jaw trap, some conservation groups for years encouraged the public to "think mink." Mink were far from being endangered, because they were bred and raised in confinement on hundreds of mink ranches. Since they were not taken from the wild, they were not subjected to the torture of the steel jaw trap. It was felt ranch-raised furbearers had a more humane life and death than animals taken from the wild, and buying a ranched fur was an acceptable alternative to wearing wild fur.

It is no longer possible to believe this. Recent research shows that some ranched furbearers can experience such stress during life, and such suffering at death, that all ranched fur cannot be considered more humane than wild fur.

Mink, fox, and chinchilla are the principal furbearing species raised in captivity in the United States. Mink is by far the most popular, with about 1,100 mink farms pro-
There are in excess of 100 species of animals killed for their pelts. The list on the next page shows the names identified by the Federal Trade Commission of animals used for fur garments and other fur products.

Opossum, mink, seal, guanaco, fox and lynx. Photographs by Leonard Lee Rue II, Bobcat — Denese Henderson; Beaver and rabbit — HSUS

Producing between three and four million pelts each year, these ranches are found mainly in the northwestern and great lakes states where the colder climate is conducive to luxurious pelt growth.

The minks are raised in small cages, and are usually isolated in individual pens to avoid pelt damage from physical interaction. One breeding farm claims that 5,000 mink can be raised on one acre of breeding farm. Knutsen also found animals suffering from genetic defects caused by excessive inbreeding to produce mutated colors of mink. There are thirteen popular shades of mink, from white to pastel colors to black. These color strains are developed by inbreeding mink through several generations. Unfortunately, this can also result in genetic deformities such as blindness and neuromuscular disorders.

Knutsen claims that approximately 20% of mutated shadow mink have deformed sexual organs and are incapable of reproduction. The royal pastel mink has developed an abnormality known as "screwed neck." When an affected mink becomes frightened, it turns its neck so that the underside is exposed to view. This behavior is attributed to a disorder of the nervous system. A white mink known in Norway as the hedlund hvit is known to be completely deaf. Most food animals in the United States are protected from inhumane death by federal legislation, but there is no such legislation protecting ranch furbearers. These mink animals are totally at the mercy of their owners, in life and in death.

Domestic Animals

Among domesticated animals, rabbits are the primary source of skins, and may be the single greatest source of skins among all species whose pelts are used by the fur industry. Domestic cats and dogs and ponies are popular sources of furs in some countries. Perhaps the bloodiest and cruelest of the domestic fur stories is that of the Persian lamb.

Persian lamb fur is taken from the newly-born lambs of Karakul sheep. The lamb is killed within five days of birth, before its baby curls begin to straighten and the pelts diminish in value. The lambs are killed by severing the spinal column with a sharp knife. There are a variety of methods used to kill these animals. Although some may be humane, they are chosen because they do not harm the pelt, rather than for humane considerations. Some of the methods currently in use are:

**Inhalants:** Such as carbon monoxide, calcium cyanide, or chloroform.

**Oral Poisons:** Such as cyanide powder squeezed from a rubber syringe into the mouth of the animal.

**Injection:** Poisons, or such solutions as magnesium sulfate (epson salts).

**Electrocuting:** Mink may be killed by electrocution with each leg tied to an electric pole.

**Physical Methods:** Mink may be killed with a hand-delivered blow to the base of the neck. Male mink are first stunned by a sharp tap with a rubber hose at the base of the neck. The lambs are killed by severing the spinal column with a sharp knife.
Karakul lambs are slaughtered at a very early age when their fur is still soft and wavy. The photos here show karakul skins at a Bukhara factory where more than two million skins are treated annually; three young karakul sheep; and the end product, a fur coat of Swakara (a registered trade name for lamb fur).

Seals ordinarily come to land to breed. When they are in the water, they are much more difficult to kill. The method of hunting seals at sea is shooting. Many are wounded and escape to seal, or die, slowly. Attacked on land and at sea, some seal herds are believed to be depleted.

There is no way to wear a seal fur coat without supporting cruelty.

Trapped Animals

About 45% of all fur garments come from wild animal pelts, and most of these are taken from trapped animals. The trap most used in the United States, and in the world, is the steel jaw leghold trap.

In a better world, this trap would have been totally banned years ago. The agony and injury it has caused countless animals is well documented. More than twenty countries and a very few states have outlawed or restricted the use of this trap. Federal legislation to end the reign of the steel jaw trap has been introduced in the U.S. Congress several times, but heavy lobbying by trapping and hunting interests, and by the fur industry, has so far kept this humane legislation off the books.

The effect of the steel jaw trap springing shut on an animal’s leg has been compared to that of a car door slamming shut on a human hand. The trapped animal reacts in pain and panic, struggling to free itself from the trap. Sometimes the animal succumbs, at the price of one of its paws. The case of animals chewing off their own paws to escape is known as “wring-off” in the trapping field. The mutilated animal may be lucky enough to survive or may die a slow death from gangrene and infection.

Those who do not escape may eviscerate themselves by their struggles. Trappers claim they often find trapped animals lying quietly when they approach, and cite this as evidence that the steel jaw trap is not inhumane. In truth, the animal, worn out by its struggle, may have been left for two or three days without food and water, before the trapper came upon to check his lines.

It may have no strength to resist, as the trapper finally puts it out of its misery, usually by clubbing or strangulation.

The number of animals taken by the steel jaw trap each year in this country alone almost defies comprehension. In 1976-77 more than 8,000,000 animals were subjected to this barbaric contraption. Although some steel jaw trapping is done for predator control programs and for so called “wildlife management” (uses which HSUS finds generally ineffective and unwarranted), the majority is done for fur.

Animal shelters across the country know some of the side effects of use of the steel jaw trap. They are frequently called upon to deal with cases of dogs or cats caught in these traps. Often, it is necessary to amputate a paw or leg in order to save the animal’s life.

Thousands of non-target animals, such as porcupines, squirrels or ducks, are trapped each year and discarded because they are of no use to the trapper. These “trash” animals, as they are called in the trade, quietly contribute their own sum of suffering to the making of a fur coat.

The “Fur Coat Hurts” Campaign

In the past, traps and trapping have been the focus of attention when talking about the cruelty behind the fur coat. Now, it is obvious that virtually no type of fur is taken without some animal being mistreated. Humanitarians have to fight the whole fur industry, and not just the trappers.

The fur industry is already deteriorating. Fewer people are buying furs, and fewer people are making them. But the fur industry nevertheless spends millions of dollars each autumn advertising its product. This fall, the HSUS is striking back, and advertising its belief that no one who cares about animals and respects life should buy a fur.

Karakul lambs are slaughtered at a very early age when their fur is still soft and wavy. The photos here show karakul skins at a Bukhara factory where more than two million skins are treated annually; three young karakul sheep; and the end product, a fur coat of Swakara (a registered trade name for lamb fur).
The indiscriminate leghold trap sometimes shuts on pet cats and dogs. One common result is amputation of the mangled or gangrenous limb.

Obviously, HSUS does not have the funds to match the advertising power of the furriers, but we can ask for public service time to tell our side of the story. So we have prepared public service material explaining the animal suffering supported by the wearing of fur garments and the importance of furbearers in the environment and sent it to radio and TV stations, magazines, and newspapers around the country.

We have been warned that some of the media may refuse to use this anti-fur material for fear of alienating their fur store advertising clients. However we feel this message is so important it is well worth the expense to get it to the public, even if only a few papers or broadcast stations use it.

"Every Fur Coat Hurts" is the basic theme of our campaign, which is aimed at convincing people to not buy fur products. Many people may want to go one step farther and boycott the products of those who promote the wearing of furs. Some of the top fashion designers have lately begun designing furs. These include such noteworthy names as Yves St. Laurent, Givenchy, Ralph Lauren, Calvin Klein, Oscar de la Renta, Dianne Von Furstenberg, Geoffrey Beene, Halston, Pierre Balmain, and Charlotte Ford. These people add a lot to the glamour image the fur industry tries to project. If we refuse to buy any products of these designers, from clothes to perfume, until they stop designing furs, some may decide to end their participation in the grisly business of furs.

An animal's life should not be the price of vanity. Our refusal to support such cruelty, and our efforts to educate others so that they, too, will not buy furs, may be a beginning of the end for the fur trade.

Join Our Campaign

Make a personal declaration to do all in your power to stop the cruel exploitation of furbearing animals. Sign this pledge card and return it to The HSUS. Your contributions help us expand our campaign against fur coats and products, and for a contribution of $10 or more we will send you a decal to help spread the word. The decal says "Every Fur Coat Hurts," and pictures a sad raccoon caught in a leghold trap.

PLEDGE

Recognizing the inherent cruelties associated with all fur products and the threat of extinction facing many furbearing wild animals:

I hereby pledge that I will not buy or promote the use of fur for any reason whatsoever. I further pledge that I will make every effort to dissuade friends and associates from using fur products.

Signed ____________________________

Address ____________________________

City __________________ State ______ Zip __________

Return this card to: HSUS Fur Pledge, 2100 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20057

Kind, the official youth publication of The Humane Society of the United States is dedicated solely to children for the 8 to 12 year old group. The six issues are only $4.00 a year. Buy a subscription for your child or a gift for another child. Make checks payable to Kind. (Add 50c for subscriptions outside U.S.A.)

Kind subscription form

Name ____________________________ Age ______

City __________________ State ______ Zip ______

If you wish a gift card to be sent in your name, please include your name and address.

Give a child a Kind subscription and see who drops in!
**A Breakthrough for the Whales**

by Congressman Paul N. McCloskey, Jr.

Congressman McCloskey (California) served as Congressional Delegate to the International Whaling Commission meeting in London last July. His report to Congress on the most successful year yet for saving whales outlines the major accomplishments of the IWC meeting, and some of the problems facing us in the future.

It may seem strange that at a time when two great nations, our own and the Soviet Union, hold enough nuclear warheads to destroy mankind... that at such a time the human race wants to see its own species vanishing species — eagles, condors, caribou, mountain sheep, and perhaps more than any other species, the whales and porpoises. This philosophy, reflected in House Congressional Resolution 143, passed unanimously by the House and Senate and calling for a worldwide whaling moratorium, seemed to have gained increased support at this year's meeting of the IWC. I suspect that had the United States been willing to give up our insistence on bowhead whaling over the past several years, we might have been able to achieve the full moratorium on commercial whaling which both the President and Congress have firmly stated it is our purpose to achieve.

1. An indefinite moratorium was imposed on factory ships to harvest whales, excluding the minke. This should effectively limit whaling to offshore coastal operations by the countries involved.

2. A whale sanctuary was created in the Indian Ocean, with a ten-year moratorium on taking of all whales therein.

3. All stocks of whale species are now regulated by IWC.

4. This year's total quota for commercial whaling was reduced to 15,426 from last year's total of 19,626, or by 20 percent. The total tonnage caught will be at least 50 percent less due to the relatively small size of the minke.

5. There was a substantial decrease in the sperm whale quota, from 9,360 last year to 2,253 this year, a reduction of 77 percent. Last year's quota was made up of about 50 percent of the total whale quota; this year they are only 14 percent of the total quota.

6. The 31 percent increase in the minke whale quota, from 9,173 last year to 12,006 this year, causes minke whales to make up 77 percent of the total whale quota, as compared with last year's 50 percent. Minke whale stocks were considered to be in healthy condition by the Scientific Committee. Currently, their population seems to be increasing and its control may help in the recovery of the larger species approaching extinction since they eat the same food.

7. The IWC budget was more than doubled, to $625,000.

8. The IWC supported a U.S. resolution that all member nations cease importing whale products from non-member nations and cease export of vessels and equipment to non-member nations. The chief of fender and purchaser of whale meat, Japan, adopted a new law prohibiting whaling. Japan, adopted a new law prohibiting whaling.

9. The IWC Observer Scheme was expanded to provide non-whaling nations the opportunity to observe whaling operations, and to include more Japanese and Korean whaling operations.

10. Recommendations for improvements in the technology to reduce cruelty of the whale hunt were adopted by the Commission without change.

Despite the progress I have enumerated, much work remains to be done. First, because of the one nation—one vote procedure at the IWC, it is imperative that the United States do whatever it can to bring more non-whaling nations into the Commission. Although it is, of course, of greatest benefit to bring those whaling nations such as Chile, Peru, South Korea, and Spain — and I wish to commend the State Department and the Commerce Department for their work in insuring these nations' adhesion — we still must do whatever we can to counter these whaling nations' votes with that of new nations who would urge the cessation of whaling. For example, the State Department could begin with some of our friends off the Pacific, such as Fiji, Papua, New Guinea, and Tonga.

Second, the U.S. should work toward an amending to the IWC schedule, prohibiting all whaling activities by nations which fail to supply data on those activities. The U.S. has experienced a similar problem domestically in the last several years with regard to the tuna/po­rpoise problem. During Congression­al deliberation of all issues even this en­dangered species, we have it within our power to save the great whales and all our other helpless beings. It seems to me we have a great opportunity to set this kind of an example for mankind at a time when the people of our world badly need reassurance that those in power care. With all due respect to the native peoples of Alaska and their historic reliance on bowhead hunting, the primary whaling nation, Japan, has an equally long history of reliance on whale meat, and we are asking Japan to terminate such reliance. I strongly believe we should reexamine our bowhead policy in this light.

**G**

The IWC has for many years debated the number of whales to be taken in the course of a given year, and events make these issues almost irrelevant. What the people of the world ask is that we show ourselves capable of refraining from cruelty, of granting kindness to helpless beings, creatures that are in our power to destroy. While we may not be capable of halting this operation even all en­dangered species, we have it within our power to save the great whales and many other helpless beings. It seems to me we have a great opportunity to set this kind of an example for mankind at a time when the people of our world badly need reassurance that those in power care.

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In 1956, HSUS President R.J. Chenowith presented to Miss Anna Belle Morris a certificate of her status as the first member of The HSUS. Miss Morris joined in November, 1954, and it was a generous financial gift from her that enabled the then-fledgling society to print and distribute its first brochure.

At the 1958 Annual Conference we presented a bronze plaque to Senator Hubert Humphrey, in honor of his role as chief sponsor of the humane slaughter bill. Senator Humphrey was principal speaker at the conference, and is shown here at the banquet table with R.J. Chenowith and Alice Morgan Wright.

In 1966, HSUS Field Representative Dale Hylton testified before a special committee of the West Virginia legislature on rodeo cruelties. Hylton later became Director of Branches and Affiliates, then head of the KIND program for children, and is now Director of Membership Services.

Senators Harry F. Byrd, Jr., (left) and HSUS President Oliver Evans officiated at groundbreaking ceremonies for the National Humane Education Center in Waterford, VA, in December, 1965.

Fred Myers, co-founder and first Executive Director of HSUS, testifies in Congress in 1961 on a bill to protect laboratory animals. Under his direction, HSUS grew into a leading national humane organization with branches, affiliates, and members in every state.

Since its beginning, HSUS had gone after animal dealers who caused great suffering to the dogs and cats they handled. In 1966 Life magazine did a photo story on one HSUS raid of a Maryland dog dealer, Lester Brown. Life's coverage of the raid, led by Frank McMahon (left), caused much public outrage and gave impetus to the passage of the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act.

In 1956, HSUS President R.J. Chenowith presented to Miss Anna Belle Morris a certificate of her status as the first member of The HSUS. Miss Morris joined in November, 1954, and it was a generous financial gift from her that enabled the then-fledgling society to print and distribute its first brochure.

At the 1958 Annual Conference we presented a bronze plaque to Senator Hubert Humphrey, in honor of his role as chief sponsor of the humane slaughter bill. Senator Humphrey was principal speaker at the conference, and is shown here at the banquet table with R.J. Chenowith and Alice Morgan Wright.

In 1966, HSUS Field Representative Dale Hylton testified before a special committee of the West Virginia legislature on rodeo cruelties. Hylton later became Director of Branches and Affiliates, then head of the KIND program for children, and is now Director of Membership Services.

Senators Harry F. Byrd, Jr., (left) and HSUS President Oliver Evans officiated at groundbreaking ceremonies for the National Humane Education Center in Waterford, VA, in December, 1965.

Fred Myers, co-founder and first Executive Director of HSUS, testifies in Congress in 1961 on a bill to protect laboratory animals. Under his direction, HSUS grew into a leading national humane organization with branches, affiliates, and members in every state.

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In acknowledgement of HSUS' efforts to get a law passed to protect animals en route to research institutions, President Johnson presented Frank McMahon with one of the pens used in signing the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act in 1966.

Patrick Parkes, shown here at the opening of a new animal shelter in 1960, has handled several jobs for HSUS, from Assistant Director of the Service Department, to Executive Vice President.

In 1972, Phyllis Wright and Frank McMahon monitored the annual pony round-up at Chincoteague and found numerous cases of ponies being mistreated, such as the pregnant mare in the photo above that was forced to swim the distance between Assateague and Chincoteague with the other ponies. With HSUS thoroughly documenting such incidents, roundup officials agreed the following year to implement our recommendations for more humane treatment of the animals.

In 1968, while President of The HSUS, Mel Morse authored a book documenting the ways animals are abused and exploited in our culture.

In 1973, actress Norma Terris donated a 30 acre tract of woodland in East Haddam, Connecticut to HSUS. It became the site of the Norma Terris Humane Education and Nature Center. At first it was the New England Regional Office, later it became headquarters for the National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education.

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HSUS's Board of Directors posed at the 1972 Annual Conference in Salt Lake City. Reading left to right, in the front row are Dr. Amy Freeman Lee, Grace Conahan, Charlotte Griswold, Harold Gardiner, Amanda Blake, and Joyce Gilmore. In the second row are Mordaugh S. Madden, William Kerber, Collis Wagner, Roger Caras, Robert Chenowith, and Raul Castro. In the back row are Robert Welborn, Everett Smith, Jr., Jacques Sichel, Coleman Burke and John Hoyt.

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Director of Field Services and Investigations Frantz DitZier has represented HSUS in the fight to protect wild horses since passage of the Wild Free Roaming Horses and Burros Act in 1971. He is shown here in 1973 examining a small group of wild horses sent to a Nebraska slaughterhouse. HSUS went to court over the government's cruel treatment of the horses, and succeeded in stopping their slaughter.
Whether it's a large municipal zoo, or a roadside display of a couple of wild animals, HSUS' zoo reform program will take it on. Here, Sue Pressman who heads the zoo program, finds Tuffy, a fully grown Bengal tiger, kept in a small glass tank above the bar in a health club. Pressman succeeded in convincing the owners to release Tuffy to her, and relocated it in a natural habitat zoo in Texas.

In March, 1971, HSUS went "on the road" with its leadership training workshop. Now, workshops on "solving animal problems in your community" are scheduled regularly in cities around the country. Shown here at the first workshop in Tyler, Texas is Phyllis Wright at the podium, with Frank McMahon and Dale Hylton to her left.

In 1971, HSUS instituted the Joseph Wood Krutch Medal, awarded annually to an individual for significant contribution towards the improvement of life and environment. In 1975, the medal was given to author and anthropologist Loren Eiseley, shown here with HSUS Board Chairman Coleman Burke.

In 1974, HSUS moved to its current quarters at 2100 L St. N.W. in Washington D.C. In 1976, the building was dedicated to the memory of Oliver M. Evans, a co-founder of HSUS, member of the Board of Directors for 18 years, and President of the Society from 1963 to 1967.

HSUS' Director of Wildlife Protection Sue Pressman is one of the few people in the world to have observed all three of the world's major seal hunts. Shown here (far left) at the South African seal hunt in 1979, Pressman had been to the Pribilof Island hunt in 1969, and later was allowed to view the Canadian harp seal hunt in 1978.

In 1976, HSUS successfully sued to halt the roundup of wild horses near Challis, Idaho. The presiding trial judge called the roundup plans "arbitrary, capricious and contrary to law," and agreed with every point HSUS made in the suit. Shown here in front of the courthouse on the day of the trial are author and wild horse expert Hope Ryden, HSUS President John Hoyt and Vice-President Patricia Forkan, and TV personality Lorne Greene.
CHAPTER 2

The Humane Society News • Fall 1979

Money Laundering and the Drug Trade

By Frank M. Johnson

The government's war on drugs is indeed a war on the people, says Frank M. Johnson, author of Money Laundering and the Drug Trade. He argues that drug money is being used to fuel a criminal underworld that is driving up inflation, creating a black economy, and diverting scarce resources away from the legitimate private sector. Johnson calls for a return to the principles of free enterprise and individual liberty. He also recommends legislation to curtail wiretapping and other government surveillance methods, which he charges are being used to silence political opponents.

The Humane Society News • Fall 1979

Horses Suffer En Route to Slaughterhouse

By J. Holmes

Horses are being transported to slaughterhouses in the United States in filthy, overcrowded conditions that are causing them great suffering. The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) has conducted an investigation of horse transport and has found that many horses are being shipped without proper food or water, are being crowded, and are subject to abuse and neglect. The HSUS has called for legislation to protect horses in transit and to ensure humane treatment of these animals.

The Humane Society News • Fall 1979

Rattlesnakes Victimized in Roundups

By J. Holmes

In a rattlesnake roundup, hundreds of snakes are killed and butchered, often without any regard for their suffering. The HSUS has conducted research on rattlesnake roundups and has found that these events are not only cruel, but also ineffective as a means of controlling the snake population. The HSUS is calling for an end to rattlesnake roundups and for a shift towards non-lethal methods of managing snake populations.

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Horses Have Been Slaughtered Without Proper Food or Water

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As many of our members and supporters are already aware, Alice Morgan Wright, who was internationally known and beloved for her dedication to and work with animals, died in Albany, New York, in April of 1975. In her Will, she gave full expression to her lifetime of compassion, understanding, and concern. In Clause Seventeenth of that extraordinary instrument, Miss Wright, in specific terms, set forth her precepts as follows: "For all friends and defenders of animals, I recommend the following objectives, and for each organization which is to receive a bequest under this my last Will and Testament, I prescribe and urge that it adopt and hold fast the specific objectives that are applicable to its field of effort:

(a) To oppose cruelty to animals in all its forms.
(b) To strive for an end to bullfighting, rodeos, and all other cruel sports, wherever practiced or advertised in art, photography and television.
(c) To defend wildlife against cruelty in hunting, trapping and poisoning.
(d) To aid or initiate programs of slaughter reform.
(e) To succeed the overdriven and the underfed, the beaten and abused.
(f) To teach humane handling and care of work animals and food animals.
(g) To cooperate in efforts to find and put into practice more humane methods of catching and killing the marine fauna, especially whales and seals.
(h) To establish laws in defense of animals and to strive for their enforcement wherever such laws exist.
(i) To protest animal suffering, individual as well as collective, and to provide financial aid to other societies and organizations which, in the absolute discretion of The HSUS, shall be selected to receive such aid. The Will then suggested that specific consideration be given to some thirty-two named or organizations throughout the world with which Miss Wright had been concerned during her lifetime.

The HSUS, by means of a questionnaire to each of these organizations, has elicited data and information concerning their aims and programs, and has submitted the materials that have been submitted, and has made allocations covering the income available for disbursement from the investment of this trust corpus during the year 1978. Set forth below is a copy of an audited statement of assets, liabilities, receipts and disbursements of The Alice Morgan Wright — Edith Goode Fund from its inception in February, 1978, through December 31, 1978, along with a list of the organizations that have been given grants from this first annual allocation of the distributable income. Each of these grantees was specifically named in Miss Wright’s Will. The total amount available for distribution was $72,595.00.

We would also like to note that in Clause Twenty-First of Miss Wright’s Will, she further expressed the following: "It is my hope that the corpus of the Trust Fund shall continue as long as possible and that it may from time to time be augmented by gifts from humanitarian lies through publicity, promotion and solicitation."
Thank You . . .

Last year your purchases of Bo-Tree’s beautiful full-color calendars netted HSUS over $12,000. 1980 calendars are available now, and once again you can save money and help HSUS at the same time.

Choose from Bless The Beasts, Horses, Whales and Friends. These 12” x 12” calendars have lots of writing room, and they make great gifts for friends, too.

Order Now
• Purchase 1 calendar; just $5.95 postpaid.
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Enclosed is $ ______. Please send the following calendars to:

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□ I've enclosed addresses of friends and a list of the calendars 1'd like sent to them.

Title No. Unit Cost Total
Bless the Beasts
In The Company Of Cats
Horses
Doggone!
Whales and Friends

Total Amount Enclosed

Clip and mail to: Bo-Tree Productions, Dept. HS
300 W. Osborn #218
Phoenix, AZ 85013

AROUND
THE REGIONS

Wild Animal “Breeding Farm” Closed in Florida

The “Vanishing Species Breeding Farm” in Trenton, Florida is finally closed. It was a menagerie without meaning, a collection of wild animals kept in inhumane conditions. The Southeast Regional Office (SERO) received an ad about this “farm” from a Gainesville newspaper sent by an HSUS member who wondered if HSUS would investigate. Don Coburn, Regional Director, called Fran Alshouse, the Executive Director of the Alachua County Humane Society, to request any information they might have. Nine months later the owner of Vanishing Species agreed to close rather than face court action. Four visits by regional investigator Bernie Weller, investigations by the Alachua County Humane Society, by officers of the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, and a recent complaint to the Southeast Regional Office by a private citizen finally accomplished the closing of this compound and brought relief to the animals.

Animal control problems have kept the SERO staff busy this summer. Last spring, Coburn was requested by the York County (SC) Humane Society to visit and evaluate one of the county’s shelters. After his initial inspection of the shelter in Rock Hill, South Carolina, Coburn discussed the situation with members of the humane society and agreed to help them in their efforts to improve conditions for the animals. Subsequently, Bernie Weller went to York County and made a number of recommendations for improvements at the shelters.

On August 20, York County voted the funds to build a central shelter. The plan includes a spaying and neutering program, and an annual operating budget of $85,000. HSUS is happy to have played a part in bringing about these changes in York County’s animal control program.

An urgent call last June from the Mississippi Animal Rescue League in Jackson, to the Southeast Region’s Director, requested assistance in preventing the city from enacting a proposal which would permit the destruction of stray dogs by gunfire. Don Coburn responded immediately with mailgrams to the mayor, two city commissioners, and the city attorney supporting the objections of the Animal Rescue League and offering HSUS’ assistance to create an alternative plan. At the same time, Bill Smith, HSUS Accreditation Associate, sent a letter on the same subject to Jackson’s mayor in which he advised: “Shooting is not an acceptable substitute for professional animal control.”

In August Bernie Weller met with the Jackson commissioners and representatives of the Animal Rescue League to discuss the animal control ordinances for Jackson. The city officials, according to Weller, were receptive to many of the suggestions offered by The HSUS representative.

West Coast Office Discourages Raccoons As Pets

HSUS’ West Coast Regional Office (WCRO) reports an upsurge in problems caused by the popularity of wild animals as pets. Raccoons are the major victims in this latest round of complaints.

Often, the raccoon’s owner paid more than $100 for the animal with no warning of its liabilities. At maturity, a raccoon may weigh up to forty pounds. While it may appear to be tame, it can have a nasty temper with a short fuse. Raccoons have very sharp teeth and can inflict serious injuries by biting and scratching.

Since raccoons are susceptible to both feline and canine distemper, there is a good chance the animal will pick up a painful and usually fatal dose of one of these diseases unless vaccinated against both. A rabies shot is needed, too, and the wrong vaccine given to a wild animal can cause it to contract rabies instead of preventing it.

Faced with this expensive and difficult animal in their home, many owners give up and turn their raccoons over to the local humane society or animal control agency. Few of these intended pets can be rehabilitated, so they are humanely euthanized. Other owners abandon them in the wild, where they soon die from starvation or disease since they can’t fend for themselves.

Groups such as the Wildlife Rehabilitation Council in Walnut Creek, California, have contacted The HSUS seeking a means of halting this raccoon craze. The West Coast Office is spreading the message to the public: Keeping wild animals as pets is dangerous and cruel. Pound seizure will be a major issue in California in the months ahead. In June of this year, the City Councils of San Juan Capistrano and the City of Placentia voted unanimously to halt the sale of live impounded animals from their shelters to research facilities.

Humanitarians are becoming increasingly upset over animal shelters that release animals to research and ordinances requiring them to do so. Mercy Crusade, a humane organization based in Los Angeles, recently called on the County Board of Supervisors to repeal the county ordinance that requires the LA County Department of Animal Regulation to release animals for laboratory experimentation. WCRO Director Charlene Drennon reports that
Assemblyman Henry Mello authored AB 3165 to outlaw such practices in California during the last session of the legislature. However, his bill was amended due to pressure from researchers and some animal control agencies. Now animal shelters that do release animals for such purposes must advise citizens surrendering their pets that the animal may be used for research.

The WCRO frequently receives calls from people who don’t want to see the Animal Welfare Act enforced. Rather than relying on training and breeding to accomplish the Big Lick, some competitors use chemical or mechanical means to make the horses’ front legs or hooves sore. The sore foot hurts when it touches the ground, and the horse reacts by pulling it up quickly, giving the appearance of prancing.

Although this sor ing is illegal, lack of proper enforcement and new methods without leaving obvious scars have made it possible for this practice to continue. Gonnerman reports now that the full rule making of the federal Horse Protection Act has made a real impact in stopping sored horses from being shown in Missouri. The Scar Rule prohibits a horse to be shown at any time without a mark and has been very effective at eliminating this abuse.

Regional Investigator Rick Collard has a detailed proposal for this practice to continue. Gonnerman reports now that the full rule making of the federal Horse Protection Act has made a real impact in stopping sored horses from being shown in Missouri. The Scar Rule prohibits a horse to be shown at any time without a mark and has been very effective at eliminating this abuse.

Gulf States Field Investigator Rick Collard and the pathetic lion found chained in a car junk lot. He is looking for a way to work through local health laws to force the owner to give up the lion and relocate it to a more appropriate and humane environment.

The horses may be inspected manually and visually, or by a machine which measures the skin temperature (a sore area will have a higher temperature than normal skin) or by both.

In July, Gonnerman served in an advisory capacity at an organizational meeting of the newly formed Nebraska Federation of Humane Societies. The first priorities for the Federation will be to obtain better legislation to protect animals.

In Iowa, the city of Davenport recently passed an ordinance providing the use of any steel jaw leghold trap within the city limits. The new ordinance also bans the use of conibear or snare traps.
In spite of the gasoline shortage, forty-five persons from New England, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania attended a workshop sponsored by the HSUS New England Regional Office on June 15 and 16. Held at the Sheraton Inn-Townes in Albany, New York, the program featured presentations on all aspects of humane society programming by HSUS President John Hoyt, Animal Sheltering and Control Director Phyllis Wright, Director of Field Services and Investigations Franta Danzlizer, Associate Director of NAHS Katchy Saviky, and Regional Director John Inman.

Of particular interest was the "mock trial" held at HSUS' Albany animal control workshop. The trial helped participants to gain experience in taking an animal cruelty case to court.

Phyllis Wright testifies at the "mock trial" held at HSUS' Albany animal control workshop.
Laboratory Animals

In the Summer 1979 News we reviewed H.R. 282 sponsored by Congressman Robert Drinan (D-Mass.), which would provide $12 million "to promote the development of research, experimentation, and testing that minimize the use of, and, where, and when, substitute for, animals." Since then, a complementary bill, H.R. 4479, sponsored by Congressman Ted Weiss, was introduced. It would establish a commission to be called the "Commission for the Protection of Laboratory Animals." The Commission would study alternative methods to the use of live animals in laboratory research and testing. Both bills would take a step towards the development and use of alternatives to laboratory animals.

HSUS defines "alternative methods" as those which will reduce the numbers of animals required, reduce the amount of stress and pain, or replace the use of animals completely. In addition, an even more comprehensive bill, H.R. 4631, has been introduced by Congressman Fred Richmond (D-NY). Called The Research Alternative Methods to the Use of Laboratory Animals Bill, this bill would establish a commission to be called the "Commission for the Protection of Laboratory Animals." The Commission would study alternative methods to the use of live animals in laboratory research and testing, something which is badly needed.

Money to develop and use alternative methods would come from existing agency funding already budgeted for live animal testing. This is one way to avoid additional costs as well as force agencies to be more serious in their approach to the use of live animals. The bill states that "continued reliance on animal experimentation delays the development of new, more effective procedures."

Finally, the bill requires that more careful, more refined methods be used to train scientists in methods of research and testing which do not involve the use of live animals. The HSUS will be vigorously working for federal legislation to determine the need for animals and eliminate their use whenever possible.

Endangered Species Reauthorization

The besieged Endangered Species Act is up for reauthorization this fall, and already the attack has started. Congressman John Breaux (D-LA) has introduced nine amendments which he has labeled "technical and improving." One of them is the E.S.S.A. (Endangered Species Scientific Authority) Act of 1979. This bill undoubtedly has a greater impact on the course of animal use in biomed- ical research than the other legisla- tion. For the same reason it is expected to bring the most strenuous objections from segments of the biomedical research community.

The bill recognizes that a vast amount of animal use in the United States is conducted or sponsored through grants and contracts by the federal government. Therefore, it sets up a National Center for Alternative Research with the Department of Health, Education and Welfare (HEW) to ensure that each agency which conducts or sponsors research and testing involving the use of live animals shall use alternatives where possible or methods which minimize or eliminate the use of animals used in research and testing.

The new center would prepare an annual plan identifying alternative methods and would send directives to agencies recommending new alternatives or new research into promising methods. The center would work as a central clearinghouse on alternatives and digital- tion in animal testing, something which is badly needed.

Justice Department Funding, Update

As the result of much hard work by HSUS and a few other organiza- tions, the Senate and House Appropriations Committees have agreed on a compromise increase in funding of $2.5 million for The Lands and Natural Resources Division of the Department of Justice (See HSUS News, Summer, 1979). Your letters were helpful in convincing the committee members that this was an important increase to ensure that federal animal welfare and environmental laws will be more strictly enforced. Of special interest to us will be the expansion of the Wildlife Enforcement Division. With the aid of six additional lawyers, Division Head Ken Berlin plans to launch a major campaign to end the cruel and wasteful illegal trafficking in exotic wild lifefor pets. We will continue to work with the division on this issue.

Greyhound Training

Congressman Glenn Anderson of California, along with twenty co-sponsors, has introduced a bill which would prohibit the use of live lures to train racing greyhounds. H.R. 4631 would amend the Animal Welfare Act to make the barbaric practice of couring a federal offense. Passage of this bill would mean an end to the hideous suffering of helpless animals at the hands of some racing dog trainers. Currently, greyhounds are turned loose to chase rabbits in an enclosed area, allowing the dogs to catch and rip the defenseless creatures apart. Another method of training involves tying the hind legs of a rabbit (there are some reports of kittens being used) to a mechanical arm which car- ries the dangling, screaming animal around the training track as the greyhounds chase it and bite and tear at it.

Several vocal opponents to this bill have already launched a lobbying campaign in Congress to allow continued reliance on animal experimentation delays the development of new, more effective procedures.

Finally, the bill requires that more care- ful, more refined methods be used to train scientists in methods of research and testing which do not involve the use of live animals. The HSUS will be vigorously working for federal legislation to determine the need for animals and eliminate their use whenever possible.

Congressional hearings were held in September on H.R. 5033, a bill calling for an end to the clubbing of North Pacific fur seals on the Pribilof Islands in Alaska. Since 1911, the North Pacific Fur Seal Treaty between the United States, Canada, Japan, and the Soviet Union has required the U.S. government to conduct an annual harvest of fur seals and give 15% of the harvest to Japan and 15% to Canada. The Soviet Union conducts its own harvest. In exchange for

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Greyhound Training

Congressman Glenn Anderson of California, along with twenty co-
BLM Roundup Of Challis Horses Thwarted Again

In August, 1976, The HSUS and the American Horse Protection Association won a permanent injunction from the United States District Court in Washington, D.C., stopping the planned roundup of up to 260 wild, free-roaming horses from the Challis, Idaho, wild horse range.

The Court found that the BLM had failed to take steps to mitigate injuries and possible death to the horses during the roundup and lacked accurate herd population data to determine whether any roundup was necessary.

Three years later, in August, 1979, the BLM asked the court to dissolve the injunction and allow a roundup of over 600 horses from the Challis land. The BLM claimed that it now had accurate data on the wild horse population, that the herd's excess numbers were causing damage to the range by overgrazing, and that roundup procedures and equipment had been devised to minimize injuries to the horses.

HSUS and the American Horse Protection Association opposed the government's motion, arguing that the government's range management program still had its primary goal the maximization of cattle usage at the expense of the wild horse herds. The court basically accepted HSUS and AHPA's arguments, but approved a modest reduction in the herd's populations in order to preserve the range.

Under the court's order, BLM will be allowed to remove no more than 150 of the Challis horses, carefully selected by age and sex so as not to disturb the herds' social groupings and breeding capacity as little as possible. HSUS and AHPA will have representatives at the roundup to insure the horses are gathered and treated humanely.

Turtle Farmers Seek to Overturn F.D.A. Ban

In 1975, at the urging of HSUS and the Consumer Union, the Food and Drug Administration imposed a ban on the sale and shipment within the United States of small turtles intended to be used as pets. The court basically accepted HSUS and AHPA's arguments, but approved a modest reduction in the herd's populations in order to preserve the range.

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Turtle-related salmonellosis was found to be especially prevalent in small children, who tend to handle their pet turtles without washing their hands afterwards.

Since 1975, the turtle farming and shipping interests have been at work on a scheme which would produce and market Salmonella-free turtles and convince the F.D.A. that the ban should be lifted.

In August, 1979, the National Turtle Farmers and Shippers Association petitioned the F.D.A. to lift the ban and submitted evidence of its plan to produce and market turtles which supposedly will not be a health hazard. The plan calls for turtle eggs to be washed in a chlorine bath and then become impregnated with an antibiotic, Gentamicin, which is intended to destroy any Salmonella bacteria inside the egg. The eggs would then be hatched in a sterile incubator. Each small turtle would then be packaged inside a plastic container with a filter attached which allegedly allows enough exchange of air to keep the turtle alive but does not permit contamination of the turtle by organisms outside the container. The turtles would remain in the plastic container, without food, until they are sold. Consumers would be given detailed instructions by the pet store as to how the turtles can be kept disease-free, along with tablets of a chemical to be added to the turtle's water to prevent contamination.

While many details of the turtle industry's scheme have not been made public, The HSUS at present intends to oppose the industry's proposals for lifting the ban. Several aspects of the marketing scheme appear to be debilitating and inhumane to the turtles, in particular, the keeping of turtles in sealed plastic containers for long periods, possibly weeks, and the home use of disinfectant tablets. HSUS feels that the public is ill-served by the marketing of reptiles as pets which may be debilitated by the time of sale and which, in any event, require a kind of specialized and knowledgeable care that most consumers cannot provide.

Compiled by Murdaugh Stuart Madden, HSUS General Counsel, and Roger Kindler, Associate Counsel.