Don’t Stop Now

The clubbing and killing of seals, whether it be the white coat baby harp seals in Canada, the bachelor Northern Pacific seals in the Alaskan Pribilof Islands, or the Cape Fur seals from the South African Coast, is ultimately a question of personal vanity. Except for the very lucrative market in men and women’s fur fashions, there would be little need or incentive to conduct the annual seal killings in the places of abode for these magnificent mammals.

There is probably no other animal welfare issue in which personal decision and choice can have so significant an impact on eliminating this brutal and insensitive slaughter. Yet it would seem that for every person making a choice not to buy fur products, there is added to the purchasing public someone else who offsets that gain.

Is it, so it would appear, a losing battle.

Yet I am not persuaded such is the case. Too often we are overanxious to measure our achievements and successes in terms of days, or months, or even years. We want to see and know that our decisions, our actions, and our protests are making a difference here and now. And when unable to measure those gains, we become discouraged, frustrated, and often despairing.

Suppose, however, that we put aside the question of successes and gains, and ask again the question, “Is what I am doing right? Is it a decision consistent with my ethical and moral attitudes about other living creatures?” If no one else but I answered these questions in the affirmative, then at least this much gain has been made. And because I know there are thousands and millions of others who have made a similar choice, I know the gain is multiplied many times over.

Consider the fact that issues such as the clubbing and killing of seals were hardly even discussed a generation ago. Consider the fact that governments of nations, including our own, have now taken positions on such issues, albeit often inadequate. Likewise, those who support such activities as the killing of seals are devoting considerable attention, money, and effort to countering the work and activities of animal welfare organizations. How effective their efforts are, it is impossible to assess. Yet the very fact they are having to respond is indicative that our collective voices are being heard, weighed, and taken seriously.

Your decision, and that of millions of others, does make a difference — a tremendous difference. Without it, there would be no protest, no legislative reform, no collective force to orchestrate the many voices into concerted actions that do, indeed, make a difference.

It matters little that the effect can be measured so long as we are about the business of making the protest as effective as possible. For without it, there is no protest at all.

John A. Hoyt

president's perspective

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Animals Off the Shelves at the Five and Dime

If you have shopped in many variety or “five and dime” stores, you have come across the back corner set aside for pet sales — hamsters, gerbils, parakeets, and an occasional mynah bird in small cages among racks of toys and gadgets, merchandising whose special needs are often neglected. Realizing these animals require more care than a busy sales staff can provide, the TG & Y Stores, Co., in the Kansas City area have decided to discontinue small mammal and bird sales.

In a memo to the managers of sixty TG & Y stores, the Division Vice-President ordered the immediate discontinuation of the sale of any living creature except fish. He further ordered that an employee in each store be put in charge of the fish department to see that the fish received the “best possible” care.

The action came as a result of a courteous but firm letter from HSUS Midwest Regional Director Ann Gonnerman. She strongly recommended that TG & Y stop selling animals, citing the frequent complaints, sometimes from store employees themselves, about the care given to the animals on display.

She said, “The personnel are improperly trained and no one seems to be responsible. If animals are carried in the store, it is imperative that a veterinary care program be established and maintained.”

Gonnerman is attempting to establish standards of animal care that can be practiced by all such establishments, and this action by TG & Y Stores, Co., is a welcome step in that direction.

Take the Pledge

The “Don’t Buy Fur” article in the Fall issue of the News and our Close-Up Report on furs have brought a tremendous response from members and constituents pledging never to buy another fur. Along with the many pledges (which can be used in our efforts to con-vince lawmakers of the need for more laws to protect furbearers) we received a variety of comments from people surprised or appalled at the extent of cruelty in the fur trade. The following letter, from Mrs. Jean LeComte of Latvia, Florida, expressed the thoughts of many: “I sincerely appreciated receiving the Close-Up Report on fur coats — I don’t feel very well about it, but then neither did the animals if I’m to believe what I read.

“I am a concerned member of the Society and am interested in seeing humane treatment of all animals abolished — but there is an area mentioned that bothers me as an ‘owner’ of a mink coat. I am a person who would not think of buying a lynx, fox, raccoon, or any other kind of fur coat, and have been laboring under the impression that to wear minks was the acceptable way to wear fur coats, because the education on the thing is that the minks are raised on a ‘ranch’ (like chickens we all eat), consequently, they are well fed, and then humbly ‘put to sleep’ so that we could all wear their pelts without feeling the guilt — like we are in favor of humane slaughter laws so that we are able to eat meat and wear shoes.

“Now I just don’t know if I can wear the darn thing anymore — and I surely do know that I could never buy another one if the same circumstances exist in the future.”

If you haven’t yet taken the pledge to not buy fur, write for a copy of our pledge card to:

Fur Pledge, HSUS
2100 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

Dog Tag Art

When the Oak Ridge, Tennessee, animal shelter moved to new quarters in 1974, shelter supervisor James Harless found a box of outdated dog tags, some almost thirty years old. Rather than toss the tags, Harless thought of a way to recycle them into art objects which could also serve to remind the public that their dogs should be licensed.

Harless created dog tag art, sculpting owls, flowers, people, and even dogs out of the metal tags. Displays of the sculptures at the shelter are used to draw attention to posters with the “Love ‘em, Leash ‘em” message of responsible pet ownership.

Mountain Gorillas Face New Dangers

Poachers with new, sophisticated tactics are pushing the mountain gorilla closer to extinction despite efforts to protect the few remaining wild gorillas in Zaire, Africa. The poachers have replaced their spears with guns, hunt now in large parties, and place taboos in front of their traps and snares to deter dismantling by patrols.

Dr. Dian Fossey, an American primatologist who has been in Africa for the last thirteen years studying these highland gorillas, set up anti-poaching patrols in 1970. HSUS came to her assistance with donations of clothing and camping equipment solicited from American manufacturers and distributors for the patrols (see HSUS News Summer 1979). Fossey is very concerned now that the poachers’ new weaponry and methods cannot be combated solely by her unofficial student and native patrols.

Tourism, habitat encroachment, and “accidental” killing of gorillas in snares and traps set by poachers for antelope, bushbuck, and duiker are also taking their toll on this species. Fossey estimates that the total world population of wild mountain gorillas now numbers no more than 215. Unless the Zaire government takes a hand in the active protection of these animals, even this remnant population may cease to exist.

In order to help Fossey’s anti-poacher patrols, HSUS solicited the clothing and camping equipment shown here from American manufacturers and distributors.

Remember Earth Day!

April 22 is the tenth anniversary of Earth Day, a day set aside to mark the widespread public commitment to environmental protection. The First Earth Day, in 1970, helped launch a powerful movement that has brought about significant improvements in the quality of our air and water, and more thoughtful growth policies for the use of our natural resources. Wildlife has benefited greatly from the environmental movement, as laws have been passed to protect endangered species, and the habitat of many animals has been saved from development.

Before equipment was donated, Fossey’s patrol needed to make do with used items of rubber tires or worn-out coats. The boots were donated by the Nippencore Supply Company, including one special-ly made Size 14x pair for a pair of a protective warrior who vigilantly patrols the hills for poachers.

President Carter has officially proclaimed April 22nd as Earth Day, to be celebrated nationally with appropriate ceremonies and activities. The Citizens Committee for the Second Environmental Decade has called for events across the country. You can get involved by writing Earth Day ’80, Room 510, 1001 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, or call (202) 285-2550.
Seals still sacrificed for furs

A fundamental conflict between humanitarian concern and economic interests

The Humane Society of the United States has actively fought both of these hunts for years, questioning the humaneness of the killing methods and condemning the very idea of killing animals for decorative garments or trinkets. It is very difficult to get these hunts stopped, because both are government sanctioned and supported. Since 1961, HSUS has repeatedly influenced the Canadian government to close down the harp seal hunt. At the time, the nature of that hunt was little known to Americans, but the fight has gathered momentum over the years until now almost everyone recognizes the white-furred, dark-eyed harp seal pup.

The way the young seals are killed is well-known, too. The sealers attempt to smash the skull of the baby seal with one blow of his long, wooden club or hakapik, but sometimes it takes two or three blows to knock out the pup. Then he punctures the throat of the seal with a knife, causing it to bleed to death, and peels off the pelt and blubber, leaving the bloody carcass on the ice.

The seal hunt on the Pribilof Islands is less well-known. The hunt is supervised by the United States and Canada, Japan, and Russia. Under arrangement by treaty the Convention on the Conserva

tion of North Pacific Fur Seals, the seal hunt is carried out by native Aleuts under the supervision of the U.S. Department of Commerce, then the pelts are divided between the four nations. HSUS was one of the first animal welfare organizations to actively oppose this hunt, beginning more than ten years ago to send representatives to observe the slaughter and report to the American people and legislators on the cruelty witnessed.

The Pribilof seals are clubbed and exsanguinated, but the Pribilof sealers suffer the added injury of a "forced march" to the killing ground. Since seals are not built for moving long distances on land, this drive is an exhausting and painful experience. Added to the physical pain is the stress produced by having to return to the waves theAleuts behind them, driving them over the rough terrain.

Sealers contend that clubbing and exsanguination is the most humane method of killing seals under field conditions. There has been a great deal of argument and disagreement on the issue among animal welfare groups. Some Canadian veterinarians who have observed seal clubbing and checked the carcasses have found that most seals' skulls are fractured by the blow or blows before they were pelleted, therefore the animals were assumed to be unconscious.

It seems that a great deal of skill is necessary to fracture the harp seal's skull in one or two blows. Towards the end of the day, the sealers are tired, and the icy conditions and unpredictable movements of the pups contribute to the difficulty of landing a stunning blow. Human nature being what it is, it is also true that the sealers are more careful in their actions when being observed by humane group representatives or government agents than they would be otherwise. Even if only 10% of the seals are not stunned by the blows, in actual numbers that means fourteen to twenty thousand pups are conscious when bled. There are many problems and questions that should be researched and answered before seal clubbing can be considered "human.

The persistent public outcry against the clubbing of seals has necessitated that the governments of the United States and Canada provide justification for the hunts. There is nothing novel or original in the objections, however. A horde of concerned persons for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. National Marine Fishery Service, Canada, Pribilof Committee, and Canadian Ministry of Natural Resources. Once again, furriers and game biologists have invoked the hallowed name of scientific wildlife management to defend their conduct and shield their actions from criticism.

It is claimed that an annual reduction in the size of the seal herds is necessary to maintain the seal populations within numbers which are compatible with the available supply of food and habitat. This is certainly nonsense in the case of the Pribilof Island hunt, where the only seals killed are bachelor males who do no breeding anyway. The fact that the population of the North Pacific fur seals has remained relatively constant for four decades suggests that the population is at or near the carrying capacity of its habitat. The stabilized size of the herd could mean that the hunt simply substitutes for other natural mortalities. As late as 1970, the world's professional fisheries were busy reducing the population of the North Pacific fur seal to less than a fifth of the estimated population twenty years ago.

Clearly, the wildlife management aspects of the harp seal hunt are not for the benefit of the harp seal, but for the benefit of the Canadian furriers. Who does benefit? The sealers are paid to do the killing, the furriers make money off fur product sales, the governments may benefit from revenues generated. One group that thinks it is benefiting, and therefore lobbies to continue these hunts, is fishermen.

As a result of increased numbers of fishermen and improved harvesting techniques, the world's fish catch increased tenfold in the 100 year period between 1850 and 1950. The global harvest doubled in the decade of the 1950's and redoubled again during the period of 1960 through 1969. Both the board of the Bering Sea fish catch began to decline, principally as a result of overharvesting and to a lesser extent because of ocean pollution. Instead of accepting their own responsibility for this situation, fishermen have blamed much of it on competition from seals.

Unquestionably, seals do eat fish, but their numbers are small in comparison with which might otherwise be harvested by fishermen. The harp seal herd is relatively small compared to the number of crustaceans and fish annually. Yet, the appetites of seals are of little concern to a sector that is in the decline of fish stocks. In truth it is the fishermen that threaten the seal's well-being by taking too much fish it needs, rather than the reverse.

Dr. Victor B. Scheffer writing in A Moment's Notice explains that commercial fisherman in the Bering Sea are currently taking so much fish that mother seals are unable to satisfactorily provide for their pups. Each nursing female North Pacific fur seal requires 500 to 600 pounds of food during each nursing season. But in competition with man, the mother seals catch less fish and produce fewer pups. At the end of summer, the average pup is smaller in size than was normal before the beginning of the commercial fisheries. The smaller pup, with less body fat and less stamina, is more likely to die during its first winter than pups of past generations.

Wildlife biologists have been pre-
occupied with the regulated annual harvest of seal pelts, human failure to perceive that seal populations are also being pressured by ocean pollution, the over-harvesting of fish, the construction of offshore wells, channelization, dam construction, and the commercial development of habitat areas. The breeding, feeding, and resting areas of seals and their migrating or feeding routes along coastal waters are imperiled by sewage and garbage dumps, industrial wastes, and chemicals which daily are dumped into the seals’ environments.

With all these dangers threatening them, there is no reason to believe the Pribilof or Newfoundland hunts are necessary to keep seal populations within the limits the environment can handle, when carefully scrutinized and stripped of thin scientific facade, an animal welfare issue dissolves into a fundamental conflict between human concern and economic interests, because it is clear that the hunts actually have little relevance to the welfare of the animals.

HSUS continues to work for an end to these hunts. We are now negotiating with the Canadians to allow a representative of HSUS to go on the ice at the Newfoundland seal hunt scheduled for early March. (To prevent adverse publicity, the Canadian government has been banned any but their own agents from watching or photographing the hunt.) Among other things, we want to collect evidence on the reaction of harp seal mothers when their pups are slaughtered. We plan to present this, along with other evidence relating to the humanity of and necessity for the hunt, to persons at the top of the highest levels of the Canadian government. We also intend to take the fight to the Canadian people.

Surveys have shown that the major American proponents of approval of the harp seal hunt and would like to see it ended. Their protests are more effective than ours because they are Canadian citizens, so we will encourage them to make their views known to their government.

Meanwhile, Americans must do the same in the case of the Pribilof Islands seal hunt. The U.S. government is authorizing this hunt lapses in October along the North Pacific fur seal will entail getting Japan, Russia, and Canada to agree to desist from hunting seals at sea, we are calling for renegotiation of the treaty of the try to end seal hunting. Shula Shalit effort fail, the United states should at least forgo its 70% share of the seal pelts taken. That is an effort our government can handle. Once agents of the federal government have shown that the principle of animal rights; and

The Journal of The Institute for-the Study of Animal Problems. Dr. Rollin argued that the Institute’s view, this distinction between sensation of pain and perception of pain means that the relative development of the frontal lobes of different species must be studied as well as their mechanical ability to feel pain.

Dr. Michael Fox, Director of ISAP, noted the limitations of the scientific method of assessing animal suffering and called for a more intuitive and aesthetic understanding of an animal’s needs. The ethical question of man’s use of animals was addressed by Dr. Bernard Rollin of Colorado State University. Dr. Rollin argued that animals are moral objects, therefore it is necessary to put realistic constraints on the use of animals for scientific research. This symposium dealt with methods of quantifying stress or suffering, and the practical applications of theories of pain and suffering to the use of animals in farming and laboratories.

A question that surfaces again and again in the animal welfare movement (generally raised by our opponents) is “Do animals feel pain?” If so, how much and in what ways?” In order to address this question from a scientific perspective, the Institute for the Study of Animal Problems invited a number of experts from the fields of biology, physiology, veterinary medicine, and animal welfare to a one-day symposium held in Orlando, Florida prior to the opening of HSUS’ Annual Conference.

The symposium, titled “Pain, Stress, and Suffering: Definition, Quantitation and Application to Animal Welfare Issues,” opened with a presentation from Professor A. Iggo of Edinburgh University in Scotland, who focused on the problem of quantifying pain. He pointed out that, although studies have shown all mammals have similar sensory mechanisms, that does not necessarily mean animals feel pain in the same ways humans do. He illustrated this point with a story about several human patients who suffered chronic, intractable pain. For unrelated reasons, each underwent a frontal lobotomy. Afterward, the patients reported that the pain was still present, but was no longer important! In Professor Iggo’s view, this distinction between sensation of pain and perception of pain means that the relative development of the frontal lobes of different species must be studied as well as their mechanical ability to feel pain.

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A landmark in the animal rights movement occurred on September 7, 1979, when California became the first state to pass a resolution recognizing that animals have rights, and the government should act to protect and defend those rights. Although lobbying by trappers, farmers, cattlemen, hunters, and other groups forced the deletion or modification of much of the original wording, the resolution as it was finally passed retains the principal point—that animals do have rights.

Some claim the resolution is too watered down, but it is still strong enough to draw fire from the opposition. A representative of the California Cattlemen’s Association, quoted in The Sacramento Bee, said, “It is our considered opinion that the current push for ‘animal rights’ is basically directed at anti-hunting, anti-trapping, anti-branding, and anything involving animals for human entertainment, profit, or subsistence.”

He went on to say that no one disagrees with the basic premise of loving one’s fellow creatures, but one also must exercise “prudence and restraint.”

WHERES, The State of California has in the past led the country in passing legislation which recognizes the principle of animal rights; and

WHERES, From childhood man should be taught to observe, understand, and respect animal life, which idea is linked to respect for mankind; and

WHERES, To advance our civilization we must become aware of the rights of all animals; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring, That the Legislature of the State of California should take effective measures to protect and defend the rights of animals—by enacting humane and environmentally sound legislation.

Passed by the State Legislature 9/7/9

"You cannot do a kindness too soon, because you never know how soon it will be too late"

—Ralph Waldo Emerson
The Endangered Manatee

Pound for pound the manatee may be the gentlest creature on earth and the least deserving of mayhem, but pollution, exploitation, and plain ignorance are threatening the species' very existence.

The manatee, sometimes called the sea cow, is on the verge of extinction despite conservation efforts that date back nearly a century. Participants at HSUS' Annual Conference, held in Orlando, Florida, learned in a workshop session that state and federal wildlife and law enforcement agencies have stepped up to prevent the disturbance, injury, and death of this official marine mammal of Florida. Despite this, an estimated ten percent of the remaining 600 to 1,000 manatees found off the Florida coast were lost in 1979 alone.

Assuming the manatee was once much greater in number, but were completely eliminated in several areas at the arrival of civilization. Three species of manatee remain, each living in the semi-isolated areas off the coast of Florida, the west coast of Africa and the Amazon River. Exploitation for their meat (which is reported to taste like veal), oil, hides, and bones (which can be worked to look like ivory) almost completely depleted the herds by the latter part of the nineteenth century.

The manatee's slow reproductive rate of one calf per two or three years, and the fact that they do not breed in captivity means man cannot be too careful in protecting this animal if the species is to be saved. The first protective legislation in the United States was an 1893 Florida law. In 1967 new legislation said a molester or killer of a manatee could be fined five hundred dollars and given a six-month sentence. In 1967 the manatee was declared an endangered species and was first protected by federal law under the Endangered Species Conservation Act of 1969, which forbade importation of manatees.

In 1972 the Marine Mammal Protection Act gave federal officers authority to help protect manatees. By this act a manatee can be used for display or research only if a permit is obtained from the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Since they need some fresh water to drink, canals and river estuaries are favorite refuges of the manatee. They are also frequently found in the waters surrounding the warm effluence of power plants, since they are tropical animals that need to be in water of at least 60°F.

Because their size alone protects them from most types of predators, the manatee apparently has no need for aggressiveness, and manifests none. It is said that a manatee mother would not even attack to protect her own calf. Even among themselves, manatees are pacifists, with none of the infighting for dominance or territory that is seen in many other mammal species.

Mankind remains an ambiguous friend to this shy and gentle creature. Legend has it that sailors mistook manatees for mermaids because of the way they would tread water to raise their heads above the surface.

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Words of wisdom, words of inspiration, words of instruction and encouragement were heard on every side at HSUS’ Annual Conference in Orlando, Florida, last November. The conference, marking HSUS’ 25th Anniversary, had as its theme ‘Humaneness in Action, A Heritage for the Future.’ In his inspiring keynote address, well-known author and radio personality Roger Caras spoke to this theme by examining the progress the humane movement has made through the centuries and the challenges ahead. Following Caras’ opening address, Bernard Rollin, a Professor of Philosophy and of Physiology and Biophysics at Colorado State University, presented the case for animal rights from a philosophical standpoint.

Other featured speakers at the conference included Dr. Michael Fox of the Institute for the Study of Animal Problems, who talked about problems of factory farming, and Julian Hopkins, Executive Director of the Royal SPCA in Great Britain, who gave some background on his own artwork for the conference.

The program was ably chaired by Dr. Amy Freeman Lee, who also gave some background on her role in the founding of the Society and her many subsequent services, in-...
A Place of grace...

The humane movement, in reality, is a form of philosophical development, a manifestation of growth and human progress. The humane movement is a moving from one place to another. The place of emigration is arrogance, stupidity, brutality, and alienation. The place that the movement is toward, the place of immi-

grant, is a place of grace, a place of gentle touch and aesthetic sophistication.

We are manifestations of that movement in that direction and we must acknowledge that the trip began a very long time ago. The first man, woman, or child who looked at a butterfly without squashing it was an early member of the humane movement. The first human being to listen to a bird song without drooling like Pavlov’s poor dog was one of us. The first child to reach out and feel, not just touch, but feel the fur of the pup or cub his father brought home as a temporary souvenir of the hunt was our spiritual parent. The first wife or child who protested the later intent of the hunter to slaughter the young animal for its few ounces of flesh or fur was our first leader.

We cannot contemplate the beginnings of social structure, the foundations of family, law, government, agriculture, husbandry, technology, or the art of communications without going right back to the cave. And that is where the humane ethic started. That is how far we have come — it is across that many ridges we must look to see how well we have done.

I’ll share a surprising secret with you. Despite the ghastly overpopulation of companion animals, despite leghold traps, trophy hunting with bows and arrows, despite shooting galleries with living targets and uncontrolled rodeos, given the evidence I have suggested, I think we are doing alright. That is offered without a hint of complacency, a suggestion of deceleration or an unwarranted speck of self-satisfaction.

But our progress toward gentleness has not been even across the board. There are terrible dips, deep pockets of resistance where failures have been so glaringly tenacious to cruelty as if it were a rite, a religious experience. And that is where we, the related element in society, must concentrate our efforts.

—Excerpted from Roger Caras’ keynote address

Animals are moral objects...

The key to a person being a moral object is this: we must have a sense of the person’s needs and interests; we must be aware that we can help or hinder that person in his pursuits; and we must have a sense that certain things are wrong and right, like killing for no reason.

We know they experience pleasure. We know they suffer. We need. We well. And not only for human beings but for animals as well.

The first human being to listen to a bird song without drooling like Pavlov’s poor dog was one of us. The first child to reach out and feel, not just touch, but feel the fur of the pup or cub his father brought home as a temporary souvenir of the hunt was our spiritual parent. The first wife or child who protested the later intent of the hunter to slaughter the young animal for its few ounces of flesh or fur was our first leader.

So animals are moral objects...

Fred Myers, a founder and the first Executive Director of The HSUS, was honored posthumously as the 1979 Joseph Wood Krutch Medalist at HSUS’ Annual Awards Banquet in Orlando. The Krutch Medal, presented each year to a person who has made “significant contribution towards the improvement of life and environment,” was accepted by Mrs. Fred Myers for her late husband.

Mr. Myers began his career in animal welfare in 1950 when he was appointed editor of the National Humane Review, a periodical published by the American Humane Association in 1954. Fred Myers and other employees of the AHA re-formed to sign the staff of the newly founded HSUS. Mr. Myers served as executive director for eight years, after which time he served as vice president and executive officer until his untimely death in 1963.

In a tribute to Fred Myers upon presentation of the Krutch Medal, Jacques Sichel, a long-time member of HSUS’ Board of Directors, said: “Those who worked with Fred Myers felt such admiration for him. What was this mysterious charisma of Fred’s? He showed us and countless others, who had a wide variety of interests, but had never found a suitable opportunity for serious involvement, that the Humane Society could provide a challenging setting where we could apply our convictions and aims in constructive...”

Continued on page 14

1979 Krutch Medal Awarded

Fred Myers, Krutch medalist Fred Myers. Mrs. Fred Myers accepted the 1979 Krutch Medal for her late husband at the Annual Awards Banquet in Orlando.

HSUS President John Hoyt (left) presents the Special Krutch Medal to Coleman Burke in recognition of his years of service to the humane movement.

Special Krutch Medal Awarded to Coleman Burke

On four occasions since the Krutch Medal was introduced in 1971, a Special Krutch Medal has been awarded to an outstanding humanitarian. On the fourteenth anniversary of his chairmanship of the Board of Directors of the Society, HSUS honored Coleman Burke with the Special Krutch Medal.

Mr. Burke has guided the Society through a period of growth in staff, budget, program and membership which reflect extraordinary advances in the work and outreach of The HSUS.

Mr. Burke’s humanitarianism expresses itself not only in his devotion to the cause of animal welfare, but also in his work as member of the board and vice-chairman of the American Bible Society; member of the board and chairman of the Christian Herald Association; and member of the board of trustees and chairman of Hamilton College.
Tightening of Science Fair Rules Promised

The subject of animals to painful experiments in elementary and secondary schools and in science fairs has been too common in the United States. HSUS has long had a policy against such experimentation, believing that it adds nothing to the education of children that cannot be obtained through books or other sources, and that the best study of animals at these educational levels is done through observation of and contact with animals in the wild or in the classroom, and the study of natural history, conservation, and ecology.

A step in the right direction came at the Conference on Animals in Secondary Schools and Science Fairs, held last September, sponsored by the Institute for the Study of Animal Problems and the Myrin Institute for Adult Education. The conference brought together educators, researchers, and representatives of several animal welfare organizations to discuss ways of reducing the crudity and danger of using live animals in student's experiments.

The rules of the International Science and Engineering Fair, an annual competition which brings together the brightest of the bright from high school students, indirectly determine the conduct of science fairs at local and state levels. The rules of these fairs, in turn, impinge on the standards used for classroom experimentation. Because of this, the ISEF has been under pressure from humanearians to change its rules to restrict the use of animals.

The ISEF rules currently allow the use of animals in projects with "anesthetics, drugs, thermal procedures, physical stress, organisms pathogenic to man or other vertebrates, ionizing radiation, carcinogens, or surgical procedures" when done under the direct supervision of a qualified individual. According to conference participant Dr. F. Barban, dean of the National Institutes of Health, these procedures demand a degree of sophistication not present at the high school level. She also found that the rules have proven inadequate in providing students with close professional assistance since "a qualified individual" can be very loosely interpreted. She reported that in a 1972 study of eight science fairs, two-thirds of the projects using warm-blooded animals involved "infliction of pain or lingering death." Although Dr. Thurman Grafton, Executive Director of the National Society for Medical Research and Chairmen of the ISEF Scientific Review Committee, argued that the limitation on the use of live animals in schools or science fairs would stiffen gifted students, he did agree that supervision of student projects could be better controlled. Consequently, he and E.G. Sherburne Jr., Director of Science Services, the sponsor of the ISEF, agreed to amend the 1981 ISEF rules to read that "no studies involving the manipulation of the animal or its environment shall be permitted outside a registered research facility or equivalent agricultural institute.

The rule change will hopefully eliminate the problem of children experimenting on animals with little or no direction from a knowledgeable adult. If animal experimentation is used, the child can only qualify for the science fair by participating in an ongoing project within a USDA registered facility. These facilities operate under government regulations designed, in part, to protect animals from unnecessary pain. (Getting improvements in enforcement and tightening of these regulations is another project of The HSUS.)

HSUS hopes this reform will lead to many others in this area, until painful experimentation is eliminated from school curriculums.


Why not donate a subscription to your local animal shelter?...And buy one for yourself, too?
More important, perhaps, you are showing your community that your organization or agency is providing a service to the public and that all citizens benefit from humane pet control. Knowing specifically what you are trying to convey to whom will make planning and producing your literature much easier.

The materials you hand out should look professional. This includes an attention-getting title and artwork, such as clear photographs of wide-eyed, appealing animals, "invite" people to read your materials with an active but tasteful cover. Pamphlets and advertising materials on all kinds of subjects are put before the public now, and you must compete with these materials to get attention.

One of the most important goals for animal control now is to demonstrate that the new animal control officer is not simply a dogcatcher but a trained professional who uses modern methods to deal with modern problems. Concise, attractive pamphlets can improve your image.

Look for talented artists and writers among your acquaintances and ask them to volunteer to produce text and illustrations. Vocational schools, high school art classes, community art groups and camera clubs are possible sources of volunteers.

The text of your pamphlet must be simple and brief. Each pamphlet should have only one main message; avoid overloading your readers with too much information.

Also, reports from local humane groups indicate that pet owners are not interested in theories of animal control -- they want to know quickly what you are asking them to do and why. The tone of the writing should be friendly and straightforward without being "cute." Each pamphlet should have only one main message; avoid overloading your readers with too much information.

When you begin planning literature, look for samples of pamphlets and brochures from other organizations. The more material you look at, the more ideas and techniques you have to stimulate your own creativity.

You should also be looking for places to distribute your materials -- shopping centers, veterinarians' offices, schools, libraries. "Welcome Wagon" packets and the various citizens groups. Usually these will be happy to set aside a place for your free materials when you explain their importance to the community.

Finally, remember to send samples of your literature to SHELTER SENSE so we can share your good ideas.

SHELTER SENSE is published by The National Humane Education Center, a division of The Humane Society of the United States, 2100 L St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037, (202) 452-1100

HSUS Director of Animal Sheltering and Control ........................... Phyllis Wright
Editor, SHELTER SENSE ........................... Susan Bury Stauffer

The decade ahead
by Phyllis Wright

The decade of the 1970s has been a vigorous period for the animal sheltering and control field. We have had the opportunity to attend two national conferences on pet over-population, as well as many training sessions and workshops. We have debated high altitude decompression as a euthanasia technique and have even seen it discussed on CBS’ “60 Minutes” news program. The chamber has in fact been outlawed in eight states.

Communities that began neutering programs in the early 70s are processing fewer animals in shelters. More veterinarians are employed by animal control agencies and humane societies. Animal control and humane groups have experienced new cooperation in some areas and conflict in others.

New research is demonstrating that cruelty to animals may be related to violent behavior toward people, that it is a serious issue. And “pet therapy” programs are demonstrating how valuable pet companionship is to the disadvantaged and lonely.

With these developments behind us, we can make fresh resolutions for the 1980s. The next decade presents the prospects of continued inflation and short funds for animal control programs. Animal professionals must make the most of every dollar -- and every gallon of gasoline. It is all the more crucial that we direct our efforts toward changing the irresponsible pet owner, the source of our community’s animal problems.

Our goal for the coming years is to continue to tell you about the many ideas that are proving successful in our field. We hope you will continue to share your success stories with us so that we can pass them along to all our readers.

If we do our jobs well, I sincerely believe we will see in the next ten years a change for the better in the national attitude toward dog and cat control issues.

To receive SHELTER SENSE, fill in your name and address here:

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The whole thrust of the new program is to seek to reduce predator-livestock conflicts by alternative methods, rather than controlling predators. In addition, he placed the following restrictions on the use of certain techniques:

(1) The practice of denning should be eliminated;
(2) The use of aerial shooting, particularly in winter, should be tightly controlled to achieve policy goal (1) above;
(3) all efforts will be made to utilize traps in the most selective and humane manner possible, through such practices as the use of tension devices, prohibition of bait sets, and frequent checks of traps;
(4) There will be no further research or development of potential uses of Compound 1080. However, research may be continued on other toxicants that do not have secondary effects, are selective and humane.

Andrus also called for a five-year research program on non-lethal control methods and animal husbandry techniques and practices.

The long awaited decision on the future implementation of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s Predator Control Program has been issued by Secretary of the Interior Cecil Andrus. HSUS has worked long and hard to stop the government’s war on predators, submitting comments and testimony whenever possible on pending legislation or regulations. This latest document is at least a step in the right direction, advocating that legal controls be directed only at those animals known to be preying on livestock, rather than the wholesale destruction of predator populations (most often coyotes) seen in the past.

Andrus’ goals for the predator control program were spelled out as follows:

(1) In the near term, preventative control should be limited to specific situations where unacceptably high levels of losses have been documented during the preceding 12 months. In the long term, through additional research, our goal should be to minimize and phase out the use of lethal preventative controls, including creation of buffer zones;
(2) Emphasize corrective control, utilizing non-lethal, non-capture methods and focusing on offending animals to the greatest degree possible;
(3) Reduce conflicts between predators and livestock by encouraging the use of appropriate livestock husbandry techniques which decrease exposure of livestock to predators;
(4) Expand the availability of extension services to ranchers;
(5) Deploy resources to locations and in seasons of greatest need, and redirect and refocus research efforts to support the above goals and to achieve the long-term objective of preventing predator damage rather than controlling predators.

Hang the practice of denning should be eliminated;
(2) The use of aerial shooting, particularly in winter, should be tightly controlled to achieve policy goal (1) above;
(3) all efforts will be made to utilize traps in the most selective and humane manner possible, through such practices as the use of tension devices, prohibition of bait sets, and frequent checks of traps;
(4) There will be no further research or development of potential uses of Compound 1080. However, research may be continued on other toxicants that do not have secondary effects, are selective and humane.

Andrus also called for a five-year research program on non-lethal control methods and animal husbandry techniques and practices.

We will never agree that the trapping, aerial shooting, and poisoning of wild predators to subsidize an ill-fated livestock industry is sound or humane.

Andrus’ new policy.

The whole thrust of the new program is to seek to reduce predator-livestock conflicts by alternative methods, rather than controlling predators. One of the most positive elements of the decision is the total ban of the poison 1080, which HSUS and other environmental and animal welfare groups have been demanding for years. The elimination of denning is another positive element, although the provision for the humane slaughter of any pups if a lactating female is taken is a loophole that should be watched. This could easily be used as an excuse for the continuance of denning by local predator control personnel should they want to do so.

This of course, is the crux of the matter. No matter how enlightened policy may be, coming from the Interior Department in Washington, there can and probably will be a problem in getting field staff to implement the new policy in the spirit in which it was intended. HSUS will continue to use all available resources to monitor the progress of the predator control program under Andrus’ new policy.

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To give SHELTER SENSE to your local animal shelter or to an individual, fill in their name and address above and yours here:

To ORDER SHELTER SENSE, fill in your name and address here:

Amount enclosed $____.
F.D.A. Turtle Ban
WHEREAS, acting on petitions filed by HSUS and Consumers Union, the United States Food and Drug Administration enacted a ban on the domestic sale of small turtles; and
WHEREAS, such ban was based on the documented, scientifically established relationship between Salmonella bacteria found in turtles and Salmonella infection in humans, especially children; and
WHEREAS, the National Turtle Farmers and Shippers Association has petitioned the Food and Drug Administration to lift the ban on the sale of small turtles, and has based such petition on claims that small turtles can be commercially marketed without risk of Salmonella infection; and
WHEREAS, the methods proposed by the National Turtle Farmers and Shippers Association to produce and market Salmonella-free turtles appear to cause suffering, serious injury, or death, impair the health of the turtles and greatly shorten their lifespans.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Humane Society of the United States persist in its efforts to assure that the ban be continued.

Drugs — Horse Racing
WHEREAS, anti-inflammatory, analgesic, tranquilizer, diuretic drugs and medications, other similar substances, and surgical procedures are used to drug and numb horses to and from tracks and to mask injuries and ailments and enable unsound horses to run which would otherwise be incapacitated; and
WHEREAS, on tracks breakdowns have drastically increased, and injuries and ailments have been markedly more severe, poisoning and serious injury to horses; and
WHEREAS, this abuse has not been banned in the individual States,
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Humane Society of the United States vigorously urge state legislatures, track officials and state racing commissions to repeal existing laws which allow such permissive medication and abusive practices.

Animal Welfare Act — Analgesics & Anesthesia
WHEREAS, since 1970 the Animal Welfare Act has required that animals used in painful experiments be administered adequate analgesics, anesthesia and tranquillizers to minimize the pain and distress accompanying research procedures and tests; and
WHEREAS, in order to carry out the provisions of that Act the U.S. Congress directed the United States Department of Agriculture to develop guidelines on the use of these drugs and substances that would satisfy the criteria for minimization of pain and distress;
WHEREAS, as of this time, nine years following this pronouncement, the Department of Agriculture has failed to produce the guidelines that The Humane Society of the United States continues to urge state legislatures, track officials and state racing commissions to repeal existing laws which allow such permissive medication and abusive practices.

Whales
WHEREAS, The International Whaling Commission continues to allow commercial exploitation of the great whales, especially the smaller Minke whales; and
WHEREAS, the cold harpoon which has no explosive device is used to strike Minke whales so as to preserve as much meat as possible; and
WHEREAS, the cold harpoon upon striking the animal causes it to writhe in agony for a prolonged period, sometimes hours; and
WHEREAS, the cold harpoon has no killing effect, and after the whale wears out, it is dragged back to the ship and is killed; and
WHEREAS, other hunted whales are killed with the inhumane explosive grenade-tipped harpoon,
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Humane Society of the United States call upon the International Whaling Commission to immediately prohibit the use of the extremely cruel and torturous cold harpoon; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Humane Society of the United States continue to work for an end to all commercial whaling.

Humane Education
WHEREAS, humane education is a high-priority objective of The Humane Society of the United States; and
WHEREAS, the educational division of The Humane Society of the United States, the National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education, is developing a professional educators’ publica­tion, a model humane education integrated curriculum guide and appropriate curriculum materials,
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Humane Society of the United States call upon its constituents to encourage the adoption and implementation of humane education curricula by local school systems and state offices of education and promote the inclusion of humane education courses in pre-service and in-service teacher training programs throughout the United States.

Fur Garments
WHEREAS, The commercial exploitation of fur-bearing animals is directly correlated to the public demand for fur garments; and
WHEREAS, as long as there is a lucrative market for fur goods there will continue to be intense pressure to trap, poison, club, shoot, and otherwise kill wildlife,
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Humane Society of the United States urge all humanitarian to pledge formally not to purchase, wear, or otherwise promote the wearing of fur products, and to urge their local merchants to cease all fur products immediately.

Wild or Exotic Animals As Pets
WHEREAS, people acquire donkeys, raccoons, alligators, lions, wolves, coyotes, foxes and other indigenous and exotic wild species as pets;
WHEREAS, most species of wild animals are not suitable as pets because of their strict dietary and habitat requirements, their potential for spreading zoonotic diseases, and temperaments which make adjustment to captivity difficult for the animal and often dangerous for people and animals around them; and
WHEREAS, the health and well-being of captive wild animals depend upon knowledge of specialized husbandry requirements, these animals are vulnerable to improper care which can result in cruel or inhumane treatment; and
WHEREAS, relocation or other disposition can be a traumatic experience for the animal and its owner, and, because zoos are often unable to accept the animals and they are no longer capable of survival in the wild, euthanasia is the only alternative; and
WHEREAS, wild animal populations are often dangerously depleted by procurement for the pet trade, due to the number of animals taken and the suffering and death resulting from captive techniques and transportation methods,
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That the Humane Society of the United States strongly urge state and local legislative bodies to enact laws prohibiting or restricting the ownership, breeding and sale of wild species as pets and otherwise work to end all such commercial traffic; and
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Humane Society of the United States prepare and disseminate appropriate materials to inform the public of the hazards and undesirability of owning wild animals as pets.

HSUS MEMBER PIN AVAILABLE
As part of the observance of our 25th anniversary, The HSUS has created and produced a blue, white and gold emblazoned pin featuring our logo symbol. The pin is manufactured in two styles; one with a push pin for thick garments; one with a pin clasp for thinner apparel. The pins are for sale to members of The HSUS at $5.00 each. When ordering, please indicate HSUS Logo Pin. Make checks payable to HSUS and send to:

HSUS Logo Pin
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MEMBER PIN AVAILABLE
UPDATE: Movement to Ban Drugs in Racing Gathers Momentum

During the past several months, state racing officials have been forced to reevaluate their regulations concerning the use of drugs in horse racing. This introspective crisis is not unprecedented. The cruel treatment of the American racehorse has become an international scandal, and the industry is desperate to repair a tarnished public image.

Humane efforts to get racehorse drugging banned under federal law have drawn considerable attention from both the racing and legislative communities. Senator Charles Mathias of Maryland is quoted in the Congressional Record as calling for state racing commissions to place their own bans on pre-race drugging (see box, next page). In Maryland, the racing commission held a hearing on November 15, at which I and others testified in favor of a total ban on pre-race drugging. After four hours of testimony and arguments, the commissioners voted unanimously to adopt a no-drug rule. Within one month, however, the commission acted to weaken the rule by permitting exceptions for pain and fever medications, and even for a substance that can cause the animal to break down on the track.

Although rule changing efforts in some states may be viewed as an effort to appease the racing jurisdictions which will themselves admit that they are largely motivated by public condemnation of the sport, rather than humane concerns. In the Spring 1979 issue of the HSUS News, we reported that studies at some tracks indicate permissive medication programs have a direct relationship to an increase in on-track breakdowns. At Keystone Racetrack near Philadelphia, breakdowns quadrupled after the legalization of phenylbutazone (bute).

Other states have announced their intention to change permissive medication policies. The Pennsylvania appointed study group in Pennsylvania recommended that "no horse be allowed to race on medication of any kind." However, meaningful action has yet been taken in that state. The Florida legislature was preparing to prohibit drugs by state law until the Division of Pari-Mutual Wagering decided in late November to curtail the use of all pre-race drugs except Lasix. Illinois, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia are likely to examine and change regulations as well.

Permissive drug rules lead to more frequent and more serious breakdowns and injuries because the drug-abusing horsemen have the incentive to compete. Most of the problem medications, such as bute, Lasix, and corticosteroids merely reduce pain, inflammation or other symptoms. They do not promote healing. Therefore, a marginal or injured horse is able to race prematurely, even though the physical stress of competition at top speed can aggravate the original injury or cause the animals to break down on the track.

Statement by Senator Charles Mathias, Maryland
Congressional Record — Senate
November 9, 1979

As the numbers of horse injuries and deaths increase, so did the number of serious injuries to jockeys. In 1978, the Jockey's Guild reports that four jockeys died, four were paralyzed, and 1500 spent more than two weeks in the hospital. Considering there are fewer than 2000 licensed jockeys in the U.S., one might conclude horse racing is one of, if not the most dangerous human sport. (The on-track mortality rate for racehorses is nothing less than astronomical.)

Permissive drug rules lead to more frequent and more serious breakdowns and injuries because the drug-abusing horsemen have the incentive to compete. Most of the problem medications, such as bute, Lasix, and corticosteroids merely reduce pain, inflammation or other symptoms. They do not promote healing. Therefore, a marginal or injured horse is able to race prematurely, even though the physical stress of competition at top speed can aggravate the original injury or cause the animals to break down on the track.

It might be appropriate to compare horse racing to a small dark cloud on the horizon—the problem of horse drugging. A horsemen's task is not to eliminate the problem, but to place the races in connection with the small dark cloud of industry and thereby to protect the thoroughbreds. This practice has become widespread because the drug treat- ment is deep inhumane to the horses, and, peculiarly, to the betting public, since the track records are worthless without the illusion that all drugs have been tolerated and condoned by most breeders because they thought it would improve performance. In recent years, under the pressure of state racing commissions, it has been increasingly clear that the myth of "fancy horses in action" is a cover-up for widespread and official permissiveness.

It should be noted that bute and Lasix are among the medications most often blamed for pre-race breakdowns and injuries. It is imperative that the racing industry examine and change existing rules supportive of permissiveness. It is imperative that the racing industry examine and change existing rules supportive of permissiveness.
List of Accredited Societies Grows

Four outstanding humane organizations were awarded Certificates of Accreditation at HSUS’ Annual Conference last November, joining a dozen other animal welfare, animal control, and humane education groups that have met HSUS’ high standards for accreditation. Two of the newly accredited groups are municipal departments of animal control, which qualified for accreditation by going beyond the minimum duties of animal control service and seeking to deal with the root causes of animal abuse.

The City of Bloomington (Indiana) Department of Animal Control under the direction of Jim Lange, showed its commitment for the welfare of the animals under its care through stringent adoption policies and following procedures, as well as its active humane education program. Their unique cooperation in programs with the Monroe County Humane Association is an outstanding example of animal control and animal welfare advocates pooling resources and skills for the benefit of the animals.

The Palm Beach County Animal Regulation Division of West Palm Beach, Florida handles animal control in an area of more than 500 square miles with a population of better than half a million people. Director Dennis J. Moore has been particularly effective at obtaining the backing of city and county officials for far-reaching programs of service and education. The staff includes a full-time veterinarian who makes house calls on each animal brought in to the facility, and three full-time humane educators working to increase public awareness of animal welfare problems in Palm Beach.

The Tompkins County S.P.C.A. in Ithaca, New York, is a private social agency that supervises the entire animal control program under contract with Tompkins County and the city of Ithaca. Recent expansion of shelter facilities and programs have made the S.P.C.A. a more visible and effective community force. For example, twice daily live radio broadcasts from the shelter give listeners descriptions of stray animals brought into the shelter that day, resulting in more animals being reclaimed by their owners. Executive Director Bill Brothers also works closely with the New York State Animal Control Association to put together training sessions on pound and shelter management, euthanasia, field procedures, public education programs, and other subjects vital to animal control programs.

Animal Control, Inc. of Kansas City, Missouri, was organized for the purpose of educating the public about animal welfare matters, cooperating with civil and religious groups, and federal authorities in the enforcement of animal control and cruelty laws, programs that spay and neuter dogs and cats, and “taking all steps necessary to fulfill the goal of achieving humane treatment of wild and domestic animals.” An exceptionally active board, chaired by Suzy Brown, aids Executive Director Betsy Stein- haus in carrying out programs of radio and TV appearances, classroom visits, cruelty investigation, legislative work, and a low-cost spay/neuter system for low income pet owners.

It is impossible to mention each by name, the support and cooperation of each is invaluable. Each member has made the achievements of these organizations possible, and we commend them for their efforts.

Many other applications for accreditation are currently being processed. For more information on HSUS Accreditation Programs can write HSUS Accreditation, 2100 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037.

Opposition to Decompression Mounts on the West Coast

Thanks to a well researched and de­fined presentation by Dart Anthony, Chairman of the Board of the Clark County Humane Society, the Commission­mers of the City of Las Vegas voted to stop using the decompress­ion chamber in Clark County shel­ters. Anthony will again author a bill in the coming session of the Nevada state legislature to outlaw the use of compression chambers. The Nevada Hu­mane Society has a similar proposal before the City of Reno, and has offered to donate a carbon dioxide chamber for small animals and train city personnel to inject sodium pen­to­barbital at no cost to the city.

In December, West Coast Region­al Director Char Drennon spoke at SPAY of Concord’s Christmas Lun­cheon, where she presented Contra County Board of Supervisors, Mr. Eric Has­selline, with an HSUS Certificate of Appreciation. Mr. Hasselline is the author of a new countywide animal control ordinance based on our HSUS model ordinance. Mr. Hass­tine in Carlsbad, California, also received a Certificate of Appreciation for con­tinued coverage of animal problems and solutions. Drennon congratulated SPAY’s President Ronda Winning, Managing Editor of the Contra Costa Times, also received a Certificate of Appreciation for for­mation and solving animal prob­lems and solutions. Drennon congratulated SPAY’s President Ronda Winning, Managing Editor of the Contra Costa Times, also received a Certificate of Appreciation for continued support of animal welfare organizations and for being a strong voice for animal welfare in the Contra Costa Times.

Texas Passes Rabies Law

The state of Texas has passed a new law effective January 1, 1980, requiring dog and cat owners to vacci­nate their animals for rabies at four months of age and each year thereafter. The act also states that all localities provide a quar­antine facility in which bite cases must be held for ten days. The Texas Board of Health will require that all existing or new quarantine facilities (in most areas, this will be animal shelters) meet proper animal housing and care standards. This new law will help many communities build needed animal facilities and will give citizens the backing of law when they are working for improved shelter facilities.

Regional Director Bill Meade has called on HSUS members in the Gulf States to help in an out effort to assist in upgrading the many inadequate shelters in Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, and Okla­homa. Traveling through these states, Meade has observed some excellent shelters, but has also found many shabby, dilapidated buildings, or in wood and wire shacks where good sanitation and humane care are impossible. These conditions can only be changed by citizens willing to take an active stand against animal abuse.

Rick Collord, investigator for the Gulf States Region, recently attend­ed the National Animal Control As­sociation meeting in College Station, Texas. He offered HSUS’ support and assistance to the government animal control agencies that are meeting to improve their programs and methods.

The need for proper training and responsible supervision at animal shelters was underscored in Bossier City, Louisiana, when a local televis­ion station with hidden cameras filmed shelter employees battering cats to death. The televised expose prompted a flood of calls to our Gulf States office. Bill Meade contacted the mayor, who was helpful on this. The city had a similar proposal a course of remedial actions. The city responded by charging the animal control worker with cruelty and dis­missing them from their jobs. HSUS has offered to go to Bossier City to con­duct needed training in euthanasia methods and animal care.

April 11 and 12, 1980 is the date of HSUS’ next regional meeting and workshop in Florida. The workshop, called “Solving Animal Problems in Your Community,” will be held in Little Rock, Arkans­as. Humane society leaders, animal control personnel, municipal officials, animal control workers, and others interested in animal welfare issues and procedures are urged to attend. Registration information can be obtained from HSUS Gulf States Regional Office, 5333 Ever­hart, Suite 209, Corpus Christi, Texas 78411.
David Wills (left), soon to head up the Michigan Humane shelter.

Connecticut Zoo Improves Animal Quarters

Some changes for the better are in store for the black bear and the sea lion at the Beardsley Zoo in Bridgeport, Connecticut. New construction of improved quarters is currently in progress. USDA official John Coakley stated that he feels the city is moving in the right direction in correcting the problems that both the USDA and HSUS have complained about to city officials over the past eight years. HSUS Regional Director John Ironman feels Bridgeport must go much further in changing the zoo to a facility, even with the new changes, is still questionable in justifying the existence of this place, he said.

The New England region will be losing a valued animal advocate when David Wills, Executive Director of the Nashua Humane Society in southern New Hampshire, moves into the post to become Executive Director for the Michigan Humane Society. At Nashua, Wills helped build a fine shelter for homeless animals, incorporating a veterinary clinic. The financial support of the city government through an interest-free loan to the society for the shelter construction as well as a contract for providing animal control services to the city, is indicative of the society’s reputation in the community.

No Rest for Southeast Office Following Conference

One would think that the staff of the southeast office could breathe a sigh of relief following HSUS’ Annual Conference in their region. Not so! Regional Director Don Coburn and Field Investigator Bernard Weller have been as busy as ever.

Coburn has traveled extensively within the region speaking and assisting local humane organizations in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and Tennessee. Local humanitarians arranged several television and radio appearances, an in-service teacher seminar, and a meeting with the education department of Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama. In addition, Coburn spoke to the women of the Junior Museum Guild, which is the guild for a Tallahassee wildlife facility.

Weller has visited a number of animal welfare organizations in the seven-state region, several in response to requests from cities where he met with elected officials and the press regarding proper animal control. Other areas of investigation included dogfighting, catle and horse auctions, zoos, and roadside animal exhibitions.

In addition to these activities, Weller responded to complaints about two animal facilities said to be using cruel methods of euthanizing dogs. He discussed these situations with the persons responsible and in each case gained a promise to correct the abuses. Educational information from the Southeast Office was forwarded immediately to assist the shelter directors in retraining their employees.

Southeast Regional Director Donald Coburn visits workers and animals at the Leon County (Florida Humane Society).

The Manhattan, Kansas, Zoo has agreed to stop loosing its bobcat for use as a mascot at K State University football games. The bobcat was put through a great deal of stress every time it was netted in its cage to be put in a carrier and taken to the games.

Cruel College Tradition Sideline

On Christmas day, Kansas City newspapers headlined the story of how Ann Gonnerman, Midwest Regional Director, convinced Kansas State University and the Manhattan, Kansas Zoo to stop using a bobcat as the college mascot at sports events.

For years, the University had borrowed bobcats from the zoo, installed them in plexiglass boxes and taken them to the games. Keepers at the zoo had continually complained about the stress this was placing on the cats. The keepers reported that it usually took 24 hours or more for the cats to calm down following a game.

Once, the University borrowed a bobcat from a local veterinarian for a game. The cat actually broke the plexiglass in an effort to escape the noise and confusion of the sporting event.

Michele Fromm, a K State student, led the humanitarians on campus. Gonnerman addressed the K State Student Senate and asked them to stop the exploitation of the cats "for humanitarian reasons." The senate agreed and voted to discontinue exhibiting bobcats at the games. Gonnerman also spoke to county officials about the "inhumanity" of the plastic cages. They, too, agreed to stop the practice.

Another case that made the newspaper in Kansas was that of the Weston, Kansas dog pound. The pound has been under fire from local citizens who object to the unsanitary conditions of the facilities and the alleged shooting of many dogs as a method of euthanasia. Gonnerman has contacted the Mayor of Weston about the city’s animal control policies, but the mayor says the city lacks sufficient money to adequately handle dog problems. As a result of the situation in Weston and in other sections of Platte County, State Representative John Birch has said he will make dog control problems his top priority during next year’s legislative session.

Steward investigated nine cases of animal abuse which were reported to both the HSUS Rocky Mountain office and the Bureau of Animal Protection. His report concluded that the Bureau failed to deal effectively with these cases.

Three cases were never investigated. In two of the cases, an agent filed erroneous reports. In the remaining cases, initial investigations were made but no assistance was ever given to any of the animals involved.

Under Colorado state law, a bureau agent has the authority to seek arrests and prevent acts of cruelty. According to Steward, the Bureau has not filed one criminal charge in the past twelve months.

Steward’s report recommends that the Bureau “either be strengthened and reorganized or abolished.” The report goes on to make many constructive suggestions such as transferring authority for cruelty investigation and prevention to local humane agents together with a training and certification program for the local agents. He also suggests “The Bureau should become intensely involved with the protection of animals used commercially or in research, entertainment, or food production.

Steward and Rocky Mountain Regional Director Douglas Scott have expressed their dissatisfaction with the Colorado Bureau of Animal Protection an example to be followed by other states in the nation.

Steward wants the agency’s image to change so that the animals of Colorado will be better protected by the agency with a history of prosecution. “Look at it this way,” said Steward, “If you don’t bring charges against anybody in these cases, how can you expect to encourage other people to abide by the law.”

March 21, 22, and 23 are the dates of HSUS’ next regional workshop in the Rocky Mountain states. The workshop will be held in Phoenix, Arizona, and will feature sessions on animal control issues. For more information, contact Regional Director Doug Scott at 1770 South Bellaire Street, Suite 103, Denver, Colorado 80222.
Fall Workshop Highlights

Great Lakes Activities

HSUS regional workshop, held in Indianapolis and hosted by the Dr. Indianapolis Humane Society, drew participants from an eight-state area together to discuss animal problems in their communities. Shelter and pound employees, directors, board members, and volunteers were a part of the meeting, Bob Brown of the Michigan.

The Fifth Annual Animal Control Training Program held at the University of Illinois attracted approximately 200 persons interested in making animal control more professional. Dr. Jack Tuttle of the University coordinated the two-day event which addressed subjects which included public relations, legal aspects of enforcement, and animal diseases. Humane Society representatives and animal control specialists participated in this workshop.

In the area of legislation the issue of decompression chambers used for euthanasia is much talked about these days in Ohio. Rep. Edith Mayer (R), Cincinnati, has introduced H.B. 884 which would outlaw the use of high altitude decompression chambers in Ohio. The bill is gaining wide support and is expected to be heard in January.

In the area of legislation the issue of decompression chambers, Clermont County Humane Society and The Humane Association of Miami Valley have switched to more acceptable methods of euthanasia.

There are literally hundreds of horse-related books that have been published to date. Although some are general and useful information on such topics as stable management, horse care, equestrian arts and training, it is rare to find a book of universal value to all serious horse lovers.

Two of the many fine volumes from Equine Research Publications will prove to be indispensable. The Illustrated Veterinary Encyclopedia for Horsemen, and Veterinary Treatment and Medication for Horsemen are designed to fill the gap in equine literature between the highly technical books intended for use only by the veterinarian and the non-technical, less informative ones that are commonly available to the horseman. These books should be considered as companion volumes: the first deals primarily with the identification and explanation of equine disorders, while the latter explains common treatments that may be employed after the ailment has been diagnosed.

Both volumes are easy to read and well illustrated. They do not avoid the use of medical terms since many horse ailments lack common names. And the texts are meant to facilitate improved communication between veterinarian and client. For ease in locating a particular subject, the reader can swiftly refer to the extensive color-coded glossary or index.

The human investigator having more than occasional horse cruelty complaints will find that these reference manuals will be a tremendous aid in developing professional expertise. They would make a fine addition to any humane society library.

-Marc Paulhus

Emergency Care and First Aid for Small Animals

Cotron R. Burkholder, CVM, MA
(Creative Informatics, Inc., P.O. Box 11500, Aspen, Colorado 81611, paperback $8.70)

A new emergency animal first aid book is available for pet owners, animal control officers, humane society personnel or anyone who deals with animals.

Emergency Care and First Aid for Small Animals is printed in a handy 4½” x 7½” size, so that it can be easily carried in a purse or pocket or packed for a trip.

The center two pages of the 116-page book contain an index keyed directly to tabbed pages that allow the reader to find the necessary information immediately. Each entry is clearly written and subdivided for quick reference, and covers the symptoms, causes, and treatments of various ailments.

The reader can also look under symptom headings such as “Coughing” to check the possible causes for common symptoms.

The book covers topics ranging from cardiopulmonary resuscitation to removal of animal stains from rugs and furniture. The reader can find information on treatment for burns and smoke inhalation, allergic reactions and insect and snake bites, as well as emergency instructions for dealing with fractures, sprains, and wounds.

Clear illustrations accompany the instructions for such activities as resuscitation, administering pills and special diets for injured animals. The book includes space for emergency telephone numbers and pet medical history notes, a list of household products and common household items that can poison animals, and a list of additional references. It also offers a chart of the normal temperature, pulse and respiration value for dogs and cats.

This book also discusses some of the common fallacies about animal health and behavior. For example, in explaining how to assist a dog that has fought with a porcupine, it states, “It is not valid to assume that quill removal without anesthesia will teach your pet not to repeat the encounter.”

Dr. Michael Fox, Director of The HSUS Institute for the Study of Animal Problems, comments, “This is an excellent emergency handbook for pet owners who has been carefully written and well indexed for easy accessibility.”

Multiple copies of Emergency Care and First Aid for Small Animals are specially priced as an added bonus for humane societies and other group purchasers. The cost of $6.50 each, 11-20 copies is $5.95 each, 21-50 copies is $5.50 each, and 51-100 copies is $5.25 each. This book is a highly useful guide with its ample illustrations, clear explanations and handy index format. It can help anyone concerned with animals to handle pet emergencies better by providing concise information.

-Susan Stauffer
A national coalition has been formed to abolish the cruel Draize Draize test. Several national welfare organizations, including HSUS, have joined together in a united front against the Draize test. As part of our efforts to exert as much pressure as possible to bear on regulatory agencies, legislators, the research community and industry, HSUS has invited humane organizations throughout the country to join the coalition.

In his letter to animal welfare societies inviting them to join, HSUS President John Hoyt spoke of an earlier victory repealing the coalitions of local and national agencies, legislators, the research community and industry, pound seizure law in New York state

The Draize test because it is a prime test of "universal pain to rabbits while it's of little, if any, help to humans because the results are unreliable. A comprehensive study by Weil and Scale of twenty-five-five laboratories found "extreme variation" in evaluating the same chemical on rabbits' eyes. Yet, this test has remained basically unchanged for thirty-five years.

The HSUS is proud to say that eighty-two state and local organizations, as of January 7, 1980, have committed and have joined the Coalition to Stop Draize Rabbit Blind Tests.

Endangered Species Update

After endless negotiations and meetings between environmentalists and congressional and administrative representatives, the Endangered Species Act has been reauthorized for three years. As was expected, there have been some amendments to the amended version which was last year. Most notable was the change in status of the Endangered Species Scientific Authority (E.S.S.A.). This is the scientific arm of Endangered Species Act. The signing ceremony of the Act was on February 23, 1980, exclusively for the propagation of endangered species of plants and animals.

The Humane Society News

Non-game Bill Introduced in Senate

For years hunters have claimed they are the only true conservationists because the excess tax on hunting equipment and the fees from hunting licenses have, in large part, paid for state fish and game programs. This money is spent almost exclusively for the propagation of game hunting species. New species have been ignored. Finally, we have a chance to make our statement for non-game animals.

Senator John H. Chafee (R-RI) has introduced S. 2181, the Senate version of a non-game bill. This bill has a broader concept than the one already passed by the House (H.R. 3292) which would provide funding of $19 million only for planning, stretched over a three-year period. S. 2181 authorizes $24 million for planning for the same period, and also adds an 11% excise tax on wild bird seed, feeders, baths, and houses. This accrued tax would be used to pay for immediate implementation of non-game recovery programs.

To show your approval of non-game legislation, write to your own Senators and to Senator John Culver, Chairman of the Senate Committee on H.R. 1297, Resource Protection, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510. Say that you support S. 2181 and you are willing to pay an extra tax on items you buy regularly in order to insure the survival of non-game species. Be sure to mention that an "excise tax" would in no way alter your buying habits. Dealers in bird seed, etc., are warned that a tax would be the buying public. They are expected to oppose the excise tax measure in hearings on the bill which will be held this spring.

Trapping Hearings

A nationwide prohibition against the use of the steel jaw trap will be a major issue in Congress with the scheduling of hearings on H.R. 1297 early this year by the House Subcommittee on Transportation and Commerce.

In response to a personal request from HSUS President John Hoyt, letters from local and state animal welfare organizations have poured forth in support of the bill. They are addressed to Representative James Florio of New Jersey, who is the chairman of the Transportation and Commerce Subcommittee. HSUS will enter these letters into the official record during the hearing. Congressman Florio is sympathetic to the animal welfare cause, and there is no hope that this controversial legislation will be major step forward in the long struggle to ban the leghold trap.

H.R. 1297 (the only trapping bill under the jurisdiction of Florio's subcommittee) was introduced by Representative Clarence Long (D-MD). It would prohibit the interstate and foreign commerce in furs, feathers, and related animal products coming from any state or country which has not banned the steel jaw trap. Passage of this legislation will require massive, concerted action by the humane movement.

The fur industry has already started to lobby Congress intensive-ly to stop any legislation. The difficult opposition faced by the humane movement on the state level in attempts to ban the steel jaw trap throughout state legislatures will be magnified on the federal level. There are many special interest groups which are mobilizing substantial resources to convince the U.S. Congress that fur products are more important to the country than any animal suffering resulting from trapping.

Therefore, it is essential that the humane movement make an exceptional effort to present its case to Congress that the steel jaw trap is a cruel device causing untold hours of extreme animal suffering. In addition, you will continue to write letters to your Congressman and Senators. We also ask that you write directly to Congressman Florio in support of his legislation.

If you live in the district of other members of this subcommittee, it is extremely important that you write letters in support of this bill to them. In addition to Congressman Florio, they are Representative James Santini (New Jersey), Representative Barbara Mikulski (Maryland), Representative John Murphy (New York), Representative Martin Russo (D-MD), Representative James Madiwan (Illinois), Representative Gary A. Lee (New Jersey) and Representative Mary Beth Devine (Ohio). All letters can be addressed to the House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515.
HSUS Demands USDA Action on Animal Fighting Ventures

In its ongoing investigation of dog-fighting and cockfighting, HSUS investigators have time and again been frustrated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s seeming reluctance to enforce Section 26 of the Animal Welfare Act which outlaws interstate activity relating to animal fighting ventures. In passing the legislation, Congress gave USDA the authority to call on the FBI, Treasury Department, or other federal agencies for help in enforcing Section 26. Nevertheless, USDA has never had a program for enforcement and continues to fail in its duty to actively enforce Section 26 despite meetings between USDA officials and members of HSUS’ investigative and legal staff in which cooperation was promised.

The latest evidence of this was seen at a dogfight raid led by HSUS last December in Marked Tree, Arkansas. Two FBI agents who were actively investigating the dogfight were suddenly pulled off the case on orders from Washington, explained later as a “jurisdiction dispute” resulting from a lack of cooperative agreement between the Department of Justice and USDA. Shortly afterwards two USDA investigators appeared on the scene as observers to the raid, not as participants. The critical vantage point at the field level, however, was taken over by the FBI agents and state and local authorities. Such cooperative agreements are not only explicitly provided for in the Act, but, as events two weeks ago in Marked Tree, Arkansas pointed out, are indispensable as a practical matter in effecting the kind of enforcement work which Congress envisioned.

“The systemic incapacity is decisively illustrated by the fact that in this year alone, USDA has been provided advance information on twelve dog fights, including evidence in several cases showing the probability of interstate activity. Out of that plethora of advance information has come only one concrete USDA action at the field level: the tentative presence of two investigators from the Office of Investigations at the Marked Tree, Arkansas fight. Furthermore, it is obvious that USDA has not been sure how to use advance information of criminal fighting, has not decided which personnel will be responsible for § 26 enforcement, does not have a feasible plan or guidelines for conducting field investigations of § 26 violations, and is unpracticed at coordinating the necessary federal and state enforcement personnel.

“What we have been watching for and what we think is necessary to see from USDA in the near future is reasonable and steady progress toward putting together an enforcement program. From our viewpoint, the acid test of an effective enforcement program is how it performs at the field level, how decisions and intentions in Washington are translated into interdictions of the fights themselves. Thus, while we appreciate efforts at improving communications among USDA and HSUS by the meetings which you have organized, we, and particularly this office, must respond to the signs of USDA confusion and inaction reported by Frantz Dantzler and Marc Paulhus, our field investigators. The critical vantage point for us is the activity or inactivity apparent at the end of the federal chain of command — at the fight level. As a matter of legal necessity, USDA must have an enforcement program in place. The Department does not have the discretion either to decline to enforce the Act or to continue in its present, systemically indisposed state.

We are currently awaiting USDA’s reply to our inquiry. If there is no satisfactory response and it appears that USDA will continue to shirk its responsibility to investigate and prosecute those who perpetuate cruel animal fighting ventures, HSUS is willing to take whatever legal steps are possible to force action in this important area of federal involvement in animal welfare.

Since then, I think we are all in agreement that virtually nothing was done until recently to even begin enforcement of § 26. While there may not have been an intentional decision to ignore § 26, there has been and still is within the Department a pronounced, systemic inability to enforce it, which has the same result. This systemic inability or incapacity is reflected in the non-existence of cooperative agreements among USDA, the Department of Justice, other pertinent federal agencies and state and local authorities. Such cooperative agreements are not only explicitly provided for in the Act, but, as events two weeks ago in Marked Tree, Arkansas pointed out, are indispensable as a practical matter in effecting the kind of enforcement effort which Congress envisioned.

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

To order your copy of Careers: Working with Animals, send $6.95 to The HSUS, 2100 L St., NW, Washington, D.C. HSUS members and humane organizations and libraries writing on their own letterhead may deduct $1.00 from the regular price.
An open letter to the citizens of Canada and the United States

The Humane Society of the United States is unalterably opposed to the clubbing and killing of baby whitecoat seals in Canada. It is brutalizing, shameful, and without justification.

The United States government is against the clubbing and killing of baby whitecoat seals in Canada. At least it would appear so since Congress has prohibited the importation of the skins of these animals into the United States.

The Canadian government supports the clubbing and killing of baby whitecoat seals in Canada. Indeed, it defends that killing with great vigor.

The Humane Society of the United States is unalterably opposed to the clubbing and killing of North Pacific fur seals in the Alaskan Pribilof Islands. It is brutalizing, shameful, and without justification.

The United States government supports and promotes the killing of North Pacific fur seals in the Alaskan Pribilof Islands. It defends that killing saying it is part of a treaty agreement with Canada, the USSR, and Japan.

The United States government contends that these killings are necessary to prevent the killing of seals on the high seas by other nations not so moral as ours. Perhaps the government is correct in this assumption. Perhaps not.

But what is patently clear is that the United States government is very hypocritical when it condemns Canada for the killing of seals (just because they are babies?) and yet promotes the killing of seals (adolescents) in our own Pribilof Islands.

The HSUS does not believe that humane considerations are any less appropriate for adolescent seals than baby seals and, therefore, asks the United States government to address its own activity while condemning that of Canada.

The HSUS condemns the policies of both the United States and Canada which promote and defend these brutalizing and insensitive activities on their respective shores.

The HSUS urges the Canadian government to abolish the killing of the baby harp seals and to decline the acceptance of a percentage of the fur seals killed in the Pribilof Islands.

The HSUS urges the United States government to be as critical of its own seal slaughter as it is of its neighbor to the North. If the U.S. cannot negotiate an end to the Pribilof hunts based on the Convention on the Conservation of North Pacific Fur Seals, at the very least, it should forgo its own percentage of the Pribilof kill.

The HSUS calls upon the peoples of both countries to express their protest to the government of their own country and the government of their neighboring country.

The HSUS invites your personal letters to the President of the United States and the Prime Minister of Canada indicating your support for an end to sealing in both countries and a uniting of our respective countries in protesting the killing of seals worldwide.

The Humane Society of the United States believes that every living creature has an intrinsic value which derives from creation and is deserving of the opportunity to exist free from suffering and abuse at the hands of man.

If you share this belief, we invite your participation in adding your voice to this protest.