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Update

Volume 1, No. 11
December, 1973

FUEL SHORTAGE ADDS TO ANIMAL AIR SHIPMENT PROBLEMS

Fuel shortages now threaten to increase the problems of abuse and mishandling of animals shipped by air. These problems were identified by the Sub-Committee of the House Committee on Government Operations even before the current crisis developed.

Increased reduction in the number of flights will cause cargo, including live animals, to be delayed in transit and held in terminals for arrival of aircraft to carry them to their final destinations. Cancelled flights will further aggravate the problem.

Under present regulations, live animals will, therefore, compete on a "space available" basis with all other cargo and may be delayed for extended periods of time.

HSUS believes that the situation is an especially urgent matter and Mr. Madden's office is preparing a petition for rule-making to be submitted to the Civil Aeronautics Board which has jurisdiction in this area.

The petition asks that CAB establish and implement a policy to ensure that the transportation of live animals will be given priority preference over the shipment of all other cargo to minimize prejudicial delay.

Other aspects of the transportation of live animals are under study and are the subject of continuing investigation. You will be kept informed of results.

THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS NOT FOR PUBLICATION AT THE PRESENT TIME. IT IS MERELY TO KEEP YOU INFORMED. WHEN THE PETITION IS COMPLETED AND PRESENTED TO CAB, A PRESS RELEASE WILL BE ISSUED FROM WASHINGTON. DON'T JUMP THE GUN!

POSTAGE PROBLEMS

Regional directors should notify their staffs and secretaries that only the most important and urgent mail should be sent to the national office via air mail.

We have noted that some offices are sending carbon and xerox copies of letters and routine forms by air mail which is adding considerably to our postage expense. Also, rather than send individual copies of the same letter to several people, it would be just as easy to send one copy marked to the attention of all of the parties you wish to be aware of the matter.

There have been instances when five, six, or seven envelopes are received from the same regional office in one day. Unless a letter is personal or confidential, every effort should be made to combine routine mailings into one envelope.

ANIMAL CONTROL PROBLEMS SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION BY NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES

The following animal control proposal was presented for ratification at the Annual Conference of the National League of Cities held December 3. We have been notified, unofficially, that the proposal was ratified. If any changes were made, you will be notified in the next issue of Legislative Update.

It is interesting to note that city officials are becoming aware that sterilization of animals, while not the final answer, will help to alleviate the problem. The proposal is:

"Dog and cat overpopulation in urban areas is now recognized as a threat to health as well as an assault on urban aesthetics, a pollutant and a safety hazard. It also represents a major city expenditure. Citizens and governments must be made aware of the seriousness of the problem. Education programs must be reinforced with local requirements of owners to restrain dogs and cats, and control their breeding. Licensing fees should reflect the costs of city animal control programs, including shelters, mandatory sterilization of adopted animals, and cleaning up animal litter."

HSUS PLANS LENDING LIBRARY

The purchase of reference books by various regional offices is becoming a duplication and an unnecessary expense for HSUS.

The national office is preparing a list of books which will be available on a "lend" basis to regional offices. It is our intention to accumulate as complete a library of useful material as possible. Obviously, it would be prohibitively expensive for each regional office to do the same.

A list of available publications is being prepared by Guy Hodge and will be forwarded to each regional office in January 1974. The list will be updated regularly as new publications are added. Further instructions on how to take advantage of our library facilities will be forthcoming.

To assist us with this project, please send us a list of all books that are HSUS property, currently in the possession of regional offices.

HOUSTON LAWSUIT BRINGS REWARDING RESULTS

Members of the Houston Citizens for Animal Protection, Inc. (CAP) and The HSUS requested an injunction to force city officials to correct conditions at the Houston Rabies Control Center. The conditions were fully detailed in the injunction and can probably be summed up by the words "unsanitary and barbaric."

In an obvious effort to avoid court action, attorneys for the city have admitted that the allegations made by the CAP and HSUS are true and have agreed to instruct city officials to improve conditions for the care, handling, and euthanizing of animals at the Rabies Center.

Our Gulf States Regional Office worked with CAP to achieve this corrective action. It is obvious that, as a final resort, corrections for animal control can be brought about by civil actions.

Although the regional office did the leg work the injunction was brought in the name of HSUS national. Facts and legal papers were reviewed here. No such action should be taken or initiated by any regional office without a thorough study of the facts and complete consultation with John Hoyt, Pat Parkes, and Murdaugh Madden.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF HUMANE EDUCATION (NAAHE)

We have just incorporated a new organization with the above designation as a vehicle for dissemination of humane education materials and ideas and a unification force for humane education programs of both a formal and informal nature.

NAAHE will act as the central clearing house by which information about humane education may be exchanged. It will also promote humane education workshops, seminars, and symposia.

Through a quarterly journal and newsletters, NAAHE will provide communication in areas such as materials development, humane education methodology, and evaluation. The Journal will also feature articles with wide appeal.

NAAHE is a membership organization for educators with categories ranging from a student membership of \$7 to a patron membership of \$500. We are currently developing a brochure describing the organization and its aims and this will be mailed to you in early January 1974.

We have applied for our tax exemption and low rate postal permit but it will be some time before these are received. We will mail the brochure and a letter of invitation to join to about 8,000 educators and others in January. The administrative aspects of NAAHE will be handled in this office by Administrative Assistant Marcia Glaser.

This is being passed along to you as advance information only. The organization will not get into full swing until January 1974 and no printed literature will be available until that time. When it is, copies of all pertinent material will be sent to you.

CRUELTY AT THE WESTERN WHITE HOUSE

If you hear that the President is plugging bullfights, don't treat it lightly. Jack Anderson notifies us in a recent column that the President is touting the advantages of San Clemente as a conference site for federal agencies and bureaucrats. This is an attempt to justify the millions of dollars poured into the facility.

A booklet entitled "The Western White House" boasts that some of the attractions offered for visiting dignitaries and conferees are "fishing, swimming, golf, bowling, bull fights, jai alai and many more leisure activities.

John Hoyt has written a strong protest to the White House for offering an attraction that is illegal in all 50 states.

We can only assume that the "bull fights" are held south of the border, probably in Tijuana, Mexico. That's only a couple of hundred miles away from San Clemente so it really doesn't take much fuel to fly or drive down for some good old fashioned artistic "sport" but, of course, never on Sunday, and watch that 50 mile per hour limit!

FROM WASHINGTON TO YOU

"Here's to your future,

Your present and your past;

May each new day

Be better than the last."

A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR TO YOU AND YOURS!

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