INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR THE STUDY OF ANIMAL PROBLEMS

After almost two years of planning and development, the International Journal For The Study of Animal Problems has become a reality with the inaugural January/February 1980 issue. Published by the Institute for the Study of Animal Problems (ISAP), a division of The HSUS, this fine journal represents a significant landmark in the field of animal welfare. Under the editorship of Dr. Michael Fox and Dr. Andrew Rowan, the International Journal draws upon the expertise and talents of numerous scientists worldwide in addressing, from a scholarly perspective, major problems affecting the welfare of animals.

Designed to balance the needs of people and animals in a scientifically equitable fashion, the Journal will identify, target, and address problems in such areas as livestock rearing, handling and slaughter, laboratory animal usage and care, surplus companion animals, wildlife utilization and predator control techniques, and a range of other issues.

In addition to the contributions being provided the International Journal by individual scholars, the launching of this publication has brought together in joint sponsorship the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals headquartered in Horsham, England, and The HSUS. We are extremely pleased and proud to be associated with this illustrious organization in a project of such significance.

Although the International Journal is written primarily for scientists and educators, it is without question an indispensable resource for animal welfare organizations and animal welfare leaders. Subscription information may be found on page 28.

The HSUS extends congratulations to the staff of ISAP and many others who have made possible this outstanding Journal.

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The sheer magnitude of the livestock industry is difficult to conceive, and most of the animals in it lead miserable lives.

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Front cover photo
by Judith Halden

Back cover photo
by Bonnie Smith

The Humane Society News is published quarterly by The Humane Society of the United States. 1200 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005. (202) 452-1100

Membership in The Humane Society of the United States is $10 a year.

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The Humane Society of the United States is a non-profit charitable organization, supported entirely by contributions from individuals. All contributions are tax-deductible. The HSUS meets the standards of The National Information Bureau. (1275)

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**Tuna Aggregation Could Be Key to Porpoise Protection**

The fact that schools of tuna tend to aggregate under herds of dolphin has been the cause of much misery for the dolphins since it has been the basis for tuna fishing for the last twenty years. When porpoise herds are sighted, speedboats harry them down and encircle them with giant purse seine nets which are drawn tight at the bottom, capturing tuna and porpoise together. Despite new methods to help the marine mammals out of the nets, thousands are killed each season. If the tuna net is not gotten, then the harassment of the chase might.

Dolphins in the eastern tropical Pacific have been set upon so frequently that the moment they sight a tuna purse seiner, they start "running." Chases by the speedboats which used to take one to two hours now take as much as three or four hours. The speedboats must have larger fuel tanks than before in order to chase the dolphins long enough to encircle them. The old, weak, pregnant, or very young may become casualties of these exhausting races. For the protection of the dolphins, it is vital that some new method be developed for catching tuna.

What would that method be? One idea being researched is that of providing some object other than a dolphin herd for the aggregate under. Artificial buoys with long rope strands tied to netting which drop forty feet into the ocean from a raft have been used successfully in some places, but even objects like old palm trees and oil drums can be used.

**Take Two Terriers and Call Me in the Morning**

Evidence that pet ownership is good for your health is mounting. Dr. Aaron Catcher of the University of Pennsylvania who conducted a study showing that heart disease patients who owned pets had a better survival rate than those who did not own pets, has completed a new study on pet-person interaction. The new study measured the heart rate and blood pressure of individuals as they talked to other people or read out loud, then again as they petted and talked to their dogs. When they were relating to their dogs, their blood pressure was significantly lowered. As blood pressure tends to rise in stressful situations and fall in relaxing ones, these results seem to indicate that petting your dog or cat is good for your health - sort of a mini-vacation from the stresses of everyday life.

In a survey of peoples' attitudes toward their dogs, Dr. Catcher found that 80% said it talked to their dog as to a person, and many confided in their dogs. One hundred percent of the patients believed the animal was sensitive to their feelings.

Dr. Catcher is currently working on a study of the interaction of children with pets. Preliminary findings from their biological pressure is also lowered as they talk to and pet their animals. Clearly we need our pets' companionship as much as they need ours!

**HSUS and 'Lou Grant' Take on Dogfighting**

Those of you who saw the March 3 episode of "Lou Grant," (the fictitious newspaper, needed an expert. The episode they were working on has been titled "Dogs." It will be broadcast March 3 and concerns among the most disgusting of bloodsports - dogfighting. It is an old sport, spawned centuries ago when dog-bred called Staffordshire terriers were used in fighting arenas with bulls, bears or each other.

But the problem faced by Producer Seth Freeman and his researchers was to find someone who knew about the sport today and the national gambling undergroun around it. THEY FOUND HELP in Sacramento. A fellow I'll call Jack, an investigator for the Humane Society of the United States, is an expert on dogfighting. He lives near here but has infiltrated the dogfighting groups throughout the country. He was able to learn to cheer at the gore and smell beer along with the degenerates.

The episode about a large metropolitan newspaper, with Ed Asner playing Lou Grant, the city editor for the fictitious newspaper, our West Coast Office for help with their production on dogfighting. The show stirred great audience response, and also resulted in a great deal of publicity about dogfighting and arrest the dogfighters caught in the act.

Although no actual abuse of the animals was shown (it would have been impossible to film such things without hurting some of the dogs or the cat used in one scene), the program clearly depicted the savagery and cold-bloodedness of the fighters.

**What happens in the pit shouldn't happen to a dog**

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In December, Jack was called in to infiltrate one of the biggest dogfighting raids. It was in rural Arkansas and more than 250 persons were arrested by a combined force of federal and local authorities.

The bust also resulted in the largest cache of illegal drugs ever seized in Arkansas, along with a virtual arsenal of weapons.

That meant: heavy money and heavy personnel, a potentially deadly combination and the primary reason why Jack must remain anonymous.

Lou Grant's writers have incorporated the grisly possibilities into their script. I'll preserve the program's dramatic surprise but what happens to Ace Reporte or Joe Rossi is a risky business - and quite possible, according to Jack.

"These people have murdered others weighing on bets," he says.
Assembly line livestock is big business, but animals are not machines.

A report on the state of livestock under modern farming methods by Dr. Michael Fox, Director of the Institute for the Study of Animal Problems

Each year more than 217 million cattle, sheep and pigs, and over three and a half million chickens take their place in the food chain in the United States. Animal products like meat, eggs and milk flow continuously from farm to market to dining room tables.

Much of what goes on in this industry takes place behind closed doors, often in partial or total darkness. What the eye doesn’t see, the consumer doesn’t grieve! A styrofoam carton of impeccable eggs, neatly trimmed meat in plastic wrappers, or a delicate slice of veal cordon bleu served on a silver platter can tell us nothing about the care and treatment of the animal.

Behind those packages of clean, wholesome-looking food is the agribusiness reality of mass production and modern livestock under intensive farming systems. What we buy is what we get; what we get is what we pay for.

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Livestock Systems

It is easy to follow the pattern of how the various factory farming systems came about. Extensive (free-range) conditions were first replaced by semi-intensive conditions of raising livestock in enclosed pastures or fields. Next, with increasing land costs dictating a more frugal use of arable land, animals were removed from the land to intensive confinement systems—more animals cramped into less space.

Many of these vast factory farms are designed first for the labor-saving convenience of the operators. With the cost of land, the greater productivity per animal per unit of land is a major advantage of intensive factory farming.

Like many aspects of factory farming, the “better life indoors” can be a rationalization, a substitute for good husbandry and humane stewardship, as well as being a way to reduce labor and increase productivity at the expense of the animals’ well-being. The by-product is cruelty and the motive is profit.

General confinement systems are designed first for the labor-saving convenience of the operators. But now, from the bitter lessons of chronic infertility problems in sows, they won’t suffer from fight injuries as they would if kept together in pens with crowding the animals together make them more aggressive. They have no escape and no opportunity to rectify things for themselves which, in more natural surroundings, in anything short of complete confinement, they might be able to do.

Is Confinement Good for the Animals?

Some producers claim that animals have a better life confined indoors in controlled environments than they would have outdoors exposed to the elements and predators. On a well operated farm, this assertion may be true. Generally, it is a myth. For example, some argue that by keeping sows in narrow stalls alone in the stall or in the center of a room, they won’t suffer from fight injuries as they would if kept together in pens with overcrowded conditions. But now, from the bitter lessons of chronic infertility problems in sows, they won’t suffer from fight injuries as they would if kept together in pens with overcrowded conditions.
mastitis and food problems in cattle, to chronic pneumonia and can- nibalism in pigs and poultry, farmers are starting to learn that the environment must be designed first for the animals, otherwise con- finement systems will continue to fail. One of the greatest costs for the modern livestock farmer is of drugs and vaccines for control of diseases, many of which are a product of con- finement factory farming.

Sickness and Death
Good animal husbandry practices to control diseases have been re- placed by the administration of drugs in the feed and water to pre- vent illnesses that are to a large ex- tent created by bad and/or intensive confinement systems will continue to fail. The larger the operation, therefore, the less individual attention each animal gets if it is sick and not per- forming well. The larger the opera- tion (often supported by a market monopoly, price guarantees, and marketing expertise), the greater is the loss than can be absorbed. Such clear inadequacy, and can lead to unnecessary animal neglect and indifference to those individuals requiring veterinary treatment.

Production Diseases — Accelerated Animal Machines
An often overlooked aspect of fac- tory farming which can cause suffer- ing, stress, and disease is the way in which animals are pushed to their limits to produce milk, meat, and eggs. For example, more and more dairy cattle, pushed beyond their normal physiological limits through selective breeding and nutrition, suf- fer from a number of metabolic dis- orders which are related to collec- tively as production diseases. Meat animals are fed arsenic and other appetite stimulants as well as growth-promoting hormones. Highly concentrated feeds that are low in natural roughage are used to pro- duce more milk and to finish or fatten beef cattle and hogs. This approach can cause many problems (including acid indigestion, liver abscesses, bloating, lameness, and ulcers in the di- gestive tract) and can also lower the animal’s stress resistance to disease and temperature extremes.

Broiler chickens are often raised under continuous artificial light to stimulate appetite and accelerate growth. In the battery cage system (cages in a series) for laying hens, the birds are accelerated to produce more by being given a longer day under artificial light. At the end of one laying cycle, they are either destroyed (put into soup or pet foods) or they are deprived of water or starved for up to ten days to force moulting to prepare them for another laying cycle. Many die under this acute stress. Others burn out from sheer production exhaustion. Still others collapse with soft bones, de- pleted of minerals used to make the egg and shell.

Veal Calves — Young Victims of Farm Technology
Veal calves in the United States are subjected to most brutal deprivations of any farm animals. Many are taken from their mothers within a day of being born and are loaded on cattle trucks and shipped to a country outside of the U.S., where they may die just from the stress of transportation and handling.

Those that live to be auctioned face a short life of pain and frustration. Having been purchased at the auction, they are sent to be fattened in a process which creates so-called “milk fed” veal.

They are tied in stalls so narrow they cannot turn around, exercise, or socialize with other calves. Rump- ling and playing in the fields would toughen the calves’ muscles, so the farmers tether them in these stalls to keep the most as tender as possible. Deprived of their mothers, friends, or even human contact for the most part, the young animals stand in darkness on slatted floors for four months with nothing to do but eat.

No roughage is provided in their diet, so they are not even able to ruminate, “chew the cud,” a most basic digestive process. Their diets are kept deficient in iron because iron makes meat red and the U.S. con- sumer, we are told, demands pink veal, even though the color has little to do with the taste of the product.

The iron deficient diet keeps the calves anemic, weak and sick for the duration of their short lives. Regular doses of antibiotics must be given the calves to ward off the diseases their weakened and stressed condi- tion makes them prey to. Veal is a specialty, luxury product, and is not a necessity in anyone’s diet. The human consumer can demand better conditions for these playful calves by refusing to purchase milk fed veal until significant changes are made.

Crowding
Crowding, especially in raising hogs and broiler chickens, is a fre- quent result of confinement farm- ing. Broilers, with 20,000 - 40,000 or more birds in one shed before they are ready for slaughter, usually have less than three-quarters of a square foot of floor space per bird. Battery- housed egg laying hens have even less space. Such overcrowding is stress- ful physically and psychologically and can lead in hens to feather pull- ing and cannibalism.

Weaned piglets are often placed in battery cages with as little as 1.7 square feet of floor space allotted for each pig up to fifty pounds body weight. Overcrowding in pigs leads to tail biting, cannibalism, fighting and losses due to secondary infection.

Crowding stress increases suscep- tibility to diseases, especially those caused by viruses. Hence, factory farming has become dependent upon vaccines, antibiotics, and other drugs to maintain a pathological status quo. Symptoms alone are treated and not the basic cause. Less crowding would be more hu- mane and could also be more pro- fitable.

Animal Stress
Confinement can occur during one part of the animal’s life or for the duration of its existence. The animal is wholly dependent upon the stock- man not only for food and water but also for the cleanliness, tempera­ ture, humidity, and light required for the operation of its environment. Depending on the confinement system, the animal may also be subjected to varying degrees of social deprivation, and re- striction of movement, and an in- ability to satisfy various instincts and emotional needs.

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Deprivation of Basic Needs
Confinement in barren stalls, pens, or cages can be stressful because of the extreme monotony and lack of varied stimulation in the environment. Such deprivation leads to chronic boredom and under-stim- ulation which may lead to “boredom vices” such as excessive mouthing, pecking, grooming, nervous ticks, and stereotyped behaviors. Acute social deprivation is also commonly seen with veal calves, breeding bulls and hogs.

Barrenness of the environment with or without crowding stress, is often combined with a third stress factor: severe physical restriction. Animals crowded in small pens or battery cages or tethered in separate stalls (as are sows and veal calves), are unable to perform many natural actions or to satisfy basic needs.

Crowding, preening, stretching, turning, and lying down may be dif- ficult or impossible. Social and emo- tional needs may also be frustrated.

Darkness: Stress Reducer?
Lack of light may reduce crowding stress and is often employed on in- tensive pig and veal farms. In dark­ ness, animals move less and so they don’t waste food-energy by playing together or fighting. Twenty to twenty-two hours of darkness is usual for veal confinement systems. They only eat when the lights are switched on. New evidence indicates that veal calves will do better (not surprisingly) if they are not kept in darkness in separate stalls. This ul- timate extreme of confinement, isolating creatures alone in pens or crates in total darkness — is surely one of the most disturbing products of human ingenuity motivated by profit. While an animal in a field or woods may have to forage for hours to consume more food (and money) just walking around or playing during the daylight hours, it may, in the
Mutilations

Aside from social isolation, deprivation of basic needs and crowding stresses, farm animals are subject to unnecessary physical pain and suffering. Cattle are branded and castrated without anesthesia; and pigs, lambs, and bulls are castrated with or without anesthesia. Chickens and ducks are debarked. Many such established mutilations have recently been shown to be unnecessary practices and could be eliminated by improvements in animal husbandry. Moreover, the marketing of non-castrated pigs and cattle could have a health advantage to the consumer, since such meat contains less saturated fatty acids which some sources consider to be implicated in coronary diseases.

Floor Surfaces

Even the animal's last contact with reality, the ground, may be stressful and cause physical injuries. Slatted floors, often too wide for young pigs and calves, can cause lameness, as may hard concrete floors for heavy sows. Straw bedding is rarely provided. Battery hens and growing pullets are kept on wire floored cages. Such a surface causes foot problems and constant discomfort: the birds have nowhere to perch and tests have shown that if given a choice, they will avoid thin, wire floors, which are standard in the construction of most battery cage systems. In order to facilitate egg collection, the floor is slanted on an incline which can also cause considerable discomfort.

Solutions and Resolutions

There are many ways to improve the lot of factory farmed animals. Know what animal you eat. Be a vegetarian or conscientious omnivore. Be willing to pay more for animals from farm cooperatives that are concerned with the welfare of their animals. Many are, since healthy and happy animals are cheaper to keep and are better producers, especially for the smaller operators.

More research funds are needed to design facilities which meet the animals' behavioral needs, to study and compare animals under different systems, and to breed more adaptable strains. Only a handful of veterinarians and animal scientists are studying the behavior of farm animals. This lack of knowledge, interest, and funds must be rectified.

Also the pervasive attitude that domestic animals are degenerate and unfeeling automatons must be changed. These animals are not mindless and emotionless cogs in the complex machinery of factory farming.

Understanding, empathy and compassion must become a part of agribusiness as it was once when farmers “husbanded” their land, crops and livestock. This may be slow to come without the spur of human legislation and consumer advocacy and boycotts because of the many distracting problems and priorities which intensive agribusiness farming has created, particularly in the domain of animal nutrition, disease, waste disposal, and energy. Such problems create new specialist fields and supportive industries and even visit the farm. Data from Europe show clearly that the large factory farm is less productive than a smaller family farm. The larger the farm, the greater is the percentage incidence of disease problems and real and potential animal suffering.

In the final analysis, what is humane and in the best interests of the animal may also be in the best interests of the livestock producer and consumer as well. Consumers who care should be prepared to pay a little more for better kept animals because reforms will increase costs, at least during their initial implementation. Those in the livestock industry should also be willing to explore and implement improvement and reforms in their practices of livestock production, transportation and slaughter.

Some may argue that all one needs to do is to become a vegetarian and then these problems would be solved overnight. While I fully respect the ethical and health reasons behind vegetarianism, such idealism alone will not rectify the problems and abuses of factory farming.

What is especially needed is a commitment by all who care to support those humane societies who are pressuring the livestock industry to establish humane reforms, codes of practice and protective laws; public pressure is needed to help generate funds for animal welfare research and educational programs.

**FOX ON FACTORY FARMING**

While conducting on-site research of intensive and confinement farming systems, Dr. Fox has collected dozens of photographs that vividly illustrate the problems of raising animals in unnatural, ill-designed environments. His lecture with these slides has been enthusiastically received at many conferences, seminars, and workshops. Now, for the first time, this program is available. HSUS has produced a slidesound program titled Humane Concerns of Factory Farming. It is comprised of eighty color 35mm slides, and an audio-cassette of Dr. Fox commenting on and explaining the phenomena pictured. For the convenience of those with synch-sound projection systems, one side of the tape has audible beeps to change slides quietly and automatically. The other side has the same lecture with audible beeps to cue a projectionist to change slides. The slides come in a Carousel for use in a Kodak Carousel Projector, but, of course, can be used with any other 35mm projector as well.

In addition, the entire slidesound program has been put on 34-inch wide cassette for use by those with video playback equipment. The program in both formats is approximately twenty minutes long and is available for sale or rental.

The sale price for either format is $50. To order, send your check to HSUS Slide Show, 2100 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037. Be sure to specify whether you want the slide sound format or the videocassette.

The rental price is $10. If you wish to rent the program, write to the above address and ask for the rental order form.
Sometimes it is difficult for people to understand why not everyone who walks in the door of an animal shelter is allowed to adopt an animal. “How can you turn anyone down,” they ask, “knowing the alternative for the animal may be euthanasia?”

The answer is that some things are worse than euthanasia. Bitter experience has shown that, without certain regulations about adoption, many animals are taken by people who have no idea of the responsibilities involved in being a pet owner. If they are unwilling or unable to invest the time and money needed to make a success of the adoption, the pet ends up neglected, abandoned, or returned to the shelter. The ones that don't reach the shelter may die from disease or in traffic accidents - a much more painful death than by humane euthanasia. Often, animals are at the shelter in the first place because they've been rejected or abandoned. It's no favor for the animal to make it go through this experience twice.

I believe an animal shelter exists for the good of the animals, to protect them from cruelty. And if the shelter exists for the good of the animals, it has a moral obligation not to let an animal out the front door unless it is going to be part of a family, will get veterinary care, companionship, food, water, a bath and a brush now and then, will be licensed, inoculated, and on a leash when it is out on the public thoroughfare. Last but not least, all pets adopted from a shelter should be spayed or neutered to prevent the birth of more homeless dogs and cats. In other words, the pet must go to a good home, and not just any home at all.

To meet this obligation, the shelter staff must require certain things of adopters, must make an effort to match adopter with pet, and must spend time educating adopters about animal care.

The potential adopter — in fact, anyone who cares about the welfare of animals — must recognize that these requirements are necessary to protect the animals, even though they may result in fewer adoptions taking place.

Matching potential owner to pet is partly a matter of what the adopter wants and what he or she can handle, and partly a matter of what the animal "wants" or needs to be healthy and happy. A family living in the middle of the city will probably not be happy with an energetic young Irish setter type of dog. A cat that has been an "only pet" in a sedate household may never adjust to a new home full of children and other pets. If an animal has been turned in to the shelter because it has chewed up the sofa and taken down the drapery and eaten the carpet in its old home, it will probably do the same thing in somebody else's home. It would be totally unfair to put that animal in a house without a yard or basement where it can be confined when the family is not home, or not to forewarn potential adopters that the dog has these bad habits.

Medical problems may be another factor in the match-up. Even healthy young animals require medical care, such as regular check-ups and inoculations. Older animals or animals with chronic problems, such as diabetes will need frequent medical care, which can be expensive. It takes a special person to successfully adopt a pet such as that.

Actually, older animals often are not good candidates for adoption, and it might be unkind to place them in any kind of new home. Usually by the age of seven, an animal is so ingrained in a personal lifestyle that trying to break that is very difficult. Animals have very strong attachments to people. I've seen older dogs sitting in shelters that wouldn't eat or respond to anyone. I think it's terribly cruel and inhumane to subject a dog to the stress and grief of abandonment after years of companionship, and I've always asked people who brought an older pet to me to allow me to put it to sleep right away, for the its own sake. I'd hate Phyllis Wright heads HSUS' Accreditation program for local animal shelters and animal welfare groups.

Phyllis Wright leads HSUS Accreditation program for local animal shelters and animal welfare groups.
to think I placed that dog and he got out the front door and over the fence and went to look for his old owners.

Cats seem to adjust faster, but older cats still find breaking old routines very stressful. Interestingly enough, not as many older cats are turned in to shelters as dogs. They're not as much trouble in homes as a dog, and seem to settle in longer.

People who are adopting their first pet should be prepared to spend some time at the shelter learning about feeding, training, housebreaking, medical care, and other aspects of animal care. Adopters of puppies and kittens especially should be aware of the problems of raising young animals.

Even people who've had animals before don't necessarily know how to care for them. I was in one animal shelter when a man who had just adopted a dog walked out of the lobby and into the parking lot, opened the trunk of his car and put the dog in. I kept over the person who was sitting in the office and ran out to the parking lot saying "You can't carry a dog like that!" I always carry my dogs in the back of the car," he said. "That's what the trunk is for. I don't want that dog shedding hair all over my back seat." And that's an example of someone who really needs some education before being allowed to adopt an animal.

The shelter may use a lot of judgment and intuition in screening adopters, but there are certain rules that should be applied to all cases. They sometimes bring controversy, but they are necessary to be fair to the animals.

The most important requirement of all is that all animals adopted from a shelter be spayed or neutered. With all the puppies and kittens that have to be euthanized day after day because there aren't nearly enough homes for all of them, it is perfectly reasonable for shelters to insist on requiring adopters who have been made to understand the seriousness of the pet overpopulation problem and the benefits of neutering to comply with this adoption requirement. In fact, there has been at least one court case where an adopter did refuse to have the pet spayed and the shelter took legal action. The adopter finally got the surgery done but the judge did state that the society could require neutering in the contract. Many cities and counties require neutering of adopted pets in their ordinances.

The results of not requiring neutering show up quickly at the shelter. I've been visiting shelters when someone comes in with a litter of puppies and says, "Here, a pure-bred puppy from the dog I got from you last year." Everybody on the staff is wishing I'd disappear. And I say "Oh, isn't that interesting. How long have you had this puppy?" He tells me it was born in April, and we really love it, and this is its first litter. We sold three and here are the rest." So one animal was saved, but three more will probably have to be euthanized. And the problem is that these are sold regardless of whether they are producing even more unwanted pups that will someday end up on the streets or in the shelter. That's just recycling the problem. Spaying and neutering can stop the birth of unwanted animals and save a lot of suffering.

Another requirement that should be mandatory before adopting a pet is showing some identification. Some shelters, by policy, won't adopt animals to anyone who lives outside their city or county. One reason for this is that it's hard to follow-up on adoptions from out-of-state or out of the area. There is a very real fear of unscrupulous persons adopting animals to be used in research laboratories or in satanic rituals. (There are cults that use black cats to sacrifice.) Getting positive identification of the adopter helps to prevent this.

The requirement that adopters of any medium to large size dog have a fenced-in yard is one that gets complaints. Now, there certainly are responsible people out there who will see to the animal's needs without a fenced-in yard. But with the amount of animals you see slaughtered on the highway, it's pretty obvious the average person isn't going to get up three times a day, rain or shine, and walk the dog.

Small toy breeds can live very comfortably in a garage, with a run or pen outside, or in a doorway. They are good pets, but they are not dogs. Small dogs do have a place in the home, and it's up to the owner to provide a good living environment for them. Large dogs, however, do need a fenced area to run in, and need to be walked regularly. If they are not taken care of properly, they may become very vicious.

Puppies respond in two ways to defend themselves. They either try to get out of the situation, or they bite. The kitten puts its claws and teeth to protect itself. If you hurt them, they hurt you.

The parents, naturally, will act to protect their children. It is the humane society's job to protect the animals. That is best done by keeping children and young pets apart.

Older pets that are used to kids can be wonderful with them. They seem to sense the child means no harm and will let it crawl all over them without flinching. That's one kid I've yet to get to look for when there are toddlers in the family.

Of course, anyone who adopts an animal from the shelter will be expected to obey all community animal ordinances. This usually means licensing dogs, not allowing pets to roam free, rabies inoculations, and the like. Shelters will provide adopters with information on what the law requires.

Some shelters have a waiting period of a day or two between the time an adoption application is signed and the time the animal is actually taken. I think this is a good idea because it heads off impetuous adoptions. It's odd that people will spend weeks shopping for a car, trying different models, checking gas mileage and price before buying, and yet a dog or cat that (hopefully) they will live with for ten or fifteen years may be purchased on a whim. It's true that folks in a hurry to get a pet surgery done but not the pet store, and people who want to see more animals adopted complain that shelters are too cautious. But the pet store is there to make a profit; the shelter is there to protect the animals.

When a dog or cat leaves an animal shelter and goes into a home, one of the most frightening things that can happen to it is to be dumped back at the shelter in two days or two weeks. I don't believe these animals have any way of figuring out what happened to them. When this happened to me, I was very depressed, and I was so used to the shelter atmosphere that I was sure the shelter again. The dogs get depressed except for feeding, and sometimes even that gets ignored. Anyone who's worked at a shelter long can tell you of cruelty cases where dogs were found starving, chained to a doghouse within sight of their owners and the neighbors.

Puppies born this year, and many must be euthanized. That's why the requirement that all adopted animals be spayed or neutered is so important.

There aren't nearly enough homes for all the kittens and puppies born this year, and many must be euthanized. That's why the requirement that all adopted animals be spayed or neutered is so important.

The requirement that adopters of any medium to large size dog have a fenced-in yard is one that gets complaints. There is nothing more frustrating for a large dog than to be chained all his life. It is the job of a humane society to see that no dog lives like that. Chained dogs can become very ferocious because they feel so insecure. They cannot run from intruders, so they defend themselves by becoming more aggressive. This doesn't endear them to the neighbors, and can cool the family's affection, too. The dog gets ignored except for feeding, and sometimes even that gets ignored. Anyone who's worked at a shelter long can tell you of cruelty cases where dogs were found starving, chained to a doghouse within sight of their owners and the neighbors.

The requirement of not placing young puppies or kittens in homes with young children under the age of six is another that people sometimes question, but it is a rule that benefits the child as well as the animal. There are more dog bites with children under the age of eight than any other category.

Children under six rarely have good manual dexterity. They pick up a puppy or kitten and it drops to the floor and maybe cracks a rib or breaks a leg. It gets up and its tail gets pinched because young children don't understand that this hurts.

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When a dog or cat leaves an animal shelter and goes into a home, one of the most frightening things that can happen to it is to be dumped back at the shelter in two days or two weeks. I don't believe these animals have any way of figuring out what happened to them. When this happened to me, I was very depressed, and I was so used to the shelter atmosphere that I was sure the shelter again. The dogs get depressed except for feeding, and sometimes even that gets ignored. Anyone who's worked at a shelter long can tell you of cruelty cases where dogs were found starving, chained to a doghouse within sight of their owners and the neighbors.
Results of the first phase of a major study on public attitudes toward animals and wildlife issues have been released by the Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The study, which is being done on a government grant by Dr. Stephen Kellert of Yale's School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, has six focus areas: 1) the presence and strength of types of basic attitudes toward animals among diverse social demographic and animal activity groups in America; 2) public attitudes toward critical wildlife and domestic animal activities such as hunting, trapping, and strength of types of basic attitudes toward animals ranked third (38% knowledgeable). At the bottom of the list was use of steel shot versus lead shot by waterfowl hunters, with only 14% of the respondents knowledgeable. These statistics were taken from a total of 3,107 interviews with randomly selected persons in the 48 contiguous states and Alaska. The attitudes of this representative group toward animals was generally humane, for example:

- 60% opposed hunting solely for recreational or sporting purposes, whether for waterfowl or big game. Over 89% objected to hunting animals for trophies.
- 78% of the public objected to use of the steel leghold trap.
- 89% agreed with the statement “Zoos should provide more natural conditions for their animals even if this means higher entrance fees.
- 57% disagreed with the idea that it is alright to kill an animal to make a fur coat as long as the species is not endangered.
- 87% felt that the illegal killing of wildlife should result in stiff fines and, if done repeatedly, even prison sentences.
- 60% agreed that cattle and sheep grazing should be limited on public-owned lands if it destroys plants needed by wildlife, even though this may result in higher meat costs.
- On the predator control issue, 79% of the public supported the idea of hunting only individual coyotes known to have killed livestock. Additionally, more than two-thirds approved of capturing and relocating coyotes in areas away from livestock, despite this being described as a very expensive solution. An incredible 91% found poisoning an unacceptable method of predator control, even though it was called the least expensive method of control.

For comparison purposes, Kellert also interviewed members of special interest groups such as trappers, ranchers, and humane group members asking the same questions as had been asked of the general public. With numerous charts and graphs, the responses of the special interest groups are compared with each other and with the general public. Interestingly, one measure of the heat of controversy is predator control and wild horses can be seen in the fact that 76% of sheep producers and 82% of cattlemen agreed with the statement that "the goal of most environmentalists is a threat to the continued economic prosperity of our country."

The Kellert study will undoubtedly be a factor in future wildlife program and funding decisions made in the Interior Department. Single copies of Phase One of the study are available free from the Publishing Unit, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior Department, Washington, D.C. 20240.
SECONDARY EDUCATION

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HSUS's request for permission for Dick Hoyt and Fox to conduct a study for the Study of Animal Problems, to go to the ice at New-Brunswick, described by the humane society as a massacre has been denied by Canadian officials.

In a 3-page letter, Fox explained that he wanted to observe the “as a veterinarian and ethologist interested in objectively collecting behavioral data on the reactions of infant to human beings or at the very least, substantially reduce the mother-pup relationship.”

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Furthermore, the letter stated that observing the recommendations of the Canadian Committee on Seals and Sealing, only two groups would be allowed to send observers to the hunt: The Canadian Federation of Humane Societies and the International Society for the Protection of Animals. The letter stated that if a more comprehensive analysis is made of the real problems, the committee is willing to send one or two representatives.

Besides requesting an observer’s permit, HSUS President John Hoyt sent a letter to Prime Minister Designate Pierre Trudeau asking that he “immediately call off the hunt, or at the very least, substantially reduce the hunt.”

Hoyt questioned both the humaneness of the hunt and Canadian claims that their quotas are set to allow the seal herd to increase.

If permission is refused, no reason is given, no appeal mechanism is available.

In effect, there is a denial of freedom of the press. There is a denial of the public’s right to facts and the truth. If you ask a question, you are not supposed to know by those in charge of the hunt. Thus the credibility of the information is suspect.

In conclusion, Hoyt told Trudeau, “We have been told what the seal hunt is supposed to be, but what we’re told to do instead is to get somebody from the Committee on Seals and Sealing (COS) to tell us what went on. Or the committee, in a recommendation to the minister of fisheries, stated: ‘Seal hunting is an outdoor slaughter operation and (it feels) there is no necessity for the government of Canada to provide unlimited, unrestricted opportunities for the general public to view these operations. However, this outdoor slaughter takes place on publicly-owned land—hundreds of square miles of it. And even if we grant the need to restrict access to the hunt in order to protect the seals from interference, the restrictions are obviously geared to the prevention of undesirable publicity. By their very nature, the restrictions have created bad publicity on a world-wide basis in an area where the government feels particularly sensitive.”

On their own, the Canadians have had a long, slow, hard way to get a far more humane approach to their problems, and it is clear that the government feels particularly sensitive.

Since 1972, there has been a hiatus in an area where the government feels particularly sensitive.

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WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER?

by Susan Bury Stauffer

"I like dogs and cats, I've always contributed money to animal welfare organizations, and I've got some free time now. Maybe I should do some volunteer work at the local animal shelter."

Volunteers are helping humane societies and municipal animal shelters around the country to do more for the animals. These volunteers enjoy a great deal of satisfaction from learning about animals and caring for them first hand.

But volunteering at a shelter will bring you face-to-face with some of the toughest problems in animal welfare work. You have to make a commitment to your volunteer job and to cooperating with the shelter staff and you must accept the tragic necessity of euthanizing surplus animals.

They attend training classes and when possible, they ride with officers in the animal control vehicles and observe activities in the spay and neuter clinic. PHS volunteers have their own monthly newsletter, and they enjoy group field trips to area museums, zoos, and other animal facilities.

Volunteers perform duties ranging from helping new adopters and pets in the "Get Acquainted Room," to assisting with the 2:00 p.m. cat and puppy feeding, to helping wildlife victims of oil spills.

Volunteers are recruited through newspaper, radio, and television public service advertising, volunteer bureaus, high school community service programs, and word of mouth.

The pet adoption area is one of the most popular for volunteers, although it can be one of the most difficult. Trainer says adoption volunteers at the ASPCA are trained in animal behavior and health, canine and feline breeds, and the importance of pet owner responsibility. They also receive instruction in techniques for interviewing and screening adopters and follow-up procedures.

Pet adoption has been rated high for free placement of animals by a local volunteer bureau in California, which refers volunteers to programs of all kinds in the community, according to Barbara Melville of the Marin Humane Society in Novato. The bureau gave the rating because of the interaction with the pet and the new owner and the pleasure of placing pets in new homes.

However, making sure all adopted animals go to caring, responsible homes is a problem for the shelter and for the volunteers who work in adoption programs.

The reason animal control programs are necessary is the first place that is many pet owners act irresponsibly. They allow their pets to breed, adding more animals to the pet surplus when only one in ten sheltered animals finds a home now.

Many pet owners allow their pets to run loose without proper identification. Many pets are abandoned when uncaring owners lose interest in them.

"We ask all our volunteers for at least a six-month commitment to the program, and each volunteer must work at least four hours a week. We are adamant that the volunteer take his or her work seriously."

Sheri Trainer, volunteer coordinator for the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals in New York City, agrees that it is important for volunteers to make a commitment to the program. The ASPCA conducts a two- to three-week training course for volunteers, and Trainer says that if a particular assignment does not work for a volunteer, every effort will be made to find a more suitable job.

"Volunteers must be carefully screened to ensure that their pets will be properly cared for and kept under control. They must be willing to place the family with the family -- no big dogs in apartments, for example."

Because pets are the family's main sources of companionship, vacant homes are not available for all the sheltered animals, many of them will have to be waiting in kennels. The ASPCA's Sheri Trainer reports that this is a problem for many volunteers. Some volunteers who wanted to save the animals at any cost may adopt them to people who are clearly not responsible enough to provide proper care and control, or who do not agree with the requirement to neuter pets and may not comply. These adoptions do not help the animals in the long run and make the situation even more difficult for the shelter later.

Volunteers must accept that a humane death is better for an animal than being sent to a home where it will be abused or neglected. The reality of euthanasia was one of the most difficult parts of volunteering for Sherri McLeod, who volunteered for two to three evenings a week at the local Washington Humane Society in Washington, D.C., for a year.

McLeod worked at various jobs, including kennel cleaning, Exercise of sheltered dogs, dispatching field agents, and handling lost-and-found reports. Although she also assisted with animal euthanasia and felt she could euthanize an animal if necessary, she found it difficult to get used to the fact that healthy animals --"nice animals" -- had to be destroyed.

The destruction of unwanted animals added more pressure to working in the adoption program for McLeod, especially in trying to place animals that had already been returned from one unsuccessful adoption, since their chances of finding a home were decreased.

McLeod assisted with home checks of adoption applicants and was often discouraged to find that some of these people weren't even taking care of their kids."

Turning down a potential adopter is an especially sensitive and difficult task and has to be done diplomatically. Volunteer training manuals often suggest that volunteers work particularly closely with staff in handling the rejection of an unacceptable person's application to adopt an animal.

At the Fort Wayne, Indiana, Humane Shelter, volunteers do not come into direct contact with euthanasia until they have had considerable training and experience, and they do not have to work in the euthanasia area at all. In fact, volunteers must be made to understand the necessity for euthanasia and the shelter policy of destroying surplus animals before they are allowed to work directly with the animals at all.

Volunteers from Marin Humane Society, Novato, California, appear regularly on a local television talk show to introduce shelter animals available for adoption. Here, Ruth Martin presents "Lobo."
Shelter Manager Chris Robinson says this program was begun because so many volunteers do get emotionally involved with the animals and have difficulty dealing with euthanasia. Robinson says the volunteers tend to “give their hearts to the animals in the shelter today, and then they have to realize that these animals may not be there tomorrow. Volunteers have to be ready to give their hearts to the new animals coming into the shelter everyday.”

Robinson believes there are two kinds of volunteers: those who are sincerely interested in animal welfare work and those who simply want to be around cute animals. Shelter work requires understanding and dedication to a total program of animal welfare. For that reason, volunteers in the second category would be happier in other animal facilities.

Some volunteers decide they can no longer work at the shelter because “my favorite dog Frisky had to be euthanized yesterday.” Robinson has urged those volunteers to continue their work for at least a few weeks to give the job time to succeed. Usually, more time on the job helps volunteers overcome their grief and sadness, and they become productive workers.

Robinson points out that an animal shelter is not an easy place to work even for those who are paid. She says everyone in the shelter must remember they are dealing with problems created by people and, therefore, must be able to work effectively with people. She says everyone in the shelter must understand exactly who is responsible for what in the shelter.

In Los Angeles, volunteers formed their own organization to assist at the six city shelters. Volunteer Services to Animals acts as an auxiliary to the Department of Animal Regulation, with volunteers working in the field to help with spaying and neutering. Volunteers also provide a valuable supplement to the main program by helping educate the public, volunteers must be able to work effectively with people.

Sherri McLeod says this did cause some tension between volunteers and staff at the shelter where she volunteered, although relations between the staff and volunteers were generally friendly and constructive. ASPCA’s Sheri Trainer says volunteers must understand that shelters operate under consistent policies and that volunteers must uphold these policies even though they are helping the organization by “donating” their free time. She says volunteers must control their reactions to solving the problems of the animals to work within the staff organization.

“Volunteers,” says Chris Robinson, “can end the suffering of animals in their care. They can carry out many important programs that would otherwise be impossible.”

Robinson says: “Volunteers understand the importance of their work even for those who are paid. Volunteers can carry out the policies that would otherwise be impossible.”

Volunteers must control their emotions, because so much shelter work involves trying to understand and direct behavior. ASPCA’s Sheri Trainer says that another problem for the volunteer is “the volunteer who would sacrifice his or her life for an animal, but who, on the other hand, deplores people.” Because so much of shelter work involves trying to educate the public, volunteers must try to work effectively with people.

Volunteers tend to lose interest over time, and Robinson says this is critical for volunteer programs to be carefully organized and for both the volunteers and the shelter to understand exactly who is responsible for what duties in the shelter.

Robinson says: “Volunteers understand the importance of their work even for those who are paid. Volunteers can carry out the policies that would otherwise be impossible.”

For the hard work and emotional pressure of volunteering at a shelter, the rewards can be deeply satisfying: watching a kitten go off in the arms of its new owner; seeing a sick, starving dog brought back to exuberant good health and placed with a loving family; reuniting the lost pet with its anxious owners; or just getting a grateful lick on the chin from a pup who knew no tender­ness in its life until it got to the shelter — these are the things that make this job uniquely worthwhile.

Shelter work requires understanding and dedication to a total program of animal welfare.
Legislation is Focus for Great Lakes Activity
Legislation is consuming a great deal of time for the Great Lakes Regional Director, Sandy Rowland. Mrs. Rowland and the bill which would make it a felony to participate in organized dogfighting ventures. Mrs. Rowland and the Ohio Regional Director, Sandra Rowland, has worked with the office of the Governor in getting the bill which would pass the Ohio Senate and the House. The bill will pass at the end of the year.

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The manatee is in danger of becoming extinct by the turn of the century. In December, the Regional Director Don Coburn spent a day with Susan Shae, a researcher for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and an HSUS member, as she collected data on manatees living in the Banana and Indian Rivers on the east coast of Florida. Shane is conducting a study of these gentle marine mammals under a twenty-six month grant.

Shane and Coburn visited two power plants south of Titusville in Brevard County and spotted several manatees clustered near the warm water temperatures as part of the research on manatees' habits and needs.

Shane estimates that 80% or more of the manatees left in Florida have been scarred by contact with motorboat propellers. In fact, Shane found the different scar patterns to identify “her” manatees. Despite a vigorous public information campaign, incidents and even deliberate vandalism continue to take manatees lives. During the day Shane found a 4 1/2 foot long immature male manatee that apparently died of an infection along with a weapon. The cause of death was stabbed with an arrow or similar weapon. The death of a male manatee came to light when released again, flew off, apparently headed for home.

Four city zoos and one roadside zoo operations received visits from the winter from Rocky Mountain Field Investigator Phil Steward and HSUS Director of Wildlife Protection Sue Pressman. Pressman noted numerous improvements at the Denver Zoo, the Pueblo, Colorado Zoo and the Albuquerque, New Mexico Zoo since their last visits to the facilities. The roadside zoo in Farmington, New Mexico was found to be a substandard operation. HSUS is working with state and federal officials to get this zoo cleaned up or closed down.

In Albuquerque, New Mexico, Southwest HSUS conducted a workshop for interested animal control and humane society workers. The workshop was hosted by the Animal Humane Association of New Mexico. About 50 people took part in the workshop session where they were given information on techniques of cruelty investigation, case documentation, evidence procedures, prosecution of cruelty cases, photography as evidence, and courtroom testimony. The participants were also given practice cases to learn how to apply the information in the field.

At the same workshop Regional Director Doug Scott moderated a meeting in which the Humane Federation of New Mexico was revised. Plans are being made for a statewide meeting on April 19, 1980. Similar investigation workshops will be conducted throughout the Rocky Mountain Region where interest is shown. Anyone who would like to attend or sponsor such a workshop should contact the Rocky Mountain Regional Office at 780 S. Bellaire, Suite 103, Denver, Colorado 80222.

A symposium on “Animal Control – Historical, Present, and Trends for the Future” at Colorado State University was an opportunity for Director Doug Scott to talk about HSUS philosophies and programs to pre-veterinary students and professors. Other participants were Dr. David Neil, Director of Animal Care at Colorado State University; Dennis White, Director of Animal Protection for the American Humane Association; and Adrian Schute, Director of Animal Control in Fort Collins, Colorado. Discussion centered on organizational policies, attitudes towards animal control and its relationship to humane organizations, and general trends for the future in animal control.

Winter Olympics Easy On the Animals
Last spring, New England Regional Director John Inman con- fered with local humane groups in the New England Region to talk about possible animal problems that could develop during the upcoming season. The tremendous influx of people could also mean a tremendous influx of pet animals. Many of these animals’ owners couldn’t handle prompted HSUS to take preventive action. After discussing the situation, the staff and members of the Olympic Organizing Committee, mailings to those receiving tickets to the Olympic events included a brochure of hotels and motels in the area, noticing that a proposed ban on诠着 was done to prevent people from bringing pets that would have to be kept in automobiles parked miles away from the event sites.

Now it is reported that the Olympics, which were very successful for U.S. teams, were also successful for the animals. Pete Lesser, Shelter Manager for the Tri-Lakes Humane Society in Saranac Lake, New York, reported in a phone interview with Inman that “a couple of out-of-state dogs, Coburn and Shane noted water temperatures as part of the research on manatees’ habits and needs.

Shane estimates that 80% or more of the manatees left in Florida have been scarred by contact with motorboat propellers. In fact, Shane found the different scar patterns to identify “her” manatees. Despite a vigorous public information campaign, incidents and even deliberate vandalism continue to take manatees lives. During the day Shane found a 4 1/2 foot long immature male manatee that apparently died of an infection along with a weapon. The cause of death was stabbed with an arrow or similar weapon. The death of a male manatee came to light when released again, flew off, apparently headed for home.

Four city zoos and one roadside zoo operations received visits from the winter from Rocky Mountain Field Investigator Phil Steward and HSUS Director of Wildlife Protection Sue Pressman. Pressman noted numerous improvements at the Denver Zoo, the Pueblo, Colorado Zoo and the Albuquerque, New Mexico Zoo since their last visits to the facilities. The roadside zoo in Farmington, New Mexico was found to be a substandard operation. HSUS is working with state and federal officials to get this zoo cleaned up or closed down.

In Albuquerque, New Mexico, Southwest HSUS conducted a workshop for interested animal control and humane society workers. The workshop was hosted by the Animal Humane Association of New Mexico. About 50 people took part in the workshop session where they were given information on techniques of cruelty investigation, case documentation, evidence procedures, prosecution of cruelty cases, photography as evidence, and courtroom testimony. The participants were also given practice cases to learn how to apply the information in the field.

At the same workshop Regional Director Doug Scott moderated a meeting in which the Humane Federation of New Mexico was revised. Plans are being made for a statewide meeting on April 19, 1980. Similar investigation workshops will be conducted throughout the Rocky Mountain Region where interest is shown. Anyone who would like to attend or sponsor such a workshop should contact the Rocky Mountain Regional Office at 780 S. Bellaire, Suite 103, Denver, Colorado 80222.

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cases from the premises) in compliance with the new Connecticut law, effective January 1, 1980, barring that method of euthanasia.

Dr. Robert Stadler, formerly State Veterinarian in Connecticut, went to work for the CHS on December 1, 1979, as Staff Veterinarian. His immediate assignment was the training of selected CHS personnel in the administration of euthanasia by sodium pentobarbital injection.

August R. Helberg, General Manager of the Society, said he is pleased with the smoothness of the transition brought about under Dr. Stadler’s leadership and training.

NERO Director John Inman has observed CHS technicians administering euthanasia using this method. Inman said that he was impressed not only with their skill and technique but also with the obvious compassion and confidence with which they went about their work. The Connecticut Humane Society is striving to achieve a high degree of excellence and professionalism as it prepares to observe its Centennial Celebration in 1981.

Eleven animal welfare organizations in Connecticut have united to reactivate the Connecticut Federation of Humane Societies. A steering committee was given the task of initiating organizational matters and of developing and presenting policy statements on various animal welfare issues, especially those being considered by the Connecticut General Assembly. Members of the Steering Committee are: August Helberg, Chairman, Connecticut Humane Society, Newington; Dr. Robert Stadler, Former State Veterinarian, West Cornwall; Beth Nagorsky, Connecticut Animal Welfare League, Hartford; Joan Profo, Pet and Wildlife Preservation, Milford; and Sarah Rubenstein, Friends of Animals, Westport. New England Regional Office Director John Inman has been invited to participate in the steering committee’s deliberations.

“Turkey Drop” Called Off in Face of Protest

For thirty-five years, celebration of the Yellville, Arkansas annual Turkey Trot Festival has included dropping live domestic turkeys to the ground to be chased, captured, and consumed by those attending the event. Originally, the birds were dropped from the courthouse, but in recent years low-flying planes have been used. Since the domestic turkeys are incapable of sustained flight, panic, stress, and injury can result from this gimmick.

This year, Gulf States Regional Director William Meade warned the Yellville Chamber of Commerce that the “turkey drop” may violate state laws that prohibit carrying “any creature in a cruel or inhumane manner.” A Chamber official replied, “We have no reason to believe that we have been committing any cruel acts, but we are not going to continue a project that causes distress.” The next Turkey Trot Festival is scheduled for December 1980. Meade intends to keep an eye on the event for any move to return to the turkey drop.

Two government agencies have heard from the Gulf States Office on animal problems and in both cases have capitulated to HSUS requests. At Lawisville Lake in Texas, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers had started a program of trapping coyotes in the preserve. Thanks to the alertness of Texas humanitarians, HSUS regional staff was notified. The trapping was ended after a direct protest to the Washington headquarters of the Corps. In Lawrence County, Arkansas the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was trying to eradicate over two million blackbirds with a chemical that kills the birds slowly and is also toxic to domestic cats. After protesting to the agency, Meade received assurance that use of this chemical will be stopped.

Meade and Rick Collord, investigator for the Gulf States Office, have continued their campaign to improve the quality of shelter and animal control facilities in their area. In January, they assisted efforts in Highland, Texas; Lafayette, Louisiana; Freeport, Texas; and Kerrville, Texas. A substandard shelter in Springdale, Arkansas was improved after discussion with the Mayor of the city’s legal obligation to operate the shelter humanely.

Domestic turkeys are incapable of sustained flight, and can be injured falling to the ground from high places.

Felinel Left Out in the Cold after Zoo Plans Fail

More than two dozen wild animals were homeless in limbo when their owner’s dream of a wild animal park went sour. For some time, Midwest Regional Director Anna Gonneman has investigated complaints about this group of neglected animals. The owner, Jeff Sharren, had apparently planned to start a wild animal park. He collected a menagerie of lions, jaguars, tigers, bears, baboons, and even goats. For unknown reasons he had to abandon his plan, and allegedly killed the animals.

The animals were found living in old trailers converted to cages and parked behind an old barn hidden from the road near Overland Park, Kansas.

After visits from Gonneman, USDA officials, and local police, some of the animals were relocated, but seven lions, a tiger, and a jaguar remained. At the end of January, Gonneman and USDA agents, law enforcement officers, representatives from the local media, and staff from the Topeka Zoo went to the site with a search warrant to determine what could be done for the animals and whether legal action would be appropriate. The lions were in a cattle trailer with a barred door. The tiger was in a Jackson County, Missouri, Civil Defense truck and the jaguar in a moving van.

Although the trailers provided fairly spacious quarters for the cats, all were unsanitary and appeared not to have been cleaned for some time. The weather was extremely cold and frozen blocks of chicken parts and eggs were found on the ground by each vehicle, but there was no sign of food or water in any of the trucks.

The next day, Gonneman gave an affidavit about the deficiencies she saw at the site. The judge granted the District Attorney’s request for a court order to remove the animals from the premises. The tiger and jaguar were tranquilized and taken to the Topeka Zoo. The lions were fed and watered, but kept at the site while a search was started for new quarters for them.

The owner was charged with cruelty to animals and released after posting a $500 bond. Gonneman will be following up on this case and possibly testifying at the trial.

This case provides yet another example of USDA’s uneven enforcement of the Animal Welfare Act. The owner was licensed by USDA as a wild animal dealer, even though he does not have a minimally adequate holding facility for the animals. Incredibly, the USDA Area Veterinarian-in-Charge described this zoo as one of the finest private facilities he had ever seen.
Idaho Bans Decompression Chamber

By an almost unanimous vote, Idaho legislators passed a bill to outlaw the use of the decompression chamber to euthanize dogs and cats. Ninety-five legislators approved the ban, with only eight voting to retain the decompression method. Governor John V. R. Evans signed the bill into law, making Idaho the tenth state to enact such a ban.

Effective in the west, the City Council of Reno, Nevada also voted to ban the use of the decompression chamber.

In California, Senator Paul Carpenter has introduced SB 1270 to outlaw the use of the high altitude decompression chamber for the killing of small animals. The Senate will vote on SB 1270 on October 15. Senator Carpenter is also asking California legislators representing the districts they live in to ban the decompression chamber for the killing of small animals.

Plans are in the process for HSUS' Annual Conference to be held at the Golden Gate Holiday Inn in San Francisco next October 15 - 18. On October 15, the Western Humane Educators' Association will host the National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education (NAANE) in a one-day humane education meeting at the hotel. Since space will be limited for this special meeting, Regional Directors in California are requesting that those interested in attending contact the HSUS West Coast office as soon as possible. The address is 1713 J Street, Suite 300, Sacramento, California 95814.

The Great Swamp: The People, The Power Brokers, The Crusade to Save Open Space

Laura & William Riley (Doubldeley, 1979) $14.95

Within the wings, what could be more timely and welcome than this captivating and vastly informative book to guide the nation's wildlife refuges? Laura and William Riley personally visited over two hundred refuges and conducted hundreds of interviews to compile this definitive work. Twenty-seven exquisite color photographs showing the animals and birds for which refuges are famous, and 181 maps will enable you to find each of the refuges quickly and accurately, further enhance the book.

Birding highlights for every region of the country are given (including Alaska and Hawaii), as well as information on where the refuges are located, how to get there, what equipment to take, how to dress, and other useful facts. An extensive index includes names of animals, plants, and refuges.

The authors are well versed on wildlife issues. Laura, a nature writer and photographer, has had numerous articles published in national magazines, including National Geographic. Her photos have appeared in many galleries and are presently being exhibited nationally by the Eastman Kodak Company. William has been active in environmental activities in New Jersey and in the past President of the South Branch Watershed Association, an environmental group in that state.

The Great Swamp was not always a national wildlife refuge. In fact, in the early 60's the entire area was the targeted site for a major metropolis jetport. The book relates in interesting detail the plans, meetings, and anxious moments that were part of saving the Great Swamp. For those of us in the East who are fortunate enough to visit the Swamp regularly, the book is important because it reminds us of the struggle of the people to preserve this area.

Of particular local interest are the familiar names like Robert Perkins, Edwin Sayres, Sr., Hartley Dodge, former Governor Robert Meyner, and Peter Frelinghuyse, whose contributions are described throughout. To those of you who may never visit the Great Swamp, the relevance of the book may still be found in the story it tells of ordinary people and their “not so ordinary” who were successful in their efforts to effect change.

Today the Great Swamp stands as a grand memorial to the people's crusade to save open space. For HSUS members the book has personal meaning in that as far back as the early 60's our members were part of a coalition formed to save the Swamp.

In Mrs. Cavanaugh's own words, "Perhaps the best message of the Great Swamp is that each individual does make a difference."

Idaho is the tenth state to ban the decompression chamber for the euthanasia of small animals.

Guide to the National Wildlife Refuges: How to Get There, What to See and Do

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There has been much in the press lately about government regulations. In the case of animal welfare, we often fight for more regulation in order to prevent suffering and pain.

In this section, we usually report the progress made under the Executive Branch. However, we also report recent developments on three laws that occurred after they were finally put into effect.

Often, Congress passes laws that specify goals and a basic, rudimen­tary outline of the problem. The law is only a starting point, but leaves the details of a program or regulatory system to the federal agency that will administer the new law. That agency usually proposes regulations, publishes them in the Federal Register for all to see, receives and evaluates public comments, and issues the regulations (which have the force of law) in final form.

The HSUS routinely participates in the cruccial public comment segment of this process. The rules and regulations that arise from this process are part and parcel of the governmental functions divided between Congress and the Executive Branch.

Marine Mammal Protection Act — Tuna/Porpoise Regulations

In the early 1960s, when a new method for catching tuna using "purse-seine" nets was instituted, a history of intentionally encircling and bycatching porpoise along with the tuna began. It resulted in the death of millions of these intelligent and highly social animals.

The Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) of 1972 set a goal for the protection of marine mammals by eliminating all unnecessary mortality and serious injuries of porpoise to near zero. After years of avoiding compliance, the tuna industry was finally forced by serious regulations controlling tuna fishing in conjunction with porpoise protection to change its ways.

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The 1978 law placed humane slaughter standards on the tuna industry. If the outcome of these hearings is a decision to forbid setting on any offshore spotted porpoise, the question will be: can the tuna industry survive in the U.S.? This is the type of question a small number of fishermen, scientists, and policy makers are going to be allowed to answer.

The Humane Method of Slaughter Act Amendments of 1971

This statute greatly enlarges both the scope and legal ramifications of the original 1968 Act. The 1958 and 1978 laws are tremendous victories for The HSUS, and show both the continuity and progress of the humane movement. The 1968 law only covered the pre-slaughter stun­ning of livestock. The law’s applica­tion now starts at the moment the animal is killed on land, and includes the UA and UC houses. Many of the scientific breakthroughs on humane evisceration and defeathering have come from the work of HSUS scientists, and have been voiced by many of the users of these regulations. Furthermore, the HSUS has advocated even stricter regulations than those issued, but if the final rules are properly enforced, many of the standards in the UA and UC houses should be put out of business.

The Humane Society News discovered that the regulations also require that non­food drive alleys, and range be maintained in good repair, and that all space requirements, specifications for transportation, animal handling, sanitation, employees, security and protection, veterinary care, handling, and transportation. The regulations also contain precise formu­la for pool sizes and water quality. However, many of the standards mentioned above are more exacting than the regulations for other spec­i­менs. HSUS allowed even stricter rules than those issued, but if the final rules are properly enforced, many of the standards in the UA and UC houses should be put out of business.

For the sake of simplicity and for the sake of comprehensibility, we will be closely monitoring this aspect of the Animal Welfare Regulations.

Compiled by Patricia Forkan, Maureen Morrison, and Marguerite Perkins.
N.Y. Environmental Agency Helps Filmmakers Avoid Law

As a recent incident in New York makes clear, the more enactment of laws which are intended to protect endangered species does not assure that the threatened animals will, in fact, be protected. The Allen King-Hitzeg Production Company, a movie-making concern, asked for and received a permit from the New York Department of Environmental Conservation which enabled the company to bring into and possess and use within New York State several timber wolves. The wolves were to be used in the making of a werewolf horror film on location in New York City.

Under regulations issued by authority of the New York Environmental Conservation Law, all sub-species of timber wolf are endangered species in New York. As is the case with other endangered species legislation on the federal and state level, the legislative intent in enacting the New York law was clearly to preserve endangered species by eliminating or reducing incentives to take, capture, or possess such species for commercial exploitative purposes.

However, the New York law also provided the Department of Environmental Conservation with the discretion to exempt individual cases from the statute’s effect by granting a permit. The Department issued the permit in this case, there by triggering a sharp criticism addressed to Robert E. Flacke, head of the Department, from HSUS’ Associate Counsel, Roger Kindler, and Director of Wildlife Protection, Sue Freeman. In answering the criticism, HSUS argued that “the Department’s decision to grant the permit was contrary both to the broadly protective intent of the statute and to sound public policy, especially in view of the patently frivolous use that this permit sanctioned — the making of a Grade ‘B’ horror film of minimal educational, scientific or artistic value.” The letter went on to point out that “[a] film presenting a distorted, macabre portrayal of wolves is hardly something that will promote in the public mind an appropriate concern for an endangered species.” The lack of sufficient concern on the part of New York was further evidenced by the fact that one of the wolves involved apparently died from the process of having its hair dyed black for the film.

In closing, HSUS demanded that New York’s Department of Environmental Conservation adjust its priorities so they would clearly and closely reflect the concerns indicated in the passage of the Environmental Conservation Law, instead of following a policy, such as here, which allowed the Department to be used as a tool for the circumvention of the clear broad protective intent of the statute.

New York Legal Precedent

In a recent court opinion in New York, a State Judge rejected the prior legal precedent that a pet dog was simply a “thing” or item of personal property. In the course of his opinion, the Judge stated that a pet was not an “innate animal that just receives affection; it also returns it,” thus distinguishing a family pet from valuable and rare heirlooms. He criticized the earlier line of cases which ruled pets to be no more than a “piece of personal property” as “a repudiation of our humaneness.”

Judge Protects Laying Hens

The Judges of the High Court of Frankfurt, Germany, have rendered a landmark decision to the effect that farmers who utilize the battery cages in keeping laying hens henceforth will be subject to prosecution for cruelty to these animals. The Court ruled that the birds should be allowed to fulfill their behavioral patterns, such as scratching, stretching, flapping their wings and preening.

It is hoped this decision will accelerate the development and consideration of proposals to bring about a total ban on battery cages throughout the European Economic Community.

D.C. Gambling Initiative to Include Dog Racing

On May 6, 1980, the voters of the District of Columbia will be asked to approve an initiative which, if passed, will for the first time permit various types of dog racing in Washington, including dog racing.

At hearings several years ago on this question, HSUS’ General Counsel, Murdaugh Stuart Madden, testified in opposition, pointing out that the so-called ‘sport’ inevitably involves frightful and atrocious cruelty to the animals involved, primarily in connection with the training of the racing dogs.

The details of this cruel blood sport have been well documented and were summarized in previous HSUS communications. (See Spring 1975, Summer 1978 HSUS News.)

The HSUS will make every attempt to convince the voters of the District of Columbia to reject this initiative and bar the introduction of dog racing into Washington.

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

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The Animals Need Us

The animals need us
For the care and protection
That they cannot give themselves.
And on a cold winter morning
When your bed is so warm,
The cattle are lowing
And you find yourself rising
Automatically with one thought,
The animals need us.

And you trudge through the rain
As it runs down your back,
There are chores to be done
As the milk pail grows heavy
And the hay bales are sweet
The animals need us,
As you clean out their stalls,
No one else will give them
The care that they need.

The animals need us
When the mare is in foal
And the light's burning low,
You stay up all night
Drinking cold coffee
'Til the miracle of life
Comes in the early morning.
The animals need us
As you brush back a tear.

The animals need us
When the cruelty abounds,
You stop what you can
By education and law
And your own personal care
And sometimes in evening,
When the chores are all done,
The animals need us
As the horses neigh low.

—L. Charles Merrill