The Consequence of the Means

There is an old saying that “the ends justify the means.” If what you are seeking is right and just, then it matters not how you achieve it. Or does it? It is a question, or better yet a proposition, that is becoming increasingly cogent within the animal welfare movement. For there are those among us who have perpetrated violence and threats against others whom they regard abusive of animals.

An example of this kind of violence has recently surfaced in Britain where radical anti-vivisectionists have fired pellet guns at the house of a researcher and on another occasion daube slogans and paint on the car of another researcher. In Canada, a free-lance artist was recently quoted as “condemning for their courage” protesters who slashed tires, poured sugar in gas tanks, and painted slogans on walls at the University of British Columbia’s animal care facility. There are similar incidents in our own country that have resulted in destructiveness and personal threats as a means of achieving protection for animals.

Yet there is something greater at stake in this kind of activity than the immediate result that is sought—salutary though it may be. For the consequence of violence is the perpetration of violence, and it is violence, by whatever name, we are seeking to eradicate.

To be sure there is much violence, abuse, and suffering inflicted upon animals, for both foul and purposeful reasons. And if we argue—as surely we do—that no purpose, however well-intentioned it may be—can ever justify violence, abuse, and unmitigated suffering to animals, are we not then obligated by that very thesis and ethic to act similarly toward other humans? I think so. For if we choose to fight violence with violence, we shall surely undermine the very ethic of a reverence for life we seek to establish.

Those of us within the animal welfare movement have often been on the receiving end of threats and violence. I have in my files a letter signed by several persons threatening to kill me if The HSUS should continue to seek a specific action on behalf of animals, an action we shall most assuredly continue to pursue. Such threats and the resulting consequences do not finally achieve the objective desired. Rather, they frequently change the objective altogether so that one loses sight of what it was he set out to accomplish in the first place.

In response to the violent actions of militant animal welfare activists in Britain, a reporter has written, “There can be no respect for people who affect to protect animals by shooting at fellow people... They don’t want to liberate animals. They want to coerce people.”

We shall never retreat in our fight to prevent cruelty and suffering to animals, for such is surely an atrocity of the highest order. And we shall not deter from utilizing legitimate protest, confrontation, and civil activism. But let us do battle in ways that will not only serve the well-being of animals, but at the same time preserve and advance our own dignity and decency.

John A. Hoyt

president's perspective
Otter Alert

The greatest threat to the existence of the sea otter, designated as a "threatened species" in 1977, is the possibility of an oil spill in its range. The small sea mammals are particularly susceptible to such pollution. Normally, their thick inner coat of fur keeps them dry with oil, the fur no longer protects them. It is estimated that the amount of oil consumed by fur traders on the California coast is such pollution. Normally, their thick inner coat of fur keeps them dry with oil, the fur no longer protects them. It is estimated that the amount of oil consumed by fur traders on the California coast is

# Five Tons of Walrus Ivory Taken In Raid

An eleven-month investigation by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service culminated in a massive raid on the illegal ivory trade this February. Eighty law enforcement officers carried out searches in Alaska and four other states, seizing 10,000 pounds of fresh, raw walrus ivory estimated to be worth about $450,000. A lot seized were illegal products from polar, black, and grizzly bears and sea otters.

If You Can't Beat 'Em

Most animal shelters that open reduced-cost spay/neuter clinics find the local veterinarians strongly opposed to the idea. In Portland, Oregon, fifty veterinarians have banded together to open their own low-cost spay/neuter clinics, one of the competition posed by reduced fee spay/neuter clinics. The local veterinarians strongly opposed the idea.

# Doggone Good!

The HSUS was the proud recipient of four awards and a special mention when the Dog Writer's Association held its annual awards banquet in New York City in February. The awards are given annually by categories covering virtually every aspect of dog news coverage. This year, over seventy entries were received in four categories: "Companion Animals" and "Unwanted Animals" won first and second place, respectively, for the best brochures devoted to dog welfare. There were also two awards for dog care and pet overpopulation were written by Shelter Sense editor Susan Staub and Staff writer Julie Rovner won second place in the magazine articles category. The award, "The Dog Bites: Whose Fault Is It?" which appeared in last fall's HSUS News. Also in that category Charles Herrmann, editor of Kind magazine, received a special mention for his story "Danny's Notebook" which was published in Kind.

# It's Lonely At the Top

The rewards of a career in public service are not always all they're cracked up to be. Take the case of Ham the chimpanzee. In 1961, Ham was headline news all over the country as the first United States' representative in space. After years of hard work and training and conditioning, the animal astronaut turned in a flawless performance during his historic journey into the new frontier of space.

Not only was Ham subjected to years of intense and sometimes painful training for his adventure in space, but his post-flight life was a very lonely one for many years.

Enter Sue Pressman, HSUS director of wildlife protection. While looking over the National Zoo's new primate quarters, she noticed they had built a special small cage for Ham. She suddenly thought of another lonely chimp she'd seen at a recent inspection of the North Carolina Zoological Park in Ashboro. Their chimpanzee community included a large, grassy area where three young chimps played while one old chimp watched from the top of a hill. The female, being too mature for the young chimps' games, clearly needed an elderly gentleman companion.

According to the latest reports, Ham and his lady friend are getting along fine. The mild weather in North Carolina enables the two chimps to spend a good deal of time outdoors, soaking up the sun or wading in the stream. At last it seems our nation's one-time standard-bearer in the race against the Russians has received his just reward.
The Perils of the Southern Sea Otter
by Margaret Owings

When a low tide rises along the Pacific, with heavy brine slipping out from under the dark cloak of kelp to break on the rocks with a white explosion, one finds a tangible moment to savor vitality! A door expected!

The otter appears to play a marked beneficial role in these kelp communities when it preys upon one of its favorite foods, the sea urchin. The urchin population, if left unchecked, feeds on the hold-fasts or root-like structures of the kelp, literally destroying the kelp and subsequently its rich assortment of plants and animals.

So tightly knit is this evolutionary development that the sea urchin is found to be an integral part of the ecosystem. Carrying out studies in Alaska, researchers worked in near-shore and intertidal waters comparing the islands where otters were found with those where otters were scarce or absent. They found dense kelp and a rich associated community where otters were prevalent and only scattered kelp and dense carpets of sea urchins where otters were absent. They concluded that the otter was a “keystone species.” In the words of Dr. Betty Davis, “The otter’s return from near extinction to its former range is in the best interests of our Pacific coastal waters.”

Having no subcutaneous fat to protect it from cold ocean waters as do other marine mammals such as the seal, the otter’s healthy appetite insures the high food intake necessary to maintain its high metabolic rate and bodily warmth. Its daily diet is made up of a large assortment of shellfish. Forty-five different items have been recorded, including abalones, mussels, crabs, clams and urchins.

Yes, the otter is in competition with man’s gourmet appetite for abalones and Pismo clams which are managed by the California Department of Fish & Game for sport and commercial fishermen. But more important is that the food items upon which this little mammal relies for its very existence are becoming exhausted by burgeoning numbers of people.

California’s human population, which was under seven million in 1938 when the sea otter’s return became public knowledge, has now reached over 23 million in a collision course against the small population of fewer than 2,000 sea otters. As the controversy builds around the otters, the word “man’s ways” becomes a power play. It does not mean enhancement, but rather it means controlling a species to keep it from interfering with man’s ways.

But today, we can still stand on the shore and watch the otter twisting and rolling in the water to wash off food fragments from its furry bib while still holding the remainder of a meal in its grasp. The last of any subcutaneous fat is compensated for by a coat of deep, soft fur with a dense undercoat which the otter meticulously grooms to protect a blanket of warm air trapped among the interlocking fibers.

This cleaning and grooming was described by Jane Bailey in her book, "The Otter's Struggle:

"Sometimes all four feet work at once combing and scrubbing. The otter's loose skin and long rib cage make it easy for him to squirm and bend in reaching all areas of his coat. So flexible is his body that he can spin his torso around as he lies on his back and still keeps his head and flipper clear of the water."

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It was this rich pelt that whetted the fur trader's greed and established markets for luxurious otter fur during a period of 170 years of ruthless killing. More than one million skins were taken between 1741 and 1911, a slaughter of such magnitude that it formed an economic basis for the acquisition of California. In 1872, conversely, the aftermath of the otter trade led Russia to agree to sell Alaska to the United States when it was believed that "everything worthwhile had been taken out.”
It had been a wild stampede in pursuit of otters as their beaks were terminated, island after island. Alexander Baranov, the most powerful Russian fur trader, when his rule ended in 1871, he had traded 200,000 pelts worth an estimated $50,000,000. In California, it was the Spanish padres who first recognized the value of the otter pelts. From their missions along the coast, they put the Indians to work—clubbing the otters with large sticks. It was reported that a hundred otter skins at a time were hung out beside the Miss Dolores at San Francisco before shipping to Mexico for trade. This was at a time when the Russians with enslaved Aleuts were said to have killed 100 otters in a single week in San Francisco Bay. My husband and I have been living within sight of a small raft of otters in the kelp beds below our house in Big Sur for the last 28 years. We purchased Grimes Point unaware of the history behind the man who gave this property its name. Elijah Grimes, Captain of the contrabandista vessel, the Eagle, traded and hunted otters during the first quarter of the 1800s.

In 1833, Captain John Rogers Cooper who settled in the area, associated with Grimes in the otter trade. On his vessel, the Rover, he kept a log book in which enormous numbers of otter skins and otter tails were recorded. He stated in this book that he was going to buy two hundred otters in a single week in San Francisco Bay. Grimes Point is unaware of the history behind the man who gave this property its name. Elijah Grimes, Captain of the contrabandista vessel, the Eagle, traded and hunted otters during the first quarter of the 1800s. In 1833, Captain John Rogers Cooper who settled in the area, associated with Grimes in the otter trade. On his vessel, the Rover, he kept a log book in which enormous numbers of otter skins and otter tails were recorded. He stated in this book that he was going to buy two hundred otters in a single week in San Francisco Bay.

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A mother otter relaxes as her pup nurses from one of the two nipples at the lower end of her abdomen.

The most satisfying scene took place when the otter had fed adequately and had let her body, lifting the clinging pup to her chest. She groomed the mass of fur, causing it to stand up like thistle-down, then, reversing the little body, she placed its face to the water and with pointed teeth rippled the surface. This is an area where females nurse their babies, drawing it back to them from the water.

All of these rafting animals are tragically susceptible to a large oil spill, especially in the southern portion of the range. Oil terminal activities, oil tanker traffic and, in the event of offshore oil drilling (OCS Lease Sales #53 and #73), a permanent threat lie in wait for the entire sea otter population along the California coast. South of Morro Bay near Point Buchon, the southernmost beach area found and mothers and pups are glimpsed nestled in the kelp. North from Morro Bay at Piedras Blancas, Fish & Wildlife biologists are studying and tagging otters. This is a place where females remain most of the time and males make a 50 to 60 mile trip from the south to breed with them.

The broad peak of pup births is February and March, although small pups are seen in every month; 20 to 21 pups per 100 independent animals is about the maximum count during peak months along the total otter range. In the southern peripheral ranges, 105-200 animals, mostly males, have been counted during the winter months.

In these winter months, when there is the greatest likelihood of an oil spill, the oil drift would reach otters, drawn together into large rafts in the remaining storm-torn kelp beds. If this happens, the waves and currents could spread oil over vast distances of the coastal waters, searing the furry bodies of the otters as well as contaminating the invertebrates on which they feed.

According to a report in 1968 by A.M. Nikolayev describing such a spill in Russian waters: “Over 100 otters died as a result of polluting the shore waters of Paramushir Island. Gasoline and fuel oil spilled from a tanker when it went aground. One thousand tons of gasoline covered 40 kilometers of the coastline in the region where the greater portion of Paramushir sea otters live. Observations showed that after getting into the slicks, the otters first began to dive and turn over. Apparently due to getting wet and becoming hypothermic, the animals’ movements slowed and they died.” Afterwards, the tide carried out their corpses.

Friends of the Sea Otter has taken a stand on the issues that plague the existence of sea mammals—once sacrificed in man’s frantic rush for fur, then unjustly attacked by man’s unwillings to share the shellfish and now facing a far-reaching rejuvegence to its habitat and its life by man’s reckless drive for profit.

We must remind ourselves that the California sea otter, long separated from its Alaskan cousins by 1,700 nautical miles, represents a sanctuary of life here on our shores. More than that—in spite of the dark and troubled threats that deeply worry us—the mounting evidence of the survival of the sea otter illustrates something fine in a humane response. During these times of alarm, the wanton killing of wildlife, it represents a true hope for conservation.

Friends of the Sea Otter was founded in 1982 when the California sea otter population was estimated at 562. From that first year when the otter truly needed a friend to this present time we and an ever-growing body of supporters have been working in this aspect. Our objective is to see that the otter gets equal time and consideration in arriving at the solutions to our complex problems of man and the sea.

We will welcome friends for the otter, a national issue needing the commitment of both the otter and owner, making a convincing case for neutrality.

Another print ad provides a check list for prospective pet owners. “Before you go looking for a puppy,” it cautions, “take a good, long look at yourself.” The copy asks if you’re willing to take on the responsibility of training and walking the dog, paying for food, veterinary care, and other essentials, and neverting it when it grows up. We hope this ad will cause readers to really consider whether they are ready to make a commitment they may break when they get a puppy, rather than deciding five months after the puppy arrives that they can’t handle it. We spread oil over vast distances of the California coast is involved with feeding, breeding and care of the otters southward as well as to the north. At times, many of the otters, with the exception of scattered individuals, appear to remain in one or two spots where kelp beds and a rocky shoreline offer some protection from the storms. Certain sheltered areas appear to be used as nurseries with a number of mothers and pups beside their puppers holding them free from the water.

The restless pattern of events in the sea otter’s range is constantly changing and only beginning to be understood by man. Nature’s structure is as at home in the United Statesian as it is in the Californian. Here the California coast is involved with feeding, breeding and care of the otters southward as well as to the north. At times, many of the otters, with the exception of scattered individuals, appear to remain in one or two spots where kelp beds and a rocky shoreline offer some protection from the storms. Certain sheltered areas appear to be used as nurseries with a number of mothers and pups beside their puppers holding them free from the water.

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

We have prepared print and television public service ads promoting responsible pet ownership.

The Humane Society of the United States

June Schnitzer, Manager of Marketing and Strategic Communications

The Myth and Truth of Owning Wild & Exotic Pets

The Humane Society News Spring 1981

When we distributed a reprint of a News article on exotic pets, many newspapers were inspired to cover the topic.

COPING: When Security Means a Dog in the House

The Humane Society News Spring 1981

This article on guard dogs was printed in the Washington Post.
The national campaign to abolish the testing of cosmetic and household products in the eyes of rabbits has made important headway in recent months, due to the tireless letter-writing efforts of thousands of humane citizens all over the United States. The response I’ve seen from our HSUS membership has been exceptional; when united for a common purpose, the animal welfare community can truly have a strong voice. Many of you have already heard the headline news: In December, Revlon announced a three year, $750,000 research grant to The Rockefeller University for the purpose of developing an alternative to the Draize test. When I spoke to their vice-president, Roger Shelley, he admitted that the efforts of the national Draize campaign can truly have a strong voice.

There are still major challenges ahead in the campaign to eliminate the Draize rabbit blinding tests. Until a replacement test is validated by scientists, the Draize continues to be used in the name of consumer safety. However, modifications can be made in many circumstances to reduce the pain and suffering to the rabbit, such as using lower dosages and/or pain killers. The federal agencies that recommend and require the test (the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA)) should make these changes now.

EPA officials met with us in October, and as a result joined the CPSC in calling for an in-house moratorium on the Draize test, in addition to making the search for an alternative an agency priority this year. This is a response to the concerns of a public which has become increasingly vocal in its abhorrence of such testing practices as the Draize. It indicates the beginnings of a shift in government policy that can lead to a new federal ethic for animal welfare.

As an interim goal in our efforts to abolish the test, we have been calling for the establishment of new federal testing guidelines, and new regulations that use these more humane, modified Draize test procedures. A coordinated effort by the EPA, CPSC, and FDA is needed to put these changes into effect as quickly as possible.

In mid-February, The HSUS ran a large ad in the Washington Post calling on these agencies to stop stalling. With the new administration and a newly-elected Congress, it was important to impress upon these officials the urgency of our message. The ad was also timed to impact a February symposium sponsored by the National Institutes of Health, which brought experts from all over the country to Washington to exchange scientific data on alternatives to animal testing in toxicology. Part of one morning was devoted to the Draize test, and our challenge to the federal agencies was part of that discussion. This three-day event showed an awareness among scientists and policy-makers that animal welfare and public health issues should be addressed jointly, not as separate topics.

Further impact from our efforts resulted in an agreement by top officials with the FDA and the Interagency Regulatory Liaison Group (which is working to standardize toxicity testing method to meet with us in March to discuss implementation of new more humane guidelines for use of the Draize test. At press time we are waiting to learn from our U.S. representatives to the International Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development what steps will be taken by their Special Program on the Control of Chemicals to recommend humane modifications of the Draize test. Such a move can demonstrate that the U.S. joins with other countries in recognizing the need to reduce unnecessary pain and suffering in laboratory animals. These recommendations would alert the international community that our campaign is resonating to be heard not only here, but abroad.

There is other good news. Two Draize resolutions were introduced again this year in the U.S. Congress. Representative Andy Jacobs (Ind.) has sponsored H. Con. Res. 27, and Senator David Durenberger (MN) has introduced S. Res. 65, which call on federal agencies to eliminate the rabbit eye irritancy test. Both of these legislators need the majority support of their colleagues in order to get final congressional approval. It is critical that participants in the Draize campaign across the country write or call their representative and senators to urge their support for these resolutions. The more cosponsors who attach their names, the earlier we will see some action taken.

The Draize campaign has gone far to publicize the abuses of animals used in biomedical research as well as toxicity testing. The Draize test is only one example of the unnecessary cruelty that, until now, was performed by scientists with very little accountability. Our efforts from here forward must be expanded to obtain better laws that provide for the protection of lab animals, and also programs that will promote the use of non-animal alternative methods of research.

The Rockefeller University recently announced it will start a fund for the development of alternatives to animal use in the laboratory. It is hoped that initial contributions totaling at least one million dollars will be received from manufacturers.

The regional office of the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) has sponsored a demonstration in front of Revlon’s corporate headquarters in New York City to dramatize and publicize the plight of the rabbits. The Draize test died.
We're happy to announce the winners of HSUS' 1980 Animal Photography Contest. Although we only have space to show a few of the top entries, many photographs from the contest will be used in future publications. In looking over the entries to this contest, the great affection people have for animals is very evident. Whether it's a cat curled up on the bed, a dog wearing a funny hat, a horse kicking up its heels in the pasture, or a hippo looking a bit perplexed by a leaf that has landed on its nose, animals have captured our hearts.

Congratulations to our contest winners, and a special thank you to each one of you who entered.

**GRAND PRIZE**
James Dougherty, Silver Spring, MD

**PETS, COLOR**
First Prize
K.C. Kendash, Arlington, VA
Second Prize
Cheryl Sevold, Alhambra, CA
Honorable Mentions
John Fox, Wheeling, IL
Daniel Pilipauskas, Glenview, IL
Cynthia A. Billet, Canfield, OH
Bob Graybosch, South Bend, IN
Paul Magura, Hammond, IN
David E. Huff, Annandale, VA
James E. Kocik, Joliet, IL
Beth Murray, Milwaukee, WI
Andrea Wilson, White River Jct., VT
Richard A. Rodgers, Woodbridge, VA

**NON-PETS, COLOR**
First Prize
Joy McKay, Riverside, IL
Second Prize
Joseph Vaissi, Fort Washington, MD
Honorable Mentions
Jean Libby, Philadelphia, PA
Richard G. Reale, Massillon, OH
Max Giddings, Plainwell, MI
Steven L. Harmon, Springfield, MO
Donald Paczynski, Andrews AFB, MD
Jack K. Goldstein, Andrews AFB, MD
Suzanna C. Kennedy, South Bend, IN
Thomas R. Cooney, Johnstown, PA
Pierre Ruffieux, Rockville, MD

**PETS, BLACK AND WHITE**
First Prize
Joseph R. Spies, Arlington, VA
Second Prize
M. Botnovcan, Merrillville, IN
Honorable Mentions
Joseph R. Spies, Arlington, VA
Leo M. Johnson, Flushing, MI
Marcia F. Marks, Washington, DC
Renée Thomas, Pekin, IL
Daniel Pilipauskas, Glenview, IL
Diana Moore, Cleveland Heights, OH
Jack Snavely, Milwaukee, WI
Sylvia M. Ward, Hopedale, OH
Daniel F. Cima, North Beach, MD

**NON-PETS, BLACK AND WHITE**
First Prize
Christopher Newton, Kingston, MA
Second Prize
Joseph R. Spies, Arlington, VA
Honorable Mentions
Dorothy Larsen, Pittsford, NY
Donald Paczynski, Andrews AFB, MD
Suzanna C. Kennedy, South Bend, IN
Joseph R. Spies, Arlington, VA
Leo M. Johnson, Flushing, MI
Pierre Ruffieux, Rockville, MD

Special thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Allen Manning whose donation made this contest possible.

The Humane Society News • Spring 1981
It Takes a Gentle Hand
by Susan Bury Stauffer

We hope it will be different someday, but while human ignorance and irresponsibility make death the only humane alternative for millions of unwanted dogs and cats, what about the people who actually have to perform euthanasia?

It takes a responsible person with a gentle hand and a caring attitude to give an animal a humane death. But the kind of person who can perform this task is not the one who feels the worst about having to do it.

Shelter workers have faced this dilemma since animal control programs were first instituted, but little attention was paid to their problems until now.

As part of the overall trend toward greater professionalism in animal control, the emotional impact on shelter workers of having to destroy healthy animals is being examined. Programs are being developed to help these employees cope with this difficult task.

The HSUS’s Animal Control Academy in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, offers a three-day Euthanasia Technician program four times a year. The participants learn the proper procedures for acceptable animal euthanasia methods, including sodium pentobarbital injection (the preferred method), carbon monoxide, chloroform, and nitrous oxide.

But perhaps more important, the participants have the chance to meet others in the field and to discuss the stress they experience while destroying surplus animals when most people are not even aware there is a surplus pet problem. They can share their feelings about euthanizing shelter animals they have come to know individually.

One of the Academy euthanasia training sessions was attended by a psychology professor and a doctoral student from the University of Alabama, who cosponsors the Academy, “It’s difficult for me to go through the kennel and be the one who decides which will live and which will die.”

Dr. Charles Owens and Ricky Davis studied the comments and reactions of the technicians and prepared a paper titled “The Psychology of Euthanizing Animals: The Emotional Components,” with Hunt Smith, Academy director. The paper has been published in the Journal of the Institute for the Study of Animal Problems.

The technicians were asked to write out their feelings about euthanasia, and some of their comments appear on these pages.

“I feel alienated from people who are friends but can’t understand the reasons. They see the dilemma but cannot accept that I would do such a thing.”

Animal shelters and euthanasia technicians in particular bear a great deal of public criticism. Community residents expect animal control to keep the streets free of stray dogs, but they are often outraged when they learn that these animals are being destroyed.

As Dr. Owens puts it, “To understand the psychological pain experienced by a person who must euthanize animals, one must first understand the contradiction required by the job.” In order for the technicians to do their jobs daily, they have to decide in their own minds that the job must be done but yet “maintain concern for the individual animal.”

“One day, I sat in on a meeting of the staff where they decided to have a shelter worker do all that was necessary to destroy surplus animals when most people are not even aware there is a surplus pet problem. They can share their feelings about euthanizing shelter animals they have come to know individually.

Eleven of the technicians were asked to respond to a series of statements prepared by the researchers to stimulate discussion and determine the inner feelings of these conscientious workers.

The technicians agree they are performing a necessary service in the community, and their comments indicate that this belief helps them cope with the job.

“You realize euthanizing is a necessary part of shelter life when you see the numbers of animals that come in each day, and you wish to help people who come in to adopt them.”

“We are the only kind they have.”

“My goal is to do my job and take pride in the fact that I’m doing it.”

“I’m glad I’m there to do it and not someone who doesn’t care.”

“Know these animals are never again going to face any type of suffering or rejection, and I know that I did the best possible thing.”

“I may be the only kind hand they ever feel, the only soft voice they ever hear, the one and only human who really did care.”

The technicians mentioned a variety of ways of trying to relax after euthanasia work, some preferring the company of other people while others spend time by themselves. They do agree, however, that the community doesn’t understand or appreciate the work they do, some commenting that they avoid discussing the details of their job in social settings because they frequently get negative reactions.

“I have trouble at times with my relatives. They ask why I do the job I do and why the shelter can’t find homes for all the animals.”

“Some people seem to think that my lack of pain for having to do it means I don’t give a damn about animals, and I’m in the wrong line of work. But I don’t think that way… I consider that these people can’t think if they walked in one of the times I was crying because I had to put a favorite animal to sleep.”

Making pet owners understand that it is their responsibility to keep their pets under control and prevent them from breeding is especially important to euthanasia technicians.

“I have trouble with the public’s attitude toward euthanasia, bringing litter after litter of puppies and kittens in and blaming it on us.”

“I feel anger at the people who bring them in happily and then blame us for killing them.”

“It’s the unknowledgeable law­makers that seem to think of overpopulation or dog damage expenses in more destruction of animals and not spay and neuter programs for public education.”

The technicians agree wholeheartedly that it takes a special person to perform euthanasia, to combine compassion and competence.

The HSUS is providing these special people with the opportunity to become more skilled at their job and to build the emotional strength they need to euthanize animals daily. It is an encouraging sign for the field of animal control that researchers from the University of Alabama are studying the emotional dilemma of the euthanasia technician. These researchers have been able to make specific recommendations to provide euthanasia technicians the reinforcement they need.

One of the recommendations is that euthanasia technicians be given the opportunity to share their thoughts and feelings with sympathetic listeners as in the Academy program. The researchers also recommend that euthanasia techni­cians speak to the public, so the community can discover firsthand that they are control and caring people. The public must be made aware that the technicians are not to blame for the animals’ deaths—in­ responsible pet owners are.

The HSUS is providing leadership in this field with the Academy euthanasia program and various mate­rials for euthanasia technicians. As part of the “Changing Your Image” series of training tapes for shelter animal control workers, HSUS is currently producing a program on videotape, “To Overcome the Pain,” which discusses attitudes toward euthanasia and procedures for doing the job with the least distress for the animals and the technician. The program, in videotape format, should be available by summer.

But the well-being of euthanasia technicians (and consequently of the animals they handle) depends in large part on the people around them—shelter supervisors, the directors of the humane society, the city council or county commissioners, and the general public.

Euthanasia technicians must be given the emotional support they need to do their jobs well. They need proper training and accurate information on euthanasia techniques. The community must stop blaming them for the euthanasia of surplus animals and begin programs to cut down pet overpopulation—so that animal shelters will no longer have to carry out this tragic and inequitable solution to the pet surplus problem.

“I am at peace with my conscience that what I do must be done. My chief concern is that it be done humanely.”
ANIMALS UNDER THE BIG TOP

by Jeanne Roush

ANIMALS UNDER THE BIG TOP

by Jeanne Roush

For all the glitter in the center ring, a circus animal lives a life of tribulation.

Every spring the circus comes to town. Families across America buy tickets for "the greatest show on earth." Amidst the crowds, music and bright lights, there is much excitement over the juggling seals, dancing elephants, and motorcycle riding bears. Children gaze in wide-eyed wonder at the animals' tricks, but even the most ardent fan must occasionally wonder what goes on behind the scenes. How did the animals get to town? What do they eat? How did they learn their tricks? Where do they live when the circus season ends? Answers to these questions reveal this is not the "greatest show on earth" when it comes to animal welfare.

For years The HSUS has been looking behind the curtains to determine what life is like for performing circus animals. Not only have we studied reports and investigated complaints sent to us from citizens and local humane societies, but HSUS's Director of Wildlife Protection, Sue Pressman, during her undercover investigations has participated in the daily routines of circus life.

Based on her experiences and the knowledge we have accumulated over the past nine years, we conclude that animal abuse continues in captivity, and is a fact of life in all circuses.

Domesticated animals suffer much less from the stresses of circus life than wild animals for they have, over thousands of years, become accustomed to living with man under diverse conditions. Wild animals, however, often have very specific and complex needs not easily met in the circus environment. Most of the problems we encounter with circus animals, therefore, involve wild and not domesticated animals.

Majors and Mud Shows

For a proper perspective on circuses it is important to distinguish between two different types. The first type is the major circus which travels to large cities and sets up in an arena or other indoor structure. It performs at one location for several days. This operation usually has a core of permanent personnel, is well-organized, and financially sound. As a result, it has the ability to provide its animals with proper handling, balanced diets, and routine medical care. By these standards, however, there are only a couple of major circuses in the United States.

Far more common is the second type of circus, the traveling tent or mud show. These shows perform in a new place every day and can cover up to 150 towns in an eight-month season. They hire people as they are needed, poorly organized, and financially unsound. Due to these factors—particularly the financial problems—they are usually unable to provide even basic necessities for their animals.

Quality of animal care varies greatly among circuses. There are some with which we find no fault as regards their good intentions towards their animals, and the diets, sanitation, and medical care they provide. Despite this, we maintain that the hardships imposed by traveling prevent all circuses from providing humane care for their animals.

Keeping wild animals in captivity entails the responsibility of providing them with an environment in which they can approximate their natural activities. This may include being caged with others of their species, having the opportunity to exercise, climb, or dig, having objects to manipulate, and having the opportunity for privacy from other animals and the public. Such an environment helps insure proper biological and social adjustment for wild animals in captivity.

Housing of circus animals must be built for ease of transportation and cannot possibly meet these standards. Crowding and cramped quarters are a fact of life in all circuses. Animals travel in box cars, tractor trailers, or open crates on flatbed trucks. The complexity and expense of transporting animals across the country increases in proportion to the weight and size of the load. Cages, therefore, are no bigger than absolutely necessary.

Beyond consideration of weight and space is the fact that some animals for their own safety, must be tightly constrained during travel. Elephants, for example, must have their feet chained to the floor during travel to prevent their thrashing about, damaging the vehicle, or even escaping. The Animal Welfare Act, administered by the United States Department of Agriculture, requires only that enclosures used for transporting circus animals have "...sufficient height and width for the animals to make normal postural adjustments..." As interpreted by USDA inspectors, most of the mud shows set about creating the minimum, if not even minimal standards. In addition, the act mandates that animals be provided with "...adequate food, water, suitable shelter, sanitation, and medical care..." and that "enclosures and vehicles shall be built for ease of transportation and shall be so constructed as to provide for hosing down some of the animals and for cleaning purposes. The small shows do not travel with water trucks. Often they ask the local fire department to provide water that isn't always possible. Consequently, animals have limited drinking supplies, cages are cleaned infrequently, and animals can become caked with excrement. "It is shocking to realize that just because a show set out to do a show without even providing for a basic necessity like water," Pressman said.

Circuses travel from early spring to late summer in every area of the country. Animals vary in their tolerance to changes in climate and for cleaning purposes. The chimpanzee, for example, is highly susceptible to cold respiratory diseases and cannot tolerate cold and damp weather. Polar bears easily succumb to heat prostration, and to extreme humidity. The law stipulates that, for example, an elephant must be able to stand and stretch to its full height and have room to turn around. The law also stipulates that, for example, an elephant must have room to turn around. This is not the case for many of the animals in today's circuses, where animals are kept in very small open crates on flatbed trucks.

Financially strapped and having too few vehicles, cages, and personnel, they cram their animals into any conveyance available and do the best they can. With these very minimal standards, financially strapped and having too few vehicles, cages, and personnel, they cram their animals into anything that will contain them. Often they place several incompatible animals in close proximity, causing a high degree of stress and sometimes even physical attacks.

Food, Water, Weather

The quality of care for animals in the smaller mud shows is very poor. Small shows often do not know whether there will be water and shade available in the field where the tent will be pitched next. If no running water is available at the site, limited amounts can be hauled in for drinking, but there will certainly be none for cleaning purposes. The small shows do not travel with water trucks. Occasionally they ask the local fire department to provide water that is not always possible. Consequently, animals have limited drinking supplies, cages are cleaned infrequently, and animals can become caked with excrement. "It is shocking to realize that just because a show sets out to do a show without even providing for a basic necessity like water," Pressman said.

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Financially strapped and having too few vehicles, cages, and personnel, they cram their animals into anything that will contain them. Often they place several incompatible animals in close proximity, causing a high degree of stress and sometimes even physical attacks.
Circus elephants spend most of their travel time chained and shackled. They require a great deal of food, but financially unsound mud shows often can’t supply their needs. What they did eat was merely something to fill their stomachs, such as white bread, or table scraps. In most cases this wasn’t due to neglect, but poverty. Circus animals represent both a large investment and a source of income, so their owners will not readily let them starve to death. ‘I saw one man literally spend his last dollar on his elephants,’ Pressman said. And it was this elephant which finally caused Pressman to go out of career. When it became clear that years of hardship had taken an irreversible toll on the animal’s health, Pressman went to the trainer, and urged him to put the elephant to sleep. He agreed.

Medical care is extremely important to circus animals while they are on the road and under stress, in- gesting unfamiliar water and foods, and exposed to extremes of weather. The major circuses travel with a veterinarian who can treat sick animals and advise on general care and treatment. For animals in mud shows, medical care is virtually non-existent. Fiji is an example all for itself. When it do, they do not show the difficulty of finding a vet who is familiar with medical care and behavior of proboscis animals. However, there is no problem for a brief visit. Sick animals, therefore, are dragged all over the country. They can’t even be sent “home” for there is no one there to receive them.

Training

The subject of animal training brings forth images of trainers with whips and cattle prods, endlessly beating their animals into submission until they perform their routines perfectly. Fortunately, this need not be the case. Not only would treating wild animals in this manner be dangerous to the trainers, but it would not get results in the long run. The trainer cannot physically overpower a wild animal, so he must achieve a psychological advantage over it. He must establish his dominance and constantly reinforce it. This is done by exerting pressure on the animal by jabbing it, shouting at it, and withholding its food. While these methods are subtle, they are still a form of coercion and can be quite stressful for some species.

Species varies widely in their pre-dispositions to cooperate with man. Some certainly seem to enjoy training, which provides much needed stimulation and exercise. Just as training can sometimes benefit animals, animal acts can also educate the public by showing the physical and mental capacities of the animals. Circus performances typically teach nothing about natural behavior or animal intelligence. Most often they focus on the courageousness of the trainer and reduce the animals to teetering clowns, probabilities, and acts. Bears riding motorcycles, elephants dancing in tutus and tigers riding on the backs of horses completely di-vorce animals from nature and give a distorted portrayal of their behavior. Such exploitation of animals will never instill in the public a sense of respect for wild animals and a commitment to their conservation.

The Law

The Animal Welfare Act sets regulations for the vehicles used to transport circus animals, enclosures in which animals travel, and the handling, feeding, and care of the animals. The Act sets the following standards:

Handling must not cause unnecessary discomfort, behavioral stress, or physical harm; must in- sure safety of the public and the ani- mals; animals must be given a rest period between performances equal to the time of one performance.

Vehicles—must be mechanically sound, well-ventilated, yet free of injurious drafts; exhaust gases must not enter animal area; must be clean; temperature must be compatible with health and com- fort of the animals.

Enclosures—well constructed, ventilated and designed to provide sufficient space to turn about, freedom and safety of the public and the ani- mals; animals must be given a rest period between performances equal to the time of one performance.

Food and Water—potable water provided at least once in every 12-hour period.

Care and Treatment—animals should be in good health and free of infectious disease; animals traveling in same en- closure must be compatible; pro- tection against weather drafts; exhaust from exhaust fans or extremes of weather; veterinary care must be provided when necessary.

Punishments for failure to comply can result in cease and desist orders, fines, and imprisonment.

Circus animals cannot live natural lives.

Housing of circus animals is built for ease of transportation. The comfort of the occupants is a secondary consideration.
Animal welfare organizations have charged that wildlife management programs are little more than an excuse to subsidize sport hunting with public funds. In retaliation against a growing tide of criticism, advocates of hunting are waging a campaign to convince the public that hunters are not only paying their own way through fees and taxes but are, in addition, shouldering a large percentage of the cost of preserving wildlife and wildlands.

Promotional literature for the 1980 National Hunting and Fishing Day boasted that sportmen financially support conservation programs in the amount of $650 million a year. Literature published by the National Shooting Sports Foundation (NSSF), a principal spokesperson for hunters, contains the following claims:

"Through the purchase of licenses and permits to hunt, hunters and fishermen pay over $344 million for conservation each year."

"Through a self-imposed tax on sporting arms, ammunition and archery equipment, hunters and fishermen have provided more than $892 million for wildlife management in the last forty years and continue to add over $86 million annually."

"Through the purchase of Federal Duck Stamps, hunters contribute $11,000,000 annually for conservation."

"Hunters spend an estimated $200 million each year developing wildlife habitat on privately owned lands."
clients; many officials within these agencies must recognize a dependence upon hunters for their livelihood. Although there was initial resistance to the federal excise tax and other user fee mechanisms, hunters now realize that their role as financial backers of game departments affords them extraordinary influence. Hunting organizations are careful to guard against funding plans that might lessen their influence. They will continue to tolerate, and even advocate, taxation of hunters. In return, they will continue to compel wildlife biologists to focus their energies toward providing game animals to be hunted and to influence the direction of game department policy.

The alliance between hunters and game departments may be the most formidable obstacle to the reform of wildlife management programs. As long as policymakers within wildlife management agencies continue to work in partnership with hunters, there is little hope that fish and game departments will de-emphasize hunting in favor of a more enlightened approach to the conservation and protection of wildlife.

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As a service to our members, from time to time we will be supplying you with a fact sheet on a specific issue in animal welfare. We hope these fact sheets will be helpful in explaining to others the problems animals face in the world today.

**Harp Seal** (Canada)

- Takes place in Canada off the coast of Newfoundland and in the Gulf of St. Lawrence.
- Takes place in March.
- About 180,000 killed each year.
- Most killed before one month of age, before the bright white coat of the pup begins to molt and turns to the gray adult coat. Male and female taken.
- Seals are approached on the ice by the sealers—working independently, a sealer will club a pup, slit its main artery, then peel off the pelt. The whole operation takes fewer than two minutes per seal.

**Northern Pacific Fur Seal** (Pribilof Islands)

- Takes place on St. Paul’s Island in the Pribilofs off the coast of Alaska in the U.S., and on Commander and Robbins Islands in the Soviet Union’s territory.
- Takes place in July, annually.
- About 26,000 killed each year on St. Paul’s Island.
- Males, two- to three-years-old, are taken. Only bachelor males, without a harem of females, are taken.
- Bachelors are cut from the herd and driven from the rocky shoreline onto the grassy tundra. In assembly-line fashion, the seals are stunned with clubs, killed by cutting their main arteries, then skinned.
- The hunt takes place under a treaty signed by the U.S., Canada, Japan, and Russia. The treaty originated in 1911 when pelagic (open-sea) hunting threatened to wipe out this species of seal. Under the treaty, seals may be taken only during the summer hunt, and only up to a quota set each year.
- The killing on St. Paul’s is done by Aleut natives whose pay is subsidized by the U.S. government. The Soviet Union conducts its own hunts on Commander and Robbins Islands.
- Pelts are mainly used for coats and other garments. U.S. pelts are processed under government contract by the Fouke Fur Company of South Carolina. Certain other parts of the seal are used for various purposes, but none are as profitable as furs.

**Ov Seals**

- Takes place in July, annually.
- About 26,000 killed each year on St. Paul’s Island.
- Males, two- to three-years-old, are taken. Only bachelor males, without a harem of females, are taken.
- Bachelors are cut from the herd and driven from the rocky shoreline onto the grassy tundra. In assembly-line fashion, the seals are stunned with clubs, killed by cutting their main arteries, then skinned.
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Harp Seal
(Canada)

- Harp seal fur is used for products such as fur collars and cuffs, glove linings, keychains and toy stuffed seals. Harp seal flippers are sometimes collected and sold as delicacies in Norway, though there isn’t much meat on them. Very little seal meat is eaten by Newfoundlanders, most carcasses are left on the ice.

- The Canadian government attempts to justify this hunt by claiming it is necessary to control seal overpopulation. Its statistics are heavily disputed by scientists, some of whom predict that current kill quotas could eventually threaten the species’ existence.

- Another justification that the extra income the government spends thousands of taxpayer’s dollars through the development of other industries with government subsidies for start-up expenses.

- As in the case of the Canadian hunt, the argument that these seals must be slaughtered annually to prevent overpopulation does not hold water. Wild animal populations are self-controlling when left in a natural state, due to fluctuations in food supply and natural attrition by disease and predators.

- The economic needs of the Aleut natives who, like the Newfoundlanders, pocket a miniscule amount of the actual profits made off the hunt, could be met through the development of other industries with government subsidies for start-up expenses.

- The HSUS wants an immediate end to this hunt. We believe the Canadian government can end this hunt with no more than short-term economic hardship for anyone.

We are also asking European countries to ban the import of harp seal fur. Some countries, such as the U.S., France, and Italy already have such a ban.

We are also putting pressure on the Norwegians to cease their participation in the hunt.

Northern Pacific Fur Seal
(Pribilof Islands)

- Pelts are divided up according to treaty—70% of the St. Paul’s pelts go to the U.S., 15% to Canada, and 15% to Japan. The Soviet Union keeps 70% of the pelts from its hunt and gives 15% to Canada and 15% to Japan.

- As in the case of the Canadian hunt, the argument that these seals must be slaughtered annually to prevent overpopulation does not hold water. Wild animal populations are self-controlling when left in a natural state, due to fluctuations in food supply and natural attrition by disease and predators.

- The economic needs of the Aleut natives who, like the Newfoundlanders, pocket a miniscule amount of the actual profits made off the hunt, could be met through the development of other industries with government subsidies for start-up expenses.

- The HSUS is asking the U.S. government to forego its 70% share of the pelts from the St. Paul hunt and to begin investigating an alternative economic base for the Aleut natives, as well as to begin negotiating an agreement with the other signatory nations to cease all killing of the northern Pacific fur seal.

West Coast

Dog Eating

Increased reports of dog eating are surfacing in California. While California’s cruelty statutes could apply in some cases, investigating the manner in which animals are killed, nothing in the law specifically prohibits killing and eating dogs or cats.

Senator Marz Garcia has introduced SB 49 making it a misdemeanor to take or possess dogs or cats with the intent to eat them. A similar bill, SB 541, has also been introduced by Assemblyman Larry Kapi­lof. The bills, which also include provisions for[classified] the slaughter of dogs or cats being illegally killed and eaten in public parks, primarily in­volve refugees from Southeast Asia, where dogs are considered a delicacy.

Raccoons

The West Coast Regional Office (WCRO) is gathering documentation from veterinarians, public health of­ficials, and wildlife experts, to help in the fight to do away with the importation and sale of raccoons. Sena­tor Henry Mello will be carrying legis­lation to outlaw the exploitation.

In addition to being capable of inflicting serious bites (numerous bites have been reported even on the rare occasion raccoons can pose a rabies threat, and are sus­ceptible to both canine feline dis­temper. WCRO Director Char Dren­non asks that anyone interested in joining this campaign contact the WCRO at 1713 J Street, #305, Sac­ramento, California 95814:

Vacination

If Senator Alan Robbins’ SB 6 is passed, any dog to be put up for adoption through an animal control agency in California will be vaccin­ated immediately upon entry against canine distemper, hepatitis, and leptospirosis. Cats to be adopted will be immediately vaccinated for feline pan­leukopenia and rhinotracheitis. Betty Denny Smith, director of the Los Angeles County Department of Ani­mal Control, reports their agency has had an inoculation upon entry program for the past three years and has testified that it does not cost tax dollars since the costs are added to adoption fees.

Animal Fighting Seminars

West Coast law enforcement officials, district attorneys, and judges will get an education through a se­ries of seminars in 1981 dealing with animal fighting ventures. Headed up by WCRO field investigator Eric Sa­kach, the programs will provide valu­able insight into the problems of in­vestigating and prosecuting those involved in the activities of dog fighting and cockfighting. Law en­forcement officials wishing to at­tend or desire a program in their area should contact the WCRO.

Gulf States

Dog “Slave Market”

The Canton, Texas “Trade Days” is an open air market for merchants, farmers, local citizens, and tourists. It has also been the scene of a de­plorable “slave market” of dogs for sale. Often the dogs are chained in the hot sun or confined in cramped boxes for hours on end. They are frequently starved, infested with fleas, exposed to water, and proper care.

Efforts by HSUS and other con­cerned citizens to close down the ani­mal sales have been unsuccessful, but a new law in Texas has made possible a renewed attack on the market. The law governs bringing dogs into the state and requires all

dogs and cats over four months of age to be vaccinated against rabies.

Bill Meade contacted Canton offici­als, the local news media, and the Tex­as Department of Health with a noti­fication that, in HSUS’ opinion, this new rabies law was being violated. The Department of Health re­sponded immediately by writing the sponsor of the operation and stating that the rabies law would be en­forced. Because most of the dogs being offered for sale had not been vaccinated against rabies, they were in violation of the law and were part of a potentially dangerous rabies sit­uation. Many of the dogs’ owners were only interested in making a few quick dollars and simply gave up their dog sales rather than pay for the needed vaccinations.

The Gulf States staff will continue to work to further curtail, or elimi­nate this sale.

Spay/Neuter

On December 1, The Dallas SPCA performed its 10,000th surgery at its low-cost spay and neuter clinic. The clinic was opened in November, 1976. Since it opened, it has been instru­mental in easing the problem of pet overpopulation in the area. The sterilization of 10,000 animals, by one conserv­ative estimate, has pre­vented the birth of one-quarter mil­lion animals.
Humane Education Course
Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches, Texas, will be offering a three credit graduate course in humane education June 8-22. Kathy Savesky, director of the National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education, and Charles Herrmann, editor of HSUS' children's magazine, Kid's World, will each give a session during the course. For more information, contact G.W. Williams, Professor of Education, Stephen F. Austin State University, Nacogdoches, Texas 75962.

Mid-Atlantic
New Office Opens
HSUS is pleased to announce the opening of a new regional office which will serve the states of Delaware, New Jersey, New York, and Pennsylvania. The office will be directed by Nina Austenber, long active as executive director of HSUS' New Jersey Branch, and who also has served as president of the Branch. The work of the Branch will now be handled by the Mid-Atlantic office. The office can be addressed: Mid-Atlantic Regional Office, 9700 W. Beach Road, Redondo Beach, California 90278. The phone number is (201) 254-2230.

Trapping
Illegal trapping is on the increase in New Jersey. Aajorse in naming the area the Newark Star-Ledger. The paper reported the cases of two dogs recently caught in Conibear traps, one of which was killed by a person who thought it was an illegal trap. She was later convicted of a felony to promote, engage in, or own dogfighting equipment or dogs for the purposes of dogfighting in Ohio. The law, one of the toughest in the nation, makes it a felony to promote, engage in, or own dogfighting equipment or dogs for the purposes of dogfighting. An additional six individuals are still awaiting trials.

Endurance Method Change
The Animal Rescue League of Southern New Hampshire, with its animal shelter located at South Kingsborough, announced that the decompression chamber method of euthanasia is being replaced with gas. Shelter Manager Mary Pierina reports that after some initial concern by the staff that the new method would eliminate most of these problems, the staff has now found that the new method is working well. She feels it is definitely an improvement in the League's program of animal care. The League has utilized The HSUS publication, Carbon Monoxide Euthanasia for the Small Animal Shelter, written by Gulf States Regional Director Bill Meade.

New England
Budget Cuts in Maine
Governor Joseph Brennan and Commissioners Eugene F. Austin and Mary Margaret Colcord have proposed budget cuts for Maine's Department of Agriculture which would effectively eliminate the field staff of the Division of Animal Welfare. The proposals have an avalanche of protest from humane organizations all across Maine asking that animals not be the victims of infallible. Governor F. Austin has asked the Governor to spell out the rationale and the ethical considerations involved in the decision to further reduce the field staff. HSUS member Charlotte Parks of York was one of the persons in prison in placing the amendment into existence in 1975 and served on its Advisory Board for four years. The timber is currently before the Maine Legislature's Appropriations Committee for a decision. It has been reported that the protest raised by humanitarians over this matter has made a profound impact on both Governor Brennan and the members of the legislature. How far they will go in retaining the budget for animal welfare remains to be seen.

Euthanasia Method Change
The Animal Rescue League of Southern New Hampshire, with its animal shelter located at South Kingsborough, announced that the decompression chamber method of euthanasia is being replaced with gas. Shelter Manager Mary Pierina reports that after some initial concern by the staff that the new method would eliminate most of these problems, the staff has now found that the new method is working well. She feels it is definitely an improvement in the League's program of animal care. The League has utilized The HSUS publication, Carbon Monoxide Euthanasia for the Small Animal Shelter, written by Gulf States Regional Director Bill Meade.

Great Swamp
Protestors from the former HSUS New Jersey Branch and a number of other animal welfare groups banded together this fall to protest, once again, the annual deer hunt at the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. Officials allow the hunt to harvest deer they say would otherwise starve. Hunting foes argue that the deer herd would maintain its own number naturally if allowed to do so. Furthermore, few deer have starved in the past few winters because of mild weather. John Fillio, manager of the refuge, said that last spring when refuge personnel combed the refuge for dead deer, they found only three: one that was most likely hit by a car and two others that had been wounded by hunters and died later. Nina Austenber, picking up along with forty other protesters, asserted that the refuge is not open as part of a management plan, but only for the enjoyment of hunters.

Dog Sled Racing
The tremendous growth in the popularity of dog sled racing prompted Paul Nash, a greybeaver investigator with the Humane Society of the United States, and Chris Green to monitor several races in Michigan in order to learn more about the effects of the racing conditions on the dogs. Reports of dogs having their paws cut by sharp ice, being run to exhaustion, and fighting among incompatible dogs housed together are common at longer races. Greybeavers found that in most cases the problems tend to be isolated incidents that are the fault of the individual owners or racers rather than the general nature of the sport. Among the abuses he observed at one race were a dog injured by the sled ran over it, dogs with large patches of hair missing (caused by ice matting into the dog's coat), and lame or dysplastic dogs being used for racing.

The Great Lakes office is inviting all humane organizations in the region to bring a legal landing to their operations. The Great Lakes office is offering support, including legal assistance, to any group that wishes to bring a legal landing to their operations. The Great Lakes office is offering support, including legal assistance, to any group that wishes to bring a legal landing to their operations.

Mourning Doves
Once a hunting fraternity in Ohio is attempting to gain the legalization of the mourning dove as a game species. Presently, this small dooryard bird is protected by state law, but hunters over the past several years have made numerous attempts to have the bird reclassified so that it may be hunted.

Tim Greybeaver, GLRO Field Investigator, testified at a senate hearing stating that "It is incredible that there is anyone in the state who is willing to protect for our wildlife, who is willing to fight for the mourning dove under such a fragile class scheme." If the pending legislation should become law, mourning doves could be hunted in Ohio during the nesting season. This would not only cause the death of adult doves, but infants also. Ohiophers are urged to write their legislators urging them to vote no on SB 29 and SB 34.
New Legislation

The 97th Congress is barely two months old, and already several pieces of legislation important to the humane cause have been introduced in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. Several of them are identical to bills which failed to gain passage during the last Congress, some have been modified or revised, and others are completely new. Here are the major ones:

Trapping

H.R. 374 (formerly H.R. 1297) introduced by Congressman Clarence Leon product (D-MD), would prohibit shipping of any fur or leather between states or with foreign countries if that state or country had not banned the use of the leghold or steel jaw trap.

H.R. 1092 (formerly H.R. 953) introduced by Congressman Glenn Anderson (D-CA), would regulate trapping on federally owned lands.

Horse Racing

A bill effectively banning the use of drugs in racehorses has been introduced in the House by Congressman Bruce Vento (MN) and Robert McOy (II). By the time you read this, a matching bill will have been introduced in the Senate by Senator David Pryor (D-Ark).

Animal Welfare Act

The Animal Welfare Act to cover this, a matching bill will have been introduced by Rep. Robert Roe (D-NJ), would establish a National Animal Welfare Act to cover animals, to develop training methods to the use of live animals, to develop training programs in the use of alternative methods, and to disseminate information on these methods.

H.R. 374 (formerly H.R. 4479) was reintroduced by Rep. Ted Weiss (D-NY), and would establish a commission to study alternative methods to the use of live animals in laboratory research and testing.

Finally, Congressman Andrew Jacobs (D-IN) and Senator David Durenburger (R-MN) introduced companion resolutions—H. Con. Res. 27, (formerly H. Con. Res. 465) and Senate Resolution 65 (formely Senate Resolution 534)—aimed at encouraging all federal agencies to develop and validate alternatives to the Draize rabbit eye test.

Marine Mammal Protection Act

In 1972, Congress passed a far-reaching piece of legislation to help seals, whales, dolphins, and other marine mammals. This year, the Marine Mammal Protection Act comes before Congress for approval to continue this work. It needs your support if the U.S. is to remain in the forefront of those fighting to save our dwindling populations of many marine mammals.

The Marine Mammal Protection Act is the piece of legislation that bans the importation of scientific specimens and marine mammal products into the U.S., prohibits whaling within two hundred miles of our coast, and protects all other marine mammals, including sea otters, polar bears, manatees, all seals, whales, porpoise, and walrus.

With a new Congress and so many new members, it is vitally important that you get involved. This is the time when the new Congress is setting its legislative agenda for the coming session, and it's important that animal welfare remain a priority. If you are already an HSUS member, and you want to get involved to help animals, just fill out this coupon and return it to HSUS, 2100 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20007. If you'd like to become an HSUS member so you can join the Action Alert system, use the envelope inserted in this magazine to send us your 810 membership dues, and enclose the Action Alert coupon.

Reflect for a moment...

how can I help animals even when I no longer share their world?...

By your request for animal protection to The Humane Society of the United States, you can provide for animals after you’re gone. Naming The HSUS demonstrates your commitment to animal welfare and strengthens the Society for this task. We will be happy to send information about our animal programs and materials which will assist in planning a will.

Please send: Will information

Name ________________________________
Address ________________________________
City State Zip ________________________________
Mail in confidence to: Murdaugh/S. Madden, Vice President/General Counsel, The Humane Society of the United States, 2100 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20007.
Constitutions Result in Unique Sentences

In two recent unrelated cases, one in Florida and the second in Ohio, judges have exercised their sentencing discretion in what appear to be very effective ways.

In Fort Pierce, Florida, a county judge, in addition to sentencing a defendant to jail for cruelty to animals, entered an order prohibiting the defendant from ever owning an animal again.

In Newark, Ohio, a defendant who pleaded guilty to a charge of violating the state anti-dogfighting statutes was placed on five-years probation, with the requirement that he work 200 hours for the humane society as a condition of that probation. This is one of the cases referred to in the Great Lakes Regional Report elsewhere in this issue of The HSUS News.
Walk in the Spring

Master, let's go for a walk in the woods
There's a flood of spring warmth in the air,
Redbuds are blooming down by the creek—
The skies are deep, blue and fair;
The perfume of wild roses adrift on the wind
Is touched by a mockingbird's song.
Outside the whole world is budding anew
With memories held all winter long.

Master, let's go for a run in the field
Where the wind is sweet, swift and free,
And my bark will frighten the scattered small clouds
That move like ships on a sea;
I love this old house but it's silent and dark
And touched with last winter's chill.
Master, please get your cane and your coat—
Let's go for a run on the hill!

—Jesse Lee Hill