(No. 20) -- Rapid Decompression in High Altitude Chambers--Humane or Cruel? (Part I)

Humane Information Services, Inc.

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Few things connected with the operation of humane society animal shelters have given rise to more heated controversy than the use of the high altitude chamber, or rapid decompression, in disposing of surplus dogs and cats.

Many veterinarians consider rapid decompression to be cruel and inhumane. All alike denounce myths and rumors about the "chamber of horrors" that are extant. The following description of what may be seen in the chamber during its operation, taken from a report of a panel of the American Veterinary Medical Association, throws some light on why these stories are hard to refute.

"Some unreasonableness and awareness may be manifested by the animal. In one or two seconds the animal gasps for breath, falls to its side, and goes into opisthotonos resembling the convulsions of strychnine poisoning. Our outcry is usually heard above the sound of the equipment, but foam appears through the open mouth of the animal, and it usually defecates and urinates. The skin rapidly becomes bloated, obscuring the natural outlines of the animal's body.

Although this is a somewhat misleading description and does not distinguish between what happens before and after unconsciousness, its "official" acceptance by the AVMA adds credence to the more exaggerated rumors.

As a result of all of this criticism of the use, some shelters in the United States have discontinued its use. And the misleading description, and the increased awareness of the subject at humane society meetings and privately, the editors of this report cannot recall a single case which was complete and available to all, and apparently based on full consideration of the available scientific evidence. AVMA Opinions

One exception to the general "rule of incurrence" in the American Veterinary Medical Association. About 1962 a panel of that organization prepared a report on "Animal Euthanasia" and the high altitude chamber which I know is in use today is in the Vancouver City Pound. A number of societies, for whom the high altitude chamber is in use today is in the Vancouver City Pound. A number of societies, for whom the high altitude chamber is in use today is in the Vancouver City Pound. A number of societies, for whom the high altitude chamber is in use today is in the Vancouver City Pound.

In that report the following statement was made: "The most serious objection (to the high altitude chamber) arises from the possibility that animals may suffer exerting pain for a short time."

A decade later the AVMA assigned a new panel of veterinarians and scientists to study the use of existing methods of euthanasia, and the results were published early in 1975. The new report by the revised panel states: "This method (decompression) is rapid, humane, suitable for euthanasia of a large number of animals, and presents little hazard to the operating personnel. Rapid decompression is a satisfactory procedure for euthanasia, provided the equipment is properly designed, maintained and operated."

Presumably this drastic change in the evaluation was based on either the addition of new evidence relating to the effects of rapid decompression, or a more thorough review of the already-existing evidence and a consequent change in the opinions of the panel members. Since practically all of the evidence now available for such an evaluation also was available in 1962, it would seem a reasonable presumption that the differences in the two reports represent almost entirely a difference of interpretation of the available facts by the members of the two panels. It is possible that this changed opinion was a partial result of representations by some humane societies and others favorable to the high altitude chamber that the previous opinion was wrong.

In any event, the second panel obviously benefited from a more thorough review of the scientific evidence. It is difficult to understand how the first panel could have made some of the statements it did, particularly its references to "explosive decompression" and the "bends", if TV had made any real review of the then-available scientific literature. The second panel also may be guilty of over-simplification, and some loose and untestable statements, as will be brought out in later sections of this analysis. After reading such statements by veterinarians and so-called experts in the field, it is difficult to see how we should be able to repute the rapid decompression which can be readily refuted by reference to the published scientific literature.

If a panel of veterinarians can reach an admittedly erroneous conclusion in 1962, it is obviously possible that another panel limited to essentially the same facts may be guilty of another misinterpretation ten years later. Which of these two conflicting panel opinions is correct?

USDA Committee's Report

A United States Department of Agriculture veterinarians "committee on Animal Euthanasia" recently recommended the use of decompression chambers for disposing of pets animals in pounds or humane society shelters. The circumstances surrounding this pronouncement were reviewed in Report to Humane Society of New York, Inc., (March 17, 1974) that "they do not lend much confidence in the conclusion.

Few Opinions Change

The chamber is a convenient and economical device for putting the animal to sleep. The deaths occur out of sight of shelter personnel, and handling of the animals is a disagreeable and dehumanizing task, is avoided. For these reasons the management and personnel of the larger shelters and public pounds much prefer the decompression chamber to other methods of euthanasia, and have defended it as humane and efficient. They have been backed by the American Humane Association, which has been closely associated with the larger-city humane societies for whom the chamber offers the most obvious practical advantage.

Frustrated and angry members have resorted to various methods of trying to force management to abandon the high altitude chamber, including lawsuits, the formation of rival humane societies pledged to use some other method of euthanasia, publicity society organs, newspapers and other publications, and having listened to many discussions to find in any humane society or professional association.

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DECOMPRESSION—from page 1—

... the increasingly popular curariform drugs were published in this same issue of the Magazine, No. 19, issued in March, 1970. The present report, and Part II to be published in September, deals chiefly with high-altitude chamber. In forthcoming reports other methods proposed or in use will be evaluated. However, since in a number of important subjects to be covered, these reports on other methods will be published intermittently as pieces of information arise... 

The High Altitude Chamber

The high altitude chamber is a metal cylinder with a sealed, air-tight door. The atmosphere within is kept at the pressure existing in a high altitude, as if the air were being breathed. This is accomplished by means of a vacuum or air pump. The air leaving the chamber is extracted and replaced from a high altitude source, such as a pressurized airplane cabin, to a high altitude.

As the air in the chamber is evacuated, the air surrounding the animals becomes "thinner", although its percentage composition of oxygen, nitrogen, and other gases is unchanged.

The gases (air) remaining in the chamber merely expand to occupy the same space. These changes in pressure may be expressed in terms of various measures. The gauges on the chambers used in shelters usually start at sea level (approximately 30 inches of mercury), which is zero on the gauge, and show decreases in pressure as altitude within the chamber. The actual pressure within the chamber is obtained by subtracting the gauge reading from the sea level value.

If the gauge needle should go to 30, for instance (only theoretically possible), it would indicate that absolute vacuum exists (30 minus 30 equals 0).

Most of the scientific research and literature dealing with decompression has been published in various ways, one of which is the field of aviation medicine, in which the critical factor is altitude, in terms of which many of our observations are presented.

The AWA panel, for instance, gives the point at which death occurs in feet of altitude, and time required to attain those in Table 1.

EFFETS OF DECOMPRESSION

The effects of decompression may be divided into three groups: (1) anoxia (anoxemia, hypoxia, hypoxemia), which includes the deficiency in oxygenation due to the normal flow of oxygen to the tissues of the body; (2) expansion of gas reservoirs normally contained in organs or cavities in the body; (3) psychological factors.

Anoxia

All of the organs and tissues of the body require oxygen. The body obtains its oxygen from the air, from which it is transferred by the lungs to the hemoglobin of the blood. If the lungs cannot deliver a sufficient amount of oxygen to the blood, and hence to the organs which they compose, anoxia results.

Oxygen deficiency, or anoxia, as a means of producing an animal's death, may be accomplished by: (1) anoxia, one of which is rapid decompression. In fact, anoxia is the root cause of the problems brought on by many of the methods or agents used or proposed for producing destroying animals, including carbon monoxide and nitrogen. Decompression is referred to scientifically as the hypoxenic type of anoxia; the histotoxic type is that in which the tissues are poisoned, as for example by cyanide, and are therefore unable to make proper use of the oxygen in the body. As mention of certain curariform and other drugs, the respiratory system is paralysed, resulting in oxygen deficiency themselves.

Anoxia by Decompression

The ambient (surrounding) air pressure in effect measures the amount of oxygen in the air breathed in by the lungs, and available for transfer to the blood. Rapid decompression quickly reduces the availability of oxygen to the tissues, and finally to the tissues. This reduces the efficiency of the organs which the tissues...
**Vacations Present Serious Humane Problems**

Many people take their pets with them on vacation, then find that keeping an animal in a travel trailer, tent, cabin or motel involves more inconvenience than expected. In a great number of cases the animals are then abandoned, to suffer the cruel fate of strays. In university towns many students keep pets in their rooms or apartments during the school year, then abandon them when it is time to leave for the summer or holidays.

Here are important humane problems which any person can help to correct. It does not necessarily require the action of a humane society. Every individual can think about the situation in his own community, plan appropriate action, and then do what he can. In some situations the local police may be called upon to enforce the anti-cruelty laws.

**THE CRUELTY OF THE CHAINED DOG**

Edith Lasen Johnson

From "Kindness Club NEWS". Published by The Kindness Club of Australia.

Piece of strong wire. This can be fixed in a yard or garden. This is far better than a chained dog, which may run into drafts and strong sunshine. In winter the dog needs comfortable indoor accommodation, out of drafts and plenty of exercise, both summer and winter.

"I like animals. They don't lick your hand one day and bite you the next."

--- Actress KIM NOVAK
THERES A KINDER WAY TO COOK THEM

Many people do not realize that when live lobsters and other crustaceans are put into boiling water or killed by sticking or cutting, they suffer great pain. There is no need for this. The answer is to make them unconscious before they are boiled or split for tainting.

For small quantities, prepare a deep pot with a small wire or metal lattice or a wooden grid on the bottom, to prevent the animal from coming into contact with the hot metal bottom as the water is heated. Place the animal in the pot with the desired amount of cold tap water. Heat gradually until the boiling point is reached. The animal will become unconscious at a temperature between 77 and 95 degrees Fahrenheit. Continue cooking as usual.

For larger quantities, as in restaurants, hotels, canning factories, etc., prepare a solution of approximately 35 parts of kitchen salt dissolved in 100 parts of cold tap water. A solution of this kind will make every three cups of water.

Place the animal in the salt solution until it loses consciousness or ability, which may take up to five minutes, then transfer to the pot of boiling water and cook as usual.

The animal when transferred should show no reaction.

The taste of the meat is in no way adversely affected by these methods of cooking. In fact, it is maintained that tenderness is improved.

Ethics of Animal Welfare

There is confusion in the minds of some people that animal welfare is something altogether divorced from human welfare. Questions are raised as to why animal welfare should be undertaken when so much yet remains to be done for human welfare. The "Times" of London has answered this question beautifully when it says: "Once we realize that cruelty is as bad for the animal as for the victim, it becomes clear that those who work for the protection of animals against man are working also for protection of man against himself. And since far more cruel things are done through ignorance and insensibility than through a morbid love of inflicting pain, the champions of animals may be discovered as doing for man a very valuable work of education. When cruelty to animals has disappeared from earth, cruelty to man will have disappeared with it."


The most dangerous animal!

The Bronx Zoo has an exhibit in its great Apes House. Visitors are surprised to see themselves in a mirror. A sign reads: "You are looking at the most dangerous animal in the world. It alone of all the animals that ever lived can exterminate (and has) entire species of animals. How it has achieved the power to wipe out all life on earth."

Tinkerbell is a sea lion who has become quite famous for her escapades up the Gulf of Mexico to communities on Florida's west coast. Here she is at Venice with two friends, Mrs. Tinkerbell is from the Sea Mammal Motivational Institute, in St. Petersburg, Florida 33705. Tinkerbell is trained to hopefully work as free-release animals allowed to roam at will but watch return to their trainers at all times. Tinkerbell obviously has much trust in humans and enjoys all the fuss and attention she receives on her unescorted journeys. She usually is returned to the Institute at unescorted place. (Photograph by Charles Patton from St. Petersburg Times of Monday, May 25, 1970.)

THE SUPREME BETRAYAL

(Letter to the Editor, Seattle Times)

By special permission

I intend this to be an open letter to the characters who abandon unwanted pets on country roads.

You were "too kind" to take your pet to the Humane Society to put it out of its misery because you didn't want it. You were "kind" enough to give it a chance to survive among people (kinder than you, fortunately) in the country. You were "kind" enough to give it a chance to survive and be loved by people.

You dropped a little dog off on a country highway.

The truth: Your little abandoned dog ran panic-stricken up and down the road, risking its life to find YOU. The truth: Your little abandoned dog ran panic-stricken up and down the road, risking its life to find YOU. The truth: Your little abandoned dog ran panic-stricken up and down the road, risking its life to find YOU.

So you dropped a little dog off on a country highway.

The truth: You have been there to see what a chance you gave it for survival. Do you want to know? Or are you so kind, so tender-hearted that the truth is too much for you?

You should have been there to see what a chance you gave it for survival. Do you want to know? Or are you so kind, so tender-hearted that the truth is too much for you?

So you dropped a little dog off on a country highway.

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**22 HORSES RESCUED FROM CRUELTY AND NEGLIGENCE**

The Women’s Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals of Pennsylvania removed from a home in Philadelphia 22 horses which had been sadly neglected and kept in filth. One horse was in the dining room and four more were stabled in the kitchen, with another wedged in a roofless 16-inch space between a wall and a truck (see photograph, above, of humane officer Robert Gordon removing this horse from his “home”), but most of the horses were in small stalls at the rear of the house. They were in individual stalls about six-foot square—not very big for ponies, according to an SPCA spokesman, who also said that manure in one place was at least five feet deep.

The SPCA humane officers who made the raid were armed with a search and seizure warrant and were accompanied by police. The SPCA humane officers who made the raid were armed with a search and seizure warrant and were accompanied by police. The SPCA humane officers who made the raid were armed with a search and seizure warrant and were accompanied by police. The SPCA humane officers who made the raid were armed with a search and seizure warrant and were accompanied by police. The SPCA humane officers who made the raid were armed with a search and seizure warrant and were accompanied by police.

Humane Information Services was founded to do this.

**Humane Information Services**

For a hundred years humanitarians have been witnessing man’s cruelties to animals, yet the suffering undergone by animals has increased tremendously. Despite the valiant efforts of many people, we have been slipping backwards, not making progress.

It is easy to denounce these cruelties, but difficult to devise and carry out constructive programs. Humane Information Services was founded to do this.

“We don’t waste time merely talking about what is bad, but analyze humane problems and alternative solutions, then pass the information on to the humane movement. We also conduct action programs ourselves. In this way, funds contributed to Humane Information Services are used with maximum economy and efficiency to accomplish the greatest possible reduction in suffering of animals. Won’t you join us in this vital work? Use the coupon on page 4.

**RODEOS — BIG BUSINESS AND BIG CRUELTY**

According to columnist Jack Anderson, rodeos have become a multi-million-dollar business. Paid attendance is close to $5 million annually — more than for football. Increasing numbers of people keep coming to see them, attracted by the color, action and excitement.

Many of these people are unaware that rodeos are based almost entirely on cruelty to animals. The bucking horses are not wild, but trying to rid themselves of the bucking straps which are pulled extremely tight around the flank in the area of the intestines and other organs where it will hurt the most (see picture). Electric prods and other devices are used to make the animal lunge wildly out of the chute. Hoof claws are choked by a rope, and slammed to the ground with great force. Many of the animals are injured or killed. And all in the name of “fun.” Rodeo performers usually are not real cowboys, but trained athletes who earn good money at the cost of incredible cruelty to animals.

Psychologists suggest that such exhibitions provide an outlet for the meanness that is bottled up in so many people, the same people who let children take pleasure in pulling the wings off flies. Children taken to view such exhibitions learn that abuse of animals is approved by adults. That is the real viciousness of the rodeos — the warping effects they may have upon young minds. When parents take their kids to see spectacles based entirely on animal abuse, they should not be surprised if later on those same kids turn into killers.

Photograph from leaflet of The Humane Society of the United States.

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**If You Haven’t Read It Before— Senator Vest’s Tribute To The Dog**

Senator Vest, from Missouri, appeared in court for the owner of a dog that had been killed by the defendant. That was soon after he started practicing law, in 1870. His quiet yet passionate tribute to the dog became a landmark in coutnry, and was reported in journals around the world.

“Gentlemen of the Jury: The best friend a man has in the world may turn against him and become his enemy. His son or daughter that he has raised with loving care may prove ungrateful. Those who are nearest and dearest to us, those whom we trust with our happiness and our good name may become traitors to their faith. The money that a man has, he may lose. It flies away from him, perhaps when he needs it most. A man’s reputation may be sacrificed in a moment of ill-considered action. The people who are prone to fall on their knees to do us honor when success is with us, may be the first to throw the stone of malice when failure settles its close upon our heads.

“The one absolutely unselfish friend that man can have in this selfish world, the one that never deserts him, the one that never proves ungrateful or treach­erous is his dog. A man’s dog stands by him in prosperity and in poverty, in health and in sickness. He will sleep on the cold ground, where the wintry winds blow and the snow drives fiercely, if only he may be near his master’s side. He will kiss the hand that has mocked him, he will wag his tail and slobber his slobber and lick the wounds that come in encounter with the roughness of the world. He guards the sleep of his pauper master as if he were a prince. When all other friends desert him, the faithful dog asks no higher privilege than that of accompanying his master on his last scene of all comes, and death takes his master in its embrace and his body is laid away in the cold ground, no matter if all other friends pursue their way, there by the graveside will the noble dog be found, his head between his paws, is as constant in his love as the sun in its journey through the heavens.

“If fortune drives the master forth an outcast in the world, friendless and homeless, the faithful dog asks no higher privilege than that of accompanying him, to guard him against danger, to fight against his enemies. And when the last scene of all comes, and death takes his master in its embrace and his body is laid away in the cold ground, no matter if all other friends pursue their way, there by the graveside will the noble dog be found, his head between his paws, his eyes sad, but open in alert watchfulness, faithful and true even in death.”

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**Dogs Use ESP, Body Language**

Michael Fox, a 38-year-old British-born veterinarian, claims that some dogs have ESP just the way some people do.

Fox, who holds a doctorate in psychology from London University and is currently associate professor of psychology at Washington University, says, “There have been cases of dogs who started howling at the same time their masters died many miles away and dogs that have gone on incredible journeys to find their masters. There was one, in World War I, I think, who swam across the English Channel and found his master in a trench.”

Fox, also an author, has recently written a book called “Understanding Your Dog” and subtitled “Everything you want to know about your dog but haven’t been able to ask him.” His experience with animals includes even the personal hand rearing of timber wolves, foxes, coyotes, coyotes (a cross between a coyote and a beagle), jackals and Arctic foxes.

Many of Fox’s books suffer from emotional problems, an area in which he claims veterinarians have been extraordinarily lax.

“Dogs,” he says, “may suffer from paralysis of the limbs, asthma, even epilepsy. Dogs have their hangups like people, and many of them suffer severely from depression.”
E D I T O R I A L

The world has come a long way since the days when people commonly were tortured for religious or political reasons, or to extract "confessions," and animals were sacrificed in creeds to provide "ritual" for the population.

But these abhorrent practices still are followed. In war, soldiers torture prisoners to extract information or confessions. In Asia, animals still are sacrificed on altars. In North America, where the Pilgrims landed so that they might be able to live up to highly-motivated religious beliefs, all kinds of brutal spectacles continue to furnish evidence that our civilization is only a thin veneer, and that beneath the skin of our declared moral rectitude we are as primitive and brutal as ever.

Let's briefly observe a few examples, selected and described in a way which should avoid undesirable psychological impacts on even the young reader. Many thousands of dogs and cats in the United States annually are subjected to unspeakable abuses. Killer mills, all kinds of cruel and insensitive plants are used to destroy rats, and incidentally by accident many cats and dogs, although humane and safe plants are readily available. And all over the land, people clang and cheer at "entertainment" offered by rodeos and other spectacles in which innocent calves, horses and other animals are subjected to abuses which vie with the most heinous torture devices of ancient times.

Do you wish to receive it.

I wish to make a contribution to help in your work and enclose $ ___ _

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St. Petersburg, Florida 33705

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- $ (1.00 to $ 4.99) for Associate Membership for one year.
- $ (5.00 or more) for Patron Membership for one year.

I wish to make a contribution to help in your work and enclose $ ... ...

I do not wish to become a member or make a contribution at this time but would like to have my name put on the mailing list to receive your quarterly Report to Humanitarians, for which I understand there is no obligation.

Mr. Mrs. Miss

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Street or Post Office Box Address
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DECOMPRESSION — from page 2 —
a pressure (or vacuum) corresponding to 5,000 feet per minute, which is close to the evidences of life beyond 7,000 feet.

Observers repeatedly have stated that at the conclusion of the chamber, in which dogs have been held at altitudes supposed over 50,000 feet for more than ten minutes, some of these dogs have recovered the hundreds of experimental animals "explosively decompressed" to 7,000 feet or more, then quickly released and recovered. This evidence shows that there is no single altitude or pressure at which life ceases, for all animals. The human is, however, the nearest to that achieved in the decompression chamber. If operating conditions are such that the chamber must lose consciousness at much higher simulated altitudes than seen to be common among those issuing statements about the chamber, which were based on evidence from subjects at relatively low rates of decompression. The importance of this is obvious.

Elapsed Time

It is important to keep in mind that although the altitudes at which unconsciousness and asphyxiation are substantially raised by higher speeds of ascent such as those achieved in the chamber, the elapsed time required for unconsciousness to reach a given altitude is reduced. This is shown by the figures in Table 4, which are computed from data in Table 3.

Table 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rate of climb, in feet per minute</th>
<th>Unconsciousness at that altitude</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>30,915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>37,925</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>43,935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>50,945</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30,000</td>
<td>57,955</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The approximate rate attained in the chamber.

The figures shown in Table 4 seem not to be in substantial disagreement with our own observations as to altitude and elapsed time at which unconsciousness occurs.

Pain Perception and Unconsciousness

One reason for the space attention up the altitude intolence 50 percent. If ascent is at the rate of 30,000 feet per minute, a rate of ascent of more than ten times faster than the highest shown in the table of this work, these dogs are conscious and capable of feeling pain. We would refer these observations to the attention of the "experts" who have observed the decompression chamber. We conclude that practically all of the animals are conscious and capable of feeling pain at a rate of 100 feet per minute or more.

In summary, we are not concerned for the purposes of this report to the humaneness of rapid decompression, that no precise statements can be made without being aware of them until returning to lower altitudes when the pain first becomes noticeable and attracted attention to the experiment. This is borne out by a later section of this chapter, that the sense of pressure at which life ceases, for all animals, is considered to be a result of any one of the following factors:

- Inaccurate records on imperfect operation of the chamber.
- Differences in temperature of the atmosphere, actual and estimated, in converting pressure or vacuum to altitude (a high/technical problem).
- Differences in the pressure at which the chamber is decompressed.
- Differences between individuals, and between man and animals in the effects of altitude or pressure.

The marked discrepancies between the published scientific reports, including that of the AMA panel, and observations by reputable people, could be a result of any one of the factors mentioned above.

Therefore, animals killed in the chamber must lose consciousness at much higher simulated altitudes than seen to have been commonly assumed by those issuing statements about the chamber, which were based on evidence from subjects at relatively low rates of decompression. The importance of this is obvious.

Conclusions Regarding Elapsed Time Before Loss of Pain Perception and Unconsciousness Occur

It is not possible to mention the putting of difficult facts, some of which we doubt have even come to the attention of the "experts" who have been quoted with confusion by others. We believe that the same principle applies to consciousness and ability to perceive pain. This allows for the development of a reasonable perception of the pain that may be caused by a rapid decompression.

Table 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rate of climb (feet per minute)</th>
<th>Altitude (feet)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>30,915</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1,000</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


** Although Armstrong does not define "altitude intolence" in the text, it is assumed that it refers to the highest altitude that an animal is able to withstand.
ATTEND TO BAN LEGHOLD TRAPS IN INDIVIDUAL STATES

Following our previous Report to Humanitarians, in which the campaign to ban the leghold trap in Florida was explained and members were urged to write letters, there been a number of important developments.

First, we are pleased to be able to report that our readers evidently acted! The executive director of the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission said that they had received a large volume of mail.

Second, the hearings held around the state received unprecedented public interest. Unfortunately, however, the members of the Florida legislature who attended, but from hunters, who objected to the traps because their valuable hunting dogs were frequent victims of death from a trap set as a leg hold trap. Hunters carry great weight with the Commission, who are thus introduced to the world of animal welfare, and would not want one of their dogs to be caught in such traps.

This obvious "hook up" the members of the Commission, who are thus introduced to the world of animal welfare, and would not want one of their dogs to be caught in such traps.

From this and other evidence, it would seem that banning the traps is a matter of common sense, with the public safety included.

DECOMPRESSION—from page 3—

"Where anoxia is induced very suddenly...the subjective symptoms are much more pronounced than those induced by a slow decompression. Then, if even small symptoms are experienced by the person undergoing decompression, they disappear as the chamber pressure is raised."

Another "News About Animals"

After many promises to readers who have distributed the public copies of our First News About Animals, and after a new issue, we finally have found the time to prepare Vol. 1, No. 2, which is enclosed with this copy of our News About Animals.

We write these letters to a large number of people who are concerned about the welfare of animals. The National Association for Humane Legislation, Digest for February, has been published by the National Association for Humane Legislation, Digest for February, has been very successful.

This meeting, although it relates to the problem in a single state, will have a far-reaching effect on the entire country. This is an important event in the history of animal welfare. It is hoped that the meeting will be a success and that the ban on the leghold trap may be made effective in Florida.

This movement to stimulate action at the state level to ban the leghold trap has spread to Missouri, where the Department of Conservation has the power to ban the traps. We suggest that Missouri humane organizations try to ban the traps in their state, and that other European countries where the steel trap has been banned, as suggested by the concern of the Trap Banning Committee, do the same, and that this move be a successful one.

The House-passed pesticides bill (H.R. 10785) was further weakened by a Senate subcommittee, and prospects for passage of an eventual strong bill are not good.

The United States Department of the Interior has recommended against passage of the Bruinsfield-Nayh bill to ban leghold traps, which it claims are necessary for achieving wildlife "management objectives and economic reasons." Since the Humane Legislation Digest for February, in which there are no serious bills affecting animals were introduced, but no action was taken.

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