President's Perspective

A Call to Personal Action

By John A. Hoyt

One of the frequently asked questions communicated to me by HSUS members is "What can I do personally to assist in preventing cruelty to animals?" It is not always easy to give a specific answer to that question. Often many of the conditions and situations affecting cruelty to animals are so remote to individual humans or so complexly interwoven within governmental or industrial policies that direct personal action is virtually impossible. It is for these reasons that it is vitally important that strong organizations such as HSUS exist.

On other occasions, however, the action of the individual, when added to that of millions of others, will be much more effective than the actions and protests of any one organization. I am quite convinced that the tuna-poison issue is just such a case.

On page 12 of this issue of The Humane Society News you will read about the incredible cruelty and suffering being inflicted upon porpoises by the tuna industry. Literally thousands upon thousands of these sensitive creatures are being brutalized and destroyed each year to accommodate an industry that is seemingly catering to the needs and desires of the public.

There comes a point when the price to be paid in animal exploitation and suffering can no longer be tolerated in the interest of man. We believe that threshold has now been crossed by the American tuna industry. Consequently, HSUS calls upon you as a concerned humanitarian to refuse to buy any tuna products, either for personal consumption or as food for pets. No longer can we tolerate the excuses and indifference of this industry and the federal government that have resorted to and utilized those procedures that cause suffering and destruction.

While it is clear that certain tuna products, specifically "white" or albacore tuna, are not obtained by the purse seining method that results in the suffering and destruction of porpoise, it is not always certain that this distinction can be made by the purchaser. Consequently, a refusal to buy all tuna products will ensure the effectiveness of your protest.

Further urge your pressure by writing to the presidents of the major tuna carriers listed on page 13. We know for certain that consumers' letters of protest are of great concern to commercial enterprises and are not customarily dismissed.

Also, write to Robert Schonig, Director, National Marine Fisheries Services, Washington, D.C., urging that quotas affecting the incidental killing of porpoises as a result of purse seining for tuna be fixed immediately at a level which will require the industry to alter its fishing methods. Your voice and action are greatly needed in regard to this critical issue. Indeed, it is your opportunity to personally participate in a campaign to reduce, and hopefully eliminate, cruelty and suffering to one of the most intelligent and sensitive creatures who share our lives with us on this planet.

The Humane Society of the United States is a non-profit, charitable organization, supported entirely by contributions from individuals. All contributions are tax-deductible.

COVER: Our cover photo stands as a reminder to all those who care about the other animals that share this planet with us. It is a reminder to avoid all tuna purchases until the senseless slaughter of porpoises and porpoises has ceased once and for all. Photo by Leonard Rue III.

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Is Gary Dog Pound Cruel?

NO ROOM TO STAND—HSUS Investigator Phil Stewart photographed this inhumane dog cage at the Gary, Ind., pound during HSUS's most recent inspection of the facility.

HSUS has asked Lake County, Ind., prosecutor John L. Paylo to formally charge Gary, Ind., Mayor Richard Hatcher and the entire Gary City Council with cruelty to animals. HSUS made the request on March 3, after inspecting the Gary Dog Pound for the fifth time in 3 years and finding animals suffering in inhumane conditions, despite repeated HSUS recommendations for its improvement.

After inspecting the pound, HSUS Great Lakes Regional Director John Inman and HSUS Investigator Philip Stewart concluded that no changes had been made to improve treatment or housing conditions for the animals. Inman said that when he first entered the kennel area of the pound that he was "almost knocked over by the extremely foul odor of excrement. We found animals wallowing in their own urine, vomit, and feces, most of which had been left to cup in the cages for God knows how long," he said. When Stewart protested the filth a German shepherd was lying in, the kennel worker grabbed the dog by the back of the neck and threw him, yelling and struggling, into a clean cage. Stewart said that the speech and movements of the kennel worker indicated that he may have been under the influence of alcohol.

In one case the investigators found a puppy that had been dead for some time. Many animals appeared to be very sick, including one dog with a bloody discharge coming from his eyes and nose. Other animals were housed in cages so small that they could not stand up.

More than half the cage doors in the pound were broken, with sharp strands of wire protruding inward toward the animals. There was no food or water for many of the animals, and one dog was observed trying to quench its thirst from a bowl in which ice had formed.

After their inspection, Inman and Stewart with John Lawshe, an official of the Gary City Health Dept. which is responsible for operation of the pound. When asked why no improvements had been made at the pound, Lawshe said, 'I just can't get the money from the mayor and city council. ' Through Lawshe's statements, Inman and Stewart confirmed that the mayor and city council have been aware of conditions at the pound since May 1973, when they were informed of HSUS's first investigative report on its inhumane conditions. Since then city officials have received other investigative reports on the pound, as well as publications and guidelines for improvement, but have failed to act upon them.

In a letter to Prosecutor Paylo, accompanied by his investigative report, Stewart said HSUS would no longer tolerate the cruel treatment of animals at the pound. He charged that the pound is in violation of Indiana cruelty laws, and asked that it be closed immediately until improvements can be made. He also asked that the mayor, Gary Health Dept. Director James Hedrick, and city council members be charged with cruelty to animals for knowingly operating the pound in an inhumane and unlawful manner in total disregard for the welfare and safety of the animals.

At press time, Paylo had not yet acted upon HSUS's requests. HSUS fears that political considerations may result in further prolonged inaction and is considering filing a civil suit to stop the continuing cruelty.
Alaska Wages War on Wolves

Alaska has decided that money from out-of-state moose hunters is more important than preserving America's wolves and has undertaken a massive and cruel campaign of killing wolves from helicopters.

The Alaska Fish and Game Dept. has undertaken the slaughter in spite of protests and legal action from a long list of organizations, including HSUS. The Fish and Game Department's sole objective seems to be to permit a major increase in the moose population, on which wolves prey, in order to offer trophies for the hunters who flock to the state annually.

Many of the wolves being killed are wearing radio transmitter collars that were placed on the animals by wildlife biologists seeking information that would enable them to help preserve America's declining wolf population.

The state began the wolf shooting program on Jan. 28 in several game management areas covering some 10,000 square miles of the state near Fairbanks and Anchorage. The objective is to completely exterminate wolves in one area and kill up to 80% of the wolf population in others. Game officials said they would continue shotgunning wolves, weather permitting, until their quotas had been met.

Ironically, the state's wolf control program—at least that part of it calling for the complete elimination of the wolf in one area—was called a "research effort" to find out how the moose would do without any wolf predation at all. HSUS wildlife expert Sue Freeman called the eradication or drastic reduction of wolf populations poor wildlife management policy. "This approach totally ignores what man has already learned through past observational studies of moose herd populations not affected by predators," she said. "This experience shows that without any natural, non-human predator, the moose will increase so fast that it will doom itself to starvation through overbreeding of food resources."

In addition to stabilizing the population of herbivores, wolves are very important in maintaining the health and vigor of their prey species since they kill only the weak, sick, or injured members of the herd. If wolves are artificially eliminated, the weaker moose will survive in greater numbers, thus lowering the general health and vitality of the herd.

The killing of winter-weakened Alaskan moose by hunters using 40 mph snowmobiles has been dramatically increased in recent years. In fact, the numbers of moose taken by hunters has been reportedly huge enough to account for all by itself for the decline in the animal's numbers. In 1973 (the last date for which figures are available), 1,500 hunters took 710 moose out of a population of 3,000 to 4,000 animals in the Tanana Flats area near Fairbanks. Trap-Jim Smith, who lives in the area, described hunters' excessive slaughter of moose as unbelievable. "One would have to be out here to observe the number of carcasses. I have observed hunters traveling into this area in hordes, literally running down moose with machines, like cowboys. Cows, calves, and bulls alike. Any idiot could guess as to the prospects of a future moose population under these unsporsmanlike and wasteful hunting procedures."

Almost recognizing the overhunting on the Tanana Flats, Robert Hinneman, game supervisor for the area, said, "Our boo-boo was in not anticipating the effects of increased hunting and harsh winters." Another game department biologist said, "... in a sense we could say that the wolves are taking the chops for bad winters (and) bad judgment."

Rather than closing hunting seasons on the moose to allow its numbers to increase, the state has instead given the hunters an opportunity to eliminate their competitor. Political pressures exerted by hunters on the state toward this end were publicly confirmed by Fish and Game Commissioner James Brooks in a recent hearing before the Alaska Senate Resources Committee. Brooks told the committee that his department is primarily devoted to the hunter. He said that his department was "primarily committed to the hunter. He had earlier refused to allow a closed season on moose on the Tanana Flats even though such action was recommended by his own staff.

In a letter to Alaska Governor Jay Hammond, HSUS President John A. Hoyt pointed out that Alaska's predator control is in the hands of the Board of Game, a group composed of political appointees, seems incompatible at best, and contradictory at worst, with your stated stand that wildlife programs should be free of partisan politics. We strongly feel that you should be more accessible to the opinions of biologists free from political constraints.

Wolf management programs in the lower 48 states, spurred by hunters who feel that the animal competes with them for game animals, have been largely successful in exterminating the wolf from 99% of its original range in the U.S. Present population figures show approximately 500 eastern timber wolves in Minnesota and Michigan and a few (if any) red wolves in Texas. Alaska remains the last state in the union where the wolf exists in any significant numbers—estimated 4,000 to 10,000 HSUS believes that if the state-sanctioned wolf management program in Alaska is allowed to continue it will spell the eventual eradication of the animal in the U.S. Further, HSUS believes that the program is reckless, and repugnant to sound predator control methodology.

HSUS joined several wildlife and humane groups in a lawsuit filed by the Natural Resources Defense Council in U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C., against the U.S. Dept. of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management (BLM). The suit asks that the killings be stopped from taking place on federal lands, where most of the hunting is taking place. It charges that BLM failed to comply with requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act that require an environmental impact statement be prepared before the wolf hunt could be initiated. Further, it requests that appropriate alternatives to the wolf eradication program be developed.

The court issued a temporary restraining order prohibiting further wolf killings on the Tanana Flats. However, U.S. District Court Judge George Hart later denied a temporary injunction against further hunting in the same area stating that "the killing of wolves does not rise to the dignity of a major federal action."

Soon after the court's decision the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service withheld federal wolf control funds from the state pending preparation of an environmental impact statement. The Defense Dept., following by prohibiting wolf hunting on a military reservation near Fairbanks. But this did not stop the state.

HSUS urges members and friends to write President Ford demanding that he stop the mismanagement and abuse of the Alaska timber wolf and moose by a hunting minority, as well as institute an ecologically sound management policy to ensure the survival of the species.

We felt so helpless

Thousands of Birds Die in Chesapeake Bay Oil Spill

"We felt so helpless. Oil-covered birds were being brought in by the boxful. All we could do was attempt to clean and dry them, then watch most of them go into convulsions and die," Guy R. Hodge, HSUS director of research and data services, made these comments last February after returning from the scene of the worst oil spill in Chesapeake Bay history. He and HSUS investigator Philip Steward were among scores of people trying to save the lives of thousands of waterfowl that became mired in tar-like crude oil after a barge sank in the bay during a severe wind storm.

The barge, owned by Steuart Petroleum Co., leaked 250,000 gallons of industrial oil into the bay, blackening 90 miles of shoreline near the mouth of the Potomac River in southern Virginia. An estimated 20,000 wintering waterfowl suffered a slow and agonizing death after being covered with the oil that hardened like asphalt on their feathers.

The spill occurred at the worst possible time because the population of migratory ducks that make their winter homes in the marshes of the bay was at its peak. Among the more than 12 species of birds affected were the American coot, horned grebe, loon, canvasback duck, and the rare whistling swan.

The U.S. Coast Guard officially designated the disaster as a "major spill" and privately employed workers to clean up the oil. Detergent was spread over bay waters, and oil-soaked sand was shoveled into barrels and dump trucks. Warning devices were placed along the shoreline in the hope of scaring the birds from their nests.

As the birds flew into the bay, oil and icy water washed over them destroying the natural waterproofing and insulating properties of their feathers. No longer able to shed water or search for food, they became cold, hungry, and exhausted as they struggled to remain afloat. In addition, most of the birds ingested oil while attempting to preen their feathers.

When the helpless birds washed onto bay beaches, disorganized volunteer teams and shore-side residents who knew little about how to capture or clean the birds began trying to help them. HSUS immediately issued a press release to the local news media providing instructions on recovery techniques and home cleaning of the birds, as well as urging volunteers to transport the birds to several local animal shelters equipped to give them special care.

Hodge and Steward met with local government officials and obtained the use of an abandoned Army building, which was transformed into a waterfowl rescue center in cooperation with local shelters and private homes. HSUS called David Smith of the International Bird Rescue Research Center in Berkeley, Calif., to the rescue center for technical assistance in the cleaning of the birds. In addition, HSUS obtained food and equipment to care for the birds.

Volunteers in each of the rescue centers worked 12- to 14-hour days for a week, washing the birds and feeding them with a mush made from commical and bits of minnows. However, they had limited success, with fewer than 5 out of 100 birds surviving the oily ordeal.

"It was terribly frustrating," said Steward. "We were trying so hard to keep them alive, but we lost almost every one that came in." Hodge said that it became more and more difficult to return each morning to the rescue center because most of the birds that he had cleaned had died during the night. But despite the apparent futility in cleaning the birds, a strong band of camaraderie developed among the volunteers in their determination to make amends for what man had done to the birds. One volunteer said, "I feel an obligation to help these birds. Some people have an obligation to make oil, and others have an obligation to clean up their mess."

In an effort to review the waterfowl rescue operation, HSUS and the American Petroleum Institute jointly convened a meeting on Feb. 21 with representatives from state and federal wildlife agencies and several private wildlife conservation groups. The participants concluded that state and federal wildlife management officials failed to implement a pollution contingency plan for the bay that could have reduced casualties among the birds. The tri-state plan, which gives the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and state game departments bordering the bay responsibility for decisions affecting wildlife, was largely ignored during the disaster. Inaccessibility of beaches, an inadequate number of volunteers, and lack of equipment and supplies were also factors limiting success of the rescue effort.

As so often happens after a major disaster, others follow in its wake. On March 7 an Amtrak Auto-Train derailed and plunged into Quantico Creek in northern Virginia spilling nearly 1,000 gallons of diesel fuel into the water. The accident occurred near the Mason Neck Wildlife Refuge, where many water birds were feeding. After learning of the spill, Hodge and Refuge Manager Dick Antonette set up a bird rescue plan that subsequently ended without loss of wildlife. "I think the response to this spill demonstrates what can be accomplished when we receive the cooperation of the Fish and Wildlife Service and provide staff who have the expertise to develop a proper waterfowl rescue plan," Hodge said.
Monitor Sues To Stop Seal-Skin Imports

HSUS has joined in a federal lawsuit asserting that the National Marine Fish- 
eries Service (NMFS) be stopped from issuing a permit to allow the importation 
of 19,000 South African cape fur seal pelts into the United States. The legal 
action was initiated by Monitor, a consortium of environmental and animal 
protection groups including HSUS, after learning of NMFS’s decision to waive 
the ban on the importation of seal pelts imposed by the U.S. Marine Mammal 
Protection Act.

The suit asks the U.S. District Court in Washington, D.C. to bar NMFS from 
issuing the permit, a final step needed before actual importation can take place, 
on the grounds that the seals were killed inhumanely.

HSUS wildlife expert Sue Pressman called the NMFS decision to lift the ban 
an official sanction by the federal gov- 
ernment of the inhumane clubbing of seals. Mrs. Pressman made the charge 
in light of her observation in South Africa last August of the clubbing to de- 
death of the seals whose pelts are now in question. She concluded that “fully 
50% of the seals selected to be killed were not clubbed properly the first time, 
requiring a second or third blow,” and 
that, therefore, the killing could not be 
considered humane.

The Fowke Fur Co. had originally applied for permission to import 70,000 
seal pelts from South Africa for pro- 
cessing at its Greenville, S.C. plant. But the Federal Government determined 
that 51,000 of those skins could not be imported because they were actually 
harvested in Namibia (formerly South- 
west Africa), and the U.S. does not recognize the jurisdiction of South 
Africa over Namibia. A possible factor 
in NMFS’s eagerness to permit the im- 
portation of the additional 19,000 pelts 
is the fact that Fowke has had an ex- 
clusive contract with the United States for several decades to purchase, pack, 
and auction seal pelts from the annual har- 
vest in the U.S. Pribilof Islands.

Meanwhile, Canadian and Norwegian ships have completed their annual spring harvest of harp seal pelts off the coasts of New-

Economic interests working through the 
U.S. Dept. of Commerce are seeking to 
block a Dept. of Interior proposal to put 
sea turtles on the endangered species list in order to continue exploiting them for their meat and hides.

HSUS has joined other animal welfare 
and conservation organizations in 
supporting Interior’s plan to declare the loggerhead, Pacific ridley, and green 
sea turtles endangered and, thereby, 
protect them from all types of commer- 
cial exploitation, including the inci- 
dental taking of sea turtles by shrimp 
fishermen.

While Interior has authority to de- 
terminate what species will be listed as 
dangerous, responsibility for all sea 
life is shared jointly by Interior and 
Commerce.

One of the economic interests that 
stands to lose money if sea turtles are 
protected is Mariculture, Ltd., which 
collects thousands of sea turtle eggs 
anually from the beaches of Dutch 
Surinam and hatches them at its turtle 
farm on the British Island of Grand Cay- 
man. With export of turtle meat as its 
objective, Mariculture claims it will have 
enough turtles reproducing in captivity 
by 1980 to replace the need to take tur- 
cles out of the wild. Many zoologists 
consider this projection unrealistic.

HSUS wildlife expert Sue Pressman, 
representing Monitor, a consortium of 
animal welfare and conservation orga- 
nizations, inspected the Grand Cay- 
mans turtle farm in March to gather in- 
formation on the operation. She con- 
cluded that Mariculture has not yet 
succeeded in getting a substantial num- 
er of turtles to reproduce and, conse- 
quently, agrees that the 1980 projection 
is unrealistically optimistic.

"Turtle meat is a delicacy that 
very few people indulge in."

Because sea turtles must be approx- 
imately 11 years old before they can 
reproduce, it is a long process to estab- 
lish enough breeding pairs in captivity 
to replace the need for taking eggs out 
of the wild. I t's not like this operation was neces- 
sary to provide protein to the starving 
people of the world," Mrs. Pressman 
said. "Turtle meat is a delicacy that very 
 few people indulge in. Why should the 
worldwide population of any species 
be jeopardized solely for the taste and 
profits of a few people?"

HSUS is also concerned that the suc- 
cess of Mariculture’s operation could 
make turtle meat popular and, therefore, 
a highly priced target for poachers. "Nothing can spell the end for an animal 
faster than to have it become the source 
of black market operation," Mrs. Press- 
man said.

F. Wayne King, Ph.D., director of 
zooLOGY and conservation for the New 
York Zoological Society, on behalf of 
Monitor, urged the federal government 
at a March hearing to keep sea turtles on 
the endangered list. King expressed 
fear that the Mariculture operation, 
coupled with other consumer uses 
of sea turtle products and the incidental 
taking of sea turtles by shrimp fisher- 
men, would seriously threaten the 
worldwide sea turtle population. He also 
urged that sole responsibility for the 
status of sea turtles be given the Dept. 
of the Interior, instead of being shared 
jointly by Interior and the Dept. of Com- 
merce as it is now.

"In a statement before the same hear- 
ing, Dr. Archie Carr, zoology professor 
at the University of Florida and one of 
the leading authorities on sea turtles, 
expressed fear that vested commercial 
interests are threatening the future of 
the turtles in question. "For our govern- 
ment to drag its feet in the effort to save 
them or to accede to action that leaves 
loopholes for further exploitation of any 
kind whatever would be anachronistic 
and shameful," he said."

CAPTIVE ALLIGATOR RELOCATED — HSUS succeeded in convincing the owner of a Prov- 
dence, Rhode Island, greenhouse to give up an alligator he had kept in a small tank in the 
greenhouse for 37 years. With the assistance of the Bronx Zoo and the Massachusetts SPCA, 
HSUS’s John Dommers and Sue Pressman supervised the lifting of the alligator from the tank 
and into a shipping crate. The alligator is now temporarily living at the Ross Allen Reptile Farm 
(Flab.) in preparation for being released into the wild. With approximately the same lifespan 
as humans, the alligator has many years of freedom ahead of him.

Providence Journal Bulletin
Development Officer and Program Coordinator Join Staff

HSUS President John A. Hoyt recently announced the addition of two staff members to serve in capacities not previously designated. Paul G. Irwin, vice president in charge of development, will work to broaden the impact of HSUS through membership cultivation and financial support. Ms. Patricia Forkan, program coordinator, will direct and coordinate the ever-growing number of humane issues confronting HSUS.

Irwin, a former United Methodist minister, has broad experience in fund raising and membership development projects. He has provided leadership for two YMCA capital fund campaigns and other community action programs. He appeared regularly on two Boston, Mass., radio programs and one of Boston's commercial TV channels. He served on the hospital ship Hope in northeast Brazil and has conducted tours in Israel and Greece.

Irwin will be awarded a doctorate from Boston University upon publication of a professional education project. Ms. Forkan, for the past 6 years the national coordinator for the Fund for Animals, has a wide range of talents to bring to HSUS. She is knowledgeable in all aspects of the humane movement and has served the cause of animal welfare both in this country and abroad. One of her most successful campaigns was on behalf of saving the whales.

Ms. Forkan was an originator of the boycott against the products of countries which have persisted in slaughtering whales. She has represented the World Federation for the Protection of Animals at the International Whaling Commission's meetings in London since 1973. Legislation has always been an important aspect of her responsibilities. She has on numerous occasions responded to requests to appear before legislative committees on a wide range of topics including marine mammals, trapping, and greyhound racing. Ms. Forkan believes that teaching and living according to a humane ethic is one of the most valuable contributions anyone can make to all life. These feelings and interests are not surprising, since her parents were the founders of an animal shelter in their hometown.

As part of her work with the Fund for Animals, Ms. Forkan hosted her own radio talk show, "All About Animals" last year in Palm Beach, Fla.

In welcoming Ms. Forkan and Irwin to the HSUS staff, Hoyt said: "I am confident that through the leadership of these outstanding persons HSUS will expand and increase its effectiveness in preventing cruelty and suffering to animals. Both bring to us a rich heritage in helping to create a society in which animal life is accorded a place of respect and compassion."

Cruelties of Trapping
Featured in New Awareness Kit

HSUS has produced an Awareness Kit on the Cruelties of Trapping to help individuals and organizations educate the public on the need to ban the steel jaw trap and to not buy fur products. The kit, which sells for $4.50 postpaid, contains the items pictured above:

- 10 "Don't Get Wrapped in a Fur That's Been Trapped" buttons; 10 bumper stickers with the same slogan; 10 postcards of two bobcats in a trap with headline "Fashion Doesn't Justify This Cruelty. Don't Wear Fur!"; 10 handout fliers with the same slogan; 8 copies of the HSUS Special Report on the Cruelties of Trapping; 2 newspaper ads; 2 sets of photos for newspaper articles; 2 sets of public service scripts for radio; 1 set of sample letters to the editor; 1 hard plastic "Posted. No Trapping" sign; 1 model state law to ban the steel jaw trap; 1 sample sheet for pledges to not buy fur.

Most items can also be ordered individually in large quantities but only in the amounts listed below: 100 bumper stickers for $7.00; 100 handout fliers for $7.00; 10 posters for $1.00; 100 fliers for $2.00; 10 special reports for $1.00; 1 set of newspaper ads for $4.25; 1 set of newspaper photos for $2.25; 1 "No Trapping" sign for $5.00.

Makes checks payable to HSUS and allow 3 weeks for delivery.

Note: Because of HSUS' membership and active participation in the World Federation for the Protection of Animals, Dr. Forchuk was invited to submit an article explaining WFP's activities to readers of The Humane Society News. HSUS President John A. Hoyt is currently serving as vice president of WFP.

By Karl Forchuck, Administrator World Federation for the Protection of Animals

Familiar with the animal welfare situa
tion in most parts of the world, the World Federation for the Protection of Animals (WFPAP) has consistently attempted to do what was most useful for the moment and most promising for the future. Founded at The Hague, Netherlands, in 1950, WFPAP, with its Secretariat in Zurich, Switzerland, represents today the interests of 275 animal welfare societies in 55 countries and keeps thousands of individual members informed about progress in the various fields of animal welfare and protection.

WFPAP, in its efforts towards an international solution of animal welfare problems, proceeds by (1) endeavoring to supply extensive information on animal welfare problems, varying greatly from country to country and closely related to the attitudes of the population in those countries or regions, and (2) basing animal protection on a scientific foundation in order to obtain factual knowledge and to be able to supply data and other relevant assistance to governments and national animal welfare organizations.

Reports in the most important language are being made available by (Continued on page 19)
DOLPHINS DROWN IN TUNA NETS

More than 134,000 dolphins, considered one of the most sensitive and intelligent members of the animal world, were mutilated or killed by tuna fishermen last year in their efforts to bring in record tuna catches.

In spite of the requirement in the Marine Mammal Protection Act that the tuna industry was to reduce dolphin deaths to near zero by 1974, tuna fishermen killed even more of these marine mammals during 1975 than in 1974. And, because of the industry’s success in convincing federal officials that they can’t comply with the law, there is no reason to believe there will be fewer victims this year.

While some effort has been made by the industry and the federal government to develop improved technology for taking tuna, HSUS believes such developments will have little effect in protecting dolphins in the immediate future. Consequently, HSUS leaders have voted to join a nationwide campaign to urge consumers to refrain from buying tuna.

In joining with the Animal Welfare Institute, the Sierra Club, and other environmental organizations for the campaign, HSUS leaders call on members and supporters to immediately cease the purchase of all tuna products. While it is only the yellowfin tuna that swim with schools of dolphins, and they are normally labeled as “light” tuna, the campaign is aimed at reducing sales on all tuna because any attempt to differentiate in the boycott might not have the desired effect.

While there are several subspecies of porpoise and dolphins, it is the spinner porpoise, the spotted porpoise, and the common dolphin that are being slaughtered by the Pacific tuna fleet.

Ironically, it is these creatures that have made tuna fishing a lucrative industry in this country. Tuna fishermen discovered long ago that yellowfin tuna swim beneath pods of dolphins, which are easily spotted because the marine mammals swim on the surface and leap gracefully out of the water.

When the tuna boat captain spots the mammals, he sends speedboats out to encircle them and move them into an area adjacent to the parent vessel. One of the speedboats then pays out a gigantic 10-mile long net attached on one end to the fishing boat. The net is towed completely around the dolphins and attached to the other end of the fishing boat. The top of the net is buoyant, while the bottom is weighted to fall 300 feet below the surface. When the bottom of the net is drawn shut, as on an old-fashioned purse or laundry bag, the tuna are trapped. Then, as the top is drawn shut, the dolphins that have not swum out of the encirclement are also trapped. Many of these sensitive, intelligent creatures get their fins and snouts caught in the net. Many others are crushed to death, suffocated, or drowned as the net is hauled on board. Still more are injured by the poles that members of the ships’ crew use in an attempt to get the dolphins out of the net during the hauling-in operation.

Even for the survivors, the future is bleak. The injured mammals become prey for sharks, and the entire social order of this highly organized species is thrown into disarray by the death of their fellow creatures.

This purse seineing method of tuna fishing is so profitable that one cannery company, Van Camp, has just had three mammal purse seine nets constructed, each costing approximately $5 million, according to the Animal Welfare Institute.

When the U.S. Marine Mammal Protection Act was passed in 1972, humanitarians thought their battle to protect dolphins had been won. But the tuna industry has conducted a highly successful lobbying effort to convince the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) that it cannot meet the provision of the Marine Mammal Protection Act requiring it to reduce to “insignificant levels” the number of dolphins incidentally killed in purse seineing operations. NMFS has required the tuna industry to comply with terms and conditions of an annual permit for incidental taking of dolphins. However, that system appears to be worthless. Robert W. Schoning, NMFS director, disappointed humanitarians and conservationists last November when he announced that a quota for dolphins being taken in 1976 would be established only if the number taken by May exceeds 70% of the 1975 total. The November statement considerably modified an earlier proposal that would have set a ceiling on the number of incidental kills and would have required a federal observer on every boat in the fleet.

In light of these developments, HSUS and other environmental and humane groups have concluded that the only hope for stopping the senseless slaughter of these creatures is to convince the tuna industry that the public will not tolerate this abuse. In addition to not buying tuna products, consumers are urged to write letters of protest to the presidents of the major tuna canneries.

A list of their headquarters is printed below:

Del Monte Corp., Box 3573, San Francisco, CA 94119
Castle & Cooke (Bumble Bee, Cloverleaf), Astoria, OR 97103
H. J. Heinz Co. (Star-Kist), Box 57, Pittsburgh, PA 15220
Ralston-Purina (Chicken of the Sea), Checkerdock Square, St. Louis, MO 63188

At Press Time—On May 11, U.S. District Judge Charles R. Riceley issued a ruling which declared the incidental killing of dolphins, as now occurs in current tuna fishing practices, to be illegal; and, requires the Federal Government to comply with the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Unfortunately, this does not necessarily mean the end of the legal battles to stop this cruel and inhumane practice, and the boycott is still urgently needed.

Photo by Gary Lauhish
Which is it, Dolphin Or Porpoise?

Which is it, dolphin or porpoise? Even marine biologists can't agree on which common name to call this friendly, intelligent marine mammal. Generally, both are interchangeably, and it is your choice. Unless you prefer the more specific Latin names. In that case, the types caught in tuna purse seine nets are from the Genus Stenella and the Genus Delphinus. No matter what you choose to call them, we know for certain that they are not fish but air-breathing mammals with a highly developed communications system and sonar that even the Navy can't simulate.

Action Alert Program Popular

It has long been a dream of HSUS staff to find some way of rapidly communicating with our membership. Our new Action Alert program makes that dream a reality. Now the HSUS can send you a message of importance in the time it takes to send a postcard to travel from Washington, D.C. to you. The ability of HSUS to alert its members on critical issues that require action on their part is now possible through a new in-house computer service. However, the cost of processing and mailing these Action Alerts makes it prohibitive to notify all members on a continuing basis. Therefore, HSUS is compiling a list of persons who will promise to respond with letters when such an alert is issued. HSUS leaders are convinced that several thousand members and supporters will do so, thereby adding to the effectiveness of organizational actions and efforts. If you are willing to accept this responsibility as a part of your HSUS membership, please complete and return the coupon below.

It is impossible to predict when or how often such alerts will be issued. However, they will be sent only when HSUS leaders believe immediate action on your part will measurably affect the outcome of a critical concern. HSUS needs and welcomes your participation in this program. Your action and response will significantly affect the outcome of the many animal welfare concerns HSUS is addressing on many fronts.

THANK YOU!

To the many members who generously responded with cards, telegrams and letters to President Ford. Action Alert once again proved successful thanks to each of you. Your interest and response are needed and appreciated. By going the extra mile and sending a personal letter to the President you may just have turned the tide which re-sulted in President Ford's signature on the Foley-Weicker bill. Congratulations!

Amanda Blake Stars in "Personalized" TV Announcement

Actress Amanda Blake stars in the second in a series of TV public service spots that HSUS has produced for local animal welfare groups. Miss Blake, who played Miss Kitty on "Gunsmoke" for 19 years, is an ardent animal lover and a HSUS director. In the 60-second color spot, Miss Blake describes the work of local animal welfare groups and appeals to viewers for their support. The spot will be personalized for each purchasing organization by the addition of a visual listing of the group's name, logo, address, and phone number at the end of the spot.

Groups wishing to purchase the spot will be required to buy one spot for every commercial TV station in their viewing area, up to a maximum of five. If there are more than five stations, the spots for the additional stations will be supplied at no additional cost. The first spot will cost $49, the second $35, and all remaining spots $25 each. If the ordering group did not buy the first spot, "Be A Responsible Pet Owner" (see winter 1975-76 issue of The Humane Society News), there will be a one-time art cost of $35 for personalizing the spot. No spot will be sold without this personal identification. Compute costs using the chart below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of TV Stations</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Cost, Including Art Charge</td>
<td>$49</td>
<td>$119</td>
<td>$144</td>
<td>$169</td>
<td>$194</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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"Subtract $35 if you ordered the first spot.

AUDI

Hello, I'm Amanda Blake. Today, I'm not playing the role of Miss Kitty. Today, I'm speaking to you as a director of The Humane Society of the United States.

This is my dog Sato. He's been a member of my family for some time. Lots of dogs and cats aren't so lucky. They don't have families.

Animal welfare groups all across this country have become the foster families for unwanted, homeless, and mistreated animals.

They're housing, feeding, and caring for unwanted animals. They're finding families for homeless animals. And, they're investigating and preventing cruelty to animals. When kindness becomes a way of life, they can close their doors.

They'd really like to go out of business. Until then, you can help by supporting their efforts.

Help your animal welfare group go out of business. For us— and for the animals!

VISUAL

Wide angle shot of Amanda standing on lawn at her Arizona home with dog beside her. Amanda moves over and sits down in chair. Camera moves in closer. Amanda reaches down and strokes dog. Camera pans down and shows closeup of dog's contented face during petting. Cut away. Loose cats or dogs. Wide angle shot of mother and son bringing box of kittens in front door of shelter. Mother can be heard talking to youngster. Youngster seems sad. Interior shot of shelter with runs and lots of animals. Barking and meowing are heard under Amanda's voice. Happy family leaving shelter with puppy on leash. Back to head and shoulders shot of Amanda sitting in lawn chair. Amanda stands up, as camera moves back. Amanda looks down at dog and smiles.

Because of the high costs of film editing, there can be no changes in the spot itself. The only mention of HSUS in the spot is the statement printed above in the narrative. Send your order, accompanied by a check made out to HSUS, to: Personalized Public Service Announcements, The Humane Society of the United States, 2100 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037. Allow 4 to 5 weeks for delivery.

Amanda Blake and her dog Sato are shown working with director/cameraman Anthony T. Lorch on the new TV spot produced by HSUS for use by local societies.
Follow-up on Two Florida Zoos:
One Good—One Bad

On a return trip to two major animal exhibitors that she had found badly in need of improvements 4 and 5 years ago, HSUS zoo expert Sue Pressman discovered that one of them had implemented all of her recommendations and the other was continuing a mediocre operation with little change.

At Lion Country Safari in West Palm Beach, Fla., Mrs. Pressman found that discrepancies noted in a 1972 inspection had been corrected to the letter. But at Dade County’s Crandon Park Zoo in Miami she found that the same personnel problems that plagued the zoo in 1971 were still in evidence.

Mrs. Pressman’s earlier investigation of Lion Country Safari had received major attention from the Florida press and prompted General Manager Richard Huhn to put HSUS down as “just one of many organizations concerned with animal welfare. If we listened to everyone who thinks they’re an animal expert, we wouldn’t be able to operate.”

Huhn was quoted as telling the Palm Beach Times. He made it clear that he had no intention of implementing all Mrs. Pressman’s recommendations.

But Huhn is no longer with Lion Country Safari, and his successor, William F. Haythorn, apparently recognized the validity of Mrs. Pressman’s criticism. In 1972 Mrs. Pressman found several lions crowded into 28 x 30-foot cages for the night, no separate facilities for sick, injured, or isolated animals, and inadequate sanitation facilities. Today, the park has new cages 3 times as large to house a smaller inventory of lions. Each cage has running water and drains for easy cleaning and a new hospital, nursery, and isolation ward have been constructed.

On her earlier visit, Mrs. Pressman called for a full-time veterinarian instead of merely a part-time one. The park went even further, however, by hiring a full-time veterinarian and keeping the part-time one as well.

Four years ago Mrs. Pressman was shocked to find the animals had only polluted water from a canal for drinking. Today, pipes have been installed to bring sanitary drinking water to all animals. She also found that the staff structure has been revised to upgrade all positions in the park.

“I think this park deserves a pat on the back,” she said after completing her inspection. “It took a long time to get these improvements, but the important thing is they’ve been made. That isn’t to say that everything is perfect, but the park is well on its way to meeting all HSUS standards.”

Mrs. Pressman was particularly impressed that the park had undertaken major expenditures for improvements at a time when almost all drive-through zoos are experiencing serious financial problems, owing to a drop in popularity among the public.

“This is a critical period for all drive-through parks, and HSUS intends to watch them very closely to make sure animals don’t suffer the consequences,” she said. “The concern we voiced a few years ago about the proliferation of these parks is now proving to be all too valid.”

The Crandon Park Zoo, on the other hand, has shown such a total lack of improvement that the HSUS Legal Department is considering taking action to force Dade County to make drastic changes.

“I have never seen such falling-down, ramshackle displays anywhere,” Mrs. Pressman said. “The children’s zoo is undoubtedly one of the most depressing exhibits I’ve seen.”

She was shocked to find that a very rare echidna, one of two egg-laying mammals in existence (the other being the platypus) is still living in the packing box out of public view where she found him 5 years ago. Two other echidnas owned by the zoo have died.

She encountered poor attitudes and ignorance in several zoo keepers and was concerned by some of them to listen to horror stories of the treatment of animals.

“The citizens of Dade County had better make a decision right now as to whether they want to have a good zoo or none at all,” Mrs. Pressman said. “As far as HSUS is concerned, there are no alternatives in between.”

Hints for Helping Orphaned Wildlife

By Guy R. Hodge

Each year HSUS receives hundreds of requests for assistance and information concerning the proper care and handling of orphaned wildlife. The following guidelines were developed by HSUS in concert with the American Veterinary Medical Assn. to assist humanitarians in the rescue and treatment of orphaned animals.

1. Do not remove the animal from the area in which you find it unless it is injured or in immediate danger. Watch the animal periodically from a distance for several hours to ascertain if its parents return to care for it. Birds that have fallen from their nest should be returned to it as soon as possible. Contrary to popular belief, adult birds will not reject their young after they have been handled by humans.

2. If the animal requires medical care or protection, its most immediate need will be warmth and shelter. Place the animal in a cardboard box with a cloth-covered heating pad set at a low temperature. A hot water bottle or several glass jars filled with warm water may be used as a substitute. Orphaned birds will also require a nest. Place a small plastic food container filled with ruffled facial tissues in the box.

3. Feed and care for the animal’s special needs. Consult a veterinarian, local zoo, nature center, animal shelter, or local wildlife organization for suggestions on the diet and special needs of the animal. Songbirds should be fed at approximately 2-hour intervals. Most mammals will eat less frequently. If necessary, force feed animals with a plastic medicine dropper by gently pressing open their mouths with your thumb and index finger.

4. Avoid unnecessary handling of the animal. Remember it is a wild creature, and it is your responsibility to prepare it to return to the wild. Handling may cause injury, or may result in the animal becoming accustomed to humans and pets, resulting in lack of caution toward man and predators once it is returned to the wild.

5. If you are unable to keep or care for an orphaned animal, ask your local animal shelter, zoo, or nature center to accept it. If one of these facilities cannot help, they may be able to direct you to an individual who is experienced in caring for orphaned wildlife.

ANIMAL LIBERATION – A NEW ETHICS FOR OUR TREATMENT OF ANIMALS, Peter Singer (Random House, $10.00) Review by Ann Cottrell Free

Every declared humanitarian should read this book then decide for himself or she is prepared to go in seeking liberation of animals from all forms of human exploitation, or not.

That, in simplest terms, is what Peter Singer's landmark volume is all about. To resist successfully his cogent arguments on behalf of animals (and merely animal loving) could mean that one is guilty of "speciesism." This is a new term that someday may rank with racism and sexism. And, hopefully, fighters against those now well-publilcized prejudices will have sufficient empathy to lend a hand to the relatively few individuals already enlisted in the battle to liberate non-human animals.

The 30-year-old Oxford-educated Australian philosopher became aware of "speciesism" and the evils it encompasses 6 years ago when he met Oxford-centered animal liberators. When he came to the United States and University of California, he found a few like-minded here, too. His widely acclaimed critique in the New York Review of Books in Strasbourg at the United Nations, "Animals, Men and Morals" lead to his own book.

I have read it twice. Rarely has an animal's case been presented so well. For the scholar, Singer enhances – without hysteria – the horror (but not the hopes) of those who have given their hearts, minds, and political savvy to eliminate suffering and fear inflicted on animals when even offers of their welfare will say, "Welcome aboard."

His revelations may come as a shock to the uninformed. N. R. Leopold's law about looking out for animals in all respects will they realize that many measures – laws, bandits, and scientific papers – are mired over the fearful hemorrhage of reality in research laboratories and in livestock production.

He takes us behind the scenes into these two particular areas of animal exploitation. He reveals we are unable to do more to help – or to eliminate the use of – these millions of creatures used for research, so dubiously in the service of man.

Why, for example, haven't we been able to stop the psychosis-inducing ex- periments on monkeys performed by such researchers as Dr. Harry F. Harlow? If these animals, he asks, are sufficiently similar to man's, "why should they be subjected to such mental-emotional agonies? If they are unlike man, then what good are the experiments?"

Why haven't we been able to go further in protecting cattle, farm animals, than the humane slaughter law of 1958? Most of these animals, including poultry, are kept in a stressful milieus like factory farming. It is either little known or deplored.

Part of the answer, which Singer neglects to give, lies in the plain and simple fact that the legislative progress of the last 17 years has been miraculous in view of the hostile political climate when it all began. That tedious step-by-step work first got under way, it is most doubtful, for example, whether any publisher would even considered his manuscript.

But now, thanks to the well-prepared ground, his onslaught against "speciesism" may fall on fertile soil. From half a million people, the interest may progress to total interest.

An essential first step, however, lies with the veteran fighters, as well as the new. It is the making of a commitment (should they not have already done so) with their own lives. In particular, keeping up the eating of other bodies. Otherwise, as the fight progresses, Oliver Goldsmith's words will be heard again: "They pity, and they eat the objects of their compassion. Vegetarianism, Singer makes clear, (and this reviewer concurs) is not difficult. Perhaps the initial step would be the provision of excellent protein-rich foods to make it easier.

Also Singer looks for a louder, well-balanced, and better demand for the development of non-animal substitutes in research. His book was published just prior to the recent National Academy of Sciences conference on the use of tissues, cultures, and computers, and other substitutes. But it is a step that stop at that.

Singer is not the first to pose the ethical question about man's exploitation of animals, and he covers very well the calls for reform voiced by thinkers from Plutarch to Leonardo da Vinci to Darwin. But this work is a "human habit and "speciesism" have swept over their words.

By beamong unrelenting light, as this book does, on the darkest corners of the animal-using multi-billion-dollar vested interests, the old challenges should cease to be mere laments. Singer's book has caught the rising tide and rides it, despite its seeming sprinkling of novels of the recent past. His book should give added impetus to federal legislation in order to preempt a wholesale commission to investigate abuse in livestock, research, sports, home, and environment.

In the meantime, it will take more than Singer's book to get a full-dressed, hon- est inquiry. It means pushing ahead on all walls with all the vigor of recent years by each personally committed man, woman, and humane group. In short, no resting on laurels, but vocalizing clearly and eloquently, in language understood by all: "We shall overcome," and by their words in the quiet of voting booths.

THE OBSERVER'S SERIES (Frederick Warne & Co., $2.50 each)

The Observer's Series is a collection of pocket books including titles on dogs, cats, horses, farm animals, wild animals, birds, eggs, and butterflies. The books are compact, readable guides to natural life, useful to both adults and children. Especially valuable as field guides for zoos and pet shops. At their time, The Observer's Series is one of the most impressive book bargains in recent years.

Guy Hodge

ANOTHER PENGUIN SUMMER, Olm Seward Pettiging, Jr. (Charles Scribner's Sons, $10.00) EMPEROR PENGUIN, Jean-Claude Deegley (The Stephen Green Press, $6.50)

The Penguin's features lend a humorous note to this mysterious and yet interesting member of the bird family whose name is still applied to 2 new books entitled Another Penguin Summer and Emperor Penguin. Pettiging is a prominent ornithologist who provides an intimate view of the natural history of penguins through words and photographs. Deegley, in contrast, provides a entertaining view of the perplexing behavior of the emperor penguin through the eyes of an artist. Both these books welcome additions to natural history libraries.

Guy Hodge

PAWS: A TRIBUTE TO THE LIVING, AND LOST, Iris Fuchs (CIRJ, P.O. Box 8361, Rowland Heights, Ca. 91748, $5.95)

Paws: A Tribute to the Living, and Lost, is a soft yet strong poet's view of "a thousand loves, the contents crazy, the shifts of humanity." Written by Iris Fuchs and illustrated by Becci Beebe, Paws in this book of twelve poems speaks of animals in a tone that is appealing to all those who love and appreciate animals. The words and the illustrations convey a message that neither could do alone—"God loves the animals," Iris Fuchs writes. "The animals belong to a portion of the proceeds from the sale of Paws to HSUS. Here's a sampling of the verse:

with massive power they fought to live.
his great head held high, he ran the plains
of his world.
he won the wars against nature
with her winter weapons... but he was no match for mounted hunters
and
he could not dodge lightning quick bullets which filled the air.
and now we care enough label him endangered,
and give him back the right to live.

Charles F. Herrmann

THE SECRET LIFE OF ANIMALS, Lorus and Margery Milne, Frank Russell (E. P. Dutton, $22.95)

The Secret Life of Animals is a unique attempt to present a general reading level account of recent discoveries in animal behavior. The authors rely on observations of animals in the wild and supplement their text with over 300 magnificent color photographs. This work covers the behavior patterns of hundreds of animals and offers insights into their courtship, mating, communication and, in many cases, their very survival. It is a readable and, yet, scientific discussion of some of the most interesting developments in animal behavior.

Guy R. Hodge is HSUS director of research and data services.

FAMOUS HORSES AND THEIR PEOPLE, Edna Evans (The Stephen Greene Press, $7.95)

A collection of stories regarding the relationship between horses and their masters that have brought about aston- ishing events and, in some cases, even shaped history. Among the famed per- sonalities and their horses discussed are Napoleon and Morgenroth, Robert E. Lee and Traveler, Buffalo Bill and Char- lie, and General U.S. Grant and his coyote. With the selection of the horse as our centennial animal, it is especially fit- ting that this book recounts the impor- tant role of horses throughout history.

G.H.

YOUR DOG: HIS HEALTH AND HAPPI- NESS, Louis Vine, D.V.M. (Winchester Press, $10.00)

A one-volume encyclopedia of dog care featuring technically accurate but easy-to-understand content, it is written for the owner who is interested in training, and care of dogs. This 459-page book includes an excellent and unique index on questions and interpreting symptoms of canine ailments. Dr. Vine addresses common questions of pet owners and gives advice to prevent problems. A comprehensive, carefully prepared book that is among the most authoritative publications of its kind.

G.H.

BIRDDING FROM A TRACTOR SEAT, Charles Flugman (Thomas Crowell Com- pany, $8.95)

Birdding From A Tractor Seat is a collection of approximately 150 brief essays on American birds. Flugman's Minnesota sota farm provided an ideal vantage point from which to observe and study birds. His book contains insights into human behavior usually omitted from standard field guides. Enjoyable reading for those with an interest in birthing.

G.H.

Ann Cottrell Free, a Washington, D.C., newspaper and magazine writer, has written on behalf of animal protective legislation since 1955.

Charles F. Herrmann is HSUS di- rector of research and development. The Observer's Series: Frederick Warne & Co., $2.50 each.

WFPFA Continued

WFPFA on most of the essential issues such as stunning and slaughter meth- ods and humane restriction of stray ani- mal populations. A quarterly publication in the United States, WFPFA covers the entire field of global animal welfare activities and WFPFA's share in them. Following an invitation from Mr. Vaucaud, an intern- ternational publishers of scientific jour- nals, Elsevier in Amsterdam, will soon begin publication of a bi-monthly maga- zine, a multi-disciplinary journal, under the auspices of WFPFA, presenting research work in animal control and welfare.

WFPFA has additional possibilities to represent animal welfare interests on an international scale and to achieve success in global animal welfare issues. We must do something through its con- solidate status with the United Nations and its specialized agencies such as the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the U.N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), as well as the Council of Europe and the Interna- tional Office of Epizootics in Paris. Thus, WFPFA has been instrumental in the issu- ing of a series of dramatic public papers, the Protection of Animals during Inter- national Transport" by the Council of Europe. The plenary papers and the Council on the Humanization and harmonization of rearing systems for farm animals, slaughter conditions in Europe, and experiments with live animals.

WFPFA does not neglect the possibilities of finding legal solutions for animal welfare problems on an inter- national level, it is convinced that hu- mane education is vitally important, not just for the future well-being of animals, but for society as a whole. Towards this goal, WFPFA has contributed through publicity campaigns and study groups. It is the WFPFA's intention to pursue its ef- forts to achieve an optimum in animal welfare and related issues, in full con- sultation with the present diverse atti- tudes toward animals and animal wel- fare existing throughout the world.

Membership Categories
- Individual: $ 14
- Individual, Life $ 140
- Local Society, Annual: $ 40
- Membership dues and contributions should be made payable to WFPFA and may be sent to 2100 L Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20037.
On March 23 the U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments in Morton v. New Mexico, the case challenging the constitutionality of the Wild and Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971, which placed all wild horses and burros on federal lands under the protection of the Department of the Interior and Agriculture. HSUS has filed an amicus curiae (friend of the court) brief urging the Supreme Court not to declare the law unconstitutional.

The case originated in January 1974 when a rancher in New Mexico complained to the State Livestock Board that 19 wild burros had wandered onto his ranch and on his range, and were molesting his cattle and eating their feed. In response, agents of the Livestock Board went onto federal land, to which the burros had returned, rounded up the burros, and sold them at auction. The New Mexico Bureau of Land Management (BLM) demanded the return of the animals to public domain. The Livestock Board responded by filing suit to enjoin the law's enforcement, claiming it intrudes on traditional notions of state control over wildlife and State sovereignty.

This case has the potential of deciding which government, state or federal, possesses the ultimate power to control or protect wildlife on the vast federally-owned lands within the western states and elsewhere. However, the questions to be determined by the Court are: does the agency act as a gift to the head of the United Arab Emirates? Anthony Angelos was offered $1.4 million to take over the Western City Airport last Dec. 15 and charged with violating the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, which prohibits the taking, buying, shipping, or transporting of protected birds. The United States Government and Angelos was fined $500 and ordered to forfeit the purchase price of the birds.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service stopped an attempt by a California breeder to sell falcons as a gift to the head of the United Arab Emirates. Anthony Angelos was offered $1.4 million to take over the Western City Airport last Dec. 15 and charged with violating the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, which prohibits the taking, buying, shipping, or transporting of protected birds. The United States Government and Angelos was fined $500 and ordered to forfeit the purchase price of the birds.

The Senate and the House have agreed on the final language of legislation to expand the authority of the Animal Welfare Act to ban dog fighting and protect animals in dog fighting kennels from the truck, and being used for experiments in federal laboratories. The agreement was worked out in a conference committee in order to resolve differences between the two bills. The bill, S. 575, which passed the Senate last year, would ban dog fighting and the Foley bill that was passed by the House. The combined legislation then went to the President.

The provision to protect animals being shipped by air in interstate commerce would make it illegal to transport, ship, or transport, or transporting of protected birds. The United States Government and Angelos was fined $500 and ordered to forfeit the purchase price of the birds.

The Florida Supreme Court has dismissed the appeal of a case that would have provided definitive development for the situation whether the use of live rabbits as lures in the training of greyhounds is prohib- ited by the State's anti-cruelty statute. (See the autumn 1975 issue of The Humane Society News.) The dismissal was hailed by HLSA as a victory in leaving the Florida anti-cruelty statute intact. However, much doubt remains as to how useful the statute will be to prosecutors who seek to strike at the evils of greyhound racing and training involving the commercialized animal exploitation.

Rep. Edward H. Koch (R-N.Y.) has introduced a bill that would establish a Commission on the Humane Treatment of Farm and Livestock Animals to consider how to prevent the abuse of animals in animal welfare, including farm practices, laboratory research, the disposal of animal wastes, preservation programs, the transportation, of animals, and trapping. The commission would be composed of 11 members, 7 of whom are to be appointed by the President, who is to appoint a director. The commission is to be a commission in the public interest and to report to the President and Congress within 2 years.

Rep. George E. Brown, Jr. (D-Cal.) has introduced two anti-cruelty bills, H.R. 8774 and H.R. 9658, to prohibit the importation of meat not slaughtered by humane methods. These bills are significant, but since foreign livestock is now exempt from the protection of federal humane slaughter laws, the bills would not be of significance. In addition, H.R. 8774 would impose fines upon domestic violators of the humane slaughter standards established by the Humane Slaughter Act of 1958, while H.R. 9658 would amend the Federal Meat Inspection Act for the condemnation and destruction for food purposes of inhumanely slaughtered meat. H.R. 9658 would, in effect, give inhumanely slaughtered meat the same legal status as adulterated meat.

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Computer Action Alert System Launched

HSUS launched a new Action Alert system earlier this year to prevent neglect of animals in the pet department inventories of the W. T. Grant stores when that chain declared bankruptcy and closed its doors.

The system was developed as part of a new in-house computer service that is making it possible for HSUS to vastly improve the efficiency of its communications to members and supporters. The W. T. Grant Action Alert was put into operation because of reports to HSUS that animals had been mistreated in a few stores after bankruptcy was announced.

HSUS sent its alert, in the form of a small computerized postal card, to all local humane societies, urging them to check on the status and condition of animals in any W. T. Grant stores in their vicinity. Many societies reported their findings to HSUS and expressed their appreciation for being alerted to the situation.

Dantzler Testifies To Save Horses

HSUS Director of Field Services and Investigations Frantz L. Dantzler, testified before a subcommittee of the U.S. House of Representatives in opposition to legislation that would reduce restrictions on the use of mechanized vehicles for the purpose of capturing wild horses.

Dantzler told members of the Subcommittee on Rangelands, Conservation and General Legislation that HSUS stands firmly opposed to H.R. 2935 because it would be tantamount to issuing a license to spook interest groups and unscrupulous profiteers to finally eliminate the wild horse from public lands. "It is indeed a paradox that, since the use of mechanized vehicles to capture horses drove these animals to the brink of extinction, use of these methods would once again be considered," he said.

Dantzler reminded the Congressmen of a 1973 incident in southeastern Idaho in which ranchers used snowmobiles and aircraft to chase over 1,000 wild horses over a cliff to their death.

Animal Control Agents Hear HSUS Staffers

Several HSUS representatives participated in the Second Annual Animal Control Personnel Development Conference held recently at Texas A & M University. More than 130 animal control personnel heard addresses from President John A. Hoyt, Gulf States Field Representative Bernard M. Weller and Director of Animal Sheltering and Control Phyllis Wright. Objectives of the week-long conference included providing training for animal control personnel in human relations, pet population control, better recognition of animal diseases, and improved animal control administration.

HSUS Policies Compiled – Free Copies Available

HSUS has compiled a booklet of policy statements on many aspects of animal welfare with which it is concerned. Copies of these booklets may be obtained free of charge from HSUS headquarters.

HSUS Participates in Dog and Cat Control Meeting

Several members of the HSUS staff, including President John A. Hoyt, were among more than 150 people attending the National Conference on Dog and Cat Control held last February in Denver, Colo. Conferences focused their attention on legislation and court cases through the National Asso., for the Advancement of Humane Education (NAHAE).

The conference was co-sponsored by HSUS, the American Kennel Club, the American Veterinary Medical Asso., and the American Humane Asso. It was a follow-up to the National Conference on the Ecology of the Surplus Dog and Cat Problem held in 1974 in Chicago.

Copies of the speeches, conclusions, and recommendations are now being printed. Information on how they can be obtained will be included in the summer issue of The Humane Society News.

HSUS Testifies on Movie Cruelty

Frantz L. Dantzler, HSUS director of field services and investigations, was invited to testify before the California and Massachusetts legislatures earlier this year on legislation aimed at preventing cruelty to animals in the motion picture industry.

In January, Dantzler appeared before the Senate Judiciary Committee of the California State Legislature in support of Senate Bill 788, which specifically prohibits any person from killing or abusing an animal for the purpose of making a motion picture for entertainment. The bill also calls for a state commission that would investigate and prosecute violators of the proposed law. At the request of the legislature, HSUS provided information for drafting the bill. The bill has been approved and voted out of committee.

Dantzler testified in March before the House Judiciary Committee of the Massachusetts State Legislature in support of House Bill 1587. The bill would prohibit the distribution and exhibition of motion pictures in which the actual killing or abuse of animals took place during production of the film.

NAAHE Publishes New Manual – "Humane Education: An Overview"

A definitive manual on humane education is now available to educators and leaders in schools through the National Asso., for the Advancement of Humane Education (NAAHE).

"Humane Education: An Overview" was written by a team of professors, including Whitlock, E.D., NAAHE assistant executive secretary, from her 2 years of extensive research into the first doctoral dissertation on humane education in the nation. It includes information on the definition, history and philosophy of humane education and its relationships to environmental, conservation, outdoor, and home economics education.

Copies are available for $3 to members of NAAHE and for $4 to non-members. To order, write NAAHE, The University of Texas, 100 S. College St., Austin, TX 78704.

Dog Standards Book Available

HSUS is making available free of charge to all animal shelters and municipal animal control agencies a copy of the hardbound book "Dog Standards Illustrated," a 320-page book contains illustrations and descriptions of the 121 American Kennel Club-recognized breeds.

HSUS has mailed copies of the book to all animal shelters on its mailing list. Other shelters and municipal animal control agencies may obtain a free copy by requesting it from HSUS headquarters on their letterhead. Individuals and other organizations may purchase the book for $10.

Fight to the Death With Shark is Planned by Film Producer

America's "Jaws" hungry public is snapping up tickets to see the closed-circuit TV telecast of a live "fight to the death" between a 3,000-pound great white shark and an Australian skin diver.

Paying upon the public's enthusiasm for the movie "Jaws," Hollywood film producer Bill Sargent told HSUS that the sales for the May 3 telecast are "great." The fight will be transmitted via satellite to public entertainment areas throughout the world.

Sargent has promised diver Ben Cropp a $1 million payday if he manages to kill a shark during the fight which will take place in an underwater sea cage off Western Samoa. Cropp plans to slaughter the shark for 48 hours prior to the fight, then stun it with a rifle bullet before moving in for the kill with a spear gun.

After Sargent received official approval by the Western Samoa government to stage the killing, HSUS President John A. Hoyt sent a formal letter of protest to the Samoan chief of state asking him to prevent the cruel event. The HSUS investigations and legal departments are also exploring every possible means to keep the fight from being staged. But HSUS fears a predicted multi-million-dollar profit from the event virtually assures it will take place.

When asked why he was staging the fight, Sargent said, "I know this is a sick thing, but someone's going to do it if it don't. So I may as well be in on the money."