Follow this and additional works at: https://www.wellbeingintlstudiesrepository.org/wescoarn

Recommended Citation
https://www.wellbeingintlstudiesrepository.org/wescoarn/50

This material is brought to you for free and open access by WellBeing International. It has been accepted for inclusion by an authorized administrator of the WBI Studies Repository. For more information, please contact wbisr-info@wellbeingintl.org.
BIRTH OF SEALS CELEBRATED — A NEW EFFORT AT STOPPING THE SLAUGHTER

On the West Coast, humane societies and humanitarians gathered to march and demonstrate throughout the month in many major cities to bring the birth of the seals and their tragic plight to the attention of millions. In a special telegram to HSUS President John Hoyt, California Governor Jerry Brown said, "With the threatened loss of so many species of wildlife, the time has come in which we all need to strive to protect and live in harmony with our fellow creatures. Our coasts and seas are indeed enriched by the presence of thirty-three different species of seal. I am pleased to join with you in this day of celebration for the seal and commend your efforts to protect and preserve this familiar and innocent mammal for future generations."

The West Coast Regional Office asks that you remember the seals throughout the year. Your voice will be heard. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the WCRO and we will send you free a fact sheet on seal hunts. Read it, use it, give it to a friend who cares. Continue the celebration and the fight. The slaughter must end.

Californians Can Solve The Problem of Raccoons As Pets

Senate Bill 480 has been introduced by Senator Henry Mello to outlaw the importation and sale of raccoons as pets. As preparation for the proposed legislation, the WCRO sent an alert to all humane organizations and members on the legislative alert list asking for documentation from wildlife workers, veterinarians, and other experts in support of passage of the bill. The results were overwhelming, with responses from local humane societies, animal control agencies, wildlife experts and clubs, veterinarians, and others—all citing reasons why raccoons should not be allowed as pets.

Importers and retail dealers of exotic pets make glib promises of easy care and consumer satisfaction. They aren't likely, however, to tell you that vaccinations will be
needed that raccoons are susceptible to both canine and feline distemper strains, or that the species can contract rabies if given the wrong type of rabies shot. A raccoon may also be sold with a case of mange, feline distemper strains, or that the species can actually contract rabies if given the wrong type of rabies shot. We will send one to you.

Members who want to have their names added to the list of those supporting this needed legislation should contact the WCRO. If you like, request a copy of the bill and we will send one to you.

ANIMAL NEEDS: National and Regional
The West Coast Regional Office of The Humane Society of the United States coordinates national programs with direct attention to this region. You are aware that our major concern is the prevention of cruelty and suffering to animals. Among our several programs which address the needs of animals is one which provides for your financial needs and at the same time creates a future gift for animal welfare. If you would like to know more about the dual benefits of our Life Income Program, please send for the society’s brochure entitled “Planning for the Future.”
Mail to: Paul G. Traub, Vice President/Treasurer
The Humane Society of the United States
2100 L. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

Progress for Animals
NAPA COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL
Field Investigator Eric Sakach has made a study of the sheltering facility for Napa County’s Division of Animal Control. This was a joint WCRO effort. Adopted was the evaluation from Deputy County Administrator Bob Sorsen and the Humane Society of Napa County. Following the impromptu inspection, Sakach’s report was sent to Napa County with recommendations for improvements. Since then Napa County Human Services Director Dan Corsello, sent a letter of appreciation to the WCRO saying that The HSUS report should be looked at by the Board of Supervisors along with our recommendations for action.

MENDOCINO COUNTY ANIMAL CONTROL
Assistant Agricultural Commissioner Andy DeGrassi recently advised the WCRO that, because of a study by the California Board of Equalization in 1979, Mendocino County is required to list the pounds with recommendations for improvements. DeGrassi stated they have been able to obtain increased funding for animal control, rewrite the animal control ordinance, begin a humane education program, hire additional animal control personnel, and acquire other needed equipment. Figures show that requesting a follow-up inspection by the WCRO to enhance the quality of animal control and care in Mendocino County.

LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS
There are so many animal-related bills in the various western state legislatures that space permits us only to cover a few. HSUS members can get more detailed information by writing to the WCRO. If you want to work actively on state legislation, let us know.

CALIFORNIA
Char Drennon testified in the first committee on both bills that would, if enacted, make dog eating a misdemeanor.

HR 2331 by Representative Frood to stop the drugging of horses on racetracks. HR 2331 has considerable support from eastern HSUS members. It is essential that all of us in the west contact our representatives in congress and let them know we want drugging of horses outlawed.

DON’T BE CONFUSED BY THE FEEBLE REFORM ATTEMPTS BEING MADE IN THE WEST COAST REGION BY THE HORSE RACING BOARDS. THEY SIMPLY A SMOKING SMOKE SCREEN. IN THE CASE OF THE CALIFORNIA BILLS, IT IS ENOUGH TO MAKE A FINANCIAL INVESTMENT IN YOUR OWN FUTURE.
NEW MEXICO CALLS ON WCRO FOR ASSISTANCE

Citizen outrage over organized dogfighting and loosely interpreted statutes in New Mexico led Senator Les Houston and Representative Max Coli, both of New Mexico, to introduce two new bills in that state’s legislature. HB 69 would make dogfighting and cockfighting misdemeanor crimes and SB 2 would increase the penalties for dogfighting to a felony level. At the request of Senator Houston, Eric Sakach went to Santa Fe and provided background information on dogfighting activities in the southwestern states and testified on behalf of Representative Coli’s bill before the House Agriculture Committee.

As we go to press, Senator Huston’s office has advised us that Governor Bruce King has signed SB2 into law. Unfortunately, the cockfighting provisions of the House Bill were dropped with Representative Von Rue Crawford stating, “I think we should have some rights left in this country.”

THE WEST COAST REGIONAL OFFICE STANDS READY TO HELP

Humane education has expanded at an astonishing rate on the West Coast. Recent years have seen the development of sophisticated humane education materials and programs by humane societies and animal control facilities. However, The West Coast Regional Office is still contacted daily by those just entering this field. They ask, “Where do I begin?” “Where can I get help?”

To answer these questions and the many others commonly asked by the beginner, our office has compiled a “How To” packet. The contents of the packet give a well-rounded view of what is necessary to develop a successful program. This new service will not, of course, replace the personalized assistance offered in the past, but will give the beginner a broad base from which to work and a hands-on reference.

For those who strongly believe in humane education but lack the resources to do an outreach program, or are not humane educators, The HSUS has a special offer designed for you. *Kind* magazine, our pulication for children eight years old and above, makes it easy for anyone to bring the humane ethic to hundreds of children.

Right now, when you purchase one *Kind* subscription at the regular price of $4, you can have a second subscription sent to the library of your choice for $2—half the regular price. If you don’t have a child to send the first subscription to, why not have it sent to another library, or your local school. Use the coupon to order. Make your check for $6 payable to *Kind* and mail it today to the West Coast Regional Office.

The HSUS West Coast Regional Office serves California, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, and Washington. Requests for assistance should be addressed to Charlene Drennon, West Coast Regional Director, 1713 J St., Suite 305, Sacramento, CA 95814 (916-447-3295). All contributions made to the HSUS West Coast Regional Office will be used for regional purposes and are tax-deductible.