"Only the investigator can respond to people outside who are saying 'Do you really need those animals?' The laboratory animal veterinarian doesn't have the credibility the investigator does," added Robert A. Whitney Jr., DVM, chief of the Veterinary Resources Branch of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). MCW Dean and Academic Vice President Edward J. Lennon, MD, noted that a joint committee is now being formed by MCW and area institutions to develop channels of communication with the community. "An ongoing debate," he added, "is not simply proselytizing our point of view. I don't think you can be an effective communicator without listening."

The animal welfare message has had impact on the national level. Congressional bill HR 556 would divert 30-50% of federal money allotted for animal research into developing alternative experiments.

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Experiments using tissue culture, computer simulation, microbiological models and human experimentation are other alternatives to animal research, according to Dr. Loew, who said there is evidence that alternatives are being used. Between 1968 and 1976 the use of animals in U.S. research dropped 30-50% depending on the type of animal, according to National Academy of Sciences statistics. (For comment on these statistics, see Book Reviews—Ed.)

At the U.S. Center for Disease Control (CDC), animals are being used less for research because of goals and objectives, economics and availability, according to John H. Richardson, DVM, director of the Office of Biosafety at CDC. The number of rhesus monkeys used there for kidney donor models has been halved without decreasing the quality of the program, he noted.

Putting animal research into perspective, Dr. Loew cited statistics showing that each year about 13.5 million dogs are killed in U.S. shelters. In 1978, according to NAS figures, 183,000 dogs were used in U.S. medical research.

The seminar was arranged by Glenda W. Bowne, director of the Oscar F. Peterson Animal Resource Center at MCW, and sponsored by the American Association for Laboratory Animal Science (AALAS) Southern Wisconsin, Marquette University Department of Biological Sciences, Mount Sinai Medical Center, Veterans Administration Medical Center-Wood and MCW. (This report appeared originally in MCW World 3(3), 1981.)

**FORTHCOMING MEETINGS**

**American Veterinary Medical Association:** 118th Annual Meeting, July 20-23, 1981, St. Louis, Missouri. Contact Mr. G. R. Rongren, 930 N. Meacham Rd., Schaumburg, IL 60196.

**American Society of Animal Science:** Annual Meeting, July 26-29, 1981, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina. Contact ASAS, 308 West Clark, Champaign, IL 61820.

**Hungarian Society of Agricultural Sciences:** International Conference of Ethology, August 24-27, 1981, Agricultural University of Godollo, Godollo, Hungary. Topics include "The Role of Ethology in Large Scale Animal Breeding," and "Developing the Technical-Biological Unit of Industrial Animal Breeding with Help of Ethological Research." Contact Prof. Dr. J. Czako, Organizing Committee for Congress of Applied Animal Ethology, Agricultural University, Godollo, H2103, Hungary.

**Wildlife Disease Association (Australasian Section):** Fourth International Wildlife Diseases Conference, August 24-28, 1981, Sydney, Australia. Contact Dr. E. P. Finnie, Program Chairman, Toranga Park Zoo, Mosman, NSW 2088, Australia, or Dr. M.E. Fowler, Dept. of Medicine, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California at Davis, CA 95616, USA.


**British Veterinary Association:** Annual Congress, September 17-20, 1981, Exeter University. Contact BVA, 7 Mansfield St., London WT1 0AT, UK.


**International Conference on the Human/Companion Animal Bond:** October 5-7, 1981, Philadelphia, PA. Sponsored by the University of Pennsylvania Center for the Interaction of Animals and Society and the Delta Group of the Latham Foundation. Contact the Center (above), School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, 3800 Spruce St., Philadelphia, PA 19104.

**Society for the Study of Ethics and Animals:** Third Annual Meeting, December 27, 1981 (tentative), Philadelphia, PA. Contact Professor Harlan B. Miller, Dept. of Philosophy and Religion, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, VA 24061.

**American Association for the Advancement of Science:** Annual Meeting, January 3-8, 1982, Washington, DC. Contact AAAS Meetings Office, 1776 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20036.

**Zoological Society of Philadelphia and the Institute for Cancer Research:** Symposium on Animal Counterparts of Human Disease, With Particular Reference
**Current Events**

**MEETING REPORT**

**Laboratory Animal Research for the 80s**

In the contemporary book, *Slaughter of the Innocent*, the bad guys are medical researchers. The book cover decrying the "senseless bloody torture of millions of animals in laboratories all over the world.*

The 1975 book, *Animal Liberation* by Peter Singer, reflected and popularized a more sophisticated animal welfare movement by setting down a philosophical basis for opposing animal research. Animal rights proponents are divided in their tolerance of animal medical research, but they are stirring a controversy that is being debated in national journals, addressed by full-page magazine advertising and translated into federal legislative proposals.

The topic brought together more than 200 Midwest medical researchers and related professionals February 12, 1981 for a seminar on "Laboratory Animal Research for the 80s" at the Medical College of Wisconsin (MCW) in Milwaukee. A panel of four veterinary care professionals agreed that communication between investigators and the public was essential to promote an understanding of animals in medical research.

"There’s no reason not to tell people what’s going on behind closed doors," said Steele F. Mattingly, DVM, of Harlan-Sprague Dawley, a commercial vendor of research animals in Madison. "They’re interested in knowing what you’re doing."

"I think it’s time for scientists to state the case, not animal care professionals," noted Franklin M. Loew, DVM, PhD, director of comparative medicine at Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, MD).

"Only the investigator can respond to people outside who are saying ‘Do you really need these animals?’ The laboratory animal veterinarian doesn’t have the credibility the investigator does," added Robert A. Whitney Jr., DVM, chief of the Veterinary Resources Branch of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). MCW Dean and Academic Vice President Edward J. Lennon, MD, noted that a joint committee is now being formed by MCW and area institutions to develop channels of communication with the community. "An ongoing debate," he added, "is not simply proselytizing our point of view. I don’t think you can be an effective communicator without listening."

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**Zoological Society of Philadelphia and the Institute for Cancer Research: Symposium on Animal Counterparts of Human Disease, With Particular Reference**
to Hepatitis B-like Viruses, May 16-20, 1982, Franklin Plaza Hotel, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Contact Theresa Mullar­

ke, Philadelphia Zoological Garden, 34th St. and Gerard Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19104.

International Primatological Society: 

Xth Congress, August 8-13, 1982, Atlan­
ta, GA. The annual meeting of the Amer­
ican Society of Primatologists will be held jointly with the Congress. Contact Dr. Frederick A. King, Director, Yerkes 
Regional Primate Research Center, Emory University, Atlanta, GA 30322.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jorio Rustichelli Award

The 1979 Jorio Rustichelli prize, worth one million lire, was awarded to three American scientists for their co­
authored work, “The reduction of cor­

onary flow in the native circulation after bypass” (J Thoracic & Cardiovascular Surgery 78:772-778, 1979). The prize is given annually for the best paper, published in previous year and submitted for consideration for the beginning reader.

Handbook for Animal Welfare Organizations,” containing guidelines for cooperation and detailed discussion of topics such as implementation of an al­

oning system for veterinarians work­ing in AWOs, ethics of veterinarians em­

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dered animals.

PCAP Starts Magazine in U.K.

PCAP International (Protection and Conservation of Animals and Plantlife) is now producing a magazine, “Horizon”, sponsored by a London business and Liverpool printing firm. Subscriptions are free to PCAP members and 30p for nonmembers. PCAP membership rates for 1981 are: £2 — waged; £1 — unwaged; 50p — pensioners and under 16s. Contact Daniel Lindsay, 29 Broughton Dr., Gras­
sendale, Liverpool L19 OPB, UK.

Book News

THE ECOLOGY AND CONSERVA­

TION OF LARGE AFRICAN ANIMALS by S.K. Eltringham (Macmillan, London, UK, 1979, £9.00). The market for books on African wildlife seems inexhaustible, judging from their regularity of appearance. Eltringham’s book falls outside of most of the usual categories, however, and deserves special notice. The author tells us that it is meant to be a textbook for undergraduates studying biology, but for reasons given below, it is unlike­

ly to be widely used. Instead, it should serve admirably as background reading for the serious-minded tourist and as a basic reference for those who deal with African wildlife in captivity.

An immediate problem is that the book is mistitled; it should be called something like “The Natural History of Big Game in British East Africa.” The author readily discloses some of his biases, but this makes them no less restricting. Ecology may be a much abused term nowadays, but it is notrick to present a book as an ecological textbook and then fail to mention optimal foraging, evolutionary stable strategies, food­

chains, or energy budgets. Similarly, the 40 or so pages devoted to conservation are of the most elementary nature. Most remarkable is the fixation on works in English on Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda (with a secondary focus on South Africa). The findings of French-speaking field workers, as published in Terre et la 

Vie or Mammalia, are ignored altogether.

Instead, the book’s strengths are in its well-integrated and wide-ranging treatment of our present knowledge of ungulates and large carnivores. These re­
views of the literature (until 1977, when the book was completed) are given in a series of chapters arranged by subject matter rather than by taxa: social struc­
ture, territoriality, reproduction, food and feeding, etc. This allows com­
parisons to be drawn across widely dif­

ering forms and so emphasizes con­

trasts and similarities, e.g., between a pack of carnivores and a mixed herd of herbivores. The author is also to be praised for the care taken in defining terms, a simple but very useful con­
 sideration for the beginning reader.

However, this knowledge is not al­

ways clearly presented. Sometimes the sources are scrupulously cited, as with Schaller’s (1972) exemplary study of lions in the Serengeti. At other times, no source is mentioned, and the reader is left to wonder at the quality and quanti­
 ty of the evidence. A statement (p. 117) that nonterritorial male antelopes are voluntarily celibate and not prevented from mating by territorial males sounds dubious, but no data are given. The peculiar behavior of ‘stotting’ in which a fleeing antelope punctuates its flight with high, stiff bounds is well described, but it is dismissed as a waste of time on p. 188 and then cited as a good example of a mutual warning system on p. 204.

The author also has the habit of pre­

senting a finding but not going on to ex­
plain its significance, which is especially frustrating in a textbook. For example, we are told that a harems-leading zebra stallion resists attempts by males to abduct his daughters, but not why this occurs. Large body size in males of poly­
gynous species is said to be advanta­
geous, but we are not told why. Coopera­
tive hunting by lions is judged to be like­

ly, but no criterion is given to establish this. Aerial counts of large mammals tend toward overestimation, while the reverse is true for smaller species, but we are not told why. Such incompleteness may confuse rather than enlighten students.

The book is strongest on descrip­
tion and weakest on theory. For exam­
ple, the practical chapter on techniques of wildlife research is fascinating, e.g., 

artificially marked antelopes are more 
prone to be taken by predators than are un­
marked ones, so this bias must be taken into account in studies of popula­

tion dynamics. However, key concepts such as reciprocal altruism, female choice, kin selection, etc. are not re­
ferred to. Particularly disappointing are the repeated assertions that things can be explained by group selection or by “for-the-good-of-the-species” argu­ments. No matter how often the old saw is repeated that predators and prey are somehow engaged in a collaborative ex­
ercise whereby the former benefitently serves the latter by maintaining the quality of its breeding stock (p. 168), it is just not true. Natural selection, in these forms at least, acts on genes carried by individuals and not on groups. In­
dividual predators are engaged in a life­
or-death competition with their fellows to best the prey, an assertion (Dawkins and Krebs, 1979). Similarly, although so­
cial hierarchies are said to bring order to other mammalian societies through self­
imposed inhibition (p. 51), these can be shown empirically to result from the most critical competition between mem­

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Those who wish to enter for the 1980 prize, which will be worth 1.5 million lire, should send a copy of the journal containing the article (or a photocopy of the galley proof) to the Unione Antivivsezionista Italiana, Corso Porta Nuova 32, Milano, Italy before August 31, 1981. The paper must have been published during 1980.

Handbook for Animal Welfare Organization Vets

In an effort to reduce friction and promote understanding between veterinarians and animal welfare organizations, the South African Veterinary Association (SAVA) has published a booklet, "The Veterinarian and Animal Welfare Organizations," containing guidelines for cooperation and detailed discussion of topics such as implementation of an almoning system for veterinarians working in AWOs, ethics of veterinarians employed by AWOs, and reduced-cost spaying of bitches. The basic principle expressed in the booklet states that in order to foster cooperation between veterinary practitioners and animal welfare organizations, the veterinarian working with an AWO must confine his or her clinical work to animals whose owners cannot afford normal veterinary fees, to emergency cases and to stray and surrendered animals.

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