



Using telephoto techniques, HSUS investigators filmed cruel coursing events using live rabbits.

— HSUS

In horse racing the use of drugs has dramatically increased in the last ten years. States have legalized drugs for horses, specifying which may or may not be used, but enforcement procedures are poor and ineffective. Some of the most dangerous drugs are the most difficult to detect. Often a drug makes it possible for a horse to run when it is injured or in pain and should not have been entered in the race.

According to Jockey Club statistics the rate of injury to horses has gone up 60% since drugs were legalized. Some statistics say the increase is as much as 400%. It is estimated that one out of 50 horses dies annually on the track.

The HSUS has now drafted a bill for congressional consideration prohibiting administration of drugs within a twenty-four hour period before a race, establishing pre-race testing, disqualifying any horse if drugs are found, establishing stricter penalties, and prohibiting the freezing or icing of horses' legs before competition. This legislation soon will be introduced in Congress.

Humane Education

The promotion of humane education has been a fundamental focus of HSUS programming from the founding of the organiza-

tion. Major emphasis was placed on the need to make people aware of the major national cruelties to animals and to educate young people to a greater sensitivity to animal care and well-being. Part of this effort involved a program of counteracting the negative psychological aspects of cruelty produced by experiments and the dissection of animals used in science education. Articles, speeches, and publications by HSUS staff members and directors hit hard at this inhumane and educationally worthless use of animals. The Society began to produce written and audio-visual materials for the use of teachers in elementary and secondary schools and for showing to clubs and civic organizations. In April 1959 the first sound/slide filmstrip entitled *People And Pets* was produced and distributed. It was designed to teach the basic principles of pet care to children between the ages of seven and fourteen. It also answered the usual questions asked by Girl Scouts seeking to qualify for Animal Care Proficiency Badges. Later, another filmstrip entitled *Dogs, Cats, and Your Community* was produced on the subject of surplus breeding of dogs and cats. Both filmstrips received nationwide distribution.

Fred Myers, a founder and executive director of The HSUS, was convinced that humane education was the essence of animal welfare work. So committed was he to this goal that he resigned as executive director to devote most of his writing and time to developing a humane education program. And, so, in May 1963 Myers became Vice-President and Director of Education while Mr. Oliver Evans, an industrialist, financier, president of the Animal Protective Association of Missouri, and a director of The HSUS for the past eight years, was elected President of the Society. Other changes were made to accommodate the new positions. Mr. Robert Chenoweth was elected Chairman of the Board of Directors and Mr. Collis Wager became Vice-Chairman. These changes were, of course, approved in a membership referendum since policies and programs of The Humane Society of the United States are always controlled by the voting membership.

At the Society's 1963 Annual Conference a gift of a 140 acre farm by Miss Edith Goode, Washington, D.C., Miss Alice Morgan Wright of Albany, New York, and the National Humane Education Society, was announced. Plans were made for a National Humane Education Center to include a demonstration shelter operation, dormitories for students, and development of the property as a nature center. This had long been a dream of Fred Myers, the donors, and other officials of the organization and plans went forward rapidly.



Alice Morgan Wright (left) and Edith J. Goode at National Leadership Conference held at National Humane Education Center in 1964.

— Photos by Allen

But tragedy struck on December 1, 1963 when Fred Myers, just fifty-nine years old, died of a heart attack. The loss to the humane movement and, especially, The HSUS was keenly felt by those who had known and worked with him. Oliver Evans, who had guided the Society for eight months with Myers' help, now assumed full responsibility for the growing organization. Evans continued with plans for the National Humane Education Center. When the shelter was completed, a program of training seminars for shelter managers and other personnel was begun. A classroom in the main building was used to train visiting students while part of the remaining space served for the creation and development of the KIND Youth Membership Program. It was soon discovered that travel distances from other parts of the country to the Virginia facility was a major deterrent to attendance. Also, operation of the demonstration shelter was siphoning funds from national humane programs.



Today, young people all across the country read and enjoy Kind magazine.

— HSUS

It was during this period that Oliver Evans, President, commissioned a survey on the feasibility of introducing humane education concepts into the classroom. The survey was conducted by a professor of education from George Washington University in Washington, D.C. It enjoyed high returns, virtually all of them enthusiastic. It was clear there was a need and a strong demand for humane education instructional materials.

Adoption and reprinting of animal care leaflets from The Kindness Club program gave HSUS materials written for children. This was followed by *My Kindness Coloring Book*, a teaching unit called *Meeting Animal Friends*, and a series of curriculum-integrated teaching units called *Teacher PETS*, each based on one of the children's animal care leaflets. It was a beginning.

During this period The HSUS began to explore with the University of Tulsa the development and field testing of humane education materials for integration into school curricula. The Society entered into a contract with the University of Tulsa and the Humane Education Development and Evaluation Project (HEDEP) was created. Humane education materials were developed with extensive field testing.

Out of the HEDEP program grew a membership organization for teachers, humane educators and others which was formed in late 1974. The new educational organization was named the National Association for the Advancement of Humane Education (NAAHE). It began with a technical Journal which has now developed into *Humane Education*, a magazine for educators that rivals The HSUS *News* magazine in format and design. More curriculum materials of a multi-media nature were produced by NAAHE under the titles *Sharing: You And The Animal World* and *Teaching Aids for Living and Learning*. The success of these materials can be judged by the fact that they are being widely used in school systems throughout the country. NAAHE was relocated to the Norma Terris Humane Education and Nature Center in East Haddam, Connecticut and has held a significant number of teacher training seminars and college accredited humane education courses across the country. Professional development programs are also conducted at the Center itself for teachers and humane educators.

As a natural outgrowth of these seminars, workshops, and college courses came the idea for a historic Humane Education Curriculum Development Conference which was held June, 1979. The working conference of twenty-three participants from different parts of the country developed a model humane



The Norma Terris Humane Education and Nature Center, current headquarters of NAAHE.

— HSUS

education curriculum guide for adoption or adaptation by school systems across the country. The basic concepts to be taught through humane education were identified and applied to learning activities in language arts, social studies, math, and health/science at each of four levels, spanning early childhood through grade six. Development of the guide is seen as a major step in establishing humane education as a viable and legitimate force in the modern educational community. The guide will be available in late 1979 or early 1980.

In November 1977 The HSUS published a unique and scholarly book entitled *On The Fifth Day* which was considered a milestone in the continuing efforts of the humane movement to make people conscious of the interrelatedness of all life and the need for acceptance of a humane philosophy. The book was a compelling collection of essays by noted philosophers, anthropologists, social biologists and other distinguished scholars. It might never have been produced without the vision of former President Oliver M. Evans and Richard K. Morris, Professor Emeritus of Education and Anthropology at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut. Unfortunately, Oliver Evans died before the publication of this book which was dedicated to his memory.

To fulfill the many requests for information about humane and conservation job opportunities, the Society produced a new booklet, *Careers: Working With Animals* for junior high through college students which became an overnight success. It was a definitive work listing career positions, requirements, usual salaries, and college and other courses helpful to persons seeking employment in animal related work. Thousands of copies were sold and a new, updated version of the original booklet is now available. At the same time a unit of six sound filmstrips

for elementary grades focusing on careers in the care and training of animals was produced, written and photographed by HSUS staff. This unit, too, was well received and orders continue to be received.

Wildlife Protection

No animal welfare organization has carried forward as intensive a program for cleaning up bad conditions in zoos as has HSUS. The Society's zoo specialist and field investigators have visited several hundred zoos, especially during the period 1971–1979. No zoo has remained the same after such a visit. Many improvements have been made in changing these facilities into a positive learning experience for visitors. Some of the work has been done in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Agriculture under the Animal Welfare Act but for the most part it has been HSUS efforts that have produced improved results. The professional quality of the Society's work in this area has earned the respect of the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums and, in fact, many zoos now seek advice from HSUS. Roadside zoos are, of course, a particular problem and, with untrained owners and totally inadequate facilities, they should be closed down.

Sue Pressman during one of hundreds of zoo inspections she conducted over the past several years.

— HSUS

